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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, October 30, 2013 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 53RD YEAR — ISSUE 44 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)

FIRE DISTRICT

Hall plan goes down in flames

Referendum fails by 61 to 39 per cent vote

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring property owners responded to Saturday's borrowing referendum with a resounding no, putting the decade-long quest to build a new fire hall back on the drawing board once again.

Voters who turned out to the official poll on Saturday, Oct. 26 and an advance poll on Oct. 23 cast 1,604 votes against the fire protection district's request for \$6.25-million in borrowing authority, while 1,018 voted in favour of the plan.

The results were a disappointment and a surprise to many of the fire district board members, firefighters and other emergency service workers who hoped to join together in a new hall/emergency centre.

REFERENDUM continued on 4

ISLANDS TRUST

Park Drive density debate heats up

Proposed boost in Swanson Pond units sent back for revision

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A request to build 83 homes on Park Drive sparked talk about the potential densification of the Ganges core during Thursday afternoon's meeting of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

RECORD BREAKER: Al Hoskins holds up the giant maple leaf he found in a Fulford forest with his dog Woodstock. At 57 cms wide and 73.7 cms long, it is larger than the Guinness world-record maple leaf. See story on page 16.

WILDLIFE

Dead animals worry residents

Conservation office may investigate

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The mysterious appearance of several dead animals near Cusheon Lake over the past week has residents concerned that local pets and humans could also be in danger if poison is to blame.

Beginning on Oct. 20, neighbours began seeing a series of dead wildlife, all without visible signs of damage, in the 200 block of Cusheon Lake Road. To date residents have come across an otter, a mink and two raccoons.

"It's a suspicious die-off of wildlife," said Marc Davis, who reported the incident to the Driftwood on behalf of the Beddis and Cusheon Area Residents' Association.

"My concern is maybe the animals have been poisoned. It seems suspicious that they all dropped dead in the same spot."

Davis believes it's more likely that the animals died closer to the lake after being poisoned, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Someone may have dropped them off by the road for disposal.

ANIMALS continued on 2

"Over the past 10 years or so there has been a great deal of discussion, debate and general agreement that Ganges should become more densely populated and therefore a vibrant residential area," applicant Eric Booth told trustees at Thursday's meeting.

To that end, Booth wants LTC approval for an additional 50 units at the Swanson's Pond property on Park Drive.

Under current zoning, the property can accom-

modate 33 units. These would be contained in four two-storey buildings. Booth noted the Swanson Pond property is one of only two large lots in the Ganges area with untapped development potential.

"If densification isn't going to be happening here, where do you think it's going to be happening?" Booth asked LTC members.

SWANSON continued on 2

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TRANSPORTATION

Island fliers embrace TSB safety report

New report looks at floatplane drownings

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two new recommendations have been made to help floatplane passengers escape drowning in the event of a crash, following an investigation by Canada's Transport Safety Board.

During an Ottawa press conference held on Wednesday, the TSB called for Transport Canada to require commercial floatplane pilots to receive training for underwater egress, and that older planes be retrofitted with shoulder har-

nesses for passengers.

"In an emergency, you only have seconds to orient yourself and escape and the right training can make the difference between life and death. Pilots with underwater egress training stand a better chance of helping themselves and their passengers survive," TSB chair Wendy Tadros said in a prepared statement.

"Another thing that will help immeasurably is shoulder harnesses. Too many passengers survive a floatplane crash only to drown because they have suffered some kind of head trauma and can't get out of the aircraft."

The recommendations stem from

a report on a Northern Ontario plane crash in which two people died in 2012, and build on two previous recommendations following the 2009 crash that saw six people drown off Saturna Island in 2009. According to TSB statistics, 70 per cent of Canadians who died in a floatplane crash in the past 20 years drowned after surviving the initial impact.

Philip Reece, president and co-owner of Salt Spring Air, said the island-based floatplane company would be looking closely at how to address the new set of recommendations.

"Salt Spring Air has always strived to be at the forefront of any safety initiative that affects our organization,"

he said, noting the company was an industry leader after the previous set of TSB recommendations.

Following the tragic events at Lyall Harbour, TSB asked that the Department of Transport require all commercial floatplanes be fitted with pop-out doors and windows to allow rapid egress in the water, and that all passengers wear a personal flotation device during flights.

Although Transport Canada has yet to adopt the first recommendation, Salt Spring Air voluntarily worked with Viking Air manufacturer to design and manufacture Canada's first pop-out windows for de Havilland Beaver aircraft in 2010.

Be ready for anything.

Animal deaths still a mystery

ANIMALS
continued from 1

"It's a concern to residents because if they have been poisoned, that poison might still be out there and be a hazard to the area's pets," Davis said.

"The other thing, as well, is we draw our drinking water from that lake. We don't know: the source might not be from the roadside, it could be from the lakeside."

Peter Pauwels, a conservation officer with B.C.'s Conservation Officer Service, said an investigation could possibly be launched if the incidents continue. He said the existing

carcasses would not be suitable for testing.

"If we get more fresh kills and someone could put them in the freezer we could get our vet to look at it — but if they've been lying out for a couple of days, it's a little too long," Pauwels explained.

Pauwels said cases of wildlife poisoning are rare, however. He suggested it was more likely that someone had used a live trap and euthanized the animals and then dumped them. Trapping is legal for all the types of animals found dead on Cusheon Lake Road, if done within season and with a valid trapping licence,

although the seasons for mink and river otters don't start until Nov. 1 and 15 respectively.

Anyone who finds a suspicious wildlife death is encouraged to report the matter to the Conservation Officer Service through the Report All Poachers and Polluters program, which allows people to "report known or suspected violations of fisheries, wildlife, or environmental protection laws — anonymously and without risk of confronting the offender."

The RAPP line can be accessed at 1-877-952-7277 or online at www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos/rapp/form.htm.

Trustees reject 83-unit concept

SWANSON
continued from 1

According to a staff report dated Oct. 16, Booth wants to amend the island's land-use bylaw and official community plan for an extra 50 units of affordable housing on the three-acre property. The application asks for relaxed height restrictions for construction of a third storey on each of the buildings.

Booth suggested the units' size, between 325 and 1,100 square feet, would ensure affordability for families and seniors.

"I believe this is an opportunity to get more affordable housing in the downtown area, where there is very little room for it," Booth said following delivery of a 20-minute presentation to trustees.

Trustees voiced concern about the project's

high density and potential for conflicts with neighbours on Park Drive and Kanaka Road.

"I just don't see this flying, I mean it's a huge increase to what we've already approved," said Peter Grove. "I suspect the neighbourhood would be up in arms over it if we approved it."

Trustee George Grams said a "vigorous debate" about densification within the Ganges area ought to precede approval of such a plan.

"Had you come along with this proposal at the outset for 83 houses, I think you would have been kicked out of touch fairly early," Grams said. "My own gut feeling is that this is a step too far. It's just too dense for this location."

Following the nearly 45-minute discussion, LTC members chose to continue no further until Booth submits a revised application "more in conformance with OCP guidelines." Trustees said any future application should address the project's density and affordability requirements.

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Heads up!

Halloween

Thursday, Oct. 31

Watch out for trick or treaters!

ISLAND TRUST

Bylaw enforcement stalemate breeds frustration

Trustees defend handling of Quesnel affair

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A pair of high-profile bylaw enforcement cases are but two of many situations that highlight the island's "culture of delinquency," according to Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee member George Grams.

"Frankly, I feel we lack the legislative tools to deal with them effectively," he told a crowd of at least 25 islanders during the town hall session of Thursday's LTC meeting.

Grams' comments followed presentations by at least four speakers who addressed the ineffectiveness of bylaw enforcement on Salt Spring. Speakers specifically complained about the Islands Trust's inability to resolve bylaw enforcement matters that involve Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling on Rainbow Road and a five-plex residential unit on Swanson Road.

Speaker Heather Howard, a resident of Pallot Way, suggested the lack of bylaw enforcement has led her to question how decisions are really made

on the island.

"It bears asking what is really going on here? Are there private-room deals behind doors with friends or are there kick-backs? Because no sensible person is going to believe this is how a respectable committee or government functions," she said.

"The culture of delinquency on island of not seeking compliance is pervasive . . ."

GEORGE GRAMS
Salt Spring trustee

Howard considers the LTC's decision to give Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling owner John Quesnel a chance to apply for another temporary use permit "untimely and inappropriate."

"If you had followed the Trust's zoning rules, application guidelines and your own rules of enforcement for dealing with illegal land usage, you could have solved the issue," she added.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

A rezoning application that would bring this Ganges five-plex into land-use compliance is on hold while trustees wait for the owner to upgrade the septic system.

In a written submission presented to trustees, speaker Jan Slakov said decisions to pursue and resolve bylaw enforcement files should go beyond the value and importance of any particular business.

"This is an issue that really affects our community as a whole because how we deal with it says a whole lot about whether this community will stand up for due process or allow bullying to hold sway,"

she said.

Trustees Grams and Peter Grove, along with LTC chair Sheila Malcolmson, noted the near decade-long metal recycling debate has been passed down through successive LTC administrations.

"The culture of delinquency on island of not seeking compliance is pervasive and it's not just John Quesnel [SSI Metal Recycling] and it's not just Sheena Bull [147 Swanson

Rd.]," Grams told the crowd.

Trustee Peter Grove suggested he still wants to explore options to resolve the issue in the best possible way for everyone.

"One sits and listens and tries to think of what is the best thing to do," Grove said. "I don't like using a hammer when it's not necessary. I don't like going to court when we don't have to. Sometimes things take a bit longer.

"We've come a heck of a long way and, speaking for myself, I'm quite proud of how we've handled this very delicate and difficult matter."

Quesnel has until Oct. 31 to submit a TUP application to the Islands Trust. If approved at a future LTC meeting, such a permit would allow his business to operate legally for up to three years.

Bull has been given until the end of November to initiate upgrades to her building's septic system. Trustees said they need to see evidence of septic upgrades before they consider a rezoning application for the Swanson Road property.

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

NEWS BRIEFS

Grief recovery session set

The next Grief Recovery Program, hosted by Salt Spring Hospice, will commence on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

The six group sessions, led by two experienced facilitators, provide a safe and confidential setting for participants to make contact with others experiencing loss. Salt Spring Hospice

says many past participants have found this program put them on a path towards healing.

Tuesday sessions will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. until Dec. 10.

Participants must register by Thursday, Nov. 6 at the latest.

For more information, call the hospice office at 250-537-2770 or email office@saltspringhospice.org.

Zoning applications at new high

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee members worry an above-average number of active rezoning applications may lead to processing delays.

Salt Spring's Islands Trust office has nine rezoning application in the

works, the highest number in more than a decade, according to regional planning manager Leah Hartley.

"The only other time we saw this was in 2002," Hartley said during an LTC public meeting on Oct. 24. "I suspect that we might surpass anything we have seen in the past."

Though Hartley said the increase may be a sign of an improving economy, it

also means more work for Salt Spring's short-staffed planning office.

Trustees passed a motion on Thursday to have staff assess resources to handle the anticipated backlog. Trustees George Grams and Peter Grove urged staff to make sure the report does not occupy too much staff time.

"We're in business to serve and we need to ensure that we meet that

service requirement, so let's do it," Grove said.

"We can't allow the application process to fall behind."

Time changes

Pacific Standard Time returns this weekend, which means it's time to turn our clocks back by one hour again.

The time change officially occurs at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3.



