



Emergency!
Search & Rescue and storm-prep focus
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Meet The Elvolutionaries
Circus group feature
PAGE 12



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, February 6, 2013 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 53RD YEAR — ISSUE 6



FUNNY FERNWOOD FACES: The Fernwood kindergarten class of Malindi Curtis, left, made the most of their photo op when presenting a \$100 cheque to the Salt Spring Conservancy's Kris Fullbrook (adult blonde at right). After winning the charity draw in the Driftwood's Christmas story contest — as one of the classes with 100 per cent contest participation — they picked the conservancy's Stewards in Training program to benefit.

PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

FIRE DISTRICT

Trustees make call for PR help

Communications plan on fire hall to-do list

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District continues to work toward a goal of asking for public funds to build a new fire hall this year, with communication emerging as one of the most critical components at this point in the campaign.

The board of trustees has taken advice given by communications consultant Judy Kirk that a professional public relations coordinator should be sought. The members agreed at Monday night's meeting to advertise for community volunteers with expert knowledge and to simultaneously accept proposals for paid contracts.

Michael Schubart, chair of the new fire hall committee, also recommended advertising for a volunteer fundraiser to look at and apply for any possible grants available through government and private agencies.

"It's way beyond the scope of what any trustee can be expected to do on our volunteer time," he said.

Fellow committee member Ron Chamney added, "I really agree that we cannot do this and it's something worth pursuing."

Trustees will be publishing a monthly column in the Driftwood to discuss some of the issues that are expected to come up during the campaign, such as the pros and cons of seeking a tax requisition through the alternate approval process or a referendum, and the particular building code specifications modern emergency facilities are required to follow.

FIRE HALL continued on 2

ISLANDS TRUST

Metal business gets final chance

Trust says Quesnel issue must be resolved

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The land-use application for a Rainbow Road metal recycling facility entered its latest chapter on Thursday afternoon as Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee voted to prepare a draft bylaw and ask the island's chamber of commerce to help find a solution.

"I believe we're in the seventh year of this particular application . . . and closure is necessary," said LTC member George Grams during Thursday's

meeting at Lions Hall.

Salt Spring's three LTC members voted unanimously to give applicant John Quesnel one more chance to address neighbours' noise concerns as Trust staff prepare a draft bylaw to rezone his property at 440 Rainbow Rd. The rezoning is required to bring Salt Spring Metal Recycling's operations into compliance with the island's land-use bylaw.

Whether it be through construction of an indoor facility or improved buffers, measures to limit noise from the site must be established if a draft bylaw is

to have any chance of success.

"My view is that if we can solve the noise issue then we rezone the property," Grams said. "My view is that the option here is to draft the bylaw, look for solutions to the noise issue and we try to take this forward."

"Otherwise we're going to lose John, his business will shut down because there is nowhere else for it to go . . . and I suspect John might have to leave the island with his family."

QUESNEL continued on 5

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Fire department predicts likely 2012 operating surplus

FIRE HALL
continued from 1

In order to help firefighters assist members of the public seeking more information, the board also agreed to print double-sided business cards that can be handed out. They will include contact information, the firehallinfo.com link and a few main talking points.

Chamney reported that work on a five-minute promotional video being created for the campaign was going well. The video is expected to be launched at the board's annual general meeting on April 15.

In the discussion period following the meeting, Salt Spring resident Julia Lucich said she did not believe the board was doing enough to seek public opinion and that the goal of asking for public funds in June was too soon. The main interest of the

community, she suggested, is what the hall will look like and what it will cost.

Trustees responded that the last open house with the architect was well attended and in fact reached capacity, and that they have frequently called to the community for additional input.

Lucich also questioned why the trustees were not considering a steel building such as those built by the Saturna Fire Department and the Salt Spring Tennis Association facility on the golf course property.

Chamney explained the cost savings of using steel doesn't include the extra building that has to be constructed inside the steel shell in order to have load-bearing capabilities for shelves and racks, and to not void the warranty. He further explained the outside shell would most likely have to be altered for seismic standards, and said steel beams do not have the fire rating of

wood beams. Using locally sourced materials and hiring local trades is also a strong consideration, Chamney said, noting steel buildings must be put together by the supplier's crew in order to be certified.

"Survivability is more than just the building. It's the community that builds it," he said.

Chamney invited Lucich to explore some of these issues on the board's behalf by writing one of the upcoming Driftwood columns, but she said she may have a conflict that prevents writing such a piece.

In other business, the board reviewed a draft of the interim financial statements and reported a likely surplus for 2012. Trustees voted to allocate no more than \$50,000 to the purchase of a simulator building for the Fulford training site, fulfilling a conditional commitment they made in 2011. The simulator was not purchased in 2012 after

a projected surplus failed to materialize at the end of the previous year.

Firefighters in attendance said they were excited by the prospect of training on an actual structure without having to leave the island. The simulator will allow forced entry and ladder training and will have changeable components inside. Environmentally friendly propane will be used in the live fires.

"This defines, next to the fire hall, the biggest improvement to the continuing development of the fire department," Fire Chief Tom Bremner said.

The Salt Spring Firefighters' Association will contribute more than \$9,000 toward the purchase.

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BC POLITICS
Ag critic visits SSI
Public meeting on farm issues also set up

A Vancouver Island politician will cultivate a relationship with members of Salt Spring's farming community during a Feb. 17 visit.

LANA POPHAM



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ISLANDS TRUST

Agricultural committee survives Islands Trust reshuffle

Eleventh-hour support preserves AAC group

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Agricultural Advisory Committee will not be eliminated as Salt Spring Local Trust Committee members act to amalgamate the island's volunteer-driven advisory groups.

"It's clear to me, persuasive to me, that there are benefits to keeping the Agricultural Advisory Com-

mittee as an organization," said LTC member George Grams during Thursday's regular business meeting at Lions Hall.

Following a set of motions passed during the meeting, only the island's Advisory Design Panel and Environmental Advisory Committee are proposed for amalgamation into an all-encompassing nine-member Advisory Planning Commission.

While the amalgamated committees will include a broad base of members with diverse expertise, it

has been argued that the island's agricultural interests require a specific committee.

These concerns were reinforced by two letters submitted to the LTC by representatives of the provincial government and Agricultural Land Commission on Wednesday, Jan. 30.

"We understand the logistical challenges of having multiple committees in a small community for the trustees and staff, but we recognize the land-use issues for agriculture are difficult enough in them-

selves and could easily be lost or complicated by other advisory committee member objectives when the majority of representatives are not from an agricultural background," wrote Rob Kline, a regional agrologist with the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture.

Roger Cheetham, a regional planner at the Agricultural Land Commission, noted his concern that any benefits of amalgamating the committees could be outweighed by members' "separate, different and possibly, at

times, competing interests." He suggests "conflict and watered-down advice" could result from the proposed changes.

The decision to amalgamate the commissions is an effort to "achieve efficiencies without losing specialized experience and expertise," according to a staff report presented at Thursday's LTC meeting. The move is hoped to facilitate the "cross fertilization" of ideas, improve decision making and encourage public engagement.

LTC members voted

unanimously to have staff prepare a draft bylaw to amend Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw 427. The LTC has referred the Jan. 21 staff report to the Advisory Planning Commission, Environmental Advisory Committee, Agricultural Advisory Committee and Advisory Design Panel for further comment.

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



COMMUNITY

Shaw techs make winning save at Legion Super Bowl party

Pixelation problem solved in time for game to be enjoyed

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A pair of Shaw Communications technicians proved to be Salt Spring's most valuable team players on Sunday when they saved the Legion's Super Bowl

party from cancellation.

A good crowd was gathered at the local branch for the popular annual event when a heavily pixelated image almost caused a blind side.

"It was very nerve-wracking right at the kick-off. We actually didn't see the kick-off," said Legion member Tom Woods.

Woods said there was a lot of excitement going into this particular match, with the historic

situation of two brothers — Jim and John Harbaugh — coaching the opposing teams. Though not expected to win, Baltimore was a local favourite because of the real-life story of player Michael Oher, who was the subject of *The Blind Side*, a film starring Sandra Bullock and Quinton Aaron.

Fortunately for the viewers, Shaw technician Chris Coates happened to be among the dis-

appointed audience members. He called a fellow tech to come in and help solve the problem, which turned out to be related to excess moisture in the cable box.

The game was on within 15 minutes, and viewers did not mind the technical difficulties that were later to put the game on hold for 30 minutes when a power outage hit the New Orleans stadium.

"We're very happy that only one or two people left because they thought we weren't going to pull off the show," Woods said.

"So many stayed and supported the Legion."

Wood said the Super Bowl party is a fun place for the community to socialize each year.

It brings in money that goes back toward a variety of community causes and helps keep the facility open.

NEWS BRIEFS

Gardeners host seedy fundraiser

After nearly one full year of operation, it appears gardeners aren't the only ones who are delighted by the Salt Spring allotment gardens next to the Rainbow Road Pool.

In a bid to curb the growing number of rabbits that have taken to visiting the

well-tended veggie patches, allotment garden coordinators hope to raise funds for improved fencing at the site, with jars to be found at Seedy events this weekend.

Funds will be used to install rabbit-proof fencing and construct a bulletin board where gardeners and community groups can communicate about events and garden-related issues.

Salt Spring's 18th annual Seedy Saturday event takes

place between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9. Film screenings and workshops will be held during the entire weekend.

Trust Council agenda set

Anyone wanting to address Islands Trust Council at its next quarterly business meeting has until Feb. 18 to register as a formal delegation.

The March 5 to 7 meeting

takes place on Thetis Island, with the town hall portion of the meeting on Wednesday, March 6 at 2 p.m.

Registration as a delegation is done by sending the topic, the speaker's name and contact information to the attention of Marie Smith at msmith@islandstrust.bc.ca or by fax at 250-405-5155 by the Feb. 18 deadline.

Trust Council will finalize the 2013-14 Trust budget and hold an in-depth discussion

about the Islands Trust Fund at the Thetis meeting.

Pathways AGM goes electric

People thinking about getting an electric or electric-assist bike have the perfect opportunity to have all their questions answered at the Island Pathways AGM on Friday, Feb. 15.

Louis Vallee, a Mayne Island electronic engineering technologist, will be at the meeting to share the wealth of information he has gathered over the last few decades.

Island Pathways promises to keep the AGM part of the meeting at All Saints By-the-Sea to a minimum and to make it fun.

Start time is 7 p.m.

A number of electric bikes will be on display and refreshments will be served.

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Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood will be closed on **Monday, Feb. 11 - Family Day statutory holiday** - and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday February 13 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline: **Thursday, Feb. 7, 4pm**
 Classified Display Deadline: **Friday, Feb. 8, 4pm**
 Classified Word Deadline: **Tuesday, Feb. 12, 9:30am**

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Spring Grant Applications Invited

Thanks to our many generous donors, the Salt Spring Island Foundation offers grants every spring and fall to a wide range of the island's charitable organizations. We are currently inviting local non-profit groups to submit grant applications for projects that aim to enrich the quality of life in our community.

While applications in all areas of need are welcome, the Foundation is particularly interested in supporting organizations that address the top five critical needs identified in the 2012 Community Needs Survey: housing; community health services; poverty issues; agriculture and food supply; and children's, youth and family services.

If you would like to apply for a grant, please go to www.saltspringisland.org for full information, including eligibility, and an application form. Applications must be received on or before March 31, 2013.

www.saltspringislandfoundation.org

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Islands Trust

ISLANDS TRUST GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee will hold a community information meeting and a public hearing within a Local Trust Committee Business Meeting on the following proposed bylaw:

- Bylaw No. 237 cited as "Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999, Amendment No. 2, 2012"

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at 1:00 p.m. **Monday, February 18, 2013 at the South Community Hall, 141 Sturdies Bay Road, Galiano Island.**

At the public hearing all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

Proposed Bylaw No. 237 – cited as "Galiano Bylaw No. 237, Amendment No. 2, 2012"

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 237 is to amend the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999. The proposed amendments make the Land Use Bylaw consistent with the adopted changes to the Official Community Plan and provide improved clarity and/or correct minor errors that may have made it confusing to those using the bylaw. Throughout the Land Use Bylaw there are also many numeric cross references to be corrected. The substantive amendments include: permitting "Agri-Tourist Accommodations" in the Agricultural zone, adding farmers' markets, community orchards and community nurseries to the Community Facility Zone as permitted uses, adding farmers' markets and community hall to the Public Recreation Zone as permitted uses, clarifying accessory building height throughout the bylaw, restricting the creation of split zoned lots, permitting a self-contained accessory dwelling unit for owner, employee or operator in the Light Industrial Zone and adding some definitions.

A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the 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 February 1, 2013 and up to and including February 14, 2013.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Galiano Island, B.C., commencing February 1, 2013 and can also be viewed on the World Wide Web at the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca> and selecting www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/gl/bylaws.cfm

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 on-line by going to the Islands Trust Website at the following URL: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/gl/meetings.cfm and completing the "Public Hearing, February 18, 2013, Submission Form", prior to 4:30 p.m., February 14, 2013;
2. After 4:30 p.m., February 14, 2013 to the Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at 1:00 p.m., February 18, 2013.

The public is encouraged to send any electronic response by using the on-line public hearing submission form. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written submission.

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

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaws may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Kris Nichols, Planner, at (250) 405-5170 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 GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Kathy Jones
Deputy Secretary

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation chair steps down

2012 'banner year' for commission

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Donald McLennan has stepped down as chair of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission after two and a half years, leaving his position at the helm of the CRD advisory body with a legacy of local improvements.

The former Canadian ambassador will still remain a part of the commission to which he has put in many volunteer hours, changing places with previous vice-chair John Wakefield. While he is lightening his responsibilities in order to serve on other community boards and enjoy more of his retirement, McLennan looks forward to continuing the success of what he calls a "banner year" in transportation.

"Salt Spring had a very, very good year for transportation. I'm happy about that and the contributions I've made," he said.

In 2012, ground was broken at last on the North Ganges Transportation Plan, with phase one set to add cycling lanes, sidewalks and bus stops on both sides of Lower Ganges Road between Upper Ganges and Atkins roads. Construction is expected to be complete by April.



DONALD
MACLENNAN

The transportation commission was a key player in one of the biggest local road-related stories in decades — the installation of Salt Spring's first four-way stop at Central. McLennan and team also worked with Transition Salt Spring to put in a car stop program on two routes where transit service is not yet offered, and with B.C. Ferries to ensure plans to upgrade the Fulford terminal would include pedestrians and cyclists.

"These success stories all reflected positively on the CRD on Salt Spring," McLennan wrote in a summary.

