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Wednesday, July 24, 2013 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 53RD YEAR — ISSUE 30 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

WEAVING MAGIC: Chloe Cullen from San Francisco weaves a basket as part of the fourth annual Heritage Day held at the Farmers' Institute grounds on Sunday. For more photos, see page 15.

FERRIES

New boats on horizon in Gulf Islands

Vessel procurement process to start this month

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ferry passengers frustrated by the lengthy trip between the Gulf Islands and Tsawwassen now have clear sailing with the news that two new vessels could be plying local waters by 2017.

BC Ferries announced Tuesday that Ferry Commissioner Gord Macatee had approved the company's capital expenditure plan to build three new intermediate-class ships. Two 145-car vessels will go into service in 2016 to replace the Queen of Nanaimo and its sister ship the Queen of Burnaby serving the Comox-Powell River route. A third 125-car ship to supplement the Gulf Islands route in the summer and shoulder seasons will go into service the following year.

"It's a huge good news story for the southern Gulf Islands and Salt Spring, for people trying to get to and from Tsawwassen," BC Ferries CEO Mike Corrigan said Tuesday, noting the plan will allow the corporation to do away with Route 9's current four-port journey. "Having two vessels leaving their home ports simultaneously, there's going to be a huge customer service improvement."

Local ferry users are also optimistic about the plan. Despite some concern that the overall capacity might be limited if passenger traffic increases in the future, the chair of the Southern Gulf Islands' Ferry Advisory Committee said he's happy about the news.

"I guess the bottom line is I'm really pleased they're getting on with it — it will improve service," said Brian Hollingshead.

FERRIES continued on 5

REAL ESTATE

Bullock project rises from ashes

Application on Thursday's LTC agenda

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In spite of a devastating 2007 fire and a bout with receivership, a new management team hopes to cap the final chapter of the storied Bullock Lake development at 316 Robinson Rd. on Salt Spring Island.

Vancouver-based Platform Properties, a company involved in more than a dozen large-scale residential and commercial

property developments across B.C. and Alberta, will present its application to amend the island's land use bylaw during Thursday afternoon's public meeting of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.

"This is our official coming out," said Cameron Chalmers, a planning consultant hired by Platform Properties to oversee the application, on Friday afternoon.

The application seeks to update the LUB to permit the company to move ahead with phase one of its plan. According to the application, phase one involves marketing 50 existing but unoccupied cottages on the property, as well as building a 6,000-square-foot multi-use lodge for property owners and the broader public.

BULLOCK continued on 2

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TRANSPORTATION

Bus stop plan riles Vesuvius commuters

Parking at issue in village hub

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Plans to mark out an official bus stop at the Vesuvius ferry terminal are intended to increase public safety in the area, but some people are unhappy about the resulting loss of parking space.

Harold Swierenga, who chairs Salt Spring's Ferry Advisory Committee and sits on the Salt Spring Transportation Commission, said the bus will park a little further back but basically in the same place as where it currently stops, close to the electronic information sign.

"That's what it will keep doing but it will be a better spot," Swierenga said.

"It's basically just to make it a lot safer for the bus. The bus has been parking in an ad hoc fashion until now."

BC Ferries' manager of public affairs Darin Guenette said Tuesday that staff will be meeting with various officials next week to look at the site, with an aim of taking as little parking space as possible. While the ferry corporation is providing both the paint and the labour, the project was initiated by the Capital Regional District and is taking place on Ministry of Transportation property with its permission.

Commuters are unlikely to be pleased with any scheme that reduces parking space in the already congested area, however. Workers who leave their vehicles at Vesuvius when travelling off-island and others who come to Salt Spring

to work and park an island car at the terminal overnight are competing for space with other travellers, often causing overspill onto the narrow village lanes.

"For myself and other commuters it would mean getting to work later, having to leave earlier, and the annoyance of having to walk to wherever the vehicle was left the previous night, often with equipment that is needed for the day," said Salt Spring resident Adrian McGrath.

"There is a certain amount of guilt in having to park up on the streets as I'm sure the residents resent it. It also increases the possibility of theft from vehicles, which along with gas siphoning is already something we have to put up with in the more public and easily observed parking lot.

"A better solution would be to put a bus stop at the back of the crew parking strip, which has plenty of extra space."

Long-term plans for a Vesuvius terminal upgrade do call for changes to staff parking and other measures that could relieve the pressure, but Guenette pointed out they won't be happening anytime soon.

"There are no immediate changes planned for terminal configuration," he said.

McGrath said the loss of parking will potentially affect other groups such as single parents exchanging kids for the weekend and families who take their children off-island to play sports.

While BC Ferries has reserved up to four parking spaces for the bus stop, Swierenga said an effort will be made to use only three, if possible.

TRANSPORTATION

Bike lane completion edging closer

Fulford-Ganges also due for line painting

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Hopes of having marked bike lanes, sidewalks and bus pullouts on Lower Ganges Road for mid-July may have fallen by the wayside, but with final paving work now almost complete, islanders could be looking at safer travel by the end of the month.

Joshua Frederick, project manager for the Capital Regional District, said the latest delay was due to having an off-island contractor with scheduling conflicts. Now that the bottom lift of asphalt has been laid on the final section, the top lift is expected to be done at the end of this week, and line painting to follow immediately after.

"We are on the final leg now," Frederick wrote in an email to the

Driftwood.

"Overall it has taken longer due to the fire ban earlier on, need for restrained vegetation removal, taking extra care around numerous driveways, off-island contractor scheduling/testing and having to deal with several unsuitable geotechnical conditions."

Frederick added that he appreciated the community's ongoing patience.

The final phase will involve hydroseeding the cut slopes once the warm spell is over and the island gets some rain.

In other roadwork news, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has confirmed Fulford-Ganges Road will receive some overdue attention this year. Centre line and, in some areas, edge line painting is expected to take place at the end of the summer.

Resort site tours part of public info plan

BULLOCK LAKE

continued from 1

"The question isn't whether those cottages are going to be built but whether they are going to be used," Chalmers said. "They were built for a purpose and we've applied to use them for that purpose."

That purpose will be vacation properties, with owners offered an option to include their units in a managed rental pool for rent to the travelling public, reads information from Platform's Bullock Lake Cottages website.

According to documents available at

bullocklakecottages.ca, Platform will consider a second phase of up to 73 more cottages once phase one is complete and additional water and wastewater capacity is confirmed. Water for phase one's cottages will be taken from two existing wells on the site.

Chalmers said he looks forward to engaging the community and hearing from neighbours as the application process gets underway. To that end he's already established a website with information about the project and he plans to organize site tours for the public.

"What we know is that Salt Spring Island

is a very engaged community," Chalmers said. "We know that there will be people who are for and against the project and we are really hoping the dialogue is well informed."

"I think it's going to be a very different kind of experience."

Anyone who wishes to address LTC members about this or any other application is invited to speak during the meeting's town hall session that begins at 12 noon on Thursday, July 25. A full agenda package can be downloaded by following the links to the Salt Spring LTC website at www.islandstrust.bc.ca.

Fall Fair Focus



SECTION 2 VEGETABLES & 3 FRUITS

Ahoy Landlubbers (that'd be you farmers and gardeners out there!)

Yer mates will be licking their chops when they see yer Prize Winning Carrots and Beans at this year's Fall Fair (and all yer other produce too!) There are loads of classes to enter, just check out the Horticulture section of this year's catalogue.

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Class 70. Veggie Sculpture - first time for adults to enter this class

Class 71. Exhibit "Pirates of the Carrots and Beans" - have some fun with the Fair theme. No need to have grown the vegetables yourself!

Mind the size restrictions and other criteria as specified in the catalogue.

A new Fruit class has been created for "Ground Cherries" so look to enter them in Section 2 Class 30!

A copy of the Judging Standards is available at the Library.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee

Thursday, JULY 25

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

GANGES HARBOUR

Water quality concerns raise jurisdictional quagmire

Lack of oversight in harbour affairs

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A longtime Salt Spring Island resident is fed up with decades of neglect that have turned Ganges Harbour into what he considers nothing more than an open sewer.

"They've got to get to the bottom of it, then they can make statements that it's under control," said Ross McIlvenna, former owner of the Salt Spring Marina. "It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease and if nothing is said about this, then it won't ever get better."

"It'll stay the way it is for years. People have to start realizing that they have to do something."

McIlvenna's concern for the health of Ganges Harbour resurfaced last week, when he spotted a brown scum along a portion of the harbour shoreline near Rotary Park in Ganges.

"It's horrible and it's all scummy," he said. "You can

smell it and it's just putrid down there. I'd hate to fall in it."

McIlvenna is worried that there aren't enough resources to monitor and enforce dumping restrictions on boaters moored in the harbour. For boaters who want to comply, he suggests there isn't nearly enough disposal capacity at the lone pump-out station, operated by the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island at Centennial Dock.

As if that wasn't bad enough, McIlvenna added, there's no shortage of detritus bobbing about in the harbour that poses a serious navigational hazard.

Nearly three decades ago, McIlvenna obtained water quality results from the harbour that showed elevated fecal coliform levels. Since little was done about it since that time, he suspects the readings could be just as bad, if not worse.

"If anybody can prove me wrong, I'll kiss their ass in the Saturday market," he said. "I'll go on the record with that."

McIlvenna can rest assured he won't need to bow down to anyone at the market anytime soon, given there appears to be no local, provincial or federal government agency in charge of testing the water quality of Ganges Harbour.

Representatives from the Vancouver Island Health Authority, which is responsible for monitoring swimming beaches throughout the region, and the Capital Regional District quickly confirmed they do not test the harbour's water quality.

"The CRD does not conduct any marine monitoring of the Ganges Inner Harbour waters or have any responsibility to do so," said Carla Wormald, a spokesperson for the CRD, in an email.

According to VIHA's health protection supervisor, the agency used to monitor water quality at Beddis Beach, although results were always excellent.

"We do not actively sample Ganges Harbour for bacteriological water quality because there are no bathing beaches there," said Erwin Dyck, a



Shoreline scum in Ganges Harbour.

PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

VIHA health protection supervisor. "We have to concentrate our resources on the beaches where people congregate and where there is a potential for bacterial contamination."

Dyck also noted that surface scum "is no indicator of water quality, especially in marine

waters."

Though surface scum itself is no indication of broader concerns, McIlvenna said having access to results that confirm there's no need for concern should be prioritized.

As things stand, McIlvenna added, no group actively

monitors or enforces what gets dumped into the harbour. Cleaning up the debris and derelict vessels along the shoreline has historically fallen to volunteer groups.

Representatives from the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island did not return calls before the Driftwood's Tuesday afternoon deadline. Spokespeople from the province's Ministry of Environment said they continue to look into the water.

Meanwhile, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee is set to begin work on a management plan for Ganges, something ITC member Peter Grove said could "involve some aspects of the harbour."

As more time elapses before a proper management plan is devised, however, McIlvenna worries a lack of leadership from government agencies or local groups will do nothing to address the rising level of traffic and development around the harbour.

"Who's got the responsibility for looking after our harbour?" McIlvenna said. "That's the biggest question here."

NEWS BRIEFS

FOR THE RECORD

In a fire board story last week, Sandra Leckie was incorrectly identified as a wildfire specialist.

As well, in a July 10 story on the arrest of Solomon Ruben after a stabbing incident, it was stated that "a local resident" had sheltered Ruben overnight. The resident has contacted the Driftwood and said that in fact Ruben came to her house and she convinced him the police should be contacted a short time later.

'Best of' ideas wanted

The Gulf Islands Driftwood is producing its second annual Best of Salt Spring Island publication next month and wants islanders' input on some of the best things about and places on Salt Spring.

Where's the best tree fort or chicken coop, or the most enchanting arbutus tree? Where's the best spot to pick nettles in the spring, or to find a certain species of bird?

Send ideas and/or photos to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com by Aug. 1. Nothing is too whacky to not be considered.

Tree worker recovering after long fall

Salt Spring tree faller Matt Burt is expected to make a good recovery after a surprise plummet sent him to hospital in Victoria on Monday.

Rob Cannon of Walker's Hook Tree Service said his employee was climbing a cedar on an Old Scott Road property when the tree top he had put his safety strap around broke off, causing him to fall around 35 feet to the ground.

"He landed on a pretty

steep slope of forest," Cannon said.

Burt's co-worker, who was with him at the time, put in an immediate call to 911 and first responders were at the property within about 10 minutes.

Deputy fire chief Arjuna George was one of the responders who attended the scene, which included personnel from BC Ambulance Service and the RCMP as well as Salt Spring Fire/Rescue.

"Luckily he wasn't too far into the bush—he was pretty close to the road so the extrication of the patient wasn't too difficult," said George.

He added that Burt

was conscious and alert although in a lot of pain when rescue crews arrived, with no signs of serious injuries.

Burt was taken to Lady Minto Hospital for a spinal check and then helicoptered to Victoria. George said the call is often made automatically for falls of a certain height.

"Matt is an experienced, very safe and careful climber," Cannon said.

"I've actually never had any concern about him falling out of a tree. He's very meticulous—it was just one of those freak accidents."

He said the probable cause was that the tree had been topped before, making the top portion weaker than expected.

Cannon said he had spoken to Burt on the phone several times since the accident and that he was doing well despite his injuries, which were fortunately limited to a broken rib, bruised shoulder and bruised hip with no internal bleeding.

"He's doing great. I think he's expected to get out this afternoon," Cannon said Tuesday.

Doctors have told Burt he will need to stay off work for about a month to recover.