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Fire board shocked by resounding result

REFERENDUM

continued from 1

"It was shocking that it was such a big difference. I thought that if it was a fail or a pass, either way it would have been probably within 100 or 150 votes," said Bruce Patterson, chair of the fire protection district's board of trustees.

"We thought the silent majority was supporting us, but obviously, they weren't."

Fire chief Tom Bremner added that although disappointed, the fire department respects the results of the referendum. Since there is now a longer timeline for developing a new building, safety, efficiency and services can be improved.

"Because we have more time, we have more time to get it right," he said in a written statement to the Driftwood.

Although the board has not yet met to discuss the results, Patterson said comments he has personally received from members of the public have pointed to a number of reasons why the referendum failed. Among the issues were concerns over the delay in the property transfer and the ongoing sewer connection issue, which Patterson said convinced some people that cost overruns would be inevitable in the new hall construction and that the board was deceiving the public.

Confusion and misinformation were also factors, as well as a lack of community involvement, he said. Patterson noted that fewer than 20 people in total showed up for the four open houses held prior to the referendum. Also adding to the confusion was the late offer of



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE: Fire district referendum voters wait patiently in the lineup outside the Salt Spring United Church polling station on Saturday. Exact voter turn-out rate cannot be determined from the voters' list provided by BC Assessment.

a "Plan B" from Permasteel Group, who offered to construct a much cheaper hall than the one designed by Johnston Davidson Architecture and Planning.

"People thought there was an actual, solid proposal that the board had rejected, so they thought we had not followed up on all the opportunities on how the building could be constructed, particularly more cheaply," Patterson said.

Ross King, a vocal opponent of the fire board's plan, said trustees were not actually willing to entertain other options, a reluctance he feels is directly responsible for the referendum's failure.

"They led the charge, willfully, running up an extra \$100,000 on architect's fees in fleshing out (to the last door-handle, apparently) their preliminary plan which was already attracting much criticism," King wrote in an email to the

Driftwood. "That \$100,000 was our money, and it is their fault if they ignored the early warnings and threw it down the drain in hopes of twisting our arms down the road."

The next steps for the board will be a meeting of the building committee to go over the results and evaluate what happened before making recommendations on how to proceed. Patterson said a decision will most likely need to be made before year's end on whether to go back to the plans immediately or whether to put the entire project on hold for some time.

While people like King are now calling for the board to resign en masse, Patterson he's not aware of plans for anyone to give up their positions.

"The board will continue. The fire department itself and the paid-on-call members will continue to fulfill their responsibilities. They may not

be smiling happy folks, but they'll do what they have to do. And the Halloween fireworks will be going ahead on Thursday as usual."

The fire board will have a new member when it sits for its next regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 18. Returning officer Tom Moore declared Mike Garside elected by acclamation on Saturday. Garside, who is an insurance broker with Seafirst and sits as past president of the Salt Spring Rotary Club, will fill the seat Mark Lucich left vacant when he resigned in August.

A note about voter turnout

The voter turnout rate in Saturday's referendum cannot be calculated precisely because the total number of eligible voters is unknown.

Returning officer Tom Moore said the property owners of 6,138 folios were eligible to vote according to the list provided by BC Assessment in June. However, individuals with their name on the title of more than one folio would only have one vote in total, and some properties have multiple owners, each one of whom would have a vote.

Moore estimates the total numbers of eligible voters to number around 9,000. Of these, 2,622 people voted during the referendum, making the voter turnout rate approximately 29 per cent.

Moore had initially indicated that the number of folios was the number of eligible voters, which would have resulted in a turn-out rate of 42.4 per cent. Forty people also registered at the polling station.

GOVERNANCE

Improvement districts criticized

Survey reveals demand for incorporation study

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With Saturday's fire district referendum still top of mind for participants at a Monday evening governance forum, a consultant overseeing the review took a swipe at improvement districts in B.C. — such as the island's fire protection district.

"They've been allowed to survive and fall on their own with very little oversight and assistance," said David Morris, a local government advisor with Urban Systems, during the event organized by the Salt Spring Island Governance Study Committee.

"It shows why the province is not really creating any improvement districts anymore, because they are truly bound for failure, because they really aren't democratic processes. They are limited in how you elect them and those types of things."

Morris' comments followed concerns about transparency and accountability in local government voiced by audience member Julia Lucich during the question and answer period of a Monday evening

event organized by the study committee.

Lucich was among about 25 people who turned out for the first of two island meetings held this week to talk local governance. The second meeting was held at Fulford Hall on Tuesday night.

Improvement districts are used in rural areas of the province to provide local services such as water, fire protection, street lighting, garbage collection and parks. On Salt Spring, the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District is an improvement district made up of elected trustees who oversee the island's fire department.

In addressing further governance concerns raised by participant Shelley Nitikman, Morris conceded a centralized government structure on the island could resolve many of the democratic shortcomings residents have raised during the study process.

"Our position is to be neutral on the issue, but [...] what you're doing is — if you proceed to a municipal structure — you're electing a larger group locally with local decision-making authority and local decision-making power," Morris said.

"I believe, in most circumstances with a good government structure and a good community behind it endorsing it, it is more transparent

and definitely more accountable to you than the fragmented approach you have now."

In other governance news, preliminary results from the governance committee's second community survey show 58 per cent of respondents envision incorporation as the future for Salt Spring, with 28 per cent voting for the status quo. When asked if the study committee should recommend to proceed with a formal municipal incorporation study, 63 per cent of respondents agreed, 32 per cent said "no" and five per cent said "no opinion" or "don't know." The survey was completed by approximately 600 people.

The Governance Study Committee will make its recommendation in November.

Survey results will be released before the end of the week.

More information about the Salt Spring Island Governance Study Committee process and background information about local governance is available at ssgovernancestudy.ca.

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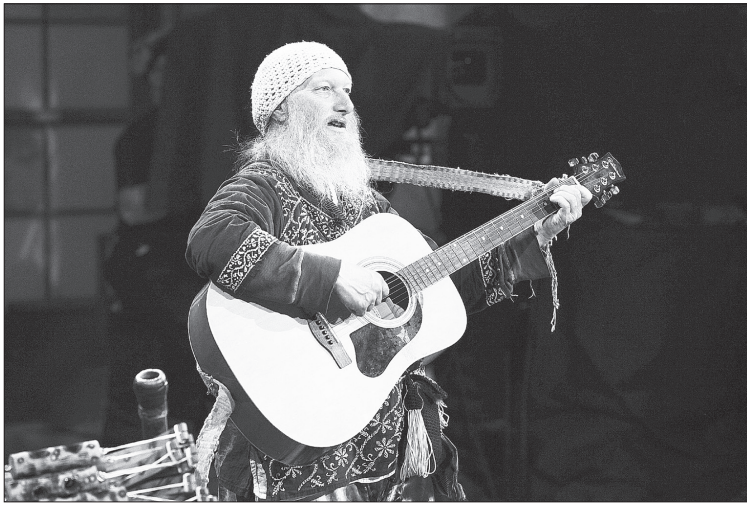


PHOTO COURTESY CBC-TV

SHOW TIME: Palu Rainbow Song (a.k.a. Paul Beckman) performs a song on an episode of CBC TV's Dragons' Den program that will air on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. Palu, assisted by Tim Harvey, pitched support for his island-famous solar meditation bow on the program. People can watch the show with Palu at Shipstones Pub in Ganges.

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ENVIRONMENT

Anti-pipeline groups float mock spill

Wooden cards expected to wash ashore

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Anti-pipeline campaigners want Gulf Islands residents to look for hundreds of postcard-sized wooden cards released into the Salish Sea during the past week. Organizers say the cards, emblazoned with an identification number and the words "This could be oil," have already started to wash up on shorelines.

The effort is part of a campaign, backed by the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and the Georgia Strait Alliance, to create a visual representation of the potential fallout from an oil tanker spill in the region.

"At least on this side of the border, this is probably the first initiative of this kind," said Raincoast's Chris Genoali. "The goal is to produce a series of maps that will improve our understanding of the path oil spills might take and how far oil can travel."

Genoali said approval of a plan to twin Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline will increase the number of oil tanker transits through the region by up to 500 per cent.

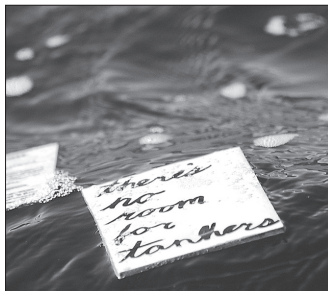


PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Wooden cards like this one may arrive on local beaches as part of an oil spill replication experiment.

"We're trying to inform the debate about and the discussion around whether or not a project such as the TMX expansion with its attendant tanker traffic is a good idea and what the potential impacts would be," he said.

"If there was a spill, what would it do and where would it go? I think that is the kind of basic info both the public and policy makers need to begin to analyze."

Bright-yellow biodegradable cards

have begun to wash ashore on Saturna Island and many of the San Juan islands in Washington state since the first batch was released from points throughout Vancouver and near the mouth of the Fraser River last week.

So far, Genoali said, public response to the project has been positive.

On Monday, four students from Gulf Islands Secondary School were selected to distribute a second volley of cards into the waters around the Gulf Islands.

"We hope anyone who's spending time on the shorelines in the region or walking along beaches will be on the lookout for these," he added. "Primarily what we want to do is get a better idea of what would happen if there was a spill."

Another set of cards will be tossed into the water near Victoria later this week.

Anyone who happens to find one of the cards can visit www.salishseaspill-map.org or call Raincoast Conservation Foundation at 1-877-655-1229 for more information.

A Raincoast biologist confirmed all wooden cards used in the experiment were made with non-toxic biodegradable materials.

SCAMS

Salt Spring mom warns of new scam

Facebook hackers seek ID card info, and caller promises big bucks

Two scams were reported to the Driftwood in the past week.

A Salt Spring mother is warning all Facebook users to beware of identity theft after her teenage son was the target of a new scam.

Lisa Owen's son Patrick received a legitimate looking message on his account with the social media site, requesting that he upload a photo of an ID card to verify his identity. The message asked him to provide either a passport, a driver's licence, a state-issued ID card, a military ID card or immigration ID. The photo would be deleted once verified, the

message said. If it was not provided, the account would remain inaccessible and the user would lose all of his posted photos.

Owen was immediately sure her son's account had been hacked once he told her what had happened.

"Unfortunately it was too late and her son had already uploaded his driver's licence, although his Facebook account did not unlock."

Owen has since visited the local RCMP detachment and plans calls to Equifax and the Motor Vehicles Branch. She's also attempting to report the incident to Facebook (which she can't do from her own account because of the way incident reporting is configured).

In the meantime, Owen would like as many people to share the

information as possible, including posting the screen shot she took of the hacked message on their own Facebook accounts.

"I want to get as many shares on this as I can," she said.

"I think that threat of losing photos is a huge motivator for a lot of people — especially teens."

The second scam targeted an older Park Drive resident, who received a phone call from a man named Philip Anderson advising that she had won \$32,500,000 and a BMW car. She was told to get a money order for \$325, keep the receipt and show it to the driver of a Brinks truck who would show up with \$500,000 in cash.

The resident did not fall for the scam, but wanted to warn others about it.

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Thank you to civic-minded voters who invested time and energy to consider the vital project of a new Emergency Centre on Salt Spring Island.

We would like to especially thank our referendum-campaign supporters – voting "Yes" gives us strength to persevere.

Be assured, local fire fighters will continue to serve islanders with professional courteous and timely responses.

