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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, May 7, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 19 \$1.25 (incl GST)

SUPREME COURT

Civil suit targets CRD officer

Gun club neighbour files another court action

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Neighbours of the Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club have expanded their legal actions with a civil suit against Wolfgang Brunnwieser, the island's long-time Capital Regional District bylaw enforcement officer.

A notice of civil claim filed with the B.C. Supreme Court on Friday states plaintiffs Jean Barakett and Brian Milne are seeking punitive damages against Brunnwieser for trespassing and misfeasance of public office relating to two incidents that took place in May 2012. They allege the bylaw officer entered their property and intimidated their tenants because of their dispute with the gun club, to which he belongs.

According to Section 12 of the document, "on each occasion, the defendant was not conducting, and did not conduct, any investigation pursuant to his authority as a CRD bylaw officer. The defendant in reality conducted an investigation for the benefit of the gun club in the gun club action, and deliberately invoked his power as CRD bylaw officer for that purpose."

Barakett and Milne had previously identified Brunnwieser as contributing to their problem with gun club noise in a civil suit they launched in November 2011, in which they sought punitive damages from the club and a complete ban on shooting. The plaintiffs claimed Brunnwieser had failed to take proper action because he was a member of the club. Final arguments in that case were recently heard but a judgement has yet to be released.

LAWSUIT continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

MIKE AND PEPPER: Mike Lane of Ruckle Farm stays dry with his lamb Pepper at Ruckle Heritage Farm Day on Sunday. Despite the persistent rain, the popular annual event still drew a crowd. More photos on page 19.

FUNDRAISER

Reynolds family buoyed by support

Sharespring campaign added to donation options

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring family coping with the results of a tragic accident in Thailand has found some relief through the support of their fellow islanders back home.

Mike Reynolds remains unconscious and in critical condition at Bangkok Hospital Phuket following an April 22 incident in the waters off Phi Phi Island. His wife Dora, daughter Katie Severn and infant grandson Zachery are now installed in a nearby apartment to watch over his slow recovery from near-drowning and the impacts of CPR.

"Dora is just overwhelmed by the amount of people who care and the amount of people praying for them," said Moat's Trading co-manager Kim Young, who has helped coordinate fundraising efforts for the family.

Dora has worked for Moat's for the past six years and had to take leave of her position to care for her husband after the accident occurred, while Reynolds' absence has put a strain on the family's custom kitchen business, Domi Manufacturing & Sales.

REYNOLDS continued on 2

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

UP IN THE AIR: Centennial Park was the perfect spot to practice walking on stilts on a recent Saturday.

New chapter opens in gun club dispute

LAWSUIT Brunnwieser was vice president of the gun club at the time of the incidents named

in the new suit, a fact he says he disclosed to Milne when investigating a complaint on May 7, 2012.

"I told him I'm not going to deal with it, I'm going to forward it to my supervisor."

A second incident alleged to have occurred on May 25 stemmed from a case of illegal dumping, the bylaw officer added. CRD parks staff had found mail addressed to a woman living at Barakett and Milne's Long Harbour property in a garbage bag left in a Ganges park. Brunnwieser followed up with the case by visiting the property to see if the woman still lived there, but

was informed she did not. The letters addressed to her were forwarded to the CRD legal department at that time.

"Let the court do its job and that's it. I have nothing to hide," Brunnwieser said, noting he stepped down as the rod and gun club vice president soon after the incidents occurred.

Salt Spring's CRD electoral area director Wayne McIntyre has been trying to negotiate a compromise between the club and the neighbours for most of his term. He called the recent lawsuit "disappointing."

"We wish a lot of the issues on the island would be solved with a lot more dialogue and collaboration than has been happening," McIntyre said.

The CRD legal team is reviewing the matter before recommending any

steps to senior executives, McIntyre added.

The dispute between the gun club, its neighbours and CRD bylaw enforcement saw additional court action last fall, when the club issued a challenge to the CRD's authority to administer the noise bylaw. Justice Gregory T.W. Bowden upheld that right but also upheld the club's exemption from the bylaw during the hours of 9 a.m. and sunset, quashing several tickets that had been issued during the time period due to neighbour complaints.

Bowden further noted that while establishing objective limits to noise would be advisable, the CRD does not have the right to prohibit the club from pursuing activities its zoning allows for.

Mouat's spearheads aid for family

REYNOLDS continued from 1

A number of initiatives have been launched to aid the family, with donations being accepted at Mouat's and the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club. Young has now set up an additional campaign at sharespring.ca with a fundraising goal of \$50,000. There are plans for bake sales and other events, and she is also seeking help from the contracting community.

