



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, April 16, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 16 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust denies Quesnel permit

Metal recycler ordered to comply with zoning

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Local Trust Committee's rejection of a temporary use permit that would have allowed John Quesnel to continue his metal recycling business on Rainbow Road represents a systemic failure to address the needs of islanders, according to trustee George Grams.

Grams cast the lone vote in favour of the application, arguing that a 60-day TUP would at least give Quesnel an opportunity to relocate his business or develop an alternative.

"We have a difficulty on the island insofar as we are so protective and willing to preserve that we haven't examined cogently in a proactive manner the needs of this community to serve its residents," he said.

"We are all to blame."

Thursday afternoon's 2-1 vote to deny the TUP gives bylaw enforcement the green light to step in and ensure Quesnel complies with local zoning regulations.

"I feel that this should go on no further," said Peter Grove, an LTC member who voted against the application. "It's been going on long enough and it's time to call this to an end. I hope that John Quesnel can find another location on the island for his valuable business, but I don't see it continuing in this present location."

QUESNEL continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

BLOSSOMING SMILE: Akiko Otsu plays the marimba at the Salt Spring Blossom Festival at Heiwa Garden in Peace Park on Saturday. See more photos on page 8.

LAND USE

Harbour House blazes trail proposal

PARC ponders upper Ganges link

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Parks and Recreation Commissioners gave conditional support Monday night to plans for a trail network and nature reserve on land owned by the Harbour House Hotel.

Though a decision requires legal review and referral to PARC's trail advisory committee, PARC manager Lorraine Brewster told commission members the proposal represents a major opportunity to link part of upper Ganges to the village.

"What we would like to do is develop the trail and make it wheelchair accessible to make a truly accessible trail in the Ganges area," Brewster said. "I think it would be a real benefit to the community to link these residents in with the downtown core."

The trail would connect Lady Minto Hospital to sections of Howell Lane, and Lower Ganges and Upper Ganges roads. Trails would connect the Croftonbrook, Roscommon, Pioneer Village and Bayside developments.

Brewster said construction of a wheelchair-friendly trail could

HARBOUR HOUSE continued on 2

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Trust not saying how Rainbow Road zoning will be enforced

QUESNEL
continued from 1

Grove said Quesnel's failure to address neighbourhood concerns about traffic and noise played a role in his decision. He said the availability of other such metal recycling businesses on the island did not justify issuing the permit.

"This is not a unique service," he said. "It is a marvelous business, but it is not a unique service."

Quesnel had applied for a TUP to allow metal recycling on his property at 440 Rainbow Rd. The TUP application followed Quesnel's signing of a Supreme Court consent order in September of 2013, along

with the Salt Spring LTC. The interim measure permitted him to continue some aspects of his business on the property while the TUP application was considered.

Quesnel has tried unsuccessfully for nearly a decade to rezone his rural residential property to an industrial zone that would bring his

operation into compliance with island bylaws, or to acquire a TUP.

LTC chair Sheila Malcolmson voted against the application based on a recommendation from Trust staff and the proposal's unresolved conflict with official community plan guidelines and land-use bylaw regulations.

"This has been a truly difficult decision," Malcolmson said. "If this was easy, it would have been resolved years ago."

It's still uncertain if neighbours and others in the community who fought the TUP can move on quite just yet. SSIMR has had TUPs and rezoning applications denied more than once in

the past eight years. Islands Trust bylaw enforcement officer Miles Drew wouldn't confirm how the Trust will act considering Thursday's TUP rejection.

An earlier version of this story was posted on Thursday, April 10 on our website at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

SSI Community Services Seniors Program

WELLNESS PROGRAMS

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Salt Spring Seniors Services Drop-in Centre

BETTER AT HOME PROGRAM
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Shellyse Szakacs,
Co-ordinator 250-537-9971

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SALT SPRING ISLAND WATERSHED PROTECTION AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

RFP-2014.005

Please be advised that Islands Trust has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Coordination of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority (SSIWPA)

The deadline for proposal submission to the Islands Trust Victoria Office is 12:00 noon on May 1, 2014.

For a copy of the RFP document please see the Islands Trust website at:
<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/connect/bid-opportunities.aspx>

Advertising Deadlines Changes

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office** will be **closed on Friday, April 18 - Good Friday** - and will reopen for usual business hours on Monday, April 21.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday April 23 edition will be as follows:

DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEADLINE: **Thurs. April 17, 12 noon**
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY DEADLINE: **Mon. April 21, 4 pm**
CLASSIFIED WORD DEADLINE: **Tues. April 22, 9:30 am**

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Trail would highlight ecology



Map showing proposed trail network on lands between the Harbour House and Lady Minto Hospital.

HARBOUR HOUSE
continued from 1

cost up to \$100,000. She suggested the funds could be raised through grant applications.

Roberta Martell, a spokesperson for Harbour House owners Jack and Glenda Woodward, said the trail would highlight the ecological values of four properties totalling 20 acres in size. She told commissioners the Woodwards are considering the creation of a nature preserve to encompass a heron rookery and wetland.

The project is part of a broader vision to highlight the properties' natural features, preserve the farm component and possibly seek additional densi-

ties for the site, she said.

Martell told commissioners the Harbour House Hotel, Restaurant and Organic Farm property and three adjacent parcels were listed for sale in 2013, after the mortgage lender announced plans to not renew financing when the term expires in June.

The hotel and adjacent properties are currently listed with Salt Spring realtor Li Read for \$7.2 million.

"To be proactive, the owner has been trying to find a buyer who will be able to keep these four parcels together, since this is a fantastic urban farm and a real educational opportunity for farm-to-table and food security," Martell said. "That said,

no one has come forward and the clock is running. What we're trying to find is the best way to hold these 20 acres.

"It's a good business; it's making money," she added. "If you know anybody who has five million bucks, I'll give you my number."

Though the plan presented to PARC on Monday would require formal rezoning, no such application had been submitted to the Islands Trust as of Tuesday morning, according to regional planning manager Leah Hartley.

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

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up! Easter Weekend

It's a long weekend and it's going to be busy on the island. Be patient; travel safely.

CLEAN ENERGY

EV speaker promotes tourism angle for Salt Spring

Charging stations to put island on the map

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A growing network of travelers with a joy of driving and extra money on their hands could benefit Salt Spring if the infrastructure is put in place, says an expert on electric vehicles.

John Stonier, a Vancouver-based chartered accountant and businessman and the former director of the Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association, was on Salt Spring earlier this month for the Renewable Energy Conference sponsored by the Salt Spring Community Energy Group. During his presentation, Stonier spoke about how accommodation providers could help put Salt Spring "on the map" for EV drivers.

"These are conscientious people, with a love of natural places and \$250 in their pockets each month they save by driving an EV rather than a gas guzzler. The most important factor for EV owners in choosing where to stay at night is where they can get a vehicle charged while they sleep," Stonier said.

Potential for growing this segment of the tourism market is in evidence just south of the border, where a concerted effort has been launched in Washington state. A coalition of local



PHOTO BY RON WATTS

John Stonier addresses the April 5 Renewable Energy Conference.

groups worked to create the "first national scenic byway to become electric vehicle ready," according to proponent Ron Johnston-Rodriguez. Installing charging stations and linking activities to enjoy during charging has helped encourage visits along the Cascades loop from Seattle to Wenatchee.

Here in B.C., the province's Community Charging Infrastructure Fund promised \$2.7 million to install 30 fast-charging stations from Vancouver Island to Whistler. With Saanich, Duncan and Nanaimo among the proposed stops, and other Level-2 stations available in between, Salt Spring is poised to become an EV destination.

"The payback could be huge,



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

EV charging spot at ArtSpring.

especially for the tourism industry," Stonier said.

"This is a very unique possibility, because there's already 1,000-plus electric car owners in B.C. and 90,000-plus electric vehicle owners in

the three U.S. states directly south of us, and that number is only growing."

Salt Spring Community Energy Group's David Denning, who helped coordinate the local April 5 conference, reported that he recently received an email from a local couple who have a Tesla S vehicle.

"They drove from Salt Spring to San Francisco in their electric car, charging up at 'normal' intervals along the way (on Interstate 5) at the Tesla-dedicated supercharge stations. They report the trip was amazingly easy and smooth," Denning said.

"[There's] no reason why Californians can't come this way for the electric vehicle tourist mecca we could be building."

Tesla has its own proprietary network of charging stations. For other users, battery life is currently the biggest impediment to long-distance travel. EV owners from south of the border may well want to travel north, since the favourable exchange rate means Americans are currently getting an extra 10 per cent on the dollar.

But while having 30-minute superchargers available on the route is invaluable for getting people moving up the highway, the trick for growing tourism dollars is getting them to stop for longer periods.

As an EV owner himself, Stonier said the most important consideration in booking a hotel has become

whether or not a charging station is in place. And that should be a consideration for accommodation providers in turn.

"The real money is when people stay overnight, and that's where the Gulf Islands has a real opportunity, because the setting is so idyllic," Stonier said.

Basic residential charging stations that can be installed in a garage cost as little as \$500-600, plus electrician's fees. Stonier said some can even be plugged in to a 240V dryer or stove outlet, although professional installation is recommended.

Susan Wetmore, who chairs the Salt Spring Accommodations Group, said EV travel has yet to surface as a topic of conversation at meetings.

"I'm sure we're not opposed to it. Whatever is green and sustainable is all good. The question would be the cost," she observed.

The Salt Spring Community Energy Group is hoping to pair up with the island's Community Economic Development Commission to bring Stonier back to Salt Spring next month to talk more about the idea. Details will be announced when the event is finalized, or interested parties can contact David Denning at 250-537-0664.

Online maps that show EV charging stations across North America can be found at westcoastgreenhighway.com and plugshare.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

FOR THERECORD

As much as everyone on Salt Spring seems to want to call Robert Kelly "Richard" — including the Driftwood in a story about a dryer fire that ran in last week's issue — his name is Robert.

Rithaler nets 4-H prize

Gulf Islands Secondary student Anna Rithaler is one of a select group of teens from across Canada to receive a Ram Canada 4-H scholarship for 2014.

Ram Canada's program of "100 scholarships for 100 years of 4-H in Canada" is helping 100 deserving 4-H members pursue their post-secondary edu-

cation in September with a \$1,000 scholarship each, with the entire program totalling \$100,000. Funding for the scholarships was made possible by The Chrysler Foundation.

According to a press release, 4-H scholarships provide opportunities for Canadian youth to further their post-secondary education and expand their knowledge in the science, art and business fields.

Crime witness sought

Salt Spring RCMP responded to 62 calls for service last week, including more complaints of telephone fraud.

Police remind the public not to provide any information over the phone unless they're sure they know the person on the line is who they're representing to be.

"A good rule of thumb is

to not provide information over the phone to anyone who has called you," said Sgt. George Jenkins. "Do not feel obligated to talk to these individuals. Just hang up."

Police are also continuing to work on the Vesuvius Cafe break-in of Feb. 8. Despite the release of high quality video surveillance captured during the event, the RCMP have not yet made any arrests.

"While tips from the

public have been received, nobody has been willing to give anything other than hearsay, or confidential information, which, while of some value, is not useful for court purposes," Jenkins said. "In order for a prosecution, police require a statement and give evidence in criminal court."

Anyone with information regarding the crime is encouraged to come forward.

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ISLANDS TRUST NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

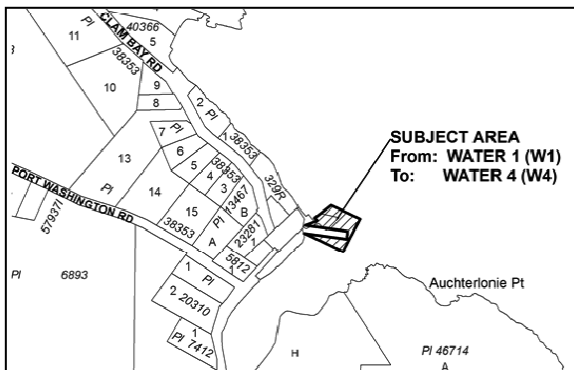
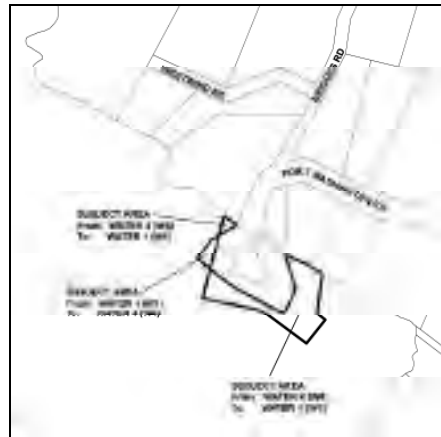
NOTICE is hereby given that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee will hold a Community Information Meeting and a Public Hearing within a Local Trust Committee Business Meeting on **Proposed Bylaw No. 194** cited as "North Pender Island Land Use Bylaw No. 103, 1996 Amendment No. 1, 2014"; for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at **9:45 a.m., Thursday, April 24, 2014, at the Pender Island Community Hall (Lounge), 4418 Bedwell Harbour Road, North Pender 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. 194 - cited as "North Pender Island Land Use Bylaw No. 103, 1996 Amendment No. 1, 2014".

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 194 is to amend the Land Use Bylaw to correct erroneous cross-references or typographical errors, update regulatory references, and improve clarity in the bylaw. There are also five amendments to the zoning map:

- * one to amend land zoned Rural (R) to Agriculture (AG) to reflect land now included in the ALR,
- * three to amend the zone boundary for the public dock facilities located at Hope Bay, Port Washington and Browning Harbour to improve alignment of the zone boundary with both the Crown lease area and the existing dock structures, and
- * one to amend the zone boundary for the marina at Otter Bay to reflect the current location of the existing breakwater structure.



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 April 9, 2014 and up to and including April 23, 2014.**

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 North Pender Island, B.C., commencing April 9, 2014. The proposed bylaw can also be viewed online at the following URL:
www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/north-pender/bylaws.

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, prior to **4:30 p.m., April 23, 2014.**
2. By email to: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca
3. After **4:30 p.m., April 23, 2014**, to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at **9:45 a.m., April 24, 2014.**

The public is encouraged to send any electronic response to vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the North Pender 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, Robert Kojima, Regional Planning Manager, at (250) 405-5159 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 NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario, Deputy Secretary

WATER QUALITY

Watershed process receives REFBC grant

Public involvement required for next steps

The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority has received funding from the Real Estate Foundation of B.C. to facilitate an integrated watershed management process for the St. Mary Lake watershed.

Funds will assist the St. Mary Lake process and SSIWPA's larger initiative to ensure effective management of Salt Spring Island's seven major watersheds.

The \$20,000 foundation grant adds to the \$26,000-plus committed by the agencies that comprise SSIWPA (Islands Trust, Capital Regional District, B.C. ministries of health and environment, Island Health, North Salt Spring Waterworks District, Highlands-Fernwood Water District). Islands Trust will receive the funds on behalf of SSIWPA.

A minimum of three multi-stakeholder facilitated workshops will take place as part of the process, building on the work of SSIWPA's technical advisory committee, which has been defining the problem at St. Mary Lake and filling information gaps. The main deliverable will be an up-to-date, actionable watershed sustainability plan for St. Mary Lake.

The process itself encompasses scientific and systematic assessment of technical recommendations, economic and ecological risks and benefits, and consideration of community values. Public involvement about decisions for remediation and long-term management of St. Mary Lake will be done through a public advisory committee to advise the SSIWPA steering group on options and implementation of a St. Mary Lake watershed sustainability plan.

To be considered for a role on the public advisory committee, contact SSIWPA coordinator Shannon Cowan at ssiwpa-coord@gmail.com or 250-537-4847, or SSIWPA chair George Grams at ssiwatersheds@icloud.com. Nomination deadline is May 15.

Public stakeholder interviews will also be conducted by the SSIWPA coordinator.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Salt Spring trailing in climate fight

More political action required: critic

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

More local government action is needed if Salt Spring is to make up lost ground in the fight to mitigate climate change.

"Local government — CRD and Islands Trust — need to step up and take responsibility for strategic planning," said Elizabeth White, a founder of Transition Salt Spring and a retired home energy advisor. "Salt Spring Island at one point held a leadership role in the region, but has fallen behind in the last few years."