Following further consultation with the public, we look forward to building this essential element of community infrastructure without delay.

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OPINION



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 Silver - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Sports Photo (John Cameron)
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EDITORIAL

Puzzling study

Salt Spring's Governance Study Committee has faced an uphill slog to present itself as a neutral group of volunteers since its inception.

Yet it's been hampered from the start by the limited mandate it was given — which is to educate islanders about our current form of governance and how it compares to a municipal model, and then determine if a further study of incorporation makes sense for Salt Spring Island. It and the consultant it hired — Urban Systems Ltd. — weren't tasked with exploring all possible governance options, so incorporation must necessarily be given an inordinate amount of weight in the discussions. At the same time, the study isn't set up to give people the financial and other details about incorporation they really want, so the whole process feels rather lame.

THE ISSUE:

Governance study

WE SAY:

Waste of time and money

While the second phase is undertaken, which appears likely, a ministry staffer said funding for an incorporation study would be considered in the spring.

Until then, all that's left for the public to do, as demonstrated at Monday night's public governance forum, is to gripe about the island's current political structure and imagine a brighter future in a municipality.

Repeatedly expressed concerns about transparency and accountability, the audience was told, could be addressed through incorporation. Likewise, it was noted that funding for community economic development and better planning could be achieved in a system less fragmented than the current model.

Given all the talk of improved efficiency and accountability that's dominated much of the study's first phase, is there any doubt why 58 per cent of respondents to the GSC's latest survey see incorporation in the island's future?

It appears this interim study was funded to see if it was worth putting provincial government money into a full incorporation study for Salt Spring Island, but it seems like a waste of \$60,000 and many volunteers' time that could have been better used for that next study.



VIEWPOINT by SS Fire Chief Tom Bremner

Fire Rescue hears voters' voice

First, I want to say I'm actually very excited about the emergency centre referendum result.

We had 2,622 voters come out to learn about first responders, educate themselves and make their decision. That is a record turnout for Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue. We've never had so many people take time to think about the fire service and provide direction. That is huge.

I've heard from returning officer Thomas Moore that the public turnout was 2,622 of eligible voters from 6,178 properties on the voters' list. That is an excellent voter-turnout result for a fire improvement district.

And from the dialogue we've been having with community members throughout the process, now we know much more about "needs" for Salt Spring.

Of course we were hoping for a "yes" vote. Everyone knows we need a new fire hall/ emergency centre. The existing Ganges hall has outlived its service life. But the community has spoken. Islanders do not approve of the current emergency centre plan. We are listening and we are learning — big time.

Some people might be upset because there was a major investment in time, energy and money into a plan that's been voted down. But, during the last process to build a fire hall back in 2006 and 2007, the general consensus was that voters wanted more information before making a vote.

We tried everything we could think of to help people get information. But we heard that some people felt "bullied"

by our enthusiastic presentations. Perhaps "Get Informed!" might not have been the best phrase. Let me say I'm sorry if anyone felt offended.

We're not perfect. We're just doing the best job we can.

Since the last referendum in 2007 when islanders were excited about events at SSIFR, there's only been a handful of people who've attended public meetings to share their opinions with fire trustees. We thought there was a silent majority that supported the emergency centre plan. We were operating in a vacuum thinking we knew what people wanted, but we were wrong and now we know better.

Unfortunately, we've been working on this fire-hall plan for many years and we made some decisions a long time ago, before I even joined SSIFR as chief, and certainly before the public started to take much interest in the project.

What we heard during this referendum is that islanders want to be involved early on, they want to see options. They want to have input and they want to make certain we build what we need without any frills. Okay, I say let's roll up our sleeves and work together.

We're strong enough to admit we were wrong and we want to do better.

It's time for us to hear from the community. We know what voters don't want, but we need to know what islanders do want and we need to keep moving forward.

The writer is chief of Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue.

They want to have input and they want to make certain we build what we need without any frills.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is Islands Trust bylaw enforcement too lax?

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

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will the Duffy affair hurt the federal government?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We thought the silent majority was supporting us, but obviously they weren't."

BRUCE PATTERSON, SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD CHAIR

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
Who would you choose if you could be anyone on Halloween?



TOM BREMNER
I'd like to be me, a person that most people never get to be.



CARA JOY HUGHES
Someone young, without the aches and pains of the "golden years" but with all the wisdom.



ANNE MANSUETI
Mini Mouse, because my friends were all Mini Mouses.



KAREN POWERS
I'd like to be a rock star. I'd love to be a rock star.



MARC RAINVILLE
I want to be the ultimate fictional character: a senator with a clean expense record.

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.

Now the real work begins

The people have spoken loud and clear. Now let's hope the fire trustee board and the firefighters listen.

An organization that does not listen to the community cannot represent it. This is the time for change and reconsideration of the flawed process that has gone before.

Any fire board member who does not recognize that a sea change has occurred needs to resign. If you are a board member (the old firefighters club) and you think it is business as usual; and your plan is to just wait the community out and come back with slight modifications to the now rejected plan, then now is the time you should be packing up.

Our community wants something new and different, a new planning team,

a safe, functional and affordable fire hall, not a rehash of the same old, same old.

The previous plans and contracts need to be set aside. We need a new and open tendering process that includes a wide variety of proposals at all price points for consideration.

The building committee needs a complete change of personnel, with one of the old members for continuity joined by members from the community. Hopefully, some people from the community with building and contracting experience will volunteer.

All board business needs to be conducted in public, with real minutes, and real discussion and input from the public. In-camera meetings should be reserved for a few very rare business items and not used as a means to stone-wall the public. We want

real dialogue with the planners of the new fire hall.

As we must move toward the future, let's do so with inclusion, transparency and community involvement. Thank you to everyone who was involved in this election and who voted.

DARLENE STEELE,
SALT SPRING

Shame on us

Today I am disgusted to be a Salt Spring Islander.

Sorry, firefighters. We don't deserve you.

You constantly put your lives on the line for us, and all you just got for it is a kick in the teeth from the home owners and their homes that you may be called upon to save.

Shame on us.

(And by the way, renters not being allowed to vote because they don't pay property taxes . . . well, where do you think the owners who rent out their houses get the

money to pay their taxes — from their tenants . . . duh.)

So. What now all you "no" people?

How many more years will pass and how many more studies and plans will you reject while the firefighters continue to work in unacceptable conditions? If we have any firefighters left, that is.

Why in the world would anyone join up now, knowing you have no respect for their needs, and no appreciation of the sacrifices they make and the guts it takes to do what they do to save you!

RACHEL JACOBSON,
SALT SPRING

Collective process

Well, our community has spoken . . .

Regardless of the referendum results and what "I" may think or feel, democracy is not about

me or any single person's idea, but about a collective input and process we are all fortunate to be able to engage in.

As tough as this outcome is for me, we had record voter turnout for the fire district, which is fantastic and all of us should feel pretty proud of this — the "yes" and "no" voters alike.

This is not an "us" vs. "them" for me . . . just a collective "us" with different opinions, ideas and approaches in what we feel is best for our community. I genuinely hope to see all of us learn and grow in this and be effective enough to move forward next time.

Heartfelt thanks to all who chose to engage ethically in this process, and our leadership, who gave countless hours to facilitate.

Much respect,
SIMON BARRY WELLS,
SS FIREFIGHTER

Flag fund initiated

Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island (GLOSSI) is inviting the public to help us rebuild the community collection of Pride flags that was systematically stolen from a number of downtown locations soon after the Pride weekend.

Boxes for donations will be out at TJ Beans and Salt Spring Coffee.

The RCMP report that the theft of the flags is still under investigation. If anyone has any information about the possible perpetrators or the whereabouts of the flags, please do not hesitate to contact the local detachment.

ROWAN PERCY,
FOR THE GLOSSI BOARD

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Issues prompt noise, more noise and silence

Tourist season is over and the harvest is in, so Islanders have more time to indulge in a favourite communal pastime — righteous public policy debate.

The new fire hall controversy, with megabucks in future property taxes at stake, heated up nicely. When I wrote this the referendum results were not yet in, but the emotional intensity on display suggested that, whatever the result, this firestorm has a way to go before it's under control.

The real action is at the Governance Study Committee. The mandate of the committee — educating the community on the intricacies of an alternative form of local governance — seems benign, if thankless and virtually impossible to achieve. This has not protected the committee from levels of community outrage that bring to mind Question Period in the House of Commons on a particularly dyspeptic day. The committee reports in November, but the process could last through 2014 or longer. The chattering classes are licking their chops.

While the usual suspects were practising their rhetoric, something more exciting happened with barely a mention. In an alternative approval process that ended on Sept. 30, only

136 folk, or about 1.5 per cent of the electorate, chose to oppose a near tripling of the maximum rate of tax support for transit. This is not exactly the same as a North Korean-style approval rate of 98.5 per cent, but it is as near to unanimity as we get on Salt Spring.

Perhaps we shouldn't be surprised. Maybe it's just too exhausting to be outraged at more than two issues at once. And CRD director Wayne McIntyre had promised that, in the first year anyway, the additional tax on an average residence would be \$5, about the same as a cheap beer or a fancy coffee at your favourite watering hole.

Islanders, unlike most North Americans, recognize the importance of transit. It's nice to have an award-winning service, to be sure. But the real prize is that transit, perhaps uniquely among local government services, provides benefits in all three dimensions of sustainability — social, environmental and economic. It's also terrific from a fiscal perspective, since dollars raised through CRD taxes leverage BC Transit funding, and increased transit service



John Tylee

ECONOMIC EXPLORATIONS

leads to more fare revenue.

Socially, transit is important because it helps those who can't afford a car to move around the island. The Trust's "preserve and protect" mandate has resulted in a very decentralized pattern of development, so getting around for business, shopping or pleasure is more of a challenge and more of a cost than elsewhere. And no employer or employee wants to rely on hitch-hiking or car stops to determine when work starts.

Transit reduces the need for families to have more than one car, reduces the number of cars on the road, and reduces the number of GHGs generated on the island. It also provides on-island jobs.

And it is vital to the reinvigoration of Ganges, the heart of the island and, for better or for worse, the barometer by which residents and tourists alike measure the vitality of the community. Improved transit gets more tourists to the island without more cars. The Saturday market can continue to prosper with less inconvenience to residents and village businesses if there is transit

to remote parking — at the Farmers Institute or elsewhere. Ganges can begin to show signs of life after five, at least on weekends, if transit provides a way for residents to get safely and reliably home at the end of the evening. And other villages could reap similar benefits.

In the longer term, more transit — maybe a lot more transit — seems like the only thing that can simultaneously keep our economy strong, continue a development pattern that respects "preserve and protect," and make a decent effort toward slowing climate change.

Governance on Salt Spring is messy, confusing and unusually noisy. But when incomes are growing modestly, if at all, fierce questioning of major new government spending projects is a civic duty. With citizens everywhere disengaging from their governments, getting exercised over technicalities in local governance is a way to safeguard democratic traditions. And in a world obsessed with short-term results, North Korean-style approval levels for tripling a tax to increase long-term resilience is a reason to celebrate.

The writer chairs the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission. The views expressed are his own.

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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.cvrdbc.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 Carlrow, Deputy Chief Election Officer scarlow@cvrd.bc.ca



COWICHAN VALLEY
REGIONAL DISTRICT
175 Ingram Street,
Duncan, B.C. V9L 1N5

Phone: (250) 746-2500
Fax: (250) 746-2513
Email: cardiff@cvrd.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.cvrdbc.ca>

Humanity & Hope cause worthy of support

On Thursday, Oct. 17 I attended a presentation evening at Barb's Buns that stirred me deeply. Heather Luna-Rose held an event that educated the attendees of the humanitarian work she is doing in prison systems in foreign countries.