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Islands Trust

**ISLANDS TRUST
SOUTH PENDER ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE is hereby given that the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee will be holding a Community Information Meeting and a Public Hearing within a Local Trust Committee Special Meeting on:

Proposed Bylaw No. 111, cited as "South Pender Island Land Use Bylaw No. 92, 2003, Amendment No. 1, 2012"

- The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

The Public Hearing will be held commencing at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 10, 2013, at the South Pender Fire Hall, 8961 Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island, B.C.

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 111 is to amend the current Land Use Bylaw for South Pender Island, the key amendments include:

- Floor area would be measured from the interior side of the outside walls rather than the exterior side: the objective is to remove a barrier for owners considering cob, straw bale or low energy buildings using double walled, R-40+ design.
- Storage buildings would be a new permitted use in all zones where residential use is permitted; this would allow storage buildings to be legally constructed on a lot with no requirement to construct a dwelling. Additionally, criteria would be included in the General Regulations section of the LUB regarding the size, number and use.
- The permitted height of accessory buildings would be increased from 4.6 metres to 7.3 metres (approximately 15ft to 24ft).
- The required setback for pump/utility houses would be increased to 3.0 metres to coincide with building code requirements; they are currently exempt from setbacks.
- The setback for ground level solar collectors, less than 4.6 metres in height is reduced to 3.0 metres; the objective is to allow optimal siting for solar capture.
- On lots where more than two dwellings are permitted they could now be attached.
- Above or below ground utility lines would explicitly be exempt from the definition of structure, setbacks would then not apply.

At the Public Hearing, the public, including all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw, shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard in person, by a representative, or by written submission respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw, at the above time and place.

All persons concerned should inspect the proposed bylaw to satisfy themselves as to how their lands may be affected by the proposed regulations. A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing Wednesday, July 24, 2013 and up to and including Friday, August 9, 2013.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2)(e) of the *Local Government Act*, the proposed bylaw can also be viewed on the Islands Trust Website at the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/south-pender/bylaws.aspx>.

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. the office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, by Fax (250) 405-5155, or can be sent by email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca; with the subject line reading - **"Public Hearing, August 10, 2013, Submission"**, prior to 4:30 p.m., Friday, August 9, 2013;
2. after 4:30 p.m., Friday, August 9, 2013, to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, August 10, 2013.

More information can be found online by going to the Islands Trust Website at the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/south-pender.aspx>.

The public is asked to send any response by using the post mail and/or fax. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written submission.

Written submissions made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Planner, at (250) 405-5189 or, for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

NO REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

**Sharon Lloyd-deRosario
Deputy Secretary**

SATURDAY MARKET

MAG not sold on market expansion

'Long-term vision' must be addressed

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Expansion plans, higher vendor fees, the relocation of youth and non-profit vendors, and a possible toilet levy were all part of a two-hour discussion about the future of Salt Spring's Saturday market during the biannual meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission's Market Advisory Group last Wednesday.

"The market is probably the largest and most important economic driver on this island and it's been here for 30 years and it's you guys that have made it that," said Peter Vincent, who represents the chamber of commerce on the MAG board, during the July 17 meeting. "There seems to be this perception out there that the island is circling the drain economically and I think we can get it back and it's all around some sort of expansion [...] It's something that has to be done over the winter."

"Obviously, there's a knee-jerk reaction where people want to do something right now, but I totally agree that it has to be well thought out and I think the PARC board, the Capital Regional District and Islands Trust all have to get behind this too and I think they will."

"I think everyone smells the coffee here."

The discussion follows a petition circulated in late spring that gathered nearly 700 signatures from people who favour expansion. The petition called for a larger market to ease congestion and enable more vendors to participate.

In a delegation presented at the start of Wednesday's meeting, Saturday market vendor Brian Paterson said expansion is needed to promote fairness, develop tourism, eliminate aggression and anxiety among ven-

dors, and help the island's economy.

Paterson suggested MAG members consider allowing temporary use on a larger portion of Centennial Park, closing down part of the roadway on busier weekends and reducing stall sizes as possible solutions.

Buskers, youth vendors and non-profit organizations, he added, could be moved to the park's grassy area, boardwalk or gazebo to create more space for shoppers and vendors.

"Canada Day saw vendors on the grass and it was no big deal, even though there was an explosion," he told MAG members. "I don't think that was because of the vendors on the grass."

Paterson suggested all that is required is a desire for change among members of the island's Parks and Recreation Commission.

"We could do it if we had the will," he said. "We could make it a better market."

Malcolm Legg, MAG chair and a major player during the conception of the island's modern-day Saturday market, said it's crucial to consider the long-term consequences expansion could have on access to and enjoyment of Centennial Park.

"The park is designated as a park for the public of Salt Spring at all times, every day of the week. The market was allowed to go in to the park on the paved areas with the understanding [...] that the park remains open to the public so that the people that want to go to the park on Salt Spring have a park they can go to which has swings and sometimes has music events going on and other things," Legg said. "Once you start eating into that grassy area, what's to stop you from adding a second layer and a third layer?"

"Before you know it, you've turned the whole of the park into what they have in Honolulu in their market, which is a massive market that goes all over the place."

The MAG comprises more than a dozen vendor and community stakeholders who meet twice a year to offer PARC advice about market-related policies.

PARC members are compiling information about expansion options. The major obstacle, according to PARC chair Gregg Dow, is that the market area is surrounded by bureaucratic obstacles or private property concerns.

"What we'd like to do is talk to our Parks and Recreation Commission and provide some ideas about how to step back and look at the whole question of expansion," said PARC manager Lorraine Brewster. "We're not opposed to it, but what does expansion look like? How do we proceed? Is it to be more into the park and what kind of steps do we need to take to make that happen?"

"We could do it if we had the will. We could make it a better market."

BRIAN PATERSON
Saturday market vendor

"There's lots of ideas and we want to take the time to research it and provide some options back to our commission."

Speaking at Monday evening's monthly Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, Dow reiterated the need to ensure all of the facts are received before a decision is made.

"We have to be stewards [of the park]," he said. "I know there's going to be people who are not happy that we're not doing things right away, but we have to act in a structured process."

Expansion plans, if adopted, will proceed no sooner than the start of the 2014 market season.

FERRY TRAVEL

Friday set for fun SGI ferry 'party'

Islanders urged to hop on

Boosting connections between Salt Spring, Mayne, Pender and Galiano islands is the idea behind an "inter-island ferry party" being organized for this Friday, July 26.

Ron Pither, a frequent ferry traveller due to his farming activities on Mayne and Salt Spring islands, has been raising awareness about how people can enjoy an island-hopping evening on BC Ferries every Friday through the summer. The first leg of the trip begins from Long Harbour on Salt Spring Island at 3:55 p.m. Pither and others have

joined forces to ensure entertainment en route this Friday, plus transportation on Galiano and Mayne islands. A trip to the Hummingbird Pub and a visit to the Kunamokst mural are lined up on Galiano, he said, with Mayne activities also in the works.

While the BC Ferries summer schedule does not specifically identify the connection between Salt Spring and Mayne and then Pender islands, it does let travellers spend time on Galiano, Mayne and Pender islands before catching the late-night ferry back to Long Harbour.

See the Page 7 Guest Column in this week's paper for more information, including Pither's contact details.

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COMMUNITY

Imagination invited for retired Ganges fire hall plans

Community group seeks public buy-in

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The possibilities are endless when it comes to ideas on how to use the old fire hall once a new building is constructed, and an ad hoc group of islanders wants to hear each and every one of them.

"It's a prime location, so somebody's going to want to buy this. And I think it should stay in public use," said Bob MacKie, one of the people who's decided to take on the task of organizing an effort.

MacKie said he came to the decision to start up a community group after attending a few meetings of the fire

district's board of trustees. He's since gathered about a dozen like-minded people, including his neighbour Ron MacKenzie. Both men coincidentally attended the same MBA program at different times, and are coming to the idea from a strong business perspective, as well as one of community vision.

"We could have one of the most creative, non-urban areas of the planet and it could be really exciting," MacKenzie said.

"I think it's imperative to be guided by other experiences without emulating them. We're a creative community — we can come up with something fabulous."

Some of the ideas that have already been brought

up include closing pedestrian traffic and expanding the Saturday market, and creating a covered year-round market with specialty products like Salt Spring olive oil on a lower floor while building office space for non-profit groups on a second floor.

Keeping the clock tower or constructing another one if the current building has to come down has already been raised as a strong desire for some participants. But whatever the plans, the group wants islanders to know the fire district will still receive a fair market price for the property.

"We recognize as business people that the trustees can't just give it to us," MacKie said. "The two things to try

and figure out are what people in the community want to have happen and how to make it happen."

"We're a creative community — we can come up with something fabulous."

RON MACKENZIE
Fire hall community group

Adding to taxpayer contributions is not something the group is thinking of in order to create a new public facility. Although the means is far

from being established when the purpose hasn't even been fully considered, one idea that seems to have good potential is a brand new type of business called a community contribution company, or C3. The B.C. government made changes to the Business Corporations Act in 2012 that would allow for this hybrid type of business "that combines socially beneficial purposes with a restricted ability to distribute profits to shareholders." Investors would be able to both make a (limited) profit and contribute to a social cause.

This week the community group will tour the fire hall with members of Shared Space Salt Spring — a coalition of non-profit inter-

ests that seeks to establish a multi-use public space. Much more input will be required before any kind of plan can be initiated, however.

"There's so many things you can do," MacKie said. "It's going to take some vision and it's going to take community involvement to get everybody behind it to come up with a plan."

"Whatever happens to the old fire hall site, the community use will be committed for the next 50 to 100 years. So it's essential the community get on board."

Anyone who would like to join the discussion is invited to join a Salt Spring Community network site with the URL <http://goo.gl/32xZE>.

BCF hopes ships will run on LNG

FERRIES
continued from 1

"It's a plus in that the ships' capacity will be better balanced. Right now the Nanaimo is a very large ship and the Bowen is a very small ship."

The Bowen Queen currently provides direct service between Salt Spring and Tsawwassen in the summer months, but while the Queen of Nanaimo is consistently full on summer weekends, it is severely under-used during winter.

"In November on a Wednesday night, you could shoot a cannon and not hit anybody," Hollingshead said.

With the two ships' retirement from service looming in 2016, the ferry corporation came up with the plan to build three new standardized vessels as the most cost-efficient option. Public input sessions conducted in April and May resulted in overwhelming support.

The first phase of procuring the ships will go into effect later this month, when BC Ferries distributes requests for pre-qualification packages to Canadian and international shipyards. Corrigan explained the shipyards will be asked to submit proposals on how they would build the vessels and the indicated costs. From there, BC Ferries will move to a request for proposals and a bidding process.

"It's a very tight timeline — it's essentially three years from now,

which is about the right time to complete this process," Corrigan said.

"Based on our experience with past processes, we're pretty confident we'll be able to deliver."

The Gulf Islands and Comox-Powell River vessels are intended to be just the beginning of a new era of standardization for the ferry company. The design will be based on a double-ended open vessel concept, with an ability to adjust vehicle capacity.

"I think that's the big win here, having a class of vessel we can build off well into the future," Corrigan said.

"It really is what the airline industry has been doing for a long time, and it's something the ferry industry needs to start doing. We have to have standardization."

By moving toward a standardized fleet, the company will benefit from the ability to move around crew and vessels without the need to train on unfamiliar ships. But Hollingshead observed that while the concept is useful, the new vessel design should include the ability to make adjustments if needed. For example, the "V class" ships that included the Queen of Vancouver were built on one model, and were all cut and stretched to provide more capacity at a later point.

"The standardization thing has to leave room for change. What if we need a different standard?" Hollingshead asked.

According to the

commissioner's findings, there are a number of cost-saving advantages associated with the proposed open vessel design, including less steel required for construction and the subsequent operating savings by having a lighter vessel.

Corrigan said the ships will still have interior passenger areas. The open vessel refers to the car decks, which will get extra protection from sea spray and waves from extended visors. The design is one that is used successfully on Norwegian ferries that travel the open waters of the North Sea.

Whether or not the new vessels will run on liquefied natural gas or diesel has yet to be determined, but the procurement process calls for LNG to be considered.

"We are cautiously optimistic and hopeful we'll be able to run LNG in these vessels," Corrigan said.

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OPINION



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 Silver - Special Publication (Aqua) | Bronze - General Excellence
 Bronze - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Ad Campaign, Collaborative (Leanne Brunelle)



EDITORIAL

Turning tide

Nearly 30 years ago, Ross McIlvenna took a sample of Ganges Harbour water to a lab on Vancouver Island for bacteriological analysis. The results, he said, were shocking.

What he finds even harder to believe is that, so many years later, little has been done to improve the harbour's water quality and general appearance.

Last week, McIlvenna returned to the Driftwood's newsroom with an urgent request that someone sample and test the water from an especially scummy corner of shoreline near Rotary Park. In the 30 years he's spent watching the harbour, McIlvenna said, he's never seen it get quite this bad.

When questioned about who's in charge of getting that water tested, staff at the Capital Regional District denied responsibility and referred us to the province. Likewise, representatives from the Vancouver Island Health Authority said they don't sample Ganges Harbour because there are no bathing beaches there.

