



GRAPE-LOVING GODS: Enjoying fine nectar with the throngs at the Harvest Grape Stomp at Salt Spring Vineyards on Saturday were John Gannon (dressed as Dionysius) and Nance Schrader (as Amphiprotus). For more photos, see the Driftwood's Facebook page.

WATER
Algal glob clogs water supply
Disruption initiates conservation measures

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Hundreds of islanders who rely on the Highland Water System suffered a series of water disruptions over the weekend as maintenance crews scrambled to restore the flow.

On Sunday, residents were advised to conserve water after workers identified a mass of algae clogging the intake pipe that feeds the utility's new Maycock Road treatment plant.

"The water treatment facility went down when raw water pumps were not able to suck water," said Dan Robson, operations manager for the Highland Water Service.

Workers restored normal operations once a dive team descended into St. Mary Lake to clear the intake on Monday morning.

Robson said this is the first time the plant's intake pipes have been clogged with algae since it began operation in late 2012.

"This is new. We actually had the maintenance done on it earlier in the year," Robson added. "This is a very short period for this to occur."

The algae incident followed complaints to the Capital Regional District from residents of Maliview and LePage roads who observed murky water on Friday and Saturday. Robson said the situation was addressed by flushing the water mains to clear sediment that had collected in the system. The CRD has received no further complaints.

He said the two problems were not related.

The Highland Water System, which includes users of the former Fernwood Water System, provides treated water from St. Mary Lake to 250 lots on the island's north end.

SCIENCE
Phoenix joins world record bid

School's gravity lesson part of national happening

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Phoenix Elementary School students joined participants stretching all the way to the other side of Canada on Friday in a bid to establish a new record in science.

The attempt to hold the world's largest practical science lesson was organized by Science.gc.ca to celebrate National Science and Technology Week on Oct. 18.

It included 92 educational institutions from elementary to high school levels, and even one university. If results are verified, the group will best the Guinness World Record that Science.gc.ca established in 2012.

For this year's attempt, students constructed and flew paper airplanes to replicate the different effects of gravity and atmosphere on Earth, Mars and the moon in 30-minute lessons that had to begin at exactly the same time. Phoenix School joined other B.C. institutions in having the earliest kick-off: the clock started at 10 a.m. throughout the Pacific Time Zone, while Newfoundland schools enjoyed a leisurely afternoon start at 2:30 p.m.

PHOENIX continued on 2

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK? PAGE 18

Paper airplane flying part of test



PHOENIX
continued from 1

“This Guinness Record attempt was an exciting event for all of our students because it engaged each learner in a hands-on science experiment that challenged them to think about their conceptions around gravity, the atmosphere and how we would experience each of these on the moon and on Mars,” said intermediate teacher Michelle Spencer, who was the driving force behind Phoenix School’s participation. “Students also loved the

challenge of being part of a co-dependent group of students working to achieve the ambitious goal of breaking a world record, despite not having met any of the other participants.”

Students from kindergarten to Grade 8, teachers and parents were all required to follow strict guidelines in order for the lesson to be accepted in the official results. These included having a contained space (a roped off area of Drummond Park), independent witnesses who observed the entire proceedings, and continuous time-stamped video footage of the events.

“The somewhat overbearing regulations required by Guinness added to the difficulty of the event, and, ultimately added to the sense of pride and achievement the kids felt when it was all over.

“It is so important for all people to feel connected to and be a part of something bigger than themselves, which can sometimes be difficult to achieve in small schools,” Spencer said.

Documentation is being sent to Science.gc.ca and then on to Guinness for verification of final numbers. Participants hope to hear the results within a few weeks.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Day connects for homeless

Community invited to Oct. 29 event

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Community Services Society will once again host a Project Connect Day to distribute much-needed goods, services and information to the island’s homeless population on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Everyone is welcome to attend the open house, which takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Services property. While the main intent is to help those in need access some special items before the cold season hits, community outreach is also an important part of the day, as programmers seek to raise awareness of a complex issue that many still don’t recognize on Salt Spring.

“A lot of homeless people or those living in poverty, you just don’t see,” outreach worker Donna Dunnigan observed.

While the issue is impossible to miss in downtown Vancouver or Victoria, on Salt Spring people stay off radar in forest camps or unheated boats and trailers.

As SSICS information for the Project Connect Day 2012 explained, “There is no one profile of a person who is

experiencing homelessness, just as there is no one path that leads there. The disparity between income and the costs of housing, food and other necessities creates very challenging circumstances for many people, especially the elderly, those with mental health issues and people trying to survive on social assistance.”

Project Connect Day is one way to bring all these people into a safe, welcoming environment where they can access food, warm clothing and other giveaways such as hygiene packs and toothbrushes. Special items and services will also be available that day, such as free pet licences and ID replacement.

“The licences were a hit last year because so many of our members have pets — they’re part of the family and they also keep them safe,” Dunnigan said.

Service groups such as IWAV and Copper Kettle will be on location, and a visit from the Victoria Homelessness Connect Project is hoped for to provide information about services available in Victoria. The day is also a unique chance to put a face to all the different service providers and learn what they offer, whether as a member of the public who wants to volunteer in some way or some-

one who could benefit.

Despite the need, SSICS still has difficulty convincing people that homelessness is an issue on Salt Spring. Funders, visitors and even local residents tend to see the island as a haven for the well-heeled. But in fact, every year Community Services has a growing number of clients for its programs, include working families who access the food bank and homeless or underhoused people who use the extreme weather shelter and outreach services such as phone, internet and shower available once a week.

“It’s really hard to accommodate everybody,” said youth outreach worker Trish Noble.

“We’re trying to help so many people with such a minimal amount of resources.”

With the cold weather looming, donations such as new socks, toques, mittens and gloves are needed, as well as razors, travel-size hygiene products and non-perishable “treat items” such as granola bars. Donations of such items will be gratefully accepted at Community Services before Oct. 28.

A free barbecue lunch will be served on Project Connect Day starting at 11:30 a.m. The food bank will operate during its regular Tuesday hours.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

SSI Local Trust Committee

Thursday, OCTOBER 24

Lions Hall. 9:30 a.m.; town hall at noon.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

SAR shares wish for service integration at open house

Referendum Oct. 26, advance poll Oct. 23

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Ground Search and Rescue unit opened its weekly practice session to the public last Tuesday night, with members hoping to showcase their activities and explain why they want island ratepayers to vote "yes" in this week's referendum to construct a new emergency centre.

As became apparent at that meeting, the things SAR members do as volunteers are really quite astonishing. Their calls typically come in at 6 p.m., when the light is fading to night. The territory they enter is rough or even dangerous. The people they're looking for might not be alive.

In order to take on these difficult respon-

sibilities, SAR volunteers put in considerable amounts of time and expense. They don't just head off into the woods and hope their good intentions will be enough to find someone.

Members must obtain Ground Search and Rescue certification (tested by the Justice Institute of B.C.), Occupational First Aid (OFA) Level 1 and a Radio Operator's Restricted Certificate (ROC) at the very least. Members may choose to put in the additional training hours to achieve certification in areas such as wilderness first aid, high-angle rope rescue, human tracking and team leadership.

Weekly training sessions help them keep their skills up to date, with instruction on subjects such as stretcher loading and removal, footprint tracking and communications.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Terry Bieman descends from the SAR building roof during a rope team demonstration at an open house held on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

SAR volunteer Jan Coates explained the sessions are well worth it when volunteers are called to put their

training into action. She recalls getting a page-out to Pender Island to look for an 83-year-old woman

who had disappeared into the woods after nightfall. SAR tracked her down at 1 a.m. where she was sitting patiently on a log and waiting for dawn.

"It's stories like that, that keep you going," Coates said.

Salt Spring SAR members were also on the ground after a fatal float plane crash killed several passengers off Saturna Island. Their task was to search the beach for any bodies that might have washed up to shore. Among the victims was a six-month-old baby.

Though victims were not located in that case, Coates said, "Any of us would crawl over broken glass and stay out all night to find a missing five-year-old."

Per Svendsen is one of the Salt Spring unit's three search managers, and along with Bill Griffiths is one of two rope team

leaders. Requiring a minimum of 60 hours of additional training and a weekend-long certification course, as well as constant practice, the rope team is like an amplified microcosm of the unit as a whole.

"It's a little scary. You're hanging out over a cliff, there's 300 feet below you. It's all teamwork: you have to rely on the guy beside you," Svendsen said.

SAR president Zeke Blazeczka explained that developing that kind of trust is desirable between service agencies as well as within a unit — especially in the event of a major disaster. Besides being currently housed in a federal building with a lease that's about to expire, building relationships is the main reason SAR members support an emergency centre and fire hall project that includes them in its design.

"All the agencies are trying to get together when appropriate to build up that trust level and knowledge of what each other is capable of doing, or what they're not capable of doing," Blazeczka said.

"That trust will be built up and it will be maintained — and it will be beneficial in the long run."

The referendum is open to Salt Spring property owners with supporting documents and identification.

The advance poll takes place today (Wednesday, Oct. 23) with the official date on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Salt Spring United Church on Hereford Avenue. Voting takes place both days from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Post your comment to this story online at gulfislandsdriftwood.com

NEWS BRIEFS

Forum addresses cyber spying

The Salt Spring Forum will host Ron Deibert, a leading world expert on technology, security and human rights, for an eye-opening discussion on Nov. 1 at ArtSpring.

"Edward Snowden has revealed that the U.S. National Security Agency routinely accesses emails and telephone calls around the world. The Communi-

cations and Security Establishment Canada is currently amidst allegations of spying against the Brazilian government," a press release explains.

Deibert's talk will ask, "What privacy rights do citizens have and to what extent do governments and companies have access to communications?"

Deibert directs both the Centre for Global Security Studies and the Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto.

He is also a professor of political science and a

recipient of the Order of Ontario and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal. His latest book is *Black Code: Inside the Battle for Cyberspace*.

Deibert has also co-authored ground-breaking reports such as *Tracking Ghostnet*, which documented a cyber-espionage network spanning 103 countries.

The discussion with professor Ron Deibert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 1.

Tickets are available at the ArtSpring ticket centre or Salt Spring Books.

Workshop explores exercise and the brain

Angela Sealy will present the latest research on the benefits of regular physical activity for the brain with a workshop at Lions Hall this Saturday, Oct. 26.

Sponsored by Active Choices B.C., the event will cover topics such as how to maintain memory, balance, independence and

executive function, and how to manage glucose levels, stress, medication and pain.

The class runs from 2 to 4 p.m. with a stretch break. Cost is a \$5 donation at the door with coffee provided.

Seniors program gets rolling

Salt Spring Island Community Services' new seniors activity program is up and running, with eight excursions undertaken since it

began in August. The program now offers one excursion every week, usually on a Wednesday or a Thursday.

Coming up next month, the group will go to Music & Munch on Nov. 6, have lunch at the Seniors Centre on Nov. 14, attend the Simply Organic organ concert at All Saints on Nov. 20, and have lunch again at Salt Spring Seniors on Nov. 28.

Anyone who would like to participate in this program should contact Leslie Wallace at 250-537-9971, extension 503.

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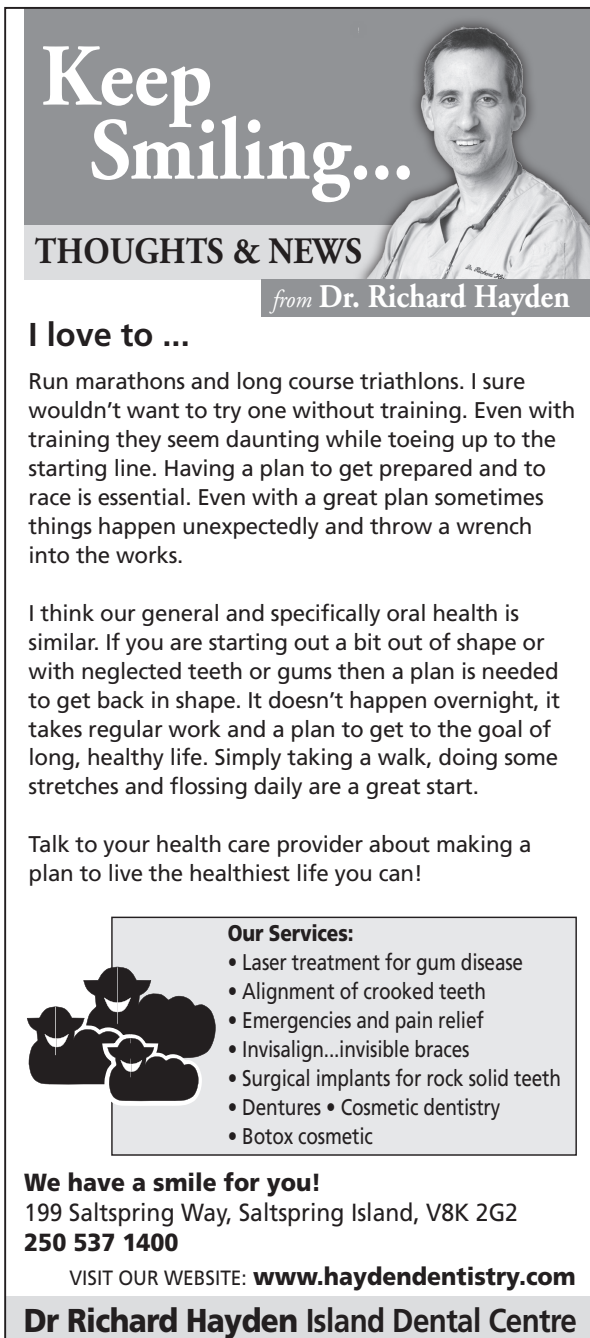
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THOUGHTS & NEWS
from Dr. Richard Hayden

I love to ...

Run marathons and long course triathlons. I sure wouldn't want to try one without training. Even with training they seem daunting while toeing up to the starting line. Having a plan to get prepared and to race is essential. Even with a great plan sometimes things happen unexpectedly and throw a wrench into the works.

I think our general and specifically oral health is similar. If you are starting out a bit out of shape or with neglected teeth or gums then a plan is needed to get back in shape. It doesn't happen overnight, it takes regular work and a plan to get to the goal of long, healthy life. Simply taking a walk, doing some stretches and flossing daily are a great start.

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ISLANDS TRUST

Trust appeals for ferry fare relief

Affordability well beyond 'tipping point,' says chair

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Trust Council wants the provincial government to step up and support coastal community residents who carry the burden of rising ferry fares, according to a letter submitted during the public consultation process for the 2013/2014 budget.

"To support coastal economies the provincial government should immediately provide sufficient funding to significantly reduce fares on minor routes, as island communities have been hard hit by substan-

tial cumulative fare increases," reads the Oct. 15 letter, submitted to the province's select standing committee on finance and government service on behalf of Islands Trust Council.

The letter further demands that the province take "full responsibility" for future capital costs.

"For decades, the province has neglected coastal transportation infrastructure while generously funding other transportation infrastructure throughout British Columbia," wrote Trust Council chair Sheila Malcolmson. "This has had negative consequences for islanders, their businesses and the health of our communities."



Trust Council chair Sheila Malcolmson

The letter accuses the province of having failed to uphold the spirit and intent of the 2003 Coastal Ferry Act, a document that affirms the importance of affordable ferries to the provincial economy.

According to the letter, ferry users cover approximately 85 per cent of BC Ferries'

operating costs. Members want the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to recognize the coastal ferry service as an essential and integral part of B.C.'s transportation infrastructure and fund it accordingly.

"To call the provincial contribution a subsidy and to say ferry users aren't paying their own way is unfair and untrue," Malcolmson writes.

"The tipping point on fare affordability was reached several years ago."