"Mike was systematically working at different renovation projects at the house, and being a true Salt Spring guy, he started several. So there's several projects on the go I would love to finish for the family," Young said.

One of the first she'd like

to complete involves the roof, and she is currently looking for volunteers and donations of roofing materials for the job.

As for financial donations, Young said there's no telling yet just how much insurance will cover. The costs include, but aren't limited to, Dora's plane ticket to Thailand, the extended unplanned stay there for herself and her daughter, and possibly Reynolds' air ambulance trip home to Canada. The family is hopeful his condition will have stabilized enough to allow that trip in a week's time, with transfer to a Victoria hospital as a best-case scenario.

Young said a number of small improvements have recently taken place, including a successful tracheotomy

on Monday that is allowing Reynolds to breathe without a ventilator. He is also showing some signs of waking.

His daughter Katie Severn described seeing his eyes open in a post she made Sunday to the family's Facebook update page.

"I tried to get as close to him as possible and talk to him and reassure him where he was and how he got there, but still I don't know if he is cognitive," Severn wrote.

"The nurse informed us he had opened his eyes a couple times earlier and had been moving much more and been breathing much better . . . Tonight we got a longer visit in but he was much quieter, but regardless we are feeling very hopeful that Dad is gonna show us something new."

Reynolds is being treated for a fungal infection and has had an allergic reaction to the tape holding on the dressing around his chest tube, but Monday morning saw an improvement to his kidney levels and continued healing of his punctured lung.

"The doctor seems very optimistic he will be able to breathe on his own once the injuries have had more time to heal," Severn wrote.

Islanders can find more information and send words of encouragement through the "Updates and info on Mike Reynolds" page on Facebook. Contact Kim Young at Mouat's for more information on how to donate materials or join in work parties for the Reynolds' home.

EMERGENCY WORK

Scholarship boosts rural ambulance service

Prospective EMR candidates needed

A private first-aid training company has proposed a scholarship program to alleviate the ongoing shortage of paramedics on Salt Spring and other parts of the Gulf Islands.

"We have had major successes in training students to become paramedics and we want to help the smaller communities by offering a solution," said Andree Rivest of HeartSafe Emergency Medical Solutions.

The company has offered to cover roughly \$2,500 of the OFA3/EMR course costs for people wanting to work with the BC Ambulance Service on the Gulf Islands.

Paul Stone, the company's owner and a paramedic with more

than 36 years of experience, decided to offer the program after recognizing BCAS' major staffing problems in rural areas like the Gulf Islands.

Prospective applicants must be prepared to do the EMA licensing exams once the course is completed, and apply for employment with BC Ambulance Service after successfully completing the licensing exams. Graduates will be required to work on their home island with BCAS.

Interested community groups can contact Rivest for assistance in developing a scholarship application for prospective students. Candidate must also have an acceptable drivers abstract and understand that they will need a Class 4 Drivers Licence before applying to BCAS.

Capital Regional District **CRD**

Notice of Annual Water Main Cleaning Salt Spring Island Cedar Lane Water District

Water main cleaning is planned on:
• May 13, 2014

Short periods of low pressure and discolouration of water can be expected. This does not affect drinking water safety. Please contact CRD at 250.360.3269 if you have any questions.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!
Riparian Areas Regulation Meeting:
 Thursday, MAY 8
 5 to 8 p.m. at ArtSpring

FAMILIES

Salt Spring book-loving family sets library record

Island family tops 1,700 checkouts

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Bob Laycock and Colleen Irwin take their family to the library, they're sure to never forget their book bags.

On a typical visit, Irwin said during a recent interview, the family of five checks out a selection of graphic novels, a pile of picture books for bedtime, the latest in whatever series young Freddy, Maxwell and Jaspar are reading, and a stack of new novels.

Then there's always a book to read aloud before bedtime and a healthy selection of nonfiction — the family is currently into science Q&As and mythologies of different cultures.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Bob Laycock, Colleen Irwin and their sons Freddy, Maxwell and Jaspar have set the Salt Spring Public Library record for borrowing materials in 2013.

The family's voracious intellectual appetite saw them devour no fewer than 1,718 books in 2013. That works out to nearly 345 books per person, nearly one book for every day of the year.

To put things in perspective, the family checked almost twice as many books as the second-place family, according to librarian Karen Hudson.

"Libraries have always been such an important part of my life and I think I've passed that along to my kids," Irwin said. "If you want to know about some-

thing you can go to the library and look it up. Reading is a fabulous pastime and gives you insight and ideas beyond yourself."

A trip to the library lets Irwin's family travel the world, share stories as their family grows older, and to continually cultivate their lifelong pursuit of knowledge. Reading is about as innate to the family as breathing.

