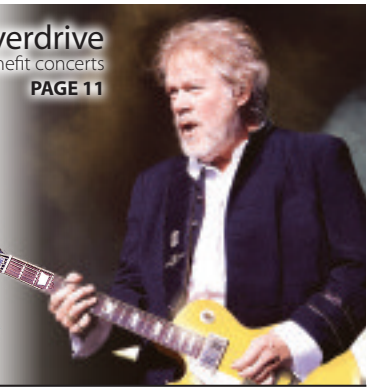




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Bachman Overdrive
Lali Formaggia benefit concerts
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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, October 16, 2013 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 53RD YEAR — ISSUE 42



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

ZOMBIE INVASION: From left, Jordan and Zandra Stratford and Amelie Niedziela (with Aiko Shebib and Paul Niedziela in the background) get into their alternate personas during a Zombie Walk based in Centennial Park on Sunday.

TRANSPORTATION

Fulford terminal upgrade hits speed bump

Technical issues put ferry and road project on hold

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Fulford village residents can expect traffic congestion that arrives as regularly as the Skeena Queen will continue into the foreseeable future, with news that BC Ferries is putting terminal upgrade plans on hold.

Ferry executives broke the news to Salt Spring's Ferry Advisory Committee during a video conference meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 9. FAC chair Harold Swierenga said a combination of technical issues and lack of funding had caused the delay in the project, which was originally set to begin this fall.

"As a result, the estimated costs have increased significantly," Swierenga said.

"At the beginning we had figured half a million dollars and now we're well beyond that."

The terminal upgrade called for the construction of a third lane of traffic on Fulford-Ganges Road, so that vehicles waiting to board the ferry would not block entrance/egress from the village.

Consultants working on the detailed design package discovered several issues with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure requirements, including problems with right-of-way transfers, road widening and supporting stonework. The waterline underneath Fulford-Ganges Road might also need to be replaced. That would be the responsibility of the Capital Regional District.

FULFORD continued on 4

PUBLIC SAFETY

Incident sparks SIMS safety boost

Water taxi students get chaperone

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An encounter that happened between an island man and three middle school students on Thursday will result in increased safety awareness in Ganges, including escorts to take students to and from the water taxi dock.

Parents of middle school students received an email from the school's principal Keiko

Taylor on Thursday, advising parents a man in his 40s had approached three girls at Rotary Marine Park and behaved in a way that made them uncomfortable. The girls reported the incident to the school and administrators in turned called police, who located the suspect and then took him to Lady Minto Hospital because he was acting irrationally.

Sgt. George Jenkins of the Salt Spring RCMP detachment said Tuesday he did not

know if the man had been released back into the community since that would be decided by the mental health professionals.

"A lot of the crime we deal with here has mental health undertones," Jenkins said, adding police feel it is unfortunate that many of these cases find their way into the criminal justice system.

SIMS continued on 2

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School and girls praised for handling of event

SIMS

continued from 1

Although hospital staff will determine whether the man should be considered a threat to himself or others, Jenkins said the police keep their eyes on such situations, and can intervene if necessary, according to

the Mental Health Act. "Definitely if this individual presents again, we can intervene," he said.

Taylor's message asked parents to ensure children are supervised in public areas. The middle school planned to inform the students of the matter and review ways to protect

themselves at their assembly on Tuesday.

"Additionally, we will be especially watchful at our school and we will be escorting outer islands students to and from the water taxi," Taylor wrote.

The information was also posted on the middle school's Parent Advisory

Council Facebook page.

Parents voiced support for the way the girls handled the incident, and how the school delivered the information without spreading fear among the community.

"I think it was handled well by everyone. Nobody was hurt, the girls reported

the incident to the teachers immediately," said parent Amber Ogilvie. "The school communicated the issue to the police and parents very quickly."

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BC POLITICS

Children's rights advocate visits

GISS hosts Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond next Thursday

Are the children and youth of B.C. adequately protected from abuse? Do they have proper access to the mental health services they need? Who is making sure they are safe and cared for?

The Salt Spring Forum and the Gulf Islands Secondary School Student Council host Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, a tireless champion for the rights of young people and B.C.'s Representative for Children and Youth, on Thursday, Oct. 24 at 2:50 p.m. at GISS.

"For seven years Turpel-Lafond has been uniquely placed to advocate for the rights and needs of the province's children and to ensure youth who receive government services in B.C. are protected and safe," states press material from the Salt Spring Forum.

For example, since the 2009 report Turpel-Lafond published on the murder of Christian Lee of Oak Bay by his father, she has been calling for a comprehensive strategy for protecting youth from domestic vio-

lence. The provincial government still hasn't unveiled the strategy despite commitments to do so in September of last year — though it says it hopes to in this fall. Turpel-Lafond is vocal about her disappointment on how little government progress has been made in this area and continues to work for change.

This is just one of the many areas that Turpel-Lafond pushes the government to do more for its young people.

Before her current appointment, Turpel-Lafond worked as a judge at the Saskatchewan Provincial Court. A member of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, she is a lawyer and law professor who was appointed as a judge at the age of just 35. She was later named by Time Magazine as one of the Top 20 Canadian Leaders for the 21st Century.

All members of the Salt Spring community are invited to join Turpel-Lafond and Raffi, who will moderate the discussion, next Thursday in the GISS gymnasium.

Entry to the event is \$10 at the door for both Forum members and non-members, with students and teachers admitted for free.

ISLANDS TRUST

LTC initiates requisition process

Funding needed for watershed coordinator

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee has taken the first step towards implementing a special tax requisition to fund a watershed management coordinator for the island.

According to a staff report presented at the LTC's Oct. 3 meeting, cost estimates for the position range between \$68,000 and \$110,000 for the 2014/15 fiscal year.

"The range is based on a three-

day versus a five-day work week of contract coordination, and includes other expenses such as minute taking, venue rental, advertising and communications," reads part of the report.

The watershed coordinator will oversee work of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority.

The request requires approval from Trust Council and a community consultation meeting, anticipated to be held before the end of November. Trust Council's decision isn't anticipated until March 2014.

"LTC has a responsibility to engage the community in this

issue and then report to Trust Council about what the process yielded," said Salt Spring planner Justine Starke.

SSIWPA was created to solve water quality issues on the island, especially in St. Mary Lake. The group includes representatives from the provincial government, Vancouver Island Health Authority, Capital Regional District, Islands Trust and North Salt Spring Watersheds District.

LTC members and planning staff have yet to identify the tax requisition's specific implications on island property owners.



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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Salt Spring Fire Board Meeting:

Monday, OCTOBER 21
Ganges Fire Hall, 7:30 p.m.

FUNDRAISER

Calendar projects gives island poverty a human face

Sponsors needed to cover printing costs

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community outreach workers, volunteers and a local photographer are working with Salt Spring's marginalized population to bring a human face to an oft-overlooked problem.

A calendar featuring portraits and stories of people who are homeless or living in poverty is hoped to bring these issues out into the open, and in the process, to help raise funds for the programs devoted to supporting those affected.

"Poverty is prevalent on our island and it's prevalent everywhere — the stigma is, Salt Spring is seen as a utopia, so people don't really see what we're working with," said Community Services outreach worker Donna Dunnigan.

Salt Spring photographer Mike Azzarello Krayenhoff was inspired to create the calendar by Hope in Shadows, a similar idea that's been going strong on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside since 2003. That project involves a photo contest for people living in the area to document their own lives. Images taken for the

fundraiser calendar and a gallery exhibition are narrowed down by a panel of judges and voted on by community members each year.

Though in Salt Spring's version Krayenhoff will be holding the camera, the spirit of community participation is the same. The subjects will be people who support the idea after discussing it fully with Salt Spring Community Services coordinators like Dunnigan, and volunteers Naomi Syrenne and Hannah Snetsinger.

Dunnigan said that although she liked the idea, she was initially wary about how the project would play out. She has therefore been conscientious about ensuring that each individual involved fully understands what it will mean to put their photo out for everyone to see.

"Their faces will be out there in the community — showing they're either struggling or living in poverty. I really wanted to connect with them and let them know everything that entailed for them," Dunnigan explained.

"It takes a lot to be outed, and particularly in a smaller community, so how can we do that and at the same time support them in their dignity?"

"For me, one of the real-



PHOTO BY MIKE AZZARELLO KRAYENHOFF

Calendar photo of island resident Mark Warner. Salt Spring's homeless and marginalized population, will be in focus in a new calendar project benefitting Salt Spring Community Services outreach programs.

ly important things is to be respectful, and to have the people I'm representing happy with the photographs, and how they're represented," Krayenhoff said.

With those strictures in place, Krayenhoff worked to create relationships with the participants and involve them in the process. The resulting images

are beautiful portraits that reveal the subjects' humanity rather than casting them as objects or "other." The participants get to keep the original photos, and they also fulfill a desire that many have to give back to the programs that support them.

Dunnigan will help write the captions for the photos, some

of which will include personal stories, but the written material will mainly tell the overall story of need in the community rather than that of individuals. Raising awareness in the community is also one of Krayenhoff's primary concerns.

"It's my priority to educate Salt Spring about some of the people who are marginalized," she said, adding her images will perhaps motivate community members to do more than just purchase the calendar.

"There's also other needs they might discover they can contribute to or support," she noted, such as volunteering time or making meals for the cold weather shelter.

Besides the calendar can do its work, however, the project coordinators are looking for help to get the images into production. Sponsors are being sought now with the goal of getting the calendar printed and into stores for November.

For more details, email m.azzarello.photo@gmail.com.

Post your comment to this story online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

NEWS BRIEFS

Assault suspect sought

Salt Spring RCMP are looking for the individual who assaulted a process server and smashed his vehicle's windshield on Monday, Oct. 14.

The process server was attempting to serve documents to an island resident at the time of the attack. He fled the suspect's residence and reported the incident to police after the assault.

Members of the local detachment are presently searching for the suspect in order to make an arrest. His name is being held pending formal charges. While the subject is known to police, he's not believed to be a risk to the public at large.

Also in police news, the espresso sign in front of Outspokin' Bike Shop was stolen over the Oct. 5-6 weekend. Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the sign is asked to contact the local detachment or the store.

Palu takes on the Dragons

The Nov. 6 episode of the CBC's popular Dragons Den program will feature Salt Spring's very own Palu Rainbowsong.

Palu and his assistant Tim Harvey were filmed in an episode during a trip to Toronto earlier this year. Palu was invited to the show after producers became entranced by Palu's solar-meditation bow during auditions

held on the island.

Dragons' Den gives entrepreneurs an opportunity to pitch ideas to a regular cast of potential investors.

Though bound by conditions of a nondisclosure agreement, Palu said his episode stands to be one of the most memorable in the Dragons' Den history.

The show will be broadcast on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. on CBC television. Those who miss the broadcast will be able to find the episode on the

show's website at www.cbc.ca/dragonsden after it airs on TV.

Prepare to 'ShakeOut'

More than 600,000 people across the province will participate in ShakeOut BC Day on Thursday, Oct. 17 to increase earthquake awareness.

Participants will drop, cover and hold on wherever they happen to find themselves at 10:17 a.m.

The event is held in offices, schools and homes throughout B.C. to educate people about how to act during and after a major seismic event.

Organizers expect the event will be the largest earthquake drill in Canada's history.

ShakeOut BC is one of hundreds such drills that involve more than 22 million people around the world annually.

For more details, or to register a school, business or family, visit www.shakeoutbc.ca.

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SCHOOL BOARD

District prepares to tackle calendar study

Math literacy also on to-do list

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District is preparing to dive into a number of recommendations regarding its school calendar and the effects on learning outcomes, with the first meeting of a new task force set for next week.

May McKenzie, chair of the Gulf Islands' board of education, reported during the board's regular meeting on Saturna Island last Wednesday the task force had been assembled and would have its initial meeting on Oct. 23.

In a follow-up interview after the meeting, district superintendent Lisa Halstead noted that establishing the task force answers the first of the recommendations made by Martin Blakesley in the research study on the topic he published in May. Once the group has explored the other recommendations, it will host a community forum to go over its findings.

"The board really wanted this to be an open conversation, and so do I, with as much real consultation as we can have," Halstead said.

The task force includes the superintendent, two school trustees, and representatives from the District Parent Advisory Council,

the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, and the B.C. Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association.

In other school board news, Halstead said in her Ed Links report that the district will be concentrating on improving math literacy skills across all grades in the coming months. Doug Livingston, the district's director of instruction and learning services, and teacher representatives for the middle and high school levels met with Ministry of Education math specialists on this matter last Friday.