The deadline for submissions to the all-party Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services was Oct. 16. A final report with recommendations is anticipated by Nov. 15.

PARKS & RECREATION

Thieves steal traffic counters

PARC manager ponders motivation for Mouat Park theft

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Thieves have saddled Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission with a \$1,500 bill for the replacement of two devices that count the number of visitors to Mouat Park.

Speaking at Monday evening's monthly PARC meeting at Portlock Park, manager Lorraine Brewster expressed surprise over the incident, believed to have taken place earlier this month.

"I don't know why somebody would want a trail counter," she added. "They were hidden,

but they can be found."

The devices were being used to collect park visitation numbers as part of an interpretive signage project being conducted by PARC in conjunction with researchers from the University of Victoria. The devices were on loan from the university.

"If we tell people [they are not being filmed], I think it helps."

LORRAINE BREWSTER
PARC manager

Brewster told commission members she suspects thieves

were under the impression that the devices were being used for video surveillance.

"I think maybe what happened is that people felt they were on camera," she said. "If we tell people [they are not being filmed], I think it helps."

She suggested the installation of signs to explain why and how the devices were being used to prevent further thefts.

PARC staff will determine if the loss can be covered under the Capital Regional District's insurance.

The thefts had not been reported to Salt Spring police as of Tuesday.

Anyone with any details about the incident can reach the PARC office at 250-537-4448.

WATER PROTECTION

Watershed Protection Authority appoints Cowan as coordinator

Paid position to tackle St. Mary Lake water quality problems

The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority has confirmed the appointment of Shannon Cowan as its new contract coordinator.

Cowan, an island resident since 2006, is an agro-ecologist and adjunct professor at UBC and brings a formidable array of skills and experience to the position.

"[The authority] is indeed fortunate to have attracted the interest of Dr. Cowan. We warmly welcome her to the team which she significantly strengthens," said

SSIWPA chair George Grams.

The SSIWPA coordinator role is jointly funded by the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee and the Capital Regional District and is an important step in the authority's strategic plan to tackle the management of Salt Spring Island's watersheds and to halt and reverse the deterioration in source water quality of St. Mary Lake.

CRD director Wayne McIntyre said: "With her experience and skills, Dr. Cowan will be a strong asset in providing support to the diverse members of the SSIWPA and I heartily welcome her aboard."

"My compliments to all of the candidates for the very high calibre of their submissions."



PHOTO BY DAVID BORROWMAN

PROTECTED!: Salt Spring Island Conservancy members and supporters celebrate the successful conclusion of the purchase campaign for the 32.6-acre Blackburn Lake parcel at an Oct. 17 party under sunny skies at the property to be known as the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Some 400 individuals and groups contributed to the million-dollar campaign over a 14-month period, with major support from Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species At Risk, the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the Islands Trust Fund, the landowner and the conservancy's own acquisition fund.

FIRE DISTRICT

FireSpring group fails to secure option

Board forms plan to solicit proposals

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

After months of heated public discussion around plans to construct an architect-designed fire hall and emergency centre, the last fire district meeting before a referendum decides the issue felt like the calm at the eye of the storm.

Monday night's meeting of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District Board began with an enjoyable slideshow of archival photographs featuring the changes in Ganges over the past five decades, while chair Bruce Patterson shared his personal memories of growing up on the island during the time period.

"I guess the point of all this is Salt Spring, Ganges, we've come a long way in the last 50 years — but this building is pretty much the same building," Patterson said at the end of the presentation.

The friendly atmosphere prevailed through the town hall session that followed, as trustees answered their last round of questions before Wednesday's advance poll. Matters still at issue for attending members of the public included the status

of the property where the new hall is intended to be built, and the budget item for sewer connection.

Trustee Michael Schubart confirmed there has been another hold-up with the property transfer since a new representative at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has added requirements before MoTI will sign off.

"I'm hoping it's done before the referendum, but I'm not holding my breath anymore," Schubart said.

"I have to say I'm disappointed."

BOB MACKIE
FireSpring society

Several speakers questioned the board about its plans to address the CRD's sewer connection requirement and how that fit into the new fire hall budget. Trustees repeated earlier statements that the board intends to install the sewer only along the new property's frontage, which has been costed at \$60,000.

Trustee Mary Gillies said

a political battle would most likely need to be waged in the future, but the board didn't need to worry about doing it yet.

"Right now that's not a blocker. It's an issue — it's not a blocker," she said.

What to do with the old hall and how much money it could get on the open market also occupied some of the town hall session. That issue came to the forefront during the business portion of the meeting, with a presentation by Bob MacKie on behalf of the FireSpring Community Society.

MacKie shared results of a public survey asking community members what they wanted to see happen with the old hall, particularly with public use in mind. He then presented a motion that he asked the board to approve, giving FireSpring the option to buy the hall with a clause allowing the board to opt out of the agreement with four months written notice.

No board members made the motion, although several trustees said they liked the idea of keeping the hall for public use and they liked MacKie's presentation.

Trustee Richard Hannah said he would not want to put

forward the motion immediately and it would more likely be a two- or three-month process, giving time for other groups to make their own proposals.

Bruce Patterson added that he would need to hear a clear response from the community that it would rather keep the hall in public use than receive top money for its sale before agreeing to the option.

Until then, he said, "I think we're obliged to pursue the maximum financial return on this property."

"I have to say I'm disappointed," MacKie responded.

"I honestly think you've missed a tremendous opportunity to telegraph to the community your interest in the community — and prior to the referendum? I shake my head."

The board voted to establish a select committee to recommend a process for transferring the old hall. The details are to be discussed at the next board meeting, but should include the process for soliciting and assessing other community offers.

Patterson encouraged MacKie to maintain his campaign and come back to the board with a "bigger, stronger voice."

CRIME

RCMP warn of spiritual pyramid scam

Thieves also snatch farm stand cash

Salt Spring RCMP are investigating a swindle that targets island women in search of spiritual solace.

The alleged scam calls upon prospective members to pay a \$5,000 membership fee and recruit eight additional members into the group, according to reports from an islander who was recently targeted by the fraudsters.

RCMP Sgt. George Jenkins said the complainant told police the scam's perpetrators encouraged her to keep the transaction secret from her spouse.

"This was reported to police for information purposes as the caller was concerned that others would also be victimized by this organization," Jenkins said on Tuesday. "This type of enterprise is illegal and police are asking anyone who's been victimized to contact the local detachment."

In other RCMP news, police have received reports of two thefts from farm stand honour boxes between Oct. 15 and 17. The first incident occurred on Kitchen Road and the second theft took place in the 2300 block of Fulford-Ganges Road.

Police have not disclosed the amount of cash involved in either incident.

Anyone with information about the thefts or the spiritual pyramid scheme can reach Salt Spring RCMP at 250-537-5555.

INFLUENZA SEASON IS HERE IMMUNIZATION CLINIC INFO

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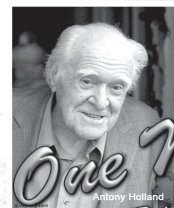
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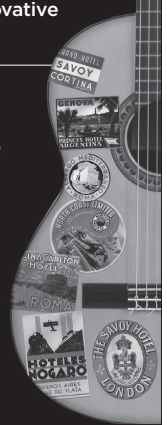
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OPINION



2013 CCNA AWARDS
 Gold - General Excellence | Gold - Front Page | Gold - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre)
 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

Decision time

It's been a long and bumpy road to get where we are this week: ready to vote on a new fire hall and emergency centre for Salt Spring Island.

A proposal to seek \$5 million in borrowing to purchase the Kings Lane bowling alley property and build a fire hall didn't get out of the gate in 2007. A referendum to borrow \$540,000 for a land purchase was defeated the following year.

Property owners in the fire protection district will determine this week if the current board will be back to the drawing board once again after putting a \$6.25-million fire hall/emergency operations centre to the test.

The board and architects have come up with an attractive and functional building to house Salt Spring's main fire hall, its Ground Search and Rescue contingent and the emergency operations program.

THE ISSUE:

Emergency centre referendum

WE SAY:

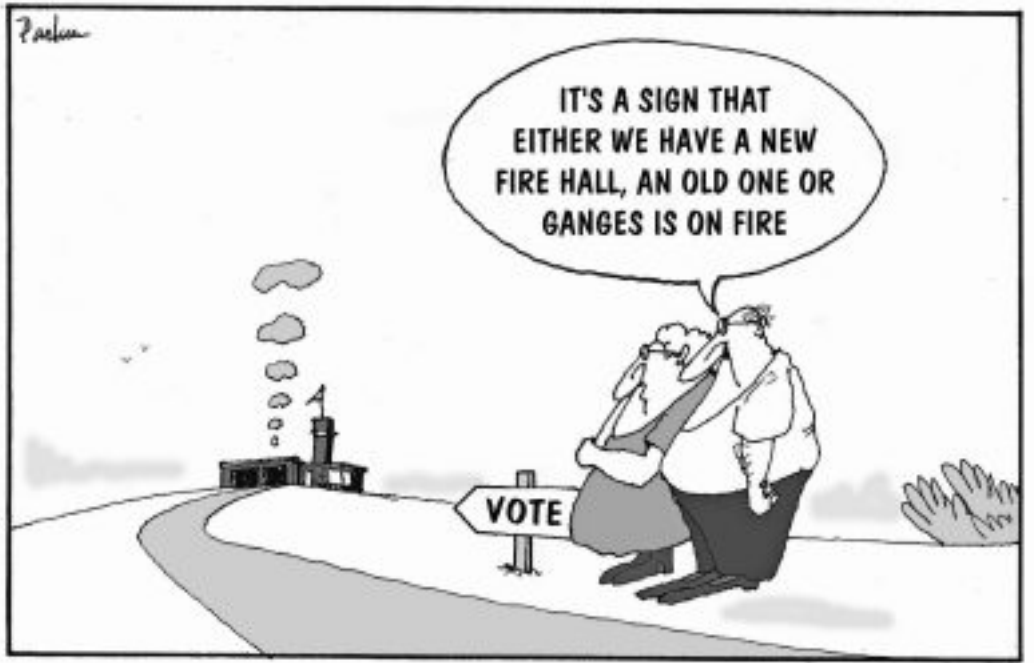
Facility and prudence needed

The process has been thorough, public and lengthy, even if some interested community members wanted more input into and control over details in the later stages. We should also remember that we elect fire trustees to act on our behalf. The current board has come up with a proposal it believes in for us to vote on. It chose to use Johnston Davidson Architecture and Planning Inc., a firm that has designed more than 40 fire halls in Canada, and whose expertise has been invaluable.

However, the fire hall/emergency centre debate really began and will end with the money question. It's true that to pay \$55 more per year in property taxes to cover a \$5-million long-term loan is not a lot of money for most property owners. That's the estimated cost for an average-assessed residential property of \$516,000.

Unfortunately, for higher-assessed and commercial properties, the cost will be proportionately higher, as it is for every other tax increase that is and will continue to come down the pike. It's hard to support a tax increase at any time, but that's especially so when the fire department's operating budget has risen so dramatically in the past seven years.

Salt Spring needs a new fire hall now, but fire trustees must take a serious look at how to douse the department's annual expenses. The ballooning cost of the fire service, more than anything, has jeopardized public support for a facility the island needs.



VIEWPOINT by Mitchell Sherrin

Support a well-thought-out plan

Please vote in favour of the Salt Spring Island Emergency Centre referendum on Oct. 23 and 26.

Volunteer trustees from Salt Spring Fire Rescue have received input from the community and worked with a team of skilled professionals over a period spanning several years to design a facility that will balance current and future service requirements with fiscal responsibility to best serve islanders over the next 50 years.

I urge you to check out the detailed information about this referendum on the official Salt Spring Island Emergency Centre website (<http://www.firehallinfo.com/>).

Unfortunately, there is also a lot of inaccurate information circulating around the community — some from gossip and rumour, and some from a well-organized and vocal group who are opposed to the plan.

Let me make this perfectly clear — the upcoming referendum is not an opportunity for islanders to design the fire hall of their dreams. There is not a selection of options to choose from (there is no "Plan B"). As a community, we elected trustees to represent islanders, look closely at the details and design a centre that best suits our needs. They are backed by a team of architects and engineers who have built over 40 fire halls across Canada.

In this referendum, there will only be a "yes" vote and a "no" vote for the existing emergency centre proposal.

According to the recent Salt Spring Island Governance Study survey results, a strong majority (67.4 per cent) of

islanders are either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with service provided by SSIFR. If you are one of those people who has confidence in the service and leadership of SSIFR, it is imperative that you come out and vote.

Given the nature of politics on Salt Spring, I'm certain no design could please every member of this community. As someone who hopes to work within the new building, I've had to make concessions myself between "needs" and "wants."

But the current plan for the emergency services centre is well thought out and addresses the critical requirements for local responders to do the best job they can within a reasonable budget.

Currently, the quality of local emergency-response services is impacted in numerous ways by inadequacies of existing facilities that add up to inefficiencies and safety concessions during operations. Many of those points are discussed in the website noted above (and I can think of many more, if you care to discuss the issue).

But I'd have to say that most islanders I've spoken to (even those who are opposed to the emergency centre plan) seem to get it — Salt Spring has outgrown the old fire hall.

And I am confident that I can do a better job as a fire fighter to serve you from the proposed new facility.

Please give this process a chance. Help me to improve emergency services for islanders and vote "yes."

The writer is a lieutenant with Salt Spring Fire/Rescue.

In this referendum, there will only be a "yes" vote and a "no" vote for the existing emergency centre proposal.

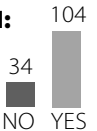
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will the Duffy affair hurt the federal government? Yes No

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.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support the SensibleBC petition?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

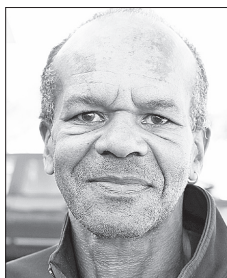
QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "The tipping point on fare affordability was reached several years ago."

SHEILA MALCOLMSON, TRUST COUNCIL CHAIR, ON BC FERRIES RATES

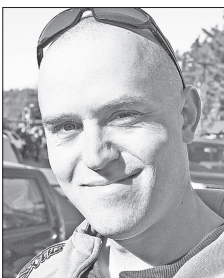
SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:

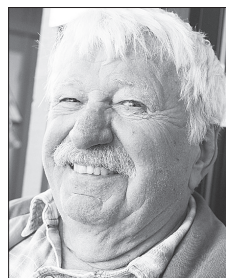
How will you vote in the fire district referendum this week?



PHILIPPE VALERIO
I just rent [my home] so my vote doesn't count.



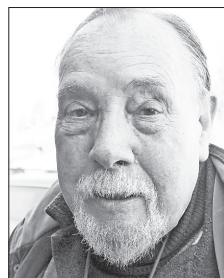
ALEX RUURS
I think I'll vote for it; it's a good thing for the island.



GUNTER PALBERG
I think I'm going to vote. We have to look ahead.



JOYCE TOWNSEND
No. Use the money for something worthwhile.



RICK WESTON
Yes, because I'm sick of the whole business and want to get it over with.

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.**

Responders appreciated

I have reviewed the various alternatives for the upcoming vote on the borrowing bylaw for the proposed new emergency response centre, and intend to support the board's proposal.

My personal experience and that of my neighbours has seen many instances of the timely and professional response to medical emergencies (thankfully no fires) and my decision is in part to pay back to the first responders and their backups for this past service.

I also believe that the demo-

graphics of Salt Spring Island will require a continuing emphasis on responding to the needs of seniors attempting to survive on their own, and think that the proposed facility will service us well.