"Part of the volume comes from the kids being such a wide range of ages and reading levels," Irwin said. "They get a

library card around one year old, start with board books and work their way up."

Irwin said getting a library card is one of the first things she's always done whenever she arrives in a new community. Arthur, the son who recently moved out on his own, has dutifully continued the tradition.

The use of electronic book borrowing gives Irwin the capacity to carry even more books on her at any given moment. With three school-aged children, Irwin can be spotted checking books out of the island's school libraries too.

"I like novels: science fiction and fantasy, historicals, mysteries and suspense as well nonfiction, usually psychology type books. The Power of Habit and Quiet were some recent favourites," she added.

Thanks to the constant reminders provided by print-outs and email courtesy notices, the family has even done well when it comes to getting things back on time and avoiding any fines.

"Most of them live on a table by the couch for easy lounging and reading and we round them up from people's beds periodically," she said.

The library, Irwin added, has given her family endless opportunities for extra-curricular learning. They've gone back in time, travelled to outer space and appreciated countless artistic masterpieces — all from the comfort of their own home.

"We don't travel much, but we are exposed to lots of ideas," she said. "We certainly couldn't afford our book habit without the library."

"Part of the volume comes from the kids being such a wide range of ages and reading levels."

COLLEEN IRWIN

Salt Spring library patron

Before the couple's 20-year-old son Arthur moved out last year, the list was even longer.

"We all read," Irwin said. "Last year was a typical year for us, not an anomaly."

NEWS BRIEFS

Byers nets Donner prize

Salt Spring intellectual Michael Byers was this year's recipient of the \$50,000 Donner Prize, which is awarded annually to the best public policy book by a Canadian.

The prize was announced at a gala awards dinner held in Toronto on April 30. Byers earned the honours for his book *International Law and the Arctic*, published

by Cambridge University Press.

"Climate change and rising oil prices have thrust the Arctic to the top of the foreign policy agenda and raised difficult issues of sovereignty, security and environmental protection," a press release from the awarding organization noted.

"In *International Law and the Arctic*, Michael Byers, an eminent Canadian expert on international law relat-

ing to the Arctic, positions Canada's sovereignty claims in the region in the context of competing international claims of other Arctic states. Refuting the widespread misconception that the Arctic is an unregulated zone of potential conflict, Byers instead illustrates a strong trend towards international cooperation and law-making."

Byers is a Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International

Law at the University of British Columbia and is the founder of the Salt Spring Forum.

One of his previous books, *Who Owns the Arctic?* was shortlisted for the 2009 Donner Prize.

ALR activist speaks

One of the greatest promoters and defenders of the Agricultural Land Reserve, farmer and activ-

ist Harold Steves, will be on Salt Spring on May 10.

Anyone committed to the protection of the environment and sustainable agriculture will welcome the chance to hear Steves, who in the early 1970s was an irrepressible force behind the creation of the ALR by the NDP government of Dave Barrett.

"More than 40 years later, Steves shows the same passion, this time fighting the Liberals' assault on the

ALR," says the Salt Spring NDP Club. "This February, he was cheered and led the crowd assembled on the lawn of the legislature to protest against the Clark government's intention to change the ALR legislation so as to allow natural gas production in the north of the province."

Saturday's event takes place between 2 and 4 p.m. at the Farmers' Institute.

Admission is by donation.

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PHOTO BY RICK NEUFELD

SIZZLING SMILE: Scott Chapman serves hot dogs at an April 30 goodbye event held for him at Slegg Lumber, where he worked for 12 years.

ENVIRONMENT

Renewable energy talks begin

Grid-tied solar first topic on May 14

Inspired by the highly successful Salt Spring and Gulf Islands Renewable Energy Conference last month, a new series of free public information presentations on the topic are planned for Wednesday afternoons starting on May 14.

Each presentation will be from 4 to 5 p.m. in the library's program room.

"A renewable energy talk series

this month is a good idea, because most people at the [April 5 renewable energy] conference weren't able to attend all of the sessions they were interested in," said Jon Healey, chair of the conference.

Healey emphasized that the library series is open to the entire community and will be of special interest to anyone concerned about transitioning away from over-dependence on fossil fuels.

The May 14 session, called Grid-tied Solar for Salt Spring, will look at solar electricity options for local homeowners, and explain the pro-

cess of connecting to the BC Hydro grid. It will be presented by Kjell Liem, project coordinator for the GISS Solar Scholarship Project.

Talks on the following Wednesday afternoons will include sessions on monitoring energy in the home, the status of renewable energy projects around the world, solar power for transportation, and other topics such as making Salt Spring an electric vehicle tourism destination.