Halstead said the district will be looking at how to implement the new curriculum and how to assess

whether it is making a difference in students' math performance.

Gulf Islands administrators are also preparing to review the information gathered under its annual district review, which moves from class-by-class reviews to the school level and then up.

"We'll be analyzing that information this week and then moving it into action plans for our students," Halstead said, adding the district "put in supports that truly meet the needs of our students."

The next school board meeting takes place at Galliano Community School on Wednesday, Nov. 13. The public session begins at 1 p.m.

FIRE DISTRICT

Trustees clarify referendum ad

Returning officer makes minor amendment

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Tom Moore, the returning officer for the Salt Spring Fire Protection District's upcoming borrowing referendum, has made changes to the public notification of the event after concerns about the wording were brought to his attention.

"Everything is all fixed up," Moore said Tuesday morning, adding the change had no bearing on the legality of the referendum since the section was merely a background explanation of the district's request to borrow funds for the purpose of building a new fire hall.

The issue came to light after Salt Spring residents Susan Cunning-

ham and Julia Lucich contacted the Driftwood about the full-page ad published in last week's issue, which they said had incorrect information. Specifically, they were concerned about one sentence regarding the property donated by Tristar Communities Ltd. from Brinkworthy Estates. It said the land "has been conveyed to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District at no other cost other than the usual legal costs to obtain title to the land."

As the land transfer is still awaiting final signatures from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Islands Trust, Cunningham and Lucich pointed out the property has not actually been conveyed. They also said there were costs associated with the transfer.

Fire board chair Bruce Pat-

erson agreed to speak to Moore and determine whether changes should be made, with the result that this week's ad was amended to say the property is "in the process of being conveyed." Moore explained that when the trustees forwarded him the information, they had expected the transfer process would have been completed by the time the ad appeared.

As for the other part of the statement, Patterson reconfirmed there were no costs outside of legal fees to transfer the property title and no payment made to Tristar. Items of site development such as surveying and geo-technical reports, he said, were done to create the architect's design development drawings.

Future costs such as sewer and service connections will only happen if construction takes place.

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- Monday, October 7th @ 7pm-9pm (Ganges Fire Station 105 Lower Ganges Rd)
- Tuesday, October 15th @ 7pm-9pm (Search and Rescue Hall, 261 Fulford-Ganges Rd)
- Tuesday, October 22nd @ 7pm-9pm (#3 Central Fire Station 110 Vesuvius Bay Rd)

Target date not set

FULFORD
continued from 1

"The bottom line is they were trying to clear a congestion issue, but the congestion issue has morphed into a far bigger project," Swierenga said.

Further complicating the issue, BC Ferries has been waiting to receive a cost-sharing agreement with MoTI to begin the work. The project does not appear in the ministry's budget for this fiscal year, which doesn't end until April 2014. In the meantime, ferry executives are apparently reconsidering whether the capital project is in their best interests.

"Basically I think they want to have a good look at it, since it has become so much more expensive, [to see] if it's a good

value for the money," Swierenga said.

Despite having no specified target date for putting the plan back into action, the FAC chair said he believes some kind of upgrade will happen eventually, although it may be a modified version.

"In addition, I would state that I am still confident that BC Ferries remains committed to dealing with the safety issues at the Fulford terminal and that this setback is only a delay," Swierenga said.

In light of the delay, the FAC has asked BC Ferries to provide more traffic control during the busy summer days when the "pinch point" becomes an issue. Flaggers have been contracted for that purpose in the past.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Islanders stand up to bullying through Amanda Todd event

Salt Spring joins global day of positive action

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Dozens of islanders assembled in Centennial Park on Thursday afternoon for an emotional event that marked one year since the death of Port Coquitlam teenager Amanda Todd.

"This is critical mass and it's vitally important. A year ago we were absolutely rocked by Amanda's life and her death," said Kevin Vowles, who works with the Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse group. "There were numerous forces at play which caused Amanda's situation and for her to take her own life."

Todd suffered verbal and physical abuse from her peers after being stalked and exploited by an online predator. Todd's death has initiated a discussion about the dangers of social media and the nature of bullying in schools across the country.

Connected with the Amanda Todd Legacy and called Light Up the World Purple, Thursday's event also occurred on World Mental Health Day. Gatherings took place around the globe to raise awareness about youth mental health issues and cyberbullying.

"I think it's going to be an annual event from now on, so I think that's cool," said event coordinator Morgaine Longpre, who worked on the event with fellow islander Susan Gordon.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Kevin Vowles, a SWOVA Respectful Relationships program facilitator, addresses Thursday's crowd.

The one-hour celebration in Ganges featured mental health professionals, teachers, students and musicians who spoke, sang and danced to the challenges and opportunities faced by youth on Salt Spring and other Gulf Islands. High school and middle school students carried banners that declared the island a bully-free zone.

Raffi Cavoukian, a musician and author who founded the Centre for Child Honouring, questioned the role that "infotech devices" like smartphones have grown to

play in the lives of young people.

"How can people be so vulnerable?" he said. "How can young users of social media not be safe in something that adults have designed for fun and communication and connecting with one another?"

He called on everyone to do what they can to instill "a culture of respect" in the online world.

Luis Araujo, a child and youth outreach mental health worker with Salt Spring Island Community Services, said his experience in local schools offers a heartening lesson in an age defined by so much tragedy.

"I've only been living in this community for one year, but I'm really happy to be living on Salt Spring and one of the first things I've noticed since I've been here is what a special community we are here, how we connect and communicate in different ways and how our schools are quite different from places I've worked before."

Speakers encouraged islanders to promote a culture of understanding and openness by taking a stand against bullying.

"If you see somebody that's in a situation where you don't think they are being treated properly or with respect, I ask you to step up and be brave about it and just say, not in a confrontational way but in an open heart way, that it's just not okay for that to be going on," said John Herbert, a GISS parent.

More information about youth mental health services and resources on the island is available through SWOVA and Salt Spring Community Services Society.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Victoria Peck writes an anti-bullying message on a balloon as part of Light Up the World Purple day.

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OPINION



2013 CCNA AWARDS
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 Gold - Special Section (Best of SSI) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
 Silver - Editorial Page | Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre)
 Silver - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Sports Photo (John Cameron)

2013 BCYNA AWARDS
 Gold - Sports Photo (John Cameron) | Silver - Cartoonist (Dennis Parker)
 Silver - Special Publication (Aqua) | Bronze - General Excellence
 Bronze - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Ad Campaign, Collaborative (Leanne Brunelle)



EDITORIAL

Powerful legacy

A small but mighty group gathered at Centennial Park last Thursday, sowing the seeds of positive change on World Mental Health Day.

Salt Spring's version of an event titled Light Up the World Purple was quickly ignited by residents Morgaine Longpre and Susan Gordon, who were inspired by the Amanda Todd Legacy's "light up" concept. Events took place around the world to keep alive the memory of Amanda Todd, the cyber-bullied Port Coquitlam teen who killed herself a year ago on Oct. 10. The Salt Spring gathering and another in Nanaimo were the only ones that reportedly took place on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

THE ISSUE:

Anti-bullying initiatives

WE SAY:

Various ways to have an impact

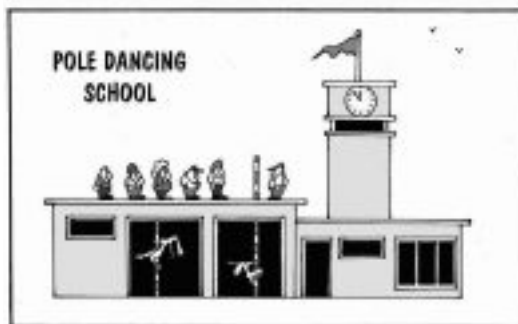
It should be no surprise that Salt Spring is an epicentre for an anti-bullying initiative. It's had the benefit of years of youth development through Respectful Relationships and related anti-violence/anti-bullying programs run by SWOVA in district schools. Numerous community members — some who are parents and some who are not — have also made the social health and development of youth a priority in their lives.

One of those is internationally known singer/author/activist Raffi Cavoukian. He was so saddened and angered by Todd's death a year ago that he created an initiative called the Red Hood Project with Vancouver community advocate Sandy Grossino and wrote a compelling, well-researched book titled Lightweb Darkweb — Three Reasons to Reform Social Media Be4 It Re-Forms Us. Both the project and the book aim to raise awareness of the dangers of social-media gorging by children, and to press service providers like Facebook to enact safeguards so youth cannot be stalked or harassed online.

The book is an empowering read for parents, grandparents and anyone concerned about the experiences of children and youth in times of technological change, and the Red Hood Project's open letter to Facebook can be seen and signed at www.redhoodproject.com.

No one wants to see another tragedy like the death of Amanda Todd take place in our community or beyond.

Besides reading Raffi's book and signing the Red Hood letter, islanders can support SWOVA's existing programs that prevent bullying of all kinds, and stay tuned for even more local efforts to address youth mental health and cyber-bullying.



VIEWPOINT by Bob Mackie

Keep old hall as heart of Ganges

The referendum on the new fire hall is on Saturday, Oct. 26, but the fire trustees meeting the Monday prior is, in my view, even more important. That is when the fire trustees will consider our proposal for the old fire hall.

The existing Ganges fire hall with its clock tower and its red and white architecture is arguably the most iconic building in Ganges village.

Once the fire trucks move out, the building will be sold. I get that. The fire trustees are not empowered to walk away from a \$750,000 asset. The big question is: who will it be sold to and more importantly, what will they do with it?

A four-day Ganges and Greater Ganges Design Charrette sponsored by the Institute for Sustainability Education and Action was done in 2007. It involved professional designers, students, local designers and various local experts and members of the Official Community Plan Focus Groups. The final report shows the old fire hall as a cultural centre. This may not be what people want now, years later, but as a community we should not stand by and through inaction lose a tremendous opportunity to have the old fire hall be an important asset to our community.

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee has recently made Ganges village planning a top priority and hopefully they will develop a thoughtful and creative plan that the old fire hall will fit into. I have high expectations. For years I have thought what a natural extension of the Saturday morning market the old fire hall would be if the street between the park and the hall were closed to cars on Saturdays.

I attended presentations on the new fire hall and asked if there was some community group interested in keeping the old building for public use. There wasn't... so we are it. A group of

us got together, had meetings and formed a society.

We wanted to find out what our community would like to see happen with the site and hopefully make that happen. We talked to Elizabeth May, Gary Holman, Wayne McIntyre, John Tylee, Peter Grove, each other and anybody else that would listen.

We had a public meeting at the library and more people said they would help. A local web developer created a website with a survey. We promoted the site with the help of neighbours and friends. We have done our best over the last few months to ascertain what to do with the old fire hall and how to make that happen.

Now we need the fire trustees at their meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 21 to approve giving the FireSpring Society an option to purchase the old fire hall for \$750,000 (which is what the fire trustees included as the selling price in their budget estimates for the new fire hall). The trustees can cancel the option for any reason with four months notice. It will take a year and a half or so to build the new hall.

The FireSpring Society needs to know on Oct. 21 whether we can go forward. We need a yes or no, not a maybe, before we incur more expense and hopefully go forward.

It is not often that we get an opportunity to have a say in the future of our island as important as this. I encourage anyone that wants to ensure our iconic fire hall stays a public part of our community to respond to the survey at FireSpringGanges.org so we know what our community wants and to let the fire trustees know our community wants the old fire hall to stay for public use, by contacting them at trustees@saltspringfire.com.

The writer is a member of the FireSpring Society.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should Facebook do more to protect its young users?

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support the SensibleBC petition?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I've travelled around the world and everyone's amazed at the quality of care I get in this little place called Salt Spring Island."

RANDY BACHMAN, MUSICIAN, ON LALI FORMAGGIA FUNDRAISER

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
What piece of technology would you not want to live without?



STEVEN OVERHOLT
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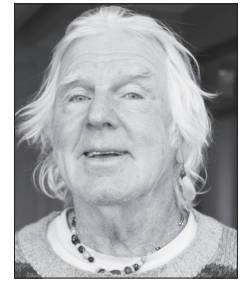
AMARAH GABRIEL
I kind of like my computer now.



CAROL PENHALE
Probably my phone, but not my cell phone, my home-based line.



DIANA THOMPSON
CBC radio — you're always learning.



HARRY WARNER
I think for the winter, it's hard to live without Netflix.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Read and reply to letters online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com under the Opinion tab.