Inmates endure inhumane conditions and impossibly long sentences.

Mostly, I am impressed with the courage and empathy that Heather exhibits in the selfless work that she has been doing on her own for years. I am aware of the personal sacrifices she has made in order to bring some comfort and hope to those who often lose the will to live.

She is definitely doing the leg-work and could surely use some financial assistance in order to continue.

She has launched a Humanity & Hope online fundraising campaign to allow her to continue this critical humanitarian work in November. More information and contributions can be made on her website: Luna-Rose Prisoner Support.

HELANI DAVISON,
SALT SPRING

Send no tanks message

So Stephen Harper wants to spend another \$2 billion of our money — on tanks this time!

Canadians across the country are questioning why on earth our government has shown such poor judgement in the priorities it pursues. At a time when there are so many of us experiencing real and urgent needs related to economic hardship, lack of employment, health, social decay and enormous environmental problems, we see that Stephen Harper's priorities seem to remain fixed on giving breaks to his friends and supporters in the oil and gas corpo-

rations, armaments manufacturers, big pharma, the banks, financial services and similar.

Even retired General Rick Hillier came out against Harper's deal for Close Combat Vehicles, saying that the tanks weren't needed. (One could guess he said this at the request of Canada's currently serving army generals.)

Well, \$2 billion spent on more hardware that doesn't even impress Canadian forces themselves looks like nothing more than another Conservative boondoggle. It does nothing for the people all around who have lost their jobs, their homes, their sense of security and their belief that Canada is still a democratic nation.

It will no doubt be years before we come to realize the full extent of what Canada has lost through these interminable Harper years. Surely he must rank as one of the worst leaders that has ever afflicted our nation.

Please consider letting your MP and your government know what you think of tanks as the Conservatives' next national priority. Harper needs to hear our voices. The government needs to stop wasting public funds, reduce irrelevant military spending, and sign the international Arms Trade Treaty.

Please oppose this continuing Conservative folly, and let's hope for some fresh leadership and for sane alternative voices to prevail.

RODNEY POLDEN,
SALT SPRING

Valuable insight from Kerr

My thanks to Richard Kerr, who has injected a great deal of common sense, knowledge and experience into the governance debate and process (“LCC a governance alternative for Salt Spring,” Oct. 16 Driftwood).

Moreover, he had the courage and integrity to admit to changing his mind about incorporation. It would seem that despite the assertions of the Governance Study Committee members, there is at least one alternative to the status quo or incorporation choices. Their ignorance would seem to invalidate all their efforts and any results of their surveys, no matter what their dedication and hard work brought to this misconstrued process.

Much has been made about the election of the current trustees who, as only one plank of their platform, promised a governance study. It has been implied that their election validates support for the current study.

Of course, this is nonsense. The trustees were elected for many reasons, amongst them their character, abilities and experience.

Even those who may have voted for them only because of the governance study likely did not imagine that it would have such limited scope. Without

the alternatives now revealed by Richard Kerr, the current study has been a waste of time and money.

The only votes that still count are those that rejected incorporation a few years ago. The current surveys, which, aside from not presenting the Local Community Commission option, failed to inform and poll the economic effects of incorporation, will provide only limited and inaccurate information.

Again, Richard Kerr's analysis of this vital issue offers much more valuable insight. The governance study grant should have gone to him.

ANDREW OKULITCH,
SALT SPRING

Make a visit to the pool

By the time Andrew Okulitch reads this letter, the voting will be over and Salt Spring will have made its wishes clear.

However, this letter is not about the so-called “Tajma Hall” but about the Rainbow Road Indoor Pool.

Yes, Darlene Steele did help to bring about the completion of the pool, or Phase I of what will eventually be a full-service aquatic centre, complete with warmer-water facilities for therapy and healthy exercise for people of all ages and abilities.

She was but one of an army of community volunteers who worked very hard to see that the wishes of the majority (over 68 per cent) who voted would result in the completion of a much-needed facility for recreation on an island with very few opportunities for such activity to take place. That army was the Salt Spring Pool Association (Ssplas...H2O) and Darlene is a past president of that hard-working group.

With the nice little outdoor Shelby Pool nearing its end of life, we desperately needed to replace it with something that could be used all year, not just during the spring and summer. And yes, we are “surrounded by all sorts of swimming holes,” and yes, we “seem to need to splash about all year round.” So would you like a dip in the ocean in December? How about January? Why do you think it's called “The Polar Bear Swim?”

The current facility on Rainbow Road could hardly be called a Taj Mahal, or a Tajma anything. It's an adequate at best pool used for competition by the swim club, a wonderful facility for recreational swimmers, a super place for keep-fit classes, and a friendly, safe, clean oasis for families, not just “a favoured minority of residents.”

I hereby invite Andrew to come and enjoy the community pool, at least once, and I'll pick up the tab for him.

IRENE GIBBS,
SSPLASH

MORE LETTERS continued on 9

Spirit of Salt Spring



The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations. First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring's Mid-Island Co-op manager Morgan Quesnel gives a \$1,000 cheque to Respectful Relationships Youth Team members Rowyn George and Dustin Billwiller, and R+R facilitator Kevin Vowles, representing the Co-op's support for the longstanding anti-violence and anti-bullying SWOVA program at GISS.

Muddy coffee served up in nastiness of hall debate

BY TOBY FOUKS

The Oct. 23 edition of the Driftwood carried many letters, pro and con, regarding the current referendum. Each side has reasons for its position, and it's a good thing that people have an opportunity to see these reasons in print so that there can be deliberation and choices based on reading various points of view in addition to the other information coming our way.

However, when a letter such as "Wake up and smell coffee," signed by Darlene Steele, is

printed, then the aroma is most disturbing. This piece appears to me to be not ideas but a personal attack on Stan Shapiro, and "people like Stan" — whoever they are — who allegedly — and according to Ms. Steele, mistakenly, think that everyone can afford one coffee every 17 days. Ms. Steele's position suggests that a dollar a week is beyond the means of many Salt Spring residents who are, as it is true for all of us, facing a quickly increasing cost of living. It is a letter supported not by reason or fact but

is rather based on conjecture.

I am sure that there are people on Salt Spring who cannot afford \$50 a year in additional property tax. I probably don't know a lot of them although I know they are there, and I know very well that many people on Salt Spring are struggling just to manage financially. Many of these people are possibly renters and there too there's the problem with finding affordable accommodation even if they will not be taxed directly. Moreover, I believe that the tax cost is going to depend on

the property value, and to be paid by the owner of that property — and although it will cost some taxpayers about \$50 a year and cost many others less and still others more than that.

I don't think that people with "excess discretionary income" are unaware of how fortunate they are. They don't need Ms. Steele's insulting reminder of that. These days probably people who are just managing to pay their bills consider themselves fortunate. And, unless Ms. Steele is herself sitting around TJs or Salt Spring Coffee

on a daily basis, how would she know that Stan ("and others like him") spend time in those establishments? Did Stan tell her that he likes "double espresso cafe latte" enjoyed daily or occasionally — or ever? I suspect that Stan Shapiro is too busy volunteering his time to make this a better community — as he has been doing for many years — to spend a lot of time drinking coffee in Ganges, even if it would add to the coffee shop's income and make it easier for them to pay their taxes.

Ms. Steele's closing paragraph begins with "Sadly." So does mine.

Sadly, Ms. Steele, whose name has been associated with running in an election here, and supporting one side of the referendum discussion, has written what to me is a letter tinged with inflammatory innuendo and misrepresentation of the truth. I hope that she wakes up and smells the coffee herself, not muddled with false generalizations, but sweetened with integrity and respect for the opinions of others.

RANTS and Roses

Rants

To the jackasses who participated in or went along with breaking bottles and chucking gravel and big rocks into the skatepark: Consider the many dozens of other kids who use it, some of which regularly include my barefooted six-year-old daughter and totally stoked eight-year-old son on his new (used) BMX, unable to use the park because of your thoughtless disregard for the safety of others. WTF? Clean your shit up, and stand up for each other and for all the kids of our community who want to be able to have a kick-ass time at the skatepark. It's there for those who appreciate it. Ky Fox

I was driving along McPhillips Avenue on Monday morning when a large pickup truck with a canopy on the back started to back out of a parking space in front of me. I thought he hadn't seen me so I beeped the horn to let him know I was approaching, but he kept coming. I beeped again, both polite little beeps, assuming he still didn't realize I was behind him. When he still continued to back out in front of me I laid on the horn! He then got out of his truck and shouted at me that he "had just moved to Salt Spring from New York City, where people were much more polite and would wait while others backed out of parking spots — didn't I have two seconds to spare?" All I could think of was — "Didn't he have two seconds to spare, that I was already coming along the road when he started up, and that I had the right of way?" I don't believe a Salt Springer would ever behave as he did. I feel sorry for him and his anger and I hope, if he lives here a while, our normal island courtesy will rub off on him. B. Arnott

Roses

Clarification: A rose inserted in last week's paper by "Woodman Dave" — AKA Dave Harris — should not be confused with David Woodman of Fulford. It is not the same person.

On behalf of the doctors from Salt Spring and the other doctors from across Canada who attended our emergency department ultrasound course, we would like to extend a huge thank you to all the models who helped out. The knowledge you helped impart to these doctors will likely literally save a life in the future.

An airplane full of California roses to everyone who helped make our dream come true. Thank you for donating to and supporting our yard sale at GIFTS and our fundraiser at TJ Beans. We had the time of our lives at Disneyland! Love, Christopher and Amy

A beautiful bunch of purple roses to all those who attended and supported Salt Spring Island's first annual Light Up The World Purple event bringing awareness to youth mental health and cyberbullying, including Home Hardware, Salt Spring Coffee Co., Country Grocer, Pharmasave, Thrifty's, Windsor Plywood, SWOVA, Carin at PARC, the Centre For Child Honouring and the staff and students of SIMS and GISS. A special bouquet to our speakers — Raffi, Kevin Vowles, John Herbert, Luis Araujo, musician Peter Prince and soundman Gord Ross.

Congratulations and fragrant late-blooming roses to everyone who helped make Apple Festival 2013 so successful. Thanks to the 18 farm hosts, the organizers, the great volunteer team, the 12 farms that

offered delicious lunches, the 800 happy apple lovers who supported us despite wet weather, and most of all, Mother Nature, who grew 217 Salt Spring apple varieties that we displayed at Fulford Hall. To pull off a fabulous Apple Festival during a year with such difficult weather was a great feat.

A Subaru full of roses to Eric and Jesse at Beddis Road Garage for their quick, intelligent problem resolution and to Salt Spring Auto Parts for standing behind their parts. It is a joy to deal with such honest and skilled professionals. Bob and Matti Troyer

A school room full of Kenyan roses to Rector Richard, Country Grocer, head chef Marjie and her intrepid crew, members of the Anglican Outreach Committee, Lisa, Don and all who attended the Wine & Appies Fundraiser. As a result of your strong support, over 200 Kenyan children will have a uniform and be able to attend school. Thank you all. Lynda

Over \$6,500 was raised at the Oct. 11 Seva benefit at ArtSpring, giving sight to 130 people. Thank you to Arvid, Valdy and Bill Henderson for their support and for the contributions of those who attended and donated, to St. Clair McColl and to Driftwood and Marketplace for generous publicity. Sid Filkow

Salt Spring Search and Rescue sends a huge bouquet of neon yellow roses to Tina and the extremely talented and generous staff of Imagine That Graphic, web and print solutions. From our very rough ideas and sketches they produced amazing "footprint" scenarios for the education and enjoyment of the children on Salt Spring.