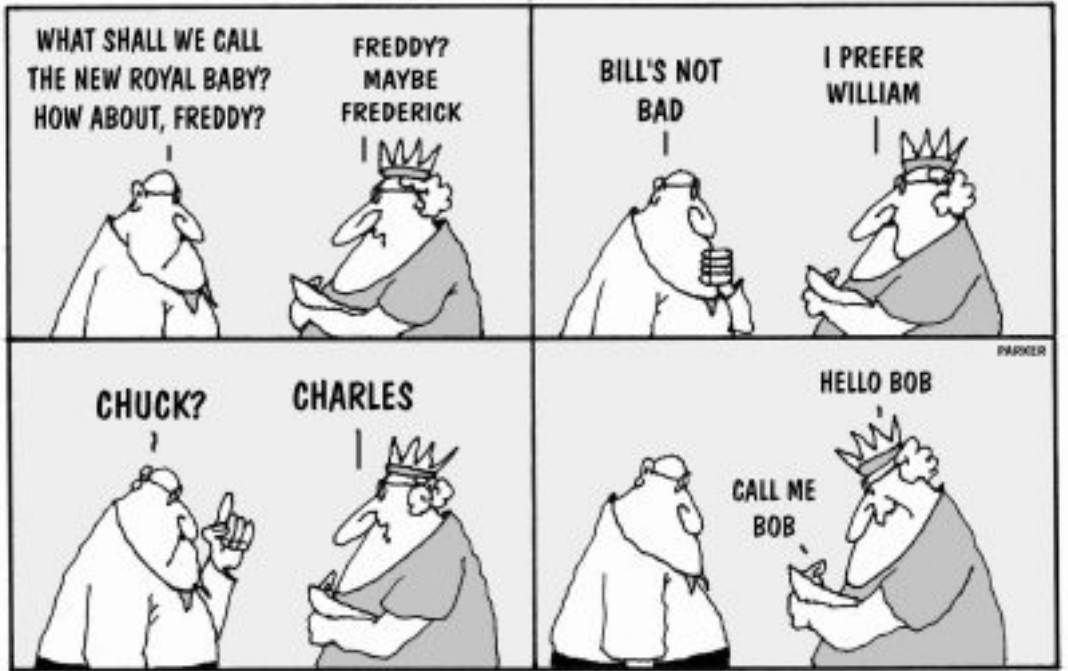
As of Tuesday morning, staff with the provincial Ministry of Environment were "looking into it." Representatives from the island's Harbour Authority hadn't returned a request for more information.

Meanwhile, the summer tourism season is in full swing and the harbour has begun to attract the wrong kind of attention. Looking out on the harbour can still be a wonderful experience, but increased congestion, water quality concerns, a boardwalk to nowhere and the proliferation of derelict vessels and barges are straining the harbour's limits.

As various island groups grapple with the challenge of promoting tourism, it only makes sense that the island's most central feature be monitored to ensure it remains the safe and scenic destination we all want it to be.

Ganges Harbour is the doorway for countless visitors to the island each year. For others, including those of us who live here year round, it is a scenic window on the island's historic and ongoing connection to the sea, something that sets the island apart from so many other tourism destinations.

Maybe it's high time we offered guys like McIlvenna some answers.



VIEWPOINT by Brian Brett

Library lost through Byron death

Shortly after we bought our farm, I was driving my aged father home for his first visit. He glanced out the truck window and said, "That looks like a real farm. You should get to know that guy." It was the Byron homestead, glorious in its unfinished fencing, sheep wandering across the road, geese on the driveway, the sheds in various stages of collapse and rebuilding, constantly changing, organic, alive.

And I did get to meet Mike Byron and his wife Bev. I just invited myself in one day and have been doing that for more than 20 years. My book, Trauma Farm, was dedicated to them as teachers and mentors. But they were more than that. Friends. A second set of parents to Sharon and myself. They would come at midnight to help with a difficult lamb birth, without thinking about it. If you walked onto their land you could suddenly find yourself staggering into the cooler with a front shoulder of beef on your shoulder, or trying to herd a giant, independent-thinking boar back into its quarters. They've been fountains of information on everything from how to plant parsnips to identifying a Bradford plum.

Mike had an opinion on just about any event he encountered, fortunately tempered by Bev, who went on to serve as perhaps the most respected trustee in the Islands' Trust history, managing to be fair and square even with the most outrageous demands of islanders (including Mike's sometimes scary opinions).

Where Mike excelled was in knowledge. He was an encyclopaedia on fruit trees and feed mixtures and soil structure. Because he was so innovative he was also a dangerous man. I cracked my ribs two different times falling off that rickety stool in the smokehouse before I got smart enough to bring my own ladder. And I broke my leg there, sliding on goose shit. You never quite knew what you were going to meet at the Byron farm. You could end up singing

beside the piano while the fiddlers belted out tune after tune into the early hours of the morning, or you could find yourself waist deep in swamp, dragging a stuck cow out of the muck. Mike was always helping his neighbours (and he considered anyone on the island a neighbour). He was the major instigator of the return of our great fall fair, and the biggest asset in helping the local food movement revival.

The one thing consistent about Mike Byron, no matter what you were doing or what mishap you were helping him extricate himself from, he was always teaching (sometimes what not to do), whether at our island schools or in the fields, and occasionally both. I've had the good luck to meet up with a few great teachers in my life, and the Byrons have been a pair of them.

When I awoke at 6:41 on Sunday, July 14, I was crying and I had no understanding why. A few minutes later, Sharon and I were making our morning tea when the phone rang, and I immediately said "uh-oh" as Sharon went to answer the call. Mike had died that morning.

What a loss to a wonderful family - Bev, and their great daughters: Jacqueline, Nadaene and Frances. When Mike's beloved brother, Howard, died, I wrote that the loss of his knowledge was like the burning of a library. It is the same with Mike. It's hard to believe that this small, strong man could summon up so much knowledge: scientific, traditional, local, and social. All delivered with a wicked sense of humour. He was a gift to the community, indefatigable in his public works, and living his life with the intensity that life deserves. I'll miss him as long as I live. Now I've lost a second father, and the community has lost another library, gone to the ground.

Brian Brett is a Salt Spring-based writer and farmer.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

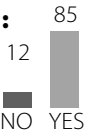
Do you like BC Ferries' new GI ship plan?

Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should BC Ferries promote inter-island travel?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "If anybody can prove me wrong, I'll kiss their ass in the Saturday market."

ROSS MCVENNA ON POOR GANGES HARBOUR WATER QUALITY

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:

What would you suggest to improve Ganges Harbour?



JORDON KITCHEN
Make the docks nicer.



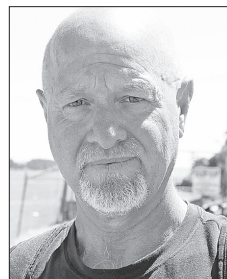
GUY PEPPIN
More access to the waterfront.



KAYLEA KRAY
Maybe fixing up a few of the buildings, but I think it's pretty fantastic.



AARON COLE
It was a little tight getting in with our boat.



DAVID GARRETT
There needs to be a better management plan because things are pretty haphazard right now.

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.

Scary proposal

It's baaack... Like a zombie rising from the ashes, the Bullock Lake Resort is attempting another return to life. After two bankruptcies and a fire, new developers are raising the spectre of 123 vacation rental units and a 6,000-square-foot "amenity building."

I've been reading the 61-page "Final Application" on the bullocklakecottages.ca website submitted by shopping mall developer Platform Properties to our Local Trust Committee. It's scarier than horror fiction. I had no idea the existing ghost resort occupies less than half the land owned by the new developers (think Coquitlam Ikea and Lougheed Super Centre).

In total they control more than 35 acres stretching along Robinson Road. Their \$20-million vision of the

unburied corpse of Bullock Lake Resort promises "minimal additional disruption to the natural environment" (page 4). I tried a bit of math: if four people stay in each of the existing 50 rental units; if they use the CRD average individual use of about 75 gallons; that equals close to 15,000 gallons per day. At full build-out of 123 units that could rise to nearly 40,000 gallons per day.

But do not fear, the developer insists the resort's water usage "should not interfere with the water supply at neighbouring wells" (page 47).

I know nothing about aquifers, but that word "should" makes my hair stand on end.

My friends Molly and Zack, and many others, work non-stop to grow organic food at farms around Bullock Lake. They depend on water. They're scared too.

If you care about our island's limited water supply, please come to the Local Trust Committee meeting at noon tomorrow, Thursday, at Lions Hall to hear about "legalizing Bullock Lake Cottage Resort."

ROSEY BRENNAN,
SALT SPRING

Shadeless Ganges

It's that time of year again!

You're trying to park your car, with your dog inside, in downtown Ganges. Where are those shady spots, carefully provided by our place-sensitive trustees and their coterie of planners. (I would guess that they're so busy meddling in off-island affairs such as tanker-traffic that they are oblivious of the more proximate and pressing needs of island living.)

However, I digress... back to that elusive

parking-spot. Post-Office Square — fuggedit!

Point Grey Square? A few, but the local store owners grabbed those early.

The strip outside the banks — lots of missed opportunities for shady trees, but no shade!

Gas-Alley? Nope!

Anywhere on Fulford-Ganges Road downtown? Plenty of missed opportunities by missing, myopic planners!

McPhillips? A bit, but mostly shadeless.

Hereford? Ditto. Jackson? A bit.

Any of the parking lots behind shopping blocks? Barely any.

I would hazard a guess that 95 per cent of all parking spots in Ganges are shadeless. It's a disgrace! And a monument to the incompetence of past trustees and planners.

ROSS KING,
BEDDIS ROAD

Line action pushed

The title of the July 17 letter from Dan Dickmeyer, "Lines: a basic safety issue" expressed the concerns of many residents, as well as visitors.

I certainly share those concerns and am pushing the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for action as they are the provincial government department responsible for roads on Salt Spring Island.

Highest on my push for priority with the MoTI is the appalling condition of the crosswalk markings in and around Ganges; in some cases they are virtually invisible. Crosswalks are located in areas of particular safety concern and must be clearly visible.

While it is expected that part of the North Ganges Transportation Plan Phase One will include professional

line markings for the road, bike lanes and crosswalks, I didn't get a feeling of comfort that our overall needs are being proactively planned or budgeted, particularly with the special longer-lasting line treatments. Some urgent needs may require basic painting followed by the more advanced scheduled treatment. Doing it twice does not make sense to me.

To summarize, I have asked for a report from MoTI on the plans for Salt Spring for crosswalks and road lines, etc., specifically what is planned to be done and when. I will also be writing to the new Minister of Transportation, Todd Stone, to be on record expressing our community's concerns and requesting his support for action.

WAYNE MCINTYRE,
CRD DIRECTOR,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Hoist the sails for an inter-island ferry party

BY RON PITHER

Holding and gaining ground with BC Ferries this Friday afternoon in an ethical, fun and serious fashion is what is in store if you leave Long Harbour at 3:55 p.m. for a convenient round-the-islands evening route hidden within BCF's printed schedules.

Salt Springers can get home at 8:20 or 10:55 p.m. Friday, or stay unplugged overnight tasting the terror of Galiano, Mayne or the Penders and float back variously the next day or maybe never!

Amongst other luminaries aboard the Bowen Queen sailing on Friday will be red royal-gowned Queen Sue of Salt Spring Vineyards fame, sailing to invite "outer islanders" (be careful with that term) to Salt Spring wine and food festivals, etc. Joining her will be the regular invited rabble of pirates, merchants, minstrels, raging grannies, hoteliers and economic poobahs who desire to be mixed up on Friday's scheduled community or individual tours of noteworthy localized sustainable businesses, amazing artistry (like the 230-artist mural Kunamokst on Galiano), award-winning Mayne Island Japanese gardens, local watering holes and open air music

events, or what have you. You can get on board any Friday afternoon when the summer schedule is in effect by foot, bicycle, individual car, or by carpooling, but this Friday, July 26, commercial and community public transit arrangements have been readied to receive extra guests on Mayne and Galiano, so no cars are necessary.

This "ferry party" is being organized to show BC Ferries management yet again that we need them to stop hindering community development and in this case simply identify the important (and even medically necessary) return route that exists for Salt Spring and southern Gulf Islanders and thus improve upon our current cultural and financial frailties.

For the past five years, BC Ferries has actively resisted or forgotten a common-sense approach that would reveal this return route (that has no safety or operational concerns yet expressed) on Fridays. BCF needs only to adjust the published schedule by adding a transfer notation for Sturdies Bay so people can clearly see the existing scheduled possibilities connecting Salt Spring to Mayne and

GUEST COLUMN

Pender islands on Friday evenings.

Identifying the route on their printed schedule should be an absolute no-brainer for BCF.

Secondly, they might at the same time address the extra-cost concerns of myself and many others who depend on these routes since they are extra-fare billing for the jump-link ferry on Friday evenings from Sturdies to Mayne or Pender. We are not asking for a free inter-island ferry (like not long ago we did have), just equitable treatment similar to that for Saturnalites who transfer no cost at Mayne's Village Bay or sometimes Galiano's Sturdies Bay. We should only be charged for going and coming and not the transfer jump-link run on Fridays after a short one-hour layover on Galiano, before continuing on to Mayne.

Similarly, this identified circle route provides Salt Spring hotels and B&Bs a pivotal opportunity now to increase revenues and low-cost market themselves (and BC Ferries) as a hub island and easily boost weekend customer stayover counts.

Two years ago in the Driftwood, BCF communications director Deborah Marshall made

a muddled-thinking offer of a letter allowing only me "a through-fare inter-island ticket cost" which I refused because I wanted everyone to have such equal fair treatment. For awhile I thought a whiteout of my name on the letter, then copying it many times and distributing it for people to use with their own name would make for interesting theatre at Long Harbour and elsewhere. Maybe if they don't back off this time, subcomandante Ronaldo AKA Pirate Pither (that's me) will juice up his photocopy.