Firefighter's viewpoint

Donning my turnout gear in the hall truck bays again because . . . that's where our gear is. As the trucks are firing up right beside me belting exhaust in my face I realize once again that I'm breathing this stuff in! Just another safety hazard of many in this hall and we're not even on scene yet.

I love what we do, this community, and feel honoured in this, but now we need your help and here are some facts:

Our proposed new hall will raise residential property tax an average of only approximately \$50 per year.

Here is the offset and can save you money: Because of our commitment and professional training standards, we meet the Superior Tender

Shuttle requirements which we are tested on and can save homeowners hundreds of dollars and on their home insurance, depending on their location. Ask your agent and shop around.

We are all doing our best to be financially responsible and transparent in this hall proposal, and now need the community to properly inform themselves in this upcoming referendum.

Please take the time and visit www.firehallinfo.com and www.ournewfirehall.com. Voting takes place Wednesday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 26 at the United Church hall.

It's coming to crunch time and our hall does not meet the needs to effectively serve you anymore. For our health and your safety; please vote "yes."

SIMON BARRY WELLS,
POC FIREFIGHTER

Governance study chair responds

Brian Brett's "Committee shows bias" letter to the Oct. 9 Driftwood merits its response because it reminds me of the reason I first became concerned with governance issues.

Simply put, informed public discourse is obscured when a few on the fringe use false accusation and innuendo to demonize and discredit. This is a tactic Mr. Brett claims to abhor, a tactic he says the Tea Party uses to aggravate and alter debate.

That said, I have faith that Salt Springers are made of better stuff. The heart of the matter is that

we are lucky enough to have a provincially funded governance study to help islanders consider the only two legislatively available options in B.C. This follows the fact that 70 per cent of the vote in the last election went to candidates supporting such a study. The study therefore reflects balance and community support. It engages the public on the full scope of available options: the unincorporated rural system we have now and the incorporated municipal option.

Some say the study should ignore the municipal option and look at how the current system could be improved, or that the committee doesn't understand its terms of reference. Nonsense! Our elect-

ed officials addressed this in union in their "Study limited" letter in last week's paper.

The ministry funding the study affirms we are to provide a "snapshot" of current governance and engage the community on how unincorporated governance works in contrast to municipal. It is a big picture approach that does not include minute examination of what Salt Spring "could be," either under the current system or as a potential municipality.

The committee has worked hard with our elected officials and our professional consultants to safeguard the process and seek public input by means of our easy-to-navigate website, two distinct surveys, two sets of

public forums, Facebook, Twitter, the Exchange, the Driftwood, the Fritz and more. Survey #2 runs until Oct. 18 at www.ssgovernancestudy.ca where there is also information on the final set of forums scheduled for Oct. 28 and 29.

The study will conclude with a recommendation to the government whether there is interest proceeding to an incorporation study, which would show in detail the impacts of becoming a municipality.

This is too important to leave in the hands of others, so please make your voice count.

JOHN MACPHERSON,
CHAIR,
SSI GOVERNANCE STUDY
COMMITTEE

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

LCC a governance alternative for Salt Spring

BY RICHARD KERR

If Salt Spring were to become a municipality, the additional ongoing costs for policing and roads would be large and mostly unavoidable.

An elected local community commission (LCC) is an option for strengthening self-governance on Salt Spring — without incurring those additional costs. Although the LCC option is permitted by existing provincial legislation, the Salt Spring Governance Study Committee has been allowed to consider municipal incorporation as the only alternative to the status quo.

The CRD Board already has the legal power to create an LCC for Salt Spring and delegate to it the planning of local services, budgeting (subject to CRD Board approval), approval of expenditures, contracting, operational policies, procedures and decisions. Unlike current CRD commissions, whose members are appointed, LCC members would be directly elected by Salt Spring voters.

A CRD bylaw to create an LCC would take effect only if approved by referendum. There would then be an election for four or six commissioner positions. The Salt Spring CRD director would also be a member of the LCC. Creation of a Salt Spring LCC would leave the Local Trust Committee and Salt Spring's relationship with the Trust in place — which some (but not all) would see as a plus.

An elected LCC could reduce existing frag-

mentation of governance and allow greater co-ordination and local control of service delivery — especially if the CRD were to delegate the powers listed above. Delegation of CRD powers to an LCC working with locally-based staff might also reduce the risk of mistakes that have been costly for some recipients of CRD water services.

With voter approval, an LCC could also take on responsibility for the fire department and local water districts, which could allow better prioritizing of local expenditures and perhaps greater eligibility for infrastructure grants.

A major advantage of an LCC over municipal incorporation is that Salt Spring would not be required to take on the responsibility of paying for policing and roads. Examination of policing costs in comparable municipalities suggests that we would have to pay at least an additional \$1,000,000 annually for policing under incorporation, with limited control over future increases.

A 2009 report by the Union of BC Municipalities found that "police cost increases have been double the rate of increase in property taxes [and that] the increasing police expenses put pressure on other needed municipal services as there is limited overall tax tolerance."

Costs of road maintenance, repair and upgrading are likely to be both large and difficult to predict with any degree of accuracy. We do know however that Salt Spring's ratio of road

GUEST COLUMN

length to population is more than three times the municipal average.

Although an LCC would be eligible for some federal and provincial grants through the CRD, there would undoubtedly be grants for which only a municipality would qualify. A detailed financial comparison of both options is needed to show which would be more favourable over the long term.

Another plus for the LCC option is that it is reversible. With municipal incorporation there would likely be no going back if we found it had been a mistake.

Since the LCC option already exists under provincial legislation, could it be considered by the current governance study? When I asked this of the provincial official overseeing the Governance Study Committee, she replied: "The straightforward answer is no. The Board of the CRD has not created a LCC on Salt Spring Island, nor has it chosen to delegate any of its power to an elected LCC. Therefore, the current state of governance on the island does not include a LCC."

The current state of governance on Salt Spring does not include an island municipality either, but that is the only alternative to the "snapshot" of the status quo that the Governance Study Committee and their consultants are being allowed to examine and present to the community. The Governance Study Committee's current survey is seriously flawed because

it presents municipal incorporation as though it is the only possible alternative to the status quo.

Despite chairing the finance sub-committee of the 1999-2002 Salt Spring Island Restructure Study Committee and serving on several CRD and Trust commissions, I only recently became aware of the LCC option.

Although I voted for municipal incorporation in the 2002 referendum, I am no longer convinced that incorporation would be the best choice for Salt Spring. I am concerned about the tax implications of the policing and roads responsibilities of a municipality and about the weakening of the Islands Trust's ability to "preserve and protect" — both on Salt Spring and throughout the Trust area.

I believe we should proceed with a second restructure study only if the study's terms of reference require it to examine in detail all of the options permitted by existing provincial legislation — including the status quo, municipal incorporation and creation of an elected LCC.

There is no perfect solution to local governance issues. We need to find the option that would give us the best combination of long-term effectiveness and affordability.

The writer is an economist who has served on the 1999-2002 Salt Spring Restructure Study Committee and other island community groups.

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Voting against 'Tajma fire hall'

BY DARLENE STEELE

What splendid irony!
The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines "irony" as "... ill timed or perverse arrival of event or circumstances in itself desirable, due to the feigned good will and actual malice of fate or circumstances etc.: ... simulation of ignorance as a means of confuting adversary..."

In this case read irony as Carol Dodd, her good buddy Tom Bremner and the fire board trustees posing their questions regarding Plan "B," an alternative to the "Tajma fire hall" they are seeking taxpayers dollars to build. (See Driftwood, Oct. 9, "Plan B - anonymous no more?" by Carol Dodd.)

The fire board trustees have had both formal and informal invitations to discuss Plan "B" and have either turned them down or rudely couldn't even be bothered to respond. They could have discussed each and every question about the proposed building in Plan B with Norm Elliott, James Savage, the Permasteel architects involved and they would have had all the architectural details and

IN RESPONSE

costs in hand. But no, they chose to knock them back as they did with two other companies who expressed interest in the project.

Instead the fire board trustees pushed ahead with a very large, grand and expensive building project without ever considering what else could be built for less money but still meet all the needs of Salt Spring. There is no excuse for willful blindness; it is a self-imposed state of mind which limits all options and in effect acts like a brace on the brain.

The purpose of this "vote no" campaign is to inform the taxpayers that there are available options which are half the price of the Tajma Fire Hall, meet post-disaster standards and have all the vital amenities of a safe, effective fire hall.

So before you agree to borrowing \$6.25 million, please consider what this community really needs and can afford. You will be paying off this debt incurred by the fire department for

the next 20 years.

Taxpayers will be on the hook for the Tajma fire hall debt of \$6,250,000 plus interest; the current fire department debt of \$1,175,000 still owing for fire trucks etc. being paid for until 2021; and this year's operating budget of \$2,375,000. And on top of all this; the icing on the cake is the considerable cost of two more full-time firefighters with benefits and pensions.

The even scarier part of all this expenditure is that the estimated \$6,250,000 for the Tajma fire hall is just that — an estimate. There is no guarantee they can build the fire hall they are promising for the price they are quoting. We could be adding cost overruns to the above list of taxpayer debt.

Vote "no." Let's go back to the drawing table and consider other alternatives which we can really afford.

The writer has been involved in various community groups and ran for a Salt Spring fire board position in April 2013.

MORE LETTERS

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Disrespectful treatment

Sometimes when you read something offensive or asinine in the newspaper, it's better to just turn the page, or shred the thing for cat litter.

But sometimes not.

A week or so ago the Globe and Mail carried a column by Ian Brown, who is currently on assignment as the Globe's reporter at the Banff Centre. The article is all about the apparent shift of emphasis in the music programs at Banff away from classical music and toward other areas of activity.

Ian Brown is usually a pretty lucid writer, but this article is quite a mishmash. Well, no writer is on his best form all the time. What raised my ire, however, is the following comment about his attendance at the 11th Banff International String Quartet Competition in August:

"The average age of the audience had to be over 70. There were so many bald patches that from the back the audience resembled a commercial turnip patch, just as the swedes were breaking the surface."

Never mind the disrespect to the specific individuals in the audience he was looking at, people who had come presumably from far and wide because they wanted to listen to music that was important enough to them to

warrant the trek. What irks me is the characterization of an entire generation as a bunch of comic vegetables.

Irks? No. Infuriates.

I come across this too often: the blithe way in which those over 65 are dismissed as irrelevant nobodies simply waiting in death's antechamber, amusing themselves in the meantime with a taste for such pointless antiquities as classical music.

As if taste and intelligence and an enquiring engagement with the world were all extinguished with the receipt of a Gold Card.

As if the meaning and richness of lives were matters of an actuarial calculus and not of the same imaginative and passionate investment in living we so readily acknowledge in the young.

As if the quantity of hair on someone's head, or its colour, had anything to do with anything.

If Ian Brown, or anyone else, feels that music for classical string quartets has become irrelevant or outdated or has for some reason lost its cultural value, then let him say so and argue his case. But the identity of those who like to listen to the stuff is the last thing that should be of any relevance, especially when it rests on such a blunt and dehumanizing act of generalization, never mind of disrespect.

Turnips indeed!

GEORGE SIPOS,
SALT SPRING

Fire trustee response to Permasteel letter

I hate to comment on the diatribe concerning the referendum debate, but I feel it is important to respond to Permasteel/Percon Construction owner, Norm Elliott and his "Plan B rationale" letter of Oct. 9.

I will never begrudge an honest businessman the opportunity to make a profit from his neighbours; after all you don't get rich by giving more than you take. But I think it only fair to represent the facts accurately.

The board of fire trustees invited Mr. Elliott in a letter responding to his VP of sales regarding our review of all building materials for the new emergency centre to "... please direct any future correspondence concerning building materials directly to our project architects and construction manager." This invitation to participate was on Feb. 21, 2013 and they chose not to forward any proposals.

It took over six months while we developed and revised our plans before we heard anything from Mr. Elliott when his request for a conference call left us with no time to respond with an official meeting before the launch of our final plans.

RON CHAMNEY,
SALT SPRING FIRE TRUSTEE



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MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

'Savings' in perspective

All of us know what any Plan B for the proposed emergency centre really is: a marginally acceptable, perhaps, but certainly far less desirable alternative to the much better Plan A that should have been chosen.

Others have already spelled out the many ways in which the so-called "Plan B fire hall" would be inferior to Plan A, an emergency operations centre that really will meet a full range of island needs for the next 50 years. It's also been shown that when a more professional and more complete cost comparison is made, the actual cost savings from building the much smaller and maybe "good enough" Plan B Fire Hall are considerably less than was originally claimed.