White said talks by leaders from North Cowichan and Colwood during an April 5 conference on renewable energy at Gulf Islands Secondary School showed how many neighbouring communities have surpassed Salt Spring on the climate change front in recent years.

"We have nothing like that level of support on Salt Spring," she said.

On Thursday, Local Trust Committee members took a small step towards reversing that trend. Trustees moved GHG emissions and climate change mitigation to their "project number one" list, alongside issues like the National Marine Conservation Area and agriculture in drink-

ing watersheds.

The list includes priorities in waiting, topics in line for the LTC's top-five priorities when space becomes available.

"Project number one status doesn't mean it's one of our top-five priorities," trustee George Grams said after Thursday's meeting. "That place is already filled by current projects such as watershed protection, RAR, Ganges village planning, the work of the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission and secondary suites."

The decision comes after the release of the latest United Nations IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] Fifth Assessment Report. The findings reinforce information about human-caused climate change and show that the current path of inaction will result in more than a two degree Celsius rise in global temperatures before the end of the century.

White said two-degrees Celsius is the internationally agreed upper limit for maintaining civilization as we know it.

She suggested that local government could restore the SSI Climate Action Council to what it was originally intended to be — an advisory body to local government overseeing the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

Adopted in 2011 by Salt Spring LTC members, the official community plan's GHG-

reduction targets call for a 15 per cent reduction in 2007 greenhouse gas levels by 2015 and 40 per cent by 2020.

White said it's too early to tell where the island stands regarding these targets. Data released on Feb. 20, 2014, however, shows little change in household and transportation emissions between 2007 and 2010.

"We have nothing like that level of support on Salt Spring."

ELIZABETH WHITE
Transition Salt Spring
co-founder

"This suggests that we may have a hard time meeting the 2015 target," she said.

But given the massive strides in local food production and the increasing prevalence of electric and low-emissions vehicles on the island, White said, there's still plenty of room for optimism as 2015 approaches.

"The island is in the process of shifting to become more resilient to the effects of climate change and to where islanders and the local economy can flourish with a reduced reliance on fossil fuels," she said. "This is not something

that happens quickly, but it is happening. In the 10 years since we started to track these things, I would say the greatest success has been the increase in local food production — commercial production and backyard gardens.

"This is very encouraging." During the April 5 sustainability conference, Trust Council chair Sheila Malcolmson took a moment to commend islanders on their efforts to reduce GHG emissions, be they on the road or in the garden.

She said large-scale proposals like oil tanker expansion and expansion of coal exports, which the Islands Trust continues to advocate against, can seem daunting.

"The more positive models citizens here today can get in operation, the more you can telegraph the results, the more local conservation renovations and renewable installation jobs we can applaud, this surely will change hearts and minds," she added.

Speaking during Thursday's town hall session, trustee Peter Grove said the April 5 conference offered him a vision of what can and must be done to slow climate change.

"My dream is for our island to become an example of what could happen and lead our province in the direction I think we should go towards becoming more sustainable," he said.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

TASTE TIME: Sarah-Jane Smith serves appies prepared by the AI's Falafel & Fries business as part of the Taste of Salt Spring event at the Harbour House on Sunday. See more photos on our Facebook page.

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EMERGENCY SERVICE

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CRIME

Thief targets pool users

Staff keeping a close eye on suspect

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Rainbow Road Pool staff warn visitors to lock up their belongings and report any suspicious activity as the search continues for the person responsible for a series of locker room thefts.

"We suspect that there is someone who is working our change rooms or using our change rooms as a place to take money," said Jim Raddysh during Monday's monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. "There is an active thief in the area and people need to lock their things up."

Regular pool users will have noticed a proliferation of signage urging swimmers to take precautions and not leave valuables unlocked or unattended.

A pool user reported \$140 had been taken from his wallet in the men's changing room while he was swimming with his children in late March. Since that time, male and female pool users have spoken of similar experiences that involve stolen cash, shoes, clothing and jewellery. In all cases, items were not left in a locker while owners

were in the pool.

"We do run into this in the change rooms," said Lorraine Brewster, PARC manager. "People do not lock up their valuables."

Staff and volunteers have increased surveillance as a result of the thefts and concerns voiced by pool users. Raddysh said he will review the facility's security protocols at a staff meeting on April 17.

"We are taking measures," he said. "One end of the spectrum is a security guard at the front door and security guards in all the change rooms with buzzers on the doors to make sure nothing is being stolen. The other end of the spectrum is: be responsible for your own things and lock them up."

Raddysh said pool staff have a suspect under close surveillance. RCMP will be notified in the event of any further thefts.

"If, in the future, we do catch somebody stealing, the procedure would be to notify the police and that person would then be suspended from the facility for a given period of time," he said.

Anyone who witnesses a theft or suspicious behaviour on the pool property is asked to inform Raddysh at the pool's reception desk. The pool can be reached by calling 250-537-1402.

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OPINION



2013 CCNA AWARDS
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 Gold - Special Section (Best of SS) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
 Silver - Editorial Page | Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre)
 Silver - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Sports Photo (John Cameron)
2013 BCYCA AWARDS
 Gold - Sports Photo (John Cameron) | Silver - Cartoonist (Dennis Parker)
 Silver - Special Publication (Aqua) | Bronze - General Excellence
 Bronze - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Ad Campaign, Collaborative (Leanne Brunelle)



EDITORIAL

LTC replay

Thursday's decision by Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee may not have been easy, but it's nothing compared to what lies ahead.

There's no doubt the 2-1 decision to reject John Quesnel's TUP application had an air of finality to it. The hammer dropped. Some heavy-footed Quesnel supporters left the room, many muttering under their breath.

Any closure to the Quesnel matter was swiftly swept away soon after the meeting. Proponents were still bitter, neighbours are still uncertain. Sure, a decision has been made, but now what? Business as usual?

The current LTC has pondered the decision since its first meeting of the term, held two and a half years ago. There were starts and stops all the way to the steps of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, where Quesnel averted legal action with an eleventh-hour court order that brought us to where we find ourselves today.

THE ISSUE:

Salt Spring Metal Recycling

WE SAY:

Exit strategy needed

With local elections just over six months away, is the Islands' Trust suddenly prepared to instigate the near-certain public relations fiasco amongst the many islanders who've shown support for Quesnel's family and business during the eight years of the debate?

Voting to deny a TUP is one thing, but when it comes time to bring in the lawyers, seek injunctions, levy the fines and force compliance, things get ugly in a hurry.

What's made the Quesnel matter so difficult is that it's morphed beyond a land-use matter into a clash between competing visions for the island, a debate about the kind of Salt Spring residents want to live on: a classic push-and-pull between the island's vibrant and historic working-class culture and the Trust's preserve and protect mandate.

Now that the next move belongs to the Trust, it'll be interesting to see if local government accommodates or shuts the door.

Even if the long-awaited findings of the Trust's Industrial Advisory Planning Commission, a group set up as a direct result of Quesnel's predicament, are released in a matter of weeks, implementation will surely take years to complete.

Meanwhile, the issue stays unresolved.

Thursday's decision may not have been easy, but what makes it even more difficult is that real answers are still not just around the corner.



VIEWPOINT by George Sipos

Euphemisms target benign nouns

Who still remembers George Orwell and his essay Politics and the English Language? Or cares, for that matter.

His warnings about how totalitarianisms of both left and right manipulate language to deaden critical thought seem antique nowadays, the tilting of a mid 20th-century idealist against windmills that have long since vanished.

Well, have a look at a news piece in a recent issue of the Globe & Mail reporting on the controversy surrounding a proposal to build a 66-room hotel at Maligne Lake in Jasper National Park.

Maligne Lake, noted for having graced the back of the Canadian five dollar bill for many years and for having enchanted painter Lawren Harris of the Group of Seven, among others, currently allows visitors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. only. The hotel proposal, which would open the area to round-the-clock stays, has elicited the strongly worded opposition of three former Parks Canada executives, who point out that the area is the home of an endangered caribou herd as well as grizzly bears and harlequin ducks, all of whom would be harmed by overnight accommodation.

The response of Harvey Sawler, spokesman for the property developer, is most interesting. He says of the former Parks Canada executives that they are "experts at reaching for the hot buttons, and they know the words 'grizzly' and 'caribou' are things that set off flares."

He goes on to say that the executives "are a bit out of step with the Parks Canada that we know today, which is reaching much higher on the experiential side as opposed to just the preserva-

tionist and protectionist side."

So simple nouns that name real animals in the real world, like "grizzlies" and "caribou" are politically charged, while a word like "experiential," used as a euphemism here for "commercial," is not?

What is particularly "experiential" about guests having dinner in a hotel, watching pay-TV in their nice rooms at night and flushing the water from their morning showers into the ecosystem? Enjoyable and commercially profitable, yes, but hardly serving to deepen visitors' engagement with the unique environment of the Rockies.

And look at the words "preservationist" and "protectionist." Values that "preserve" and "protect" wilderness are ones most of us naturally sympathize with. But any noun with an "-ist" on the end implies someone doctrinaire, obsessed and probably unsavoury, like an "arsonist" or a "bigamist" or, God help us, an "environmentalist."

And thus does a simple concern about bears and ducks and caribou come to seem foolish and illegitimate next to high-faluting abstractions that sound more weighty, more credible and more serious, even if they are simply obfuscations to conceal profit-driven commercial goals.

On the basis of language alone I'll take the grizzlies any day, and I bet Orwell would have too.

The writer is the soon-to-be retired executive director of ArtSpring and a much-published author.

Values that 'preserve' and 'protect' wilderness are ones most of us naturally sympathize with.

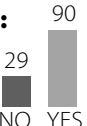
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think the Quesnel decision will be enforced? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do we need an inter-islands water taxi service?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "If you know anybody who has five million bucks, I'll give you my number."

ROBERTA MARTELL, HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL SPOKESPERSON

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What are your wishes for Earth Day?



JEAN MCCLURE
For all people to realize how important she is for our continued existence.



DANA CAMPBELL (WITH BARB MINVIELLE)
I just hope nothing blows up on that day — no weapons of mass destruction.



TARA GRAND
I wish that everybody would take responsibility for their footprint on the earth.



LEINA WANN
That people come together for the benefit of our Mother Earth, building community together.



BRYAN DUBIEN
That humanity would become a better listener.

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.

Ferry boycott update

We are truly amazed that by a 2 to 1 margin (66 to 34 per cent) respondents to the Driftwood's survey agreed that an economic boycott of the ferries makes sense. And we, who suggested that it is time for a boycott, made absolutely no effort to influence the poll outcome.

Harold Swierenga, chair of the Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee, wrote in the Driftwood about the provincial government's deaf ear to ferry advisory committees, the ferry advisory committee chairpersons group and the public in general. This

is a sad reflection of representative democracy. Advisory committees should be heard. Citizens should feel that BC Ferries and the government are there to serve our collective need.

While there are some who have concerns about boycotting on-ferry concessionaires like White Spot and Starbucks, the fact is that complaints coming from all the concessionaires to BC Ferries will carry significant weight in forcing change in the government's and Ferries' treatment of the public.

There has been no disagreement about boycotting the ferries every Wednesday. Personally, we like doing both. We are very happy

bringing our own food and drink on board, and we do not find it difficult to schedule our ferry trips for days other than Wednesday.

So let the boycott begin. Just do it. You do not need to make a display of yourself. This is a quiet, personal economic boycott.

By not riding the ferries on Wednesdays and not purchasing goods on the ferries you are making it clear to the government and BC Ferries that there are a great many people demanding that they change their policies. Do not ride the ferry on Wednesdays.

STAN DERELIAN, CURT FIRESTONE,
SALT SPRING

Respect for cemeteries

I would like to thank my MLA Gary Holman for his question to Minister Steve Thomson in the B.C. legislature on April 7 about Grace Islet on Salt Spring Island.

The islet is a Coast Salish cemetery. The site is not accidentally a burial site; it is the equivalent to the Ross Bay Cemetery. Despite its status being known for a long time, it was zoned and permitted for residential development.

Mr. Holman asked Minister Thomson if he would protect the islet. Thomson

responded, "All of that process was undertaken and reviewed, and the development and the process is consistent with the application of the archaeological and the Heritage Conservation Act."

Then, Holman asked Minister Thomson if he would halt development. Thomson responded, "We have followed the process. The permits were reviewed by the archaeological branch. Permits were issued to allow development to proceed, but they were issued in a way that ensured the protection of the First Nations heritage resources on that site."

You can't protect the "First Nations heritage resources" by building a house on top them. Minister Thomson defends a "process" that is offensive and seriously flawed.

This property has no business being zoned for residential use. Minister Thomson, please use your power to make this situation right. Please protect First Nations burial sites as cemeteries and undertake a review of regulations to protect other similar sites.

ADAM OLSEN,
INTERIM-LEADER,
BC GREEN PARTY

MORE LETTERS continued on 11

Colonization dreams no solution for humans

BY BOB WEEDEN

Every Earth Day — this year's is the 45th — we are reminded that Gaia weeps, as surely it does. We are exhorted to do our part to heal Earth's wounds, as surely we should.

And every year a scatter of voices tells us not to knock ourselves out. Before things get really desperate, they say, we will be colonizing another body orbiting in space.

The enthusiast in me, the boy who read Jules Verne and Buck Rogers, feels a rush of excitement just imagining such an incredible event. The doubter wonders whether the dangled prospect is hope or delusion, hubris or cowardice.

Some late-night cud-chewing has cleared up one thing: humans will never live anywhere but on Earth. Even if there is another inhabitable place we can reach, we will not long be human there. Our bodies will respond genetically to extreme stress, and we will dump every vestige of the language, history and culture that defines us today as human. Homo sapiens will evolve into H. transplanticus.

Suppose, for instance, that we find a planet with breathable air, usable water, and carbon-based life that photosynthesizes. Let's say that the planet is just enough bigger or smaller than Earth so that gravity is quite different. Not enough greater to crush bones, or enough smaller to make every step a two-minute expe-

rience in levitation, but easily noticeable. An immediate effect is to disrupt the rhythm of breathing that is the basis of poetry, vocal and wind-instrument music, speech and even the cadence of writing.

We also notice that hand tools and small machines are the wrong heft and balance, that we have to redefine a day's work, and that the rules of beloved games have to be rewritten. Basketball hoops 30 meters above ground, soccer fields 10 km long: have fun imagining examples!

More importantly, the space pioneers will see nothing they know. Nouns by the dictionary full will lie dying in the mind. Not a few will be attached second-hand to something superficially like the earthly original. Thousands more words will have to be coined at a bewildering pace, each at the beginning no more than a naked label for something not yet relatable to anything else. We might resort to using numbers in place of nouns — basis, indeed, for a graceful body of poems!

Worse, all our metaphors, uprooted from earthly nature, will be nonsensical, a disaster of wisdom more than language. Metaphors have meta-meaning, vehicles for our need to express the inexpressible, as Ellen Meloy wrote, "the something more."

Forget art on Planet X. Art is almost entirely metaphorical. Unpacked from

GUEST COLUMN

a space vehicle onto a new star, earth-art would be irrelevant, unused and forgotten.

Forget history, too. In fact, forget story of any kind that gets its culture-binding, pleasure-giving, teaching value from a planet left behind. Earth stories, personal or communal, would not be merely irrelevant, they would hamper and delude. Space emigrant minds would be severed from reality, adrift without rudder or anchor.

I can only wonder about the impact on brain and mind of an abrupt obsolescence of such crucial structures of culture. Workshop where language, thought, memory and body instruction are fashioned, the brain would be crippled. And we know that the mind, the locus of self and soul, is almost entirely story. It is the largely fictional but absolutely essential narration of who we are, creating a self whose absolute uniqueness is its possessor's greatest treasure.

Tails distinguish monkeys from humans; tales distinguish humans from monkeys.

"Then what is the answer?" Robinson Jeffers asked, in the opening line of his famous poem.

"... Not to be deluded by dreams . . . To know this, and to know that however ugly the parts appear

The whole remains beautiful. A severed hand

Is an ugly thing and a man dismembered from the earth and stars

And his history . . . for contemplation or in fact . . .