However, I encourage the board to be vigilant for opportunities to restrain capital and operating costs at each decision point so as to demonstrate to the community that they appreciate the tax fatigue that is setting in on us as a result of past referendum-based expenditures which have had less immediate impact on our lives than will the new fire hall.

JACK GUNN,
SALT SPRING

Wants versus needs

For almost 30 years my job was to help people redesign their existing home or plan the interior of the home of their dreams. It always, in the end, came down to wants versus needs and what their budget could afford.

My clients would present me with a list of what they wanted. The shock factor came in with the estimate of the cost involved for their wants. That is when need entered the picture. My job was to find a happy balance between the two and it was usually accomplished

once reality set in.

It is no different in our community at large. Here we are with the prospect of a new fire hall with a long list of wants and a big price tag. There is no doubt that we need a new fire hall. But we need one with a realistic evaluation between what is wanted and what is needed to keep our community and firefighters safe.

When we purchased our home in October 1999 the population of Salt Spring was approximately 10,000 souls. Here we are in October 2013 and the population is approximately 10,000 souls. Is it realistic to expect anything more than the static growth we have

seen in the past 14 years that will justify a fire hall 14,000 square feet larger than our existing one? Common sense tells me that it is not. Do we need a commercial kitchen, at great expense? Do we really need several meeting rooms and a large lobby? Common sense once again tells me that we don't.

What we do need is a new fire hall with safe conditions for our firefighters. We need adequate space and a level of comfort for them. We need an up-to-date facility for the safe storage and maintenance of the fire trucks and equipment. We need a certain allowance for future growth. All of these

needs must be housed in a solid, practical and affordable structure, and they can be.

The wants might be nice perks, but can 5,000 property taxpayers afford another \$6,250,000 facility plus short and long-term interest for a new hall when we already have outstanding fiscal obligations for operating costs, and debt owing for fire trucks and equipment previously purchased? Add it all up and we are looking at a total of close to \$10,000,000.

Common sense tells me that we can't afford it.

LORRAINE NORFOLK,
MONTEITH ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

What happened to Canada's good-guy image?

There was a time when people all over the world looked up to Canada and we were the cat's meow in the court of public opinion. Canadian travellers would sew flags bearing the red and white maple leaf insignia on their backpacks so that they would be recognized as Canucks and be given preferential treatment. It got to the point that even U.S. tourists, weary of their "ugly American" image, adorned their luggage with the Canadian flag in order to bask in some of that "true north strong and free" goodwill.

Times have changed. The "good guy" image has become somewhat smeared and besmirched. These days, nobody is putting Canadian flags on their bags. In fact, many are now scraping those old red and white decals off their suitcases and replacing them with emblems from regimes that are considered more benign. You could almost do better passing yourself off as someone who hails from Libya or North Korea instead of being recognized as a "yucky Canuck."

Could this be the same Canada that has been admired and revered across the globe for most of the last century? The Canada considered to be moral, just, and having absolutely zero imperialist ambitions? The nation everybody agreed upon whenever there was a global hot spot and there was a dire need for neutral and effective peacekeepers?

What happened? At some point in the last couple of decades this nation decided to flex its muscles and play with the big boys. Canada decided to be the next "wannabe" world power. It's as if Canada recently took the Charles Atlas bodybuilding course (advertised in the back inside cover of old Superman comics) and has

now been transformed from a 99-pound weaking into a steroid-gorged beach bully kicking tar sands into the faces of its former admirers.

Take a look at Canada's recent record on environmental issues. Remember the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change? This was the international agreement that was supposed to get its supporting nations to commit to actually doing something about greenhouse gas emissions instead of just paying lip service to the problem. The Canadian government was one of the early supporters and signed on when the agreement came into force in 2005. Then, six years later, our leaders had a change of heart. We threw a hissy fit because meeting our commitments was going to hurt us in our national pocketbook, and so we withdrew from the protocol.

As a result, Canada has aligned itself with the other three Kyoto "refuseniks": Andorra, South Sudan, and our neighbours to the south, the U.S. The rest of the world, including 191 member states in the United Nations (meaning all the UN members with the exception of Canada and the U.S.) as well as the European Union, continues to support the agreement.

Having decided to no longer play "Mr. Nice Guy" with its environmental policies, our governing administration next decided to up the ante by throwing full support behind the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline Project which would carry about a half million barrels of oil a day over 1,000 kilometres from northern Alberta to the port of Kitimat on the B.C. coast.



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

Not even the hue and cry from environmentalists the world over or the protests from aboriginal nations within its borders have been able to dissuade the Canadian government that this "disaster-in-waiting" is not the way to go in solving the energy crisis. The chances of an oil spill in Canadian waters, the government environmental experts pooh-pooh, is about as likely as the running aground and sinking of one of the B.C. Ferries fleet!

Further sully Canada's image is the domination of its private corporations in the mining interests of Latin American countries, especially Mexico and Chile. These Canadian companies have been riding roughshod over local issues concerning the safety, health, welfare, and working conditions of the miners and the local citizenry inhabiting the mining regions. Furthermore, degradation of the forests, rivers and air quality has precipitated spirited protests from those opposed to this "rape and pillage" mentality. Is it any wonder that the decades-old chant of "Yankee go home!" is being replaced by "Beaver be gone!"?

The latest nail in the coffin housing Canada's public image has been hammered home recently with the accusations involving the economic spying by CSEC (Communications Security Establishment Canada) on Brazil's Mines and Energy Ministry. Apparently, our trade spying agency hacked into the Brazilian network communications and was able to learn about their policies and decisions practically before they

were even formulated.

The Brazilians are not amused, although a former high-up in CSIS, Canada's other spy agency, claims that the South Americans had it coming as payback for when they did some industrial spying on the Canadian transportation giant, Bombardier, in Montreal. (Yeah, as if the Brazilians really need to steal secrets on how to build skidoos so they can be mass produced to handle the winter conditions in the Amazon rainforest.)

Nobody asked me, but if we really want to make it big in international espionage and come off more like James Bond and less like Austin Powers, shouldn't we be spying on Brazilian soccer instead of mines and energy? With the World Cup coming up, wouldn't knowing how to execute a perfect scissors kick off an impeccable corner kick be more strategically useful to us than knowing how many tons of granite lie under the Chapada das Mangabeiras Mountains?

Maybe, however, we've hit rock bottom and Canada's image is beginning to turn again for the good. Didn't Canadian author, Alice Munro, just recently receive the Nobel Prize for Literature? That must mean something unless the Nobel Selection Committee was somehow bullied into the choice by CSIS or some other Canuck "strong arm" intelligence agency. I guess if they had given the Nobel Peace Prize to Don Cherry, we would have known for sure that the fix was in.

For the time being, I think I'll keep that Canadian flag stuck to my backpack. To be on the safe side, though, I'll attach it with a couple of Velcro strips. At the rate the Canadian image is being tarnished, you never know when I might just have to rip it off and claim I'm Libyan.

News Updates
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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.

Overstated

I have always believed in a win-win philosophy when decision making. This requires one to sit back and look at situations from an observing perspective, one without judgement but keeping in mind a solution is the objective.

On that note we all have choices and this one about the fire hall needs some serious soul searching to really ask ourselves certain questions. It's time for us all to realize that we all affect each other by our actions and choices and this is the case with the new fire hall. As a taxpayer for over 23 years on this island and owner of a construction company, employing many people during that time, I have seen the population of our island rise and fall. Seriously people, 18,000 square feet with a budget of \$5 million for the build cost alone.

One thing that seems to stay consistent is the gross expenditures of our money and the lack of transparency within these projects for buildings that belong in cities where there is a bigger tax base that pays for the servicing in these larger communities. The proposed fire hall is over the top and it confuses me why we would even contemplate building a structure of this size for our small community at the ridiculous estimated cost of \$5 million plus. We simply don't need it to be this big. We need to scale it down to fit what Salt Spring needs, not what it wants.

I recently spoke to someone in the community about what people really want and need on this island. Affordable housing is what everyday people need. One of our priorities should be for women on our island who need to find suitable affordable safe housing.

Have we lost touch with what's really important? Is it better to have a fancy oversized fire hall or given with proper governance could we have it all? A moderate fire hall and some funding for affordable living spaces for our islanders? When did we forget that helping out our fellow human beings is much more important than building a grandiose fire hall that is fit for a large city, not our small community? It starts with us and the choices we make.

I agree we need a better location and a new fire hall, but what is being proposed is grossly overstated for our needs as a community.

CHENTAL WILSON,
SALT SPRING

Monkey wrench

The province has told Salt Spring Island quite some time ago that our emergency services buildings must meet a structural standard for earthquakes that the quaint old fire hall in Ganges can't hope to achieve. A new building is needed. So let's design and outfit it with what our first responders need — to provide us with the service that we all want.

A core group of professionals and conscientious citizens have worked for quite some time to prepare a specification that meets those needs. Several contractors have participated in the specification process that documents what is required. These contractors have provided a comprehensive cost estimate to put to the voters in a referendum.

It's time to make a decision this week.

But wait. Another building company now wants to throw a monkey wrench into the referendum voting this week. "We can do it at half the price!" they cry to all who will listen.

It makes me wonder why they waited until now to speak. And have they even read the carefully prepared specifications?

Someone I respect told me years ago that in the world of business "the bitterness of broken promises is remembered long after the sweetness of low price has faded from memory."

GREGORY AST,
GANGES

Devil in details

"You can't always get what you want but if you try sometimes, you just might get what you need!"

By the time you read this, the fire hall referendum will be in full swing with voting on Oct.23 and 26.

Concerned ratepayers realize this is an extremely important yes/no choice.

The fire board on behalf of taxpayers went on a quest to find a suitable location for a new fire hall within an affordable budget. What they returned with appears to have blind-sided the community with a distinctly up-scaled concept and price.

The result has been to "present us with" rather than "consult us about" a major change of plans. It is said that the plan "took on a life of its own" and as the wish list grew the fire hall was declared an emergency service building project and finally, for the referendum, an emergency response centre.

The sticky point is the lack of a master plan based on community consultation to discuss our options rationally. Ratepayers were not surveyed about the huge increase in projected costs before architects were enlisted to design and present it to us.

The location is donated land that may or may not be the best strategic location. It appears to overlap much of the protection radius already provided by the Central Fire Hall.

I won't pretend to tell informed voters how to vote, but if you are not thoroughly up on this issue, you might consider avoiding a major property increase by voting no in this referendum.

The worst that can happen is the fire board develops a master plan with genuine community consultation and then comes back with a fire hall plan we can all endorse and afford.

PAUL MARCANO,
VESUVIUS

RANTS and Roses

Huge ice buckets of wine-coloured roses to my volunteer team who contributed so much to the success of Sip and Savour. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

A rose garden in paradise for Richard Murakami, who provided sanctuary for my stolen cars. Woodman Dave

A huge bouquet of roses to Scott Antonik of Scott's Plumbing and Heating for re-plumbing my entire water shed. The most professional job I've ever seen. Neat, tidy, efficient and he even labeled all the valves, filters and controllers. It was an absolute mess of pipes before he started and now it's so beautiful it's almost Feng-Shui! I feel like meditating in it.

To all of you who came to share Ed's celebration of life, thank you so much for your kind words and support. We are especially grateful to Scott Hylands, Diane Roberts, Sheila Proffit, Johane Sinclair and Nora Write for organizing such a special tribute. And to Alan Moberg, Lisa Maxx and Sophie Douglas for their songs, and Saint McColl for his fly past. You gave us memories we will always cherish. Thank you. The Davis family

An autumn bouquet of roses to Roy and the staff at Gulf Island Glass for their many years of excellent service to the residents of Salt Spring Island. It's wonderful to have local professionals! Carron Carson

One big wild rosebush to Moyra for years of faithful and determined cheesemongering. Gonna miss you! Julia and Susan

The Salt Spring Island Women's Institute, aka The Pie Ladies, would like to send a big bouquet of roses to the following: Country Grocer and Thrifty Foods for their generosity; Mary Ann, Abby and Judy for their help at the pie bee; Val Hughes and Deanna Marleau for pies; Carol Walde, Greenwood's Foundation, Harry Burton, Garry Oaks winery for apples and pears; Duncan and Emily Hepburn for apples; Jean Davis for blackberries and pies, Wylla, Catherine and Heather for their help in

the pie booth. Thank you to the Farmers' Institute and the Apple Festival for giving us space to sell our pies and to Fulford Hall for the use of their kitchen for pie baking. A big thank you to all those who bought pie at Heritage Day, the Fall Fair and the Apple Festival — your support enables us to continue our donations to the community.

A garden of rosebushes to Reynolds Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning for their prompt, friendly and skilled service. Thanks, Josh for an excellent job! Spindrift Oceanfront Cottages

A gigantic garden of hardy roses to PARC, Justin Byron and co-workers for maintaining and building safe and beautiful pathways for both two-legged and four-legged nature admirers on Salt Spring. Thank you for your diligence, good humour and strong efforts. Lynne Johnson and Isy Cohen

With the last of the books for Salt Spring Literacy's Giant Book Sale having been picked up last Friday, and as we head in to the final preparations for the sale, we would like to send a bushel of sunflowers to Rock Salt, the Bank of Montreal, CIBC and ISCU for once again making our collection boxes welcome in your establishments. We would also like to thank Country Grocer and Fulford Hall for providing accommodation for our Drop-Off Days this year. Last but definitely not least, we would like to send a beautifully carved large pumpkin filled with mums to Ken Jackson and the board of Greenwood's Foundation for granting us use of the most wonderful space we've ever had for sorting and storing all the books! We're not quite done yet, but so far we have sorted and packed over 500 boxes of books for the sale. Thank you all, and we hope to see you at the sale on November 15-17. Lynne Johnson, book sale committee chair

Copper-dusted roses to all the wonderful folk who put their save-a-tape receipts from Country Grocer in Box #31. Thanks for the support! Love, the Copper Kettle folk

Wellspring spa
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Fulford Hall
Door opens 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00)
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Community safety paramount

BY MARK WYATT

I have been reading with great interest the heated debate going back and forth over the proposed new fire hall referendum. Clearly there are two sides that are very far apart in terms of what is best for the island.

The "yes" side is made up of those who support the proposed 18,000-square-foot emergency services building, a well-researched plan that has taken years to get to this point; a plan designed by an award-winning architect based on many months of research, needs assessments, in-depth discussion with all of the stakeholders (firefighters, SAR, the EOC, radio operators), public consultation, open houses, etc.

On the other hand, the "no" side feels the proposed building is much too large, too extravagant and too expensive. They question why the fire department needs to go from 5,000 to 18,000 square feet, and have even produced a scaled-down "Plan B" version, a hand-drawn sketch with a misleading sticker price of \$2.5 million and virtually no researched costing detail, no professional design and no consultation with the fire department. Plan B is basically a sketch on the back of a napkin of what could add up to a \$5-million mistake.

The "no" side has created a few websites, one that is particularly derogatory towards the fire department. Another website makes a number of statements that clearly show that those behind it have little understanding of what the fire department does. It says the department "is primarily a standby service, albeit a

vital part of our island's emergency response team. We have to be realistic and consider that when there are an average of only 38 fire-related incidents per year on Salt Spring Island of which an average of only 11 are actual building fires then how large a facility do we really need?"

I have to wonder about the 500-plus other emergency calls that the firefighters respond to each year, from motor vehicle crashes to rescues to serious medical calls to hazmat incidents and so on, and how many lives are saved each year because of these responses. Not to mention the hundreds of hours per year put into fire prevention and education of the community.

Which side best addresses the future needs and safety of the community?

There is no correlation between the number of fire-related calls and the size of the hall. The fact is Salt Spring has a very busy fire department for a community its size, and they do an excellent job of keeping island residents safe.