The series is co-sponsored by the Transition Salt Spring Community Energy Group and the Salt Spring Public Library.

FUNDRAISER

Abattoir fundraiser excites locavores

Farm dinners unite growers, chefs and diners at source

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A series of events taking place this spring will allow local food enthusiasts to dine on the products grown and raised on the farms where the meals are served up — a tasty venture that has the added bonus of supporting the Salt Spring Abattoir.

Kicking off with a dinner that puts grains in focus at the Salt Spring Seeds property this Saturday, the Salt Spring Farm Dinner Series hosted by the Salt Spring Agricultural Alliance has already caught locavores' attention. Two of the four dinners, including the opener, sold out almost as soon as the mouth-watering program was announced, but with tickets still available for three events, those with a strong appetite for fresh local dining are in luck.

Connecting farm and table is at the core of what the Agricultural Alliance is working toward on Salt Spring, with the abattoir fulfilling an important component of that work, said projects coordinator Elizabeth FitzZaland.

"Our organization is charged with implementing the Area Farm Plan, which holds as a priority the need to increase the amount of locally grown food," FitzZaland explained.

"The abattoir is a critical piece of infrastructure in developing a strong local food system. Since its opening in late 2012, we have seen an increase in livestock farming on Salt Spring Island, including new farmers entering this industry for the first

time. This is great news for islanders and an important step towards greater community resiliency and self-sufficiency."

The funds raised from the farm dinner series will go to paying down the debt incurred during the abattoir's construction and allow the Agricultural Alliance to shift its focus to some of its other initiatives, which include a fruit and vegetable processing centre.

Putting local foods in the spotlight also meets the desires of the farmers and chefs involved. Marcus Gill, who created the menu for the inaugural meal at Salt Spring Seeds, said farm-to-table dining is already well-established in California, where he recently lived.

"I'm super excited about this happening on Salt Spring. It's one of the things I've imagined should happen," said Gill, adding he hopes a whole new food culture will be created.

"So many people are enthusiastic about the food grown here, and will be excited to take a tour of the land where it's grown and eat the food right there," he said.

Salt Spring Seeds owner Dan Jason has embraced the dinner series as another way to promote grains and pulses, which he's been working to do since he first started the seed business in the 1980s.

"I really love chick peas, lentils and fava beans, all of which grow well here. Not to mention peas and regular beans," Jason said. "My whole thing is they're vastly unappreciated in Canada. We know everything about everything, except for pulses and grains."

Jason said this is particularly frustrating since Canada is the world's number one exporter of



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Salt Spring Seeds' owner Dan Jason and chef Marcus Gill will collaborate on the May 10 farm dinner event.

pulses, sending them away to countries where they have been a key part of the diet for millennia. He's hoping that appreciation will transmit to local growers, since pulses are key to creating a sustainable future with less meat.

"Beans add nitrogen to the soil," Jason continued. "That's an amazing thing — they enrich the soil just by growing."

Jason's enthusiasm for pulses is more than matched by Gill's passion for grains. He has demonstrated this through Hip and Haws Catering and the Saturday Market in a range of delicious breads that mix freshly milled Salt Spring wheat with other grains. To create the upcoming chef's dinner, he took inspiration from the Salt Spring Seeds land itself, as well as some of the cultures that put pulses up front and centre.

Each course includes something you'd find at the farm and reflects it back on the plate, such as the nettles that appear on the fringes showing up in a pesto during the appetizer. The entree features a trio of uses for one of Jason's favourite pulses combined with spice mixtures and recipes found in Moroccan cuisine.

"Dan sort of threw me a challenge a little bit,

because he really wanted to have garbanzo beans as the main star of the entree," Gill said. "So I was thinking of ways I could use them."

Jason reports he was "more than happy" and actually ecstatic with the results.

"Marcus created this meal with such diverse uses, which was just fantastic. The meal is quite exciting," he said.

Though no seats remain for this pulse and grain extravaganza, at press time there was still space at chef Steve Overholt's meal featuring lamb, asparagus and pesto at Duck Creek Farm on May 31. Tickets are also available for a menu focusing on cheese, beef and early summer vegetables by Susan and Julia Grace at Moonstruck Organic Cheese on June 27 and an afternoon tea at Wavehill Farm on May 24. The Bullock Lake Farm meal with Hastings House chef Rosemary Harbrech is sold out.

Space is limited to 40 tickets per event and advance purchase is necessary. Tickets can be found at Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply, through participating farms at the Saturday Market, or by contacting 250-538-7027 or plan2famr@gmail.com.