Often appears atrociously ugly. Integrity is wholeness,

And the greatest beauty is Organic wholeness, the wholeness of life and things,

The divine beauty Of the universe. Love that, not man Apart from that.."

I reckon that space pioneers who survived the trip from here to elsewhere soon would go mad from longing to return. Those who endured would do so in a new physical and cultural form. Remember, too, that neither biological nor cultural evolution is guaranteed to be progressive: to lead in successive increments to a "better" condition.

The only criterion of adaptation is survival. Suppose, for instance, that a few humans colonized an unearthly place with slightly lower atmospheric oxygen. Survivors might well have lesser brain function but bigger lungs or, alternately, a more lethargic body. Is that progress?

To go somewhere else is to become something else.


And you can't go home again.

A version of the above piece was first published in the Fall 2008 Acorn publication of the Salt Spring Conservancy.


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PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

CULTURE SHARING: Saturday's Blossom Festival at Heiwa Garden (Peace Park) saw everything from Shinobu Murata sharing her Japanese calligraphy skills to Salt Spring's Taoist Tai Chi Society group offering a demonstration of their practice, among other musical, craft and martial arts activities at the Japanese Garden Society of Salt Spring-initiated event.

AGING IN PLACE, SALT SPRING STYLE: How young are you? **Third article in series for 2014**

BY HELEN HINCHLIFF

I find it relatively easy to clamber into a Salt Spring Air float plane. Getting out is another matter.

Last time I stepped frontwards down the steps, St. Clair McColl gave me an arm. Feeling stiff, I held on tight.

"I guess I'm not as lithe as I once was," I apologized.

"You're doing just fine."
 "Maybe for an old lady," I snapped.

"You don't look old to me."
 I almost said, "I'm 74 and feeling unsteady reminds of it."

But there were gaping onlookers, so I smiled, thanked him, and marched off with my bags, proud of the fact that I was fit enough to walk home unaided.

A similar encounter took place at a recent Probus meeting. I sat next to Stan Shapiro, whom I've known since he and his late wife Roberta moved to Salt Spring many moons ago. When I asked how he was doing, he replied, "Pretty good for an old guy."

What's going on here? Why are we talking about being old?

Stan says he's fishing for compliments.

"Every time I say I'm 80, people tell me I don't look it. That

feels good."

Guess what! Every time I say I'm 74, people say I don't look it and that makes me feel good too.

We next wondered whether we should acknowledge that lots of people look younger than we expect. Maybe we should stop basking in our seeming youth and just realize we're in the midst of outmoded stereotypes of how older people look and act.

I asked him whether by mentioning our "oldness" we might be talking ourselves into becoming ancient before our time.

Stan says, "No, being aware of our age can keep us youthful longer. Take posture, for example. I consciously try to stand up straight and I exercise with that end in mind."

That's a good idea, and so is walking whenever we can instead of driving.

Back in 1975, my mother moved to a neighbourhood where she could walk almost everywhere she needed to go. She could, but she didn't. When I suggested she walk the three blocks to her grocery store, her reply was scathing: "In California, we don't walk, we drive!"

Her proof? None of the streets

in her neighbourhood had sidewalks.

That was almost 40 years ago and I wonder if her words are coming back to haunt her. At age 93, she is in assisted living. They offer a variety of activities, but she spends most of her time sitting in her room. It's both sad and ironic because she used to pride herself on her relative youth.

My grandmother lived to be 99 and my great-grandmother lived to be 93. They, too, spent the last 15 or 20 years of their lives sitting alone in their rooms. It looks like I might also be long-lived, but I want to remain active with my friends and neighbours.

In earlier years, I mostly sat at a desk, my only exercises being those assigned by a physiotherapist to ease my aching back. I'd do them until I could move around again and then I would stop. To me, exercise was for rehabilitation, not for every day. And if anyone had suggested I do it on a regular basis, I would have said I didn't have the time.

My sedentary lifestyle left me unfit. Any wrong move could result in muscle spasms so painful I couldn't walk. By the summer of 1998, just turning

over in bed was excruciating. A rheumatologist diagnosed fibromyalgia. I could have rolled up into a ball and given up on life, but I decided to get fit instead. At North End Fitness on Monday morning, Jan. 4, 1999, I hauled myself upstairs — hand over hand — and said, "Help."

On my feet again, a friend suggested I join a fitness group because the social side of exercise might keep me motivated. When my caregiving duties meant I could no longer keep to a regular schedule, I joined Curves, followed by Friends' Fitness. Later still, I joined Pump Primers. After 15 years of regular exercise, I'm in better shape now than when I was a teenager.

How about you? Are you exercising regularly? Salt Spring is blessed with an abundance of exercise opportunities and there's little excuse for not trying them out. Regular exercise will keep our bodies in shape, our immune systems working, and will help sharpen our brains.

We won't be forever young, but who knows? One of these days I just might be able to skip down those float plane steps right into the waiting arms of St. Clair McColl.

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The island's gardens, farms and public spaces are bursting with new growth and activities this month, with details on the following pages.

Spring has arrived on Salt Spring and it's time to celebrate. The Saturday Market in the Park is now up and running for another season, and there's special events taking place every weekend during the month, as detailed on pages 10 and 23.

This weekend, April 18-20, will be a busy one with the Easter Art Tour on tap — catch all or some of the 40 participating exhibits and studios.

Earth Day is celebrated in fine style on Monday, April 21 in Centennial Park, and StageCoach Theatre School performers are at ArtSpring with their year-end show featuring Snow White from April 25 to 27.

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Salt Spring Blooms in April

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A Bouquet of Events for You to Enjoy!

Friday April 18 to Sunday April 20

Easter Art Tour hosted by the Salt Spring Arts Council. Tour various artists' studios on Salt Spring over the Easter weekend. Learn more at www.ssartscouncil.com

Monday April 21

Earth Day celebration in Centennial Park. Join us in Centennial Park for Earth Day from 11 am - 4:00 pm. Learn more about Earth Day at www.earthday.org

Friday April 25 to Sunday 27

StageCoach Theatre School performance featuring "Snow White". ArtSpring - tickets and schedule at www.artspring.ca

Learn more about these events and more at: www.saltspringchamber.com or call 250-537-4223

Salt Spring Blooms in April is supported by the members of the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce.

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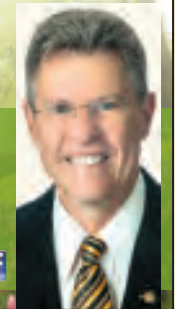
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StageCoach Theatre School's 2014 Annual Show ~ Featuring: Snow White! Friday April 25th and Saturday April 26th at 7pm, Sunday April 27th at 2pm. Please join StageCoach Theatre School in celebrating its 15th season! Act 1 will showcase the school's youngest students and Act 2 features the Onstage students in Snow White (Show length ~ 2 hours). Silent auction ~ Yummy baked goods ~ Something for everyone! Call Artspring at 250-537-2102 for tickets or: www.artspring.ca.

ARTSPRING

100 Jackson Ave, Ganges
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ArtSpring, Salt Spring Island's community arts centre features the best of local and Canadian arts programming. On Wednesday, April 30 at 7:30 pm ArtSpring presents storyteller, poet, comedian Ivan Coyote. Tickets: 537-2102 or www.tickets.artspring.ca.



EASTER MONDAY in Centennial Park

KIDS ZONE 11 - 4 pm

Parade - Bring Your Pre-Decorated Bike
Wear your Land, Air & Sea Creatures or Major/ette Costumes & Win Prizes!

Learn to make: Play-Poi, Solar Toys, Bird Houses!
Hunt for Non-Palm Oil Easter Bunnies

ACTION ZONE 11-5 pm

Sign Petitions - Write Letters - Learn About Issues Affecting YOU!

12-4 pm

Silent Auction
Funds go to: SS Foundation & Transition Salt Spring

MASSAGE ZONE 12-4 pm

Christin Boyd
Lisa Dahling
Samantha Halliday
Serafina Kryztina
Haidee Lief
Hardeep Singh

April 21, 2014 7am-9pm

Earth Day PROGRAM

STAGE 11am-6pm

In Order of Appearance:

Samba Du Soleil
MC - Arthur Black
Majorette - Briony Penn
S.H.E.D.(Students Helping End Discrimination)

Arts Academy
Jester, Lester & Doug
George Grams, Peter Grove,
Gary Holman

The Elvolutionairies

Barb Slater
Island Rootz
Cpt. Brian Falconer

Raging Grannies
Shilo Zylbergold
Heather Pardon

Eco-Cabaret - Ahava Shira,
Maggie Zeigler, Phil Vernon,
Murray Reiss, Nomi Lyonns
Billie Woods & Wesley Hardisty
Dene J.

SweetWater Revolver

Island Rootz

Gaia Song Circle

Performing in other areas



Salt Spring Island

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9:00 Nomi Davis
10-10:40 Water Healing Ceremony
10:40 Samba Du Soleil
Pre-Parade Begins

11:30 Cathy Valentine
12:30 Shannon Cowan
1:30 Cornelia Krikke
2:30 Dorothy Price
3:30 Rudy Hexter
4:30 Brett Wearne
5:30 Raven Hume
• yoga ends 6:30 pm •

LIBRARY

4 - 6:45 pm

Short films:

"Reflections: Art for An Oil Free Coast" & "Ground Swell"
7pm KEYNOTE:
Cpt. Brian Falconer, with "The Real Tanker Story"

8pm Northern Grease

ISLAND ESCAPADES

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6:15 - 6:45 Song Circle
6:30 - 7:30 Drum Circle

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Help First Nations defend land

Earth Day on Salt Spring is coming amid the glory of a West Coast spring.

It will be held on Easter Monday, April 21 in Centennial Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Many groups will be represented on this important day. One of these, the NDP club, will be working on a project of interest to all those who want to protect our coast.

The club's main activity as participant in the Earth Day event will be accepting donations on behalf of RAVEN, a registered charity and the legal defence group supporting First Nations "who must continuously defend their lands and livelihood from the onslaught of rampant industrial development," quoting Jody Williams, Nobel laureate and founder of Nobel Women's Initiative.

RAVEN has assisted in persuading the federal government to take a second look at (and hopefully reject forever) the New Prosperity mine in the Chilcotin district. RAVEN is working to prevent the establishment of new bitumen-carrying pipelines through First Nations

MORE LETTERS

lands, something that a majority of Salt Spring residents support because we value the Salish Sea and our coastline.

At least as important is our longing to see a significant drop in carbon dioxide and other climate-changing emissions for the sake of all our children and our children's children — to the seventh generation, as our First Nations friends challenge.

Earth Day this year is very meaningful because we must move beyond Easter chocolate rabbits. Our MLA, Gary Holman, will speak to the environmental work being done (and not being done) in the legislature, as well as local issues.

There will be opportunities for everyone to visit the booths and activities presenting what community groups and individuals are thinking about as they come up with strategies and new priorities to develop resiliency for the survival of future generations.

We look forward to this very important event. The intensity of work required to protect our home and our Earth must continue.

IRENE WRIGHT,
FOR SALT SPRING NDP CLUB

South seniors group active

I read with interest your Young at Heart publication dated March 12. It was very informative with useful information for seniors and others who wish to relate to seniors and their needs.

The Salt Spring Seniors Services organization in Ganges enjoyed good coverage and I believe it resulted in more seniors becoming involved in the organization.

I was disappointed that there was no mention of the South Salt Spring Seniors group, who are well organized and meet once a month in Fulford. Various activities take place there each week and we are also affiliated to the Old Age Pensioners Association of B.C. (as Branch #170).

We meet with other branches of the association and send representatives to the annual convention where concerns of seniors are brought to the attention of the federal and provincial governments.

I believe it is essential that we maintain a strong network of seniors in B.C. so that our concerns are considered and dealt with.

We should all remember that we all age and eventually become seniors.

DON STEVENS,
CREEKSIDE DRIVE

Harper plays sympathy card

While it is tragic that Jim Flaherty died after suffering from a horrible disease, the decision to grant him a state funeral smacks of political opportunism.

Never before in Canadian history has a retired cabinet minister been accorded such an honour. Had Flaherty died a year hence, it is doubtful he would have received such a glorious (and expensive) farewell. Indeed, this is Stephen Harper playing the sympathy card in an attempt to deflect from his current political woes and induce collective amnesia with regard to his government's policies.

Let's not forget that Flaherty co-authored stealth legislation — giant omnibus bills that had less to do with the budget than with reshaping Canada in the corporate mold. The great irony is that the Conservatives' fiercest critics — those who oppose the dismantling of the CBC, for example, or the gutting of environmental laws — are now forced to praise Mr. Flaherty. Which politician, after all, dares speak ill of the dead?

When all the tears, be they genuine or crocodile, have dried, my advice to Canadians is simple: keep your eyes on the ball!

FRANTS ATTORP,
MEADOW DRIVE

Savings can support scholarship project

In a discussion on CBC Monday morning about James Cameron's new TV series called Years of Living Dangerously, there was a common message: "We quickly need to expand the use of renewable energies in our communities."

I know Salt Spring residents are thinking about this, considering the strong attendance at the Renewable Energy Conference only 10 days ago.

We're fortunate also that there is a great opportunity right in front of us now to make renewable energy a prominent community focus with the GISS Solar Scholarship Project.

Putting 20 kilowatts of solar panels on the high school gym and giving the dollar savings to graduating students as scholarships for the next 30 years is a great response to the challenge of climate change.

I can't help think about the pipelines and tankers we are fighting to avoid, and I can't help think about almost every vehicle owner on this island driving to the gas station and putting \$50 to over \$100 into the fossil fuel industry.

I wish we could all make one fewer of those fill-up trips over the next two months and put the money instead into a solar scholarship legacy for Salt Spring students. See www.saltspringcommunityenergy.com for more information.

DAVID DENNING,
SALT SPRING

RANTS and Roses

Rants

Rants to the obnoxious person who dumped garbage/compost at the end of Trincomali Heights last week. May your sins catch up with you. JN Braithwaite

Roses

Many roses and cowslips to Susan and Brian Cunningham for being such good sports and so helpful when our four cattle decided to wander over and visit their herd. Also many thanks to the awesome motorists who helped direct traffic (and steers) as we crossed the

busy road back to our fields. Only on Salt Spring! Many thanks from Kim, Lesley and Blennerhasset Equestrian Center

Dozens of sweetly scented spring roses to the great folks at Country Grocer, especially Dawn and Mary, for returning my wallet to me intact. You saved me a huge headache. Thanks so much. Andrea

A large bouquet of roses to Paul Large and his staff at Country Grocer and the folks at the Salt Spring Island Return it Centre for helping us with our car

wash and the bottle drive to raise funds for GISS Athletics. GISS athletes

Vast bouquets of fragrant red roses to good neighbour John Quesnel, who after being approached by hikers, neighbours, naturalists, bikers, agreed to haul out for free and at his own expense the four or five tons of scrap metal, toilets, trailer frames, abandoned vehicles, drywall, etc. which have littered the Musgrave greenbelt park area for years! (But John, you forgot the propane tank hanging from the tree!) You Know Who!

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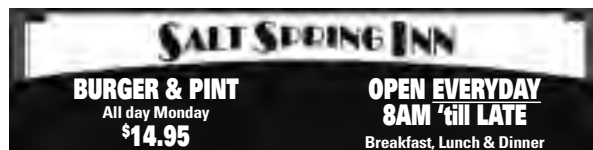
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arts&entertainment



CELEBRATION

Anniversary time at ArtSpring evening

ArtSpring, society and GISPA all celebrate

Anniversaries come thick and fast when you're having fun, especially on Salt Spring.

This week marks the 15th anniversary of the date in 1999 when Bob and Birgit Bateman cut a big ribbon to officially open ArtSpring as the island's brand new performing and visual arts centre.

Ten years previously, and thus marking its 25th anniversary, the Island Arts Centre Society was formed and charged with the decade-long process of conceiving, funding and eventually building ArtSpring.

In another area of the arts, it is the 10th anniversary of the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts, a special division within GISS devoted to enriched education in theatre, dance and music.

On Saturday, April 19, ArtSpring brings together these anniversaries into a celebratory concert featuring a cross-section of some of Salt Spring's



PHOTO COURTESY VALDY

Valdy is among performers at ArtSpring's 15th-anniversary celebration on Saturday night.

many areas of performing arts activity and accomplishment.