Any "real" cost savings should not be ignored, but they should also be put into proper perspective. The cost to the average (assessed property value of \$516,000) taxpayer on Salt Spring of either the more appropriate Plan A fire hall/emergency centre or the marginally acceptable Plan B option would still be less than the cost of one cup of coffee every 17 days. Admittedly, Plan A requires an average taxpayer to forego a medium-size, 12-ounce cup of coffee. With Plan B, it's only a small, eight-ounce cup of coffee that must be given up. Joy, joy.

The net savings associated with opting for a "good enough" fire hall rather than a "really good" one — less than two ounces of coffee a week! What else need be said?

Let's all, on either Wednesday, Oct. 23 or Saturday, Oct. 26, vote "yes." Our fire department, emergency operations program and search and rescue unit are always there for us. Let's be there for them.

STAN SHAPIRO,
SALT SPRING

Devastating trade deal

I was disappointed with the Driftwood's coverage of the local meeting concerning FIPA (Canada-China investment treaty) in a recent paper.

This trade deal if ratified would be devastating to Canada's future economy, democracy, workers' rights, human rights and ecology. We are already being successfully sued for loss of anticipated profits for more than \$100 million by a U.S. company that was denied the right for fracking for natural gas in the St. Lawrence. And I understand there are more claims pending.

Our federal government should be working to close the loophole in NAFTA that allows this, instead of trying to put Canada in an even worse situation by sneakily avoiding parliament and public debate in agreeing to allow China to exploit Canada's resources in this FIPA treaty for up to the next 31 years!

We as citizens and taxpayers need to know the full implication of this, because if we allow it to be ratified we will be paying for it for a very long time — maybe forever.

NANCY WIGEN,
FERNWOOD

Let's keep debate civil

BY DEREK HILL

As a former municipal councillor in a small, rural Quebec community, I've observed four different, sometimes opposing, schools of thought when it comes to governance revision on Salt Spring Island:

1. those that oppose any change whatsoever;
2. those that believe that change is needed but that it could and should take place within the framework of the current governance structure;
3. those that support change but are open to its format;
4. those that believe change is needed and that the answer is for the island to incorporate.

Some of those in camp 1 seem so antagonistic to the idea of change (as they were during the referendum in 2002) that they are willing to go to seemingly exceptional lengths to impose their view on the community through attacks on the only realistic vehicle we have for exploring governance options — the current governance study review and on those who volunteered to participate in it. Some of those opponents of change seem recklessly indifferent to the divisions their attacks wrought in 2002 and that are seriously at risk of being reopened.

I remember with clarity and disgust how some in the community sought to mischaracterize and demonize their neighbours and mislead the public in general about the options available.

Those tactics included:

1. misrepresenting the choice as one between incorporation OR the Islands Trust;
2. reinterpreting the ISG acronym to "I Support Greed" or "Islanders For Selfish Government";
3. ascribing negative motives to named individuals simply because they were of a certain profession — a realtor, say, or a building contractor.

In his letter in last week's Driftwood, Brian Brett continues that same conduct through (1) his attack on the character and motives of the governance study chair, John Macpherson, (2) by disparaging the democratic process, (3) by his attempt to mislead islanders that their choice is between incorpora-

tion and the Trust and (4) by his odd inferences regarding the impartiality of the governance study committee (whose meetings he has not once attended).

None of us has the capacity to see into the heart of another and, where I was raised, it was a basic principle of neighbourliness that we have some faith in the motives and intent of those we choose to live and work among.

If Mr. Brett wishes to engage in the debate to promote his position on governance, there are constructive ways to influence the outcome. Although taking that direction might demand in him a change in attitude.

The following adage by Anais Nin comes to mind:

*We see things not as they are;
We see things as we are.*

For those of us in the community who wish to review our options for governance in a manner that respects our fellow islanders, the governance study currently underway is the correct vehicle for doing so and we should use it.

In the November 2011 elections over 70 per cent of voters cast their ballot for candidates who campaigned on the basis that they would seek a provincially sponsored governance study. We have a rare opportunity to demonstrate whether change is indeed desired and, if so, to examine the options available to us within the current legislative framework.

Opponents of change mustn't be allowed to sabotage this opportunity through gratuitous character attacks on those who have volunteered to assist the community by serving on the committee assembled in response to the votes of islanders.

Please show your support and respect for the committee, for our elected officials and for each other by reading the governance study website, <http://ssigovernancestudy.ca>, completing survey number 2 available there or at the library or PARC office, attending one of the forums on Oct. 28 and 29, and talking to your friends and neighbours.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident interested in local governance.

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Avoid silent majority

The Governance Study Committee sincerely thanks all who already have or will complete the second survey on our website at www.ssigovernancestudy.ca before the Friday, Oct. 18 deadline.

The only way we will know what you think is if you tell us! To ensure as

many islanders as possible complete this final survey, send a link to your colleagues, neighbours and friends. Let's all make a real effort to have as many views and preferences expressed in this confidential survey.

Let's avoid a silent majority. Governance is too important an issue for you to leave the decision to others.

SSI GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE

Monsanto monsters for this year's Halloween

Given that a worldwide march against Monsanto took place on Oct. 12, this Halloween would be an ideal time to continue raising public awareness of those "monster" corporations dedicated

MORE LETTERS

to destroying all seeds except their own proprietary ones by highlighting their atrocities in our Halloween celebrations.

Such companies are true monsters in their unrelenting attempt to drive our natural seed heritage to extinction,

place our world food supply at risk, and destroy our soil in the process, all in the name of profit.

In a sense, these biotech businesses represent our low commercial culture taken to its limit: the genetically modified seed.

Why don't we express our outrage this Halloween through creatively designed costumes depicting genetically

modified monster organisms?

I suggest that parents who are concerned about the damage being wrought for our children's future might playfully engage with their kids in designing outrageous "Monsanto monster" costumes to scare us all with their "trick or treating" at the end of the month.

GEORGE I. BREWER, FULFORD HARBOUR

YOUR Health for 2013

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FUNDRAISER

Randy Bachman concerts to support plane crash victim

“Lali-palooza” hits Fulford Hall on Nov. 15 & 16

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF



PHOTO BY MIKE HOUGH

Randy Bachman in performance. The famed rocker is putting on benefit concerts for Salt Spring plane crash victim Lali Formaggia.

Randy Bachman has lent his name to some high-profile fundraisers over the years, including a star-studded Clean Air event that brought Neil Young and the Bare Naked Ladies to Crofton in 2004, and the massive Flood Aid benefit for Alberta this past summer.

Despite a plethora of good causes in his own back yard, however, Bachman tends to avoid playing concerts on his “home turf” of Salt Spring, where he prefers to appear as a regular person rather than a rock star. A plane crash that left island acupuncturist and naturopath Lali Formaggia severely injured has inspired Bachman to step out of that comfortable zone to give two fundraising concerts at Fulford Hall on Nov. 15 and 16.

“It was just a tragic thing to hear about the crash and then a joy to hear that she’d survived,” said Bachman, who has received treatment from Formaggia for the past seven to eight years and became good friends in the process.

“I’ve travelled around the world and everyone’s amazed at the quality of care I get in this little place called Salt Spring Island . . . everything she does is just amazing.”

Formaggia was on her way

home from a hiking trip along the remote Hesquiaht trail when the plane she was in crashed soon after take-off on Aug. 16, killing the pilot and one of the five passengers. Formaggia was hospitalized for a broken arm and third degree burns to her legs. She expects an extended recovery time before she will be able to return to practice.

Bachman credits Formaggia for helping him avoid knee replacement surgery for the past five years — an event that could take him off the stage for up to 12 months. It’s only fitting that he would devote some of that stage time back to his friend, after

being approached by another Salt Springer, his sound tech Daryl Chonka.

“I’m sure the recovery will be emotional and mental, as well as physical,” Bachman said.

“I hope this gets her on her feet and gets her through it.”

The concerts will reprise Bachman’s sold-out cross-Canada Vinyl Tap tour featuring himself and his guitar, playing the songs that helped The Guess Who and Bachman-Turner Overdrive sell millions of records from the early ‘60s and on to today. Bachman will also describe the process behind writing each song that he plays, with

projected images in an archival video show created by Chonka providing the visual context for those incredible times.

“I think the audience will be entertained and it will really be a trip through time and the soundtrack for their lives — whether they lived in Canada or the USA,” Bachman said.

Tickets for the Fulford Hall shows, which Bachman has dubbed “Lali-palooza,” are \$55 and are available through the ArtSpring ticket centre or online at tickets.artspring.ca.

The concert will feature two sets with a 20-minute break in between. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with the show starting at 7:30. The shows are general admission, so ticket holders are advised to come early to get the best seats.

Bachman is hoping to sell out the two evenings and if so, he will add a Saturday afternoon performance at 2 p.m., which he says will be the ideal time to take students who want to learn about songwriting.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Magda Leon will be taking over Dr. David Woodley’s practise effective 1 November 2013.

Address and phone will remain the same for the month of November.

CREATIVE ARTS

Film writer shares skills

Sessions for young adults on four Saturdays

The Salt Spring Island Public Library is offering a free Writing for Film workshop for young people beginning this weekend.

Open to anyone aged 15 to 25, Writing for Film will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on four consecutive Saturdays from Oct. 19 to Nov. 9 in meeting room 103 at the library.

Taught by local playwright and filmmaker Lance Woolaver, Writing for Film is an introductory program perfect for anyone interested in writing for film or television. The program covers both documentaries and feature films and is intended for young people interested in exploring the possibility of working in the Canadian film industry.

No prior experience is required to participate in the program. Combining teaching and discussion, special emphasis will

be placed on the form and structure of the film script, and how to market a script: who to send it to; how to make contact with film producers; and how to independently produce films. Examples will be taken from well-known films, including The Shining and The Princess Bride.

Woolaver is the award-winning writer of the National Film Board documentary The Illuminated Life of Maud Lewis and the 2013 feature film La Gang des Hors-la-Loi. His play World Without Shadows has been produced by a dozen professional theatre companies and was broadcast nationally by CBC Radio. Woolaver is currently writing and pitching a new documentary television series from his home on Salt Spring.

For more information, or to register for Writing for Film at the library, contact librarian Danielle Hubbard at dhubbard@saltspringlibrary.com, or 250-537-4666, extension 225.



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EXHIBITIONS

Photos explore duality in identity

Father-daughter
collaboration opens at
ArtSpring Oct. 16

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The complex notion of identity is the subject being explored in a new exhibition of photographs by Greg Klassen opening at ArtSpring today (Oct. 16).

Billed as a collaboration with his 14-year-old daughter Morgan, who is the model for the project, *Mu* (Liminal Spaces) is a show that represents “that intangible space between here and there, between you and me, between the inner and outer me.”

The photographs represent an extended conversation between father and daughter, started four years ago as a joint artistic and personal exercise. The original images were taken at the very beginning of Klassen's shift away from a career in marine science into pursuing photography seriously as an art form. In returning to the project this year, he has reworked the compositions with Morgan's input.

“Before I decided to take photographs as an artist I tended to avoid people,” Klassen said, explaining his way of dealing with problems is usually to attack them head on. When communication problems started to arise at home, he put both issues together with art as the vehicle for working them out.

“It all came out of identity, trying to figure out who you are. I decided to explore the sense of duality visually,” Klassen said.

That method of family problem solving also worked for Morgan, who has a similarly strong artistic understanding.

The *Mu* series therefore charts the working through of family issues caused by a generation gap, but even more so, it documents the equal participation of artist and model to create an accurate representation of the subject. Although Klassen believes that any identity contains both the individual's view of him or herself and the perception that others have, he is constantly aware of not overloading his interpretation onto anyone. That challenge was perhaps even stronger when working with someone from his own family.



IMAGE COURTESY GREG KLASSEN

Mu #27 — model Morgan Klassen's favourite piece in the *Mu* (liminal Spaces) exhibit.

Klassen's show *Who?*, which he exhibited at ArtSpring earlier this year, is one example of how he has approached the issue. The composite portraits were created to express the many facets of each participant's personality by combining multiple photos within one cohesive image.

“It's a really cool way of approaching photography, both artistically and socially, if you can get people involved,” said Klassen.

In *Mu*, Klassen also explores identity through the use of double or sometimes multiple exposures, feeling the visualization had to reflect “the profound sense of inner duality that we all tend to feel when we confront identity issues.”

Those who saw *Who?* will remember crisp but complex images with the sharp focus that suggests the journalistic or documentary side of photography. The *Mu* series is a much more emotional and personal project, and the visual style reflects this in softer focus, transitions and movement.