"And they helped establish the credibility of the SSITC as an organization which contributes to enhancing quality of life on the island."

Unlike the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, which makes vehicle traffic its primary consideration, SSITC has put a great deal of focus on other means. The success of Salt Spring Transit is one example. The commission has also been active at encouraging safe walking and cycling, with funding support to Island Pathways and participation in last year's Velo Village

conference.

While SSITC chair, McLennan helped persuade the Capital Regional District to include Salt Spring in its regional master plan for cycling. A draft master plan for the island will be released for public consultation this month.

McLennan observed there are still many improvements to be made and that community support will be needed if the commission is to act on them.

"Transportation infrastructure is not free and it's not cheap," he noted.

The first priority will be gaining funds to implement phase two of the NGTP, which calls for pathways and bike lanes along Rainbow Road where an elementary school, the middle school and the high school are all located. Other gaps in infrastructure include sidewalks and bike lanes in Ganges and leading out of town on Ganges hill, traffic calming in the village, and a network of bike lanes to link the island to the CRD's regional trail system. Future challenges that will need to be addressed, McLennan said, are the lack of an operational parking authority on the island and reviewing local speed limits.

The transportation commission normally meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. at the Portlock Park portable. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

LAND USE

Chamber role in land-use issue questioned by president, public

Salt Spring Metal Recycling saga

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A decision by Salt Spring Local Trust Committee members to ask the island's chamber of commerce to facilitate a dialogue about a controversial land-use application has raised more than a few eyebrows from people on all sides of the debate.

"With no disrespect to [chamber of commerce members], this is a land-zone issue," said Heather Howard, a Pallot Way resident who represents neighbours opposed to a rezoning that would permit a metal recycling business at 440 Rainbow Rd., during Thursday's LTC meeting. "It is the Trust's mandate to make decisions on appropriate land usage and zoning, not the mandate of others."

In addition to giving property owner John Quesnel another chance to incorporate noise mitigation mea-

sures into his rezoning request, LTC members voted unanimously to ask whether the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce would "consider facilitating a meeting with industrial and business stakeholders to propose solutions that would facilitate the ongoing operations of Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling in a legal manner."

According to a Jan. 23 staff report, "such a meeting should divert focus from parties with perceived entrenched views and instead focus on stakeholders that may be part of a solution."

Quesnel's membership in and position on the chamber's board of directors has opponents such as Howard puzzled about the Trust's choice of facilitators.

"The fact that the staff report would suggest that it is appropriate to turn this matter over to groups of people where an applicant not only belongs but, to the best of my knowledge,

holds an executive position, seems a little, at best, odd," she said.

Chamber president Matt Steffich said he learned about the Trust's proposal by reading about it in the Driftwood last week. While he respects the LTC's decision to consider an "outside-the-box" solution, he foresees an interesting discussion when chamber board members meet this afternoon (Wednesday, Feb. 6).

Even if Quesnel, who serves as one of the chamber's vice presidents, were to excuse himself from the proceedings, Steffich worries the public may perceive a distinct conflict of interest should a chamber-led discussion proceed.

Furthermore, he said the board's decision stands to have far-reaching consequences when it comes to getting involved in other political decisions on the island.

"I think it does set a precedent," Steffich said on Tuesday. "I think

we have to be careful."

On Monday, Islands Trust planner Stefan Cermak said inclusion of the chamber of commerce was based on a suggestion that the group "host a meeting using a professional facilitator to help find a solution" to the seven-year-old land-use predicament.

Although participation from other groups such as the Capital Regional District-led Economic Development Commission is encouraged, the chamber was chosen as an example of a community group that has shown interest in finding such a resolution, Cermak said.

"The applicant has talked to various owners in the past but having all potential stakeholders — industrial land owners and various recycling operators — come together at once would potentially provide for some collective problem solving.

"The approach is meant to be solution based."

ENVIRONMENT

Salt Spring Trust funding fuels climate change event

Transition group supported by grant

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A day-long series of climate-change related workshops and talks is set to move ahead thanks to a cash infusion of up to \$3,700 from the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

The Transition Salt Spring Climate Action event in late

March will be an opportunity for islanders to learn about climate change mitigation initiatives and ways to "stimulate thinking" about strategies to build on past successes. Organizers of a similar event held in 2012 said the positive response from participants has encouraged them to expand the range of activities offered at what's hoped to become an annual event.

"We also had a number of

Salt Spring Island organizations who are working on building resilience and most of the comments afterwards were so optimistic about what was happening right here on Salt Spring so we are trying to expand that aspect of it," said Jon Healy, a member of the event's planning committee, during Thursday's LTC meeting at Lions Hall.

The Transitions group operates as a committee of the Salt Spring Earth Festival Society,

which has been behind popular island initiatives such as the eco-home tour, community gardens, electric car group, nut tree capital of B.C. group and the Salt Spring Island Enterprise Cooperative.

Transition Salt Spring is one of among hundreds of like-minded organizations worldwide dedicated to encouraging thinking and actions to promote "increased resilience and a reduction in energy use and

GHG production."

On Salt Spring, the group has created an interactive community website, hosts regular pot-lucks, monthly Green Drinks sessions and other educational events.

Funding for the event comes from an as-of-yet unused \$5,000 budget for climate change outreach and education initiatives.

"I think this is great and I want to support it," said LTC member Peter Grove.

Metal recycling issue sentiment split

QUESNEL

continued from 1

LTC chair Sheila Malcolmson said it's crucial for the draft bylaw to address neighbours' long-standing concerns about the metal-recycling operation.

"It's extremely hard for me, personally, to change a land use in a permanent way, because this isn't just about this land owner it's about all future land owners, if we've got neighbours who are continuing to be without comfort about what's happening on the property."

Trust staff will work with Quesnel to have draft bylaw language prepared within the next three months.

A handful of neighbours spoke against the application during the meeting's town hall session. They argued little has changed since Quesnel initiated the effort to bring

his business into compliance with local bylaws seven years ago.

"This is not about a person's popularity or how wonderful the business is for their customers. It is strictly about an appropriate land use within a neighbourhood, and not only for now but for years to come," said Pallot Way resident Heather Howard.

A similar number of supporters spoke to the metal recycling business' benefit and importance to the island.

"John Quesnel is an important part of keeping this island clean," said Pat Keough. "I think what has gone on interminably — it's been going on forever and ever it seems — is practically a persecution. It's got to come to an end so, for heaven's sake, rezone the property."

"You're never going to get everyone on this island to agree. There's always going to be a neighbour here and

a neighbour there who isn't going to want to have John."

LTC members also voted unanimously to ask the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce to consider facilitation of a "meaningful community dialogue" about the plight of Salt Spring Metal Recycling.

According to the motion passed by LTC members, the chamber's role will be limited to "facilitating a meeting with industrial and business stakeholders to propose solutions that would facilitate the ongoing operations of Salt Spring Metal Recycling in a legal manner."

Who is involved in the discussion and how those groups are chosen have yet to be determined. Likewise, it is uncertain how Quesnel's role as a chamber of commerce vice president will be handled if chamber representatives accept the invitation to get involved.

LTC member Peter Grove

ON CALL & ON TIME



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Island Natural Growers presents Salt Spring Island's 18th Annual

SEEDY SATURDAY WEEKEND

Friday, Saturday, Sunday - February 8th, 9th & 10th 2013
At The Farmers Institute 351 Rainbow Road

Friday Film ~ Diversidad 6:30pm by donation, snacks and beverages for sale. Diversidad - A Road Trip to Deconstruct dinner is about a group of young Canadians who ride their bikes from Vancouver to Mexico to raise awareness about the impacts of industrial agriculture.

Seedy Saturday ~ 10am - 3pm (\$4, kids free)

Community Seed Exchange ~ A full hall of Seeds, Plants, Food, Groups and Workshops. BRING YOUR SAVED SEEDS to donate or trade at the seed table. (pre-packed envelopes appreciated, you can drop off seed packets at the Harbour House Farm stand with your name on them anytime leading up to the event)

WORKSHOPS:

- 10-12 Pruning demonstration-Paul Linton
- 10-11 Zero Mile Living-Carolyn Herriot
- 11-12 Composting and Building Soil-Victoria Compost Center

- 12:30-1:30 A Tale by Seeds-Dan Jason
- 1:30-2 The Food Tree Project-Molly Murphy
- 2-3 Beekeeping is Sexy-Belinda Schroeder and Grace Jordan

Seed and Plant Sanctuary AGM for Canada to follow at 3:30pm

Seedy Sunday ~ 10:00 am - 3:30 pm Everyone Welcome, Donations Accepted

10:00 am - 12:30 pm ~ SSI Farmland Trust Presentation and Discussion - Land Use Possibilities

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm ~ Lunch by Bruce's Kitchen \$7 (Reg. required [email: dogwoodlane@telus.net](mailto:dogwoodlane@telus.net))

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm ~ "Is there a Salt Spring Alternative to Organic Certification?" a lively discussion
Info: ssiseedysaturday@gmail.com

OPINION



Gold - Coverage of the Arts | Gold - Photo Essay (Day in the Life of SSI)
 Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander) | Silver - Front Page
 Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre & Gail Sjuberg for incorporation series)
 Bronze - General Excellence | Bronze - Historical Story (Elizabeth Nolan for First Nations history)

2012 Canadian Community Newspapers Association Awards
 Gold - Photo Essay (Day in the Life of SSI) | Gold - Sports Photo (John Cameron for longboarder)
 Silver - General Excellence | Silver - Special Publication (Aqua magazine)

2012 BC & Yukon Community Newspapers Association Awards



EDITORIAL

Return. Redirect. Repeat.

When times get tough, sometimes it's best to go out on a limb.

It can also be helpful to take a deep breath and try to figure out what the heck is going on.

Nearly one week after the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee voted unanimously to ask the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce to facilitate a meeting that could resolve a long-standing rezoning application for the Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling property at 440 Rainbow Rd., it's still unclear which path trustees have opted to pursue.

Other than reportedly being suggested as a community group that's shown an interest in finding a resolution to the debate, it's not known how and why the local chamber, a membership-driven group of privately run island business owners, became the default recourse for solving complex and controversial land-use decisions.

Whereas members of the LTC are elected to act on behalf of the entire community based on input from advisory committees and evidence gathered by planning staff according to professional standards, the chamber of commerce's board of directors are elected by its members to support local events, promote island tourism and take steps to ensure the viability of member businesses.

That the applicant happens to be a chamber board vice-president is practically beside the point, but definitely adds a dash of spice to the controversy.

After several years of deliberation by multiple local Trust committees, ongoing efforts to reach a neighbourhood compromise, countless staff reports, an Industrial Task Force report and recommendations, advisory committee comments, and a ton of public opinion, it seems bizarre that a solution to the deadlock might finally depend on an external body.

Regardless of how members of the chamber's board of directors choose to handle the issue when it convenes on Wednesday afternoon, one can't help but question the processes in place within the Islands Trust that led LTC members to consider asking them to begin with.



VIEWPOINT by Wayne Taylor

School calendar can be improved

Regarding the four-day/five-day school week discussion in School District 64, so far I would agree with everyone who has said that education is the responsibility of the parents and the school seven days a week and becomes more responsibility for the students as they go to middle school and high school.

Many people strongly support the idea of both a four- and a five-day school week. I agree with what most people have said. I just want a choice that works for my family and for the community together.

It is also the responsibility of our local school district and our provincial government to provide the best educational experience for every child in every school or learning situation.

What about single parents and working parents and others who need a choice between home schooling and a four-day school and a five-day school? What about the grandparents and caregivers and tutors who provide support for our children? We all should have the same rights.

We are all Canadians living in the Gulf Islands with the same equal fundamental human rights. The provincial government needs to fund the school districts so that everyone has the same rights.

Our school district superintendent, Jeff Hopkins, has said that there is not enough money for a five-day school week. The provincial government is telling the districts to fund for an increase for next year — how much we don't know. I suggest it will be between and five per cent per year hopefully over two years.

I feel that the school district has predetermined the choices

of the public with regard to the four- and five-day school week by saying we cannot afford it. The school district's budget is not finalized until later in the school year.

By mid-May the district will start to give layoff notices and then begin rehiring teachers based on needs first and seniority next. This will continue until the end of June and be finalized in mid or late September.

The timeline of the survey finishing on Jan. 15 was done without many people being aware of it. The next step is the focus groups but more importantly the general public, including parents and grandparents, should be heard.

Remember that 20 to 25 per cent of the people in the Gulf Islands are over 65 and they need to be heard. The first people who talked to me were grandmothers. We should listen to everyone.

Many of the people are busy working. Others are single parents; others do not have access to a computer or smart phone.

We cannot afford not to take care of our children and we must give parents and students a choice of either a four or five-day school week.

Let us make a choice; which is good for all the children in our communities and good for people living in the Gulf Islands.

Let us have more discussion and dialogue about how we can make this work for children and our communities. We can find a solution if we work together.

The writer is a parent, former janitor, school volunteer and semi-retired teacher.

The first people who talked to me were grandmothers. We should listen to everyone.

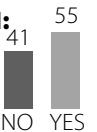
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will Family Day make any difference to your life? 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 Salt Spring pursue a squash court?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"At some stage one has to, you know, cut the baby in half"

SALT SPRING TRUSTEE PETER GROVE, ON SS METAL RECYCLING ISSUE

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:

How do you feel about the demise of the penny?



DAN STEVENSON
Good luck getting rid of it! Let's see how long that takes.



ELIZABETH BUCHANAN
It's terrible. Pennies have been integral to my life since I was two.



KIM YOUNG
I don't think it will be missed. The penny has been disrespected for years.



RANDIE CLARK
It's a sign of the times. How much is our money really worth?



PAUL HEIKKILA
I don't give two cents.

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.**

Expenditures supported

I am a senior on a fixed income who pays property taxes.

I am delighted that part of those taxes goes to support parks and the swimming pool to help us all stay healthy. I am delighted that part of those taxes goes to support the library to help our minds stay healthy.

I am also happy that there is an elevator to help those less mobile enjoy the library facility. I even need it myself some days.

PAT O'NEILL,
HOWELL LANE

Don't get it

Some in the community may find spending \$60,000 on a governance study "historic" (Jan. 30 Driftwood article.) I find it incomprehensible.

Our regional director and two trustees have been in office for more than a year. Surely they and their skilled,

professional staff can already explain how we are governed. Isn't governing what they've been doing?

And if they can't provide all the insight we need on service providers, costs, how these costs are paid for and the decision-making processes here on Salt Spring, what have they been doing for the past 12 months and more?