The website also suggests an alternative plan to build more, smaller fire halls scattered throughout the island. This is an interesting, but ineffective idea. Who will be responding to these halls? In order to effectively respond and deal with any major emergency, frontline fire apparatus

needs to respond with full crews. One or two firefighters responding to multiple halls would only result in understaffed trucks rolling but unable to deal with these emergencies until other units arrive from the north end where most of the firefighters live.

This same skeptical site also questions the island's EOC operations in the event of a major emergency. "Other than the head of the EOC, the fire chief, police officials, a rep from BC Hydro, and SAR, who else might need to be there?"

Well, when a real island-wide emergency like a wild fire, earthquake or major storm does occur, the EOC will be staffed 24 hours a day for what could be many days with the EOC director, operations, planning, logistics, information and finance sections, as well as representatives from all local and regional emergency services and reps from any outside agencies that become involved.

During the Kelowna fires of 2004, the EOC ran non-stop for two months. When an island-wide emergency does occur, most of you will not witness the number of responders in the EOC and at the fire hall, but thankfully, you will benefit greatly from their presence.

Which side best addresses the future needs and safety of the community? That decision is up to you. Whichever side you support, the important thing to do is let your voice be heard. Make sure to get out and vote.

The writer is a former paid-on-call captain with SSIFR and now the deputy fire chief with Hinton Fire Rescue.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Irony

Well, she's at it again. Darlene Steele is writing my letters for me. All one has to do is substitute "pool" for "fire hall." What splendid irony indeed!

The person who helped saddle taxpayers with an expensive swimming pool with its continuing operating costs draining PARC's budget is ranting against the new fire hall (and before that against the library).

Now the pool is nice and enjoyed by a favoured minority of residents, who despite being surrounded by all sorts of swimming holes seem to need to splash about all year round, but this community survived a long time without it.

How long would it survive without a fire hall and associated emergency services? And why do so many people, largely ignorant of the needs of emergency service people, feel qualified to design their facility?

We trust our lives with these people, but some of us just can't seem to trust them with our tax dollars.

We have our "Tajma pool" and our "Tajma library." Now let's have the most important Taj of all, the "Tajma hall." Vote "yes."

ANDREW OKULITCH,
SALT SPRING

Wake up and smell coffee

Stan Shapiro and everyone else with excess discretionary income needs to remind themselves how lucky they really are! Not everyone can afford the "one coffee every 17 days" that Stan is suggesting the cost of the new fire hall amounts to, assuming the figures he is relying on are correct.

Some homeowners live on Canada Pension, rely on wood heat, live very modest lives on an ever-shrinking budget that does not increase just because the tax bill does.

Living on a fixed income is difficult when there is a 4.9 per cent increase in ICBC rates, a proposed 26 per cent increase in Hydro, a 12 per cent increase in CRD transit rates, and of course the proposed increase in taxes for the fire department. And of course Islands Trust wants to increase their tax grab. Frankly the cost of supporting various levels of government never ends and never gets less, it only increases.

Sadly, people like Stan don't seem to notice that others in the community aren't sitting next to them at TJ's or Salt Spring Coffee on a daily basis; Stan is just too busy enjoying his double espresso cafe latte. Wake up and smell the coffee!

DARLENE STEELE,
SALT SPRING

SALT SPRING EMERGENCY CENTRE REFERENDUM

We need you to get out and **VOTE YES**

A plan is only a plan when it is complete

- We are building an Emergency Centre not just a fire hall.
- We listened to our emergency personnel and designed to their needs—not wants.
- The B.C. architect we used has designed over 40 emergency centres.
- We are committed to using Local Suppliers and Local Trades.
- All building material suppliers were welcome to submit proposals.
- The building materials were selected for sustainability and affordability for 50 years.
- We designed a building that will actually fit our equipment and our staff.
- Search and Rescue are going to lose their home; Salt Springers said yes to partnerships.
- SSI Emergency Program (EOC) must move; Salt Springers said yes to partnerships.
- It is cost effective to house Fire, Search & Rescue and EOC in the same building.
- \$6,250,000 Total Project Cost = a plan completed to B.C. Building Codes.
- We qualify for a 20 year loan locked in at 2.5% (2014 rates).
- This plan will cost the Average SSI Home Owner \$55 a year, for 20 years.
- Our plan was developed by you, your neighbours and your partners in protection.



Vote YES October 23 & 26 UNITED CHURCH 111 HEREFORD AVE 9 am – 6 pm

ssinewfirehall@shaw.ca | www.firehallinfo.com

Give alternate fire hall plan a chance

BY ROSS KING

In response to the Oct. 9 fire hall "Plan B — anonymous no more?" by Carol Dodd: The last I heard, Carol Dodd was volunteering for the fire board in a PR capacity, and I assume that her In Response article is as a mouthpiece for them.

In dreamy moments, I envision our publicly appointed officers as having a fiduciary duty to ensure the well-being of all stakeholders (and that includes us voters and taxpayers, not just the firefighting brotherhood). Therefore they should be unbiased, even-handed and act above-board with probity, enlightenment and intellectual honesty. However, ask yourselves, dear readers, why two lay-trustees, good men and true from outside the firefighting community, have resigned over the last few months? As I understand it, it is largely because they found efforts to present outside opinions and to advance alternative views were frustrated by a firefighters-dominated board agenda.

Instead of Ms. Dodd welcoming the new

Plan B as an opportunity to open a dialogue, she and her backers have seized on this opportunity to attack Plan B. I believe she should have accepted a "devil's advocate" style review, to encourage an open debate allowing free external critique, and a chance for others to identify oversights and possible excesses inherent in Plan A. Attack being the best form of defence, I am ineluctably drawn to the conclusion that their aim is to ram their pet, unilateral, Plan A down our throats as "the only way forward" before referendum day on Oct. 26.

Hallelujah! The mirror-shattering up-side of this is that she and her client reveal themselves squarely as diehard, blow-hard, evangelical for the brotherhood's singular cause. And so, they collectively shoot themselves in the foot in the court of public opinion... can we now blindly rely on the unilateral recommendation of people like this to persuade us to vote "yes"? Especially when they reject any consideration of Plan B?

In advocating Plan B, let Permasteel's record speak for itself as to timely deliv-

ery, on-budget construction and quality compliance. Yes, they are competent and experienced, despite Dodd's innuendo of "... misleading at best."

So why not vote "no!" which could then allow Permasteel to make a bid? Dodd claims another referendum will cost us \$10,000 to \$15,000, but this is a superb investment if it saves us, say, \$500,000.

We voters and taxpayers, picking up the tab, want to see Plan A exposed to cross-comparison with Plan B, probed by independent professional practitioners and the public at large, not those with a vested interest in a firefighter-cozy fire hall with all bells and whistles.

Do not be stampeded into making a hasty and ill-considered decision at the referendum. We need to give Plan B an airing before deciding how our hard-earned money is spent. A "no" vote will not deny us a new, urgently needed fire hall. It will give you, the property-owning taxpayer, a chance to consider Permasteel's Plan B and then decide what you want.

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter
<http://twitter.com/GIDriftwood>

NEWS UPDATES

whats happening at Moby's?

- thursday** - Canucks vs Devils 4pm
Hockey Pint \$5.25 Open Mic Night with Dave & Ross
- friday** - The Coalition Live Band
- saturday** - DJ - Interchill Records presents DJ's Lawrence and Andrew
- monday** - Capitals vs Canucks 7pm
- tuesday** - HALLOWEEN TRIVIA 7:30pm
WIN 3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS IN VEGAS
- wednesday** - Red Wings vs Canucks 7pm
Wing Night! Wings \$5.00 per order...WOW!



MOBY'S PUB
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Mechanic

Are you really ready for the coming season?



GYLE KEATING

Unfortunately, fall is just around the corner. Cold damp weather puts your battery and ignition system to the test potentially leaving you stranded. Poor wiper blades and washers can cause unsafe visibility. Leaking exhaust can cause health issues when idling to stay warm. Wet or snowy conditions combined with worn tires, uneven braking systems or worn steering parts make a dangerous combination.

On top of that, school is back in and the kids are rushing to and from school, increasing pedestrian traffic during peak travel periods.

Be sure to have your vehicle thoroughly inspected before starting into fall's unpredictable weather. Have your vehicle repaired before regular repairs become major problems.

Remember, regular maintenance is cheaper than breakdown repairs.

Drive Safe, Gyle

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 Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

Renovations

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MEROR KRAVENHOFF

Green concrete has equal strength to the traditional concrete you're familiar with, but it's made by a local company using local materials and less cement. There is no waste at the end of a pour because only the amount that is needed is mixed on site. The concrete is never old or 'going off'. You never get someone else's mix. Cement is made primarily from limestone powder that is fired at very high temperatures. This consumes a lot of energy and has given concrete the bad reputation of high embodied energy and carbon release. Using local soils and less cement combine to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Green concrete is part of the 100 mile building intention, and is good for the local economy. Call Terra Firma Builders to find out more.


For a free one hour consultation call: 250.537.9355

Now providing Green Concrete to our Gulf Islands

Call Jerry, Joss or Meror (250) 537-9355

Fitness Expert

Wearing Aqua Gloves While Working Out



BRENDA AKERMAN


The primary purpose of wearing Aqua gloves is to aid in balance, stability and body support for the lower body. The secondary purpose is for adding upper body resistance. By increasing the surface of the arms the body is more balanced with the surface area of the legs. They are designed specifically for water aerobics and training. The gloves assists travel and help maintain efficient movements. They will also raise your aerobic capacity and endurance levels. The gloves have a flexible webbing for use during water resistance training and creates smoother movements in the water for a comfortable upper body workout, increases propulsion through water.

When fitting a aqua gloves make sure the width is good so there is no circulation cut off.

Rainbow Road indoor pool
 250-537-1402 • 262 Rainbow Road

Real Estate

Moving Checklists



JAN MACPHERSON

BUYERS: Before removing all subject conditions measure your new home as required, for draperies, carpeting & future furniture arrangement as you will likely not be inside the house before moving day.

INSURANCE: Be sure to inform your insurance agent of the dates, especially if the house is vacant, to ensure valid coverage & arrange to have the house checked as per requirements of insurance policy.

UTILITIES: Arrange electricity, cablevision, water, sewer & private garbage collection as applicable. It is advisable to book phone/internet WELL AHEAD of moving day to avoid delays.

BANKING: It is handy to set up affiliation or transfer accounts BEFORE moving in order to arrange direct debit for mortgage & utility payments.

SELLERS: If necessary, book professional carpet & house cleaners in advance as time evaporates as the moving van rolls up! Phone me for an excellent cleaner!

Plan ahead, minimize stress & be kind to your self!

Jan Macpherson - GOLD AWARD 2012 (VREB)
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 jan@saltspringguide.com
 www.SaltSpringGuide.com

Proposed centre makes good sense

BY DOUG PONSFORD

Regarding the current "old fire hall" situation... this isn't the first time our trustees have tried to do something to alleviate the gross inadequacies faced in working out of a 50-year-old building; in fact, efforts to replace the existing structure have been ongoing for almost as long as I've been a firefighter (11-plus years).

Our hard-working fire district trustees are elected by ratepayers but receive no compensation for what they do; some put in hundreds of hours a year, others much more. They're good people, trying to do a good and sometimes thankless job. Some have extensive construction and/or firefighting experience to bring to the table too. Judging by attendance at all the public meetings they hold, most people must like the job they're doing as very few people attend to voice complaints.

But every time a new fire hall/emergency centre gets close to becoming a reality a vocal minority spread misinformation that details all the hard work that's been done. The plans the trustees have brought forward involved much consultation with an architectural firm (one with extensive experience in designing and overseeing of fire hall projects) and mechanical, electrical and structural engineers (all required by the B.C. government for post-disaster relief buildings).

There are many details that need to be considered to properly execute plans of this nature as it is not just a garage to store trucks in. I'd have to write a book to cover

all of them!

Our trustees listened to the ratepayers and have done the right thing in deciding to hold a referendum instead of a counter-petition (alternative approval process) to secure funding. I think now is the time to make this happen as interest rates are at historic lows for borrowing and the construction industry is in a slow period, which should result in better pricing.

On-island construction management means employing local tradespeople and keeping as much money as possible in our community (rather than sending it to Calgary or Victoria or Vancouver).

Most people do realize that a new building is needed for the fire department; but don't forget that Search and Rescue operates out of a building that could become unavailable to them at any time. The folks who run the emergency operations centre under the Provincial Emergency Program also need a better location to work out of. Having all these agencies under one roof makes sense.

A fire hall and emergency centre isn't going to get any less expensive if it is delayed a couple more years.

PS. If you haven't looked into lowering your insurance premiums because of Salt Spring Fire Rescue's Superior Water Tender Shuttle certification through FUS please talk to your insurance agent — it's saving me over \$400 per year.

MORE LETTERS
 continued on page 23

arts&entertainment

SALT SPRING INN

<p>BURGER & PINT All day Monday \$14.95</p>	<p>PRIME RIB DINNER AAA Angus Beef Every Thursday 5pm</p>
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LIVE THEATRE

Playwright Johnson revisits Gulf War in aid of peace

People Like Us by Sandi Johnson gets Vancouver premiere

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring theatre project committed to building peace will have its world premiere in Vancouver next month, with the launch of *People Like Us* by Sandi Johnson at the Firehall Arts Centre on Nov. 2.

A poet and playwright who is dedicated to creating imaginative works that are socially relevant, in the past Johnson has tackled topics like struggling members of the Ojibwa Nation in her book *The Comfort of Angels*. Her new play, starring Sarah Louise Turner and directed by Sarah Rodgers, looks at post-traumatic stress disorder and the ongoing effects of war in a project commissioned by the late activist Maggie Schubart.

"I think the play will do its work for the cause of peace, because it's so human," Johnson said.

"It's about war and the war coming home, but it's also about the human body and the way things are internalized... Part of it is also about the highest aspects of humans, which help us conquer the ugliness."



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Playwright Sandi Johnson. Her play called *People Like Us* will debut at the Firehall Arts Centre in Vancouver on Nov. 2.

Johnson put in many hours of research on the 1991 Gulf War before distilling her knowledge into a fictional plot. The play centres on Kate Rourke, the wife of a Canadian veteran who's returned from action in Iraq. Though originally both characters appeared in the script, through

fine-tuning and rewrites suggested by Firehall Arts Centre dramaturge Donna Spencer, Johnson has refined the piece to become a powerful one-woman play.

Johnson was compelled to work forgotten pieces of not-so-distant history into the script, revealing how the effects of such moments carry on long after the war has ended for families on both sides of the action.

"I found the research very disturbing," Johnson said, "especially when I got to the part about the Road to Basrah."

The U.S.-led slaughter of retreating Iraqi soldiers and civilians who were trapped on the road, which was to become known as the Highway of Death, remains part of the collective memory, including for Canadian military members who were there in the background.

With all the horrors of war, however, Johnson's drama is subtle rather than forceful in delivering its message. The focus on a strong female character makes for compelling entertainment, with hope, empathy and even humour shining through.

"There's loss after loss, but you can see how she's strong and courageous, and she continually chooses life," Johnson said.

Kate's fight to access support and restore

her husband's health leads to her taking on an advocacy role for other veterans the system has abandoned.

People Like Us has been championed by Canadian actor Nicola Cavendish, who organized and directed two successful read-throughs of an earlier version of the script. She also suggested Johnson contact the Firehall Arts Centre as a good fit for the full staging, calling the notion her "brilliant idea."

Johnson says Cavendish was correct in her hunch and the script has been well received by the socially progressive arts centre. Spencer is leading a talented team of 12 theatre professionals who have been working with Johnson to bring *People Like Us* to audiences.