“I let it go more freely,” Klassen said.

The presentation reflects the vulnerable nature of the works, leaving images unmediated. There will be no mats or frames, just the photos on backing.

Though the collaborators are taking a gamble on exposing their art and their identities to the community at such a deep level, Klassen said both he and Morgan feel comfortable doing that on Salt Spring.

“There was apprehension on both sides at first, but once we started we both felt quite comfortable,” Klassen said. “And I didn't decide to put on the show until we had talked it through again.”

Morgan and Klassen will be on hand to answer questions at the opening reception tonight, which begins at 5 p.m. and goes to 7 p.m. Klassen also welcomes individuals and groups to contact him about doing artist's talks on any aspects of the project.

The show continues daily to the end of Tuesday, Oct. 22.

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MULTI-MEDIA ART

Pieces of Her Story shares journeys

Loving Inquiry group
mounts exhibit

This fall marks three years since local poet and educator Ahava Shira first started translating her Ph.D. thesis into a unique business.

Through the Gates of Loving Inquiry: Where the Heart Opens into Relationship became the Centre for Loving Inquiry on Salt Spring Island — a business that supports artists and entrepreneurs to learn more about who they are, what deeply matters to them and how they can take care of themselves as they follow their passions and engage wholeheartedly in their life's work.

“When I first started my business, I had no idea how much effort I would be required to make on my own behalf,” said Shira.

“With each new season, workshop idea and marketing initiative, I have been pushed toward my edge, and have had to seek support, learn new skills, summon my courage and let go of old beliefs that were impeding my power to create.”

Next week, Shira, along with four of the students from her year-long group mentorship program *A Year to Love* — Sam Barlow, Johanna Murray, Premilla Pillay and Charlene Wolff — will share their journeys with the larger community through an inspiring multi-media art show called *Pieces of Her Story*.

Through photography, video, collage, writing, music and illuminated journaling, each woman shares stories, both personal and fictional, that relate to what she has learned along the way. Interactive pieces invite

visitors to participate in the show and to explore fragments of their own stories.

“This exhibition demonstrates how, through engaging in the practice of Loving Inquiry, we experience the freedom to express what is deep and true in our art, and in our hearts,” said Shira.

Pieces of Her Story takes place in the ArtSpring gallery from Friday, Oct. 25 to Wednesday, Oct. 30. The opening reception is on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. Tea and home-made treats will be served.

On Sunday, Oct. 27th, from 2 to 4 p.m., Barlow, a photographer and multi-media artist, and Shira, a poet, performer and storyteller, will offer an afternoon workshop at ArtSpring, exploring practices and techniques for personal creative storytelling.

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CONCERTS

Jami Sieber offers sounds for humanity

At All Saints this Sunday

Electro-cellist, vocalist and composer Jami Sieber will offer her remarkable talents to the Salt Spring community on Sunday, Oct. 20 when she gives a 7 p.m. concert at All Saints By-the-Sea.

Sieber is touring in support of her newest CD called Timeless, a lush mix of meditative songs, including A Love Song for Humanity, River of Sky and Dancing with Tinkerbell.

According to press material, Sieber's "soulful music and vocals will inspire you to be more settled in

your heart and kinder to someone, even if it is just yourself."

Sieber first toured Salt Spring Island in 1984 when she came with singer/songwriter Charlie Murphy. She returned during the 1990s with her pop-rock band Rumors of the Big Wave and alongside Canadian singer/songwriter Ferron.

A former nurse, Sieber's music reveals the compassion she has for all life, whether human, animal or other parts of nature.

"Her life-long commitment to the environment, social justice, and the healing arts is at the heart of her



WWW.JAMISIEBER.COM

Jami Sieber performs Sunday.

music, reflecting a deep dedication to the arts as a medium of exploration and awareness of the intercon-

nectedness of all beings," her website explains.

After the 2004 release of Hidden Sky, which was inspired by working with the Thai Elephant Orchestra, she began touring as a solo artist.

"Since launching her solo career, Sieber has performed her original compositions around the world, diving into dynamic collaborations with an extraordinary spectrum of dancers, actors, poets, visual artists, improvisers, vocalists, and instrumentalists that span the globe."

Tickets are on sale at Salt Spring Books and the door.

EXHIBIT

Intimate invitation to nature at art show

New exhibit opens

Doug Wahlsten and Heidi Van Impe will present their joint show called "Intimate — an invitation to nature" at the Salt Spring Gallery of Fine

Art beginning this Friday, Oct. 18.

As a press release explains, "In this show, 'intimate' means close, so close that the person, the animal, the plant, the stone becomes larger

than life size and takes up the entire field of view. It loses its context and history and is valued for itself alone. Intimate means appreciating exquisite details that are often lost in the blur of daily

routines and habits. Intimate means slowing down and allowing the finer things to be seen."

Wahlsten presents large photographs that invite the viewer to enter into a closer

relationship with the subject, while Van Impe displays her personal nature sketches for public viewing.

Their show opens Friday with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m., and runs for two weeks.

FINE ART

Salt Spring represented at juried Sidney exhibit

This weekend only

Three Salt Spring Painters Guild members are among Gulf Islands artists with work accepted for the Sidney Fine Art Show, which runs this week.

Pieces by Melanie Williamson, Margaret Threlfall and Elehna de Sousa are part of the juried exhibit that opens at the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney on Thursday, Oct. 17 with a preview and opening reception from 7 to 8 p.m.

The show continues Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Community Arts Council of the Saanich Peninsula-sponsored event receives more than 1,200 entries, from which some 400 are chosen.

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Backup singers get limelight

Next up in Best of the Fest series

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

You've heard them, but chances are you've never heard of them. Very few achieve fame, riches, or public accolades. Yet without them, most of the popular music hits of the last 50 years would not exist. They are the backup singers whose voices harmonize behind some of the greatest pop musical legends of our times.

20 Feet From Stardom is a fascinating documentary that takes an unprecedented look at the lives of six female backup singers whose careers span generations of music. It shines a spotlight on the untold true stories of the singers standing behind some of the biggest stars in the music world. A huge audience favourite at this year's Sundance Film Festival, it was the first film at that festival to be purchased for general distribution.

The profiled singers, all African-Americans, have worked with some of the giants of the music

world, including the Rolling Stones, Ike and Tina Turner, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Sting and Phil Spector. Each of the women is a gifted artist, and each has a compelling story to share of life spent in the shadows of super stardom.

Directed by Morgan Neville, a music documentarian, 20 Feet From Stardom incorporates an engaging mix of live interviews and archival footage. Bruce Springsteen, Bette Midler and Mick Jagger are among those interviewed. The women reveal stories of vocal triumph, exploitation and thwarted ambition.

It is a film which gives credit where credit is long, long overdue. It also pays tribute to the inner resilience and motivation of the featured backup singers who frequently faced shabby treatment and hardships. Some wanted to be stars, others had no interest in the limelight, some succeeded and some fell out of professional favour.

Darlene Love, who with her trio the Blossoms helped break the colour

barrier for black backup singers in the early '60s, wound up cleaning houses to make ends meet, but managed to restart her career. Then there's Merry Clayton, who famously sang backup on the Rolling Stones classic Gimme Shelter, while in hair curlers, silk pajamas — and very pregnant.

Neville says his film is ultimately about how very few people accomplish every dream they have.

"The real measure of a person is how you come to terms with the life that you have, not the life you dreamed of having. Some people do it with grace and some people do it horribly."

Making this film changed how he hears music, Neville said.

"Suddenly hearing vocals in songs I've heard a thousand times and realizing just how they were constructed and how important those background vocals were."

20 Feet From Stardom is on screen at ArtSpring on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets (\$10) are available from the ArtSpring Ticket Centre.

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PHOTOS BY KYLE HEEB

ANYONE FOR TEA?: From left, Russ Fox and Julie Masse dress up to participate in a Vancouver Island Models and Photographers group shoot of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party at Cedar Beach Resort, one of several Photo Fest 2013 events organized by Shutterjunkie (Gregor Alan) of Salt Spring, and the second annual VIMP gathering held on the island.

GARDENING

Herb talk on tap

Mayne Island visitor gives presentation

Brian Crumblehulme will give a talk called Growing and Using Herbs at this month's Salt Spring Garden Club meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 23.

A columnist for the Islands Tides newspaper, Crumblehulme writes about food, gardening and island life. He has written a book on food and cooking and is presently completing a second called The Paradox of Good Food.

He was born in England and moved to the Gulf Islands in 1978 where he began the first commercial herb farm on the islands. Later, he and his wife built Fernhill Lodge, a country inn, and operated it from 1983 to 2000.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Community Gospel Chapel. It's free for members and \$5 at the door for non-members.

WORKSHOPS

Ideas fly on Saturday

Executive coach shares tips for achieving goals

The Salt Spring Toastmasters Club invites participants to learn how to turn their paper napkin ideas into reality with a special workshop this Saturday, Oct. 19.

Kristin Nickells will give the workshop from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the public library's program room for a fun approach to planning and then taking the steps needed to get ideas off the ground — for volunteer activities, professional work or daily life.

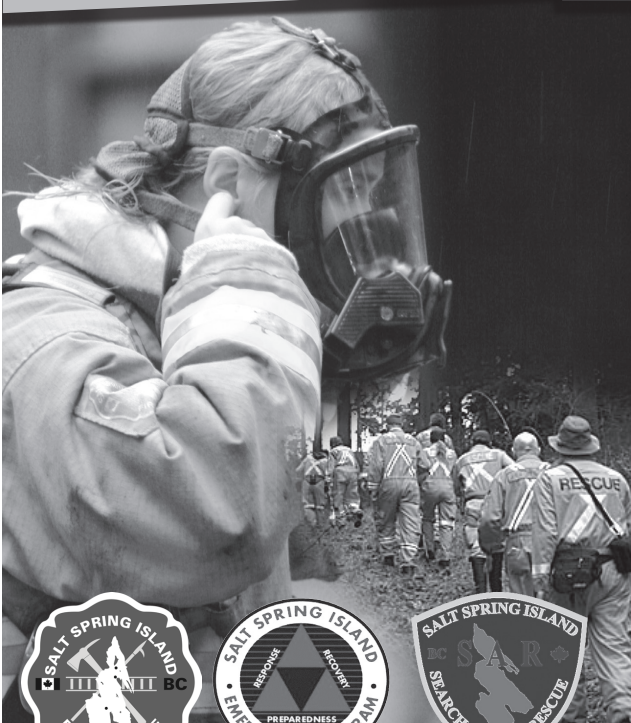
"Plans keep you focused on the things that count, keep you on track, and reduce a whole lot of stress, which lets you sleep at night," Nickells states in a press release. "They increase the likelihood that you will achieve your goals."

Nickells is a certified executive coach who teaches business, leadership and communication skills to professionals and entrepreneurs who have little or no formal business education. The cost for attending the workshop is \$10. Tickets are available at Salt Spring Books.

Salt Spring Toastmasters meets Mondays at 7 p.m. in the lower hall of the Catholic Church on Drake Road. For information about this event or the club, contact Dennis Fortin at 250-537-1710.

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SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NOTICE OF OTHER VOTING

Public Notice is hereby given the electors of Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will be asked to vote on the following question on **Saturday October 26th, 2013**:

Are you in favour of the Board of Trustees of Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District adopting Bylaw No. 122 cited as "Emergency Response Centre Borrowing Bylaw, 2013", to borrow the sum of Six Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$6,250,000.00) to meet the cost of construction of a new Emergency Response Centre located at the corner of Lower Ganges Rd. and Atkins Rd., adjacent to Brinkworthy Estates?

YES or NO

TAXATION IMPACT

The cost of the of the construction of the overall project has been set at six million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$6,250,000.00) by Johnston Davison Architects, Inc. which includes legal costs, architectural and engineering fees and general construction supervision, The Board of trustees has finalized that five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) of the total cost of six million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$6,250,000.00) will be financed by borrowing the five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) for an amortization period of 20 years. (the figure of \$5,000,000.00 is the result of subtracting from the \$6,250,000.00 \$750,000.000 from the sale of the present fire hall and \$500,000.00 from the Salt Spring Fire Protection District surplus funds) The estimated the yearly repayment costs will be \$312,163.22 resulting in a levy estimated at \$55.25 yearly on an average residential property valued at \$ 516,000.00.

BYLAW NO. 122

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Emergency Response Centre Borrowing Bylaw No. 122

A Bylaw to borrow the sum of \$6,250,000.00 on the credit of the Improvement District.