MURRAY REISS,
FULFORD

Mining claims clarification

As a small business owner who is intimately familiar with the mineral tenure laws in B.C., I can't help but shake my head at the recent Pender Island mineral claim concerns.

Despite the flurry of inflammatory newspaper articles, the truth is that nothing has actually happened.

There is also a worrying and widespread misunderstanding of B.C.'s mineral laws and the intent behind them.

Is our mineral claim-staking system part of an evil plot to strip home-owners of their hard-earned property rights? No.

The spirit of this law is that the wealth of the province's mineral resources belong to everyone, and if someone is willing to go to the expense and risk of trying to extract minerals that will create value in our society, well that is a greater good to the economy than a private property owner "sitting on a gold mine."

Yes, you may register as a free miner and stake mineral claims.

Does this allow you to trespass? No.

Is it useful to be a free miner if you don't legitimately intend to explore for minerals in a law-abiding manner? No.

A free miner on their mineral claim may conduct non-mechanical (hand-tools only) mineral exploration after giving at least two weeks notice to the surface landowner and only 75 metres away from a dwelling.

Any other entry is tres-

passing, and the perpetrator would be subject to punishment.

Given the geological unlikelihood of finding any economic resource on Pender, as well as Isaac McPhee and William Simons' apparent disregard for any sort of public relations strategy, I can only assume that the purpose of their mineral claims is nefarious. If it is not, they have much to learn.

Further, anything more than digging a hole by hand and sampling an outcrop requires a lengthy permitting process, including a plan for environmental remediation. I have been through this process and it is rigorous but fair. Actually, it's so rigorous that many mining companies try to conduct their affairs outside of B.C. (But that's another story.)

The knee-jerk reaction to McPhee and Simons' troublemaking is that the North Pender LTC wants the province to act on banning mining activities from the entire Islands Trust area.

I suppose that means that our local contractors will have to pay through the nose to ship all their gravel and sand from off-island?

The fact is that we all use the products of mining every day, and they come from somewhere. The solution is not to put a blanket ban on mining and outsource our problems, but to make sure it's done in a sustainable manner that benefits us locally.

DONALD LAKE,
SALT SPRING

Where's the flags?

Recently, on one of my wanderings around Ganges (I am retired, so have time to wander), I noticed something that disturbed me — namely the lack of Canadian flags on buildings.

Now I don't expect every store and office to have a flag stuck out front, but really, don't you think some of our more prominent establishments could break down

and fly our flag?

Some of the buildings I noticed with no flag are ArtSpring, the middle school, tourist information centre, the swimming pool, Parks and Recreation Commission offices, Islands Trust offices, the new library and the post office. As well as the above, it wouldn't hurt to have the churches and a few businesses with our flag displayed.

Thanks to the four (count them, four) businesses, namely the Canadian Coast Guard, Mouat's, Ganges fire hall and Salt Spring Inn that are displaying our flag.

I realize we are not a flag-waving country, unlike our neighbours to the south, but surely we could take a little pride in the fact that we live in one of the best countries in the world.

Come on people, wave a flag and be proud we are Canadians.

KEN BARNES,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Healthy trend continues for local real estate

How did we do in real estate in 2012 and what is in store for 2013?

While it can be said that in Victoria the market is holding steady even if still a tad soft in 2012 (1.7 per cent drop in average SFD sale price and five per cent in sales volume as compared to 2011), Salt Spring Island has positive numbers to report for the fourth consecutive quarter.

Single family non-waterfront sector in 2012: 109 units sold in 2012 (100 in 2011), average sale price up by 7.7 per cent (\$515,754), median by 11.9 per cent (\$490,000), volume up by 17 per cent (\$56,217,205).

Waterfronts with homes: it seems that the appetite is returning for the harder-hit waterfront properties — 30 units sold (up from 22 in 2011), average sale price up by 3.2 per cent (\$1,125,754) and the median up by 1.7 per cent (\$966,000).

Townhomes: exactly the same number of townhomes changed hands last year as in 2011 (15 units). The average sale price of a townhome (Brinkworthy Place not includ-



Tom Navratil

PROPERTY LINES

is the only sector that showed negative numbers. On a low volume of eight lots (under two acres) selling in 2012 (five lots in 2011) the median price dropped by 22 per cent while the average sale price dropped by four per cent. Extensive choice of properties with homes, the "bother" and high cost of building, as well as the additional HST (instead of just GST, or no tax before that) on newly subdivided lots, is likely the reason.

In total, with 181 sales, 2012 was the fifth consecutive year in which the number of sales did not exceed the 200 mark, though we were still higher by 13 sales

(ed) on the island rose to \$401,467, up by 11 per cent. In 2011, five townhomes sold for \$300,000 or under; in 2012 no townhome sold below \$300,000.

Vacant lots: This is the only sector that showed negative numbers. On a low volume of eight lots (under two acres) selling in 2012 (five lots in 2011) the median price dropped by 22 per cent while the average sale price dropped by four per cent. Extensive choice of properties with homes, the "bother" and high cost of building, as well as the additional HST (instead of just GST, or no tax before that) on newly subdivided lots, is likely the reason.

In total, with 181 sales, 2012 was the fifth consecutive year in which the number of sales did not exceed the 200 mark, though we were still higher by 13 sales

from 2011. The total dollar volume in 2012 was \$102,395,220 — up by 18.7 per cent. The last 13-year averages for dollar volume and sales are \$104,720,248 and 234 sales per year respectively. The best year for the number of sales was 2003 with 316 sales, the lowest was 2011 with 168 sales for the year.

The least expensive home in 2012 sold for \$185,000 (1,400 square feet on 0.5 acre), but it required lots of work. The most expensive was an oceanfront property that sold for \$3,495,000. There were 14 oceanfront home sales over \$1 million (as compared to nine in 2011) and only two non-waterfront sales over \$1 million (one such sale in 2011 and five in each year of 2009 and 2010).

It is interesting to look at the current net "loss" from the most recent peak of the market (in 2008) of a SFD (single family dwelling) — on average the net value decline from the highest price peak stands at 17 per cent. However, the net "gain" from 2001 is back up to about 110

per cent on average, i.e. about 10 per cent per annum, proving once again that our homes are still one of the best investments over time (and no capital gains when we sell them). Waterfront properties had a somewhat wilder ride over the last 10 years with net "loss" from 2008 of almost 40 per cent, but the net "gain" since 2001 is still about 120 per cent on average.

What is in store for 2013 in the real estate on the island? The economic fundamentals and generally improved consumers' optimism would indicate that 2013 is going to indeed be a transition year in Vancouver and Victoria. It seems that this transition to a more "normal" and stronger market had already begun on the Salt Spring Island in 2012, still good for buyers and a small improvement for sellers!

Property Lines column contributor Tom Navratil is a Pemberton Holmes Salt Spring Realtor®, saltspringhomes@gmail.com.

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Slow down!

I was happy. I had just received the results of a biopsy which indicated that my fears of a melanoma were unfounded. I could start making plans again. I could hope to be able to finish some of my many projects.

It was around noon on Thursday, Jan. 31. I was driving on Fulford-Ganges Road when suddenly I saw a truck coming full speed in my lane in the opposite direction, overtaking other cars. I put on the brakes. It was a matter of seconds and it could have been fatal. I was so stunned and everything happened so fast that it was impossible to note the licence-plate number of the truck that nearly killed me and possibly others.

To the person driving that truck: I hope life teaches you a few lessons before it is too late for you and for those of us who have the misfortune of sharing the road with you.

HÉLÈNE NARAYANA,
BEAVER POINT ROAD

Disturbing carnage

I've just returned from a respite trip and found my world on a heritage road had drastically changed.

What I noticed straight away on my morning walk with my dog was that the beautiful old arbutus trees that lined this quiet road had been drastically limbed! Not only arbutus trees; cedars, Douglas firs, even lowly willows and alders had been treated the same way. Worst of the damage was the few rare yew trees I've been keeping my eyes on so that people don't cut its branches for view.

These previous trees provided us with shade in the summer and scenic beauty all year round.

They are enjoyed by walkers, runners and joggers alike in all seasons.

What made me see red was the fact that they were limbed in the middle part of these majestic trees, not blocking anyone's view nor the electric poles that had been moved to the other side of the road ages ago. What was it in aid of but leaving scars on trees crying out aloud for being amputated for all to see?

On top of this mess, another slide had taken a big chunk of the cliff at Hudson Point to meet the sea. Soon Hudson Point will be known as Hudson.

What's worse, near Hudson Point just a few of the horrid invasive broom plants had been similarly limbed, leaving them to grow bushier come spring. Why didn't these executioners use their energy to remove all the broom bushes that abound in the undergrowth instead of limbing yews, arbutus and cedars that remove carbon dioxide from the air, feed the birds and keep our island beautiful? Do they know what they are doing in giving a free hand?

I've written numerous times to the Islands Trust and highways department (which owns the road allowance and trees), but to no effect. I have to bodily block the mighty mower each year to protect the trillium lily growing on the side of the road each spring. Would anyone else take my place when I'm gone?

LING WESTON,
NORTH BEACH ROAD

Public interest missing

Recent events highlight the need for a positive change in how this province is governed. We have been regaled for months by millions of dollars of taxpayer-funded television ads with an

obvious partisan purpose, while much more pressing social needs are ignored.

The Liberals have precluded the \$8-billion Site-C project, the \$1-billion smart meter program and billions of dollars in costly, sweetheart power contracts with private power producers from review by the B.C. Utilities Commission, the independent agency representing the financial interests of BC Hydro ratepayers.

Another independent watchdog, the Auditor General of B.C., has been unable to obtain records to help him examine why this government authorized the payment of \$6 million in legal fees to high-ranking Liberal insiders convicted of corruption regarding the sale of BC Rail. Not surprisingly, the Liberals tried to block the Auditor General from being reappointed.

This is only a partial list, but it demonstrates that this government has lost sight of the public interest. We need to place government advertising under the auspices of the Auditor General to prevent abuse by any future administration. All BC Hydro projects and contracts must be subject to the scrutiny of the B.C. Utilities Commission to determine the need and cost-effectiveness of such investments.

The commission should also be asked to investigate the possibility of opt-out provisions for those ratepayers who do not want to accept wireless smart meters. And a public inquiry should be held to get to the bottom of the BC Rail corruption affair.

There is only one way to make these changes for the better, and that is to elect a provincial government that will implement them.

GARY HOLMAN,
BC NDP CANDIDATE,
SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS

MORE LETTERS continued on 9

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ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT

RANTS and Roses

A gigantic bunch of roses to Don McLennan of the Salt Spring Transportation Commission for being the best Transportation Commission chair ever. Thank you for serving this community well and making things happen. Island Pathways

Blessings and countless roses to the three Good Samaritans walking along Elizabeth Drive on a recent Sunday, who responded quickly and calmly to my husband, who had tripped and fell on his power saw. We do not know who you are. He has nine stitches over his left eye, but is grateful and recovering nicely thanks to you. Sue

A bunch of bright roses to Mike from Salt Spring Garbage Services, who noticed my flat tire while waiting in line for the 1 p.m. ferry to Ful-

ford on Friday, Feb. 1. While I looked around in dismay, he said, "I can fix that," and had my tire pumped up in no time. Thanks again. Marg Monro

Thanks to Richard at the Home Design Centre for making it so easy to keep our money on Salt Spring when we needed a new piece of ceramic glass for a propane fireplace. Clear appreciation as well to Roy at Gulf Island Glass for his always helpful advice and service.

Four hundred pounds of roses of health and well-being to the staff and management of Windsor Plywood for helping us move equipment to our practice lab. Many thanks from Sprott Shaw Community College's Health Care Assis-tant Program students.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN HORSDAL

Marcie Berner in Victoria General Hospital.

A letter of thanks from Marcie B.

Well-known Salt Spring Islander Marcie Berner has been in Victoria General Hospital for a few months and sent this Jan. 23 letter to her community c/o Cherie Geauvreau and Jewel Eldstrom of the Copper Kettle Community Partnership. Marcie is in Room 500 on the 5th floor of VGH and would love mail, calls or visitors.

I just want to thank you so much for all the lovely gifts for Christmas and New Year's.

I sure love everything you folks got me. Thank you.

I had written you quite a while ago but until today didn't have money for envelopes and stamps and the letter I wrote before has disappeared — how?! I don't know. Nothing seems to be safe in my room — oh well — material possessions can be replaced I suppose.

I had to have part of my right leg removed and then an operation on my left leg, which I can't move too much yet. I hope it will get better in time.

I am hoping to be transferred to Lady Minto Hospital soon but as yet no luck.

Nobody has come to see me in quite some time. However, I have a couple of friends whom I met here in hospital.

I wish I could come home, of course, but — no place yet — and I have to be here at least until Feb. 24 for intravenous antibiotics.

Not much more to say except I miss you all and Salt Spring.

Thank you again. Love you!

MARCIE BERNER

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Island helps feed families and villages in Africa

SOLID (The Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development) wishes to thank all those on Salt Spring Island and beyond who supported the Feed a Family, Feed a Village Project over the holiday season.

Over 140 families in 15 villages will benefit from the program, and kudos to members of the Anglican church, who bought over 100 of these!

In May 2013, volunteers from Salt Spring will travel to Kenya to

volunteer their time and energy and a big part of this mission will be the fulfillment of this project, which will provide long-lived fruit trees, tools and education on fruit propagation, ensuring that families receive critical nutrition during the annual famine season from March to June.

Cards are still available for a \$30 donation and would make a great Valentine's or Mother's Day gift.

These can be purchased through the SOLID Exchange at Unit 100-149 Fulford Ganges Rd. (Gasoline Alley) or through solid.saltspring@gmail.com.

SOLID thanks you for your community spirit and support.

ANNA CALLEGARI,
SOLID DIRECTOR,
SALT SPRING

What to do with the old fire hall?

The following is the first in a series of columns about the Ganges fire hall project, submitted by the fire board.

The Salt Spring Island Fire District staff

and trustees are actively working with an architect on the design and construction of a new fire hall to be located on donated land near Brinkworthy along the Lower Ganges Road. Why we need a new fire hall now seems to be understood by almost all islanders. But what will we do with the old fire hall once the new hall is operational?

Fire trustees are responsible to island landowners and must keep both the cost of the new hall and the tax impact as low as possible. One way to help do this would be to sell the old fire hall property and put the money towards the new hall.

Some trustees, like many Salt Springers, would love to see the old hall stay in the hands of the community. It could become the heart of our downtown as a visitor centre, art and/or farmers' market. However, not selling the old property means taxpayers will have to pay more for the new fire hall. Most of the islanders attending our public meetings were in favour of selling the old fire hall to help cover costs. So if the community wishes to keep the old fire hall property, an expression of that public will, even if

it means a higher net cost for the new hall, is required. Let us know what you think, one way or the other, through "Contact Us" at www.firehallinfo.com.