IAN H. CLEMENT is pleased to announce that he has re-acquired his former law practice (recently known as "Orca Law Corporation") and is resuming the regular, full-time practice of law - primarily in the fields of Wills, Estates, Business and Real Property transactions. In addition - with his recently awarded MA degree from Royal Roads University, in Conflict Analysis and Management (together with advanced training in mediation) - Ian is pleased to be able to offer civil mediation services in a wide variety of circumstances, such as construction disputes, estate administration and real property disagreements (but not family or matrimonial matters).

The law office will continue in the same location it has occupied since Ian commenced his practice in 1986 - at the corner of Rainbow and Lower Ganges Roads, opposite the School Board office.

IAN H. CLEMENT
Lawyer & Mediator
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FAX: (250) 537 5099
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For more information or to obtain the form, please contact 250.537.9144 or Click on "Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area" at www.islandstrust.bc.ca.

SATURDAY MARKET

PARC prepared to tackle Saturday market reforms

Survey lists parking as top priority

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

More parking and market expansion top the list of Saturday Market priorities outlined in a Parks and Recreation Commission survey released on May 1.

"The number one issue that people raised the most was parking at the market," said David Trill, a graduate student from UVIC who presented the report at Lions Hall on Thursday afternoon. "All the groups commented that parking in the Ganges area during market days was their top concern. The Ganges business owners were very very vocal

about this issue."

The Saturday Market in the Park research report canvassed 390 "market stakeholders," including Salt Spring residents, market vendors, Ganges-area business owners and visitors between August and December 2013.

PARC conducted the project in conjunction with researchers from the University of Victoria after receiving a 600-name petition last year calling for expansion of the market.

Access, vendor dynamics, operating hours, vendor organization, scheduling and fees rounded out the eight issues identified by market survey participants. The survey lacks any recommendations, though PARC staff said they're optimistic about the prospect

of change.

"Now is a really good time to step back and determine where to go next," said Lorraine Brewster, PARC's general manager.

She said PARC members will address "short wins" that can be covered by this year's budget. Cost and jurisdictional complexity mean larger-scale changes, like market expansion or creation of a shuttle service, are likely still years away.

Participants suggested expanding on to Fulford-Ganges Road, moving to green space or boardwalk areas within the park, and creating an indoor or covered market as possible options.

"This is giving us a road map, a long-range strategy on

developing the market and how to address these things," said Gregg Dow, PARC chair. "At least we know where we can go from here. Up until here we just had people saying, 'Can you do this?' Well, now we have a starting point."

Approximately 30 market vendors, local government officials and business owners listened to and shared thoughts about the market survey at Thursday's meeting.

"I have been selling at the market for 32 years. A lot of the young people are wonderful, but we need to [expand] slowly," said textile artist Donna Johnstone. "I really think it's important to remember that a lot of [established market vendors] have university training or college

training and they're professionals and that is their business, so you can't all of a sudden drop another hundred people on them.

"It would be like opening up 20 stores and that wouldn't go over well. It has to be done slowly."

Isis Nesbitt, who produces raw food from local ingredients, said it's important for the market to incorporate contributions from new vendors. She said reviewing the market's eligibility requirement and point-based seniority system could create a more vibrant market.

"I'd like to address how people like me who are producing food that is grown here on the island can get into the market on time or even share

space with other vendors," she said. "If there is more variety, there are more people who are going to be interested."

Brewster said any changes will come down to the availability of PARC funds.

"We will find the money for some of these short wins," she said. "We will have to take money away from other stuff, but we've made this a priority."

Brewster said PARC members will receive and comment on the market survey report at their next public meeting, scheduled for Monday, May 26 at the Portlock Park Portable between 5 and 7 p.m.

A copy of the market survey presentation is available at gulfislandsdriftwood.com and the Driftwood's Facebook page.

PARKS & REC

Summer camps offered for all ages

Parks and Recreation Commission activity update

BY LORRAINE BREWSTER
PARC MANAGER

PARC is offering a number of great summer programs for kids as well as adults. Pre-registration is required for all programs (No drop-ins). Contact the PARC office at Portlock Park (250-537-4448).

Details, including dates and times, are in our latest edition of the Salt Spring Unlimited Leisure Guide, which was published on April 30. Copies of the guide can be picked up at the PARC office in Portlock Park, at the Rainbow Road Indoor Pool, Driftwood office and at the Visitor Information Centre in Ganges.

TRX OUTDOOR BOOT CAMP

Debit and Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation are excited to launch our TRX Outdoor Boot Camp programs at the fitness area in front of Rainbow Road Indoor Pool.

Whether you are a beginner exerciser or a sweat junkie, there is a class geared to your fitness level and goals. The registration fee includes the use of the Rainbow Road Indoor Pool's changerooms, showers and lockers. TRX Boot Camps feature suspension stations, boxing, pull-up and dip stations, battling ropes core station, stability ball core work, cardio work and much more.