The 7:30 p.m. concert will feature short performances by some of the

current crop of GISPA dancers, as well as by pianist Chris Kodaly, marimba virtuoso Luanne Katz, a fine jazz trio led by Ian Van Wyck and the island's most celebrated writer, Brian Brett. And no celebration of Salt Spring music would be complete without Valdy, our most famous and enduring musical ambassador.

"The idea is to offer a tiny cross-section of the very rich terrain of music, dance and written word that makes Salt Spring the envy of much of the rest of Canada," said ArtSpring's George Sipos in a press release. "There are many other fine artists in our community, but this concert is meant only as a delicious sampling. Sort of like dim sum for the soul."

Each artist will perform for a maximum of 15 minutes, making an evening that should run till roughly 9:20, not too late for young audiences.

Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the performers.

Tickets are available from the ArtSpring Ticket Centre at 250-537-2102 or online at tickets.artspring.ca.



EXHIBITIONS

Grief expressions in show

Empty Places - Open Spaces runs April 18-28

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community members have a chance to connect with a profoundly personal side of local artists' lives through a show based on loss and grief opening at ArtSpring this Friday.

Empty Places - Open Spaces involves 11 exhibitors willing to share this intimate material. Some, like show coordinator Seth Berkowitz, are still coping with the raw emotions of a recent loss. Others have been working through the process for years.

"I think one of the things that surprised me is how many people on this island have dealt with serious loss in their life," Berkowitz said.

"They knew what I was dealing with because they had been down that path before."

Berkowitz lost his wife Beth Bastien to cancer eight months ago. He had already booked gallery space at ArtSpring for 2014 and was just starting to coordinate details of the show with Bastien when the disease made a sudden return. Faced with the need to either carry on with a show or give up the space that he had planned on

sharing with his wife, Berkowitz decided to proceed with the series he's been working on since her death.

Empty Windows features photographs shot through the windows of empty storefronts. They speak to what's been left behind, the current vacancy, and also the potential of what may come. Though Berkowitz is not yet addressing the specifics of his grief in his art, these works were produced with an overall feeling in mind.

Having thought other artists might want to get involved, Berkowitz floated the idea of a group show at the monthly Art Night gathering.

"There was an overwhelming wave of support. There are a lot of people who have created pieces about loss, and who were interested in sharing them," Berkowitz said.

One of the interesting threads to arise in the show is the frequent use of mixed media, as artists incorporate artifacts from their lost loved ones' lives. For example, Ron Crawford turned old photos of his father into an interactive memorial, and Diana Lynn Thompson has used clay left by her partner Lari Robson and shards of his pottery to create new bowls.

Other contributors have used a single medium to express their feelings, which can range from sadness to

anger to hope.

"I've always thought you should learn something about the artist when you look at a piece of art. And how can you not learn something about the artist with work like this?"

While the criteria for the show called for expressions of specific, personal grief rather than the abstract grief caused by war or other conditions, Berkowitz feels the exhibition won't be mired in sadness. The empty places of loss are just one part of the equation.

"This space can — needs to — be filled with new experiences, a new life, a new journey. There is a future to be explored even after a loss," he explained.

Berkowitz has invited Salt Spring Hospice to be part of the show as a token of his appreciation and to bring awareness of what they do, both during palliative care and the grieving process. The back room of the gallery will include information as well as an interactive station where visitors can use art materials to express their own emotions, whether personal grief or reactions to the show. These pieces can be brought home or left at the gallery for others to see.

An opening reception takes place on Friday, April 18 from 5 to 7 p.m.

More details: emptyplaces.ca website.

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★ Luanne Katz ★ Ian Van Wyck Jazz Trio ★



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Island Arts Centre Society
ARTSPRING

ART REVIEW

Gallery 8 artists explore annual theme

Symbolically 8 works on display until May 11

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's hard to believe that yet another year has rolled around, and even more surprising to find the fifth annual edition of Gallery 8's Symbolically 8 exhibit on view.

Back when Razali Wahab dreamed up the first show, it was to celebrate the changeover from J. Mitchell Gallery to something that still focused on island artists but included his individual stamp of ownership. It's now become an established tradition, and one that gallery artists often use playfully to incorporate the "8" theme.

This year there are several new artists in the mix, with fresh work that suits the spring mood. Catharine Huang-Tam, an established printmaker who is new to Salt Spring, is also experimenting in a new medium with mixed-media works on plywood. Though not overtly "8 related," Huang-Tam's intricate weaving of materials makes pieces like Gateway fascinating to examine. The grain becomes part of the composition of a Moorish-influenced design overlaid with a checkerboard pattern.

There is an echo of woodwork inlaid with precious materials in how the different segments of the work appear fitted together. The composition as a whole is also pleasing, and a distant view through the gateway brings back the local with a hint of blue islands and ocean.

Another artist new to the gallery is Gary Brettmacher, a photographer who uses the extreme contrasts produced by infrared film to create works with a dreamy step back from reality. His horizontal shot of trumpeter swans in flight catches the birds in dynamic motion, reflected perfectly in the water they've just risen from. Dark trees in the background are also reflected back, making for deep contrast on both sides of the water's surface. A side note of interest is that Brettmacher apparently waited until there were exactly eight swans in the frame before taking his shot.

Gillian McConnell is new to Gallery 8, but of course well known on the island, and brings a rare element of abstract work to



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Clockwise from top left: Part of Catharine Huang-Tam's Gateway; Time Traveller by Janis Woode; The Link Between by Heather Martin-McNab.

the stable. Her Pieces of Eight is an interesting take on the theme, portraying not treasure but geometric cubes in an uneven white field. Words and figures relating to eight are partially obscured and suggest the furious scribbles of a scholar trying to work out a concept.

Donna Hall, who has brought her blend of abstract and mixed-media work to the



gallery for several years, has taken a small step away from that side for this show. The centre of Boy Blue is the figure of a boy, which she has drawn with a sensitive hand. The piece incorporates the feeling of different periods of time that she typically layers into her abstract work — but here the feeling is of history rather than archeology.

Heather Martin-McNab is definitely on the playful side with her set of basketry vessels called The Link Between, with a woven connection in question doubling as an eight and an infinity symbol. The tower-shaped vessels are each topped with an interesting "handle." On the left is an enclosed spiral, while on the right is a tiny light bulb. Woven in warm tones of brown, yellow, peach and red, the overall piece feels like a perpetual engine generating positive energy.

Janis Woode often has a humorous angle to her recycled metal sculptures, with their small human figures made of looped wire. The masterpiece of her current offerings has to be Time Machine, which puts a figure in a cage atop a pillar set with a pressure gauge, a pocket watch and a hand crank. The elements are fun and the result as a whole is delightful.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Art books box makes island stop

Global project stimulates discussion and creativity

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring photography enthusiasts have a rare chance to thumb through a batch of well-travelled books next week as the "box of books" makes one of its few Canadian stops.

About a year ago, founders of the U.K.-based Photobook Club boxed up seven fine art photography books in a package that has since been passed along by club members in England, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Finland, India, Japan, Brazil and Australia. At the beginning of April, Victoria club member Duane Prentice picked up the box after it

finally arrived in Canada following a sojourn in New Zealand.

Having recently been shown in Victoria, the book box will be featured in an event at Moby's Pub next Friday, April 25 between 4 and 7 p.m.

Salt Spring fine art photographer Susan Huber, who helped bring the book box to the island, said she hopes photographers and fine art book lovers will take advantage of the opportunity to flip through and discuss some of the finest examples of contemporary photography the world has to offer.

"I think this will really be good for Salt Spring Island," Huber said. "All people need to do is show up and be interested."

Books in the collection include images by Marten Lange, Filipe Casaca, Donald Webber, Ron Jude, Rena Effendi, Anne Sophie Merry-

man and Paul Graham. The works focus on a wide variety of photographic themes and subject matter. Participants can also bring photobooks from their personal libraries to stimulate further discussion.

The Photobook Club strives to promote the photo book format. The club emphasizes old, rare and influential photography books from the 20th century onwards.

The box also contains a small notepad, in which photo book fans from other corners of the world have jotted their impressions and suggested potential questions for others to explore. Organizers anticipate the box will complete its round-the-world journey in Coventry, U.K. within the next few months.

For more information, Huber can be reached by email at info@susanhuber.com.

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PERFORMING ARTS

Australian circus forges island connections

Community performance and workshops on tap

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Dennison College of Secondary Education - Kelso High Campus might sound fancy to Canadian ears, but to Australians it's just a regular public high school in Bathurst, New South Wales.

Well, maybe not so regular. For one thing, it's home to champion volleyball and debating teams. For another, it hosts Cirkus Surreal, an innovative and inclusive circus arts program with a focus on building student confidence and resilience.

Salt Spring residents will have the opportunity to meet some of those confident, resilient young people in person when they visit the island this week. Their touring schedule for 2014 brings them to Las Vegas and Vancouver, and a stop on the island made sense since program Stephanie Brown founder has old ties with Lisa Halstead, the superintendent of the Gulf Islands School District.

"I love Salt Spring Island — it's a wonderful place," Brown said during a visit last October to set up the spring visit. "As soon as I came here I knew it was the right place to bring the troupe."

Hosted by SD64 and the Salt Spring Rotary Club, Cirkus Surreal performers will billet with island families during their stay and give workshops for middle and high school students and adults while they're here. They will give public performances at ArtSpring and the Saturday Market on April 18 and 19.

As some of the troupe members have never left Australia before, the Gulf Islands trip will represent a huge change from Bathurst, which is located in the tablelands approximately 200 kilometres west of Sydney.

"I can't wait to see the kids' faces when they come here and see how beautiful it is. It's a very big contrast to where we live," Brown said.

In Bathurst, the circus program has provided an outlet for those students who might not be high academic achievers, or be interested in traditional sports, to shine. The skills demanded are varied, so while some kids may take to the aerial silks and flying trapeze, there are also people involved in clowning, juggling, hula hoops, floor routines, and even a champion extreme unicyclist.

"Anyone can do it, and it's all about being valued. It's about having fun, building relationships and being proud of your achievements," Brown said.

Brown's hope is that in establishing the inter-island connection, a local off-shoot of the program will be formed and regular exchanges between Salt Spring and Bathurst initiated. The ultimate goal is a collaborative performance the next time the Australians go on tour in 2016.

"Anyone can do it, and it's all about being valued."

STEPHANIE BROWN
Cirkus Surreal

"The idea really is to develop networks between young people, and for our students who have developed skills to inspire others to do the same," she added.

"Connecting our two communities gives young people enormous

possibilities . . . We're creating pathways across oceans and continents, from one island to another."

Cirkus Surreal supports its programs entirely by its performances when at home. When on tour, however, it has a policy of donating shows to local schools and venues.

"When we go to a community it's about giving back to the community, not taking from the community," Brown said, who is an ambassador for the Rotary Club. This type of giving without expecting to receive seems second nature for the group founder. During the troupe's show at the market, for example, the contents of the hat they'll be passing will go to the Copper Kettle.

A select group of the school's performers will be on the international tour, which included a visit to the Cirque du Soleil while they were in Las Vegas. In addition to 17 high school students, there will be coaches, riggers, costume and make-up artists, paramedics and a physiotherapist on board.

Gulf Islands middle school and high school students who participate in the workshops will get a good idea of the requirements — and the endless possibilities — for setting up a Cirkus Surreal of their own.

"I'm excited. It feels like I'm back where I started with my program," Brown said.

"It will take on its own identity on the island for whatever is needed, and the students will lead that."

The ArtSpring performance is set for the afternoon of Good Friday, April 18 at 2 p.m.



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LITERARY EVENT

Bard gets 450th birthday party

Authors and actors perform at library

William Shakespeare's 450th birthday will be celebrated in style at the Salt Spring Library on Wednesday, April 23 as some of Salt Spring's finest players hail the Bard of Avon with soliloquy, sonnet and the odd scene.

The celebration in Shakespeare's honour kicks off at 7 p.m. and features performances by Brian Brett, C.C. (Chris) Humphreys, Scott Hylands, Robert Ruttan and Christina Penhale.

Humphreys, a best-selling author of historical novels, including the 2013 release Shakespeare's Rebel, is also an actor and sword-fighting enthusiast who has appeared at Bard on the Beach. His approach in

coordinating the birthday celebration has been to focus on the Shakespeare of The Globe Theatre circa 1600.

"It's going to be an event about Shakespeare's words more than anything," he explained.

Sword-fighting will not be part of this event, but Humphreys promised to give a demonstration of the origins of the term "swash-buckling."

Award-winning poet Brett will offer audiences his rendition of a sonnet or two, and possibly a modernized version of a famous scene. Hylands, Penhale and Ruttan (a fellow Bard alumni with Humphreys) will perform some of the bard's most famous speeches.

The event is sponsored by the library and will offer free admission. Cakes and ale (or ginger beer) will be served in honour of the famous quote from Twelfth Night.

GULF ISLANDS

REAL ESTATE

The next Gulf Islands Real Estate magazine is published May 14, 2014. The ad deadline is April 30, 2014. For information please call 250.537.9933 or email sales@gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

www.gulfislandsrealestate.ca

Local real estate market: Is optimism solid this time?

Sales and prices appear to be on an upswing

BY SUSAN DE STEIN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Weather-wise or real estate-wise, spring 2014 on Salt Spring has been described as crazy, unpredictable and active. One realtor said this spring break period was the busiest she had experienced in six years.

Year to date, both anecdotal and statistical evidence suggests the 2014 real estate market has been one of the best in recent years. The optimists are finally winning!

Whether buyers are now appreciating the good value of property here and seeing our wonderful island paradise for what it is (the best and most temperate climate in the country, a rich and eclectic artistic and cultural community, beauty absolutely everywhere), or the dam of pent-up demand is bursting, off-island buyers, primarily from Alberta, Ontario and the Lower Mainland, are seriously scouting for recreational or retirement property.

Realtors also seem to believe that prices, though still lower than six years ago and soft throughout 2013, remain in a period of relative stability. Furthermore, sellers appear to understand that the market is a significant 25 per cent or more below the peaks of 2007 and early 2008. (There are reasons why these peak periods are referred to as "bubbles": they are fragile, easily popped and short-lived.)

Well-maintained, well-presented and appropriately priced properties are getting a good number of showings, some selling quickly, even within a few days of listing.

Buyers, however, continue to be picky and cranky — not willing to pay above what they would consider to be market value, looking critically for those proverbial good bones and driving hard negotiations. In a rising market (2006, for example), buyers might have been willing to pay a premium for that "special" property, but in a soft or slow market, buyers do not fork out more than they (and their realtors) feel they should. They are, rightfully so, cautious and looking hard at the competition for their hard-earned dollars.

Overall, this has translated into stronger first-quarter sales and I believe the general feeling is that there is more good news to come. I know of several properties awaiting final paperwork before hanging out the SOLD sign. Contractors and trades on the island are also reporting higher levels of activity and interest in renovations and new construction.

Year to date, as of April 9 when I pulled these statistics, 35 sales including all types of proper-

ties accounted for a total volume of just over \$18 million. Last year, as of the same date, we'd had 32 sales for a total just over \$16 million. For a quick comparison, by this date in 2007, we'd had 62 sales adding up to just under \$30 million.

Two parcels of bare land have sold YTD, reinforcing the notion that sales in this category will remain challenging when there

REAL ESTATE SUMMARY continued on 17

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108 Drake Road \$529,000
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130 Dogwood Lane \$1,950,000
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115 Clifford Heights \$699,000
Sweeping ocean views and stylish single level living with 11' ceilings, walls of glass and custom chefs kitchen in 1906 sq ft. Easy care landscaped lot. Brand new with warranty & GST included!



1456 Beddis Road \$1,398,500
Beautifully sited for vast views and natural light, this pristine 3363' beach house is ready for summer! Triple en-suite bedrooms. Entertainer's kitchen. Lovely garden. Design wise in & out!



241 Rourke Road \$539,900
Heritage farmer's cottage on 5 private acres. Original fir floors. Wood burning fireplace. Tremendous character. Productive old orchard. Open meadow. Seasonal water views. So unique!