"It is a really delicate balance," Johnson said of delivering her script into other's hands for interpretation. "But they're bringing it to the stage and I have to trust they know what they're doing — and they really do."

"I think this actress [Sarah Louise Turner] is going to do a fabulous job," she added.

The world premiere of *People Like Us* is set for Saturday, Nov. 2 and the play continues at Firehall Arts Centre through Nov. 16.

Tickets are available through the box office at 604-689-0926 or online at <http://firehallartscentre.ca>.

ON STAGE

Thought-provoking comedy on stage

Monster Theatre makes Salt Spring visit this Friday

BY GEORGE SIPOS
ARTSPRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Most of us remember the rhyme we learned in school about Henry VIII's wives: "Divorced, Beheaded, Died... Divorced, Beheaded, Survived."

Beyond that, we mostly neither know nor care much about who these six women were as individuals, apart from their fates at the hands of their famous husband.

ArtSpring's Oct. 25 presentation of *Till Death Do We Part* will partly remedy that.

Vancouver's Monster Theatre has created this hugely popular one-woman show, which starts with the conceit of the six women meeting each other in heaven, or at least in heaven's antechamber.

What do they have to say to each other? How do they compare their lives married to the capricious Henry?

Vancouver actress Tara Travis undertakes the hilariously herculean task of portraying all six wives simultaneously, including the wife who appears on stage as a severed head only. To see her pull that feat off is alone worth the price of admission.

The most obvious effect of



Promotional image for *Till Death Do We Part*, a Monster Theatre production about the wives of King Henry VIII that runs on Friday, Oct. 25 at ArtSpring.

the play is broad and delicious comedy. The show has had audiences all over Canada splitting their sides.

But beyond the obvious humour, the play also gently questions why women should define their lives primarily in terms of their relationship with a husband. Surely their common experiences as women can be a more potent bond than their subservience

to an egotistical and not very nice king.

This blend of the hilarious and the thoughtful perhaps explains such critical praise as that from the Winnipeg Free Press: "The most impressive acting feat in the festival!"

Tickets for the 7:30 performance on Friday are available from the ArtSpring Ticket Centre at 250-537-2102 or online at www.tickets.artspring.ca.

<p>Tree House Cafe</p>	<p><i>A Taste of India</i></p> <p>Saturday 5-9 pm</p>
<p>This Week's Music Friday 6-9 pm</p> <p>VAUGHN FULFORD</p>	<p>\$10 Burger and Beer</p> <p>Thursday 5-9 pm</p>
<p>All day breakfast 7 days a week</p> <p>Open Mon-Wed 8am-4pm Fri./Sat. 8am-9pm Sunday 8am-8pm Telephone: 250-537-5379 Next to Mouat's in Ganges</p>	

We Did It Salt Spring!

Half the land around Blackburn Lake is now protected as a nature reserve.

A huge Thank You to over 400 donors, grantors & volunteers.

HALLOWEEN

Spook House caters to fright thresholds for 2013

Candy donations sought for giveaway

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The creative talent of Salt Spring's junior and senior improv teams promises to make this year's Halloween Spook House at Mahon Hall more deliciously frightful than ever, while extended hours and a few upgrades will give everyone the chance to participate.

Taking place both before and after the fireworks (which are set for 7:30 p.m. at Ganges Harbour), the Spook House will open at 6:30 p.m., close during fireworks and then re-open until 10:45 p.m.

Improv coach Bob Twaites said the creative team has made some terrifying new additions to the popular event, but at the same time new features have been added to make the event fun for all age groups.

"We have ways to tone it down slightly and ways to tone it way



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Enthusiastic participants in the 2011 Spook House event. This year's version at Mahon Hall will have longer hours — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and then after the fireworks until 10:45 p.m. — and be scarier or tamer depending on who's coming through.

up if there's teenagers there," he said.

While in previous years the Spook House was not recommended for smaller children,

this year there will be guides to go ahead and give signals to the actors if more sensitive guests are entering. As well, participants will all receive a good handful of

candy so they don't have to feel like they're missing out on any treats.

Similar to last year, the Spook House will feature a jack-o'-lantern contest, with the winning design destined to become part of the night's exhibit. Participants can bring their pre-carved pumpkins to Mahon Hall on Oct. 31 before 4 p.m. to enter for the chance to win the honours, as well as a fabulous prize.

As the major improv team fundraiser of the year outside of performances, the Spook House is an important activity for the students who help put it on. They participate in building the sets and costumes, run the event and collect tickets, and lend their acting and improvisation skills to the living sets.

In addition to being a great experience for students, it's an outstanding community event that's inside and out of the rain. And as Twaites explains, it's actually important to get a good fright once and a while.

"It's a cathartic good time and a good thing," he promised. "It's a healthy thing to get scared."

The ability to put on the event was in question this year because Salt Spring Community Theatre had previously booked the hall for rehearsals leading up to its production of Jenny's House of Joy in November. Fortunately, the group graciously agreed to give up practice on Halloween night so the Spook House could go ahead.

"It's a classic case of community helping community," Twaites said.

The improv group is hoping for another great act of community kindness to help put on the event, with candy donations desperately needed to make the night welcoming for all age groups. Twaites said the \$5 admission fee doesn't do much more than cover costs, so anyone who could provide a bag of candy would help immensely. Candy donations can be dropped off at Persnickety For Kids in Grace Point Square.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Art talks to end month

Severson and Boe on tap

The Salt Spring Library will finish off the month of October by hosting two artist talks in its program room.

On Monday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m., Connie Severson will speak about her Endangered Species collection. Local artist and fashion designer June Boe will speak about her creative work on Thursday, Oct. 31 starting at 5 p.m.

Severson, a B.C. artist, created the series of acrylics currently on display in the program room. Produced in collaboration with the Salt Spring Conservancy, the vibrant, heartwarming and evocative works depict red-listed plant and animal species on Salt Spring Island that are dangerously near extinction.

Severson will be joined in her talk by Sara Muir-Owen, UBC coordinator of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. Half the proceeds from the sale of Severson's work and art cards will be donated to the Salt Spring Conservancy.

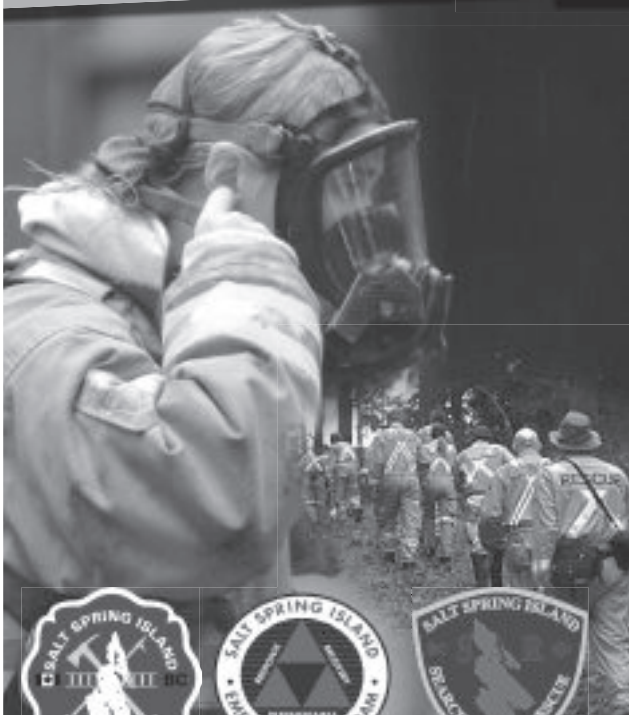
Later that week, a collection of paintings and photography by Boe will be displayed in the program room to coincide with her Oct. 31 talk about her experiences as an artist, photographer and fashion icon in the 1960s. Her recently published book, One*Only will be available for purchase.

For more information on these two art-related events, and other events at the Salt Spring Library, see <http://saltspring.bclibrary.ca/> or visit the library's Facebook page.

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- Average SSI Home = \$55/Year

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REFERENDUM

October 23 & 26

9 am – 6 pm

UNITED CHURCH

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New Emergency Centre Information
ssinewfirehall@shaw.ca | www.firehallinfo.com

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Island Arts Centre Society (ArtSpring) will hold its AGM on:

Sunday, November 17, 2013 at 4:00 pm

**ArtSpring
100 Jackson Avenue
Salt Spring Island**

Annual Reports and audited financial statements will be received and considered, an election of three Directors will be conducted and the Board will propose three amendments of an administrative nature to the IACS by-laws.

www.artspring.ca

News Updates
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Carley Spring Water Filling Station NOW OPEN!

250 Furness Rd.

3 Loonies for 5 Gallons!



SALT SPRING WINNERS:

From left, Melanie Williamson's painting *Thelma and her Baby* won the prize for Best Work on Canvas or Board at the 2013 Sidney Fine Art Show, while Dreamer's Attic, a ceramic sculpture by Byung-Joo Suh, won the show's Colin Graham Award for Innovative Work.



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

THEATRE/DANCE

Dancers invited to join swing-inspired show

Graffiti hosts Hard Times Hit Parade

Salt Spring Islanders will finally have their chance to join the immersive dance and theatre extravaganza that's been sweeping B.C. audiences when Hard Times Hit Parade washes up on shore this November.

Hard Times Hit Parade is a project by Kat Single-Dain of the Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret. The Jessie nominated, Depression-era production puts community members directly into the action dancing vintage swing styles like the Lindy Hop and the Charleston.

"This is your chance to learn swing like you've always wanted to and enter a dance marathon . . . in the 1930s," a press release from island host Graffiti Theatre promises.

Single-Dain is described

as "an award-winning filmmaker and critically acclaimed choreographer specializing in the intersection of contact improvisation and vintage swing dance, a rare niche that has her traveling to teach the so-called 'Contact Swing' everywhere from Nevada, USA to Paris, France."

She co-founded and curates The Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret, recently named one of "Vancouver's best kept secrets" by the CBC, and is the artistic director of the yearly Parade of Lost Souls in Vancouver.

Hard Times Hit Parade opened to a sold out month-long run in Vancouver in 2011, and continues to tour throughout B.C. to this day. A feature film version is currently in postproduction.

Single-Dain will be offering workshops on swing dance and character development in partner-

ship with Graffiti Theatre for islanders who wish to join the Hard Times cast,

teaching the basics of vintage swing dances and contemporary partnering exercises to help participants strengthen their skills.

Those who wish to join the show will be required to participate in three Saturday dance workshops on Nov. 2, 9 and 16 and rehearsals and performances from Nov. 17 to 24. All levels are welcome and partners are not necessary.

Organizers are also looking for era-specific cabaret performances to be included in the show as well as deco volunteers, front of house and all kinds of volunteer support. Contact rebecca.nygard@gmail.com for details.

Show dates are Nov. 22, 23 and 24, starting at 8 p.m. at Fulford Hall.

HISTORICAL THEATRE

Actor priest presents Damien

19th-century events immortalized

A unique theatrical event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 26 at All Saints By-the-Sea beginning at 7 p.m.

Damien is a one-man play portraying the mission of a 19th-century Roman Catholic priest, Father Damien de Veuster, who spent time with leprosy patients in Hawaii.

According to a press release from the Anglican Parish, de Veuster arrived in Honolulu from Belgium on May 21, 1864.

"Diseases brought to Hawaii by westerners were taking their toll on the native Hawaiian population just as they did among the First Nations in British Columbia. Hansen's Disease, as leprosy is usually known today, infected hundreds of Hawaiians who were sent to an isolated settlement on the island of Molokai. In May of 1873 Father Damien asked to be sent to patients most in need at Kalawao,

where he built a church and later a hospital and looked after the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of these vulnerable people who had been torn from their normal support systems in other parts of Hawaii."

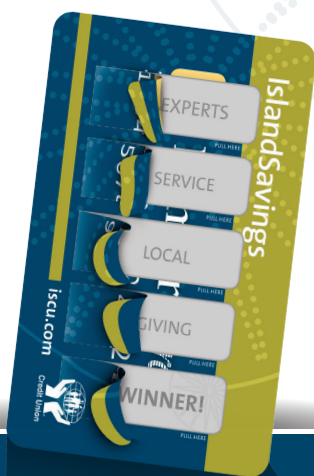
St. Damien of Molokai was formally canonized by the Roman Catholic Church in 2009. As part of the festivities surrounding the canonization, Father Edward Evanko was invited to Rome to present this one-man play twice during a week.

Evanko had a previous career as an actor and entertainer around the world before going to Rome to study for the priesthood in 2000. He has a long list of theatre, opera, film and television credits from the 1960s through the 1990s. He recently retired and has settled on Salt Spring Island.

He is presenting Damien by Aldyth Morris on Oct. 26 as a benefit. All donations received will be forwarded to aid for refugees from Syria, through the U.N. Commission on Refugees.

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people&community

SALT SPRING HISTORY

Tragic tale behind naming of Arnell Way

Surveyor left mark on local parks



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF SALT SPRING

This reporter's hunt for information on the history behind Salt Spring street names finally hit the jackpot when it came to Arnell Way, with the man behind the name making front page news in the Driftwood. Unfortunately it was for a sad reason.

Peter Arnell was an island surveyor who met with tragic death on Oct. 22, 1968. Almost exactly 45 years ago today, Arnell was accidentally shot and killed while on the job on Galiano Island. A 17-year-old youth who was hunting shot Arnell two times, his bullets passing beyond the deer he was aiming for and right into the unsuspecting surveyor.

"The marksman ran for help, but investigation proved that the victim

was already dead and appeared to have been killed instantly," the Driftwood reported.

The accident forced Arnell's wife and three small children to go on without him at their family home on Rainbow Road. They lived on the site that is now the high school and moved to Saskatchewan in the mid '70s, according to correspondence found in the Salt Spring Archives.

Arnell was originally from County Durham, England. He had only lived on Salt Spring for five years before the accident, but he made a big impression in that time. He was well known for his interest in protecting parkland, was secretary of the Salt Spring Island Recreation Commission and had played an active part in planning and creating Centennial Park. He took leadership roles in many community organizations during his few years, such as the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, the roads committee and the volunteer fire service.

Eight months after his death, Arnell made the front page of the Driftwood once again.

The July 31, 1969 issue reported that hunting with rifles had been banned throughout the Gulf Islands following a backlash resulting from



Memorial plaque on rock cairn in Peter Arnell Park.

the surveyor's death.

"Hunting for deer may still be undertaken with shot guns, using rifled slugs. Otherwise, bird shot is the only ammunition acceptable," the story reads.

According to the Driftwood article, petitions were circulated throughout the Gulf Islands asking the province to impose the restriction following the fatal shooting, and presentations were made by people from all parts of the province. (Rifles were in fact already banned on Pender Island.)

Petitions were also circulated by the British Columbia land surveyors, who were "up in arms at the evident danger to their own members carrying out normal duties in or near the woods." But the response was far from universal.

"Many sportsmen felt, and still feel, that the ban is ineffective. They contend that the majority of accidents involving hunters occur within shot gun range. Critics have also suggested that an accident involving a shot gun is more serious and the injury more extensive than in many instances of rifle wounding," the Driftwood story reports.

An unsuccessful counter-petition was presented to the government asking for greater training in the use of firearms and a more extensive policing on Salt Spring Island, instead of a ban.

In addition to lending his name to the short and steep street that connects Fulford-Ganges and Beddis roads, Arnell is fittingly remembered with Peter Arnell Park and trails off Stewart Road. The Corporation of B.C. Land Surveyors erected a memorial cairn at the park and dedicated it to Arnell's memory on Nov. 6, 1972.



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ECOLOGY

Hidden lives of mushrooms revealed at talk

Bryce Kendrick makes island visit

The hidden lives of mushrooms and other fungi will be the topic of a richly illustrated presentation on Friday, Oct. 25.