Whereas it is deemed desirable to undertake debt in the amount of \$6,250,000.00 in order to build an Emergency Response Centre.

The Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District enact as follows:

1. It shall be lawful for the Improvement District to borrow the sum of Six Million, Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$6,250,000.00) or any smaller sum from the Bank of Montreal in order to build an Emergency Response Centre and to pledge the toll collecting and taxing powers of the improvement district for repayment of said sum
2. It shall be lawful for the Trustees to issue promissory notes obligating the Improvement District to repay the sum borrowed and pay interest thereon at the prime rate per annum in Effect
3. The maximum term for which this sum can be borrowed is five years
4. This Bylaw maybe cited as the "Emergency Response Centre Borrowing Bylaw, 2013" Introduced and given first reading by the Trustees on the 30th day of September 2013 Reconsidered and finally passed by the Trustees on the _____ day _____ 2013

Chair

I hereby certify this is a true copy of Bylaw No. 122

Officer

EXPLANATION

The present Salt Spring Fire Hall in Ganges was built in the year 1960 and since that time the population has increased substantially and property developments have also increased both in numbers and value.

The result of these increases has placed a greater demand upon the fire hall facilities, equipment and resources making it necessary for the Board of Trustees to address measures to accommodate the greater demands.

An opportunity has arisen which accommodates the construction of a new Emergency Centre in partnership with the SSI Emergency Preparedness Agency and SSI Search and Rescue. Property, at a very suitable location, being Part of Lot B, Section 4, Range 2 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan EPP13068 (corner of Lower Ganges Road and Atkins Road), which is in the process of being conveyed to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District at no cost other than the usual legal costs to obtain title to the land.

Preliminary approval for the necessary borrowing has been given by the Inspector of Municipalities to the short term financing of six million two hundred fifty dollars (\$6,250,000.00). Once the construction of the New Emergency Centre is completed the Salt Spring Fire Protection District intends to sell the present fire hall at an estimated selling price of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) and to contribute five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District surplus funds.

If the question above is approved by the electors the Board of Trustees can proceed with the necessary borrowing and the long term borrowing can then be approved by the Inspector of Municipalities and construction of the fire hall can proceed.

VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

VOTING DAY will be open on **Saturday the TWENTY SIXTH (26th) day of October 2013**, TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT at:

**The Upper Meeting Room,
United Church, 111 Hereford Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2T3**

AND SUCH VOTING PLACE SHALL BE OPEN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF **Nine (9:00) A.M. and Six (6:00) P.M.**

ADVANCE VOTING shall be open on Wednesday the Twenty third (23rd) of October 2013 TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT **between the hours of Nine (9:00) A.M. and Six (6:00) P.M.** at:

**The Upper Meeting Room
United Church, 111 Hereford Avenue Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2T3**

Given under my hand at Ganges, B.C. this seventh (7th) day of October 2013.

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

You are qualified as an Elector if you are:

- (a) A Canadian Citizen
- (b) eighteen years or older on Voting Day
- (c) a resident in the Province for at least six months before Voting Day
- (d) an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
- (e) an authorized agent, designated in writing as the said agent, of a Board or Corporation that owns land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District.

If more than one person is registered on title as owner of land then those owners are entitled to vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis. **Please note that when checking the list of owners provided by the B.C. Assessment Authority the multiple ownership of some properties may not have been recorded. If the property that is being used for voting purposes is held in multiple ownership it is recommended that the persons intending to vote bring suitable identification, as listed below, to avoid any inconvenience.**

If you are not on the List of Registered Electors you may register on Voting Day providing you produce two pieces of identification, one of which has your signature, preferably with pictorial identification, e.g drivers licence, and documentation proving ownership of the land for which you are owner, e.g tax notice, assessment notice or duplicate certificate of title.

MENTAL HEALTH

LLTF gives mental health tools

Effective program offered on Salt Spring

BY JAMIE ALEXANDER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Don't worry; be happy. Easy to say, but many of us don't find it easy to do.

Mental illness is a serious health problem in Canada affecting relationships, education, productivity and overall quality of life. Approximately one in five Canadians, or 20 per cent of the population, will experience a mental illness during their lifetimes. Mental illness costs the Canadian economy an estimated \$51 billion annually.

Fortunately, a pioneering new course developed in the United Kingdom and backed by the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division (CMHA BC) offers the promise for a better life for thousands of individuals living with depression and anxiety.

Called Living Life to the Full, the course features eight "little books" that form the basis for four consecutive three-hour sessions, or as the CMHA boldly states: 12 Hours That Can Change Your Life. Bold words, but several independent evaluations show that most people who take the course report a real increase in their well-being.

The booklets outline a plainly worded set of tools that allow participants to face and overcome the problems that are bothering them. The tools are designed to help people experiencing depression or anxiety, but they go beyond that — they work for anyone seeking to worry less and live a happier life, starting now.

What's remarkable about the program is not just its simplicity, but the fact that it works. Recent trials in Northern Ireland followed 480 people through the course. At the outset 80 per cent of the participants were

depressed and only 20 per cent were either happy or not depressed. At the end of the eight weeks, the numbers were reversed: 83.3 per cent were happy or not depressed and only 16 per cent were depressed.

Dr. Chris Williams, a psychiatrist and professor at the University of Glasgow, developed the program, which is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). Dr. Williams was in B.C. recently to help CMHA launch Living Life to the Full in Canada. He told a group of mental health professionals that the plain language of the course is the key to its success.

"I really believe Living Life to the Full is for everyone, and when I say everyone, I include myself."

BEV GUTRAY
CMHA BC CEO

"CBT has some great strategies for coping with mental health problems," he said. "But when people aren't able to cope, making them learn CBT language is not the way to help."

Williams designed the courses to be delivered by certified trainers, who can encourage people to get the most out of the four sessions. And if some participants need more help than the course can provide, the facilitator can refer them to the appropriate service providers.

At the heart of Living Life to the Full, however, is the conviction that ordinary people can learn how to take ownership of their mental health by using the tools outlined in the books to feel better.

During its pilot program for Living Life To The Full, CMHA BC branches

around the province delivered 29 courses to more than 380 people. Of the 228 people who completed the evaluation, 85 per cent said the course was either useful or very useful and 91 per cent said they would recommend the course to their family and friends. The course has inspired people to claim little victories such as cleaning out the garage or ending a nail-biting habit to bigger changes — taking out-of-town trips or moving to a new house. One relieved participant is "now sleeping at night."

CMHA BC CEO Bev Gutray is leading the effort to roll out the Living Life to the Full program across Canada.

"I really believe Living Life to the Full is for everyone, and when I say everyone, I include myself," she said. "We all have ups and downs, and now there's a way to deal with the downs and turn them back into ups that's accessible, easy and it's even fun to do."

And now, Living Life to the Full is coming to Salt Spring Island. This powerful course is scheduled for four consecutive Wednesdays from Oct. 23 to Nov. 13, 4:15 to 6:30 p.m. at the Portlock Park portable.

The course will be facilitated by me, Jamie Alexander. I have served as a counsellor, advocate and resource navigator for more than 20 years at the Salt Spring Community Services Society. With a strong knowledge of community resources, I am passionate about well-being and mental health issues. Caregivers, family members and friends are welcome to attend.

Due to the kind support of the Salt Spring Foundation, no fee will be charged, but space is limited to 15 participants, so people should register by Oct. 20 by emailing lltf.vic@gmail.com or or phoning 250-216-4228.

For more information about Living Life to the Full, see www.lltf.ca.

Searching on your Mobile Device?

The Driftwood site is available on your mobile!

Tap into what's fresh & local!

- TOP STORIES - The best of local articles.
- EVENTS - The latest calendar of events on Salt Spring Island.
- LOCAL INFORMATION
- REAL ESTATE - Guide of homes for sale.

Also check out: gulfislandstourism.com
The perfect vacation destination for you and your family this summer!

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250.537.9933



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OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 20th, 2013
1:00pm - 3:00pm

QUEEN MARGARET'S SCHOOL
660 Brownsey Avenue, Duncan, BC

RSVP to: 250 746-4185 | admissions@qms.bc.ca www.qms.bc.ca

View our new Learning Centre currently under construction!

FAMILY EDUCATION

Parenting course starts Monday

Multi-faceted format

A parent education course for families coping with separation and divorce returns to Salt Spring on Monday, Oct. 21.

Effective Co-Parenting: Putting Kids First will run for six consecutive Mondays from 5 to 7 p.m. at Family Place on Park Drive.

Presented by Salt Spring Community Services, the program:

- gives information about the needs of parents, children and families;
- increases understanding of the developmental needs of children for self-

- esteem and security;
- offers skills about managing diverse shared parenting situations;
- provides strategies for improving communication, resolving conflict and managing day-to-day children's issues between parenting partners;
- affords participants with a supportive group environment.

The format includes group discussion, leader presentation, audio visual and resource materials, and more.

For information and to sign up, contact Maryanne Benwood at 250-537-9938 (mabenwood@ssics.ca) or Johanna Stiver at 250-537-9176 (familyplace@ssics.ca).

Island Savings, Gulf Islands Driftwood & Salt Spring Chamber Present:

Small Business Week

October 22 - 24, 2013

Small Business Seminars

Tuesday, October 22nd

5:30-7:00 pm	Planning for Success - The Building Blocks of Running a Successful Business Brent Mainprize, UVIC Business Faculty
7:30-9:00 pm	Marketing and Social Media - Having Integrated Marketing Strategies, Robyn Quinn, Big Bang Communications

Wednesday, October 23rd

5:30-7:00 pm	Being at your Best - Aligning your Vision with your Values. Sheena Bull with Chantel Wilson, SS Chamber Wellness Committee
7:30-9:00 pm	Salt Spring as a Marine Destination - How to Market to the Boating Community, Mark Bunzel, Wagoner Cruising Guide

\$10.00 per day or both days for \$15.00 - member pricing
\$20.00 per day or both days for \$25.00 - non member pricing

Wednesday October 23rd
9:00am - 3:45pm Free! Includes lunch Island Savings Critical Incident & Preparedness Workshop

Business Excellence Awards

Thursday, October 24th 6-9 pm
Cheer on your Favorite Salt Spring Business! Awards in 10 Categories including:

- Business of the Year (over 15 employees)
- Small Business of the Year (under 15 employees)
- New Business of the Year (first 3 years of operation)
- Non-Profit Association of the Year
- Tourism Business of the Year
- Agriculture / Farm Business of the Year
- Green Business of the Year
- Outstanding Customer Service (individual)
- Young Entrepreneur (under 25)
- People's Choice Award (business)

Dinner, Cash Bar, Prizes and Awards Harbour House Hotel and Restaurant 121 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Live Entertainment featuring Wesley Hardisty Only \$35 per person plus gst!

Information:
Seminar sign-up and dinner tickets:
Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, 121 Lower Ganges Road
On-line at www.saltspringchamber.com or call 250.537.4223

All sessions will be at the Harbour House Hotel

Award Sponsors: Island Savings, Li Read Sea to Sky Realty, Thrifty Foods, John Cade Pemberton Homes, Country Grocer, Gulf Island Driftwood

sports&recreation

NEWS UPDATES

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter
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October 18 is Health Care Assistant Day



Join us in celebrating our care aides and community health workers and recognizing the important work they do.

In your community



Unit for 467/ ccpp 378

RUNNING

Sneakers earn race honours

Medals for club members

Hard work by Salt Spring Sneakers running club members yielded excellent results at the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon on Sunday, Oct. 13.

Susan Gordon took the F50-54 gold medal and finished 61st out of 2,603 competitors in the eight-km event with a time 33:47.

Richard Hayden took the silver in the M45-49 half marathon with a time of 1:20:57, and finished 45th out of 4,672 competitors. Eric Van Soeren's time of 39:37 earned him a top-10 finish, coming in ninth in his M60-64 category in the eight-km race.

Two Sneakers teams that competed in the Masters' category each came in second place and were close to winning. The eight-km group was only a total of 16 seconds out of the gold, finishing the race in 2:39:29 and averaging at 39:53. The half marathon Masters' team earned its second-place berth with a total time of 6:42:46 and an average time of 1:40:42.