234 Scott Point Drive \$1,495,000
Hidden from passers by, this vintage 2241' Schubart beach house enjoys privileged position at water edge. Sensational views. Deep water dock. Privacy and prominence on the point.



140 Mt. Baker Crescent \$299,000
Classic west coast rancher ready for a modern make over. Superb ocean, village and mountain views. Fabulous backyard spaces. Bright walk out basement. A property of potential.



173 Alders Road \$299,000
In town oceanfront lot with 120' shoreline. Level building site. Accessible beach front. Piped water available. Engineered septic plan on file. Build now on one oceanside acre.



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
Well-established, interesting garden for the green thumb, mature woods for the outdoors enthusiast and an exceptionally well maintained, clean, two-bedroom home for everyone. Large living room with wood burning stove. Pleasant ocean view outlook, patio and a deck as well as an extra deep and over height carport in addition to the regular sized one. I think you will find that this home has a lot going for it and is nicely tucked away just steps from the ocean and one of the most popular walks on the Island.
\$329,000 MLS # 335727



HOME & INVESTMENT
This is probably one of the largest and best positioned properties that one could acquire in the serviced area of Ganges. A large, level, sunny piece of property with ocean glimpses. A massively renovated three-bedroom plus studio home is in move-in ready condition. New kitchen, bathroom, flooring, wiring, plumbing and roof are some of the many recent upgrades. Would make a great retirement home, work/live space, home office with room to build more structures to capture the public's attention from this high profile location. An excellent investment for now or the future. Privacy, along with a walk everywhere lifestyle, is indeed a rare Island find.
\$369,000 MLS #335718



HOBBY FARM WITH FARM TAX STATUS
Almost 3 acres of agricultural land. You will find all day sun on this level, arable land in an area of comparable size acreages. The land is suitable for crops, livestock or equestrian use. Mature fruit trees, established blueberries and raised bed gardens along with vegetable plot are all fully deer fenced. PLUS there is room to greatly expand the garden area or add greenhouses in the large level pasture lands. There are numerous accessory buildings for agricultural use along with an almost new barn with power and water. The 2000 ft.² home has a large living room with airtight fireplace, huge dining room with a covered porch access. A suite conversion in the lower daylight level could easily be accomplished.
\$489,000 MLS #334196



CUSTOM OCEAN VIEW HOME
Nicely located in Channel Ridge offering privacy, sunsets, Vancouver Island views & great sunsets. This 2000 sq ft nearly new open plan 2 bedroom home has been elegantly finished with fir trim, wood doors, granite counters, vaulted ceiling, gas fire place, gourmet kitchen with gas stove, great den with farm views, spa like master bedroom ensuite with walk-in shower, tile floors, wood floors as well as 2 lovely covered stamped concrete patios and double garage. The property has been nicely landscaped with shrubs, rock walls and paved driveway leading up to the home. If you are looking for a home in move in condition this is it. This is a very versatile plan and a must see in this price range.
\$739,000 MLS #335068

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99 Garner Rd.
MLS 327740

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263 Canvasback Place
MLS 332613
\$739,000



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Ten acres of level arable land, with a sizeable pond and irrigation for watering your gorgeous garden. Room for horses or livestock, heated greenhouse and much much more ...

197 Pringle Farm Road
MLS 312029
\$1,995,000



190 HOLMES - Private South End waterfront home & studio on 5 sunny acres. Custom engineered, architect designed post & beam construction. 3 bdrms, ea with ensuite. Quality materials & finishing throughout, custom doors, premium hardware, skylights, custom built kitchen. Large sundeck with a southfacing sunroom. Large 800 sq ft studio w/2 pce bath. Driveway partially paved. **\$980,000 MLS #332333**



148 CORMORANT - If quality is important add this to your must see list. This 3 bdrm, 3 bath home has been designed with south & west views in mind. This well built CUSTOM home offers both main floor living & a lower level with extra bdrms & bath. This location offers all day sun as well as amazing views. Call to view this great family home situated in an upscaled area of the island. **\$639,000**



SUNNY VESUVIUS - Spacious level corner lot, home has plenty of room for a growing family. 3 bdrms & 2 baths, spacious kitchen/family room combo opening onto a large deck. High ceilings, large bay windows & formal dining room. Fully finished, above ground lower level with separate entry. Level lawns with 2 natural ponds. Great outdoor play areas & backyard entertaining. **\$425,000**



330 DUKES ROAD - 12 ACRES WITH 2 CLEARED BUILDING SITES Centrally located, this acreage has a barn and feed storage building which is presently used as a 2 bedroom, 2 storey home plus a two storey garage. Live in the barn while you build your new main house and guest cottage on the cleared building sites. Services already in to the main building site. Drilled well 215 ft deep, 2.5 gpm as per well log. **\$485,000 MLS #329412**



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GULF ISLANDS

REAL ESTATE

Stats deserve cautious look

REAL ESTATE SUMMARY
continued from 15

are good values for properties with existing homes for sale.

In these first 90-plus days of the year, four waterfront listings sold at an average price of \$679,000. In the same period, three fabulous ocean view (not oceanfront) properties each sold for over \$1 million. Three townhouses and one home in Brinkworthy sold in this period.

A total of 25 single family non-waterfront dwellings (SFDs) sold YTD, with the average home selling for just under \$600,000, significantly higher than in the previous couple of years. If you eliminate the "outliers" — the unusually pricey three top sales (each over \$1 million) — the average price falls to just over \$527,000, which is slightly above last year's figure.

If you look at the ratio of a property's selling price to assessed value, the 25 SFDs ranged from 72 to 136 per cent, reflecting the fact that assessed values are not the best indicator of market value on our island.

In a small market like Salt Spring, a cautionary note: it's difficult to rely on statistics to paint an accurate picture of prices and trends with any degree of certainty. As Benjamin Disraeli is frequently quoted: "There are three types of lies — lies, damn lies and statistics."

Round-up of 2013 Salt Spring sales activity

In 2013, a total of 184 island properties of all types changed hands for a total volume of just over \$89 million. Of these, 139 SFDs sold, ranging from \$172,500 to \$2.295 million. Ten properties sold for over \$1 million; 18 "bare land" listings sold.

The largest single group of buyers in 2013, as is always the case, are Salt Springers who are moving, down-sizing, right-sizing — or buying the dream property or an investment property.

The second largest group of buyers comes from the Lower Mainland (29 sales), with Victoria accounting for another 13.

The "I-can't-stand-another-winter" group from Alberta accounted for 11 sales.

U.S. buyers appear to be re-emerging as well, accounting for a total of nine sales last year.

Other areas of B.C. accounted for six and Ontario five.

Four European buyers bought property on Salt Spring last year.

Susan de Stein, MBA, is a Pemberton Holmes, Salt Spring realtor. She will be providing a regular real estate column for the Gulf Islands Driftwood.

The next Gulf Islands Real Estate magazine is published May 14, 2014. The ad deadline is April 30, 2014.

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BRINKWORTHY PROPERTIES

PRIVATE BACK YARD. 2 bdrm & 2 bath. Sea bridge walk in bath tub/shower, & ensuite with a walk in shower. Sun room, breakfast nook, large living room, separate dining room. **\$179,000** MLS # 309206

ST. MARY LAKE HOME. Walking distance to two lake accesses, 1.46 acres flat useable property, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, set up to have a two bedroom in-law suite. View of the lake. Large deer fenced garden, frame of a green house, wood shed, storage sheds. **\$537,000** MLS # 320183

UPGRADED HOME. 2 bdrms & 1 bath, spacious living room, kitchen, separate dining room & utility room. Double carport, storage shed, large private yard, covered patio. In the future you may be able to purchase the land as a strata lot. **\$135,000**

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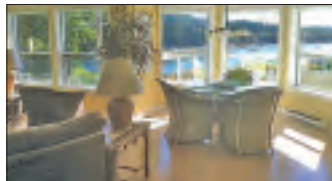
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MLS# V978796 \$1,290,000



Bright & cheerful home on pastoral sunny 4.94 acres, organic orchard, pond, meadows, forest, deer fenced, small barn, horse paddock. In beautiful Beaver Point Area. Easy to expand.
MLS# V1057687 \$759,000



Oceanview Kingfisher townhome, 2 bed, 2 bath, stellar kitchen, feature fireplace, wood floors, attached single garage, double length driveway. Walk to all Ganges amenities! An easy care, opportunity!
MLS# V1056384 \$539,900



Oceanview 2 bed, 2 bath one level home, cook's dream kitchen, gas fireplace, sep studio, fenced vegetable garden. Sunny, quiet property. Don't overlook this one!
MLS# V993100 \$599,000



Just move in home amid an English Country garden. 2-3 bed, 2 bath. Walk to all Ganges shops & services! Sunny & private. Sep studio / workshop. Community water & sewer.
MLS# V044614 \$535,000



Very private 3 bed, 3 bath home on easy care 1.85 acres. Wood stove, wood floors. Self-contained suite can be a mortgage helper or used by inlaws. Very close to town and great beach. A charmer!
MLS# V1035978 \$599,900



Private & pastoral 4+ acres, 3 bed, 4 bath home, extensive decking with BBQ area, sep guest cottage, pond, forest, wrap around drive. Just move in! Don't overlook this one!
MLS# V1053654 \$1,198,000



Oceanfront cottage with year round dock & warm ocean swimming. Wood floor, vaulted ceiling, gas fireplace, Sunny S/ SW/W exposure. In area of fine homes. Super weekend / summer getaway! Build your Dream!
MLS# V992509 \$685,000



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what's on this week



Wed. Apr 16
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Simply Organic.
Free organ recital with music of 16th-century England by Don Conley. All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:10 a.m. followed by freshly baked muffin and coffee for \$2.
Tommy Douglas: The Arrows of Desire.
Actor John Nolan brings the father of Medicare and leader of the CCF to life on the stage. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Dying With Dignity Meeting.
Guest speaker is a Salt Spring Hospice member speaking on hospice and palliative care on Salt Spring. Portlock Park Portable. 1:30 p.m.
SongJam.
Informal group singing of 6 decades of classic rock and pop hits and more. Moby's Pub. 7 p.m.
Texas Holdem Poker.
Sign-up at 6:30 p.m. The Local.

Thu. Apr 17
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Youth Open Mic.
Any instrument, any style. Every third Thursday of the month at the Core Inn. Sign up 4:30 p.m., start at 5:30

Thu. Apr 17
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic Night.
Hosted by Johnny Manouvers & Random Johnson. All styles of music welcomed. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Youth Book Club.
Discussion in a casual environment, as well as related activities for ages 10-14. Every second Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Info: Danielle Hubbard, dhubbard@saltspringlibrary.com or 250-537-4666 (ext. 225).
Citizen Science on the Shore.
Learn about a project that engages volunteers in ecological inventory development with guest speaker David Denning. SS United Church. 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Apr 18
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Cirkus Surreal.
Youth circus troupe from Australian performs. ArtSpring. 2 p.m.
Coastal Giant.
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Fri. Apr 18
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Soul Shakedown.
Live music, preceded by free appies at 5. The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.
Run For Cover.
Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
The Radicle Seed Library.
"Check out" seeds, then return them once you have grown them out. SS Public Library. Noon to 2 p.m.
Empty Places - Open Spaces Reception.
Opening event for grief and loss-themed show of work by 11 artists. ArtSpring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.
Sophia Burke Opening Reception.
Photography exhibition reception. POD Contemporary Gallery. 5 to 8 p.m.
8th Annual Easter Art Tour.
Opening of feature exhibit by Stefanie Denz and Steven Stairs. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m. Plus special events at island studios and galleries throughout the weekend. (See Exhibits, below, and ad on page 13.)
Transformation Through Dance.
5Rhythms drop-in class. Art Barn. 7 p.m.

Sat. Apr 19
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Singer-songwriter Billie Woods.
Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.
ArtSpring's 15th Anniversary Show.
Valdy, Chris Kodaly, Luanne Katz, Brian Brett, GISP dance students, and Ian Van Wyck's jazz trio on stage. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
Daniel John & Elev8.
DJ event. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Saturday Market in the Park.
Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sun. Apr 20
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Sweetwater & Co.
Traditional jazz standards. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Street Sundays.
Live jazz featuring guest percussionist Kelby McNayr and guitar legend Bill Henderson with el Zocalo Jazz. Moby's Pub. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Easter Sunday Open House.
Easter Bunny, baby animals and more at the Salt Spring Cheese Farm. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Car Club Easter Parade.
Salt Spring Antique and Classic Motor Club members park vehicles at ArtSpring parking lot from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, before heading out for a drive around Ganges and up to Country Grocer parking lot and then Moby's Pub for lunch.

Sun. Apr 20
ACTIVITIES

Ganges Yoga Studio Open House.
Free classes at Still Point studio. See ad on page 22 for class schedule. 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Mon. Apr 21
ACTIVITIES

Earth Day Celebration.
Music, speakers and activities for all. Island Rootz reggae band headlines stage. Centennial Park. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., plus yoga from 7 a.m. Films and keynote speaker at Salt Spring Library from 4 to 6 p.m. Beach fire and fire spinning at Island Escapades Beach at dusk.

Tues. Apr 22
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Susan Cogan Concert.
Celebrating life on Mother Earth. Fundraiser to bring healer Mandaza from Africa to Nanaimo and Victoria this August. Ram Spring Wellness Sanctuary. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Great Blue Herons.
Conservation presentation by avian ecologist Susan Hannon. A SSI Conservancy event. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Vipassana.
Meets for meditation and dharma instruction at the Gatehouse, Stowel Lake Farm every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Apr 23
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shakespeare's Birthday Party.
Brian Brett, C.C. (Chris) Humphreys, Scott Hylands, and other guests give performances for Shakespeare's 450th birthday. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Salt Spring Seniors Services Society AGM.
Salt Spring Seniors Services building. 2 p.m.
Where Do You Want To Go?
Slide show and information evening presented by Uniglobe One Travel. RSVP to island@uniglobeone.com or 250-537-5523. Harbour House Hotel. 7 p.m.

Wed. Apr 23
ACTIVITIES

Project Wild Thing.
Film screening event in celebration of Earth Day. Feature-length documentary takes a funny and accessible look at a complex issue: the increasingly fragile connection between children and nature. The Fritz Movie Theatre. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Garden Club.
Master gardener Lorraine Hamilton is guest speaker. Meaden Hall. 7 p.m.
SongJam.
See last Wednesday's listing.
Texas Holdem Poker.
See last Wednesday's listing.

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The 32mins Rating: G

PROJECT WILD THING
1 show only Wednesday April 23 7pm

April 18-22 Friday & Saturday 7pm Sunday 3pm Matinee Only. Monday & Tuesday 7:00.

CINEMA

• **Mr. Peabody & Sherman** — An entertaining burst of colourful all-ages fun. Mr. Peabody, the most accomplished dog in the world, and Sherman, use their time machine — the WABAC — to go on outrageous adventures. But when Sherman uses it to impress his friend Penny, they wreak havoc on important events in history.
• **Project Wild Thing:** Filmmaker David Bond is worried his kids' waking hours are dominated by a cacophony of marketing, a TV dependence threatening to turn them into glassy-eyed zombies. Like city kids everywhere, they spend way too much time indoors — not like it was back in his day. He decides it's time to get back to nature — literally. One show only on Wednesday, April 23.

EXHIBITIONS

• **8th Annual Easter Art Tour** — exhibit of work by Stefanie Denz and Steven Stairs at Mahon Hall, plus 40 open studios and gallery exhibits open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Friday through Sunday, April 18 to 20. The Denz-Stairs exhibit opens with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Mahon Hall and continues through April 27 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily).
• **Empty Places - Open Spaces** is an exhibit by 11 artists showing at the ArtSpring Gallery from April 18 to 28 with an opening reception on Friday from 5 to 7 p.m.
• **POD Contemporary Gallery** shows a Sophia Burke photography exhibition from April 18 to May 16, with an opening reception on Friday, April 18 from 5 to 8 p.m.
• **Nicola Wheston** shows new paintings as part of the Easter Art Tour at #5 Merchants Mews,

Friday through Sunday, April 18-20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
• **Symbolically 8** Exhibition celebrates the 5th anniversary of Gallery 8 and features all gallery artists. Runs until May 11.
• **Whalebones, Blubber and Other Relics of First Oil** — paintings in encaustic and oil by Rosalie Matchett runs at the Dutchie Gallery until April 27.
• **The Art of Darkness: Anais Larue** shows paintings and scratchboards at the Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art until April 27.
• **Gulf Islands Picture Framing in Grace Point** Square shows new releases by the late LeRoy Jensen. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• **Janet Dwyer** has a photo exhibition at the Harbour House Hotel through April.
• **Mel Williamson's** oil paintings will be featured at Cafe Talia in April.