You're invited to our Open House!

Drop in, enjoy some refreshments, meet your MLA, and help us celebrate the opening of our new Constituency Office!

DATE: Tuesday, November 5, 2013

TIME: 4:00–6:00pm

WHERE: 2393 Beacon Ave., Sidney

Gary Holman, MLA
Saanch North and the Islands

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FUNDRAISER

Nuit Noir brings out sweet creativity

Burlesque, fashion, readings and more

Stagecoach Theatre School is reaching into its creative chest once again to present a multi-faceted fundraising evening.

Nuit Noir is an adult "evening out" with Sweet Soul Burlesque from Vancouver, plus a fashion runway, dark art from \$200, art readings and projections, pop-up shops, food and more!

It takes place on Saturday, Nov. 2, beginning at 8 p.m. at Art Barn International at 775 Sunset Dr.

"We got our inspiration from the Dada movement and the Cabaret Voltaire, which combined music, visual arts, poetry, etc. all with a sense of experimentation, absurdity and chaos," explains a press release.

The evening will feature deconstructionist runway fashion by Paperrockscissors and Thrive Lifestyle, dark art featuring Morley Myers, Martha Sturdy and many others, performances by Arthur Black, Arvid Chalmers and Bob Twaites, dj Deknstx and performers from Sweet Soul Burlesque.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Maggie O'Scalleigh, left, and Patti Bauer promote Nuit Noir on a walk-about in Ganges on Saturday. Tickets for the Nov. 2 fundraiser for Stagecoach Theatre School are at Salt Spring Books, Dragonfly Fine Art Supplies and Thrive Lifestyle.

Opening Act: Marianne Gritanni

BARNEY BENTALL

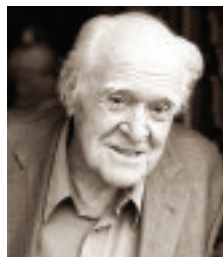
Monday November 4 Catering by Haidee Hart
Fulford Hall Tickets \$20 available at:
Door opens 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00) Salt Spring Books
Show starts 7:00 Stuff and Nonsense

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REMEMBRANCE

Acting legend presents WWII play

Hospice benefit this Sunday at Meaden Hall



Antony Holland performs One Man in His Time at Meaden Hall on Sunday.

Ninety-three-year-old acting legend Antony Holland returns this weekend to Salt Spring two years after his sold-out performance of Tuesdays with Morrie.

This time, Holland will perform his one-man play, an original work called One Man in His Time, on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. at Meaden Hall.

Salt Spring Hospice members say they are honoured to present Holland, especially at the time of year when veterans are remembered.

One Man in His Time is

times of the years he spent in Egypt and Libya during WWII.

Reviews consistently acclaim Holland's performance with comments such as "a brilliant retrospective," "truly an outstanding piece of theatre" and "these are stories everyone, young and old, need to hear, and this is one evening of theatre that should not be missed."

Holland's characterizations are many. He is considered the oldest working actor in Canada; one of the finest storytellers people will ever hear; one of the last surviving veterans of the Desert War of WWII; and the founder of one of Canada's most respected theatre schools — Studio 58 at Lan-

gara College.

He has a filmography list of 52 film and television titles, and has shared the set with the likes of Julie Christie, Warren Beatty and Katharine Hepburn. He is the recipient of four separate Lifetime Achievement Awards and has been elected into the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Pharmasave, people can see the play for only \$15.

Tickets are available at Salt Spring Books, Salt Spring Hospice or at the door.

Ticket proceeds go towards sustaining Salt Spring Hospice and its many programs.

PUMPKIN SMASH & OPEN HOUSE

November 10th
11am - 1pm at the
Lions Club Hall - Unit 3

Come and join the
"pumpkin smashing fun!"
Hot chocolate, coffee, tea
and hot dogs
will be served

whats happening at Moby's?

<p>wednesday - Canucks vs. Red Wings 7:30 \$6.00 Wings Special; \$5.25 Hockey Mug WIN A CANUCK HOODIE TONIGHT!</p>	<p>thursday - Halloween DJ - Agent Evil; \$575.00 in Costume Prizes</p>
<p>friday - The Temps - Live - Costume Prizes</p>	<p>saturday - The Temps - Live - Costume Prizes</p>
<p>sunday - Caesars & Coronas \$5.50</p>	<p>monday - Double Stamp your Lunch Card - Every Monday</p>
<p>tuesday - Pubstumpers Trivia 7:30pm</p>	

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LITERARY EVENT

Annabel Lyon reads at Theatre Alive! night

This Saturday evening at ArtSpring

Islanders are invited to a literary evening at ArtSpring with acclaimed novelist Annabel Lyon this Saturday night.

Lyon's first novel, The

Golden Mean, won the Rogers Writers' Trust Prize and was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Governor General's Award, the Ethel Wilson Prize and the Commonwealth Prize.

The book has been translated into 14 languages and became a #1 bestseller in Canada.

Among Lyon's other work

is Oxygen, a short story collection nominated for the Danuta Gleed Award, and The Best Thing for You, a collection of novellas that was nominated for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize.

Her latest book, about Aristotle's daughter, is titled The Sweet Girl.

Before Lyon decided to

write full-time, she studied classical music, philosophy and law, and taught piano. She lives in Vancouver with her partner and two children.

The Nov. 2 event begins at 7:30 p.m., and admission is by donation to support other literary events presented by Theatre Alive! on Salt Spring.

LIVE THEATRE

Bordello comedy at Mahon Hall

Jenny's House of Joy on stage

Salt Spring Community Theatre will bring an exciting new production to Mahon Hall beginning Friday, Nov. 1, with a warm and funny comedy anchored by a feisty female cast.

Jenny's House of Joy tells the tale of four women in a brothel in the Old West. Both amusing and poignant, the story includes themes of friendship and understanding, as well as the value of avoiding hasty judgements of others. Written by popular Canadian playwright Norm Foster, who is known for creating winning and believable characters in comic turns filled with great heart, SSCT says the production is sure to delight local audiences.

Director Suzanna Laine most recently headed the sold-out community theatre presentation of Harold and Maude, and with that momentum behind her, prospective audience members are advised to get tickets early. The all-woman cast consists of talented local performers Therin Gower, Marit Christensen, Christina Penhale, Simone Cazabon, and a shared role for Wendy Beatty and Randie Clark.

All performances are at Mahon Hall, with evening shows at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 1, 2, 7, 8, and 9, and a matinee on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. Audience members are encouraged to participate by dressing in Western garb, and to come early to enjoy entertainment by Western-style performers before the play.

Tickets are available at Salt Spring Books and at the door.



PHOTO BY SCOTT MERRICK

Therin Gower plays the title role in Jenny's House of Joy, the next Salt Spring Community Theatre Production that opens at Mahon Hall on Friday.

Due to mature themes, this production is not recommended for young children. There is a simulated gunshot offstage during the show.

CONCERTS

Folk Club presents Barney Bentall

Singer-songwriter in top form for Monday night

The Salt Spring Island Folk Club welcomes Canadian singer-songwriter Barney Bentall to Fulford Hall on Monday, Nov. 4.

A legend in his own right, the Vancouver-based performer has been creating music since 1978. Throughout his career, he has released three independent albums and seven studio albums. In the late '80s, Bentall formed The Legendary Hearts. Their self-titled debut reached platinum status in Canada, featured three hit singles and garnered a Juno Award.

Bentall has also received

acclaim for his touring project The Grand Cariboo Opry. The show features Bentall sharing humorous and sentimental monologues along with his roots and folk favourites, with a panel of special musical guests to join the fun.

He released his most recent album *Flesh and Bone* in 2012, blending beautiful vocals and melodies with strong storytelling skills.

"This is Bentall's third solo studio album and just oozes quality from every groove (if CDs still have grooves) and Bentall's narratives are every inch as good as any of the more feted stars in Nashville, Chicago or New York have produced in recent years," says reviewer

Alan Harrison.

Opening act Marianne Grittani is known to local audiences as a former Salt Spring resident and co-performer with Valdy. She has been performing since attending high school in the 1960s. Her album *Into the Shimmering* was nominated for a 2001 West Coast Music Award for best folk release. Grittani explores deep musical territory with voice, her acoustic six-string guitar, a resonator guitar and mandolin.

Tickets are for sale at Acoustic Planet, Salt Spring Books and Stuff & Nonsense. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. (6 p.m. for season's pass holders) with catering by Haidee Hart. The show starts at 7 p.m.

MUSIC & MUNCH

Remembrance Day program at M&M

Poignant songs, readings and WWII display

Music and Munch on Wednesday, Nov. 6 continues the tradition of dedicating the November program to the observance of Remembrance Day through music and readings.

"The audience will be offered the opportunity to reflect and remember together those who have lived and died to fulfill our deepest longings for peace," suggests a press

release from the Music Makers group.

All those taking part are well known to Music and Munch audiences. David Storm, music director for the parish, will accompany the All Saints choir as well as playing both piano and organ for the several soloists and hymns that are part of the poignant program.

Also singing, both with the choir and as the Salt Spring Vocal Quartet, will be Connie Holmes, Anke Smeele, Lyle Eide and Alan Robertson accompanied by

Beth Ranney. Their version of *Amazing Grace* is always well received.

Betty Rothwel has a wonderful rendition of Lily Marlene, and soprano Jean McClure will be joined by the choir to offer the beautiful *I'm Dreaming of Home*, with music by Philippe Rombi.

This year being the 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice and the Year of the Korean War Veteran, time will be taken to offer a tribute to the millions who fought and died during this horrific episode in

the history of the world.

There will also be a display of photographs and letters written during the Second World War, provided by the community some time ago, and it is hoped that audience members will be able to help identify the people in the photos.

The free program begins in All Saints By-the-Sea at 12:10 p.m. and is followed by an optional light lunch for \$5.50.

Tickets for lunch must be purchased before the event.

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

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

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100% of all proceeds go to directly support our resident's recreation programming.
This is a wonderful event and we hope to see you there!
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Saturday, November 9th
Fulford Hall 10am-2pm

BUSINESS

Island business celebrated at awards night

Eight enterprises honoured

More than 250 people took in the 8th annual Salt Spring Business Excellence Awards and gala dinner on Thursday, supporting the nominees, winners and the island's business community.

This year's winners in nine categories were:

- Business of the Year (over 15 employees)
- Country Grocer
- Small Business of the Year – Fishbowl Magazine
- Outstanding Customer Service – Leon's Gardening and General Maintenance
- Non-Profit Association of the Year – Salt Spring Public Library
- Green Business of the Year – Thrive Lifestyle
- New Business of the Year – Doctor Computer
- Tourism Business of the Year – The

Beach House B&B

- Agriculture / Farm Business of the Year – Foxglove Farm
- People's Choice Award – Doctor Computer

A performance by fiddler Wesley Hardisty was part of the sold-out evening at the Harbour House Hotel and garnered a standing ovation.

The awards night was part of Small Business Week, which also saw several workshops offered on Oct. 22 and 23.

The event was a partnership of the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, Island Savings and the Gulf Islands Driftwood, with a number of supporting sponsors.