The talk, called Fungi: Now You See Them - Now You Don't, will be presented by Sidney-based mycologist and author Bryce Kendrick.

Kendrick is a retired university professor internationally recognized for his scientific work and his teaching in the field of mycology. His comprehensive textbook, *The Fifth Kingdom*, is used around the world to teach about fungi. A CD-ROM version of the book contains over 5,000 illustrations and videos that reveal the remarkable world of these mysterious organisms.

Kendrick is also a naturalist widely sought for his fascinating public lectures about fungi and other science topics. He is the author of *A Young Person's Guide to the Fungi*, a popular introduction to mushrooms and other fungi for children.

The talk, co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Conservancy and the Trail and Nature Club, starts at 7 p.m. at the Community Gospel Hall on Vesuvius Bay Road.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for people to bring a sample of any mushroom they have found (one sample per person only). The entire mushroom, including the base where it connects to the hyphae (fibres under the ground), should be brought in.

Mushroomers will also want to join the Trail and Nature Club's Fungus Among Us walk led by Linda Quiring on Oct. 29. Details are on the club website at saltspringtnc.ca.

Salt Spring Island Public Library

129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T6
<http://saltspring.bclibrary.ca>

The New Library All Salt Spring Hoped For and Then Some



Dear Neighbour,

It's hard to believe close to a year has passed since our new Library building opened its doors. Since then, giant steps have been taken toward making our library what we always hoped it would be—the heart of our community.

Adequate and well lit display space for the entire collection, local artwork throughout the building, an outstanding children's collection, a program room heavily used both for library events and by other community groups, all this and so much more. It's all there because of remarkably dedicated volunteers past and present, because of knowledgeable Chief Librarians, current and previous, and because the taxpayers of Salt Spring overwhelmingly voted to provide the funds needed to match federal and provincial grants. Also, and certainly not to be forgotten, are all the donors who for some years have generously supported a wide variety of the Library's past "enhancement" and "enrichment" initiatives.

But with another year comes another Library Annual Giving Campaign. We very much hope that the community support, so helpful in the past, will continue to be forthcoming. This year's donations, tax deductible of course, will be used:

- to allow the library to offer the best children's programming provided in any British Columbia community our size;
- to continue hiring bright, hard working summer students who both "fill in" for vacationing volunteers and also complete any number of special projects;
- to facilitate public presentations by both local and visiting authors and artists;
- to keep on offering a wide number of courses and classes to Salt Springers of all ages with particular emphasis on technologically challenged seniors;
- to take advantage of other opportunities consistent with our Library's growing social and cultural role in the community.

First planning and then actually building our new library took in total well over a decade. That new home will now meet Salt Spring's library needs for at least fifty years. Because of financially prudent management, and admittedly a bit of luck the new building came in on time and under budget.

We are now asking both past and prospective donors to provide the extra amount needed to fund a level of excellence. We consider the number of donors an important measure of community support and for that reason all donations, large or small, are equally valued and greatly appreciated. You can donate online at the Library's website: <http://saltspring.bclibrary.ca>. Will you join with so many other community members in making your Library, not only the building itself but also what goes on in it, all it might be?

Stan Shapiro

Stan Shapiro, Fundraising Chair
for the SSI Library Board

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NATURE

One fall easily leads to another

BY BOB WEEDEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

So I'm sort of on my back, one leg waving at passers-by, the other caught under a rotting and now broken log. An angry arachnid does its multi-legged march across my face. Well, I'm angry, too. Her web didn't hold me as I flailed randomly on the way down.

No, it isn't yoga for forestry students, or a try-out for the Special Olympics. I'm just somewhat involved in a relationship with blueberries on Mount Washington. Happens every September.

Actually, I'm pleased with my lot. I can look up at that blue-sky bowl — the one that poured me out just now — through a disheveled mosaic of golden leaves, each perfect in its imperfection. Steve Friedman's magnificent photos of autumn aspens pop to mind, each one an exquisite, magnificent, wordless poem. They lack only the odour of fall, and the right scent fanned into his gallery would take care of that.

Then deeper memory brings back the whole nine yards, the scarlets and yellows of boyhood New England autumns, the improv music of sneakers swishing through just-raked spangled mounds, the indescribable pungency of leaves



becoming humus. The whole thing is happy-sad, as death in its season should be.

I'm not ready yet to stand up. There'll be a lot of threshing and grunting involved, and a bit of private muttering. I reach up to a leaf. It falls, as if my touch were the blessing it had waited for.

All the workday green had leached away, leaving behind the hues that had been there all along, awaiting this celebratory parade — as if a chemical sculptor had chipped away one miracle too common for its own good, to reveal another glory. When it is time to stop the nutrient assembly line in the green leaf, starches and proteins are converted to sugars and freighted to the inner bark of twigs, stem and roots for use next growing season.

A layer of brittle cells forms at the

base of leaves. Flows of life-giving fluids stop. A wind, a raindrop, a tumbling bear or some large hominid object shakes the bush; the leaf falls. Visible now is the bud from which, in spring, the future will begin.

In each district the deciduous trees (maples, aspens, oaks, hickories, birches, etc.) are genetically programmed to colour up under the right local conditions. The main triggers are warm sunny days followed by cool nights. Jack Frost's paintbrush gets the credit, but really isn't needed.

Acres of prescription-bottle print have sung praises to autumn leaves. Here are a few square centimetres more. It's not better; merely mine.

The hills are amber now,
Raw yellow or burnt brown,
The glory of the forests
Fallen to the ground.
Lying along the ditches
Flat as words, they rise
Behind the passing cars
Like flocks of witless birds —
But O I love the smell of them,
The light dry sound of them
Like children's praising hands,
And the swoop and slant
Of their dying dance.
The damp earth gathers them
Like music, like knowledge,
Like an ancient recipe for life.

SUSTAINABILITY

Branch and leaf events resume

Monthly clean-up time

The Bring Your Branches and Fall Leaf Exchange programs return this Saturday on Salt Spring.

People can bring tree prunings and branches suitable for chipping to the Salt Spring Golf Club parking lot between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.


Material must be clean with no invasive species and no contaminants such as stones, plastic or garbage. The material must also be small enough to go through a chipper, so stumps and large-diameter logs are not acceptable. Branches drop off is by donation, with \$5 suggested for a pick-up load, to help cover costs of chipping.

The Fall Leaf Exchange is also open on Saturday at Rainbow Road Park, behind the swimming pool. Enter from Kanaka Road. Leaves may be dropped off in the designated area, and if people need leaves to mulch their garden, they are welcome to come and get them.

Small quantities of chips are also available free for pickup.

Bring Your Branches and the Fall Leaf Exchange are offered to islanders as a way to recycle organic material and reduce the need for outdoor burning. From now until spring, the last Saturday of each month (except December) provides an opportunity to clean up yards.

The location will vary, so people are advised to check each month before heading out.



NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VOLUNTEER AS A SCRUTINEER

THETIS ISLAND RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION SERVICE AMENDMENT REFERENDUM

On Saturday December 7, 2013, qualified electors of the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Area, within a portion of Electoral Area G – Saltair/Gulf Islands, will be voting on the following question:

“Are you in favour of the Board of the Cowichan Valley Regional District adopting “CVRD Bylaw No. 3713 – Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Amendment Bylaw, 2013”, that authorizes the CVRD to increase the maximum annual financial contribution to the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (TIRRA) from \$40,000 up to \$100,000 per year to assist TIRRA with costs associated with the operation, collection and transportation of solid waste and recycling materials on Thetis Island?”

YES or NO?


Scrutineers for and against the question must be appointed if applications are received from persons who wish to **volunteer** for the positions. Only persons entitled to vote as electors on the question shown above are entitled to act as scrutineers. One scrutineer FOR and one scrutineer AGAINST the question will be appointed for each voting place if sufficient applications are received.

Applications to act as a scrutineer will be received by the Chief Election Officer at the office of the Cowichan Valley Regional District, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC, during the period:
9:00 am on Monday, October 28, 2013 to 4:00 pm on Friday, November 8, 2013.

Completed applications will only be received during regular office hours during this period, Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, excluding statutory holidays. Application forms are available at the Regional District office **OR** on the CVRD website at www.cvrld.bc.ca.

Interested persons can obtain information on the requirements and procedures for making an application by contacting the following persons at the Regional District office by telephone at 250-746-2503 or 1-800-665-3955, or via e-mail:

Kathleen Harrison, Chief Election Officer kharrison@cvrd.bc.ca
Shannon Carlow, Deputy Chief Election Officer scarlow@cvrd.bc.ca



COMBINED ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
CVRD REGIONAL DISTRICT
211 Upper Ganges Road
Duncan, B.C. V9L 6K6
Phone: (250) 746-2500
Fax: (250) 746-2513
Email: enr@cvrd.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.cvrld.bc.ca>

HALLOWEEN

Behind the scenes at fireworks

Public can help make popular community event a safe one

BY MITCHELL SHERRIN
SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE RESCUE

Continuing a tradition that spans decades, volunteers from Salt Spring Fire Rescue will once again be setting off fireworks from the Coast Guard dock in Ganges Harbour at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 31 to celebrate Halloween.

Community members should be aware of a couple of items to improve enjoyment and safety of the display.

One thing people might not realize about the show is that it involves very large fireworks (comparable to military artillery) packed with explosives, which involve various safety regulations.

Local volunteers from Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue will patrol a 100-metre zone around the display to protect spectators from the risk of contact with an errant explosive. No vessels (including kayaks or uninhabited vessels) or vehicles (apart from fire suppression

apparatus) are permitted within this zone.

An area is also taped off around the Coast Guard dock to prevent pedestrians from wandering into the danger zone.

Local volunteers from RCMSAR will patrol a 100-metre zone around the display to protect spectators from the risk of contact with an errant explosive.

As part of the safety perimeter, the Salt Spring Harbour Authority reminds boaters that no vessels may be moored on the Coast Guard dock or within the protected marine zone before, during or after the show until a safety check has been made to ensure that all fireworks are removed

around 9 p.m.

Once the show is fully prepared, firefighters will wait until they have complete darkness before they launch (estimated at 7:30 p.m. this year).

Interestingly, dozens of volunteers from these three agencies donate hundreds of man hours to present a display that only lasts a few minutes.

And islanders may not be aware that the Halloween show is funded by firefighters who sell corn at the Fall Fair to pay for the fireworks and that the corn for this event is donated by Malcolm Bond of Bon Acres farm (so thank Malcolm for the show the next time you see him).

A shortfall in fall fair revenue this year prompted the Salt Spring Rotary Club to step in with a generous donation to support the project. As a side note, the Canada Day fireworks display is funded by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce.

As usual, firefighters will also be serving hot chocolate and snacks at the Ganges Fire Hall on Halloween following the fireworks display, thanks to generous donations from Country Grocer.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

High score gobbles all

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

“Ein Prosit, ein Prosit Der Gemütlichkeit...”

Well, Oktoberfest in Munich ended on Oct. 6 but a toast to cheer and good times was still valid anyway on Oct. 7 on Salt Spring. That’s when six and a half tables showed up at Seniors for duplicate bridge and the Mitchell movement whereby there are North-South winners and separate East-West ones.

BRIDGETRICKS

Rejoicing in first place North-South were Charles Kahn and Judy Norget, with Ted Baldwinson and Jean Elder next in line, and George Laundry with Paul Retallack on their heels. Brimming over with high scores East-West were Jeff Bell and Nancy Arnold in the lead, followed by Gillian Moutat and Jennifer Quick, with Liz and Oleh Mycyk coming third.

Oct. 14 was Canada’s own celebration — of Thanksgiving this time, and again six and a half tables took part, with another nod to Mr. Mitchell. This time it was the Mycyks who were no turkeys and came first North-South, with the Laundry-Retallack pair in second place. There was a tie for the third spot when Boodie Arnott and Jacquie Stevulak had the same score as Al Wilke and Nadene McCoy.

But the ones who deserved to give the most thanks to the bridge gods were the East-West Bell-Arnold pair with a stratospheric score gobbling up everyone else. They were very respectfully followed by Zelly Taylor and Ian Thomas and then the Moutat-Quick partnership.



NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF THE THETIS ISLAND RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION SERVICE AREA

(THETIS ISLAND ONLY)

WITHIN A PORTION OF ELECTORAL AREA G – SALT AIR/GULF ISLANDS

AVAILABILITY OF THE LIST OF REGISTERED ELECTORS

Beginning Monday, October 28, 2013 until the close of other voting for adoption of CVRD Bylaw No. “CVRD Bylaw No. 3713 – Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Amendment Bylaw, 2013”, on December 7, 2013, a copy of the list of registered electors will, upon signature, be available for public inspection at the CVRD Office located at 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC, during regular office hours, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. An elector may request that their address or other information about them be omitted from or obscured on the list of electors.

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

RESIDENT ELECTORS:

- age 18 or older; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and
- a resident of the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Area for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS:

- age 18 or older; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and
- a registered owner of real property within the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Area for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- not entitled to register as a resident elector; and
- not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and
- if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

OBJECTION TO REGISTRATION OF AN ELECTOR

An objection to the registration of a person whose name appears on the list of registered electors may be made in accordance with the Local Government Act until 4:00 pm on October 31, 2013. An objection must be in writing and may only be made by a person entitled to be registered as an elector within the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Area; and can only be made on the basis that the person whose name appears has died or is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Area.

To inspect the list of registered electors and/or to register objections to the registration of an elector contact the following persons at the Regional District office by telephone at 250-746-2503 or 1-800-665-3955, e-mail: Kathleen Harrison, Chief Election Officer at kharrison@cprd.bc.ca; or Shannon Carlow, Deputy Chief Election Officer at scarlow@cprd.bc.ca.



COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
175 Ingram Street,
Duncan, B.C. V9L 1N8

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what's on this week



Wed. Oct 23

ACTIVITIES

Fire Hall & Emergency Centre Referendum Advance Poll.

Advance poll open today for qualified electors. Salt Spring Island United Church. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Stress & How To Deal With It.

Special presentation by Robert Beringer, M.A. (Gerontology) at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 p.m.

SWOVA AGM.

Annual general meeting. Refreshments served. SWOVA office. 5 p.m.

Texas Holdem.

Play for bragging rights. The Local. Sign-up 6:30 p.m.

Growing and Using Herbs.

Brian Crumblehulme speaks to the Salt Spring Garden Club. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.

Comedy Improvisation.

Free workshop with Jan Rabson and Bob Twaites every Wednesday. Ages 15 and up. GISS Room 208. 7 p.m.

Othello - the National Theatre Live.

Encore presentation. The Fritz Movie Theatre. 7 p.m.

Wed. Oct 23

ACTIVITIES

20 Feet From Stardom.

Showing of documentary film about U.S. backup singers to famous performers. Part of the Best of the Fest series presented by the Salt Spring Film Festival Society. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. Oct 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic With Dave & Ross.

Every Thursday. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

Regular business meeting. 9:30 a.m., with town hall session beginning at noon. Lions Hall.

Salt Spring Island Spinners and Weavers Guild Workshop.

Practical Application of Colour Attributes. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m.

SS Forum Presents Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond.

B.C.'s Representative for Children and Youth speaks on The Rights of the Child. GISS Auditorium. 2:50 p.m.

Thurs. Oct 24

ACTIVITIES

Othello - the National Theatre Live.

Encore presentations. The Fritz Movie Theatre. 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Pieces of Her Story - Opening Reception.

A multi-media art show by five local women, presented by the Centre for Loving Inquiry. ArtSpring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.

SSI Business Excellence Awards.

Gala awards presentation and dinner. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m. Tix at SS Chamber of Commerce.