Some residents have even suggested that we sell the old hall first so that we would know exactly how much money we have to offset building costs. As sensible as this idea is, the practicality of finding a buyer willing to postpone possession for a year (or two) until we can move into the new hall is unlikely. Also in today's depressed market we will not get optimum dollar for this valuable piece of land. That's why the trustees have decided to wait until new fire hall financing is a "done deal" and then proceed with construction, which will be followed by disposition of the old hall.

The cost to taxpayers for a new fire hall is still a "guestimate" until the design is approved. Current best estimates, however, indicate that, for the average home owner, a 30-year loan to finance construction would increase annual residential property taxes by \$45 to \$55 — this for a fire hall that will last 50 years.

A few folks have asked if we will also sell the Fulford and Central halls to help offset costs. That is not an option because our emergency service plan requires the continued use of both satellite halls.

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February 2013

Have a Heart... Volunteer!

SPECIAL REQUEST
for Female Friendly Visitors!

Looking for MORE women as Friendly Visitors- all ages and stages - to enjoy the happy experience of providing a bright spot in the lives of seniors who may be isolated or housebound. This takes about an hour a week, once a week, not including driving to the senior's home. ESPECIALLY needing kind people to visit with elderly seniors with short term memory problems.
Please contact Sharon Glover at 250-537-4607.

Are you a Senior, going through a Rough Patch?

If so, a Senior Peer Support volunteer would be a wonderful help to you. Big heart, excellent listening skills, extensive training... someone who will visit you for support and encouragement during a tough passage... with CONFIDENTIALITY assured!
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Blood Pressure Clinic- all welcome! FREE!

NEXT on Monday 26 February from 10:00 - noon
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Please note: Screening Mammography Screening will take place from 22 - 26 April at the Courthouse

getnoticed board

The free place to list your regular group activities of any kind.



Send your submissions to news@gulfislands.net or drop them off at the Driftwood office. Published in the first Driftwood of each month! Brought to you by Saunders Subaru.

WEDNESDAY

STITCH DIMENSION QUILT GUILD meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the SSI Baptist Church (rear door), 7 to 9 p.m. New members welcome. Info: stitchdimension@gmail.com; or Janet Rothwell, 250-537-7606.

GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month for discussion and sharing at the Mormon Church, 7 p.m. Info: daudia2@shaw.ca; 250-537-2588.

every WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT at Fulford Hall, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Enjoy a variety of class formats for optimal fitness and fun; led by certified personal trainer, trisha.synergymfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.), 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.

CHAIR YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN for parents and their kids aged 0 to 6 at Family Place. Sign up weekly at Family Place, 1 to 3 p.m.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE is open at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd., 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Info: 250-537-9573.

YOGA with Dorothy Price. At the Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm, 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.

LEVEL 1 YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 9 to 10:30 a.m. AND 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meets at the house behind Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church on Drake Road at 11:45 a.m. Do YOU have a problem with food? Join us!

PERFORMANCE DANCE CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 5 to 6:30 p.m. Multigenerational expressive dance class suitable for dancers of all levels leading up to Lobby Dance performances in winter/spring 2013.

PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance. 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com.

PUMP PRIMERS co-ed heart health fitness class. All Saints By-the-Sea, 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.

SENIORS STRENGTH & FLEXIBILITY classes with Tricia at South SS Seniors, Fulford Hall annex, 9 to 10 a.m.

SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. If interested, contact club president David Waddington at 250-537-0854 or via email: David@Waddington.ca.

STAMPS GROUP meets at SS Seniors Services, 10 a.m.

SWING DANCE PRACTICE at the Core Inn, third floor. For all levels. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

TAEKWONDO CLASSES in the studio space above Elements Home Design, 6 p.m. Info: Paul Mazzei, 250-

931-8887, gyatso5@gmail.com.

VIPASSANA MEDITATION with Heather Martin at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm, 7 to 9 p.m.

YOGA LEVEL 1 with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7 p.m. Call 250-653-2411 for details. Newcomers always welcome.

ZUMBA TONING class with Lee Sigmund at Still Point Yoga Studio, 4 to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

SS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION meets on the third Thursday of the month at the school board meeting room from 4 to 6 p.m.

every THURSDAY

AL-ANON meets at the rear annex of Our Lady of Grace church on Drake Road from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., and at the portable behind Lady Minto Hospital from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

BADMINTON for ages 12 and up at the GISS gym. Drop-ins welcome. Must have own racket and non-marking gym shoes. 8 to 10 p.m. \$3. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.

BRIDGE LESSONS at SS Seniors Services, 10 a.m.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE is open at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd., 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-9573.

FIT FOR LIFE CLASSES with Betty-Lou Lake. All Saints lower hall, 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. Focus on balance, strength, flexibility. Target group is boomers and up. Info: blake@telus.net; 250-537-1638.

FUSION BELLY DANCE with Kaia Mitchell at Still Point Yoga Studio, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., followed by Fusion Belly Dance Choreography at 7:45 p.m.

MIXED LEVELS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

PICKLE BALL at Fulford Hall, 1 to 4 p.m. \$5. Instruction and equipment provided. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579, hafiz@softlinedesign.com; Leonard, 250-653-4424, wordish@shaw.ca.

SS WOMEN'S AA closed meeting Thursday nights at OAP wing of Fulford Hall.

STAY & PLAY DROP-IN. Come for a bowl of soup! Parents and kids ages 0-6. Toy Library open. Family Place, 120 Park Drive, 12 to 3 p.m.

VIJNANA YOGA with Liz Young at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at North End Fitness from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. (with babysitting available) and at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

every FRIDAY

BOARD GAMES NIGHT at Thrive Lifestyle and Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe, 6 to 10 p.m.

BOOMERFIT - FULFORD HALL, 9 to 10 a.m. Enjoy a variety of class formats for optimal fitness and fun; led by certified personal trainer, trisha.synergymfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

BRIDGE at SS Seniors Services, 1 p.m.

COFFEE TIME at SS Seniors Society, 10 a.m.

ENERGIZE YOGA with Suzanne Tremblay at Still Point Yoga Studio, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. Still Point Yoga Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m. Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info: Anna, 250-537-5681; anna@bonesforever.com

INVASIVE SPECIES DROP-OFF. Help control invasive species in our community! There is an invasive species drop-off every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 220 Kanaka Rd. The drop-off site is organized by species to better assist you.

KIDS' YOGA (for 6 to 9 years) with Suzanne Tremblay at Still Point Yoga Studio, 1:30 to 2:15 p.m.

KIDS' YOGA (for 10 to 14 years) with Suzanne Tremblay at Still Point Yoga Studio, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

LEGION MEAT DRAW at the Legion, 5 p.m.

MAH JONG at SS Seniors Services, 12:15 p.m.

MIXED LEVELS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

PUMP PRIMERS co-ed heart health fitness class. All Saints By-the-Sea, 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.

RESTORATIVE YOGA with Suzanne Tremblay at Still Point Yoga Studio, 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.

STAY & PLAY drop-in for parents and kids 0 to 6 at Family Place, 120 Park Drive, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Light lunch provided.

TANGO PRACTICES at the Core Inn, third floor, 8 to 10 p.m. Info: ssi.tango@gmail.com. Resumes Jan. 11.

every SATURDAY

DAD 'N' ME Pancake Breakfast for kids and their dads at Family Place, 120 Park Drive, 8:30 to 10 a.m. Time for dads and their kids to meet, eat and play together.

INVASIVE SPECIES DROP-OFF. See Friday listing.

LEGION MEAT DRAW at the Legion, 5 p.m.

YOGA VINYASA/FLOW with Sarah-Jane Smith at Still Point Yoga Studio, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund at Still Point Yoga Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

every SUNDAY

BADMINTON for ages 12 and up at the GISS gym. Drop-ins welcome. Must have own racket and non-marking gym shoes. 7 to 9 p.m. \$3. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.

INVASIVE SPECIES DROP-OFF. See Friday listing.

KARMA KLASS yoga at Still Point Yoga Studio, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free (with donations gratefully accepted).

PICKLE BALL at Fulford Hall, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$5. Instruction and equipment provided. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579, hafiz@softlinedesign.com; Leonard, 250-653-4424, wordish@shaw.ca.

SALTY DOGS AGILITY CREW meets at 988 North End Road, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Info: www.saltydogs.ca or contact Diane Alton-Kaighin at saltydogsagility@yahoo.ca.

TAI CHI CHEN & YANG STYLES. All levels class at Seven Stars Tai Chi Club, 210 Cedar Lane, 10:30 a.m.

to 12:30 p.m., except for the last class of the month, which runs from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Info: Osman, 250-537-5667.

MONDAY

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT trustees hold public meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Ganges fire hall, 7:30 p.m.

SALT SPRING PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION generally meets on the fourth Monday of each month in the Portlock Park Portable at 5 p.m.

every MONDAY

BEGINNERS/LEVEL 1 YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

BONES FOR LIFE MOVEMENT CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 2 to 3 p.m. A comprehensive exercise program to increase strength and agility through dynamic movement and weight-bearing activity. Info: Anna Haltetrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com.

CHESS at SS Seniors Services, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with lessons from 11 a.m. to noon.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. Still Point Yoga Studio, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds Rd., 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

LIFE DRAWING every Monday at the Core Inn (third floor), 1 to 3 p.m. Info: Jose Campbell, 250-537-1121. Drop-ins welcome.

PILATES LEVEL 1 CLASS at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 11 a.m. to 12 noon. This class is designed for people new to Pilates and those wanting to work on deepening their understanding of Pilates. Info: Anna Haltetrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com.

PUMP PRIMERS co-ed heart health fitness class. All Saints By-the-Sea, 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.

READERS' THEATRE at SS Seniors Services, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SENIORS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

TAEKWONDO CLASSES in the studio space above Elements Home Design, 6 p.m. Info: Paul Mazzei, 250-931-8887, gyatso5@gmail.com.

TAI CHI CHEN STYLE. All levels class, including beginners, at Seven Stars Tai Chi Club, 210 Cedar Lane, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: Osman at 250-537-5667.

TOASTMASTERS public speaking group meets Mondays at the Catholic Church, lower room, 135 Drake Rd., 7 p.m.

THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

UBUNTU Community Song Circle with Barb Slater at Still Point Yoga Studio, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

VIJNANA YOGA with Cathy Valentine at The Gatehouse, Stowel Lake Farm, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

VIPASSANA MEDITATION with Nicola Bishop at Still

Point Yoga Studio, 7 to 8:15 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

YOGA FOR FERTILITY: Next clinic series begins Feb. 18 with Clare Branchflower, 4 to 5:15 p.m. Info: 250-537-2444.

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Valri Cunningham and Shannon Joyce at Still Point Yoga Studio, \$10 drop-in, and first time is free, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Info: Shannon, snomaiden@gmail.com

TUESDAY

PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Meaden Hall at 10 a.m. with special guest speakers each time. Info: Bruce Eggertson, probus.ssi@gmail.com

SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Portlock Park portable, 4 to 6 p.m.

every TUESDAY

ART GROUP meets at SS Seniors Services, 1 p.m.

CHESS CLUB meets at SS Seniors Services, 7 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS with Alice Friedman at Still Point Yoga Studio, 5 to 6:15 p.m.

FIT FOR LIFE CLASSES with Betty-Lou Lake. All Saints lower hall, 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. Focus on balance, strength, flexibility. Target group is boomers and up. Info: blake@telus.net; 250-537-1638.

KUNDALINI MOVING MEDITATION from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and **ECKHART TOLLE PRACTISING PRESENCE** from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

LOST CHORDS CHOIR meets at SS Seniors Services, 10:30 a.m.

NEW! Experience the Joy of Nia! New daytime classes with Arleen at Still Point Yoga Studio in Ganges begin on Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 10 to 11 a.m. Blissful, sweaty fun that will change how you feel about your body and about exercise. Dance - Kick - Laugh - Strengthen - Soften - Express - Play - Relax - Breathe - Sense - Heal. Call 250-653-9235 for more info. For the Feb. 19 class, bring a new-to-Nia friend and two dance for the price of one!

PARENT TOT DANCE. For parents/caregivers and their children ages 0-3 at Family Place, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

PICKLE BALL at Fulford Elementary School from 6 to 9 p.m. \$3. Instruction and equipment provided. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579, hafiz@softlinedesign.com or Leonard Greig, 250-653-4424, wordish@shaw.ca.

SS SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall, 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.

TAI CHI Yang style all levels class, including beginners, at Seven Stars Tai Chi Club, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: Osman at 250-537-5667.

YOGA FOR A HEALTHY MENSTRUAL CYCLE: Next clinic series begins Feb. 19 with Clare Branchflower, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Info: 250-537-2444.

YOGA VINYASA/FLOW with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — Slow Flow... for tired bodies! SS Centre of Yoga, 5 to 6 p.m.

ZUMBA GOLD with Lee Sigmund at Still Point Yoga Studio, 1 to 2 p.m.



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RETIREMENT PLANNING

Poll finds Canadians struggle with retirement plans

Financial advisors help meet goals

Canadians aged 18 to 54 are concerned that their ability to save for retirement will be impaired both by saving for their children's education (48 per cent) and by taking care of their aging parents (36 per cent), according to the 23rd annual RBC RRSP Poll.

Despite the potential strain of these family priorities on their retirement savings, more than half (57 per cent) of Canadians aged 18 to 54 say their parents' retirement experience has shaped their expectations of retirement.

"While Canadians may see their parents' retirement experience as a model for what to expect, the reality is that their retirement may not be the same, par-

ticularly if they are part of the sandwich generation with both aging parents and school-age children," said Amalia Costa, head of retirement strategies for RBC. "Canadians know that juggling competing financial priorities creates enormous strain on both time and money. A financial advisor can make it easier to develop a retirement plan to balance your financial commitments and family life."

Retirement will likely look different for the next generation of retirees, as employer-sponsored pension plans become more rare. The RBC poll found that one-quarter (26 per cent) of Canadians (aged 18 to 54) expect a pension income from an employer to be their primary source of income in retirement and, similarly, fewer than

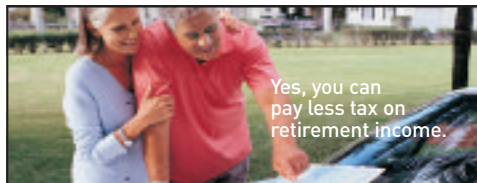
one in five (18 per cent) of them have a defined benefit pension plan.