• **The Shoreline Project** is an exhibit of photographs, watercolours and photomontages by Sam Lightman and Maureen Milburn hanging in the ArtSpring lobby through April.
• **The Focus on Women** exhibition of photographs and paintings of Salt Spring women aged 60 to 100, done by Salt Spring women artists, with an additional display of images and words by young islanders about women who've inspired them, continues through the month of April due to popular demand.
• **Melodie Herbert** has an exhibit of paintings in the Country Roasters Cafe at Country Grocer through April.
• **Shari Macdonald** has photographs hanging at Island Savings.
• **Photographer Juliana Paul's** work is at Penny's Pantry.

Earth Day Celebration

Centennial Park
Music, Speakers & Activities
Monday, April 21st - 11am to 4pm

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people&community

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



FAMILY LIFE

Project Wild Thing prompts change for kids

Filmmaker David Bond seeks reconnection with nature

Salt Spring Islanders can view a special screening of Project Wild Thing, a film that aims to reconnect kids with nature.

Timed with Earth Day celebrations, the Wednesday, April 23 screening at The Fritz cinema gives the entire family a chance to watch a film and engage in a timely conversation.

"Project Wild Thing is an ambitious, feature-length documentary that takes a funny and accessible look at a complex issue, the increasingly fragile connection between children and nature," explains press material from the Centre for Child Honouring, which is sponsoring the screening. "The aim is to kickstart a movement for social change, which gets kids playing outside freely and reconnecting with the natural world."

David Bond is a British filmmaker and a father.

"Things have really changed since he was a kid. His children are hooked on screens and don't want to go outdoors.

They want iPads, TV and plastic toys. The marketing departments of Apple, Disney and Mattel control his children better than he can.

"Determined to get them up and out, David appoints himself as the 'marketing director for nature.' With the help of branding and outdoor experts, he develops and launches a nationwide marketing campaign to get British children outside. But the competition is not going to lie down and let some upstart with a free product steal their market.

"Project Wild Thing is the hilarious, real-life story of one man's determination to get children out and into the ultimate, free wonder-product: nature."

Film contributors include naturalist Chris Packham, professor Agnes Nairn, writer and environmentalist George Monbiot, scientist Jaak Panksepp, writer Jay Griffiths, professor Michael Depledge, advertising guru Michael Wolff and brain scientist Susan Greenfield.

A trailer can be seen at www.projectwildthing.com.



Filmmaker David Bond points to a bar code on a tree in a hilarious and thought-provoking film about his attempts to reconnect his children with nature.

People should come early to get a seat for the show, which begins at 7 p.m.

Admission is a suggested \$10 donation. Proceeds go to the Centre for Child Honouring.

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Easter Sunday

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EARTH DAY

Earth Day events proliferate



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Marley Skye and The Evolutionaries will be among the entertainers at Monday's Earth Day party in Centennial Park.

Performers, speakers, activities and more on April 21

Salt Spring's Earth Day celebration for 2014 will feature a wide variety of fun activities for the entire family, with events planned throughout the day and evening on Easter Monday.

Centennial Park is the main venue for the April 21 festivities, which will include a parade, speakers and performers on stage, hands-on activities for kids and information tables from community groups. Coordinators

Alex Lyons and Nomi Lyonns have extended the program this year to also include a set of films at the library, to be capped off with a keynote presentation by Capt. Brian Falconer of the Raincoast Conservation Foundation.

"The theme is 'Sing, Dance, Act Up,' — it's step-up time, basically," said Lyonns, who said the climate change crisis has reached "do or die" status.

"My thing is out of all the events we go to, we're always preaching to the choir. So rather than being exclusive, we wanted to be inclusive. So we have a lot of people from the community who are really stepping up."

With MC Arthur Black at the helm, the stage events will no doubt have a lighter tone. The fun aspects of positive action will continue with co-MC Briony Penn and her majorettes leading the eco-charge, to bike decorating for kids using eco-friendly and recycled materials.

Adults can work toward a new paradigm with sun salutations and yoga throughout the entire day starting at 7 a.m., or participate in a water healing ceremony in the gazebo. Headlining entertainers Island Rootz promise an upbeat musical program, while aerial artists from the Evolutionaries troupe will soar above the crowd with help from John Quesnel and Salt Spring Metal Recycling's crane truck.

The evening will offer its own blend of information and entertainment, with films and presentations at the library from 4 to 9 p.m., or a bonfire at the Island Escapades beach and fire-spinning with Naomi Jason and Sharyn Carroll.

Islanders are encouraged to come to the free community event by foot, bike, boards, bus, carpool or car stops.

A full list of events can be viewed on page 23 in this paper, or at the event's Facebook page under Earth Day 2014 Centennial Park, Ganges, SS.

OUR LADY OF GRACE
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Holy Thursday April 17
Mass of the Last Supper - 7pm

Good Friday April 18
Service - 3pm

Holy Saturday April 19
Easter Vigil Mass - 7pm

Easter Sunday April 20
St. Paul's, Fulford - 8am
Our Lady of Grace, Ganges - 10am

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www.ourladyofgrace-saltspring.ca

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St. Mark's, 961 North End Rd, at Central
St. Mary's, 2600 Fulford-Ganges Rd, Fulford

Holy Week and Easter Services

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16
Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m. All Saints'

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17
The New Commandment of Love and the Lord's Supper
7:00 p.m. All Saints'

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18
Proclamation and Meditation at the Cross of Christ
12 noon All Saints'

Entombment of Christ 4:45 p.m. All Saints'

EASTER EVE, APRIL 19
Contemplation of Light, Our Ancient Stories,
and Signs of Water, Bread and Wine
10:00 p.m. All Saints'

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20
9:30 a.m. All Saints' BAS Festival Eucharist
11:15 a.m. St. Mark's BCP Festival Eucharist
11:45 a.m. St. Mary's Festival Eucharist

Salt Spring Island United Church
111 Hereford Avenue

Easter Services 2014

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 17th
Service of Foot Washing & Communion
at 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY
April 18th
Worship Service
at 10:00 am

EASTER SUNDAY
April 20th
Early Service at
Centennial Park at 8:30 am
Coffee & Hot Cross Buns
at the Church at 9:00 am
Worship Service at the Church,
including Flowering of the Cross
at 10:00 am
Refreshments to follow

CALL ME ORGANIC

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Beach cleanups tackle oceans awash in garbage

Pender's effort a model to follow

BY HANS TAMMEMAGI
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

In the remote middle of the Pacific Ocean a gigantic gyre of plastic debris circulates. Dead zones caused by nutrients washing from land have formed in hundreds of deltas and bays. The atmosphere is slowly acidifying the seas, killing coral reefs.

And ships, industry and municipalities are casting pollutants and sewage into the ocean as though it was a gigantic garbage dump.

The oceans, a vast, mysterious domain covering 71 per cent of the earth's surface and a vital component of the biosphere, are under attack. And we humans, children of the seas, are the aggressors.

But some people care. They feel deeply about protecting this glorious "lung" of the planet. (The atmosphere is the other lung.)

In the Gulf Islands, one person, Michelle Marsden, has made an enormous impact. While sailing in the Pacific with her husband in their home-made steel schooner she was appalled by the flotsam and junk they encountered, even in the distant



PHOTO BY HANS TAMMEMAGI

Michelle Marsden with garbage found on Medicine Beach, Pender Island.

and most remote stretches.

"I became obsessed," she said.

On returning to land she initiated the non-profit B.C. Coastal Cleanup Campaign on Pender Island in 1988 and started annual beach cleanups that have continued to this day.

One day, Marsden led me to Medicine Beach and laid out a small tarp laden with flotsam she had found, including plastic bags, shampoo containers, syringes, pieces of rope and

discharged shotgun shells. Most of the debris, about 75 per cent, found in the oceans is plastic and Styrofoam, she explained. These eventually break down into small pieces that are ingested by marine and bird life.

"It's a plague of plastic," she said.

The Pender community supports the cleanups. Each year between 60 and 200 volunteers, ranging from schoolchildren to trustees, collect litter for two to four hours, usually

on a Saturday on or near Earth Day. This year it will be held on April 19 and will include an extensive Stewardship Day with displays and workshops.

The volunteers gather 500 to 1,100 kilograms of garbage each year. The Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue helps by boating into beaches inaccessible from roads. Most of Pender's 75 beaches are cleaned.

The annual beach cleanup extends beyond the shoreline, with the Pender Pacers running club removing garbage from the roadsides.

In addition, an Adopt-a-Beach program, similar to the popular Adopt-a-Road program, has been initiated, in which volunteers assume responsibility for a beach and look after it on a year-round basis. About 25 Pender beaches have found such guardians.

Abandoned boats (and docks) are also an ongoing problem. Nine wrecks have been removed from Pender waters in the past few years. Due to their size, removing derelict boats is a major and costly operation, requiring cranes and transportation to the Hartland Landfill in Victoria. Peter Binner has spearheaded this initiative and formed the Pender Island Marine Association.

"We need mooring and dockage regulations similar to the Transport Canada guidelines," says Binner, "so boats can't just be abandoned. Thetis Island has done a good job in this regard, but the rest of the Gulf Islands lag behind."

Marsden cares about all aspects of nature and has been a key player in bald eagle counts, and bull frog and orca whale studies. And, of course, she works at the recycle centre.

Marsden's dedication led her to hold a province-wide cleanup in 1991 that involved 126 schools. She has also prepared school information packages and made numerous presentations. For her work, she was awarded the Governor General's Canada 125 medal. In 2006, she received a Community Stewardship Award from the Islands Trust.

After 20 years heading Pender's beach cleanups, in 2009 Marsden handed the responsibility to the Pender Island Conservation Association, which this year celebrated its fifth year of cleanups. Amanda Griesbach is the coordinator.

Beach cleanups are important volunteer efforts that highlight the plight of the oceans. Marsden has shown that we need to care . . . and take action.



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MEDIA

GreenFM charts new course with Miller on board

Streamlined programming and paid hosts among changes

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Major programming changes underway at Salt Spring's only radio station should benefit listeners while bringing the outfit into good standing with the CRTC, according to new general manager Dan Miller.

While CFSI FM had been in a state of turmoil starting from when it changed hands in March 2013 and lasting until a CRTC non-compliance hearing held in January, Satnam Media's willingness to put the station into the hands of a longtime islander with plenty of radio experience could be its saving grace.

"I'm bringing all my skills to the job, which is really fun for

me," said Miller. "I'm like a kid in a candy store."

Station owner Sukhdev Dhillon hired Miller in an 11th-hour move just before going before the CRTC to explain why the station hadn't turned in required program logs or responded to CRTC communications. Miller is hoping that by the time the station's regular licence renewal hearing comes up in August, the relationship will be repaired through evidence of good management.

Miller is a former journalist and radio broadcaster who worked at a commercial station in Vancouver through three periods of ownership during the 1980s and '90s — all featuring different programming styles.

"I worked in every department. This is my first gig as general manager, but I'm leaning heavily on that experience," Miller said.

He also has the advantage of decades of local commu-



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

GreenFM's general manager Dan Miller and assistant manager Radha Fournier in the broadcast booth.

nity experience, where he has filled many roles from expert barista, to helping his partner Janice Shead run the popular Wardrobe clothing store in Fulford, to his ongoing role as Nordic priest and culture advocate.

As for CFSI, or GreenFM as it is now called, Miller was involved as hip hop radio host "Dan O'Hammer" dur-

ing the early days, but then left for health reasons. Being away from the station during its most difficult period has helped him approach the management problems with a cool head, and to produce what he believes is a sound business plan.

Streamlining the programming to better meet the natural flow of listeners' days,

while still preserving diversity, is one of the biggest changes. While the programming used to resemble a university radio model, Miller said the time has come to apply an approach in accordance with the station's licence.

"As a Salt Spring Islander, as a host here in the early days of the station, I would really like to express my thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers, many of whom had been working for community radio for decades," Miller said. "But now it's time for the good of the station to recognize it's a business."

Shows during the weekday will follow a regular schedule and be aimed at the 50-plus set. More eclectic offerings will come in the late evenings and on weekends. Another change is that regular hosts like Scott Merrick, Richard Moses and others are being paid for their time.

"I hope as I fulfill my marketing and sales objectives to

start paying all the volunteer hosts as professional broadcasters," Miller said.

One of the ways of expanding their market and helping local businesses in the process will be live remote broadcasts during the summer. The station has already kicked off the program with broadcasts from the Saturday Market and will add live programming from the Tree House Cafe on Saturday nights. Retail businesses will be invited to become host locations.

Miller has also hired expert help to fine-tune the transmission towers and improve the broadcasting signals, and plans on getting visitors to tune in on arrival by posting different information signs at the ferry terminals.

"I'm very optimistic about the summer. I think it's going to be a lot of fun," Miller said.

"And Satnam is backing me all the way. There's plenty of pitfalls to be aware of, but it's all about having a good plan."

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Dorothy is a senior teacher at the SS Centre of Yoga (355 Blackburn Rd) where she offers weekly classes and is a faculty member for the Centre's renowned Yoga Teacher Training Program. She also teaches at Gaiama Yoga Studio and NE Fitness (both in Ganges) and at the Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm (190 Reynolds Rd). Dorothy also offers rejuvenating yoga retreats in beautiful havens on SSI and in Tofino, Mexico and Italy.

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NEWS UPDATES

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Sunday, April 20

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8:35-9:05am	Everybody Stretch
9:15-9:45am	Zumba
<i>break</i>	
10-10:30am	Yoga (Ken)
10:35-11:05am	Mantra / Mudra
<i>break</i>	
11:20-11:50am	Yoga (Robert)
12-12:30pm	Ubuntu
12:40-1:10pm	Nia
<i>break</i>	
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EDUCATION

Class of 2014 gets taste of the real world

Volunteers offer students dose of experience

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

About 130 Grade 12 students took a giant step towards the post-secondary world of adulthood on April 9 as former students and volunteers shared personal stories about life after high school.

Krista Scotvold, a GISS grad and now an investment advisor at Island Savings, challenged participants to identify their passions by not shying away from the big questions like: "What are your skills?" "What are your passions?" "How do

you explain skills on a resume?"

Jacob Burton, of Burton Bronze Foundry, and Sky Marcano of Mandala Sky Design spoke about the educational, life and career choices they made that led to their successes as Salt Spring business owners. Burton spoke of the pressure he felt to choose a career before he really knew what he wanted to do, while Marcano shared her struggles and triumphs after becoming a mother at the age of 17.

"The purpose was to inspire and give grads a chance to work together with the Junior Achievement program and financial experts and hear the stories of local grads who have become local suc-

cesses in business," said Shari Hambrook, the secondary school apprenticeship and work experience teacher at GISS.

"The purpose was to inspire and give grads a chance to work together with the Junior Achievement program . . ."

SHARI HAMBROOK
GISS teacher

Junior Achievement of British Columbia is a non-profit group that teams up with local entrepre-

neurs to prepare students for life after high school. The workshop was the first Grad Transitions Workshop at GISS and the staff hope that workshops next year will facilitate a meaningful transition for grads into post-secondary programs by inspiring them and giving them the financial tools they need to succeed.

"Combining volunteer-led small group discussion work and an individual online simulation, students used their new personal finance skills to create a budget," said Linda Conn, program director of B.C. "In addition, they began planning their future careers, setting career goals for them-

selves and recognizing the benefits of staying in school and pursuing a post-secondary education."

Speakers at Wednesday's event included GISS grads like Burton, Marcano, Scotvold and Nakita Pardiwala, as well as professionals such as Boost Communications' Anna Harvey, RCMP Cpl. Scott Hilderley, and Merv Anderson and Tanya Steeves from Island Savings.

The free program is designed to help students plan for the future and prepare to become independent adults. Conn said the program has been shown to have a "significant impact" on the work readiness of students.