Also participating in Sunday's events were Marcia Jansen, Keith Cloete, Janine Fernandes-Hayden, Karen Curtin, Marion Young, Gillian McConnell and Robert McGinn in the half-marathon, and Janice Dickie, Greg Taylor, Donna Cloete, and Julie Van Soeren in the eight-km race.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

TREKKERS: Salt Spring Middle School students, with teacher Marianne Allan (top right), enjoy their first Happy Feet Day, celebrated with International Walk to School Day on Oct. 9.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Scorpions make an impression on Campbell River soccer fields

GISS puts together another strong soccer team

BY LO CAMPS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The GISS senior high school boys soccer team tested upcoming tournament waters in Campbell River last week, winning three of four games they played.

On the drive north, spirits were high and weather co-operated nicely. Oct. 11-12 games were played against Carihi (which fielded two Campbell River teams), St. John's (Abbotsford) and Timberline High (Campbell River).

The Scorpions warned opponents of "things to come" by starting each game with a menacingly soft "Salt Spring" (as opposed to most testosterone-driven soccer cheers) and it was clear from the start that the boys were in Campbell River not only to leave their footprints but also an impression.

Forwards Billy "birthday boy" George (MVP), Justin Kopetzki and Lukas Wenzel managed to score a grand total of 12 goals in three games, while defender Isaac Byron scored two and Alex Graham (goalie turned speed demon) managed to score three as well. Goals originated often from a solid passing game initiated by a strong midfield led by Sam Montalbetti (MVP) and Dylan Shaver, Louis Everest and Tai Levitt, who steered flank players Hiroki "happy" Nakabayashi, Kai Kikuchi and Josh Brown towards the opponent's box.

Wes Pickering, Forest Junker-Allen and Eric Weatherby kept up an almost impassable defence line and, along with Scorpion goalies Yianni Shourounis and Alex Graham, played a

pivotal role in keeping Salt Spring's net largely free of goals. This resulted in 9-0, 2-1 and 6-0 wins for the first three games.

For us on the sidelines it is a real treat to see the Scorpions building their games on accurate passing, forward speed and strategic insight. Many of the team's players have extensive soccer experience by playing with local and off-island teams. The senior high school soccer team brings all this talent together and playing, for once, as a 100 per cent Salt Spring team adds pride to their games.

After an early start and victorious first game on Saturday, the Scorpions finally met their match in the local Carihi team. Both teams were well matched and although Carihi played their first game of the day, the Scorpions largely dominated the play. But Carihi capitalized on a break-away and at halftime led 1-0.

Scorpions coach Ciaran Ayton underscored the boy's superb passing and the team attacked with renewed vigour in the second half. A possible combination of battle fatigue, missed chances for the Scorpions and some luck (along with good soccer) on the opponent's part meant a second goal for Carihi and the game ended in a 2-0 loss.

However, it was a good game, fairly played and great to watch, and although our boys lost, they are looking forward to taking on Carihi once more in the North Island tournament later this month.

Last year's seniors boys made it to the provincials and this team has the ability to do the same.

The boys' last home game is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 3:45 p.m., subject to confirmation. Come cheer them on!

Fraser's Thimble Farms Annual Fall Sale 20% off

Most trees, fruit trees,
shrubs and perennials

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
(Oct. 18-20th)

The rains have finally come and
the fall planting season has begun.

7 DAYS A WEEK
9-4:30

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www.bcautocentral.com

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

IN MEMORIAM

A celebration of Life and Memorial Service for **REGINALD STANLEY TAYLOR** will be held at the Canadian Legion on Tuesday, October 22nd at 1:00 pm

Bible Believers Fellowship of Salt Spring Island

Sunday service 10 - 11:30 am

Care Inn - 134 McPhillips Ave.
www.bbfsi.org
 more info: 250-537-4834

SS Toastmasters Club Presents Kristin Nickells **Paper Napkin Plans** The Fun, Fast, Easy Way to Organize Your Big Ideas Sat, Oct 19 at the Library 10 am - 11:30 am Tickets (\$10) at SS Books Info: 250-537-1710

FUNDRAISING MADE EASY, by World's Finest Chocolate. Four easy steps. Pick Product, Order, Do Your Fundraising. Then after Fundraiser is completed pay invoice. View products at www.worldsfinest.ca, then call 1-250-419-1151.

HAPPY ISLAND Diaper Service

We are a complete cloth diaper pickup/delivery service. Once a week our friendly driver will arrive in our pink van and exchange your dirty cloth diapers for nice clean ones. Convenient and affordable, from just \$25.55/week! We make cloth diapering as easy as using disposables. No rinsing or scraping required. You can enjoy more time with baby while we take care of your diapering needs. As former islanders, we are thrilled to bring our awesome service to Salt Spring!

Please visit www.happyislanddiapers.com or call 1-866-922-7377 for more info or to get started!

RECREATION FUNDING AVAILABLE

Salt Spring Parks and Recreation is receiving applications, from qualifying community organizations, for funding to assist with parks and recreation related projects, which provide additional recreation facilities, equipment, services or programs that benefit the community. Funding is usually awarded on a one-time basis, but under certain circumstances may be applied to ongoing programs. The deadline for applications is Thursday, October 31, 2013. Application forms are available on our website www.crd.bc.ca/ssiparc or at the PARC office. Call 537-4448 or email ssiparc@crd.bc.ca .

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Honour the life of your loved one with a gift to the Foundation 250-538-4845

Lady Minto Hospital Foundation online donations accepted: www.ladymintofoundation.com

classified@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM

Salt Spring HOSPICE

For some moments in life there are no words.

250-537-2770
 saltpringhospice.org
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DEATHS

DEATHS



PERRY, June

June passed away peacefully on October 4, 2013, ending an amazing life filled with family, close friends, travel and adventure. Born in Winnipeg Manitoba, June 12th, 1926, June left the Prairies at a young age with her first husband, a handsome, soon to be advertising executive, named Bill Ellis. After a short stint in Montreal, they moved on to Vancouver where they both fell in love with the city and its lifestyle. Soon after, their first son Mark arrived and then John. A surprise addition many years later was Barnaby. Life was busy with boating, skiing and socializing with friends in their numerous homes they designed and built in West Vancouver. Sadly, Bill's sudden death in 1965 left June a young widow but in 1973 she fell in love for the second time when she met Captain Hector Perry on a ferry to Salt Spring Island. Her life continued to be a whirlwind of worldwide travel, volunteering, entertaining and boating trips with family. Despite her busy schedule, June found time to get a degree with honours from SFU. June and Hector eventually retired to Salt Spring where their lovely home, Eaglecroft, provided a welcoming and peaceful retreat for all of their friends, children and grandchildren. June immersed herself in the community of Salt Spring by volunteering for the Library, the Anglican Church and the Canadian Federation of University Women. Despite Hector's passing in 2000, June continued to entertain and travel with family to the Bahamas and Hawaii. In her final years, she moved back to the West Vancouver waterfront that she loved so much. June had a charming and disarming wit, freely laced with her signature silvery laughter and a curiosity about life and people that entranced friends and family of all ages, and which remained a constant until the end. She will be missed by her sons, Mark (Suzie & daughter, Kate), John (Sheila) and Barney (Doug), Hector's children Sue Jay, Sandy (Gary) and Alan (Debbie), and her grandchildren Caitlin, Spencer, Andrew, Owen, Meredith, Christie, Joanne, Mark Jr. (Jessica), Marina (Jon), Diane (Blair) and great grandchild, Joseph. The family would like to thank the incredible staff at Lynn Valley Care Centre and her amazing companion, Weng De Leon. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Salt Spring Island Public Library (via www.canadahelps.ca) are appreciated. Two celebrations of June's Life will be held: West Vancouver Yacht Club, October 18th at 5:00 p.m., and All Saints by the Sea, Salt Spring Island, October 20th at 3:30 p.m.

For those wishing to share a memory of June, please visit www.hollyburnfunerals.com
 Hollyburn Funeral Home Ph. 604-922-1221

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

S.W.O.V.A
 Community Development & Research Society
Annual General Meeting
 Wednesday, 23 Oct, 2013
 5 p.m. at the S.W.O.V.A. office
 344 Lower Ganges Rd., SSI
 All are welcome * Admissions
 For more information, contact: 250-537-1336

LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL
CMHA course helps participants deal with depression, worry, or hopelessness with new skills to tackle life's problems.
 www.lttf.ca
 Facilitator: Jamie Alexander Oct.23rd - Nov.13th @ 4:15 pm-6:30 pm Portlock Portable
No Cost - Sponsored by Salt Spring Island Foundation. Email registration to victoria.branch@cmha.bc.ca 250-216-4228

INFORMATION

Capital Regional District **CRD**

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??

Volunteers wanted to serve as members to the following Commissions for a two year term, starting January 2014.

Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission - includes 8 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. PARC is responsible for the establishment, ongoing operation and maintenance of community parks, trails and recreation services and facilities.

Salt Spring Transportation Commission - includes 8 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The Commission serves in an advisory role to the CRD and to BC Transit on matters related to the transit service and to transportation related community needs and projects. On transit matters, the Commission advises on bus service funding, schedules, routes and other details of the service.

Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission - includes 7-9 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The Commission is currently developing a community economic development strategy for the island.

Salt Spring Liquid Waste Disposal Commission - includes 5 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The Commission establishes policies for the operation of the service and make recommendations to the CRD Board regarding the upgrade of facilities and levels of user fees.

Application forms are available by email at ssiparc@crd.bc.ca

OR

at the CRD Electoral Area office
 at 145 Vesuvius Bay Road
 Mon to Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Phone 537-4448 for more information

Please submit your application form no later than October 18, 2013 to:

CRD Electoral Area Management Services
 145 Vesuvius Bay Road
 Salt Spring Island, BC
 V8K 1K3

or ssiparc@crd.bc.ca

INFORMATION

salt spring arts council

WinterCraft

Annual Christmas Art and Craft Sale
NOVEMBER 29th - DECEMBER 22nd, 2013
Call for exhibitors and registration notice

Registration fee: \$28.00 - Deadline: November 8th
 A valid 2013 Salt Spring Arts Council Membership is required. Fee ~ \$25.00

Application forms and information can be downloaded from the website: www.ssartscouncil.com. Or picked up at Mahon Hall, 114 Rainbow Road in rear mailbox at school side of building. Please contact Richard Steel: info@ssartscouncil.com with any other queries.

New exhibitors welcome!

artcraft

SHOWCASE GALLERY
CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS

The Salt Spring Arts Council announces an open call to Artists and Craft people working in a variety of media, to submit exhibition proposals for the 2014 season of **ArtCraft's Showcase Gallery**.
Entry is open only to artists living in School District #64 Gulf Islands.
 The Showcase Gallery exhibits, on the stage at Mahon Hall, are approximately three weeks long and run during the **ArtCraft season- June to September.**

- Artists are welcome to submit work individually or as part of a group
 - Work must be recent - **created within the past 2 years** - and must not have been exhibited locally or at **ArtCraft** either on the main floor or at a previous showcase exhibit.
 - Exhibitions are chosen to reflect innovation, quality and professionalism
 - The **Artcraft** commission rate is 35%.
 - All items entered must be for sale.
 - Application Forms can be downloaded on the website www.ssartscouncil.com
 - Or, picked up at Mahon Hall, 114 Rainbow Road at rear office.
- The deadline for proposals is OCTOBER 30th, 2013**
- salt spring arts council

News Updates

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DEADLINES TUESDAY 9:30 AM

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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COMING EVENTS

LEGALS

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

TRADES, TECHNICAL

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CONCRETE & PLACING

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Channel Ridge Owners Association ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Oct. 22, 7:00 pm Community Gospel Chapel

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS RE: THE ESTATE OF PHYLLIS MEAGHER, Deceased...

m*modal Is hiring Medical Transcriptionists to work from home. Experienced MTs and CanScribe Career College graduates should apply today.

Automated Tank Manufacturing Inc. is looking for experienced welders. Competitive wages, profit sharing bonus plus manufacturing bonus incentive.

RAPID DEBT RELIEF... NO Interest - LOW Payments There is Special Government Legislation that allows you to reduce your DEBT by up to 100%

GULF COAST MATERIALS Serving the Gulf Islands Concrete, Concrete Pumps, Sand/Rock, Rebar, Bagged Cement, Colour & Sealers

FLOORING SALE Over 300 Choices Lowest Prices Guaranteed! Laminates - \$0.69/sq ft Engineered - \$1.99/sq ft Hardwood - \$2.79/sq ft

GROW MARIJUANA Commercially, Canadian Commercial Production Licensing Convention October 26th & 27th, Toronto Airport, Marriott Hotel.

LOST AND FOUND FOUND - SMARTPHONE on Stewart Rd. near Beaver Pt. Rd. Call: 250 653-4507

HELP WANTED An Alberta Oilfield Company is hiring dozer and excavator operators, Logging and meals provided.