SUMMER ART CAMPS

PARC has joined with award-winning multimedia artist Tancha Dirickson to offer two exciting summer art camps.

Tancha enjoys working with young people and fostering a warm and welcoming space for them to create objects using their natural curiosity. Her workshops

PARCPOSTINGS

encourage their imaginations to soar, so that creativity, a sense of wonderment and playfulness can take place. Projects will be created in conjunction with voice, poetry and body movement.

THRIFTY'S YOUNG CHEF CAMP

PARC, together with Thrifty Foods, is offering another five-day session of the popular Thrifty Foods Young Chef Camp for kids ages nine to 12 who want to learn to cook.

This fun and energizing camp focuses on hands-on nutritional snack preparation, with participants learning kitchen skills, the food preparation, and how to choose tasty and healthy ingredients. The kids will prepare their own yummy snacks, visit the Thrifty Foods store and be encouraged to customize their own recipe book to take home at the end of the camp.

PRESCHOOL MINI CAMP (3 to 5 years)

Big fun for little people! PARC presents the Preschool Mini Camp with crafts, games, sports and more that will fill your mini camper's day with activity, imagination and creative play. The camp will run the week of July 14 to 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration is required for a full week — no drop-ins are allowed.

CAMP COLOSSAL (5 to 12 years)

Camp Colossal returns for another season. Come join our enthusiastic leaders for summer day camp fun at Camp Colossal. Every day is an adventure filled with games, crafts, outdoor exploration and swimming at the indoor pool.

This year, all participants must

preregister for each day. Fees remain the same, at \$32 for each pre-registered on-island day. Discounted weekly rates are available. A new fee of \$42 for each pre-registered off-island adventure has been introduced with no additional entrance fee being charged.

SPLASHING AT THE POOL

Check out our summer schedule, which commenced on May 5. Hit the pool and cool off with a variety of programs. Join our water fitness programs, which are offered for all fitness levels. These workouts are perfect for participants who have knee, hip or back issues. Pick up a schedule or go online at www.crd.bc.ca.

Register for summer swim lessons! The lesson sets are as follows:

- Set 1 — July 7-18
- Set 2 — July 21-Aug 1
- Set 3 — Aug 4-15
- Set 4 — Aug 18-29

Just a reminder that the terrific Stingrays swim team, who always do Salt Spring proud, will soon start their 2014 summer season. Practices are on Mondays and Wednesdays when Stingrays will share the pool with other users from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., after which it will be closed to the public. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the pool will be closed to the public after 5:30 p.m. Thank you for your support!

TRAILS

Our trail crew has been busy this spring with maintenance and new development. Check out the work that has been completed on the trail section from Phoenix School to Mouat Park.

Mouat Park trails will be upgraded this summer. A number of new trails are in the planning stages and we will keep you posted as we progress through their development.

Keep Smiling...



THOUGHTS & NEWS

from Dr. Richard Hayden

Don't take this personally...

"But I hate dentists." If I had a dollar for every time I've heard that line! I don't take it personally, though I take it as a challenge.

I see people every day that have had unfortunate experiences with tooth pain or in their dental history. We all know that fear is a difficult thing to overcome and no amount of reason is going to make it easier.

I took my daughter to the park and she was scared to go down the slide. No reason, she was just scared. After a few times down with hand held and then a few with me standing beside the slide, she then felt comfortable enough to go down on her own. Now she wants nothing to do with me when we are near the slide!

- Take small steps.
- Don't wait for pain to make appointments.
- Talk to your dentist about your fears and concerns.
- Schedule appointments for times when you are not otherwise stressed.
- For severe anxiety some medications may help.
- Build a relationship with your dentist and their team through regular check ups.
- We don't always meet the challenge but it is a rare appointment that doesn't end with "Thanks a lot — I didn't feel a thing!"

...Now that I do take personally!

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Dr Richard Hayden Island Dental Centre



Emergency Preparedness Week

May 4th - 10th

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lessons from the big snow of 2014: Program debriefs

More local POD volunteers always needed

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It may sound selfish, but putting yourself first is precisely what's needed when it comes to making it through a natural disaster.

"We're trying to get people to hear the words 'protect yourself first,' and then you can look after your family," said Laurel Hanley. "Then you can look after your neighbours and then your community. If people work in that order hopefully they can head a lot of the issues and won't get hurt."

Hanley was hired earlier this year to help Salt Spring Emergency Coordinator Elizabeth Zook promote and expand the island's POD program. Hanley had only been on the job for a few weeks when the snow began to fall on Salt Spring and other parts of the southern Gulf Islands in mid-February.