For a video from the event, with award winners interviewed by D.W. Salty of the Gulf Islands Driftwood, see www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com in the business news section.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Paul Large of Country Grocer, right, presents the New Business of the Year Award to Ken Deaton of Doctor Computer. Country Grocer itself was named Business of the Year. Deaton also won the People's Choice Award.

LEGION

Luncheon for veterans returns

Nov. 5 event at Meaden Hall

Remembrance Day activities are in full swing on Salt Spring, with the Poppy Campaign already underway and a Luncheon for Veterans set for Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Legion member Michael Winters said a special veterans luncheon is long overdue since one has not been held on the island for several years.

Beginning at 1 p.m. in Meaden Hall, the Salt Spring Legion branch in conjunction with the Ladies Auxiliary will host the luncheon event for any and all veterans, regardless of Legion membership.

"Such gatherings are derived from what veterans know as 'mess life' and well steeped in tradition," explains a press release. "Many veterans are challenged to attend such events, but they must not be left out."

The Legion will also host a veteran's escort, such as a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, capable friend or neighbour who volunteers to accompany the veteran to the luncheon. The same applies to those accompanying veterans to Remembrance Day events on Nov. 11.

For more information about Remembrance Day 2013, see the special section in next week's Driftwood.

FILM

Powerful emotional drivers in drama

Danish film shows next week

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The strength and character of small communities everywhere are rooted in close bonds, compassion for the most vulnerable among them, sharing with others and nurturing their young. These are the things that make people proud to live in such places.

What happens, then, when those values become perverted, when sharing means passing on gossip, suspicions, and lies; when nurturing children engenders a willing blindness and fanaticism? Watch *The Hunt*, a Best of the Fest series presentation, and you'll see.

Inspired by an actual incident, this Danish-made drama reveals the hypocrisy behind some of the most cherished ideas about small town society. It is a powerful depiction of how a lie becomes the truth when gossip, doubt and malice are allowed to flourish and ignite a witch-hunt that threatens to destroy an innocent man's life.

At the hub of the drama is Lucas, played by Mads Mikkelsen (*Casino Royale*, *A Royal Affair*), a well-liked kindergarten teacher. One of his pupils, a little girl whose feelings have been hurt by a perceived slight, makes something up about her teacher. The adults believe her because she is, after all, a small child. And in an instant that cozy, caring

community replaces a man's rather ordinary life with a nightmare. The town's hysteria spreads like a virus and the witch-hunt is in play. Lucas finds his protestations of innocence ignored. He is quickly shunned, treated as a pariah and worse.

From the outset, the audience knows Lucas is innocent and quickly becomes immersed in a man's private hell and the town's kneejerk fear. Children have vivid imaginations and an acute sense of being slighted, while the adults are carried along by their suspicions and foregone conclusions.

The tension of *The Hunt* lies at the intersection of these powerful emotional drivers. It offers a sobering and riveting look at indecent

conduct accusations and mob mentality.

Lucas is a complex character whose naivete is both his charm and his undoing. Mikkelsen puts in a stellar performance, winning the best actor award for this role at last year's Cannes Film Festival. His is a masterful portrayal of a man, deserted by just about everyone, even his girlfriend, who may bend but will not break.

Director Thomas Vinterberg presents a frighteningly credible examination of how suspicion can spread and unhinge otherwise decent people.

The Hunt is on screen at ArtSpring on Wednesday, Nov. 6, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10, available from ArtSpring.



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 – SALTAIR/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.



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 Fax: (250) 746-2513
 Email: cprd@gulfislands.com
 Website: <http://www.cprd.bc.ca>

HALLOWEEN

Halloween fills up treat bags

Family and adult activities on tap Thursday and after

Children of all ages will have plenty of options for celebrating All Hallow's Eve this year, with community activities for children and adults beginning before darkness falls and continuing through the witching hour.

Community Gospel Chapel's annual Family Fun Fest is the place to find a well-lit and dry Halloween. Children can enjoy an indoor alternative to trick-or-treating with games, candy and a cakewalk between 5 and 7 p.m.

Gulf Islands Secondary School's junior and senior improv teams host the return of the Spook House at Mahon Hall starting at 6 p.m. The event closes for the fireworks around 7:30 p.m. and resumes once they're over, with extended hours allowing late-night revellers the chance to be scared up until 10:45 p.m. Parents with smaller children can request the less scary version. The \$5 entry includes plenty of free candy.

Greenwoods will welcome trick-or-treaters to celebrate Halloween with resident seniors. The facility at 133 Blain Rd. will be open to guests from 6 to 7 p.m. in the front lobby. Please note that Braehaven will be closed this year.

The annual fireworks show kicks off at 7:30 p.m. at Ganges Harbour, with free hot dogs and hot chocolate available at the Ganges Fire Hall afterward. The event is sponsored by the Salt Spring Firefighters' Association, which purchases the fireworks with help from the proceeds of its Fall Fair corn-on-the-cob booth, featuring corn donated by Bon Acres Farm.

People who don't have kids have no reason to be afraid of missing the fun, with several events around town aimed at a more mature audience. The Local offers Dinner and a Scary Movie starting at 6:30 p.m. This week's Dance Temple event, taking place from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at 150 Suffolk Rd., is called Dancing With the



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

EAT OR BE EATEN: Anjali Campbell holds one of the homemade zombie shortbread cookies she was selling, along with her sister Priya, in the last Saturday market before Halloween.

Shadow. Participants are encouraged to wear costumes.

Moby's Pub will keep things going into the later evening with a Halloween DJ party. Music starts at 9 p.m., with prizes awarded for best costumes.

Halloween festivities don't have to end with the farewell to October this year: children who cashed in their gift certificate for a free pumpkin at Country Grocer are invited to bring the carved jack-o'-lanterns back in for judging and

the chance to earn big prizes on Friday, Nov. 1.

Finally, the Salt Spring Lions Club will give everyone the chance to put their costumes on one more time while saying goodbye to their jack-o'-lantern creations once and for all with The Pumpkin Smash set for Sunday, Nov. 10. The Lions Hall event will offer free hot chocolate and hot dogs for kids aged 12 and under, and games, prizes and fun for the entire family from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Resilience for women explored

Developing 'financial emotional intelligence'

Building on the success of their Women's Financial Well-being Circles, Debby Wetmore and Samantha Sanderson are teaming up again to offer a one-day participatory workshop for Salt Spring women called Becoming Financially Resilient.

"To be able to fully flourish, women need to be financially resilient," said Wetmore in a press release. "We need to have what we call 'financial emotional intelligence.' We can recognize and take charge of the feelings that play a key role in influencing our financial lives."

The insights being offered will be valuable to any woman who wants to move her life forward as it relates to money and to benefit by sharing this common problem area with others.

Sanderson is a retired lawyer with a background in law, peer counselling and leadership development. Wetmore is a chartered accountant with a background in finance and martial arts. Neither of the women sell financial products.

"This program will not provide financial analysis of your particular situation or financial investment advice," they note.

The workshop runs from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9. To register or for more information, call Samantha at 250-537-9296. Spaces will be limited to 12 women.

The workshop will be followed by an eight-week Women's Financial Resilience Circle beginning on Nov. 16. It is not necessary to register for the ongoing course in order to participate in the Nov. 9 workshop.

For more information about the circle, go to www.deborahwetmore.com.

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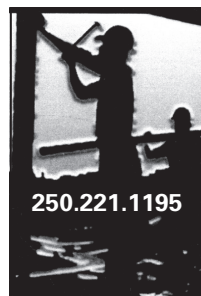
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what's on this week



Wed. Oct 30	Thurs. Oct 31	Fri. Nov 1	Sat. Nov 2	Sat. Nov 2	Tues. Nov 5	Wed. Nov 6
ACTIVITIES Parent Child Mother Goose. Songs, rhymes and play-time with children ages 0-6. Fernwood Elementary. 10 a.m. to noon. Texas Holdem. Play for bragging rights. The Local. Sign-up 6:30 p.m. Comedy Improvisation. Free workshop with Jan Rabson and Bob Twaites every Wednesday. Ages 15 and up. GISS Room 208. 7 p.m.	ACTIVITIES June Boe - Art and Book Talk. Local artist talks about her experiences as an artist, photographer, and fashion icon in the 1960s. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 5 to 6 p.m. Annual Fun Fest. Fun, games, coffee, tea, lots of candy, cake walk. Free and dry! Community Gospel Chapel. 5 to 7 p.m. Trick or Treating at Greenwoods. Greenwoods Eldercare lobby. 6 to 7 p.m. Spook House. GISS improv teams provide scary thrills at Mahon Hall. 6 to 7:30 p.m., plus after fireworks to 10:45 p.m. Dinner and a Scary Movie. The Local. 6:30 p.m. Dance Temple: Dancing With the Shadow. A Halloween night of ecstatic dance. Costumes encouraged! Dance Temple. 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. Halloween Fireworks. A Salt Spring Fire Rescue presentation. Ganges Harbour. 7:30 p.m.	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Duck Creak. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m. Soul Shakedown. The Local. 6 to 9 p.m. The Temps. Band plus more costume prizes. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT The Barley Bros. The Local. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Sweet Water Inc. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Jenny's House of Joy. See Friday listing. 7:30 p.m. Nuit Noir. Burlesque, art and fashion cabaret night. Fundraiser for StageCoach Theatre School. Art Barn International. 8 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Literary Evening: Annabel Lyon. Award-winning author of The Golden Mean in a Theatre Alive! presentation. ArtSpring, 7:30 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Luncheon for Veterans. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 and Ladies Auxiliary host luncheon for all veterans, regardless of Legion membership, and their escorts. Meaden Hall. 1 p.m. Opening Reception for Avril Kirby Exhibit. Event for photo show at the Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 8 p.m.	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Music & Munch. Remembrance Day program of music and readings. Free entertainment, followed by an optional \$5.50 lunch prepared by the Anglican Caterers. All Saints By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m.
Thurs. Oct 31 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Halloween at Moby's. With DJ Agent Evil. Costume prizes. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Zen Circle Retreat. 4-day retreat led by Peter Levitt starts today. Stowel Lake Farm. Info/registration: saltspringzen-circle.org/retreats. Natural Dyeing Mini Workshop. Salt Spring Island Spinners and Weavers Guild event. Visitors welcome. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m. to noon.	ACTIVITIES CFUW Salt Spring Club Bridge Luncheon. Supporting local scholarships and bursaries. All Saints. 12 noon. Register: Joan Byrne, hum123@shaw.ca or 250-537-4581. SS Forum Presents Ron Deibert — 'Is the NSA Watching YOU?' Talk on information footprints and cyber spying. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Jenny's House of Joy. SS Community Theatre presentation. (Not recommended for young children.) Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m. Multicultural Games, Songs and Activities. For children of all ages with students from United World College. SS Library program room. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	ACTIVITIES 5th Annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale Fundraiser. At Braehaven. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A fundraiser for Greenwoods Eldercare Societies' recreational programming for residents. Canadian Federation of University Women Gathering. With guest speaker Margaret Fulton: Alternate Administrations — Circles versus Hierarchical. Harbour House. 10 a.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. ABUN*DANCE African Dance Class Series. South End Dojo. Beginners 1 to 2:15 p.m., Advanced 2:30 to 3:35 p.m. Westcastle Soccer. Salt Spring team faces off against Penelakut United. Portlock Park. 2:15 p.m.	Sun. Nov 3 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Jenny's House of Joy. SS Community Theatre presentation at Mahon Hall. 2 p.m. One Man in His Time. Acclaimed actor Antony Holland performs his one-man play of years spent in Egypt and Libya during WWII. A SS Hospice presentation. Meaden Hall. 2 p.m. ¡Sachabue! North America's premiere sackbut ensemble performs the beautiful and lesser-known repertoire of Baroque trombones, organ and voice. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m. Cuban Guitarist and Composer Antuan Nunez. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Yoga Unveiled. Screening of film at SS Public Library. 3:30 p.m. A presentation of Still Point Yoga Studio. Salt Spring United. Over-30 women's soccer game. GISS at noon.	ACTIVITIES Palu on Dragons' Den. Watch Palu Rainbow Song and Tim Harvey on the CBC TV show Dragons' Den at Shipstones Pub. Show starts at 8 p.m. Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island. Annual General Meeting. Elections to the board at 6 p.m. Public meeting at 6:30. Harbour House Hotel. Texas Holdem. Play for bragging rights. Sign-up 6:30 p.m. Games start 7 p.m. Industrial Shellfish Aquaculture Talk. Presentation by the Assoc. of Denman Island Marine Stewards & the Gulf Islands Alliance. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

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National Theatre Live encore presentation of MacBeth Wednesday Thursday November 20-21 7:00 Wednesday 3:00 matinee. Approx. run time 2 hour 25 minutes. Tickets \$20 available at Salt Spring Books. National Theatre Live encore presentation of MacBeth. Manchester International Festival's electrifying production of Macbeth, with Kenneth Branagh (My Week With Marilyn, Hamlet) as Macbeth, and Alex Kingston (Doctor Who, ER) as Lady Macbeth.