"The growing demands on time and money can make meeting retirement goals a challenge, but Canadians don't have to do this on their own," added Costa. "Taking the time to meet with a financial advisor is one of the best investments you can make in your financial future. An advisor can help review your financial priorities; understand your income sources and your savings and investment options — all to help make your retirement goals a reality."

The 23rd annual RBC RRSP poll was conducted by Ipsos Reid between October 24 and November 27, 2012 via a random sample of 1,225 Canadian adults in the general population (those aged 18 and over).

Live for today; save for tomorrow

- **Show me the money** — Look for hidden sources of contribution funds. If you have debt, take advantage of lower interest rates to reduce your overall borrowing costs and free up some of your monthly cash flow. For example, you can do this by consolidating higher interest credit card balances into a loan or home equity line with a lower interest rate.
- **Automate your savings habit** — Get into the good savings habit of paying yourself first by setting up an automatic contribution plan to coincide with your payroll deposit. The funds will come off the top and are often not missed.
- **Start thinking about your retirement income plan** — If you are within a few years of retirement, switch your focus to establishing your retirement income plan. Translate your vision for the lifestyle you want in your retirement into financial requirements and work with an advisor to learn about your new sources of retirement income and how these will fund your new lifestyle.



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My RANT on Tax Free Savings Accounts...

While I love what a Tax Free Savings Account (TFSA) does to help Canadians manage their money, I think they got the name wrong. When people think of "savings accounts" it brings to mind low interest (or no-interest) bank accounts for short term money management.

Don't think of a TFSA as a lowly savings account, because it is so much more! The best thing about this account is you NEVER have to pay tax on any growth. NEVER. That's right, the "F" stand for FREE (much better than a lot of other "F" words!) So why set up your TFSA in a bank account earning 0.5% interest for short term savings?

Really, the TFSA is much better suited for long term retirement planning. Imagine a pool of money you can use during retirement that does not generate any tax when you withdraw it? Now imagine you need a new roof or car or septic field and need to free up \$30,000 at age 70? You won't get that kind of money from your pension, and if you try to take it from your RRSP or RRIF, you need to allow for the tax and also the higher income bracket you find yourself in. Putting yourself in a higher tax bracket brings its own set of problems.

The next question, common at this time of year, is whether to contribute to an RRSP, to a TFSA, or to pay down your mortgage. This is a very good question, and one that can only be answered properly once we've taken the time to properly understand your particular situation.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to RANT. Come to think of it, perhaps a better name for the TFSA might have been R.A.N.T.:

Retirement Account, Never Taxed!

The Plan by **Investors Group**

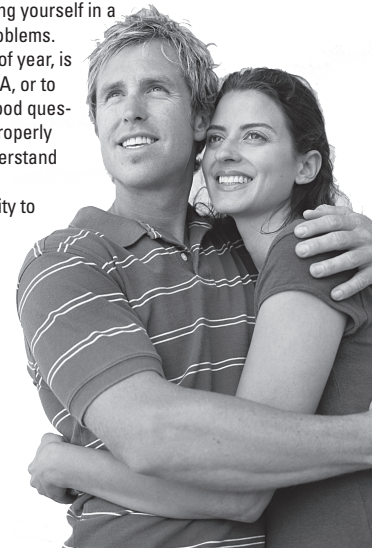
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CIRCUS ARTS

Travelling performers put down island roots

PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN (RIGHT), AND COURTESY MARLEY SKYE

Elvolutionaries member Marley Skye in a past outdoor performance; from left, Marley and Freyja Skye, Aya Engel and Fallyn McLeod at the TWIST solstice event at Mahon Hall in December.



Circus events, workshops planned

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents who attended the semi-impromptu circus performance and dance called TWIST (The World Is Still Turning) on the winter solstice had their first taste of what could become a regular pastime for the island.

The event was put together by a young family that's toured as The Elvolutionaries for several years. Marley Saffire Skye, Freyja Skye and their three-and-a-half-year-old daughter Shaeanna were invited to Salt Spring by some circus friends and found, like many visitors before them, that they wanted to stay.

"We're always looking for a strong community that responds to the theatrical arts to share the circus," Skye said during a recent interview, adding, "Honestly, it was a bit of a whim. We were perfectly happy on our farm in Lund."

The Elvolutionaries have brought aerial arts, acrobatics and fun to audiences up

and down the west coast and as far away as Costa Rica and Hawaii. Having only recently moved to Salt Spring, they're hoping to find another farm property as the base for ongoing workshops and a summer performance season.

Skye had attended many festivals with his parents (they are artisans and farmers) and ran away with the circus for good six years ago when he met Freyja, who had trained in the circus arts in Montreal. The pair purchased a 40-foot school bus, painted it purple and converted it to run on vegetable oil and went on the road.

"We just loved it — we just kept going. Every summer we go on tour. But we're hoping to grow some roots here. It can be tiring moving around so much," Skye said.

Typically the Skyes have attracted other people with circus skills to join them for performances wherever they go. They've also run workshops and kids' camps, activities they hope to resume with a new island-based "Salty Circus."

"A circus can pretty much

include everyone, people with all sorts of skills. There's so many niches, it's a very good container to hold a community in," said Skye.

"People are encouraged to excel at what they're interested in."

MARLEY SKYE
The Elvolutionaries

"People are encouraged to excel at what they're interested in. It's kind of a fun-based approach to learning."

Skye said kids in particular can benefit from the creative outlet that circus training provides. He prefers a collective model in which even young participants plan out their own performance.

"It hones the body to become creative, strong and flexible, and it gives kids confidence and the theatrical presence to pull off a show. And that's what kids need, is that kind of empowerment."

Skye said the Salt Spring audience was responsive to the show that first put the Elvolutionaries together with local performers, and he's looking forward to what will come with more development.

"I'm excited because in two weeks we pulled together 13 people for this show, which was great," he said.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about circus training opportunities can contact Skye at 250-931-4401 or send a message through his Facebook page under Marley Saffire Skye.

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FESTIVAL

Sunday's sweet at Maple Syrup Day

Fifth annual event

The Harbour House celebrates the bounty of the bigleaf maple tree at its fifth annual Maple Syrup Day on Sunday, Feb. 10.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., people can tour the grounds of the organic farm behind the hotel and restaurant, and see B.C.'s original stainless-steel, wood-fired maple syrup evaporator in action. It's

the same one used by UBC to determine if maple syrup could be successfully made in the province.

According to Harbour House Hotel owner Jack Woodward, he purchased the original evaporator never realizing its full potential.

"I had no idea five years ago that this would take off the way it has," Woodward said. "I bought it thinking that I would be a lone her-

mit in the woods making maple syrup, and had no idea it would be successful, let alone that anyone else would be interested."

But he said the idea has caught on, creating a cottage industry on Vancouver Island that has led to festivals, syrup boils and creation of tasty treats.

The farm has frozen hundreds of litres of sap from its bigleaf maples for use in Sunday's event.

Admission to Maple Syrup Day is free, along with the entertainment supplied by award-winning Salt Spring fiddler Wesley Hardisty and Richard Cross. Visitors to the farm can also meet resident goats Lilly, Carly, Lucas and Yo-Yo, see a tapping demonstration, taste the finger licking maple syrup and eat pancakes while sipping on hot chocolate.

FUNDRAISER

Pub team captures spelling trophy



Quizmasters break tie

There's a new reigning spelling bee team in town, with a group of pub quiz fiends called the Quizmasters taking home the trophy from the second annual GISS Athletics fundraiser Friday night.

Five teams, including last year's champions from Lady Minto, took on spelling challenges, math questions and a general knowledge section for intellectual bragging rights.

"Mr. Math, Shilo Zylbergold, teased everyone with his brain stretching math questions and Bob 'human dictionary' Twaites was on hand to

expertly pronounce the words, raising chuckles and groans of disbelief in equal measure," organizer Richard Steel said.

Going into the last round of spelling, all five teams were in with a chance of lifting the trophy, but by the end of the round the Firefighters and GISS were edged out. A spell-off was called for and after much tension the Quizmasters broke the three-way tie with the Mavericks and Lady Minto to emerge as the 2013 victors.

The Quizmasters team included Robin Rudgley, Richard Rudgley, Murray Shoolbraid, Sue Walker, Seamus Dunne and John Herbert.

PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN
"Mr. Math" Shilo Zylbergold and Lady Minto's Jo Twaites.

CONCERT PREVIEW

Beethoven's third gets the concert nod

Pianist Stubbs ready to thrill audience

BY RICHARD MOSES
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Matthew Stubbs, who is off to university this fall, doesn't have to decide whether to attempt a Beethoven piano concerto; he can play them all!

So which one will it be for the Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra's Feb. 9 and 10 outing?

Members of the orchestra,

as well as his dad, conductor Jim Stubbs and his mother, bassoonist Lauren, all waited expectantly for the decision. The librarian got the word: "Order the third, please."

So the Beethoven Piano Concerto #3 will be the centrepiece of a concert that also includes the Symphony #4 by Franz Schubert, known as "the Tragic," and the rarely heard Suite #1 from the opera-ballet Les Indes Galantes by Jean Philippe Rameau.

Young Stubbs brought the audience to its feet last year with the formidable Schumann concerto and has become increasingly popular with island audiences in a number of chamber music appearances and, this season, as accompanist with the Salt Spring Singers.

The February concert will be the fourth in a busy orchestra and choir season, which has included music of Borodin, Vaughan Williams, Rossini, Rimsky-Korsakov — his

chamber opera Mozart and Salieri, Haydn and, most recently, the second annual Sing-Along Messiah.

March will bring another Waltz Night at Fulford Hall and the season ends in June with the Salieri and Mozart requiems.

All Saints By-the-Sea Anglican Church will host the concert on Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 10 at 2 p.m.

Tickets (at \$20, \$15 and \$5) are available at the door.

FILM

Sugar Man search rewarding

Even 'docuphobics' will love Oscar-nominated movie

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's well known that Salt Spring is home to scores of fervent documentary film buffs. They turn out in their hundreds to watch as many film as can be squeezed in during festival weekend (March 1-3).

Strange, but also true, there are some islanders who harbour a morbid fear of the documentary genre. They worry about bleak content, hopeless causes, and being brought low emotionally by what they see. They are what you might call "docuphobic."

The next Best of the Fest presentation might just win converts among those who shun documentaries, writing them all off as "downers." All that's required is to walk into ArtSpring on Feb. 13 and watch Searching For Sugar Man. Be ready to be uplifted. Be ready to be moved.

If you like music with haunting lyrics, if you like a story full of mystery, a central character who's a heart stealer, and — here's the clincher — if you're looking for a happy ending, this movie's for you.



Sugar Man is Mexican-American, singer-songwriter Sixto Rodriguez. He has been dubbed the biggest pop icon who never was. Once touted as the new Dylan, Rodriguez became a casualty of the early 1970s Detroit music scene, disappearing into oblivion after a couple of record albums. Rave reviews failed to produce big profits. Dropped in a hurry by his record label, Rodriguez ended up working in construction to make ends meet and raise his children.

End of story? No, not by a long shot. Rodriguez, it turns out, was big in South Africa. A star. His songs of protest, poetic and socially engaging, struck a deep chord with blacks and, especially, with liberal whites struggling against apartheid. Rodriguez was not aware of his success and impact in South Africa. It's been said that, as far as white South Africans were concerned, Rodriguez's first album, Cold Fact, was as big as Abbey Road or Bridge Over Troubled Water. Yet no royalties from sales ever reached

the singer. Rumour had it that Rodriguez was, in fact, dead.

The movie directed by Swedish director Malik Bendjelloul chronicles the quest by two hard-core South African fans, a record shop manager and a music journalist to find out what happened to Rodriguez, whose name and songs were legendary in their country. Their perseverance was rewarded in 1998 after the pair received information from Rodriguez's daughters, leading them to a run-down house in Dearborn, Mich. and to their hero. It was the start of a Rodriguez revival. Bendjelloul met the South Africans in Cape Town and resolved to make a documentary about their hunt for the truth about Rodriguez.

This Oscar-nominated film sheds harsh light on the vagaries and inequities of the music industry. It tells a revealing story of how a talented performer could disappear without a trace and how his rediscovery gives a modest man a chance at fame in his own land a second time round.

Searching For Sugar Man runs at ArtSpring on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 from the Artspring ticket centre or online at www.artspring.ca.

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3RD COURSE

Choice of:

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Choice of:

Strawberry Short Cakes - Lemon chantilly cream, strawberry sauce, chocolate macaroon
Chocolate and Vanilla - Macaroon, Pate, Strawberry Almond, cream anglaise

emergency RESPONSE

THESE PAGES PROVIDE EMERGENCY-RELATED TIPS AND A SEARCH & RESCUE SALUTE

GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE

Learning the ropes

Safety a top priority for GSAR rope team

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When people go missing on Salt Spring Island, the first thing that goes through their mind doesn't always involve finding a comfortable place to await rescue.

Although lost subjects are advised to wait in a safe and preferably visible location, the nature of emergency situations, and wilderness activities in particular, make the textbook reaction an exception rather than the rule.

Making matters worse, Salt Spring's relatively benign image has been known to offer a false sense of security to people who think it impossible to get lost on an island of 10,000 inhabitants.

Darkness, rain, cool temperatures, the island's notoriously hard-to-follow trails and a rocky waterfront are a few of the hazards that have turned an idyllic afternoon walk in the park into a call-out for Salt Spring's search and rescue volunteers.

On an island where rocky bluffs and steep shoreline drops are commonplace, however, specialized skills are often needed by search and rescue volunteers who are called in to assist RCMP and paramedics when the need arises to access harder-to-reach areas.

Accessing the site of a vehicle that's gone

down a roadside embankment or searching for a lost subject along Mount Maxwell's steep southern bluffs would be opportune times to call in the GSAR rope team, according to Chuck Hamilton, a SAR manager with nearly 25 years of experience.

Likewise, the rope team is called in to assist with low-bank rescues, to administer first aid to people in hard-to-reach areas and, occasionally, to assist with the recovery of a deceased subject.

"The rope team is a very important part of Salt Spring's search and rescue capabilities," he said.

For the island's Ground Search and Rescue group, that task falls to six highly trained and well-practised members of the rope-rescue squad. Besides attending weekly search and rescue meetings, rope rescue team members meet on a regular basis to ensure they're up to speed on the latest safety techniques and rope handling skills.

Membership in the rope rescue team is among one of the specialty areas available to members who've completed their introductory Ground Search and Rescue course.

Whereas the mandatory introductory course covers many of the basics when it comes to different types of ropes, rope handling, rope management and knots, the rope rescue course is where members can tie into the sharp end and find out what ropes are all about. This is where team members can learn about using a rappel to access a victim,

rigging pulley systems to enable greater lift power and setting up a secure system to move a stretcher — and the person inside it — to solid ground.