GARDENING

Up to her neck in mushroom manure

One woman's bargain-hunting tale

BY LOUISE DEVLIN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Imagine you are on a hot sandy beach in Mexico, buried up to your neck in the sand by one of your over-enthusiastic angelic grandchildren.

And now imagine the sand is not sand at all, but tons upon tons of mushroom manure.

Well, that is how my young garlic is about to feel, and the delicate little starters of salad and veggie crops. Up to their necks in mushroom manure, just purchased in a sort of "piranha-style feeding frenzy" at my local Country Grocer store.

Having disappointingly missed out on the bargain Saturday offer for these miraculous manures, I was delighted to be told that if I came back on Thursday there would be more on offer, and it would be at the same incredible price. Albeit at 7 a.m., mind you!

OK, I can do that, for such a special offer.

And not wanting to miss out on the "magical, mystical, mystery manure" yet again, I set my

alarm for 6:30 a.m.

The dog got a shock.

"What time do you call this?" I heard her yawn as she stayed put in her bed and simply watched, bemused, as I pulled on my jeans and sweater, and trudged off to the car with sleep in my eyes.

Great, only 6:50 a.m. as I started the ignition. I was already starting to feel very pleased with myself. Smug, almost.

Thank heavens that a miniature army had been employed to load the many heavy bags.

Of course that feeling didn't last long as I turned the corner from the main road approaching the Country Grocer car park.

What the heck . . .

Cars, trucks, odd-looking vehicles of all sorts were already lined up in a snake shape around the pallets of manure bags.

And not even 7 a.m. yet!

I heaved a sigh of deflation, thinking, "There will be none left by the time this queue is through."

But being already there, I decided to give it a go and joined the snail-paced, gently moving line.

Having never participated in this kind of major manure event before, I had little idea of the rules. As my car eventually wound its way to being next in line, I suddenly realized that I might have to pay for this up front. Duh!

Was I really expecting the nice and polite general manager to be sporting a handheld credit-card machine to process the manure sales? Guess I must have been.

Anyway, in a mad dash I jumped from the car, sped into the store and must have looked like a crazed woman as I stormed to the "15 items and under" till line. I could feel a hot flush coming on . . . yes I am at that stage in my life.

But I need 20 bags, I thought, should I change queue?

This was all getting a bit much and I wondered if it would be worth the while, when the charming lady at

the till processed my 20 (not visible) items of manure and kindly wished me well.

Using the last burst of available energy (remember I hadn't had my coffee yet) I just made it back to my car, which was now holding up the queue and was the object of some very unhappy glances from those behind me. I held up my hand, weakly, as an apologetic gesture, and proceeded to drive onto the manure loading bay.

Thank heavens that a miniature army had been employed to load the many heavy bags. Thank you, Country Grocer.

It was all over in minutes, and with a self-satisfied smile on my face I was back at home.

It was only 7:50 a.m., the coffee was on, the dog still in bed, and I had already unloaded all said manure bags safely to my vegetable garden.

All bar one. Given the manure's many nutritional benefits, I am considering filling the bath with it, and soaking (well, more like squelching) in it up to my neck. Mmmm . . .

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WRITING CRAFT

Writers converge for library program

New bi-monthly event

The newest program hosted by the Salt Spring Island Public Library is a Library Writers' Group.

The group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room 103.

The Library Writers' Group will operate free of charge and without registration. It is open to all ages and experience levels, and to all genres of creative writing, including fiction, non-fiction, memoir and poetry.

A variety of exercises to stimulate imagination and creativity will be included in the format, as well as time

to share works in progress.

The group will be facilitated by local writer Helani Davison, and requires a minimum of four participants to continue.

For more information, contact Davison at 250-931-5555, or the library at 250-537-4666 or info@saltspringlibrary.com.

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ISLAND LIFE

Kindness in Daisy's last days



Tamar Griggs

TALES FROM BOLD BLUFF

My beloved Shepadoodle left this earthly realm for a place without pain on March 27. Day by day I watched her world shrink.

The week before she died, she enjoyed little afternoon walks-about-the-block, and eagerly went into Black Sheep Books, where Jo and Sofya lavished treats and hugs on her.

"Come on, Daisy. That's enough," I'd say, as she sat and swept the floor with her feathery tail. She didn't think so.

The only way I could get her to leave was to have a treat in my hand, and to say emphatically, "DAYZEE, I'm going!" Then she'd follow me. As soon as we were out the door, she turned the corner and went into Salt Spring Air, where Lisa and Deanna had treats. She did the same polite performance of sitting and gazing up at the friendly person, in anticipation of the tiny treats.

Slowly we'd walk home to Grace Point.

Then she no longer wanted to go out. It was hard for her to walk across the street. However, in the mornings after taking four pain pills, she was ready to hop into the front seat of my car and drive to Mouat Park to sniff the intoxicating scents of the forest, bushes and dogs, reading who had been there. She even wagged her tail to greet dogs and people.

The morning before she died, we met three PARC fellows improving the park trail to Drake Road. Daisy sure liked them, and leaned against their legs, wagging her tail and getting ear rubs. One fellow, Kirk Harris, said, "What is on Daisy's bucket list?"

Huh? Never thought of it. "I know!" he said. "Get her a ride in a fire truck. I'm sure the chief would give her a ride. Ask him. Tell him I suggested it."



PHOTO BY TOM BREMNER

Tamar and Daisy in front of a Salt Spring Fire-Rescue truck.

Well, I didn't think more than two seconds. Off we went to the Ganges fire station. I left Daisy in the car while I presented this outrageous request to Iris, the woman behind the counter.

"My dog is dying," I said simply. "Can she have a ride in a fire truck?"

Just then, the fire chief walked by. "That's the man you need to talk to," she said.

It was Tom Bremner, bald-headed with huge shoulders like a football player.

"Hi. My dog is dying. Maybe you read about her in the Driftwood?"

He replied, "Yes. I'm sorry."

"I have a request. Kirk suggested I ask you if Daisy can have a ride in a fire truck before she dies."

Tom looked at me, taking off his jacket. "Sure. I think we can manage that!"

Huh? Now both Iris and I were astounded.

"Maybe not a ride, but we can take a photo of her in the truck," he clarified.

Tom helped me climb up the steep steps of the fire truck and I knew Daisy would not make it into the driver's seat. Tom had been willing to let her sit here, though.

I fetched my sweet pooch from the car and Tom took photos of us beside the bright shiny red truck. Tom sure has a soft spot for dogs!

Then he said, "I lost my dog, Chester, from brain cancer

when he was five years old. I cried for three months after."

We hugged good-bye—two strangers who had never met, united by a common love of our four-footed friends.

Daisy's vet, Justene Tedder, saw her that afternoon and confirmed she was going downhill fast, and that it would be kind to let her go. Bone cancer is painful.

"She is ready," she said.

I agreed with a big, heavy sigh. We scheduled to meet at Grace Point the next day at 5:30 p.m. Daisy had another "fun" morning at Mouat Park. Then she lay down and didn't get up the entire rest of the day, watching me and sleeping.

A few friends popped by to say their last farewells. For the most part, it was just the two of us. Throughout the day Daisy held my gaze for the longest times with her bright brown eyes, as if looking straight into my soul and memorizing me. I am sure she knew what was happening.

I think I have done enough crying to last a century. My family, friends and community have been a tremendous support to me through this sad time. Thank you all for your kind words and memories.

Thank you, Tom, for having such a big heart. Daisy and I are blessed to have lived and be living in such a superbly loving community.

FUNDRAISER

Treasure Fair off to the races

Donations soon to be pursued for ArtSpring fundraiser

Despite rumours that ArtSpring's annual Treasure Fair was resting on its laurels and taking the year off, its organizers are in fact gearing up for another bumper year with a new chair and several new additions to its hard-working acquisitions team.

"We did experience some uncertainty about going ahead with Treasure Fair when we lost some of our best people for various reasons," said ArtSpring chair Kate Merry in a press release. "But we've recruited a wonder-

ful new fair chairperson in Cathy Cronin, who has also agreed to lead the critical acquisitions team."

Cronin picks up the reins next week and her team is already dusting off donor lists and expects to be in full swing within a few weeks.

The annual open and silent auction raises a substantial part of ArtSpring's funding every year. Last year's event put a whopping \$50,000 into theatre coffers and this year's organizers see no reason why the 2014 Treasure Fair shouldn't do even better.

The auction runs from Thursday, July 17 to Saturday, July 19.

GREENWOODS

Impressive courtyard project completed

Improvements stretch from pavers to gazebo

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Greenwoods care facility residents are among islanders who are getting maximum enjoyment from the warm spring weather, thanks to recent improvements to their central courtyard garden.

Proceeds from the Step Into Greenwoods Fundraiser held in February have helped improve access to the area, with the goal of restoring concrete pavers fully realized as of last week. The results couldn't be better for long-time volunteer Deb Stevenson, whose mother Anne Stevenson has lived at Greenwoods for the past four years.

"I'm thrilled," Stevenson said. "I pushed Mum out here on her walker the other day and it was easy-peasy compared to what it was before. It could be a real struggle."

Greenwoods is a residential facility for the elderly and others with complex health-care needs. Residents typically require 24-hour care for a wide range of physical and cognitive challenges. Staff members administer medications and assist with daily tasks such as dressing, bathing and eating.

Though Island Health funds basic program delivery such as staffing and medication, all other needs are met through community donations.

Stevenson and Greenwoods' activities coordinator Carla Molloy planned and carried out February's fundraiser with the support of the Greenwoods Foundation. They were impressed by the turn-out from fami-



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Deb Stevenson and her mother Anne in the upgraded Greenwoods courtyard.

lies, friends and members of the public, who came out to Meaden Hall — despite it being the first day of the winter's most brutal snowstorm — to raise \$5,500.

While Molloy and Stevenson had originally thought of replacing the concrete pavers in the courtyard, the building's construction meant the only way to do this would be by crane. They soon realized that replacing the rotten wooden dividers between the large tiles would do the job, since the pavers themselves are in good shape.

Local contractor Dar Kinnear replaced the wood with new concrete and ground the entire surface down to become level, ensuring easy access for all of the facility's 49 residents.

"Now the surface is much smoother and the improvement is being enjoyed by everyone," Molloy said. "Dar did a great job. It's just opened so much space, it seems. And resident feedback and family feedback has been really positive."

"This has been the thorn in my side for many years," said Stevenson, "trying to get people in walkers and wheelchairs out here."

The courtyard project came in under budget, so some of the remaining funds went to expand the useable space. The rest will aid in repainting and possibly re-roofing a gazebo.

A separate Greenwoods Foundation project will considerably expand the outdoor space on the outside of the facility, where the group is focusing on the garden pathways.

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NATURE

Hérons the star at Lions talk

Expert Susan Hannon gives presentation

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is pleased to host avian ecologist Susan Hannon on Tuesday, April 22 at Lions Hall.

The great blue heron is a common sight in coastal B.C. searching for fish, crabs and frogs in ocean bays, marshes and river banks, and mice and voles in fields. In early spring the males fly to the nesting colony car-

rying sticks to present to females as part of an elaborate courtship display.

Unfortunately, notes conservancy information, this iconic species is dwindling in numbers especially on Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast, including here on Salt Spring. Habitat loss has been caused by high rates of human population growth in the Georgia Basin, with attendant disturbance of colonies. As well, a host of predators eat the herons' eggs and young.

Ironically, it is partly the

success of one conservation effort that has hastened the demise of the heron. Bald eagles were close to extinction in North America because of unlimited shooting and later egg-shell thinning caused by DDT. Protection from hunting and the banning of DDT has allowed bald eagle populations to recover.

In B.C., egg and nestling predation by eagles causes abandonment of close to 60 per cent of nesting attempts in some years.

Tuesday's event begins at 7 p.m.

GARDEN CLUB

Landscaper shares knowledge

Master gardener Lorraine Hamilton not to be missed

A dedicated landscaper will share her wisdom and experience with the Salt Spring Garden Club on Wednesday, April 23.

Lorraine Hamilton is a passionate local landscape designer who has been gardening in one form or another on Salt Spring and Vancouver Island for the past 34 years. From organic vegetable and herb production, commercial greenhouse work, garden shop ownership, and installing and maintaining a full range of commercial and residential projects, Hamilton brings a wealth of local knowledge to the table.

A certified master gardener, she is a familiar sight on local roads in her Volkswagen truck loaded up with an ever-changing selection of plant material.

Hamilton will talk about the role plant shapes and repetition play in our gardens whether large or small, or even just a balcony full of containers.

She will show examples of how repeating shapes, plants and colours can bring sophistication and calmness to any size of garden.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at Meaden Hall, which is in the lower level of the Legion building.

It's free for club members and \$5 at the door for non-members.

CAPITAL PROJECT – ST. MARY TREATMENT PLANT BORROWING BYLAW NO. 264, 2014

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District (the District) intends to pass the "St. Mary Treatment Plant Borrowing Bylaw No. 264" for the purpose of borrowing up to \$10.4 million for the detailed design, building construction, equipment, infrastructure upgrades and commissioning of a Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) Water Treatment Plant on District lands at 381 Tripp Road, Salt Spring Island. This facility will replace the current plant at this location.

The new plant will consist of two structures: a primary building, and a "wet-well" housing the raw water pumps and intake pipes situated near the shoreline. The main floor of the primary building will house two (2) DAF Units and all the ancillary equipment such as pumps, pipes and electrical equipment. A small office, lab and bathroom will be located on the upper floor.

The building will be constructed of poured-in-place concrete and have a footprint of approximately 2,500 square feet. Further details regarding the project, its financial impact and the Alternative Approval Process are available on the District's website.

The estimated cost per ratepayer, per annum, is currently estimated to be between \$350 - \$400. This cost will be passed on to ratepayers as a surcharge on parcel tax. Every effort is being made to reduce the amount of the surcharge through project cost reductions, grants and donations.

The Alternative Approval Process opportunity is only for those who are **OPPOSED** to this action. The District may only proceed if it does not receive elector responses against this action signed by at least 10% of the landowners in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

The alternative approval process Elector Response Forms will be available at the District office at 761 Upper Ganges Road and on the District's website beginning Friday, April 25, 2014, with the submission period running from 8:00 a.m. Monday, April 28 to 4:00 p.m. Friday, May 30, 2014. Alternative approval process Elector Response Forms will be accepted only if they are in the form established by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

Completed Elector Response Forms must be submitted to:
Anne Williams, Office Manager
North Salt Spring Waterworks District
761 Upper Ganges Rd. Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K8

The deadline for submitting original signed alternative approval process Elector Response Forms opposing Borrowing Bylaw 264 is 4:00 p.m. May 30, 2014. Emailed or faxed forms will not be accepted.

Board of Trustees
North Salt Spring Waterworks District
April 16, 2014

For more information visit our website www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

sports&recreation

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



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April 28th is the National Day of Mourning and the BC forest industry, its associations, companies and workers — along with thousands across BC — will honour all those who have lost their lives.

Work place deaths are preventable. Each of us must continue to work together to ensure all workers return home safely every day.

Because unsafe is unacceptable.
www.bcforestsafesafe.org



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October 15th, 2014

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RUNNING

Sneakers conclude successful season

Salt Springers stand out in Sooke

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Sneakers earned three medals and nine top-10 finishes in the final event of the Vancouver Island Running Series' 2014 season.

"This group just gets better with each race," said Lynn Thompson, a runner and running club spokesperson. "It is almost too bad that the series has ended."

Melanie Van Soeren continued her hot streak by placing first among the 21 racers registered in her F25-29 category. She finished the 10-kilometre course in an impressive 41:38. Susan Gordon earned a silver medal in her F50-54 group by crossing the finish line in 42:58. Lise Fraser won a bronze medal in the F55-59 with her time of 47:01.



The Salt Spring Sneakers after the final event of the Vancouver Island Running Series' 2014 season, held in Sooke on Sunday.

A large contingent of Sneakers placed among the top-10 finishers in their respective categories. These include Marcia Jansen, 47:26; Janice Dickie, 48:42; Marion Young, 49:26; Gillian McCon-

nell, 51:09; Catherine Bennett, 56:32; and Thompson, 59:23. Julie Van Soeren and Doug Wahlsten narrowly missed the top-10 with times of 61:27 and 61:50, respectively.