This ferry tale trip invitation to visit and showcase our islands' existing or potential inter-island community commerce and culture is family friendly and only available until Aug. 31, so get on board now or soon to help make the most for our coast. If BC Ferries doesn't give it up just a little, be ready next year to culturally-correctly party on.

The writer has a long history of merchant farming, activism and land ownership in the Gulf Islands. For more information, email rpither@gulfislands.com or call 250-539-2034.

RANTS and Roses

Roses

Bunches of healthy, life-affirming roses to everyone in our generous community who contributed to Angus' Make-A-Wish play set! Dar Kinnear of Dar's Digging, who took it upon himself to call Make-A-Wish and offer his time and expertise as coordinator on Salt Spring; Sandy, Abi, and Haylee Guedes, who have been a huge support and rounded up a brigade of firefighter builders: Brian and Karen Hartley, Shane Hubenig and his son Johan (who played!), Jim Buckley, Simon Wells, Grant Gussie, Colin McDougal and his son Easton (five

years old but raked gravel!), Ken Akerman and his son Max (otherwise known as The Green Menace!), Rob Grossman, Dave and Jenn Lewington, Cody Hunsberger, Mike and Karen Hunsberger, Matt Hollingsworth, Alisa Owens and Eric Taylor, Sevio, Katie and Riley Severn; Dan, Bliss and Theodore Gilmore (Abbotsford). Dan O'Donnell. The South Delta Youth Group for helping with the building and playing with the little kids! Dar's friend Steve Wertman. Dylan, who stayed for the entire two-day build. Everyone worked incredibly hard! Country Grocer for water, sandwiches,

energy bars, fresh fruit and baked goods. Thrifty Foods for juice, water, fresh fruit and baked goods. Donors for the site: Dar's Digging, Butler Brothers of Duncan, Moutat's, Gulf Island Excavating, Key Pawn Trucking, Charlie's Excavating, Windsor Plywood, Mike Quesnel MNM Trucking. Simon Uden of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Playnation Play Systems Inc. Randy Christie for the introduction to Dar. Gabrielle Jensen for the moral support. What an incredible community, we are so blessed. Megan, Troy, Maeve & Angus Newton

A bunch of fire engine red roses to firefighter Clayton Akerman for cleaning up a nasty dog business near the crosswalk at the Ganges fire

hall on July 18. Well done, young man!

A hedgerow of our wild Nootka roses to Bob Akerman for kindly transporting an awkward piece of furniture for me in his truck after he had stopped by about an electrical matter. What a wonderful community! MM

The biggest rose to Laura and Dave for all your help the day we spent two and a half hours looking for my keys at the end of Mansell Road. Lots of love from my family. Kristi Spencer

Sweet music roses to the piano fairies. May you be blessed with tuneful melodies. Thank you.

A dozen roses each to Gail, Amber and Tony for

their ongoing support for members of our community. The Driftwood is very cool... Shear Herb is grateful. Namaste. Herb B

The Salt Spring Stingrays thank the following businesses and individuals for helping make our swim meet this past week an incredible success! We hosted 387 swimmers, their coaches and families! It was an amazing event and we could not have done this without the help and support of TJ Beans, Slegg Lumber SSI, Country Grocer SSI, Rainbow Road Pool, Shaver family, Pharmasave, SeaChange Saviours, Knotty Threads, Yasmine Amal Pottery, Triple Crown Hair Design, Quench Hair Design, Jennifer Lewington Bookkeeping, Persnickety

Clothing for Kids, Salt Spring Seeds, Gaia Yoga, Jim's Pools, Purely Saltspring, Brenda Akerman, Mary Kay Cosmetics, SS Candy Company, SS Apple Company, Bob Tara Woodwork, West of the Moon, J.E.M. Textiles, Embe Bakery, Rental Stop, Heather's Bread, Bows and Arrow Coffee, Amy's Leather, Kama Soap, Gulf Islands School District, The Fishery (Arnie), Abbott family farm, Plambeck-Wesley farm, Chorus Frog Farm, Thrifty Foods! — and anyone we have missed. A heartfelt thank you from all Stingray swimmers and their families!

Three bouquets of roses to Sarah and the two ladies who assisted us off Mount Maxwell on Monday.

expert ADVICE

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Fitness Expert

Walking, Balance & Posture

Good posture is defined as "the body alignment that requires the least muscular and skeletal effort and most favors function". Three basic elements of posture are: Body alignment, Balance and Core stability. Balance is how the weight of the body is distributed over the supporting structure. Good balance is the key component in preventing falls. Falls are among the biggest risks for people with weak muscles. The fear of falling produces caution in movement that includes slowing down and taking smaller steps resulting in loss of stride length or shuffling movements. One of the best places for training posture and balance is in the water. Water offers freedom with a 3-dimensional support surrounding the body. Postural improvement can be seen as the body is stabilized in a vertical position without the need for something to learn on or sit on. Walking through the water allows muscles to strengthen and lengthen with every stride. The resistance of water immediately begins strength training with every movement. The buoyancy of the water assists with every upward movement making movements that are difficult on land easier and sometimes possible. Joint range of motion may be increased with exercises to target joint movement. In the pool any traveling movement that incorporates directional change will automatically challenge the abdominal muscles against the resistance of the water. Swinging your arms (in opposition to the legs) is key for neuromuscular facilitation and working on balance. In the water arm movement to balance the legs, is key for improving posture and balance.



BRENDA AKERMAN

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Mechanic

If you could save yourself money on gas by spending fifteen minutes every couple of days would you do it?

The answer for most people is yes. If you could save even more by doing regular vehicle maintenance would you? The answer should still be yes. Things as simple as keeping tires properly inflated, engine oil and coolant levels maintained make a significant difference to fuel economy. Checking these things yourself takes only minutes. Having your car maintained by professionals at regular intervals laid out in your owners manual will also help to get the most out of your fuel dollar. During regular service your technicians' trained eye will pick out developing problems, giving you a chance to do preventative maintenance.



GYLE KEATING

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Real Estate

MAKING AN OFFER Part 1

Ask your realtor for all the documentation on file describing the property (such as Property Disclosure Statement, title search, CRD Building Inspection report, septic & woodstove permits, survey, well log & water tests). Is this home accurately priced? Ask your agent for comparable sales to see what other similar homes have sold for an to assist in determining your offering price. Consider the listing to selling price ratio for similarly priced homes. Confirm with mortgage broker or bank that you are qualified to make the purchase and that you have deposit funds of approximately 5% of the selling price available within 2 weeks. List the "chattels" that you wish to have included (and excluded) in your contract.



JAN MACPHERSON

Above all put your agent to work for you - ask lots of questions so that you can make informed decisions.

Jan Macpherson - GOLD AWARD 2012 (VREB)
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Renovations

Gaining island sovereignty through the use of local building materials boosts the local economy and helps mitigate climate change. Here is the beginning of a list of how to build using local materials;

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- Cob
- Cement Stabilized Earth Blocks (aka modern adobe)
- Local sandstone
- Earth Floors - puddled earth or clay and linseed oil
- Bandsaw Milled Local Softwood Lumber
- Bandsaw Milled Local Hardwoods for Finishing & Cabinetwork
- Local soils for backfilling and road base
- Locally grown bamboo for fences
- Woven cedar bark for wainscoting
- Earth plasters made from local clay and recycled silicates
- Local stone such as flower stone for small counter tops or decorative purposes
- Pressed autumn leaves laid over subfloor with a protective finish over top



MEROR KRAVENHOFF

Tens of millions of dollars flow off island to buy building materials that don't express our island character.



"What your mind can conceive, our hands can create."

For a free one hour consultation call: 250.537.9355

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Read food labels first

Our local Thrifty Foods store, which advertises local products in the store, also has foods from long away from home — China.

Thrifty's has smoked sliced sockeye salmon in their frozen seafood section. Turn the package over and read the fine print and it reads "product of China." As we all know, China has a very poor reputation about their food handling and standards. The latest is the scare of vitamins laced with harmful chemicals.

Why should we here on the west coast of Canada, where the fishing industry is a way of life, have smoked sockeye salmon from China in our local grocery store? There are many companies that sell exactly the same products from Prince Rupert down to Victoria.

Consumers/shoppers — please be aware and read the labels, and add conscience to your shopping list.

MARGARETHA NORDINE, SALT SPRING

Out in the rain on shelter issues

I am in a position of now having done my due diligence by printing out over 100 pages of the "James

report" and the plans for transportation in Ganges.

Although dazzling in its beauty and legal knot tying, the report ignores the fact that the new bus shelters to be built on either side of Lower Ganges Road only seat two people each. So, two people may wait in the shelters on either side of road.

Also, the people who are in Upper Ganges for the obvious reason of needing to shop for groceries will need to walk across the busy parking lot and will be waiting in the hot sun or the other weather we will get in the winter with no bathroom and no phone access and no amenities. Also, it is noisy there and pushes people up against traffic. And if the service grows beyond two people, there will be no room for them in the shelter.

This very expensive new construction will replace the seats on the side of the liquor store currently being used as a bus stop where people wait in the shade, near a washroom generously provided by Country Grocer's Paul Large and can use a phone to call if they miss the bus.

I am not sure what portion of the funds spent on this project went into the new bus pullouts, but more money will be needed in order to provide the same level of amenities (phone, washroom, water) we are losing.

The people who plan this do not take the bus themselves. Or at least they do not take it as a necessity.

JENNY MCCLEAN, ATKINS ROAD

arts&entertainment



PUBLIC ART

Mysterious street pianos captivate Salt Spring Island crowds

Locals urged to play their hearts out

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island has joined a list of international locations to host pianos installed for public use on its streets — but while the authors of similar projects in London, Austin and Vancouver have proudly announced their intentions, the people responsible for the local effort are so far keeping their identities a mystery.

Brightly painted pianos adorned with the tag “Play your heart out” appeared on Thursday in three Ganges locations, with a fourth outside the Rock Salt Cafe in Fulford. Residents and visitors have been uniformly excited by the opportunity to play, but so far the providers of their enjoyment have chosen to stay unknown.

“I don’t know, but I sure love

just sitting down and playing them! Puts a lot of joy into your day,” said MaryLynn Hetherington, who could be heard pounding out an inspired rendition of Bridge Over Troubled Waters before switching to ragtime on the sheep-covered upright outside of Sears on Thursday.

Aryana Lloyd-Walters agreed the installation was a great idea because “it’s sitting here by the side of the road and you can just basically sit down and sing a little song, do a little ditty and continue on your way. It’s so wonderful that they’ve put that there for you.”

According to Wikipedia, the first street piano happened by accident in Sheffield, England in 2006. An official art project called Play Me, I’m Yours that U.K. artist Luke Jerram started in 2008 continues to visit cities around the world to this day. Jerram’s website states his work has brought 800 pianos to 37 cities across the globe,



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Students from Shanghai, visiting Salt Spring Island via Pacific Rim ESL School in Victoria, enjoy the street piano set up outside of the Rock Salt Restaurant and Café in Fulford.

including a current stint in Cleveland, Ohio.

Closer to home, Vancouver’s

Keys to the Street program launched in June as a collaboration between CityStudio, the

City of Vancouver and Vancouver’s six post-secondary schools. A 16-year-old student

named Alastair Kierulf was responsible for bringing street pianos to two downtown Victoria intersections in the summer of 2012. Campbell River’s downtown business association installed one piano last August.

While all of these local efforts required the assistance and permission of municipal authorities, Salt Spring’s unique governance structure has perhaps provided the ideal conditions for gentle guerilla art.

Whomever the unknown donors are, they have managed to obtain four pianos, decorate them cheerfully, build or supply benches (wired on for security) and supply the manpower to deliver them to their locations. All that, and the pianos are reportedly in pretty good shape and in tune.

A video of the pianos in use can be found on the Driftwood’s Facebook page and attached to this story online.



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Walter J. Phillips

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Group of Seven

AT ARTSPRING

York Boat, Walter J. Phillips
Wood Block, 1930, 10.75" x 4.25"



Emerald Lake, Lawren Harris
Oil on Board, 1925, 11.5" x 15"



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Opening Gala 5-7pm
Reception & Welcome

SATURDAY JULY 27
Open 10-5pm
Presentation at 2pm

SUNDAY JULY 28
Open 10-5pm
Presentation at 2pm

Presentations

Andrew Kear, Curator at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, talking about the Group of Seven
Kerry Mason, University of Victoria Art Historian, talking about Walter J Phillips
Ian Sigvaldason, Owner of Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art, talking about the entire collection

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EXHIBITIONS

Canadian masters anchor Pegasus show

Walter J. Phillips and Group of Seven on tap July 26 to 28

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A show that's been several years in the making will bring a rare collection of significant Canadian artworks to ArtSpring this weekend, when Pegasus Gallery presents collected works by Walter J. Phillips and his contemporaries.

Phillips, a master watercolourist and woodblock artist who founded the Banff School of the Arts, will form the nucleus of the show with some 75 works purchased and borrowed from collectors around the globe. A number of pieces by the Group of Seven and the people who painted with them will also be on display, providing the historical framework of 20th-century Canadian art.

"Most people never get a chance to see [a show like this] on Salt Spring, with close to 100 pieces by Walter

J. Phillips and the Group of Seven at one place, at one time," said Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art owner Ian Sigvaldason.

"It will be just like a mini museum exhibition, and you don't have to leave the island."

In addition to Phillips, earlier works by artists such as Lawren Harris, A.J. Casson, Franklin Carmichael, Edwin Holgate, Franz Johnston, A.Y. Jackson, Frederick Varley and J.E.H. MacDonald will be exhibited, with many available for sale.