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view our new online comprehensive interactive calendar of events listings

Mon. Nov 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Barney Bentall. SS Folk Club concert. Fulford Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. for season's pass holders, 6:15 p.m. for general public.

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CINEMA

- Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2** — Flint's dream is to be a great inventor, but he discovers that his machine (which turns water into food) is now creating food-animals called "foodimals!" With the fate of humanity in his hands, Chester sends Flint and his friends to, battle hungry tadodiles, shrimpanzees, and others to save the world again!

EXHIBITIONS

- Photographer **Avril Kirby** shows work at the **Harbour House** through **November**, with a reception on Tuesday, Nov. 5, between 6 and 8 p.m. in the Harbour House lobby.
- 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 Currely** 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 **October**. An exhibit of photos by **Ken Ketchum** and **Bob Rogers** is up during the month of **November**.

- Connie Severson's** art series **Endangered Species** is in the **Salt Spring Public Library** program room until the end of October.
- Kathie Smithson's** works in pastel are showing at **Cafe Talia** this month.
- 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**.
- Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe** shows work by **Jeremy Witmer**.
- Lil Sampson (Irwin)** shows artwork at **Penny's Pantry**.
- Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** features work by cooperative member artists **Peter Allan, Leanne Brusatore, Dawn Davies, Leslie DeAthe, Sheila Hoen, Ken Ketchum, Virginia Midgett, Lloyd Nicholson, LeeAnn Norgard, Bob Rogers, Lorne Shantz, Rachel Vadeboncoeur, and Heidi Van Impe**.

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Giant Book Sale

A Salt Spring Literacy Fundraiser at the Farmers' Institute

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Sunday, Nov 17th, 10am-3pm

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YOUTH PROGRAMS

Pass it On program illustrates profound value of mentorship

Women and girls share knowledge and friendship

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The founding concept behind SWOVA's Pass It On program seems simple enough: high school girls sharing their knowledge with Grade 8 counterparts to help ease the upcoming transition out of middle school.

A closer look at the program reveals that simple concept to be much like a small stone thrown into a calm lake, with a series of ripples spreading outward to impact a much greater area than just the entry point. Like all SWOVA programs, that point has a particular focus and aim — but the end impact is meant to reach the entire community.

"I think we can all learn so much by sitting in a group and sharing with each other — and I think Pass It On is just the tip of the iceberg," said mentor supervisor Kate Nash, who is now in her fourth year running the program.

As might be expected from an organization whose official name is Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse, Pass It On does have a primary aim of keeping young women healthy and safe. The way it does this is through sharing knowledge between mentors and proteges on a number of levels.

The program starts by recruiting girls from grades 10 to 12 to act as mentors. Nash meets with the mentors once every week to talk about anything that arises, from "sex, drugs and rock and roll" to why it's okay to have jiggly thighs.

"We talk about everything from the most mundane, to deep, rich conversation," Nash said. Having open group conversations demonstrates the underlying unity beneath differences in physical appearance. "We're all so similar and there's a very thin veil that separates us."

The high school mentors in turn share their experiences and perspectives with their little buddies in Grade 8 (comprising Salt Spring Middle School, Phoenix School and home-schooled students) who are selected with help from school administration and counsellors.

The match-ups are done through a series of games and exercises, with Nash making the final call. Mentors are asked to connect with their buddies by phone once a week and meet in person once a month in fun or relaxed settings where they can get to know each other.

High school mentors are trained to potentially deal with some serious problems, but mainly they are there to listen.



PHOTO COURTESY SWOVA

High school girls participate with middle-school counterparts in SWOVA's Pass It On program.

s.w.o.v.a in FOCUS

The idea is that when the younger girls get to high school, they will already have a connection with at least one person in the older grades.

Olivia Hayne, a Pass It On mentor, said she joined the program to offer this security and friendship to another student.

"I just remember Grade 8 as being a really difficult and strange year — you're transitioning into who you are," Hayne said.

"I didn't really have that person in high school to show me the ropes, and I wanted to be that person for someone else, to let them know it isn't all scary."

"I think they develop a sense of security," she added. "It's like a face you recognize when you first walk down the hall. You feel comfortable in that huge environment that is a lot different than middle school."

The entire Pass It On group also meets several times a year. Bringing all the participants together in exercises helps middle school students see beyond the rigid constraints of identity they tend to retreat into — so by the end of the year-long program, young women feel free to be whomever they want to be when they're in high school.

"Grade 8 girls come in really locked into their perceptions of each other, and it makes them rethink. By the end [of the program], the energy has really shifted," Nash said.

The high school mentors are also given the opportunity to rethink and consider other perspectives than the limited choices

they might feel they're facing. As well as sharing her personal stories with the group, Nash invites other adult women in the community to talk about what they've done and how they've done it.

Every year at the end of the program in May, the community is invited to celebrate Pass It On's successes with Sparkfest, usually featuring music, poetry and tasty desserts. The 2014 event will be held earlier in the year — on March 7 — as part of a weekend of International Women's Day events that SWOVA is planning along with Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May.

With so much to be proud of, Nash has just one regret: that funding for a boy's Pass It On program wasn't secured beyond its pilot year in 2009.

"It's such a powerful thing that I witness, and it just takes a room and some snacks," Nash said.

"We're all so similar and there's a very thin veil that separates us."

KATE NASH
Mentor supervisor,
Pass It On program

Pass It On snacks are donated by Country Grocer.

Women in the community who are interested in sharing their stories with the Pass It On group are invited to connect with Nash via the SWOVA office at 250-537-1336 or info@swova.org.

This year the Pass It On program is supported by the Telus Community Fund, BC Gaming, Country Grocer and community donations.

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PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

GRADE 'A' EFFORT:

An enthusiastic contingent of Salt Spring Island Lions Club volunteers took advantage of a sunny Wednesday morning to polish the historic grader parked at the Central intersection.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Knitters needed for Lady Minto



FILE PHOTO BY MARY NEIL

Lady Minto Auxiliary volunteer Merryl Cockett with some of the knitted items for sale at the hospital showcase.

Showcase items raise hospital funds

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents who enjoy putting needles and yarn together are invited to put their stitch-work toward a worthy cause and help support the Lady Minto Hospital with their creations.

Knitted and crocheted items that are displayed for sale at the hospital's showcase bring in an impressive \$4,000 a year through the fundraising program coordinated by the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society. That money goes to support programs and equip-

ment purchases at the hospital and seniors' health care facilities such as Greenwoods and Braehaven.

But with many of the participants aging themselves, a new batch of recruits is necessary to support the initiative.

"Over the years, a number of people who knit for the showcase have either passed way or have become arthritic and can no longer knit," explained Merryl Cockett, who has coordinated the long-running program for many years.

One of the things Cockett would like prospective recruits to know is they don't have to be members of the auxiliary group to join in. The number of items donated per year and the types of things produced are also wholly up to the individual.

"It's amazing, the ideas people come up with, and it all seems to sell eventually," Cockett said. Items that have come through the showcase only to go home as happy gifts include tea cozies, dish towels, sweaters, wraps, toques and mitts, and even fingerless gloves. Socks are great sellers at Christmas time, but baby clothes are without a doubt the most popular items.

One donor named Margaret Saunders has been knitting dolls for the showcase since 1984. Cockett figures she's made about 325 by now. Another woman specializes in crocheted angels.

There are no expectations on how much to produce. Cockett said some people seem to be knitting constantly, but having a few items per year is also extremely welcome. Anyone who is interested can drop by the Lady Minto Thrift Store or email contact@lmhas.ca for more information.

All items are made from donated yarn, so the auxiliary group is also seeking more donations of wool to the thrift store.

WORLD RECORDS

Islander amazed by giant leaf find

Fulford specimen possibly world's largest

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Al Hoskins' discovery of what may very well be the world's largest maple leaf proves that walking the dog can lead to astounding discoveries.

The South Ridge Drive resident was in a forested area across the street from Fulford Elementary when he and his dog Woodstock looked down in amazement.

"We stepped right on it," Hoskins said. "There were lots of maples around, but I

picked it up and thought: 'Holy smokes, that's big.'"

A newspaper article about a couple that discovered a massive maple leaf near Port Alberni earlier this month had piqued Hoskins' curiosity about the likelihood of finding a record breaker in his own backyard. He said his neighbourhood has many mature big leaf maples with potential to produce a champion leaf.

Whereas the record-breaking leaf near Port Alberni measures 53.34 centimetres across and 71.12 centimetres in length, Hoskins' specimen comes in at 57 centimetres wide and has a length of 73.7 centimetres.

The Guinness Book of World Records places the largest maple leaf found at 53 centimetres wide and 52.2 centimetres long. It was discovered in Richmond, B.C. in 2010.

Hoskins said he recalls finding a larger leaf several years ago. He's confident the island has many other record-holders waiting to be uncovered beneath the forest canopy.

Because of the costs and time associated with having an official world record adjudicator travel to the island, Hoskins said, he probably won't pursue his chance for a record.

"It's just a lark to find something like this," he said.