The 11 runners who participated in Sunday's race in Sooke gave the Sneakers 163 points in the season's overall standings. The team finished the year with a whopping 861 points to rank eighth among 88 teams in the series.

"This is a big improvement on last year's 13th-place finish with 652 points," Thompson added.

The six Sneakers who officially completed the full series by running in five or more races were all among the top racers in their division by season's end.

The results include a first-place finish for Melanie Van Soeren in the F25-29, third for Lise Fraser in the F55-59, fifth for Marion Young in the F55-59, fourth for Catherine Bennett in the F60-64 group, ninth for Eric Van Soeren in the M60-64 and a fourth-place finish for Thompson among racers in the M75-79 bracket.

WRESTLING

O'Donnell pins historic wrestling win

Islander earns two top-10 results

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Molly O'Donnell can forever say she was there when it all began.

O'Donnell won the first women's Greco-Roman wrestling match held at the Canadian Cadet Wrestling Championships during a competition in Guelph, Ont. earlier this month.

The Grade 10 GISS student won four of her five matches in the 56-kg cadet girls class and finished fifth among 11 competitors. What makes the result even more impressive is that O'Donnell

had never competed in or even trained for the Greco-Roman event.

"I really didn't know anything about it going in," she said.

Unlike freestyle wrestling, Greco-Roman style is fought from a standing position. Wrestlers are forbidden to touch their opponent's legs during a bout. The result forces competitors to focus on throws and other upper-body techniques like arm drags, bear hugs and headlocks.

O'Donnell, who trains exclusively in freestyle, said adapting to the new moves was a rewarding challenge. The limitations of Greco-Roman wrestling, she said, force athletes to consider a wide variety of moves that aren't normally used in the freestyle arena.

"It's all upper body and really difficult," she said.

It was only after the match that organizers told O'Donnell of her pioneering achievement.

"It was pretty awesome," she said.

Though the Canadian Championships have hosted Greco-Roman events for boys and men, this is the first time a women's event has been held at that level.

"I think they're just trying to open it up and promote wrestling," she said.

O'Donnell studies at GISS but trains and competes as a member of the Cowichan Valley Wrestling Club.

She was at the event to compete in the 56-kg freestyle event, in which she placed seventh overall.

ROWING

GISS rowers make ripples in Quamichan

Regatta launches busy season

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's young and aspiring rowing team paddled to good effect at a regatta on Quamichan Lake near Duncan on a sunny summer-like Saturday.

"The rowers did a great

job," said Stacy Mitchell, head rowing coach at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

"Our powerhouse team of four rowers did represent Salt Spring and GISS very well."

The Salt Spring contingent was among more than 400 rowers who took part in the annual event hosted by the Maple Bay Rowing Club. It features many of the best rowers in all categories and dis-

ciplines from across the Vancouver Island region.

Maia Beauvais finished in second place in the Junior-B singles event with an overall time of 7:04:11. Jenna Dawson and Maggie Birch missed bringing home a bronze medal by a mere one second in the two-person Junior-A event.

With only three days to practise his event, Sky Losier stayed afloat long

enough to place ninth in the Junior-A singles competition.

The team hopes to carry its success into the largest high school rowing regatta in North America on April 25 to 27.

The Brentwood Regatta at Brentwood College will pit Salt Spring's young rowers against more than 2,000 participants from Canada and the United States.

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

Salt Spring Seniors Services Society

Wednesday, April 23rd • 2:00 p.m.
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Applicants are invited to submit resumes - Clearly Marked "SUMMER STUDENT", with reference to the:

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
105 Lower Ganges Road Salt Spring Island,
BC V8K 2T1 Phone: (250) 537-2531

Fax: (250) 537-2507

Email: info@saltspringfire.com
Website: www.saltspringfire.com

Applications close at 4:30 p.m.,
Wednesday, April 30th, 2014.



The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District would like to thank all candidates for their interest. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

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NOTICE TO:

The Defendant,
George Geoffrey Seiler

TAKE NOTICE THAT on April 2, 2014, an order was made for substituted service upon you of a Notice of Civil Claim issued from the Nelson Court Registry, Supreme Court of British Columbia in action number 17892 by way of advertisement and regular mail c/o General Delivery, Thetis Island, BC. In the proceeding, a claim for damages is made against you arising out of a motor vehicle accident, which occurred on or about July 2, 2013 at or near the City of Creston, British Columbia. You have 28 days to enter a Response to Civil Claim after the second publication in the Gulf Islands Driftwood newspaper on April 16, 2014, failing which proceedings in default may be taken against you. You may obtain a copy of the Notice of Civil Claim and the Order for substituted service from the Nelson Court Registry located at 320 Ward Street, Nelson, British Columbia or by retrieving such from General Delivery, Thetis Island, BC.

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This Week's Horoscope

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

Tip of the Week:

The tsunami of energy indicated by the Cardinal Grand Cross continues to roll in and in fact will reach its next peak on Easter Sunday (April 20). This energy wave pattern is sure to be stirring and shaking people in all kinds of ways. The effects may occur physically, materially, psychologically or spiritually. Either way, the more flexible or cooperative one is with the ebbs and flows of life, the better. The deeper dynamics of how Astrology works is a reminder of the weave of our own consciousness, both individually and collectively, as an extension of the cosmic reality as illustrated by the planetary inter-relationships. This is the deeper meaning of the grand continuum. It may all sound a bit 'out there', yet, it is a simple reminder that we exist on a planet and are very much 'one with' it and by extension, it is one with the solar system, the galaxy and the universe. Speaking of planets, April 22nd is Earth Day. This grass roots movement which originated in 1970 and founded by some visionary, spirited and environmentally minded people is now recognized all over the world. Unfortunately, the exploits of big business and even governments, like the Canadian, seem not to be so moved by its visionary message. Perhaps the powerful Grand Cross will have the effect of shaking us all a bit more awake to look more closely and further down the road and make some needed adjustments in our attitude and actions. Astrology with its leaning to appreciate the notion of destiny and freewill are not in contradiction, it is part of 'the plan' that they too are part of the same weave of consciousness. Happy Easter and Earth Day too!

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20). With each new day you are steadily changing regarding your perspectives, attitude and approach to relationships. Unless you are resisting, the change implies realizing more equality in one or more of your most significant relationships. Moved by love and perhaps compassion too, you feel determined to make sincere efforts. Don't ask why, just ask how.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21). A busy time behind the scenes continues. Yet, you will take more deliberate and assertive actions this week. Paying strict attention to the details has been an important theme. Meanwhile, a process of healing relationships is featured. The one you have with your own self may be the most important one to consider first though. Peace without begins within.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21). Learning to be your own best friend is a current theme. Good friendships include harmony, honesty, acknowledgement, respect, support, constructive criticism and quality time shared. Directing these attributes to your own inner state and dialogue process is ever ideal, especially now. Decipher for yourself what makes you special and affirm it, all of it.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22). Some big shifts and changes continue to shake your world. These are pushing you to get to the bottom of things. Spring cleaning and renovation projects are distinct possibilities. In the bigger picture you have likely been gearing-up for many months to make some important moves. Contending with some major power players is likely. Persevere to win.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23). The time has arrived for you to take to the stage somehow. A more serious and work oriented focus is now required. Where you were preparing and perhaps rehearsing over the past several weeks, now it is time to perform. Trust that people value your talents and abilities and do your part by making your presence known.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22). Circumstances have been pushing you to dig deep over the past several weeks. Now it is time to broaden your scope. While collaboration is often effective, be careful not to lean too much on people and situations. Continue to remain as flexible as you can. Your energy levels may not match your ambitions these days so establish an even, steady pace.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22). A deepened desire and focus upon money and finances in general will become apparent this week. Yet to succeed, you may have to give more than you would usually. While this is generally an expansive time, you are also wise to exercise a healthy measure of restraint. In the bigger picture, this includes paying closer attention to your health.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21). Not only your entire lifestyle but your habitual mode of perception as well, have and continue to be challenged. All being well, you are doing the inner work and adapting proactively. Negatively, you may be contending with self-doubt demons. Decipher how you can best give to people and situations, more than to receive, then do it and those doubts will dissolve.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21). After a few playful friends, you will now enter into a more serious and sober work mode. The transition will be somewhat gradual, yet steady. Creating beauty in your home environment is featured. Deciphering more fully who you are and what you want to have and do next in your life is on your mind. You have already entered new territory so keep going.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19). Your life may be described as a steady march of power these days. This is very much in alignment with your nature and destiny. However, how you express and assert your power is important. 'What does it gain a person to forsake heaven for earth?' how you define heaven is up to you. A hint: heaven on earth is realized as loving, harmonious relationships.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19). The desire to establish a more reliable home base is coming to the fore. Balancing a peaceful environment with one that supports your practical needs is extra important. Focus to experience inner peace to feel free for worry, impatience and the like. It may take another month anyway and up to three before you experience the breakthrough and expansion that you seek.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20). Focusing to produce positive changes in your overall mode of approach and perhaps your income stream as well continues. Your ambitions are strong and you are willing to do the work. Yet, it may feel like you are a fish swimming up-stream. Fortunately, your focus will get stronger over the coming weeks. Even three steps forward and two steps back is one step ahead. Persevere!

CLASSIFIED AD
DEADLINE:
MONDAY 4PM

ISLAND WHEELS

a driftwood guide to island transportation, sales, service, accessories and more!

VEHICLE HOBBIES

Motor group shines up wheels for Easter parade

Classic vehicle owners get together

Salt Spring's Antique and Classic Motor Club is looking forward to a new season of activities, beginning with an Easter parade this Sunday.

"We hope to make this an annual event again to show our presence to the community," said club president Marv Coulthard.

Classic and specialty car owners are invited to gather at 11 a.m. in the lower parking lot of ArtSpring, where their cars can be viewed by the public for an hour.

Coulthard notes electric cars are also welcome and can of course use the charging station there.

At noon the cars will do a drive around Ganges and then up to the top parking lot at Country Grocer. Afterwards the group will proceed to Moby's Pub for lunch.

Following the Easter Sunday show and drive, planning gets going for the Canada Day show and shine, which organizers hope will be on McPhillips Avenue.

Valdy, the Salt Spring Concert Band and Viva Chorale choir have already been booked, notes Coulthard.

Interest has also been shown in holding a car rally on Salt Spring, likely in late August. Anyone who was involved in the Rally Round the Rock held in 1996, or anyone else interested in helping with such an event, is invited to contact Coulthard at 250-931-6766 or marv@saltspringcarclub.com.


According to the club's website, "The Salt Spring Antique and Classic Motor Club is open to all residents of Salt Spring Island who own a classic or antique automobile, motorcycle or specialty vehicle. The club was founded in the spring of 2001 with the intentions of promoting friendship with other auto enthusiasts, and to promote mutual help in the care, upkeep and restoration and of antique and classic motor vehicles."

Coulthard says he will hold the president's position in the club for one year only. John Teagle is the current vice-president and Carole Johnson is the treasurer.









FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Cars at the Salt Spring Antique and Classic Motor Club's Canada Day show and shine event in 2013. The club is holding its first event of the season this Sunday with an Easter parade.




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TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Green living show and awards drive interest in eco-friendly transportation

Toronto event will highlight better ways to get around

BY JIM ROBINSON
METROLAND MEDIA

The future has arrived. The green car is here.

And you might be surprised to know that it looks, feels and drives much like the vehicle in your garage.

Actually, there are some differences: It's likely to perform even better than what you have now. On top of that, it's much healthier for the environment. It helps you invest in a cleaner future for your kids. And it will save you money.

The Green Living Show, which runs April 25-27 at Toronto's Direct Energy Centre, will give

consumers a great opportunity to see what the excitement is all about.

It features an expanded automotive display, in partnership with Plug'n Drive Ontario that will not only showcase the most innovative vehicles, products and services related to the greening of transportation and mobility in Canada, but also put you squarely in the driver's seat.

Show visitors will be able to test drive some of the coolest, cleanest rides on the market today, from Ford, Nissan and Mitsubishi, as well as examine options such as scooters and car-share programs, learn about home charging systems, and

consult with experts about the technologies that best match their personal driving habits.

2014 Canadian Green Car Award

On opening day, April 25, all eyes will be on the winner of the 2014 Canadian Green Car Award.

It's to be chosen from a field of 16 vehicles, spanning everything from a battery-powered compact to a family-friendly SUV. The winner will join last year's inaugural champion, the Ford Fusion Hybrid, in the ranks of the greenest of the green.

The competing models were divided into five categories — battery-electric or fuel cell, plug-in hybrid, conventional hybrid, efficient gasoline or diesel internal combustion, and efficient "family hauler" with at least three rows of seats.



ISLAND WHEELS

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Buying a used car? Protect yourself from 'curbers'

Vehicle Sales Authority, CarProof Vehicle History Reports and ICBC work together to help protect consumers

When buying a used vehicle, you should always do your homework — learn about the features, read reviews and compare options to make the best decision for you and your family.

But, if you're one of the 150,000 British Columbians who choose to buy from a private seller each year, there is another critical thing you should know: how to protect yourself from curbers.

Curbers are individuals posing as private sellers who intentionally sell questionable, and even unsafe, vehicles for a

profit. The risk of being taken advantage of by a curber is high enough that the Mainland British Columbia Better Business Bureau recently named curbers as among the top 10 sales scams for 2014.

You don't have to face this threat alone, however. The Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia, CarProof Vehicle History Reports and the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia have joined forces to help you learn how to protect yourself when buying a used vehicle.

"As an intentional illegal activity, it's very hard to pinpoint the losses used vehicle buyers experience each year as a result of purchasing from curbers," said Jay Chambers, president of the VSA.

"Consider this: the private used vehicle market in B.C. totals \$900 million each year. If just one-quarter of those sales are

related to curbers purposefully evading the law, consumers are putting \$225 million at risk every year."

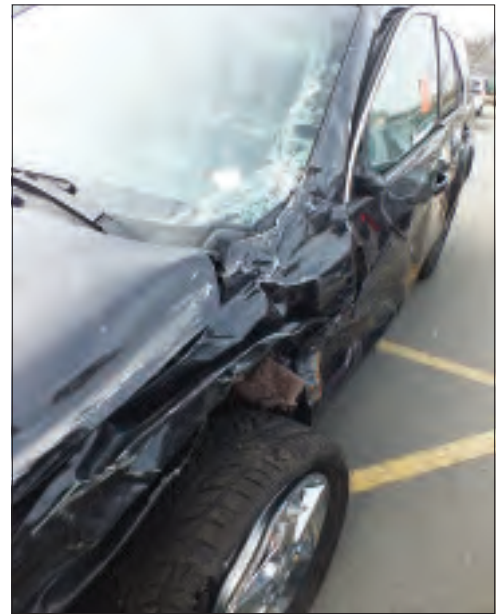
Unlike licensed dealers, curbers are not required to disclose the history and condition of a vehicle and, even if they do, they often lie or misrepresent the history. They offer none of the legal protection that comes with buying from a licensed motor dealer, such as the right to pursue recourse through the VSA. Even more important than the potential financial losses, there is no guarantee that the vehicle is even safe to be on the road.

"CarProof is proud to provide a critical tool for consumers to help protect themselves from curbers," said Paul Antony, president and CEO at CarProof Vehicle History Reports. "When you look at a CarProof report, you know the true detail of that vehicle's past no

matter where it's been in North America. That is critical, so you can know if the seller is telling you the truth and giving you the complete picture and, most importantly, to make sure you make a good decision and don't buy a potentially unsafe vehicle."

A vehicle history report — available from ICBC and CarProof — can tell you a lot about the car you're thinking of buying, including whether it's been in crashes, written off and rebuilt, has any liens on it (money owing that you could be liable for) or if it's flood-damaged. Knowing this information is vital. As an example, flood-damaged vehicles do not qualify for on-road licensing or use anywhere in Canada.

"Buying a used vehicle without doing research can lead to an unsafe vehicle being on the road



VEHICLE SALES AUTHORITY PHOTO

Vehicles that are repaired after sustaining major damage can be put up for sale by 'curbers'. Potential buyers need to do their research when buying a used car or only buy from a licensed dealer.

CURBERS continued on 32

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