To accomplish this exhibition, Sigvaldason went all over Canada, the United States and the U.K. and as far afield as Russia to obtain the works.

"The collecting history on this is some of the who's who of Canadian museums and collections," he said.

Phillips is, in fact, one of the few Canadian artists to have museums dedicated to his work, as well as being a mainstay of institutions like the National Gallery of Canada. Sigvaldason explained the show will be an opportunity to see Phillips' evolution as an artist, moving



Mountain Road by Walter J. Phillips.

from quintessential English scenes in the country of his birth to the grandiose landscapes inspired by his adopted home.

Phillips was one of the first artists to show the beauty of the Prairies, for example, and created many sketches and paintings of Lake of the Woods. He also captured the spirit of the times, whether it was the Great Depression, the boom period or the hard war years.

"He's hard to define. That's why we had to have this show, so you can see the progression of his

work," Sigvaldason said.

He also described Phillips as an art conduit between the east and the west. When the artist first moved to Canada in 1913 he lived in Winnipeg, where he was employed as a graphic artist for a top printing firm. He moved to Banff in 1926 and spent his later years in Victoria.

Phillips is still recognized for his great skill in woodblock prints, with an ability to capture not just the Canadian landscape but also the feeling of "Canadian-ness" within a traditional Japanese style. His dedication

to authenticity meant using Japanese paper, brushes and pigment grinding techniques. As a result, he took home an international medal for Canada in the form in 1929.

Visitors to the show will be able to see in several instances how different prints from the same block turned out, depending on the colour mix and application. Some of Phillips' early watercolours will also be part of the show.

Free lectures offered throughout the three-day exhibition will help the public situate Phillips' work within the context of Canadian art. Sigvaldason will give the first talk during the opening reception, which takes place on Friday, July 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. University of Victoria professor Kerry Mason will speak on Saturday at 2 p.m., with a third expert scheduled for Sunday at 2 p.m.

The show runs Friday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. After the opening weekend at ArtSpring, it will continue for the rest of the summer at Pegasus Gallery.

Arvid Chalmers
arvidchalmers@gmail.com
www.arvidsaltspring.com

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4-770 Vesuvius Bay Rd. Superb, ocean view, southwest facing, moments from beach and vesuvius ferry. The unit has 2 bedrooms, in home laundry, wood floors, gas fireplace, deck with view and more. The property is zoned commercial so allows for income in the period when you don't need it. There is an in house property management or you can do it on your own. **Priced at \$240,000. + GST**

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ART REVIEW

Denz pursues cinematic theme at latest art show

Marcello's Further Adventures on through July

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Stefanie Denz has taken up images from the classic Fellini film *La Dolce Vita* in the past, but her current show at the Harbour House Hotel brings her obsession with the film's lead actor into new focus.

Marcello's Further Adventures captures scenes inspired by other Fellini films starring Marcello Mastroianni. As Denz says in her artist's statements, she was struck by the actor's on-camera relationships with women, with the male star commanding the viewer's gaze and the female actors occupying secondary roles.

While *La Dolce Vita* and other Fellini films were shot in black and white, Denz gives her paintings glorious colour, sometimes with tones that reflect the lurid hues of the movie posters of the period.

The artist's interest in the illusion of space in two-dimensional art is seen in her frequent use of found materials such as plywood in fractured layers — a strategy for interrupting the illusion. While the cinema screen draws the viewer deep into the fabricated reality of the moving image, Denz breaks the vision back down into frames.

Guide in the Cemetery, for example, includes uneven vertical strips of wood glued over the base plane. Denz emphasizes the viewer's need to focus in and out by painting the scene in darker and lighter tones as it traverses the strips. While the cemetery is lighthearted in bubblegum pink, soft yellow and sky blue,



Guide in the Cemetery by Stefanie Denz.

Marcello's presence, overlooking the view from the left side of the frame, is more enigmatic. With blue face, spectacles and a shadowy woman's figure behind him, his gaze seems either ill or unfriendly.

Marcello maintains his shadowy persona in *Babes in the Forum*. Two women are up front and centre; with wide red smiles over bright white teeth and a palette of bright colours around them, Denz rescues them from their regular secondary roles. Marcello is meanwhile somewhat ominous, hovering in the background.

A cafe scene that puts Marcello and a female friend facing each in profile is another case where the man's motives seem questionable. An island-shaped layer swoops down from the upper edge of the painting to become a mask over Marcello's face. Denz paints his skin a warm tone on the base layer but it becomes glacier blue in the mask portion.

The show runs through July.

RECITAL

Beautiful chanteuse on All Saints stage for recital

Patricia Flannagan presents sea theme

Music and Munch audiences in the last two years were treated to the enchanting voice of songstress Patricia Flannagan singing songs of Scotland — songs of historical significance as well as ballads, laments

and sing-along choruses.

She returns to the M&M stage next Wednesday with a program consisting of songs of fishing and the sea, of water and magic and wonder originating from Scotland, but also from Ireland, England and North America. The songs include Eriskay Love Lilt, My Lagan Love, Archie Fisher's Witch of the Westmoreland, and also

the likes of Puff the Magic Dragon, Edgar Alan Poe's Annabel Lee set to music and a whale song that "rends the heart."

"Flannagan has a charm about her that is infectious," states a press release. "Her strong, pure and rich soprano voice is accompanied by a generous natural smile that is rarely far from her face; her singing has the

ability to draw the listener close to the essence of the song's message and is well suited to the very intimate acoustics of All Saints church."

Flannagan has sung for many years with the locally renowned women's chorus Women of Note, which has performed often at Music and Munch and other venues around the island, often featuring

her in solo roles. Her voice also adds much to the soprano section of Bach on the Rock Chamber Choir and is often heard with the Salt Spring Folk Club.

The free performance begins at 12:10 p.m. (Donations are gratefully accepted.) A light lunch for \$5.50 by the Anglican Caterers follows at approximately 1 p.m.

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CHAMBER MUSIC

Chamber fest features trio, students, faculty concerts

This week at ArtSpring

The Sixth Salt Spring Chamber Music Festival is in full swing this week at ArtSpring.

The annual week of classical music brings together a distinguished international faculty, visiting artists and

some of the region's best young musicians for intensive artistic development and to give a series of public concerts.

David Visentin, artistic and executive director of Toronto's Sistema project, is the head faculty member. He is joined by Kai Gleusteen, concertmaster of the Barcelona Symphony, his

wife and pianist Catherine Ordronneau, violinist Hiroko Kagawa and Salt Spring cellist Paula Kiffner.

This year the festival has included a collaboration with Canadian banjo virtuoso Jayme Stone and continues with an upcoming concert on Thursday, July 25 by the Zoco Ensemble, an exciting young trio that brings together

cellist Hannah Addario-Berry, oboist Laura Karney and guitarist Jacob Cordover.

Student participants include a fine string quartet from Victoria Conservatory's Collegium program and solo violinist Edward Powell.

The festival culminates in a gala performance on Saturday, July 27

when the faculty are joined by the students in a concert featuring a Ravel string quartet, works by Martinu and Grieg, and a piano quintet by Paul Juon.

Tickets for the Zoco Ensemble and the Gala Saturday concert are available from the ticket centre at 250-537-2102 or online at tickets.artspring.ca.

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WORKSHOPS

Tibetan Buddhist drawing class offered

Afternoon event offered this Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

B.C. artist Niels Petersen will leave his home in Nelson to visit Salt Spring this weekend to offer a drawing workshop based on the traditional Tibetan Buddhist grid system.

Participants don't have to be practising Buddhists to attend the four-hour workshop being held at the United Church from 1 to 5 p.m., but they may enjoy the results of what organizer Cindy Sleeman calls an "ancient form of art therapy."

Sleeman is an artist and playwright who first met Petersen at a meditation event in Vancouver. He later reviewed a play she'd put on — at the time he was a journalist working for the Peace Arch News.

Petersen also had work history at a framing shop and pulled double duty at the newspaper as a cartoonist. After five years he decided to devote half his time to painting, and had his first solo show in 1993. His early works were mainly landscapes with

vivid colours and stylized forms, creating slightly surreal interfaces between urban and natural environments.

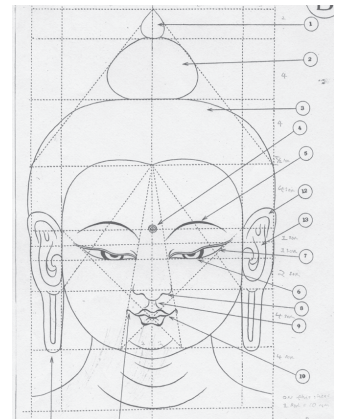
Since 2001, Petersen has added traditional Tibetan imagery to his landscape, situating the ancient Buddhist forms within his dreamy Canadian scenes. In *Medicine Buddha in Winter*, for example, the Master of Lapis Lazuli Radiance is seen hovering over a peaceful village scene, with candy floss clouds over soft purple shadows softening Nelson's city angles.

Figures are drawn with proportions dictated by the sacred geometry of the grid system, which assigns the measurements for facial figures, limbs and overall dimensions for various aspects. Petersen has received official permission from Zasep Tulku Rinpoche, a reincarnated Tibetan teacher now living in Nelson, to do this work.

Sleeman explained that in part, the strict guidelines evolved to impart particular religious teachings to illiterate Tibetans.

"Instead of using written forms, the thangkas would teach them how to do certain meditations," she said.

The practice is also known as *thongdrol*, which means "creating liberation by sight."



Sample Buddha drawing.

Sleeman said anyone with an interest in drawing, art history or meditation will enjoy the class, which costs \$20 for four hours. To register, call 250-538-2358. Some of Petersen's artworks will also be available for purchase.

Notice of Intention to Issue a Park Use Permit

Per Section 20 of the *Park Act*, this advertisement serves as notice that the Ministry of Environment (BC Parks) intends to issue a park use permit(s) for the following purpose(s):

Name of Park	Activity
Burgoyne Bay, Ruckle, Gowlland Tod, Bellhouse, Montague Harbour	Environmental Educational Programs,
Marine, Bodega Ridge, Dionisio Point, Wallace Island Marine, Discovery Island Marine, Pirates Cove Marine.	Kayaking, Camping, Hiking

If you have any questions concerning this notification, please contact the Ministry of Environment Regional Office at 250-751-3178.



CONCERT

Groundbreaking guitarist plays Aug. 3

Roots and blues coming to Grooveyard

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The Southend Grooveyard's next guest artist belongs in the same company as Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan, according to one music reviewer.

"Never pass up a chance to sit in a darkened room and watch Pete Anderson play guitar," writes Kathy Coleman of *Roughstock.com*, adding to other writers' assessments of Anderson as one of the world's best guitarists.

Anderson and his band will perform in the Farmhouse Concert Series at 128 Holmes Rd. (off Isabella Point Road) on Saturday, Aug. 3. Doors open at 7 with music set to start at 7:30 p.m.

"Peter's tour manager has told us that for the Grooveyard show we can expect an evening of organ and guitar-based blues reminiscent of Booker T — sounds amazing!" notes series organizer David Youngson.

According to his website, Anderson is a multi-platinum, Grammy Award-winning producer and groundbreaking guitarist, who melds blues and country to forge a style all his own.

"Known as a pioneer in the

roots-rock genre and an early champion of the Americana movement, he had a hand in introducing the world to artists such as Michelle Shocked, Lucinda Williams, Jim Lauderdale, Rosie Flores and perhaps most famously, his musical partner of 20 years, Dwight Yoakam."

Anderson has also played over 3,000 live shows in upwards of 15 countries and has appeared on Saturday Night Live, David Letterman and The Tonight Show numerous times. He has five critically acclaimed solo records on his own label — Little Dog Records — with another one in the pipeline.

Tickets for the Aug. 3 show

can be purchased for \$20 at Fever Tree and Salt Spring Books in Ganges, and Stuff 'n' Nonsense in Fulford. They can also be reserved via email at southendgrooveyard.com, or by calling organizer David Youngson 250-526-1295. All proceeds benefit the artists.

The Driftwood has two free tickets to the show to give away. Send a sentence or two providing the name of your favourite blues guitarist and why he or she is your favourite to news@driftwoodgimedia.com by Monday, July 29 at 10 a.m. and we'll randomly pick a winner from the bunch.

Seating is provided, but people might want to bring a cushion to sit on.

NIGHT LIFE

Bassos Rancheros set to spin

Interchill hosts top DJ

Local label Interchill Records invites music lovers to come to Moby's Pub this Saturday night for an evening of music and dancing, starting at 9 p.m.

Celebrating their recent 47th album release, London-band Spiral System's new album *Be*, Interchill has invited Vancouver's pre-eminent

Latin and cumbia DJ, Bassos Rancheros, to return to the island to spin alongside Andrew and Lawrence.

Bassos Rancheros is known for his epic morning sets at B.C.'s highly regarded Bacoast Festival and had two popular nights at Moby's last year.

Interchill releases can be heard at www.interchill.bandcamp.com.



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FUNDRAISER

Calendar aids coastal conservation effort

2014 West Coast calendar now available

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There are countless hidden inlets, islands and beaches scattered along B.C.'s West Coast that are seldom seen and too beautiful to describe.

Anna McColm, a Salt Spring photographer who has been exploring the wild coast by kayak for the past dozen years with her husband Gary, is someone who's both witnessed that beauty and realized its need of protection. To help publicize the source of her interest and contribute to the cause, she's created a 2014 West Coast calendar to benefit the Rainforest Conservation Foundation.

"The coastline is remarkable — it's so wild, it's so beautiful," McColm said.

"There aren't many people who have seen these places, so it's nice to be able to share."