This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com

sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

1.888.352.2936

Tip of the Week:

This week's New Moon in Scorpio on November 3rd at 5:49 am PST is a Solar Eclipse. Specifically this eclipse is a Hybrid Eclipse which is quite rare and means that due to the Sun's angle in relation to the Earth, it will appear Total to some and Annular in other areas. The best place to be to see it will be in the South Atlantic and Caribbean and spanning from the South East Coast of North America including the North East of Mexico and spanning to South Western Europe and North Western Africa. Astrologically, this eclipse generally implies both a heightened and deepened realization of the need for spiritual healing. The main advantage to achieve this will come from the desire and actual ability to see through and beyond the limitations of materialism. The materialistic philosophy asserts that life emerged from matter or that biology emerged from chemistry and physics randomly. Although this cannot be actually proven in any conclusive way, the theory has actually taken on the image of truth. As we look to the sublime intricacy and intelligence of design woven into creation, the notion that it has all and continues to occur as a consequence of random, chance activity is actually a very fragile conviction that is not supported by statistical evidence yet continues to be propagated as fact on a daily basis in our popular media. Thus we have arrived at an important juncture where we have the opportunity to see through and beyond the theories that promote a random and materialistic source of existence. In this philosophy Astrology should not work but it most certainly does. Humanity and the world in general are in need of healing linked to a renewed spiritual understanding and this Solar Eclipse is an invitation to and will synchronize with this realization.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

This is not simply a time of change but one of transformation. Beyond the continuum of usual events, this time they will leave an indelible mark. Yet the impact may be psychological affecting habitual attitudes and perceptions. If acknowledged and embraced you could gain some very profound insights. Secrets and other hidden elements are featured.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

Some significant starts and stops in some of your more important relationships are slated for the coming weeks and months. The challenge includes a sincere commitment to change. Not who you are but usual attitudes, perceptions, interpretations and/or self-concepts are up for review. Nurture and heal are key words and the focus is upon you.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

In terms of healthy living and the quality of your lifestyle the time has come to take deliberate action. The need to be focused and disciplined enough to follow through on guidance and conviction is extra important now. This will likely include your employment status and usual approach. Either way, you may have to make some specific adjustments.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Events of late have activated your imagination. They may even be the source of a spiritual awakening. Many new insights have been stimulated. At best these are inspiring new creative expressions. The seeds of new quality of power, authority and/or leadership may also have been sown. These are causing you to dig deeper and work harder, but you like it.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

Some very real shifts and changes are brewing close to home. They are causing you to reconsider your priorities and recalibrate your usual pace. At worst they are stirring your fears. But this may be just what you need to shift out of your habitual comfort zone which may be preventing personal growth and progress. Accept this challenge by trusting and flowing with the currents.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

A new quality of perception is being born in you. It marks a definite start point which stands to be a point of no return. This is all part of an important learning cycle that began about a year ago. This is an invitation with a bit of a push to see yourself and the world and in the world in a whole new way. The sooner you can accept and adjust to this new perspective the better.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

A steady process of building upon new foundations has begun. This is likely affecting you psychologically at least as much as physically. It requires investment of your time, energy, resources and attitude. It may also be called, 'paying your dues'. Accept this requirement as you would if paying entry to a show or tuition to a school.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21)

The New Moon in your sign indicates a time of initiation. With a proactive attitude and approach you will actually be the one to take the initiative. Mercury retrograde in your sign may actually have the effect of sharpening your focus. The more you feel committed to the future and the process of establishing new foundations to support it the better.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21)

The next stage of an important and powerful process of ending, completion and letting go begins this week. This is not the first stage of the evolutionary phase for you nor is it the last. Every aspect of your life is being affected. At best, you are able to recognize and enjoy the renewal that is affording. Rebirth is seldom easy but it is divine.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19)

Returns in the form of rewards but also possibly of liabilities are steadily flowing in these days and the pace will quicken over the next several weeks. At best these are inspiring you to persevere and overcome. Flexibility and imaginative thinking will help you to make the most of any apparent penalties. See the advantage whatever the result.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19)

A jump start to your career and public standing in general is set to occur now. To proceed with confidence review all that you have already achieved in your life and acknowledge yourself. Do aim to make improvements where you feel you can, yet avoid any negative self-criticism. Outline and highlight all your talents and abilities for others to see and access.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

You are on a road to greater heights, deepened perspectives and new philosophies. Your commitment to these is extra important now. Yet, you may feel a little lost for a while so slow down. Treasures in the way of new creative tools, techniques and approaches are there to be gathered, if you remain open minded, positive and alert.

Treasures of the Heart

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CARDS OF THANKS

BONNIE (MOA) HAS RETIRED. To all Dr. Woodley's patients I would like to say thank you for allowing me to be part of your (medical) lives.

COMING EVENTS

LEARN TO WEAVE. Classes will be held at ArtSpring Nov. 16 & 17 and Nov. 23 & 24.

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL Fun FEST Free family night of fun! Games, candy, cake walk, coffee & tea for parents. Safe, dry, free fun night for all. Thursday, Oct. 31 5pm-7pm

COMING EVENTS

Catholic Women's League White Elephant Table Bake Sale & Silent Auction November 9th 10am - 2pm

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM

COMING EVENTS

Bible Believers Fellowship of Salt Spring Island Sunday service 10 - 11:30 am Core Inn - 134 McPhillips Ave. www.bbfssi.org

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET At Fulford Hall Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 10 am - 2 pm SOLD OUT Delicious Homemade Food Available

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DEATHS

Irene Mycyk MAY 28, 1921 - OCTOBER 16, 2013

My Baba has passed beyond the veil this week, 92 years old. Survived by two children, two grandchildren, five great grandchildren and one great grandchild (Griffin).

DEATHS

Irene Mycyk born May 28, 1921 in Galicia Ukraine passed away in Calgary, Alberta October 16, 2013.

COMING EVENTS

Grants to Individuals or Groups Available for projects of cultural benefit to the community.

COMING EVENTS

Information & Grant forms at: Deadline October 31, 2013 www.sartsouncil.com

COMING EVENTS

proudly sponsored by the salt spring arts council

COMING EVENTS

WEST OF THE MOON? There is a storewide SALE Thurs. Nov. 7 - Sun. Nov. 10 EVERYTHING 25% OFF

GRIEF RECOVERY PROGRAM Six group sessions for people coping with the death of a loved one. Nov. 12 - Dec. 10. 1:30-3:30 Register by Nov. 6

INFORMATION

Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island Notice of Annual General Meeting To be held Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Shirley Jean (Reynolds) Murcheson

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear Shirley on October 18th, 2013. Shirley was born on June 14, 1958 on Salt Spring Island where she lived all her life.

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.

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See HOROSCOPE on page 16

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Old Boys players (in red) and their Juan de Fuca opponents appear to be dancing on the GISS pitch during a soccer game held Sunday. The home team lost 3-0.

SOCCER

Westcastle ties with leaders

United fight for scoreless draw

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Westcastle FC emerged with a tie against division-leading SFFC Active Earth Engineering on Saturday.

The 1-1 result keeps Salt Spring (2-1-3) within six points of first place in Division 3A of the Vancouver Island Soccer League.

In other men's soccer news, the Old Boys' offence appears to have fallen silent after an explosive start to the season, leading to a second consecutive loss over the weekend.

"The Old Boys puffed and panted through 90 minutes with nothing to show for their efforts," said Graham Tweddle in his post-game report.

Teams were evenly matched for much of the game, though Juan de Fuca gained the edge with a touch more speed and control when it mattered most.

"The final score will read 3-0, but both teams had chances and the big difference was three great

goals for the visitors," Tweddle added.

He said the closest the home side came to scoring was a long-range effort from Scott Howe. The shot, which careened off the post, is reported to have knocked the goal back by a metre.

The Old Boys will try to regain their swagger in Duncan on Sunday, Nov. 3.

Westcastle's next match is on Salt Spring on Saturday, Nov. 2 against Penelakut United (2-4-0). Kickoff time at Portlock Park is 2:15 p.m.

Less than a week after a tough loss to Over 30B division leaders Lakehill, Salt Spring United women's soccer team emerged with a single point in a scoreless draw with Sooke.

A well-balanced Salt Spring effort on Sunday offered several scoring opportunities, though all attempts on the opposing goal met Sooke's impermeable defensive fortress.

Tara Brown reportedly had a stellar attacking game, particularly in the first half with several breaking runs on the right side.

Louise Doucet played an equally brilliant match on the left back, holding off two checks at a time and coming up with the ball and thwarting Sooke's chances to cross and finish.

Sue Robinson cleaned up many a through ball as she was nicely tucked in and there when needed.

Andrea Barker, playing centre back, was composed and decisive in winning the ball and clearing out consistently.

The team's outside midfielders offered a series of quick responses to throws throughout the match, creating lots of opportunities to get behind their defence.

United nearly took the lead in the game's dying minutes as Liz Wilson placed an untouched ball close to the Sooke goal, only to have no Salt Springers awaiting the pass.

Cheryle Johnson and Daria Zovi stood firm in the Salt Spring goal to preserve the shutout.

Salt Spring United's next match is against the Bays United Breakers on Sunday, Nov. 3. Kickoff is at noon on the lower GISS field.

TRAIL & NATURE CLUB

Bird man speaks to hikers

John Neville presentation and plenty of trail options in November events

Presentations

Nov. 28: If you'd like to know more about hawks, eagles, falcons and owls, this evening will be a great opportunity to hear John Neville. Our own "Canada's Bird Song Man," John will combine his amazing recordings, vast birding knowledge and slides to provide a look at the keystone group of predatory birds all across Canada. This social is co-sponsored by the Trail and Nature Club and the Salt Spring Conservancy. The talk begins at 7:30 in the United Church hall.

Hikers

Nov. 5: Ashley Hilliard will lead a moderate hike through the Alvin Indridson Nature Reserve to Mill Farm. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or at Drummond Park at 10 a.m. to carpool to the trailhead on Musgrave Road. We should arrive back at Drummond by 3 p.m.

Nov. 12: Mary Waugh will lead a hike from Peter Arnell to Bryant Hill Park. We will start at corner of Jasper Road and Jennifer Way. The hike will have some strenuous parts but around Bryant Hill Park will be moderate. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or the corner of Jasper and Jennifer at 10 a.m.

Nov. 19: Deborah Miller will lead a hike from Ganges to Vesuvius and back. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Nov. 26: Andrea Rankin will lead a hike in Goldstream Park on one of the numerous circuits, which will allow us to observe the spawning salmon. It is only 16 km from Victoria, so there will be a rather long but scenic drive over the Malahat. If the colours, sun and salmon are all resplendent it will be magnificent! Meet at Portlock Park at 8:35 a.m. to car pool on the 9:10 ferry from Vesuvius.

Walkers

Nov. 5: Wendy McClean leads a walk in the Blackburn/Frazier area. We will do some road walking before and after the trail. The

trail is steep but only about 0.75 km long and mostly stairs. Lunch will be eaten on Wendy's deck. Please arrange carpools yourselves at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to meet at the junction of Blackburn and Fulford-Ganges roads at 10:10 a.m.

Nov. 12: Fred Powell will lead his rescheduled walk up Hope Hill. We will take the less steep access going but there will be a short steep section coming back. We will take our time and probably be back around 2:30 p.m. Meet to carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m.

Nov. 19: John Heddle leads a moderate walk in the Maracaibo area. Meet to carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the Maracaibo entrance at 10:15 a.m.

Nov. 26: Linda Quiring will lead a walk in the Musgrave/Mount Tuam area. Wander through one of our best oak preserves and nearby KDOL Buddhist Retreat Centre to "meet the lama." Carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10:15.

Ramblers

Rain or shine, the Ramblers meet at 10 a.m. in Centennial Park.

Nov. 5: Ramble with Harold Page in the Burgoyne Bay area.

Nov. 12: Join Terry Ison on a ramble along North Beach Road, looking out at the sea. Have lunch at the restaurant at the bottom of Fernwood Road, or take your own lunch to eat by there. Leave Centennial Park at 10 a.m. or meet at the bottom of Fernwood Road at 10:15.

Nov. 19: Ramble with Betty Ball on Mount Erskine.

Nov. 26: Ramble with Sterling and Maureen McEachern in the Fernwood area.

New Members

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 250-537-2332 or John Heddle (president) at 250-537-2672, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in. Participants need to bring a lunch and wear appropriate footwear and outdoor clothing.

More information can be found at www.saltspringtnc.ca.

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