The most crucial part of the entire operation, Hamilton added, is the system of back-ups and mechanisms in place to ensure maximum safety for the person in distress and the team that's conducting the rescue.

"There can be no mistakes," Hamilton said. "The safety factor is 10-to-one. It's an exact science because your life hangs in the balance."

Rope team member Alan Bibby joined the group to refine and retain some of the skills he'd picked up in more than three decades of mountaineering. Although the two disciplines share some commonalities like a healthy respect for situational awareness and rope management, Bibby was surprised to discover a unique set of skills used by GSAR rope team members.

"Some of the mountaineering techniques had to be unlearned because of the safety margins," he said. "There's just no room for error."

Whereas much of the risk involved in mountaineering comes down to a personal assessment and judgement of the climbing party, working on a team of rescue professionals in the role of an emergency responder requires a whole different level of precautions.

"We reduce the risk so there is no risk — or virtually none," he said.

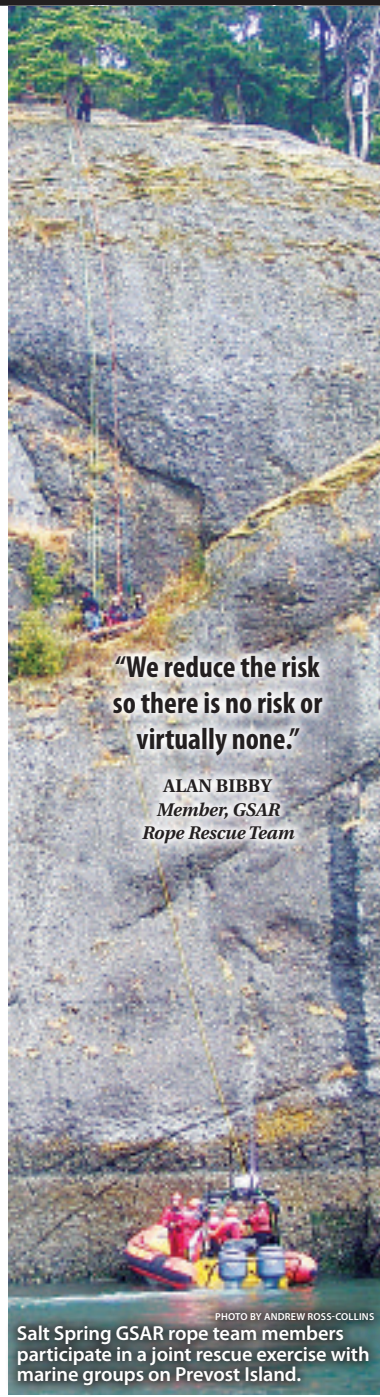
With such an emphasis on safety, training to qualify for the team is a rigorous process that can take more than a year to complete.

Once they've passed their initial GSAR course, volunteers have the option of specializing in any number of specific skill areas. The Provincial Emergency Program offers programs in tracking, avalanche rescue, swiftwater rescue, SAR management and rope rescue for members who want to refine their skills and specialize in any given area.

The absence of avalanche terrain and rivers on the island makes the rope rescue team a natural fit for Salt Spring GSAR members who seek to learn a fresh set of skills in a stimulating and challenging environment.

More information about Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue is available at www.saltspingsar.org or through the group's Facebook site.

Salt Spring GSAR hosts meetings and training sessions every Tuesday between 7 and 9 p.m. at 249 Fulford-Ganges Rd.



"We reduce the risk so there is no risk or virtually none."

ALAN BIBBY
Member, GSAR
Rope Rescue Team

PHOTO BY ANDREW ROSS-COLLINS

Salt Spring GSAR rope team members participate in a joint rescue exercise with marine groups on Prevost Island.

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EMERGENCY

Severe storms always a Gulf Islands winter threat

Emergency coordinator shares storm survival tips

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Even though the days are getting brighter and the first signs of spring are emerging from the sodden earth, it's never too late for winter to make an appearance.

According to Salt Spring emergency program coordinator Elizabeth Zook, it's times like these that people and properties are most vulnerable to the onset of a sudden and surprising severe storm event.

Windstorms that regularly occur across the B.C. coast have been known to pack winds faster than 100 kilometres an hour, which is more than enough to disrupt ferry travel and take out power for extended periods.

When a rainstorm dropped up to 60 mm of rain on the island in fewer than 24 hours in early January, the island stood a high risk of landslides and washouts that had the potential to wipe out access to entire neighbourhoods.

"It was like the parting of the Red Sea," Zook said during a recent interview. "I never thought I'd see flooding on the island until that rain hit."

Be it rain, snow, wind, lightning or storm surges, severe storms can take a variety of forms, each with its own range of potentially devastating consequences.

In the Gulf Islands, she said, effects can range from power failures,

flooding and damaged roadways.

Regardless of the form a severe weather event may take, individuals are advised to go over a household or workplace emergency plan and put together an emergency kit with enough food, water and emergency supplies to last 72 hours.

"Severe storms are happening more and people need to be aware."

ELIZABETH ZOOK
Emergency Program
Coordinator for SSI,
Capital Regional District

Because of the relatively remote nature of Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands, Zook suggests people upgrade basic emergency kits to cover up to seven days. She said it's also a great idea for everyone in the home to have a "grab-and-go-bag" with overnight essentials at the ready in case of immediate evacuation.

Apart from preparing the people in your home or office for disaster, Zook noted that it's equally important to ensure your property is ready to withstand a sudden severe weather event.

She said it's important

to trim any large branches that could destroy structures during a storm, clean gutters and ensure roofs are in good repair.

Trimming dead branches and cutting down large tree limbs near the home will reduce their potential to inflict damage on structures. Making sure drainage ditches along roadways aren't blocked will prevent washouts and flooding.

For homes that are especially exposed to high winds, Zook suggests homeowners consider covering windows with a few strips of duct tape to prevent shattering or affixing blankets that will prevent windows from popping out and breaking inside the home.

"Windows are a huge hazard," she said.

Getting educated by speaking with neighbours and using online resources using or joining a local neighbourhood POD program, she added, are among the best things people can do to prepare themselves to weather the storm in comfort.

"People need to know what to expect," she said. "Severe storms are happening more and people need to be aware."

More information about what to include in your emergency kit is available online at www.getprepared.ca.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

READY FOR ANYTHING: Members of Station 25 (Salt Spring) of the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue group participate in a training exercise with other RCMSAR stations and Ganges Coast Guard personnel in Trincomali Channel last month. The Station 25 RCMSAR is one of Salt Spring's active emergency services groups.

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www.saltspringsar.org or visit Salt Spring Search and Rescue on Facebook

DANCE

Swinging big band evening raising Mahon Hall funds

Two Guys and a Girl set to charm

On Feb. 16, the Swing Shift Big Band will be back with its third annual Valentine Dance and the third of its partnership dances with the Salt Spring Arts Council.

Featuring Randy Marchi,

Jim Raddysh and Barb Rankin as the Two Guys and a Girl, Swing Shift Big Band will present a fantastically fun evening of songs and dancing at Mahon Hall, which has one of the best dance floors on the island.

Rankin has performed everything from Broadway to opera during a professional

career based in Calgary.

Marchi had a professional music career on the road for 30 years before ending up on Salt Spring Island. He continues to perform music for the sheer love of it in several on-island ensembles.

Raddysh wears many hats, including pool manager, children's entertainer and Uncle

Jim of the popular Uncle Jim's Blues Band.

Swing Shift itself is in fine form with 16 pieces, including a full trombone section. Directed by versatile trumpeter Murray Hunter, the band has developed a considerable dance repertoire.

The Swing Shift book includes swing-era charts

drawn from the bands of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller and Woody Herman.

The evening is a joint fundraiser for Bandemonium and the Salt Spring Art Council's renovation of the Mahon Hall kitchen — hence its "Swing for the Kitchen Sink" series of dances.

Doors open at 7 p.m.; music starts at 7:30 p.m.

Three hours of music and dancing costs only \$20 per person, with tickets sold in advance at Salt Spring Books, RE/MAX Salt Spring and the SSAC office (250-537-0899).

A cash bar and great finger food at modest prices will be available.

ARTS

Artisans called for workshop brochure

Arts/education tourism promoted

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders intending to offer educational workshops between April 15, 2013 and April 15, 2014 are invited to participate in a one-stop community brochure encompassing everything from the visual and literary to the culinary and healing arts.

The third edition of the popular Salt Spring Arts Council initiative is set to promote the island's unique offerings with further reach than ever before. The newly renamed Workshops on the Rock will be printed in an easy-to-read fold-out brochure and will include a revamped, user-friendly website format.

"We see it as an opportunity for people to come to the island, not just for an event but for the weekend," arts council board member Janet Halliwell explained when the first brochure was released.

Stefanie Denz, the arts council's outgoing president, said attracting off-island participants has always been a goal, but the all-volunteer effort had difficulty achieving maximum reach. The hiring of a project manager will hopefully push the bro-

chure's effectiveness to the next level.

"It's good for promoting what's on the island and getting people to check out more than just a day on the beach — they can get into the local lifestyle as well," Denz said.

"It's something people can do on the island that's different."

The paper version will be hand-distributed around Vancouver and Victoria as well as the southern Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast to entice visitors who like to travel for a creative or educational opportunity.

It will also be distributed through the visitors' centre and at island accommodations for those guests who are already here. Locals are equally encouraged to use the resource to sign up for workshops taught by island professionals in

areas such as textiles, printmaking, photography, wildcrafting and permaculture. In the past, instructors have been as varied in their talents as Robert Bateman, author Kathy Page, chef Bruce Wood and MaObong Oku, who offered a workshop on community healing through traditional African drumming and singing.

The arts council is holding two information sessions at Mahon Hall for anyone who would like to know more about joining the brochure on Thursday, Feb. 7, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The cost of having a workshop listed in the brochure and website is \$100, with a \$25 discount for first-timers.

For more information, contact project manager Jane MacKenzie at jemmanow@gmail.com.



Islands Trust

ISLANDS TRUST SATURNA ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee will hold a community information meeting and a public hearing within a Local Trust Committee Business Meeting on:

- Proposed Bylaw No. 110 — cited as "Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw No.78, 2002, Amendment No. 2, 2012"

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at **12:30 p.m., Thursday, February 14, 2013, at Saturna Island Community Hall, 105 East Point Road, Saturna Island, BC.**

At the public hearing all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

Proposed Bylaw No. 110 — In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 110 is to amend the Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw to permit "ocean loop geo-exchange systems" in some of the zones that apply to the sea within the Saturna Island Local Trust Area. Proposed Bylaw No. 110 also contains a definition for "ocean loop geo-exchange system". The bylaw has been prepared in order to allow for ocean loop geo-exchange systems to be put in place for the purpose of domestic heating and cooling accessory to the residential use of an upland property.

A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the 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 January 29, 2013 and up to and including February 13, 2013.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Saturna Island, B.C., commencing January 29, 2013. The proposed bylaw can also be viewed on the internet at www.islandstrust.bc.ca and selecting www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/sa/bylaws.cfm

Written submissions may be delivered to:

- 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 on-line by going to the Islands Trust Website at the following URL: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ltc/sa/meetings.cfm and completing the "Public Hearing, February 14, 2013, Submission Form", prior to 4:30 p.m., February 12, 2013;
- After 4:30 p.m., February 12, 2013 to the Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at 12:30 p.m., February 14, 2013.

The public is asked to send any electronic response by using the on-line public hearing submission form. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written submission.

Written comments 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, Gary Richardson, Planner, at (250) 405-5157 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 SATURNA ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Kathy Jones,
Deputy Secretary

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Monday, February 11, 2013

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what's on this week

www.driftwoodgimedia.com/calendar



Wed. Feb 6 Wed. Feb 6 Thurs. Feb 7 Fri. Feb 8 Sat. Feb 9 Sun. Feb 10 Tues. Feb 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Alan Moberg & Harry Warner. Music & Munch recital. Free music, followed by an optional \$5.50 lunch prepared by the Anglican Caterers. All Saints By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m. **Open Stage with Richard Cross.** Every Wednesday night at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

AED Course. Learn how to save a life using an AED. Lady Minto Hospital portable. 1 to 5:30 p.m. Info/register: 250-538-4824; karen.mouat@viha.ca
Texas Hold'em Poker. Every Wednesday night at The Local. Sign up at 6:30 p.m.
Stitch Dimension Quilt Guild. New members and visitors always welcome. Meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Salt Spring Baptist Church. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

RUBBERBANDance Community Workshop. RUBBERBANDance from Montreal will guide dancers through a series of demonstrations, exercises and movement phrases to offer an experience of a unique fusion of forms. Pre-registration required through ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

Thurs. Feb 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with Richard Cross. Every Thursday at The Local. 6:30 p.m.
Lindsay Jane House Concert. Part of the Home Routes Tour, hosted by Martin and Carrie Oloriz. 270 Robinson Rd. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Workshops on the Rock Info Meetings. Islanders intending to offer educational workshops are invited to participate in a one-stop community brochure. Organized by the Salt Spring Arts Council. Mahon Hall. 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 5 to 6:30 p.m. meeting times.
SSI Weavers & Spinners Guild. Part two of colour and design workshop with Jane Stafford. Visitors/new members welcome. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m.
Rollerblading to Music. Every Thursday night at Fulford Hall. Skate rentals available. 7 to 9 p.m.
Fire & Water Marathon Presentation. Ron Pither gives slide show and video on Ometepe Island. GISS multipurpose room. 7 p.m. Info: rpither@gulfislands.com

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Coalition. Live music. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Nash & Bishop. Live music at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

StoryTime at the Library. Meet Wabi Sabi, a little Japanese cat, illustrated by Ed Young. Stories read by Elizabeth. For preschoolers and early-grade children. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 a.m.
Learn Break The Chain Choreography. For the One Billion Rising global event against violence (on Feb. 14). North End Fitness. 6 p.m.
Salt Spring Island Governance Committee Meeting. Public welcome. Portlock Park meeting room. 4 p.m.
Seedy Saturday Film Night. Showing of Diversidad — a Road Trip to Deconstruct Dinner. Farmers' Institute. 6:30 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Julia Beattie. Singer-songwriter with universal appeal. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Black Flamingo. Live music. Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Seedy Saturday. Community Seed Exchange: A full hall of seeds, plants, food, group displays and workshops. Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Paul Brosseau Celebration of Life. Share stories at a family-organized event to mark the life of the late Paul Brosseau. Beaver Point Community Hall. 4 p.m.
Learn Break The Chain Choreography. For the One Billion Rising global event against violence (on Feb. 14). North End Fitness. 12:30 p.m.
Salt Spring Div. 1 FC Soccer. Men's soccer game versus Bays United Liquor Plus at Portlock Park. 2:15 p.m.
Words of Peace Video Presentations. Videos featuring Prem Rawat's message of peace. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 5 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Seedy Sunday. Special events at the Farmers' Institute. SSI Farmland Trust presentation and discussion on land use possibilities, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Plus Is There a Salt Spring Alternative to Organic Certification? 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Fifth Annual Maple Syrup Day. Demonstrations, tastings, farm tours and live music from Wesley Hardisty and Richard Cross. Harbour House Hotel. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Openings: Write Your Way to Self-Care & Creative Inspiration. Join writers Lynda Monk and Ahava Shira for an afternoon of expressive writing and playful renewal. ArtSpring. 1 p.m.
Old Boys Soccer. Salt Spring plays against Juan de Fuca White at GISS. Noon.