Those who have been lucky enough to discover B.C.'s pristine nooks have probably travelled by water, and often under their own power — whether in yesterday's ocean-going canoes and sail-rigged tall ships or today's versatile kayaks. The rich ecosystems and enchanting wildlife that exist in spots inaccessible by road are exactly what's threatened

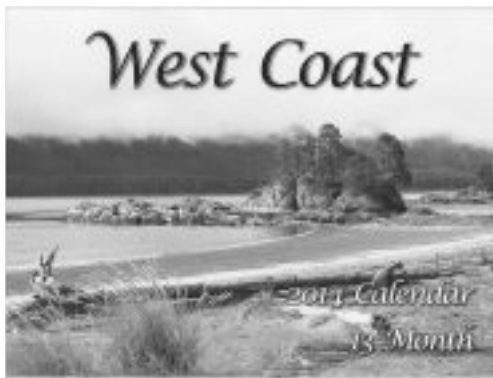
by other potential visitors, there to carry crude oil or bitumen bound for foreign markets.

The Raincoast Protection Foundation is the organization that brought the stunning Raincoast at Risk: Art for an Oil-Free Coast book and exhibit to ArtSpring last December. Founded in 1990, the team of conservationists and scientists has a mandate to study, protect and educate people about B.C.'s coast. In particular it seeks to protect "umbrella species" to ensure the survival of all species and ecological processes in the area.

McColm has frequently paddled around places like Kyuquot, Nuchatlitz Provincial Park and the Broken Islands. A favourite location is the Brooks Peninsula, which stretches 20 kilometres into the ocean off mainland Vancouver Island and escaped the last ice age, making it home to rare plant species. An upcoming trip will bring McColm to Haida Gwaii for the first time.

Whenever she's on the water, McColm is thrilled to see species such as sea otters — once hunted to extinction and now making a comeback after being reintroduced near northern Vancouver Island. She's seen grey whales and even breaching humpbacks up close.

"You're very quiet and you're quite still. You stop paddling and just stay quiet," McColm said, not-



Cover of Anna McColm's West Coast calendar for 2014.

ing the experience can be simultaneously thrilling and terrifying.

This sense of awe and respect is clearly felt in McColm's beautiful photographs. Scenes such as a shot of the untouched beach where Klaskish Inlet meets the East Creek Estuary are rugged yet vulnerable: The area backs onto one of the last of only six unlogged valleys on the island. A scene of Third Beach on Nootka Island contrasts colourful buoys netted onto a tree branch with white sands and blue skies — the northern version of a tropical paradise, accessed only by intrepid boaters and hikers of the Nootka Trail.

Solander Island, photographed from an approach of smooth waters and backed by soft blue sky, looks like another paradise, and it is one for B.C.'s second largest colony of

puffins. Kayakers should beware the deceptively calm nature of the image, however — the island's exposed back side provided McColm with 30 minutes of the most frightening waves she's ever had to paddle through.

Visitors to the Fernwood Road Cafe will find a selection of McColm's West Coast photos, including many from the calendar, on exhibit through mid-August. The calendar itself, which is beautifully printed on thick paper that's certified by FSC.org (paper for responsible sources), will be available for purchase at the cafe, as well as Island Escapades and Salt Spring Books.

For those of us who may never make the kayak trip ourselves, adding to the coast's protection while getting to gaze on its images for 13 months is definitely the next best thing.

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CUISINE

Chefs night welcomes Cotter

Iconic Irish vegetarian chef to visit Salt Spring

Vegetarians from Salt Spring and beyond will be excited by the next Chefs Across the Water series visitor.

Irish chef Denis Cotter is well regarded for his cutting-edge vegetarian fare, which he will bring to Hastings House Country House Hotel on Sept. 30.

According to a press release, for the first time in history of Chefs Across the Water events, which began in 2010, the menu will consist of meatless dishes executed by a chef from outside B.C., and one setting out to change attitudes towards vegetarian cooking. A number of celebrity chefs have already put their stamp on Chefs Across the Water, including Vikram Vij, Pino Posteraro, John Bishop and sushi chef Tojo.

Cotter is the proprietor of the acclaimed

Café Paradiso in Cork City, Ireland. He is the author of four cookbooks, Café Paradiso Cookbook, Paradiso Seasons and "wild garlic, gooseberries and me." His latest offering, published by Harper Collins, is called "for the love of food."

He now divides his time between Cork and Ontario.

"I'm very excited to come to the west coast of Canada to be part of Chefs Across the Water," Cotter said. "The food culture on Salt Spring has a dynamic reputation and I'm looking forward to working with the local produce at Hastings House, at a perfect time of the season, to create a menu that celebrates the rich flavours of the region."

Proceeds from past chef dinners have gone to the Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance's efforts to establish an abattoir on island, which opened this year. Funds raised by the September event will go towards the installation of a produce storage and distribution facility.

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what's on this week



Wed. July 24 **Thurs. July 25** **Fri. July 26** **Fri. July 26** **Sat. July 27** **Sun. July 28** **Tues. July 30**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Duo West. Duo concert for violin and cello at the weekly Music and Munch concert. All Saints By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m.
Fiddleworks Instructor Jam Under the Stars. With 15 of North America's top folk musicians. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Market in the Meadow. Food, farm and craft vendors set up every Wednesday during the summer. United Church Meadow. 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Travelling Puppet Show - Summer Reading Club. Exclusive workshop and show for the library's Summer Reading Club. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic Night. Hosted by Richard Cross every Thursday at The Local. 6 to 10 p.m.
Phoenix Lazare. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Hannah Addario-Berry & Duo Zoco in Concert. ArtSpring presents Canadian cellist Hannah Addario-Berry, Australian guitar player Jacob Cordover and American oboist Laura Karney. 8 p.m.
Open Mic at Moby's. Every Thursday with Ross & Dave. 8 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee. Regular business meeting. Begins at 9:30 a.m. with a town hall session at noon. Lions Hall.
Travelling Puppet Show. Free show and workshop for ages 4-6. Pre-registration required. SS Library. 2 to 4 p.m.
Heritage Apples Book Launch. Celebration of new book by Salt Spring Island author Susan Lundy. Mistaken Identity Vineyards. 5 to 7 p.m.
Bring Your Own Picnic at Blackburn Lake. See the property the SSI Conservancy wants to protect through purchase. 265 Blackburn Road. 5:30 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music in the Vineyard. Salt Spring Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.
Soul Shakedown. The Local. 5 to 8 p.m.
Fiddleworks Gala Concert & Fiddle Dance. Over 100 students and instructors play music, followed by an all-ages, everyone welcome called dance. Centennial Park. 7 p.m.
Juke Box Social. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Roll It. 1980s/dance music. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Susan Huber Bad-azz Photomontage. Artist speaks about process and materials. Dragonfly Art Supply. 1 p.m.
Travelling Puppet Show. Free show and workshop for ages 7-9. Pre-registration required. SS Library. 2 to 4 p.m.
Stay & Play Drop In. For kids aged 0 to 6 and their parents/caregivers. Light lunch provided. Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Inter-Island Ferry Party. Leave Long Harbour on the 3:55 p.m. sailing and travel with fellow islanders to Galiano, then optionally on to Mayne and Pender islands. Tour guides arranged on Galiano and Mayne. Return to Salt Spring either on 7:35 p.m. ferry from Galiano, at 9:40 p.m. from Mayne (via Pender) or Pender at 10:15 p.m.
Art Exhibit: Walter J. Phillips & the Group of Seven Opening Gala. With talk by Pegasus Gallery owner Ian Sigvaldason at 5 p.m. ArtSpring. 5 to 7 p.m.
Basketry Guild Talk. SSI Basketry Guild presents a free talk with Sharon Kallis on gathering and working with Himalayan blackberry and other invasive species. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

Sat. July 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Bros. The Local. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Sweetwater & Co. Live jazz. Harbour House Restaurant. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Laura and Pat from Carmanah. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Visentin Ensemble. David Visentin and friends present an evening of major works for string quartet, piano quintet and solo piano. ArtSpring. 8 p.m.
Interchill Presents Bassos Rancheros and Lawrence. Latin and cumbia DJ returns to Moby's. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Dad 'n' Me Pancake Breakfast. Drop-in with free pancakes for dads and kids aged 0 to 6. Family Place. 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Saturday Market in the Park. Salt Spring's famous Saturday market runs in Centennial Park 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Travelling Puppet Show. Free show and workshop for ages 7-9. Pre-registration required. SS Library. 9:30 to 1:30 a.m.
Boot Sale. SSI United Church holds fundraiser in the meadow next to the church on Hereford Avenue in Ganges. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Basketry Guild Workshop: Blackberry Vine Gathering & Processing. Pre-register with Barb Arnett at 250-537-8946 or bburtonarnett@gmail.com. Lions Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Janet Dwyer Photo Exhibit and Sale. Open invitation to see Janet Dwyer's scanner-based imagery runs Saturday through Monday. 234 Fairway Crescent. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Drawing Buddhas Workshop. Participants don't have to be practising Buddhists to learn Tibetan grid form. SS United Church. 1 to 4 p.m. Info/registration: Cindy, 250-538-2358.
Second Annual Fulford Valley Garden Party. Everyone welcome to open stage and potluck picnic. Jones Road. 2 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Stack Sisters. Live music at Mistaken Identity Vineyards. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Jazz Friends With Sue Newman. Live music in the bandshell at Salt Spring Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.
Billie Woods. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.
Sean Ashby. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

1st Annual Farm Festival at Blennerhasset. Dog agility demo, Hoof & Woof, pony sports, live music and more. Admission by donation, with part proceeds to the SS Fod Bank and the Therapeutic Riding Association. Blennerhasset Equestrian Centre. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Foxglove Festival. Annual festival with live bluegrass music by the Stowaways, guided farm tours, kids activities, food and farm stand. Foxglove Farm. Noon to 6 p.m.

Mon. July 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Gene Grooms. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage with David Jaquest. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Paddle & Play. A Family Place activity at Vesuvius Beach for ages 0 to 6 and parents/caregivers. 10 a.m. to 12 noon every Tuesday through August.
Tuesday Farmers' Market. Every week in Centennial Park until October. 2 to 4 p.m.
Dinner with NDP MP Pat Martin. "Salt Spring's unofficial MP", with MLA Gary Holman in attendance. Come with your favourite dish to share. Lions Hall. 5:30 p.m.

Wed. July 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Patricia Flanagan. Vocalist performs for Music & Munch recital. Free music followed by an optional lunch (\$5.50) prepared by the Anglican Caterers. All Saints. 12:10 p.m.
The Barley Brothers. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Market in the Meadow. Food, farm and craft vendors set up every Wednesday during the summer. United Church Meadow. 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Summer Reading Club Weekly Storytime. This week's theme is To the Stars! Salt Spring Island Public Library. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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SOLD OUT! National Theatre Live encore presentations on BluRay of "The Audience" Starring Helen Mirren
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143mins Rating: PG

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- **The Lone Ranger** — From the makers of Pirates of the Caribbean comes The Lone Ranger, a thrilling adventure infused with action and humor. Native American spirit warrior Tonto (Johnny Depp) recounts the tales that transformed a lawman into a legend, as they learn to work together and fight against greed and corruption.
- **SOLD OUT — The Audience.** A National Live Theatre encore presentation on Wednesday-Thursday, July 24 and 25 only.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art** presents woodcuts and watercolours by **Walter J. Phillips** plus works from the Group of Seven. Opening gala on **Friday, July 26**, 5 to 7 p.m., with talk by Ian Sigvaldason at 5 p.m.; Saturday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with presentation at 2 p.m.; Sunday, July 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a presentation at 2 p.m.
- **'White-transforming vision'** is a new show by **Anna Gustafson** at the **ArtCraft Showcase Gallery in Mahon Hall**, running daily until **July 31**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Big Show:** large works by Salt Spring artists runs at **Pod Contemporary gallery** along with a new jewellery collection by **Paul Jacobsen Jensen**.

- Vancouver artist **David Robinson** shows interior and exterior pieces at **Duthie Gallery** through **July** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Monday, with the summertime **Night Gallery** also open from 9 to 11 p.m. Thursday through Monday.
- **Anna McColm** shows photos of the West Coast at **Fernwood Road Cafe** through **mid-August**, and will sell calendars containing the photos in support of the Raincoast Protection Foundation.
- **Stefanie Denz** presents "Marcello's further adventures," paintings on mixed media, at the **Harbour House Hotel in July**.
- **Gillean Proctor** shows new photography at **MacDonald Realty**, 101-170 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
- **Cole Bazin** exhibits **Dystopia** at **The Gathering** through **July**.
- **ArtCraft**, the annual show and sale of 100+ Gulf Islands artisans' work presented by the **Salt Spring Arts Council**, runs daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at **Mahon Hall** until **Sept. 15**.
- **Summer Splendor**, an exhibition of fantastic flowers by members of the **Salt Spring Photography Club**, is featured in the **Salt Spring Public Library** through **July 31**. The exhibit is accessible Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Petra Otten** has paintings at **Penny's Pantry**.

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PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

OLD-TIME FUN: Andy Whitehead of Elf Leatherworks demonstrates his technique, left, while Xavier Gaudet, age 2 1/2, sits on an historic tractor at Heritage Day at the Farmers' Institute on Sunday. Visitors enjoyed several old-time skills demos, displays and tours of the Bittancourt House Museum, which is open Monday through Friday until the end of August.

ISLAND FACES

Summers still 'passing it on'

Greenwoods resident livens up the neighbourhood

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When most people happen across an inspiring song, they might take to tapping their feet or whistling along. Others, like Salt Spring's Mearnie Summers, take up the message as a lifelong philosophy.