NOW HIRING! ELECTRICIANS - INDUSTRIAL- Required by manufacturing company in East Vancouver. Must have BCTQ Certification.

GET BACK ON TRACK! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify.

DRAFTING & DESIGN LET'S GET STARTED Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home.

COMMERCIAL RESTAURANT SPACE AVAILABLE DECEMBER 1, 2013 Space included sinks, walk in cooler, propane stove with venting, washrooms, storage.

Notification of temporary medical office closure. Eagle Ridge Clinic will be closed due to vacation on the following dates in October: 17th (after 12 noon), 18th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

CANCEL YOUR Timeshare. No risk program. Stop mortgage and maintenance Payments today. 100% money back guarantee.

LABOURERS YARDING CREW Needed on Vancouver Island - Experience is an asset. Madli 071 operator, Hooktender, Landing bucket.

EXPERIENCED LOGGER, sheep/cattle rancher, builder & yarding engineer seeks employment. Reply to: Driftwood, Box 3, 32nd Lower Ganges Rd.

LEGAL SERVICES CRIMINAL RECORD? Don't let it block employment, travel, education, professional, certification, adoption property rental opportunities.

STRONG WOMAN HAULING - Has a new phone number- Call 250-616-3364 A full service, I move it all, junk removal company!

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM HOMES FOR RENT

WHAT'S ON page 16

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DEADLINE FOR TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY IS 2:00PM TUESDAY

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This Week's **Noroscope** by Michael O'Connor
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Tip of the Week:
The Full Moon on October 18 is a Lunar Eclipse. The exact time is 4:02 pm PDT. The Sun in Libra and the Moon in Aries at 25 degrees 45 respectively marks the exact placement by sign in the Tropical Zodiac. The New Moon on October 4th, of which this is the fulfillment, hosted some rather challenging aspects such that is qualified to be deemed a "bad moon rising". Of course, such statements are relative and since then those hard angles have since faded. However, the seed event of the New Moon remains active until the next New Moon. That the U.S. Government began it's "shut down" since that time presents a good example of the synchronicity of this challenging portent. Given the seed chart leading up to this event, it is unlikely that it has been resolved in time to prevent the deepening of this globally sensitive issue. With Mercury Retrograde set to begin its 3 week backtrack cycle in Scorpio, where it has been since September 29 and where it will remain until December 4th, the intrigue and mystery of this particular cycle and the major events that are coinciding with it are far from over. How other power players around the world will choose to capitalize on this costly stalemate will remain a guarded secret but such activity is beyond doubt. Tensions from this tug of war will persist and some of the deeper repercussions will endure long beyond the outer event so we can expect some large emotional reactions as well. Altogether, these events are apt reflections of the skin shedding year of the Water Snake. Stay tuned...

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
The cauldron of change in which you find yourself steadily simmers. Yet, it is likely bringing some of your more important relationships to a boil and perhaps even to flambé. Either way, you are challenged to really work it lest things succumb to burn. At delicate times like these it is extra important to focus to be balanced and to create harmony.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)
The focus on work where changes to improve, adjust and beautify continues. You have had to dig deeply over the past several weeks to meet the demand of circumstances. Now the flow is inviting you to a more creative focus. Working cooperatively with others remains particularly important. What you need now transcends know how and points to inventive genius.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)
Sometime we have to give more than at others and this is one of those times. Yet there is some adventure indicated and this may well include travel. Yet, the need to work harder, dig deeper and give more than usual will persist and may even increase. Positively, you are in a good position to gain some profound insights and realizations over the coming weeks.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Big waves continue to wash in on your shores. These have been and probably still are deeply moving and/or awe inspiring. Either way, your energy levels and determination have consequently increased. This all coincides with an expansive time in your life, but not all of it chosen. Added measures of empathy and compassion with others will balance you emotionally.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)
Some cycles require more multi-tasking than others, like this one. Mixing business with pleasure is the upside. There is an added hint of play igniting your passions. That you simultaneously feel more ambitious than usual is a central challenge. Effective time management will prove extra rewarding. Focus deliberately to work hard so you can relax into the fun times.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
The process of establishing a reliable rhythm continues. Weaving in a healthy level of beauty and pleasure may clash with a common sense work ethic. Yet, with the right balance you will feel inspired and energized to tackle the bigger tasks when you must. This is a call to set clear intentions to go with the flow in an atmosphere of contentment.
Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

A time of new beginnings continues. That these may be the result of endings is probable. Either way, you are in an expansive mood. Travel interests are featured as are cultural activities in general. The desire for additional insight, perhaps especially into financial interests, strategies, opportunities and/or responsibilities is, and will remain for a while, a central focus.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)
Stepping back behind the scenes is the call now. You may simply want to retreat and rest. However, you may well be busy with research projects. Your focus these days includes a wider sweep of things. You are especially interested in the long-term forecast. Your ambitions have and continue to be at a peak. Get ready for some revolutionary, breakthrough assertions.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)
Making new friends and forging key alliances is a central theme now. Exploring new creative avenues is featured as is learning new practical skills. Improvement is a key word. Presenting a better service or simply expressing yourself in a more conscientious and/or professional manner is likely and ideal. Aim to increase your overall integrity.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)
You are eager to be seen and heard these days. To this end you are willing to push a little harder than usual. Opportunities to expand your scope and influence are available. This trend will continue for a while but now is the time to activate a realistic momentum. Make key communications with movers and shakers whose creative talents align with your goals.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)
You are in an adventurous mood. Activating new creative ideas and visions feels right. With your ambitions steadily on the rise you will dig a little deeper than usual to get positive results. Feeling confident about the pace of progress is a challenge so you may feel the need to work harder. Trust the flow by weaving in cultural activities into your daily rhythm.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
Clearing the old to make way for the new continues. People and circumstances are pushing you to be more alert and focused. This includes a steady learning curve. Keep an open mind and avoid conclusive opinions and attitudes. The emerging cycle will activate philosophical perspectives as you search for greater clarity and deeper meaning.

Treasures of the Heart
Gifts To Nurture The Soul
Inspirational Quote of the Week
"If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person.
If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house.
If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation.
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ISLAND WHEELS

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NEW CAR REVIEW

Practicality meets fun in BMW's sport activity vehicle

Four-cylinder engine does the work of a six

BY NEIL MOORE
METROLAND MEDIA
WHEELSTALK.COM

Stopped and waiting for a break in Toronto traffic impressed on me that certain brands do affect the psyche of other drivers.

My BMW, at that particular moment, could have been sending positive vibes to fellow motorists, eliciting humanitarian thoughts such as, "Look at the successful young man in that nice crossover. I'll make his day by slowing down and letting him in."

Conversely, this darker version is even more likely to have flashed across their collective synapses: "That yuppie

jerk can wait until doomsday before he's getting in front of me...."

I'm not saying there's a complete lack of civility on the road, but it's a good bet that had I been driving a 10-year-old Kia, the sympathy "wave-through" would have occurred much sooner than with my 2013 X3 xDrive28i compact SUV — or Sport Activity Vehicle in BMW-speak.

So instead of relying on the milk of GTA driver kindness, which had evidently soured, I tapped into one of BMW's traditional strengths, which is found under the hood and contributes to the brand's reputation for providing the "ultimate driving experience."

Admittedly, this ride of choice among Leaside soccer parents is not on par with autobahn burners like the M5, but its 2.0-litre inline four

with twin-scroll turbocharger delivers a snappy 241 hp and 258 lb/ft of torque — which is what shot me into the conga line of traffic before yet another driver closed the gap.

Performance is not the only reason for owning a BMW, but it's a big one, and it no longer relies on gutsy inline sixes and V8s.

Like Audi and now Mercedes-Benz, BMW offers a turbocharged four-cylinder unit that can legitimately do the work of a six.

Sport mode and Sport+ were my guilty pleasures, and although I paid dearly for them at the pump, the quicker throttle, more direct steering and higher shift points made me forget I was driving what is essentially a wagon on stilts.

BMW continued on 23



PHOTO COURTESY WHEELSTALK.COM

Despite its compact size, the BMW X3 displays power and presence with its wide stance, distinctively contoured hood, dominant BMW kidney grille and large wheels: standard 18-inch or optional 19-inch.

THE CAR YOU CHOOSE FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE MAY END UP SAVING YOUR LIFE.

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ISLAND WHEELS

A little envy's not a bad thing

BMW
continued from 22

Indeed, the X3 is a tall vehicle, but in Sport or Sport+ (which tones down the traction control to allow a little wheelspin), it will carve corners nearly as well as a sedan. Mind you, the X3 is based on the 3-Series platform, and like driving the legendary sedan, you do feel connected to the road.

All X3 models get an eight-speed transmission. That's a lot of gears, particularly when the engine is delivering ample torque, but the unit is extremely smooth, and with nearly imperceptible but quick upshifts. Downshifts, however, are slower and more in line with typical automatics.

In many ways, the turbo four outperforms the naturally aspirated six, but it doesn't sound as nice — particularly when it's cold and the engine clatters like a diesel. That does, however, quiet down a few kilometres down the road.

My other small gripe is the auto start-stop function, which shuts down the engine while you're stopped with foot on the brake.

It's good for saving fuel, but doesn't operate as smoothly as those found in hybrids. Lift your foot off the pedal, and the engine shudders back to life, kind of like a golf cart. I found this feature offputting during stop-and-go driving and kept it off much of the time.

Even though the base X3 lists at \$42,450, which isn't particularly steep for a premium compact SUV, its interior, as you'd expect from BMW, is nicely crafted.

There are abundant soft-touch surfaces, for example in the door panels and dash, along with brushed aluminum accents, and all of it nicely stitched and fitted together with the

tightest of seams.

Controls are easy to use — in particular the HVAC which employs simple knobs and buttons — but the iDrive is less old school. It is, however, now more intuitive. iDrive's main knob and buttons for media, radio, phone and navigation (the latter is part of the \$2,200 Technology Package) make it easy to access these functions through a series of menus.

The X3 also includes the usual stuff you'd expect in this segment: dual-zone climate control, heated front seats with driver memory, tilt/telescopic steering with controls, and a decent audio system with Bluetooth. Sure, the standard upholstery is "leatherette," but for another \$1,900 you can remedy this with Nevada leather.

All X3s offer abundant leg and head room in the back seats, and ample cargo room behind them despite the vehicle's outwardly stubby appearance, inward-sloping rear hatch and relatively low rated capacity of 550 litres. Drop the second row and you max out at 1,600 litres, although it does appear larger.

I had no problem loading it with enough stuff to set up and fill our 10-foot by 10-foot Home Show booth one weekend, with plenty of room to spare. In practice, I'd say that it's not far off its more capacious competitors.

Setting all that practical stuff aside, the BMW roundel delivers something else that's hard to put a price on. And that's brand cachet.

Indeed, BMW says "success," which as I mentioned earlier can either impress other drivers or make you about as popular as Piers Morgan at an NRA convention.

Either way, a little envy can be quite the tonic... when you're on the receiving end.

VEHICLE FEATS

Volvo hits 3-millionth mile

Record-breaker chose 'the last frontier'



PHOTO COURTESY METROLAND MEDIA

Irv Gordon with the 1966 Volvo P1800 he has driven three million miles: an automotive milestone.

METROLAND MEDIA

On Sept. 14, 74-year-old Long Island native and retired science teacher Irv Gordon reached a milestone no other individual has accomplished in more than 100 years of automobile manufacturing: driving three million miles in the same vehicle — a shiny, cherry red 1966 Volvo P1800.

To mark the occasion, Gordon drove his three millionth mile on the Seward Highway — Alaska Highway 1 — along the Turnagain Arm.

The "Last Frontier" is one of two U.S. states Gordon had never visited and it was a fitting backdrop for the historic, record-breaking achievement.

"It's not about getting to the three million miles; it's about the trips that got me to the three million miles," Gordon said.

"I never had a goal to get

to one million, to two million. I just enjoyed driving and experiencing life through my Volvo."

With a 125-mile round-trip daily commute, a fanatical dedication to vehicle maintenance and a passion for driving, Gordon logged 500,000 miles in 10 years.

In 1987, he celebrated his one-millionth mile driving a loop around the Tavern on the

Green in Central Park. In 1998 with 1.69 million miles, Gordon made the Guinness Book of World Records for most miles driven by a single owner in a non-commercial vehicle.

In 2002, he drove the car's two-millionth mile down Times Square to international media attention.

Since then, Gordon has broken his record every time he drives his celebrated car.

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