Mon. Feb 11

Today is Family Day — a new statutory holiday in B.C.

Tues. Feb 12

ACTIVITIES

Parent Tot Dance. New program for parents/caregivers and their children ages 0-3. Family Place. 10 a.m. to noon.
Probus Club Meeting. PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Tuesday of each month with special guest speakers. Meaden Hall. 10 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

Learn Break The Chain Choreography. For the One Billion Rising global event against violence (on Feb. 14). North End Fitness. 6 p.m.

Wed Feb 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage with Richard Cross. Every Wednesday night at Moby's. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Searching for Sugar Man. Salt Spring Film Festival screening of Searching for Sugar Man tells the incredible true story of Rodriguez, the greatest '70s rock icon who never was. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
The Kanakas of Salt Spring Island. Members of the Roland family outline their family history at the Salt Spring Historical Society monthly presentation. Central Community Hall. 2 p.m.
Board of Education Meeting. Public meeting of School District #64 trustees. Fernwood Elementary School. 1 p.m.
Community Kitchen. Sign up weekly at Family Place. Parents and kids ages 0-6. 1 to 3 p.m.
Texas Hold'em Poker. Every Wednesday night at The Local. Sign up at 6:30 p.m.

THE FRITZ MOVIE THEATRE JOIN US ON FACEBOOK at Central Hall call 250-537-4656 To watch the preview go to www.thefritz.ca

Les Misérables HELD OVER 2 SHOWS ONLY 158 min Rating: PG Wed. Feb. 6th & Thurs. Feb. 7th 7:00pm

HITCHCOCK 1 hr 38 min Rating: PG Feb. 8-12 Friday to Tuesday 7:00pm Sunday 4:00pm matinee and 7:00pm

Sat. Feb 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Back on the Rock Concert. Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra, with soloist Matthew Stubbs on piano. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7:30 p.m.
Barley Bros. Every Saturday at The Local. 3 to 5:30 p.m.
Live Sitar with Phil. Live music. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Sun. Feb 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Back on the Rock Concert. Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra, with soloist Matthew Stubbs on piano. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2 p.m.
Piano Bar. With Diana English. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

www.driftwoodgulfislands.com/calendar/events/

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CINEMA

- Les Miserables** — Victor Hugo's epic tale, set in 19th-century France tells a story of broken dreams, love, sacrifice and redemption. Hugh Jackman plays ex-prisoner Jean Valjean, hunted for decades by a ruthless policeman after he breaks parole. When Valjean agrees to care for factory worker Fantine's young daughter, their lives change forever.
- Hitchcock** — Hitchcock is elevated by inspired performances from its two distinguished leads, Anthony Hopkins and Helen Mirren. A love story about Alfred Hitchcock and his wife and partner Alma Reville, the film takes place during the making of Hitchcock's seminal movie Psycho.

EXHIBITIONS

- Window to the Soul**, an exhibit of artwork by Carol Adam, runs in the lobby of ArtSpring through February.
- Five Takes** — an exhibit of photography by Salt Spring Photography Club members Cliff Kelly, David Thomas Jones (Jonesi), Margaret C Benmore, Wendy Rosier and Greg Klassen — is at the Harbour House Hotel through February.

- Return of the Creatures** is an exhibit of oil paintings by Ora Cogan, with additional work by Cowichan Valley artist Collin Elder.
- Well-known Salt Spring photographer **John Cameron** shows work at the **Fernwood Road Cafe**.
- Work by **Jerry Witmer** is hanging at **Barb's Bakery & Bistro** during the month of January.
- Richard York** has artwork on display at **Salt Spring Coffee Company Cafe**.
- Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** features work by **Peter Allan, Heide Van Impe, Ken Ketchum, Dawn Davies, Lorne Shantz, Bob Rogers** and **Saltspring Fancy**.
- Rachel Vadeboncoeur** shows mixed-media and glass works at **Island Savings**.
- Gillean Proctor** shows photographic works at **Auntie Pesto's Cafe**.
- Steffany McAren** has paintings hanging at **Penny's Pantry**

Seedy Saturday Weekend
February 8th-10th
Friday Night Film Night
Saturday Seed Exchange, Sale & Workshops
Sunday Panel Discussions & Lunch
Farmers' Institute

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people&community



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

JOHNNY'S LEGACY: Friends and family of the late John Wilcox celebrate the colourful tribute now up at Country Grocer. Wilcox was a well-known islander and farmer who died from heart failure last summer. The display contains "Farmed & Dangerous" T-shirts, Bruce's Kitchen 2013 calendars and related goods, with partial proceeds benefitting a GISS scholarship in Wilcox's name and a Phoenix Elementary School program. In the photo are, from left, Lynda Wilcox, Emma Rubatscher, Sam Wilcox, Sue Earle, Megan Brooke, Rob Pingle (representing School District 64) and Rob's daughter Harper Pingle.

CHINESE ZODIAC

Charismatic Snakes soak up sun

Ling Weston's 12 years of zodiac reports complete

BY LING WESTON
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The Year of the Snake starts on Feb. 10, 2013. Chinese New Year never starts on the same day each year. This is because the Chinese calendar is a lunar one, based on the phases of the moon as it orbits the planet Earth, as opposed to the Western Gregorian calendar, which is a solar one, based on the earth orbiting the sun.

Each year in the Chinese calendar was assigned an animal as its zodiac sign by astrologers eons ago, starting with Rat and followed by Ox/Tiger/Rabbit/Dragon/Snake/Horse/Lamb/Monkey/Rooster/Dog/Pig in this order in a cycle of 12 years.

The year you were born determines your dominant sign. This doesn't mean all people born under the same sign have exactly the same characteristics. The Chinese zodiac is also ruled by five elements (metal/water/wood/fire/earth) so that each particular zodiac animal aligned with the same element is only repeated once in a 60-year cycle.

Babies born between Feb. 10, 2013 and Jan. 30, 2014 are Water (element) Snakes (zodiac).

Snake Zodiac Horoscope

To complicate the matter, Snakes have also been assigned with their personal natural ele-



Ling Weston's Year of the Snake card/calendar illustration.

ment — Fire! That's quite incongruous, you may say, "water puts out fire." But the horoscope bestows a benevolent means: water does calm down Snake's fiery temperament.

In a nutshell and according to the books, Snakes are endowed with both inner and external beauty. They are intelligent, wise, intuitive, introspective, enigmatic and possess strong charisma. But they are very private and secretive people. So please be sure to tread through grass lightly, wherever you walk, so as to not disturb these sleeping beauties.

A Snake is also strong-willed, materialistic and can be vain. They are good at business and able organizers. Chinese believe in having a Snake in the family; one would never starve!

So finding out all your family members' and friends' zodiac signs can also assist you in working on your good points and correcting the weak characters to achieve balance and harmony in your life. And parents, in knowing their children's zodiac signs, can better bring up their children in this hectic world.

The newly minted public holiday, Family Day in B.C. falls on Monday, Feb. 11, making the Snake New Year a long weekend. So Kung Hey Fat Choy to you all. Enjoy — and go explore new horizons!

I started this column 12 years ago when I was often asked, "When is Chinese New Year?" or "What sign am I?" I must thank the Driftwood for indulging me to pursue my hobby and expand my knowledge as I plod along.

I've also accomplished my venture of designing East Meets East Zodiac Calendar 2013 at \$15 each and 12 Chinese zodiac letter cards (with envelopes) at \$1.50 each. All proceeds go to UNICEF.

To purchase the calendar or cards, call me at Studio Ling, 250-537-5784.



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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS DEATHS

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS DEATHS

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS IN MEMORIAM

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMING EVENTS

DR. TREVOR JOHN WILLIAMS March 2, 1965 - January 11, 2013 Dr. Trevor John Williams, born in the Rhondda Valley in southern Wales on March 2, 1965, passed away, soft and sweet, on January 11, 2013 surrounded by his family and friends.

Harry Williams-Freeman A memorial service to celebrate the life of Harry Williams-Freeman will be held Sunday February 10th 2 PM at St. Mark's Anglican Church, (961 North End Road) Reception to follow.

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SSI Historical Society Regular Meeting 2:00 pm Wednesday Feb. 13, 2013 At Central Hall The Roland Family "The Kanaka History of Salt Spring Island." HELP PRESERVE SALT SPRING ISLAND HISTORY MAKE A CHARITABLE DONATION TO THE ARCHIVES LEGACY FUND.

Karl Jonathan Pring February 1, 1967 - January 24, 2013 Karl Jonathan Pring, 46, of Chilliwack, B.C., died suddenly on January 24, 2013.

Douglas Coyne 24 August 1947 - 31 January 2013 "What a long strange trip it's been" We may not have always understood him but we always loved him. Predeceased by his parents Pat (2001) and Molly (2009).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMING EVENTS DCP DESIGNS - Original Hat and Tote Designs at the Waterfront Gallery, 20% sale continuing Jan. through Feb.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMING EVENTS The 4th annual WCOWMA-BC Convention & Trade Show will be held at the Ramada Convention Centre (36035 North Parallel Rd) in Abbotsford on February 7-9, 2013.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMING EVENTS pomodoro pizza and more Order Your Heart-Shaped Pizza for Valentines Today! 250-537-5660

Karl Jonathan Pring Karl Jonathan Pring, 46, of Chilliwack, B.C., died suddenly on January 24, 2013. Karl was born on February 1, 1967, in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMING EVENTS ISLAND PATHWAYS has had a stellar year, full of good works & good fun. Please come to our Annual General Meeting to meet our directors, hear recaps of our activities, see our new short videos, & get savvy about electric bicycles.

Valentines Dancel Swing for the Kitchen Sink Dance and listen to the music of the Swing Shift Band, featuring the vocal stylings of Barb Rankin, Randy Marchi and Jim Raddysch

LEGALS Notice to Creditors Re: Estate of Robin Wood, Retired Late of 181 Beddis Road, Salt Spring Island, BC

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

Market in the Park March 30 - October 26, 2013 Seasonal Vendors - Please renew your Permit no later than February 28, at the PARC office, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday. Seasonal Permit Fee is \$160.

Workshops on the Rock SS Arts Council Workshop Brochure 2013-2014 Call for applications Information meeting Thursday, February 7th Mahon Hall

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Please send a maximum of 2 pages describing why building capacity for leadership among young women is important to you. Please describe what strengths or assets you would bring to a Young Women's Leadership Advisory Committee.

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Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood will be closed on **Monday, Feb. 11 - Family Day** statutory holiday - and will reopen for usual business hours on **Tuesday, Feb. 12.**

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday February 13 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline: **Thursday, Feb. 7, 4pm**
Classified Display Deadline: **Friday, Feb. 8, 4pm**
Classified Word Deadline: **Tuesday, Feb. 12, 9:30am**


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This Week's Horoscope
by Michael O'Connor
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Tip of the Week:
The New Moon in Aquarius occurs on February 9, 2013 at 11:20 pm PST. This is ever the key indicator for Chinese New Year. Astrology is deeply woven into Chinese culture and each New Year does not simply correspond to a year count number, it references the animal totem in their Zodiac and system of Astrology. The Water Dragon is passing the torch now to the Water Snake. The element is always repeated twice corresponding to the Yin and the Yang emphasis of the featured element, of which there are 5: Water, Wood, Fire, Earth and Metal. There are many levels or 'branches and stems' in Chinese Astrology. The outermost features include the fact that there are 12 Signs or Totems and when combined with the 5 Elements produces 60 year rounds during which time every sign and every element is emphasized. As with all systems of Astrology, the cycles are linked to periodic celestial orbits. The Dragon and Snake are generally considered the 'karmic signs'. Whereas the Dragon stirs the pot, tempts the fates and challenges the status quo, the Snake includes in its symbolism the 'shedding of skins'. This means letting go, change, transformation and renewal. This will be evident at both collective and individual levels. In the Dragon year cycle we witnessed a rise in accountability. Vigilance was on the rise: leaders were removed from office and heroes were stripped of metals. Of course, according to Mayan Cosmology, 12-21-2012 marked the end and beginning of the Precessional Cycle amounting to 25, 625 years. By ratio, we are just a second into this cycle long dubbed the 'Great Year'. That it began in the year of the Mythic Dragon is apropos and in the water element, which is considered the 1st of the 5. Now the Water Snake will play its part and the official skin-shedding process begins. Gung Hey Fat Choy!

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Quality time shared with friends new and old is a highlighted theme now and will continue for the next several weeks. Honouring yours and their individuality is featured. There is a dash of sentimentality in the mix yet dreams of a more fulfilling future are prominent. Letting go and moving on is paramount, yet it may take until spring anyway before old attachments are released.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)
Opportunities to get some extra attention are available now. Your ideals are at a peak and you are in a revolutionary mood. Still, you realize the importance of diplomacy as well. How to win the hearts, minds and support of others is a central question. An emphasis on honesty and higher principles may not be 'liked' by some but will win the respect of many.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)
Inspirations to broaden your horizons are coming through. Travel, culture, adventure or at least intellectual stimulation will satisfy your appetite. In the bigger picture, previously hidden facets of your character require your attention and conscious integration. To fully access this divine download, you may have to take a few risks backed by a bigger leap of faith.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Digging deep beneath the surface you are searching for hidden riches. Generally, the raw materials must be processed to gain full access to the pure substances desired. Spiritual alchemists assert the value of techniques and processes that replace low states of consciousness with higher. Whatever constitutes your hidden wealth, accessing it is a priority now.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)
A focus on health will now yield some attention to cultivating harmony in relationships. Quality time shared will remind you of the value of fun, games and play. This can produce a lighter mood allowing your confidence to flow more freely. Interesting people are interested and intimacy deepens when we genuinely acknowledge others and socially engage cooperatively.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
An improvement oriented and innovative cycle is on the rise. The quality of your lifestyle and diet, usual approach and attitude, will undergo critical review. Significant others will push, offer advice and coach you, yet only you can follow through. For wisdom's sake and out of respect for yourself and those who care, make the extra effort to be aware.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)
A playful mood prevails. Yet, the need to balance it with a more industrious approach is surfacing. Tuning-in and yielding to this impulse will flow naturally. You will make the extra effort if it affords more playtime. This may well include an escape to some sunny paradise, or at least the desire to do so. If you do get away, however, pay extra attention to stay healthy.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)
The urge to create an entirely different quality of life is spurring you onward. A lifestyle that supports and fosters your sense of individuality is foremost on your mind. To be creative is to be healthy is to be creative.... is an apt motto. How can you have it all? You are willing to gamble, take risks and project a vision that you can. Whatever it takes!