Such has been the case with Pass it On, a Willie Nelson song released on the Promiseland album in 1991.

Ever since the athletic chainsaw-wielding dock builder moved to Salt Spring from her former home along Indian Arm north of Vancouver, Summers has taken the song's message to heart, passing along good deeds with the hope others will get inspired to follow suit. Summers has played professional women's baseball, worked as a school teacher, dance instructor and general store owner, became the first woman to complete a solo circumnavigation of Vancouver Island by sailboat, and shuttled equipment and supplies between isolated work camps along the West Coast.

In more recent years, she's been involved with the island's Japanese Garden Society, Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island and has given the next generation of woodworkers, regardless of their age, a thorough education on the finer points of chainsaw craftsmanship.

Summers' exciting life set off on a new chapter earlier this



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Mearnie Summers on one of the benches she donated to Greenwood.

year when she moved into a suite at the Greenwood's Elder-care Facility in Ganges. Should you want to stop by for a visit, just look for the door with a picture of the chainsaw on it.

Transitions to a new home aren't always easy, but that's where Summers' "pass it on" philosophy has come in handy once again as she brightens up the lives of people around her.

Earlier this month, she put the finishing touches on a pair of handcrafted wooden benches that now sit in the facility's courtyard. One of the benches is dedicated to her loving partner Caffyn Kelley. The other has been inscribed with "Greenwood Nurses" as a thank you to the staff who've helped out since her arrival.

"I just find their attitude is wonderful," she said. And Summers hasn't stopped there.

In keeping with her affinity for music, Summers has begun teaching again. Some of her neighbours are now learning to play the ukulele, an instrument Summers has played for years, including while sailing to Tahiti.

"If I was teaching again, I would have everyone in the class with a ukulele," she said. "It's so easy that everyone can enjoy it."

When she learned about a neighbour who was "down in the mouth," Summers arranged to teach him the fine art of pyrography, or engraving messages with fire. The neighbour quickly took to the hobby and presented Summers with a plaque engraved with the chorus from her favourite song.

The plaque hangs proudly in the hallway just outside her room, awaiting an opportunity to inspire anyone who happens to be passing by to pass it on.

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COMMUNITY GATHERING

Festival celebrates agriculture

Food, music, tours and more on Sunday at Foxglove Farm

Live bluegrass music, wood-fired pizzas, kids' activities, a produce stand and farm tours will highlight this year's Foxglove Festival on Sunday, July 28.

Victoria-based bluegrass band The Stowaways will provide the featured music for the day.

Pizzas made with Foxglove Farm grown flour and vegetables and baked in an on-site wood oven will be available all day along with salads, farm-grown pear and apple cider, and homegrown raspberry and mint ice cream. Food will be prepared by Andrea Carlson, formerly the executive chef of Bishop's in Vancouver, now owner and head chef at Burdock & Co.

The popular festival will be held at the historic Foxglove Farm, a 120-acre organic farm based on one of the original homesteads on the island, which is surrounded by hundreds of acres of protected

forest and agricultural fields bordering Maxwell Lake. The farm produces a wide range of fruits, vegetables, grains and dry beans.

A big feature of the annual event is the guided tours of the farm that will take place at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. The entertaining one-hour tours are a blend of story telling, agricultural and culinary insights, and basic farming and gardening techniques. The tours are led by Michael Ableman, author, farmer, educator and founder/director of Solefood, North America's largest urban agriculture social enterprise based in Vancouver.

Fresh produce from the farm will be available for sale all day, as will books and information on the farm and its programs.

This year the Foxglove Festival will add a kids' area, which will include face painting, crafts, bubbles and other activities.

The July 28 event runs from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

More information is available at www.foxglove-farmbc.ca.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Puck makes midsummer mischief

Bridge nights as strange as ever

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Puck, that merry wanderer of the night in A Midsummer Night's Dream, probably looked in on the duplicate bridge gatherings on July 1 and 8 and thought "Lord, what fools these mortals be!" After all, it was Canada Day on July 1, with celebrations all day and fireworks to come, but here were these people playing cards as usual — seven full tables of them so there was a Mitchell movement. Top of the heap were the East/West winners, Jillian and Doug Reid, overcoming Liz and Oleh Mycyk in second place as well as Patricia Hewett and Bob Morrisette in third.

The North/South scores were very close, but Gisela Welsh and Ruth Topping inched ahead of George Laundry and Paul Retallack, who snuck past Jeff Bell partnered by Nancy Arnold, back for the summer. And then there was a rush to downtown for the fireworks!

July 8 saw another seven full tables with the ghost of Bottom saying, "Masters, spread yourselves" to the players choosing North/South or East/West positions. Cards were distributed and studied, and "so quick bright things come to confusion." Those least confused were again the East/West winners, Blanche Poborsa and Gerry Nicholson (he who returns from Arizona), followed by Gillian Mout and Jennifer Quick. Third were Vic Parks and Janet Stethem.

North/South saw a tie for first place, with Paul Retallack and Jeff Bell's score equalling that of the Mycyks. Next were Joanne Elizabeth and Jill Evans, followed by Gisela Welsh and Jean Elder.

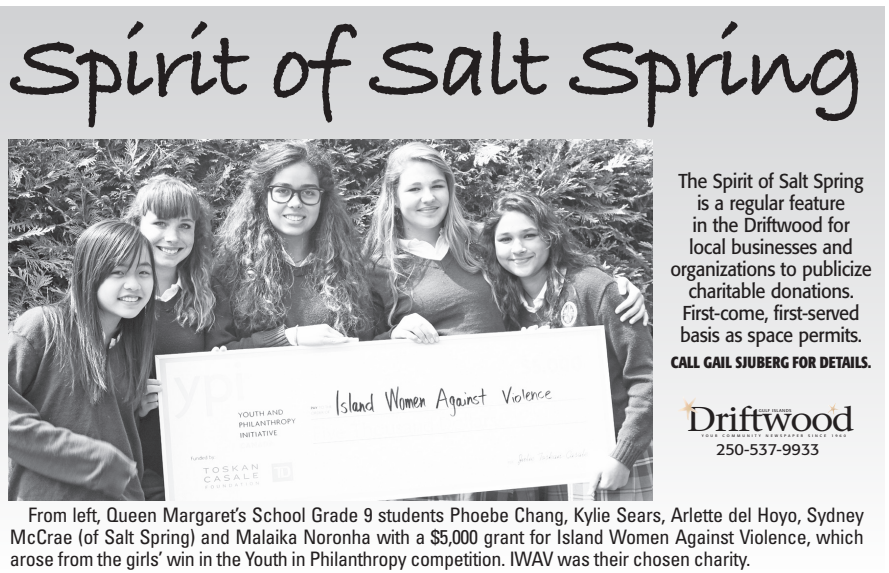
On July 15 there were seven and a half tables and mischief Puck was about, thinking "And those things do best please me, That do befall preposterously" as he did something with the computer that made the players' names disappear.

"O monstrous! O strange! we are haunted," quoth Paul Retallack, as he struggled (and succeeded) to retrieve the results accurately at the end of the evening.

Topping the scores were the repeating East/West winners, namely the Poborsa-Nicholson duo. Second to them were welcome visitors from Victoria, Graham Boyd and Andy Beaudette, and third were Jillian and Doug Reid. The North/South winners were the Mycyks, and the Retallack-Bell pair were second with Ted Baldwinson and Terry Clement coming third. The rest probably vowed to wake up from the midsummer dream and make fewer mistakes next time. Everyone makes mistakes, but promises next time "To show our simple skill," so:

"Gentles, do not reprehend: If you pardon, we will mend: And, as I am an honest Puck, If we have unearned luck Now to 'scape the serpent's tongue,

We will make amends ere long." For info about these dreamtimes, contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastoral@shaw.ca.



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. **CALL GAIL SIJBERG FOR DETAILS.**

YOUTH AND PHILANTHROPY INITIATIVE
Island Women Against Violence

Driftwood
250-537-9933

From left, Queen Margaret's School Grade 9 students Phoebe Chang, Kylie Sears, Arlette del Hoyo, Sydney McCrae (of Salt Spring) and Malaika Noronha with a \$5,000 grant for Island Women Against Violence, which arose from the girls' win in the Youth in Philanthropy competition. IWAV was their chosen charity.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Olympians leave their mark



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING SPECIAL OLYMPICS

From left, Nic Charmley (Nanaimo athlete), Mahjor Bains (Salt Spring athlete), Ross Harvey (caregiver), Joan Gatt (Powell River athlete), Dom George (Salt Spring athlete), Angela Koetzle (coach), Tom Mitchell (caregiver) and David McEachern (Salt Spring athlete). Gatt and Charmley joined with Bains, George and McEachern from Salt Spring to form a full team, which won a silver medal at the BC Special Olympics in Langley. Last week's Driftwood included a photo of the gold-medal-winning bocce team.

B.C. Games make 20th anniversary extra special

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Special Olympics from Salt Spring Island are riding high after a stellar performance at their inaugural appearance at the B.C. Special Olympics in Langley.

Mahjor Bains, a silver-medal winner in the bowling competition, is among the six competitors who've been proudly displaying their new hardware to anyone and everyone in town since the team's return to the island following the July 11 to 14 event.

The team's success comes as the local Olympians and support crew, which comprises 13 athletes with special needs and as many as 29 caregivers and coaching staff, celebrate the organization's 20th year on the island. In spite of being around for two decades, however, this year's trip to the Lower Mainland marks the first time the small Salt

Spring club has participated at the provincial level.

The four-day event, held at the sprawling multi-sport Langley Events Centre, included opening and closing ceremonies as well as a full-range of summer sporting events for over 1,200 athletes and supervisors.

Merv Anderson, a local volunteer who helped coordinate more than 200 participants from Vancouver Island, Powell River and Salt Spring, joined fellow Special Olympics volunteers Tom Mitchell, Ross Harvey, Robert Elsea and Angela Koetzle on the trip.

"It's really a team effort," he said. "Once you get involved, it just makes it all worthwhile."

Salt Spring's six participating athletes left a strong impression on the competition, as Bains, Daniel McEachern and Dominic George earned silver medals in the bowling competition, and bocce players Jason Newport, Carlos Manzano and Chris Joynson brought home the gold.

The results reflect a solid commitment on behalf of athletes,

coaches and caregivers throughout the lead-up to last week's provincial games.

"It doesn't matter what Olympics it is, you work at it all year and for as long as it takes," Anderson said.

Players, coaching staff and caregivers can now set their sights on preparing for an Aug. 11 bocce tournament at Centennial Park that will pit locals against competitors from Campbell River, the Comox Valley and Parksville.

Anderson, who also serves as president of the local chapter, said the group is always looking for more helpers for what's proven to be an incredibly rewarding volunteer opportunity.

"The thing that keeps me going is that you see the challenges these athletes have on a daily basis, yet so many are content," Anderson said. "You think back and wonder, 'What do I really have to complain about?'"

More information about the Salt Spring Island Special Olympics group is available from Anderson by calling 250-537-4011.

ART TALK

'Bad-azz' form in view

Susan Huber next up in Dragonfly series

Photographer Susan Huber will be sharing how photo-montage lets her explore her dark side at the next artist's event at Dragonfly Fine Arts and Craft Supplies, set for Friday, July 26 from 1 p.m. on.

"She was raised to be a good girl. But good girls don't always get ahead. And never mind good — just being a girl on this planet can get you killed — or worse ..." Huber's press material explains.

"Being a good girl in a relatively good part of the planet, she was drawn to platinum/palladium photography as

one way to express her creative ideas and pin down memories of her travels and outings.

"But her bad-azz alter-ego wasn't satisfied with creating beautiful, meticulously detailed, hand-printed works of art as memorials to our changing culture and the landscapes we live in. She wanted something more, something risky, something that would help her good-girl side look over the edge and scream with fear and delight."

Visit Dragonfly on Friday to hear more about how photo-montage opened the door to Huber's inner chaos and passion and her journey to bring light into dark.

Attention New Salt Springers!



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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor
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Tip of the Week:

The waves caused by the ongoing line-up of planets continue to wash in. These are invariably producing synchronistic events and subsequent changes for people both individually and collectively and on many fronts. Sometimes according to our cycles and circumstances these produce reaction, yet proactive response ever remains part of the game and an ever present possibility. One of the keys to proactive response is to live with deepened self-awareness and the consequent vision that it affords. Astrology is invaluable in this regard, when approached with a deepened appreciation of the valuable resource that it is. It is not the majority who do this yet. Directed by outer, social influences, attitudes and norms people engage in the game of life confident and justified in their actions. Yet, when our choices and actions are based on this outer directed mode of reasoning alone, we are less able to live more authentically, in-tune with a deeper sense of purpose and the subsequent harmony with others and life in general that it produces. The global environmental crisis which remains and will for decades to come, at least, is an example of it. This is one of the deeper messages that are surfacing from the sum of colossal stir of cosmic energies at play. That a key feature of these encompasses a period reaching to 2026 when Neptune enters Aries offers us a fairly wide time frame within which to focus and set our intentions. Regarding the more recent cycles, the Great Grand Trine in Water Signs that officially began on July 17 is lingering and is being reinforced by Mars. On July 27th Mars forms an exact Opposition to Pluto on the same day that the Moon forms a Conjunction with Uranus and then will actually form a Square to Uranus on July 31, thereby reinforcing the lingering and potent Square aspect between Uranus and Pluto. Thus, this is when Mars weaves the Water Grand Trine with the Uranus/Pluto Square. The influence of this will specifically continue until April 2014. The entries for each sign below offers more specific insight for each of the 12 archetypes of the Zodiac and you can gain even more from my Newsletters. Send me an email to subscribe. We are living in monumental times — stay tuned!