Dinner and Hockey.

At The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.

Fri. Oct 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Soul Shakedown.

The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.

Vaughn Fulford.

Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

The Coalition.

Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Fri. Oct 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Till Death Do We Part.

Tara Travis plays all six of Henry VIII's wives in a stunning and hilarious one-woman play. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Wine & Appys Fundraiser for Kenyan School Children.

Fundraiser to provide school uniforms. All Saints Church. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Fungi: Now You See Them - Now You Don't.

Illustrated talk on mushrooms by mycologist and author Bryce Kendrick. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.

Sat. Oct 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Ian Van Wyck Trio Light Fantastic.

Harbour House Restaurant. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Under the Boardwalk.

Arvid Chalmers presents a comedic history of the Ganges boardwalk. Mahon Hall. 7 p.m.

Damien.

One-man play presented by actor Edward Evanko about the life of 19th-century Roman Catholic priest Damien de Veuster. A benefit for Syrian refugees. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7 p.m.

Interchill Records presents Bring Out Yer Dead.

With DJs Andrew and Lawrence. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park.

Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dad N' Me Pancake Breakfast.

Drop-in with free pancakes for dads, uncles, grand-dads and their kids age 0-6. Family Place. 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Fire Hall & Emergency Centre Referendum.

Salt Spring Island United Church. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sat. Oct 26

ACTIVITIES

Bring Your Branches.

Drop off for clean material only. Salt Spring Island Golf Club parking lot. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ABUN*DANCE African Dance Class Series.

Two six-week series start today at south end Dojo. Beginner/Mellow: 1 to 2:15 p.m. Experienced: 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. Info/registration: heartstara@care2.com.

Exercise & the Brain.

A presentation by Angela Sealy on the latest research on the benefits of physical activity. Lions Hall. 2 to 4 p.m.

Sun. Oct 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Piano Bar with June Bender.

Harbour House. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

5Rhythms Morning Dance.

Every 4th Sunday of the month. Art Barn. 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Dances of Universal Peace.

Theme is "Honouring the Goddess traditions." Still Point Yoga Studio. 7 p.m.

Personal Creative Storytelling Workshop.

With Ahava Shira and Sam Barlow. 2 to 4 p.m. Info/pre-register: ahavashira@gmail.com

Mon. Oct 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

David Francey Concert.

SOLD OUT. Southend Grooveyard. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Governance Forum.

Part of the Salt Spring Governance Study process. Community Gospel Chapel. 6:30 p.m.

Mon. Oct 28

ACTIVITIES

In Conversation With Connie Severson.

Artist gives a presentation on effects of climate change on local species. With Sara Muir-Owen, UBC coordinator of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 6:30 p.m.

Basic FOODSAFE.

Course led by Sheri Nielson at Harbour House Hotel. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info/register: Sheri, 250-537-1883.

Tues. Oct 29

ACTIVITIES

Project Connect Day.

A day to distribute goods, services and information to the homeless population of Salt Spring. General public welcome. Salt Spring Community Services. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Parent Child Yoga.

For parents, caregivers and their children ages 0-2. All Saints Church. 11 a.m. to noon.

Tues. Oct 29

ACTIVITIES

Stay & Play Drop-In.

For parents and caregivers with their children ages 0-6. Family Place. 12 to 3 p.m.

Salt Spring Governance Forum.

Public meeting that's part of the Salt Spring Governance Study process. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.

Pubstumpers Trivia.

Teams of four. Every Tuesday. Moby's Pub. 7 p.m.

Wed. Oct 30

ACTIVITIES

Parent Child Mother Goose.

See last Wednesday's listing. Fernwood Elementary. 10 a.m. to noon.

Texas Holdem.

See last Wednesday's listing. Comedy Improvisation. See last Wednesday's listing.

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Othello
Othello, the National Theatre Live encore production Wednesday October 23 7pm and Thursday October 24 3 matinee and 7pm. Approx. 3 Hours. Adrian Lester takes the title role, with Rory Kinnear as the duplicitous Iago. Tickets are \$20 available at Salt Spring Books. Some tickets will be available at the door.

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www.driftwoodgimedia.com/calendar

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www.saltspringevents.com/calendar

Salt Spring Island calendar of events, listing concerts, lectures, shows, night community events.

Nov. Jul 29 All Show (White Handwriting) ...
Nov. Jul 29 All Show (White Handwriting) ...
Nov. Jul 29 Dave Gossett

Salt Spring Island Festivals and Fun activities
www.saltspringisland.com/festivals

Find out more for events, including Parents (near school) throughout the winter and spring. Salt Spring's excellent performing and visual arts centre ...

Events & Concerts | Salt Spring Exchange
saltspringexchange.com/events-and-concerts

Events & Concerts | Salt Spring Calendar, Special Friday Inter-Island Ferry ...
July 2011 Booking calendar between Salt Spring, Mudge, Pender ...

Salt Spring Island Tourism
www.saltspringisland.com

Official tourism Salt Spring website with information on activities, events, photos, maps, maps, maps and ... Special Events on Salt Spring ...

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CINEMA

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Othello

The National Theatre Live encore production is on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 24 at 3 and 7 p.m. Adrian Lester takes the title role, with Rory Kinnear as the duplicitous Iago. Tickets through Salt Spring Books. Some should also be available at the door.

EXHIBITIONS

Pieces of Her Story: Sam Barlow, Johanna Murray, Premilla Pillay and Charlene Wolff

share their Year to Love journeys through an inspiring multi-media art show at ArtSpring. It runs Friday, Oct. 25 to Wednesday, Oct. 30 with an opening reception on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Intimate

— an invitation to nature is an exhibit of work by Doug Wahlsten and Heidi Van Impe now on at Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art.

Paintings of the North by Judith Currelly

is now showing at Duthie Gallery. Winter hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment at 250-537-9606.

Mary Laucks

exhibits abstract paintings from her Depth Perception series in the ArtSpring lobby through Oct.

Connie Severson's art series Endangered Species

is in the Salt Spring Public Library program room this month, with an artist's talk set for Oct. 28.

Kathie Smithson's works in pastel

are at Cafe Talia. An exciting variety of work by Donna Ateah is hanging at Island Savings this month.

SOLID at the Market Place

(in Gasoline Alley) shares African Art by Louise Adelle.

Susan Benson's Journeys collection

continues at the Harbour House through October.

Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe

shows work by Jeremy Witmer.

Lil Sampson (Irwin)

shows artwork at Penny's Pantry.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Emergency effort gains ground

POD growth and ShakeOut success highlight heightened awareness

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Elizabeth Zook approached Salt Spring Fall Fair goers about the island's POD program two years ago, she was often stuck with a head scratching and befuddled audience.

Things have come a long way since then.

"This year, everybody knew what POD was," she said. "Not long ago, nobody knew."

"It's impressive that the community is finally stepping up."

Two years ago, the island's neighbourhood emergency response network struggled to amass the support needed to make it a success. Sure, there were pockets of the island where residents had become prepared for a catastrophe, but the vast majority of PODS lay dormant.

During an interview in the Emergency Operations Centre's basement office on Lower Ganges Road earlier this week, Zook announced that times appear to have changed as public participation in the program recently reached an all-time high. All identified PODs with the exception of three, she said, have come together in some form or another.

For a community with a population spread across a relatively large area, the POD leaders' ability to coordinate neighbourhood resources like four-wheel drives, chainsaws and trained personnel will ease discomfort and save lives in the event of a natural disaster such as an earthquake or fire.

"It's about building community resilience. That foundation is what's helping drive the program," Zook said. "We're ending the year on such a high note, it's unbelievable."



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Gulf Islands Secondary students take cover under library tables during their ShakeOut B.C. earthquake drill on Thursday.

Aside from the POD program, the Salt Spring Island Emergency Program includes Emergency Social Services and the Emergency Operations Centre. Zook administers the programs' services through the help of approximately 500 island volunteers. Many of these have specialized training in disaster psychology, radio communications, disaster first aid and other emergency related courses that have been provided through the group.

"It's not a long list [of classes] but, for a small community, it's okay," Zook said.

Attention to emergency preparedness has historically risen in the aftermath of well-publicized natural disasters, be they in Canada or abroad. As media resources get diverted elsewhere and the public's attention wanes, enthusiasm for programs like the PODs tended to recede.

During the past year, however, Zook said the public's interest in the emergency program has reached critical mass, thanks in part to creation of a POD newsletter, engagement with the school district and broader cooperation with the island's volunteer and paid emergency personnel.

Just last week, for example, at least 1,000 Salt Springers are

believed to have participated in the ShakeOut BC earthquake drill. At Gulf Islands Secondary School alone, she said, about 600 students and staff dropped, covered and held on for the exercise.

"It was very impressive," Zook said. "This is happening now. We are organized."

Similar events were held at other schools, as well as at the Salt Spring Island Public Library, where patrons are said to have lined up outside the building to participate in the event.

"These are exciting times," she said. "This program is really about them. It's really about community resilience, about neighbours helping neighbours."

More information about the island's emergency program is available at: www.crd.bc.ca/saltspring/emergency/emergency.htm or by contacting Zook at SSIEPC@crd.bc.ca. Info about natural disasters and suggestions for must-have survival kits for cars, homes and workplaces is available at www.prepar-yourself.ca.



See gulfislands-driftwood.com for a video of the GISS ShakeOut drill.

AWARDS

Eldritch Manor up for two awards

Student votes decide prize in library contests

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Thousands of Canadian students will be reading a book by Salt Spring author Kim Thompson this year to decide whether her novel gets their votes for two readers' choice awards.

Thompson's book Eldritch Manor was named as one of 10 nominations for the 2014 Silver Birch Award for fiction in the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading program.

The book also made the shortlist for a similar program in Alberta, and will be one of 20 titles vying for the Rocky Mountain Book Award.

The Silver Birch Award, which is aimed at readers from grades 3 to 6, will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2014. Registered readers must read at least five of the ten books on the list and then cast their vote for their favourite. The award will be presented at a gala ceremony in Toronto next May.

"The best part of a readers' choice award like the Forest of Reading is that it generates so much interest and brings

new readers to my book, which is really exciting," said Thompson, who added she was thrilled to be selected. "And the Forest of Reading events in Ontario in May will be fun too. I've never attended before, but apparently masses of school groups attend and the authors are treated like rock stars... a rare moment to bask in glory before retreating back to our little hermit holes."

The Rocky Mountain Book Award asks its readers to read at least five of the 20 titles on its shortlist, which is aimed at students from grades 4 through 7. The program was started in 2001 and

is sponsored by several library groups and the University of Lethbridge.

Eldritch Manor is a realist fantasy mystery involving 12-year-old Willa Fuller, who takes a job as a housekeeper at the shabby boarding house down the street. It turns out the manor is a retirement home for some very strange individuals, and Willa is left in charge to face an attack from the forces of darkness.

Public libraries, schools and home schooling groups are eligible to register in both reading programs. Registration is available online.

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BIRTHS



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ANNUAL Fun FEST

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Games, candy, cake walk, coffee & tea for parents.

Safe, dry, free fun night for all.

Thursday, Oct. 31
5pm-7pm
At Community Gospel Chapel
147 Vesuvius Bay Rd.

INFORMATION

Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust Society is seeking Requests For Proposals for long term rental of farmland at **Burgoyne Valley Community Farm** 2232 Fulford Ganges Road. See www.ssifarmlandtrust.org for details of the Request for Proposals (RFP), Draft Memorandum of Agreement, the Soil Analysis Report and the Land Use Policies.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RFP November 15, 2013

Email: ssifarmlandtrust@shaw.ca or 250 537 5302

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GET NOTICED

Published in the first Driftwood of each month. Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office.

INFORMATION

Lady Minto Hospital AUXILIARY

KNITTERS NEEDED

Join a dedicated team of both novice and expert knitters who enjoy knitting babies', children's and other items for the Showcase located in the lobby of the Lady Minto Hospital. Proceeds from the sale of these items are used to support auxiliary donations to the hospital and Greenwoods facilities. However, the auxiliary needs more volunteer knitters. We also need more donations of knitting wool at the Thrift Shop. All items in the Showcase are made from donated yarn.

To get an LMH auxiliary membership brochure please drop into the Thrift Shop (next to Driftwood office at Upper Ganges Centre - Rear Building or email contact@lmhas.ca for more information.

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LOST AND FOUND



LOST MAX
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Max vanished from our cul de sac on Sept. 14th! In Channel Ridge. He is a short haired golden blond Burmese cat. He is very vocal, affectionate and social. Max likes to jump into cars and snuggle up. He has a collar with address and # and a tattoo. Any information regarding his whereabouts is greatly appreciated as he is a beloved member of our furry family!

Please contact April and Trevor at 250-537-8757 or 250-360-6990

Still Missing Our Max!!!! Meows out to our community!

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DEATHS

DEATHS



Marguerite Sargent
Aug. 14, 1924 - Oct. 16, 2013

Marguerite Sargent, a 41 year resident of Roland Road, Fulford Harbour, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at her home in the ECU at Lady Minto.

Marguerite was a past Worthy Matron of Eastern Star and was also active in Seniors For Seniors (as it was known then), Meals on Wheels, the Ham Club and the Blue Water Cruisers.

Marguerite was very adventurous, riding pillion with her husband Jim on a motorcycle trip around Australia in her 50's, and accompanying Jim circumnavigating Vancouver Island on a 29' sloop in her 60's. She also did 2 extensive walking tours in England with a friend. She and Jim were enthusiastic snowbirds and had many friends around Canada and the US.

Marguerite was a devoted, loving and enthusiastic grandmother. When the great-grandchildren began to arrive the same love was extended to them.

Marguerite was predeceased by her husband Jim and her son Daniel. She is survived by her daughters Sylvia (Dave Dykes) and Laura (Dave Williamson); her grandchildren Harvey Dykes (Elissa), Jack Dykes (Heather), Rob Dykes (Sheri), Kay Christianson and Britt Christianson; and her great grandchildren Jacintha Dykes, Cooper Dykes and Emmanuella Dykes.

In lieu of flowers donations to the Lady Minto ECU Comfort Fund would be appreciated. No service at the request of the family. A celebration of Marguerite's life will be held at Ruckle Park next summer.

We invite you to visit Marguerite's memorial website at www.haywardsfuneral.com

Many thanks to Dr. Reznick, Jean Southgate and all the staff at Lady Minto ECU.

*Rest in peace Mom.
You deserve it and you will be missed.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Service Meetings

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..... Pender
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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.

Grants to Individuals or Groups

Available for projects of cultural benefit to the community. Preference to be given to the SSAC members and to events that make use of Mahon Hall. Projects of an innovative nature are encouraged. Professional development grants are also offered.