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)
Your social network continues to expand, or at least the desire for it. Yet, there is a price. It includes making needed changes. In turn, these imply living a healthier lifestyle. Your own bodily needs and/or mental and emotional states may be the messenger. This can begin by clearing the clutter, from your home, your mind and your emotional body.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)
Circumstances are pushing you to get clear on what is truly important. Your focus is upon both the short and the long-term. On both fronts your financial health and sense of progress is important. In the shorter term you may feel the itch for a brief escape from the usual routine. If only you could feel at peace enough to relax. Direct your imagination to work for you.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)
The green light to enter new territory is on. It is as though wings have suddenly sprung from your back. Yet, it does take courage to fly. As much as new places without will satisfy, your deeper need is for inner peace and solace. This is a call to venture out for the sake of spiritual retreat. Sometimes we 'got to get out to go in' and the light will not get any greener...

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
Sometimes we have to do inner work so that the outer path is clear. This inner work may include literal work done behind the scenes, so both apply. Clearing doubt, hesitation and confusion are examples of the inner work. Making deliberate efforts to prepare the way is the outer work. Be the administrator of your dreams and gather and organize tools, materials, resources and key connections.

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SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Islanders invited to dance with One Billion Rising



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring women practise choreography for the Break the Chain dance to be let loose at the One Billion Rising event on Feb. 14.

V-Day group plans day of global action

Salt Spring Islanders are being called to join a movement called One Billion Rising to end violence against women around the world.

From noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14, participants can join the Dance Against Violence on McPhillips Avenue with music by DJ Jana.

"We invite everyone who has hopes of a safer world for all women and children everywhere,"

the local organizers state.

"You don't have to know how to dance. Dance how you feel or follow the leaders. Either way, just dance!"

One Billion Rising is a call to men and women everywhere to refuse to participate in the status quo until rape and rape culture ends, organized by the non-profit group V-Day. As the group's website explains: "One in three women on the planet will be raped or beaten in her lifetime. One billion women violated is an atrocity. One billion women dancing is a

revolution."

Dance events are being planned around the world "as an act of solidarity, demonstrating to women the commonality of their struggles and their power in numbers."

Anyone who would like to learn the choreography for Break The Chain before the event can join a free practice session with Lee Sigmund at North End Fitness on Friday, Feb. 8 at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 9 at 12:30 p.m. or Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 6 p.m.

For more information visit www.vday.org or V-day's Facebook page.

SEEDY SATURDAY

One gardener's journey on the seed-saving path

Seedy Saturday weekend is here

BY CAROLYN HERRIOT
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

For me it began 37 years ago, hitch-hiking to the Edgewood Fair in the Slokan Valley. The person who picked us up was Dan Jason from Salt Spring Seeds. That brought me to visit Dan in his fields of seeds the following year, and every year after, inspired from the first visit to become a seed saver myself.

In 1989 I attended my first Seedy Saturday at the Van Dusen Gardens in Vancouver. Sharon Rempel, manager of the Grist Mill, a provincial historic site in Keremeos, read *Seeds of the Earth* by Pat Mooney and became aware of the politics behind the purchase of small seed companies by larger corporations focused on hybridization. She was having a hard time sourcing heritage plants once grown at the site, because open-pollinated seeds are often

dropped from commercial seed lists, once the smaller seed companies are gobbled up by the bigger ones. So Sharon decided to organize Seedy Saturday with the intention of getting heritage seeds back into the hands of people and preserving them as a living seed bank.

As a passionate gardener I travelled from Victoria to Vancouver for the first two Seedy Saturdays before realizing that surely we could hold the same event in Victoria, the "City of Gardens."

One thousand people came out to the first seed show in the quaint Craigflower Historic Schoolhouse on the bridge (which had the curator almost fainting!)

Twenty years later there are over 100 Seedy Saturdays held across Canada, and for many communities they have grown into the main horticultural event of the year. The perfect break from winter in preparation for spring, people come out in hordes to share seeds, plants and knowledge (local food

and preserves) from farmers, growers, gardeners and seed savers. They know they will find open-pollinated heritage seeds from the people who grew and saved them. Many believe that it is only by preserving regionally adapted open-pollinated seeds that we will be able to feed ourselves in future.

When you consider that five corporations intent on genetic engineering control 98 per cent of the world's food seeds, they may well be right.

Therefore I am eternally grateful to Dan for picking me up on that fated day all those years ago!

Seedy Saturday weekend on Salt Spring is from Feb. 8 to 10.

The writer is author of *The Zero Mile Diet, a Year-round Guide to Growing Organic Food* and a companion book *The Zero-Mile Diet Cookbook - Seasonal Recipes for Delicious Homegrown Food*. She grows *Seeds of Victoria* at The Garden Path Centre.

MENTAL HEALTH

Skills get boost in Living Life to the Full

Free course offered on Salt Spring

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring residents suffering from depression and anxiety have access to a free course beginning Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Living Life to the Full is

the name of the four-session program presented by the Canadian Mental Health Association. It will run from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Salt Spring Public Library on Wednesdays until March 13.

"One in five Canadians is affected by mental illness, and that doesn't include family members who are greatly impact-

ed by the disease," said Ragnhild Flakstad, the CMHA's branch development manager and one of two course facilitators.

Jocelyn deMontmorcency, a Bounce Back program community coach with the CMHA, is co-facilitating.

Flakstad describes Living Life to the Full as

a structured, practical course that helps participants develop problem-solving and coping skills — as opposed to providing therapy. Confidentiality is assured.

Interested people should register by Feb. 18 to Flakstad at victoria.branch@cmha.bc.ca. She can also be reached at 250-216-4228 for more

information.

With space for only 20, people should respond as soon as possible.

The course normally costs \$190, but that is being covered by funds from the CMHA and Province of B.C. gaming funds.

For a taste of the program's focus and flavour, see www.lttf.com.

Give Ken a call, each delivery enters you to win this mini Tidy Tank, Pump and three free fills. Draw June 1st, 2013. This month's \$150 draw winner is... Ted Dodds. Give us a call for Heating Fuel, Gasoline or Diesel. We also carry lube oils, fuel tanks & pumps.

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ISLAND HISTORY

Kanaka heritage shared in next historical society presentation

SS Historical Society meets on Feb. 13

Members of the Roland family will share some of history of Salt Spring's Hawaiian settlers at the next meeting of the Salt Spring Historical Society.

It's set for Wednesday, Feb. 13 at Central Hall.

The Rolands are descended from William Naukana, one of some 500 Hawaiian men who came to the Northwest Coast in the 19th century to work as contract labourers in the fur trade. Many worked for the Hudson Bay Company at Fort Victoria.

These people became known as the Kanakas.

The Kanakas established a small settlement on Salt Spring Island, which was one of the first places to be opened to settlement by governor James Douglas.

By the late 1870s, around a dozen first-generation families had pre-empted land on the southern end of the island (at Isabella Point and Beaver Point), as well as on three nearby smaller islands, Portland, Russell and Coal. Their descendants still live and work in the area.

Kanaka place names remain-

ing on Salt Spring are few, but serve as a reminder of the community's role in island history at Tahouney Road, Roland Road, Kanaka Road and Kanaka Road Skate Park and the Kanaka Dinghy Dock in Ganges Harbour.

A Salt Spring Historical Society plaque is located at St. Paul's church to honour the group's contribution to the community and church. Most Kanaka were Catholic and many of the early settlers were buried in the church cemetery.

The historical society program starts at 2 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

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 SJUBERG FOR DETAILS.

Driftwood
328 Lower Ganges Rd
250-537-9933

SWOVA's Pass It On program members celebrate receipt of two much-appreciated grants. The Chris Spencer Foundation gave \$2,500 and the Salt Spring Island Foundation gave \$1,500 for the program that helps Grade 8 girls make the often stressful transition to high school. As well, the SSI Foundation gave an additional \$1,500 to support workshops for Grade 11 students and a sexual health fair at GISS.

sports&recreation

ULTRA-MARATHON

Ometepe run challenge on

Fire & Water entices Pither

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring man wants island residents to learn how an ultra-marathon nearly 7,000 kilometres away can teach Gulf Islanders a thing or two about community spirit and sustainable tourism during a Thursday evening presentation at the GISS multipurpose room.

Ron Pither, well known for his efforts to promote agricultural initiatives throughout the Gulf Islands and in Latin America, has started to train for next week's gruelling "Fuego y Agua" ultra-marathon race on Nicaragua's Ometepe Island.

Ometepe Island may be familiar to Salt Spring residents as the source of great coffee brought to local retailers and the Saturday market by the



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Pither: up for a challenge.

Ometepe-Gulf Islands Friendship Association.

When Pither learned that his Galiano-based friend George Harris was taking part in the Fire and Water survival race, nothing was about to stop him from signing up. Pither is busy with final trip plans and a last-minute training regimen as he awaits his Sunday flight to Central America.

Pither will present a slide show and video of his work with projects on Ometepe Island for those who want to learn more about or contribute to his adventure on Thursday, Feb. at 7 p.m. More information is also available from rpither@gulfislands.com.

MEN'S SOCCER

Boys' best nearly enough

Salt Spring FC looks to climb from cellar

Salt Spring's Old Boys may have played one of its best games of the season, but that wasn't enough to overcome an early deficit against a powerful Vantreights side on Sunday.

In spite of the team's best effort, the Old Boys fell behind by a goal after a disastrous bounce that fooled Salt Spring's keeper.

"Shocked into a reaction, the Old Boys played their best game in weeks, piling up the pressure on the home team's defence," said Old Boys' team spokesperson Richard Steel.

An onslaught of energetic action kept Vantreights' keeper on his toes until Martin Thorn, playing in only his second game since his return from a year of teaching in Bhutan, netted an equalizer midway through the second half.

Vantreights scored the game winner on a controversial play late in the second.

"A very strong performance by everyone, and a very cruel way to lose," Steel said. "We were very pleased to have so much possession and to create so many chances."

The Old Boys play at the GISS field against Juan de Fuca White on Feb. 10. Kickoff is at noon.

In Vancouver Island Soccer League action, Salt Spring FC (1-12-3) failed to gain any ground on its Division-1 opponents from Sooke, losing a 3-0 contest at Portlock Park on Saturday.

Salt Spring will try to claw its way out of last place in its division against top-ranked Bays United Liquor Plus (14-1-0) on Saturday at 2:15 p.m. at Portlock Park.

Meanwhile, players on Salt Spring Alumni (9-3-2) will spend the week getting ready for a major off-island showdown under the lights against first-place Westcastle United (12-1-2) on Saturday evening.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

United matches up to division-leading Juan de Fuca

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring United's Over 30s team is calling Sunday's match against Juan de Fuca one of its highest accomplishments to date, even though the day ended without a single goal.

Maintaining a 0-0 tie against the team at the top of the league on its home turf felt more like a victory for the hard-working local players, who had the added challenge of travelling without subs while Juan de Fuca had five extra teammates to rely on.

"This was by far the best game the team has played this season," coach Jordan Green said in a post-game report.

"The back line played a solid game and were able to shut down some very talented forwards. Anything that managed to get through

was jumped on by our keeper Kym Bellavance, who played an absolutely fantastic game. The midfield stayed strong throughout and Liz Wilson kept their goalie on her toes."

Acting as team spokesperson, Bellavance noted the team's fancy

footwork during the match.

"Denise Devlin was aggressive out there and stole the ball away from the other team at every turn," she said.

"They had many, many shots, but we were glad to hold them off for a 0-0 tie."

YOUTH SOCCER

Lakehill succumbs to Fury

BY JOSH BYRON
SALT SPRING FURY COACH

The U-12 Salt Spring Fury reverted back to winning ways Saturday under chilly, sunny skies with a gallant effort versus the Lakehill Strikers.

The Fury gained control of the match early, dominating in the possession category with quick passing and a relentless offensive push. The 15th minute presented the game's first goal when a streaking Colton Archer beat his check down the wing before sending a purposeful cross into the box, which was met by the right foot of Drayke Young.

Despite their command of the game, the Fury were ahead only 1-0 after the opening half. The second half exhibited the same trend as the local squad peppered the Lakehill keeper with shots. Undeterred, continuous pressure inevitably led

to the home team's second goal when Jaidyn Byron unleashed a shot that the opposition goalie couldn't handle, leaving a juicy rebound which was gobbled up by Archer, who rippled the mesh.

Playing injured, Salt Spring netminder Izaak Gaines boldly preserved the shutout with help from a determined defence tandem of Logan Wenzel and Noah Hart, who initiated many offensive opportunities with astute break-out passes, while the midfield crew monopolized the heart of the pitch.

The fury rounded out the scoring late when striker Fraser Byers received a pass on the right side, deked the defender and conveyed a pass in front of the goal for Davis Cooper-Smith, who made no mistake, securing a 3-0 victory. For Cooper-Smith, it was a just reward for a spirited game.

CURLING

Thrilling finale caps bonspiel

Last shot wins it all

Nearly 40 Salt Spring Island curlers descended upon the Duncan Curling Club on Saturday for nine hours of sweeping and sliding as part of the 11th-annual Groundhog Day Funspiel.

"It came down to the last shot of the last end," said event organizer Jim Pasuta.

It was a foursome comprised of Pasuta, Dennis Anderson Sr., Dennis Anderson Jr. and Peter Bantel who carried home the championship rock after a well-aimed tap off a guard placed the winning stone within the four-foot circle.

The 3-2 win spelled redemption in the rematch against the Thirsty Monks, a team that knocked off Pasuta's rink in the

round-robin category held earlier in the day.

"It was a fun tournament," he said. "People are already talking about next year."

The day's only mishap involved a severe fall by a member of Gord Ellis' crew. As of Monday, Yvonne Akerman was back on her feet, albeit with help from a new pair of crutches.

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