Once the storm front had passed, more than a metre of heavy wet snow had accumulated in fewer than 48 hours. That's when the real problems emerged.

"Many people who wanted to do their POD duties to go out and look were told to go back because responders happened to be around to say it's not safe because the



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Laurel Hanley with a map of that helps evaluate how island PODS fared during the island's major February snowstorm.

trees were falling everywhere," Zook said. "It should always be about safety first. Why

the hurry in the first minute when it's still happening?"

Salt Spring's POD program was developed to immunize neighbourhoods against the consequences of a natural disaster. By learning who has access to valuable resources like generators, chainsaws and four-wheel drive vehicles, POD captains and neighbourhood leaders get help where it's needed most. Likewise, knowing where an area's most vulnerable residents are ahead of time can make things much easier once disaster strikes.

"It's not just about the telephone tree anymore."

ELIZABETH ZOOK
Coordinator, Salt Spring Island
Emergency Program

What many volunteers sometimes fail to realize in the heat of the moment, however, is the threat to their personal safety. After February's snowfall ended, threats like falling tree limbs and downed power lines persisted.

When the specially trained rescuers go

down in an emergency, Zook added, they are unable to provide support and become a drain on limited resources that could have been deployed elsewhere.

Now that Salt Spring's POD program covers 42 zones watched over by nearly 400 volunteer neighbourhood leaders, communications has emerged as Zook and Hanley's new priority.

Whereas the POD program has focused on upping community involvement, February's storm highlighted the need to offer volunteers better tools to communicate among each other and coordinate a response to neighbours in distress.

"It's not just about the telephone tree anymore," Zook said. "The community is partially prepared. When I first started there were two or three pods, now we've got 42 and 381 neighbourhood leaders.

"It's not really a numbers game anymore, it's really about making sure these people can do what they need to do."

The POD program attracts between five and 10 recruits every month. New members are always welcome. POD captains and neighbourhood leaders are eligible for first aid and emergency training.

More information about how to join is available through www.crd.bc.ca or from Zook at 250-537-7902 or ssiepc@crd.bc.ca.

FOOD STORAGE

Squirrelling away food goes mainstream on the island

Islanders strive to debunk survivalist stereotype

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Search the internet for "food storage techniques" and you can probably guess what tops the list.

Websites like thenewsurvivalist.com and postoil-survival.com offer visitors all they want to know about the dos and don'ts of bunker building and raising rabbits for meat and fur. One such site reminds readers to grab at least 250 rounds of ammunition while stocking up on emergency supplies. This should be dedicated to "your primary defensive weapon," the website suggests.

Sprinkled amidst the reactionary calls to arms and raging paranoia, however, are a surprising number of pages created by community gardening groups and parks and recreation departments across the United States and Canada.

The Wasatch Community

Gardens in Salt Lake City, for example, provides a thorough look at popular food storage techniques like canning, dehydration, freezing and cold storage. The group's website extols the benefits of storing food as a way to keep eating local food through the lean winter months.

"People native to this region and early pioneers were masters at subsisting on locally harvested food and were skilled food preservers," the website states. "Today, many of us have forgotten these skills, but by learning how to preserve our own fresh, healthy food, we can save money and eat healthier at the same time."

Rather than seeing food storage as a way to outlast the end of days, it's clear more people want to learn how to preserve grains, legumes and produce just to make it through the winter and save some cash while they're at it.

Even the Capital Regional District has begun to sponsor food storage preparation workshops for residents of Salt Spring and other south-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Janisse Browning and Wreford Miller of Squirrel Preparedness Supplies.

ern Gulf Islands.

"We're not worried about zombies," said Wreford Miller, a workshop leader who launched Squirrel Preparedness Supplies with his spouse Janisse Browning in 2013. "What we're trying to do is get the whole notion of prepping away from survivalism towards basic common sense and community mindedness."

Besides his food storage workshops, Miller has focused recent attention on setting up residents at the

Gabriola Commons with the tools they need to efficiently preserve much of their harvest. As an ardent food storage advocate, Miller believes the practice goes well beyond survival. Instead, it's got to do with fostering a vibrant community-based food system where participants can enjoy safe, affordable and healthy local food.

To that end, he was instrumental in acquiring stainless steel food dehydrator units that can be rented by any-

one in the community from Natureworks for about \$15 a week.

"They are very expensive and we want to see people sharing these resources," he said.

If community building and surviving in relative comfort aren't reason enough to consider the food storage phenomenon, maybe saving a few bucks along the way can seal the deal.

A year after Miller began putting up, or storing, stocks of rice and beans in his pantry, prices for many grains and legumes tripled. The long-term savings on his food bill, he added, was more than enough to cover the initial investment for equipment.