Information & Grant forms at: www.ssartscouncil.com or call Mahon Hall: 537-0899

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INFORMATION

Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island Notice of Annual General Meeting

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Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island

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This Week's Horoscope

by **Michael O'Connor**
www.sunstarastrlogy.com
sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com
1.888.352.2936

Tip of the Week:

Scorpio time has begun. Contrary to what many assume the 'signs' are linked to the seasons, and there are constellations that are symbolic of them as well. The signs of Scorpio reveals a deepening dark with increasingly shorter days and longer nights. The falling leaves, dying plants and frost bitten ground are literal examples of the reality of death and at least of purging and transformation. Scorpio marks a powerful time of ending. Remembrance Day which occurs on November 11 and which pays tribute to the many soldiers who died in world wars aptly takes place at this grave time of the year. Halloween and All Saints are also accurately celebrated during Scorpio time when the veils between the living and the 'other side' are said to be at their thinnest. Peering deeply into unseen and hidden realms, delving into the abyss to claim what long buried gifts and treasures there may be and solving mysteries are all Scorpio themes. The super wealthy elite and the great riches they harbour and powers and secrets they protect that live hidden behind gated castles and within guarded walls come under the category of Scorpio too. Yet it would be wrong to assume that these 'powers that be' are all merely greedy, indifferent and scheming. The real power that Scorpio hides and protects is the reality that every death is followed by rebirth. As well, although decay suits this 8th sign it is this very process that produces the rich soils that nourish and bring forth life and renewal. This week's Horoscope is a tribute to the themes of Scorpio as they are now being expressed for each Zodiac sign.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Change is upon you whether you would have it or not. This is true in both the long and the short term. Thus it will feel accelerated now. Whether for it or against, you feel compelled to work harder and to fight. At worst an elemental of self-sabotage is rising from the depths. So, call upon the light of faith over doubt to activate the courage and cunning of your warrior within.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

A significant deepening of your commitment to change has begun. Yet, to succeed you are challenged to work within as well as without. This includes awakening to potential enemies that lurk below your conscious awareness. Creative strategies that will help you to tap your inner authority and power are highlighted. Find a torch to light your way.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The time has come to rise to a whole new level. Yet to succeed there may be things, attitudes, habitual patterns, usual rhythms and maybe even certain people that you must leave behind. This challenge includes digging deeper than you have for many moons. Research and investigations are part of the plot. Don't worry you will not be alone.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

The task of redesigning your world somehow is being resurrected. While your outer realm may be included, it is your inner layers that need your attention. Various beliefs woven with emotion and imagination are ready to be unraveled. Not all that we deem true lives longer than we do. Reveal your creative powers and cast a few new spells.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

Deeper than a well and more elusive than the mist dwells the source of your spirit. Quiet your mind and listen closely to hear its sacred whisper. The message it speaks is of creative powers that you are destined to claim. Yet these are guarded by the projection of your very own fears. To succeed, call upon your spirit for courage and a sword, a pen, a paintbrush... or whatever talismans you require.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

The wise wizard knows that to speak the spell of your thoughts is to bring them closer to manifestation. A deepened investigation of this ancient craft is now yours to pursue. In some respects this quest will lead you into the unknown. Beyond sense and reason, logic and even intuition you are meant to explore the magic and power of imagination.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

What treasures lie hidden from plain view? The answer is that there are many and sorts and levels as well. Surely there are gold coins, rare gems and diamonds too. Gifts of talents that abound and new visions and dreams and lands to explore... are all in there. Most precious of all is the realization that all are the creations of consciousness just as are you. Invest some time there.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21)

The spark or renewal is being ignited within you now. Its purpose is to inspire new aspirations to pursue. Where usually options and possibilities challenge you to choose, this time your focus will be as sharp as an ancient warrior's sword. This is because the usual offerings of your mind are being eclipsed by the command of your soul.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21)

Dissolving, disintegrating, melting or passing way... however you cut it, what once was, is no longer. Call it time, name it fate, or death if you must. But the body returns to dust as it eventually must, or to ash if you choose that way. Yet truly it is simply another liberation of the spirit. The challenge now is to see through the game and to rejoice the promise of future rounds.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19)

The time has come to make some specific key power plays. This includes accessing the creative talents and the rich resources of others. Having it all actually means having access to what everyone else has. Knowing how to implement this reservoir of wealth is another thing. Expect a time of multitasking, delegation and digging in to break through.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19)

Who are you, where do you belong and where are your energies best directed? These and other such questions may need to be answered. You may be plagued with doubts and confusions for a while. It may be mid-December before you are clearer. But then the answers will become much louder and clearer and they will point to creative renewal.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

The next phase of a soul searching journey has begun. It will lead you to deep reaches and to high places too. You may well get lost along the way, but not for long so do not despair. There will be those who will push you to dig deep. Accept their challenge with vision and might and you will receive blessings of creative sight.

HUMOUR

Let's hear it for the libraries

"A circulating library in a town is an evergreen tree of diabolical knowledge! It blossoms through the year."

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan



Arthur Black

WIT & WHIMSY

The first library I ever saw didn't have leaves or branches. It was even weirder. It had a steering wheel, a windshield, an exhaust pipe and it sat on four wheels.

It was a bus – a bookmobile, we called it. We lived in the deep boonies with no town hall, no police station and certainly no bricks-and-mortar library. So once a week, on a Thursday evening, for two hours at a time, the library came to us.

It was the first time I truly understood what civilization meant.

As I recall, you entered at the back door of the bookmobile, browsed your way down a narrow corridor surrounded by floor-to-ceiling books, and emerged, with your selections duly stamped, by the front door.

Seems almost Dickensian

now, traipsing to a book wagon at a crossroads to pick up your weekly supply of words. Today the country is festooned with public libraries that border on the palatial. Heck, you don't even have to put your shoes on — you can stay home and order books on the Internet; even download entire texts to your e-book or iPad.

I'm not the only one who's noticed. Two independent bookstores in my town have closed this past year.

Libraries are adjusting to this new reality. Recently in the Canadian magazine *The Walrus*, Michael Harris wrote of his visit to the brand new City Centre Library in Surrey, BC.

From what he saw, it's surprising the word 'library' made it into the official name of the building. Inside, Harris found a café, a fully-staffed recreation centre, lots of 'interactive' sculpture and furniture — and oh, yeah — books too.

A 'librarian' explained to Harris that "Our jobs are becoming

more about helping newcomers with their language skills, or helping people access government services....we're kind of social workers, actually".

Harris interviewed the architect of the new, multi-million-dollar City Centre Library and he notes that in their conversation about the architect's motivation and vision for the structure, the word 'books' was not mentioned once.

It's the way of the world. The opening chapter of Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities* consists of one magnificent sentence of 120 words. We live in the time of Twitter, a communication device that allows only 140 characters.

But Dickens didn't have to contend with Hollywood, a 300-channel TV universe, smart phones and youtube,

Did you know that when Dickens was writing *Great Expectations* (in long hand, with a quill pen on parchment) he did it in installments which would be duly dispatched on board transatlantic ships from England to his fans in North America? Those fans would line the shore as the ship docked in New York, shouting up to those aboard such questions as "What happened to Little Nell? Does she die?"

I miss Dickens. I miss my Bookmobile too.

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ARVID IS DOING A SHOW "UNDER THE BOARDWALK" Saturday, Oct. 26 at Mahon Hall. Tickets: \$20.00 at Salt Spring Books or at the door.

THE SEASIDE RESTAURANT in Vesuvius will be closed for the month of November. We will re-open December 1st.

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

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MORE LETTERS

continued from 10

Entrepreneurial spirit applauded

I am pleased that our Local Trust Committee has seen fit to let metal recycling continue illegally in the Pallot Way neighbourhood. I am gratified our community deems it valuable to duplicate industrial services which are readily available off-island.

This is encouraging for my own business enterprise which would, likewise, provide local supplies of a commodity we are presently importing from Vancouver Island. I refer to natural gas which our provincial government has now designated "green energy." Furthermore, the province has decided there is no need to protect the islands from mineral prospecting. Having studied the geology of my property, I discovered that with a little judicious drilling and fracking I can extract and process enough gas to heat the entire island. The fact that my property is currently zoned residential shouldn't be a serious problem since I can always get a rezoning or a TUP sometime in the distant future should my neighbours start to object.

To be sure there will be a certain amount of noise and traffic — drilling, tower construction, seismic blasts. And of course, I will have to use most of our aquifer for the fracking, but as others have

noted, there will always be the odd grumpy, nimby neighbour.

The odour of leaking gas from the plant shouldn't be an issue, however — I've devised a method of camouflaging it with the smell of burnt coffee beans. How could any reasonable person object to that?

Another benefit of the plant will be my plan to use the heat from the off-gas flaring to grow oranges and other produce on site. I'm thinking of calling my property the Orange Campus, and can promise at least six minimum wage jobs. I expect wide support, on the island, for my project because our great leader, the Prime Minister, and his provincial counterpart have convinced us that "growing the economy" is the only thing in life that matters, especially when this involves burning fossil fuels.

The long-term sustainability of the project hinges on the eventual rezoning of my whole neighbourhood to industrial. The good news is that by the time I am forced to apply for the rezoning Salt Spring will be a municipality, and the council will be so desperate to find a larger tax base to fund road repairs and policing that rezoning will be a shoo-in.

My only worry is there are no First Nations burial sites on my land — since these always tend to expedite development permits in this province.

Oh, and I promise to preserve and protect . . . whatever is left.

MICHAEL WALL,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS

Sensationalism

Regarding the front page headline in last week's Driftwood, ("Incident sparks SIMS safety boost," I would like to commend the girls and parents involved, school administration, RCMP and our local mental health team.

The Driftwood, however, should be ashamed of themselves. Is selling papers so important that through the use of bold face headline, carefully couched innuendo and insinuation you are willing to turn a benign situation of a bipolar man well known and liked into a child molester on the loose?

This man was on the boardwalk taking pictures when the girls came by. When he is in one his manic phases he asks stupid and uncomfortable questions to whoever will listen. An RCMP officer told me that he approached him/her when off duty asking "What kind of gun do you have, where do you carry it, what kind of bullets do you use?" What a headline: "Weapons incident in Ganges sparks inquiry."

My wife was a little uncomfortable when he showed up at the door asking, "What are you cooking, I can be a vegetarian, can I have some of your food?" How about "Home invasion on Salt Spring sparks inquiry?"

I have always felt that our island

was a place children could play without adult supervision and without fear. It would be tragic if that changed without reason.

BOB ELSEA,
DUKES ROAD

Vote no

I like Mark Wyatt and believe him when he says the Hinton fire department is running out of space in a 20,000-square-foot emergency response building.

This is in a community Mark says has fewer calls than Salt Spring. On the other hand, a cynical person might think entrenched or unionized bureaucracies are simply prone to grow — or that Hinton has just one fire hall and we have three. The cynics could be wrong, I don't know.

One of the criticisms on Salt Spring is the woeful state of our fire district master plan. Such a plan is highly recommended by the Fire Underwriter Survey Agency — which also says "actual community experience with fires should not be over shadowed by too much emphasis on potential risks to the point of building a fire department that is beyond the financial acceptability of taxpayers who pay for the service."

I have perused the (Draft) 10 Year Strategic Plan dated 2007.

Many of the growth assumptions are obsolete. A later version was recently removed from the fire district website because it was deemed to be stale dated — it is not available to review. It therefore seems self-evident we have

had a flawed master plan (or draft) to guide the planning of the new fire hall.

Add to this the fact that property taxes on Salt Spring are up a whopping 135 per cent in the past 13 years, excluding schools and hospitals, which are not among our local taxing authorities. Inflation across the province is up 26 per cent in the same time frame.

Our local fire district taxes are up some 245 per cent since 2005 alone and poised to go higher still, both with the proposed \$6.25-million building and with current contract obligations to hire yet more full-time firefighters. For context, the fire district responds to an average of 11 structure fires and 26 grass or chimney fires annually (stats from the fire department's website). If all is in order for these increasing costs, where is the plan?

The frog is being boiled to death by degrees . . . Every time I'm told a new and needed service or facility will only cost me just one cup of coffee every few days, I wince! I wish every taxing authority would get the message: the frog is annoyed.

No one disagrees with having a new fire hall. But even more, we need a meaningful master plan with community consultation — and input toward possible economical alternatives.

On Oct. 23 and 26, please help send the message and vote "no."

JOHN MACPHERSON,
SALT SPRING

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RUNNING

Sneakers crack national rankings



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Salt Spring Sneakers running club members get ready for action.

Club to celebrate fifth anniversary

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two Salt Spring Sneakers have run into the national spotlight thanks to impressive rankings in their respective age groups.

Susan Gordon's success during the past road racing season has translated

into no fewer than four rankings out of a possible five events. Gordon is ranked first in the 8K, second in the 10K and half-marathon events, and third for the 5K in the women's masters 50-54 category.

For his part, Andrew Haigh appears to have overcome nagging injuries to rank third in Canada for the 5K, fourth for the 8K and fifth in the 10K event.

"We are surrounded with national heroes on Sneaker runs," said Lynn

Thompson, a spokesperson for the team.

The results are compiled by Athletics Canada based on times from Canadian and international events sanctioned by recognized sporting agencies.

In other Sneakers news, the running club celebrates its fifth anniversary this week.

"It seems like yesterday that a handful of us were getting together for the first time," said Janice Dickie in an email distributed to club members earlier this month. "Five years have passed so quickly. Today our small but mighty team has grown in both number and stature."

The club will host an anniversary celebration after its Saturday morning run on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Fernwood Road Cafe. Past, present and prospective members are invited to join the fun.

"For those members lucky enough to possess coveted Sneaker memorabilia, please bring it along. Wear your current Sneakers gear, or dream up something new," Dickie said. "Come one, come all."

For more information, email coach Lynn Thompson at ltsi@telus.net.

SOCCER

Lakehill bests United women

Old Boys succumbs to Nearly Dead onslaught

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Being number one may not be easy, but Salt Spring United players discovered on Sunday that playing number one can be even more difficult.

United held things together for much of the first quarter against a formidable Lakehill squad, only to concede a pair of costly opportunities that gave their opponents a two-goal lead by the midway point.

Sue-Anne Donaldson and Tara Brown had opportunities on their opponent's goal but were thwarted by Lakehill's keeper.

Lakehill started the second with another score, which followed what many United players considered a questionable penalty.

Salt Spring showed signs of a short-lived resurgence as Donaldson drove the ball downfield to get United on the scoreboard.

Sue Spencer later connected with a corner kick from Flam to make it a 4-2 game, but the Lakehill lead proved insurmountable.

Lakehill cast aside any doubt about who deserves to sit atop the division by scoring another two goals to

cement a 6-2 victory.

Despite being out-matched, outrun and out-played, Salt Spring's players said they hope to take many lessons from the early season loss. Next time, they say, fans should anticipate a different result.

Special kudos were awarded to Lisa Duttman and Daria Zovi, who played aggressively throughout the match.

Salt Spring United's next game is against Lower Island Women's Soccer Association Division Over 30B rivals the Sooke Jaggers. The match will be played at Fred Milne field in Sooke on Sunday, Oct. 27 at noon.

In men's soccer action, the Salt Spring Old Boys' lively start couldn't deal a fatal blow to visiting Gordon Head Nearly Dead in a 3-1 defeat Sunday.

The Gordon Head side sustained a steady attack from the hometowners for much of the first half until a pair of quick strikes gave the visitors a two-goal lead before intermission.

A near miss off the post by Salt Spring's Mark Aston kept the Nearly Dead players on their heels but couldn't bite into the Gordon Head lead.

Gordon Head took a commanding three-goal lead after converting a corner kick midway through

the second half.

"It could have been four after the visitors were awarded a penalty, but a first-class save from rookie goalkeeper Dennis Shaw gave a morale boost for the home team," said Graham Tweddle in his post-game report.

Unrelenting pressure on the opponents' side eventually got the hosts on the scoreboard to avoid a shut-out after a physical goal-mouth scramble.

"Time ran out with Salt Spring camped in the visitors' half, but a great defensive effort by Gordon Head took them to a well-deserved victory," Tweddle said.

The Old Boys will look to bounce back on Sunday, Oct. 27 when they host Juan De Fuca White at the GISS field. The game starts at 10:30 a.m.

In other men's soccer news, Salt Spring's West-castle United will try to narrow the gap on first place in its division when the team hosts the undefeated SFFC Active Earth Engineering (4-0-2) on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

Players will hope to rebound from a 2-1 loss to FC Sagres on Oct. 19.

SFFC Westcastle (2-1-2) is six points out of first place in Division 3A of the Vancouver Island Soccer League.

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WHERE: 2393 Beacon Ave., Sidney

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