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Many big and significant activations are rocking your world. These are occurring both at the deeper levels of your being and in outer obvious ways as well. Changes close to home and with your family are likely themes. Some measure of cleaning, clearing, renovating and moving altogether are a source of passion, excitement and drama.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

A busy round of activities continues to keep you busy. A key world in it all is commitment. Endurance, perseverance and stubborn adherence to your priorities, goals and plans are other ways of describing it. Focusing to invest versus simply to spend is extra important. Efforts to establish a more secure foundation will prove extra valuable later. So do it now.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

With so many places to go and people to see, you are in your element. Beyond the rich array of excitement and hopeful fun, deeper considerations of establishing a more secure lifestyle rhythm is underway. It is quite important that you take this seriously. This implies extra effort, discipline and a willingness to learn. Aim to establish a foundation of whole health.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

An expansive cycle continues. You are likely feeling inspired to take a few risks or to advance your position somehow. This impulse will linger well into 2014. Yet, this is no time to be in a rush neither. All the while, deeper spiritual activations and awakenings are flowing in steadily. If these are not obvious, take a moment to tune-in to receive the blessings.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

The Sun in your signs is an indication that you are ready to take some pioneering, creative leads. You are digging deeper these days that you have perhaps for a long time. You are determined to lay claim to bigger dreams and hidden powers. This may be stirring some fears. Accessing deeper reserves of faith is important for success. You can do it!

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

Expanding your scope and network is an important theme these days. The time is right to collaborate and cooperate with other key players. Who these are and what you need to do is the creative question you must answer. For now, working behind the scenes is important. Aim to establish secure foundations on a variety of fronts.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

Some big, exciting and noticeable changes are shaking in your world. These are linked to increased exposure, responsibility and opportunity. Yet, you must be willing to pay your dues and invest as necessary. In the short term, quality time shared with friends new and old will be the warm sun drying up any lingering puddles from yesteryear.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21)

The time has come to advance your position. This includes getting the attention you want, need, and have earned and feel you deserve. Approaching authority figures for to facilitate this process is likely and ideal. This is your window so do not wait. Even by simply activating a process you will be on track and in-tune with your time.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21)

A process of completion and closure continues yet the main thrust of it has entered the next phase. The good news is that these endings are also bringing rewards, perhaps unexpected ones. Look upon the overall process as an important graduation process. Imagine things did not change and there was no such thing as graduation! Accept, trust and celebrate this flow.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19)

The time has come clear the old to make way for the new. Whether by choice or circumstances beyond your control, you are experiencing something of a change of the guards. The good news is that this is increasing your overall exposure; hopefully you want this to happen. That this is shaking things up deep within you and close to home is part of the deal.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19)

An activation of new associations, friendships and deeper relationships too is underway. This may be causing some of your confidences to waver. Aim to establish new foundations and fortify old ones. From this platform your confidences to expand your outreach will increase. Awakening to new modes of perception, to recognize alternative approaches, is a golden key.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

You have embarked upon a special and important creative curve. It is leading you to consider new values, priorities and possibilities. There is some measure of diversity implied so avoid single minded approaches or singular projects. The other challenge however will be to advance each of these in equal measure. Be willing to do the rounds to advance on all fronts!

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IN MEMORIAM

Mike Byron
MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monday, July 29, 2013
12:00 noon - All Saints By the Sea
Anglican Church,
110 Park Drive, Ganges
1:30 pm - Reception at
the Farmers Institute on Rainbow Road
~Please bring your memories and stories to share.~




IN MEMORIAM




Harold Fryer
MASONIC SERVICE
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OF LIFE
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IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

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DEATHS **DEATHS**

Christina Isabelle Richardson (D'Alroy)
April 18, 1924 - July 18, 2013



Christina Isabelle Richardson (D'Alroy) born April 18, 1924 in Port Alberni BC passed away on Salt Spring Island on July 18, 2013 with her beloved family by her side.

We are sad to announce the sudden passing of Isabelle Richardson (nee D'alroy): our Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Isabelle was pre-deceased in 2012 by her husband of nearly 70 years, John. At 89 years old Mom was beginning to recover from that loss with the support and activity provided by her wonderful Island friends. Upon retirement and move from New Westminster she and John had been residents of the Island for almost thirty years, living in the home they built near Fernwood. They were more recently settled in their unit at Roscommon.

Isabelle is survived by her three children Greg (Betty Richardson), Val (Mike MacDonald) and Frank, her beloved grandchildren Sarah, Aimee, Hana, Oonagh (Richard Savdie), Ryan, Carly, and Brendan; her 18 month old great-granddaughter Louka Savdie; her niece Lynne (Mark Fraser) and numerous nieces and nephews of her extended family.

Over the years, Isabelle has been active in community life through volunteering and social activities; participating in the Meals on Wheels program, home support services, assisting at the Tourism Information Centre, and participating in the Gulf Islands Residents Association (which planned and built the Meadowbrook Facility). Mom sang with the Lost Chords and recently enjoyed the adventure of travelling to Kamloops with them for a choir event.

Mom's life slowly changed in the mid 1990's when she developed Macular Degeneration. She then became a volunteer peer supporter of the CNIB. With never a complaint she continued her activities.

Mom was a dear mother, Granny, Granty and Gramma, Great-Grandmother, Auntie and friend to all. She will be greatly missed.

The family extends a special thanks to the Lady Minto Hospital staff and especially those nurses who diligently ensured her comfort in the Palliative Care Unit where she passed on a beautiful sunny afternoon with doors open to that unmatched Island air.

A service of Music and Contemplation will take place at the Salt Spring Island United Church 111 Herford Avenue on Saturday July 27th 2013 at 4:00pm followed by a tea reception.

Donations to the Lady Minto Palliative Care Unit in lieu of flowers would be greatly appreciated.

DEATHS

MAUDE, GEORGE ASHLEY
December 13, 1925 - July 17, 2013.

Died suddenly, at Saanich Peninsula Hospital. Leaves his wife of 60 years, Nancy, sons: Tony (Lisa), Christopher (Pamela) and David, three grandsons: Curtiss, Glenn and Dave, and two great-grandsons: Jesse and Evan.

To be remembered by his friends and associates at Pat Bay Airport, where his beloved P-40 was hanged. He was born on Salt Spring Island and served during WWII in the Marine Section of the RCAF. He lived on Saanich Peninsula and worked for 29 years for Trans Canada Airlines (Air Canada), retiring in 1977.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in his name to the charity of your choice. At George's request, there will be no service.

FIRST MEMORIAL FUNERAL SERVICES - FALAISE
250-658-5244

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

2ND ANNUAL Fulford Valley Garden Party, Sat. July 27, 2pm, Jones Rd. Open Stage - All are Welcome, Potluck Picnic

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FIRST MEMORIAL FUNERAL SERVICES - FALAISE
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page 14

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- GARAGE SALES**
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 - 119 CASTLE CROSS RD. Fri., July 26 11am - 2pm and Sat., July 27, 10am - 1pm. Household goods, holiday items, and much more 2
 - 122 MADRONA RD (off Churchill). Sat/July 27, 9 am - 3 pm. Tools, household items, antiques, free stuff. No early birds. 3
 - 126 LAUTMAN DR. (off Cushion Lake) Sat. July 27, 9am - 3pm. Moving Out Sale 4
 - 915 RAINBOW RD. Sat. July 27, 9am - 1pm. Construction material, household, etc. 5
- GARAGE SALES**
- 180 CHARLESWORTH RD. Collectables, vintage kayak & drum, lamps, furniture, jewelry, coins, paintings. MORE. Saturday July 27th 8am - 2pm 6
 - 185 HIGH HILL RD. Fundraising Garage Sale! July 27 9-3. For my niece Ursula. Household, arts & crafts supplies, tools, kitchen & garden. Lots of stuff! 7
- UPPER GANGES CENTRE** front building between Golden Island & Dagwoods. Saturday July 27 9 - 11 am. Early birds must bring goodies from Penny's. Proceeds to Salt Spring's Non-Profit OPTions for Sexual Health Clinic. 8

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sports&recreation

SWIMMING

Stingrays on course for regionals after top-three wins

Swim team enjoys success at hosted weekend meet

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Stingrays head coach Rachael Gardner has good reason to be optimistic about Salt Spring's roster of young swimmers with only two weeks to go before the regional championships get underway in Nanaimo.

No fewer than 10 island swimmers earned top-three finishes in 11 events held as part of a three-day swim meet at the Rainbow Road Pool over the weekend. Salt Spring swimmers who finished in the top three of their respective categories were Kaelin Ertel, Nolan Walton, Zoey Johnson, Cassidy Fraser, Andrew Sinclair, Shane

Webster, Maddie Wesley-Plambeck, Gabrielle Spiess, Rylan Burnett and Lyyli Kennedy.

Local swimmers competed against nearly 400 athletes from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland at what's become a favourite tournament among many swimmers and their parents.

"One off-island coach suggested, 'Every weekend's meet should be on Salt Spring,'" Gardner said on Monday. "It's a definite highlight and such a good team-building experience."

Some 387 swimmers participated in the Salt Spring meet, which included a one-kilometre open-water swim that took place on St. Mary Lake. Gardner said the open-water component is a unique Salt Spring experience that many off-island swimmers look for-



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Close to 400 swimmers from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland were on Salt Spring over the weekend for the annual Stingrays swim meet.

ward to year after year. "It's become a really big part of the meet," she said. Attendance at this year's outdoor swim was 140 par-

ticipants, up from about 80 swimmers who competed in the 2012 event at Cusheon Lake.

Gardner said she feels

the team is in great shape for regionals in Nanaimo, which serves as the qualifier for provincial championships held in Coquitlam

in mid-August.

"We have so many who are close to making it and so many will make it," Gardner said. "This is going to be the culmination of all their hard work."

Aside from her swimmers' strong results, Gardner said the tournament's highlight was the outstanding effort by local parents and other volunteers who helped make the event a memorable experience.

"At the end of the day, there were about 50 Stingray parents feeding people and processing results," she said. "People really rally for this event."

The team gave thanks to community members for their support, and to their primary sponsors TJ Beans, Country Grocer, Slegg Lumber and Rainbow Road Pool.



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DRAGON BOAT RACING

Dragons score Harrison bronze

Loose heads and exciting finals mark 70-team festival

BY DONNA COCHRAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Spirit Point Dragons enjoyed another beautiful race day at Harrison Dragon Boat Regatta this past weekend.

It was a sold-out venue with 70 teams and the winds Harrison is well-known for made it an exciting, if somewhat challenging, day for the race organizers. They did a brilliant job at lining up each race with five boats and getting them off the starting line in spite of some strong drift.

The first 200-metre race was the qualifying heat to sort the teams by time and ability. Spirit Point posted a good time of 1:01 placing fourth behind Creekside Masters (0:56.22), Thunder Stokers (0:56.79), Zoned Out (1:00) and ahead of Water Warriors (1:05).

In the first of three 500-metre heats, Spirit Point was up against stiffer competition, finishing third with a time of 2:43 behind Sudden Impact Blue (2:38) and Cultus Lake Dragon Flyers (2:42) and ahead of FLCC Dragonflies (2:54) and FLCC Dragon Spirit (2:56).

While heading back to the shore post-race, Spirit Point boat's dragon head tried to gently "bite" Cultus Lake boat's dragon tail, perhaps a bit of a tease for losing to them by one second! The dragon head came loose and had to be retrieved by one of the race organizer zodiacs and coach Mary Rowles. A replacement dragon head was at the ready as we paddled ashore and the races continued.

In the semi-final 500-metre heat, Spirit Point had a great start and held the lead for the entire race, finishing with their best time of the day (2:40) ahead of Gung Haggis Fat

Choy (2:44), Dragon Tao (2:47.4), Optimist Eagles (2:47.7) and The Eh Team (2:48).

The final was an exciting end to the day as the teams raced dragon head to head the whole course with Spirit Point placing a close third for the bronze at 2:43 to first-place KDBC Blazing Paddles (2:41.8), second-place Spirit of Fraser Valley (2:41.9) and ahead of Gung Haggis Fat Choy (2:46) and Columbia College CC Riders (2:55).

Coach Mary Rowles drummed, shouted encouragement and generally kept the team paddling their best. Andrew Okulitch and Tom McKeachie alternated between ably steering and paddling.

Team paddlers included Marit Christensen, Robyn Huntley, Janice Shields, Nova Elson, Audrey Denton, Lynda Green, Barry Green, Melynda Okulitch, Donna Cochran, Carmelle Labelle, Christa Wohlfart, Dan Gellein, Ann Marie Davidson, Wendy Eggerston, Susana Helgason, Kesia Hartwell, Ware Hartwell, Carolyn Morgan, Jill Simpson, Carol Spencer and Jacky Cooper.

A special thanks to Christa's grandson, Terrence Paiement, who joined the team for one race again this year and to Audrey's daughter, Heather Denton, who paddles for a Vancouver team but joined Spirit Point for the Harrison festival and helped us bring home the bling!

The team's number-one supporters, Nils and Sheila Christensen, were saluted by the paddlers before each race to show their gratitude.

Spirit Point Dragons will race in one more competition in Steveston in August.

The team appreciates the support of Salt Spring businesses Harbours End Marine, Country Grocer and Royal LePage. New members are always welcome. Contact Mary Rowles at nthewater181@gmail.com.