Through much research and much more experimentation, Miller has successfully stored items like rice, barley, oats, buckwheat, quinoa and beans.

"Stored beans can last for decades if done properly," he said. "It's not rocket science, but there are a lot of little links in the chain."

Proper storage essentially requires keeping the finished

product away from sunlight, heat and moisture. The portable, lightweight and airtight packages are ideal for a household emergency kit or grab-and-go bag. Miller's workshops and soon-to-be-finished website promise to educate islanders on all the latest food storage techniques that cover a variety of uses.

"Our focus is on the planning, equipment and techniques needed to dehydrate and vacuum-pack basic food ingredients," he said.

The island's neighbourhood POD system offers the perfect avenue for residents to start storing food. By sharing resources and buying in bulk, a neighbourhood approach is the most efficient way to get started, he added.

"We're always open to requests from PODs and other community groups," he said.

Miller and Browning can be reached at 250-530-9000 or info@squirrelprep.com for more information about food storage techniques, equipment and workshop availability.

MARINE PHENOMENA

'Orange' tide alarms north-enders

PSP closures in effect, but not responsible for colourful area waters

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Residents of Salt Spring's north end were surprised to find a metres-wide swath of orange goo stretching out into the waters at some of their favourite beaches on Tuesday, what first appeared to be paralytic shellfish poisoning or "red tide."

Siblings Barbara and Michael Levy were out at their neighbourhood beach at Booth Bay to take photos of eagles. They were surprised by the magnitude of the phenomenon, especially since they saw no sign of red just two days before.

"We've never seen it like that. Actually, we've never seen it there at this time of year, and usually when we have seen it in the summer, it's nothing like that," Barb Levy said.

Ling Weston had the same reaction on the other side of the island after viewing the waters off North Beach Road.

"I don't know what it is. I've never seen red tide around here," Weston said. "I've lived here for 25 years."

Weston added that what she saw was actually more orange than red and had a slimy consistency.

"You can see it all over the beach. It's continuous."

Stan Garrod also observed the phenomenon almost two weeks ago in the waters off Quarry Beach Drive.

Despite the startling colour and range, however, the information from the Department of Fisheries is the highly visible occurrence is actually the result of a non-toxic algal bloom.

"PSP, what people call red tide, can be colourless," said Elysha Gordon, the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program coordinator. She said various algal blooms are not uncommon during the warmer weather.

While the orange slick isn't something to be worried about, islanders should be aware that limited shellfish harvesting closures went into effect around Salt Spring starting May 1.

"We've never seen it like that. Actually, we've never seen it there at this time of year, and usually when we have seen it in the summer, it's nothing like that."

BARB LEVY
High Hill Road resident

The north end was closed to all bivalve shellfish except manila clams, littleneck clams, oysters, mussels, geoduck and horse clams. Waters from Ganges Harbour, around the

south end and back north to Burgoyne Bay are currently closed to all bivalve shellfish harvests except manila clams, littleneck clams, oysters and mussels.

PSP is caused by phytoplankton blooms containing a group of related toxins. Species most affected are clams, mussels, whelks, moon-shells and dogwinkles, oysters and whole scallops. The effects on people who eat contaminated shellfish can be fatal.

The DFO website explains cooking bivalve shellfish does not destroy the toxins that cause illnesses. In addition, the bivalve shellfish may remain toxic long after the bloom occurs.

Harvesting closure updates can be found on the DFO website under its shellfish contamination section. Gordon can also provide information at 250-756-7192 or elysha.gordon@df-mpo.gc.ca.

See the online version of this story at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com for a colour photo.

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GANGES VILLAGE

Shuttle considered parking cure

'Perfect-world' Ganges solution to get further study

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Saturday shuttle service is being touted as the most promising solution to relieve congestion in Ganges village.

The topic arose during a BC Transit meeting that brought together about 50 representatives from local government, business and community groups. The session was designed as an opportunity to brainstorm a transportation vision for Ganges.

"One thing that came up over and over again was the Saturday shuttle," said Janet Clouston, manager of the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce. "It definitely was supported."

Despite the enthusiasm, the shuttle option is considered a "perfect-world situation" that is still in the preliminary discussion stage. Details about funding, routes and service providers still need to be resolved between BC Transit and groups like the chamber and Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission.

Clouston said Thursday's

discussion offered a clear sign that a shuttle concept should at least be considered during Salt Spring Transit's upcoming service review.

"Parking is a major issue given that practically all vendors drive to the market with their goods as well as a vast majority of residents and visitors also use a vehicle to get to the market."

SATURDAY MARKET REPORT

Meribeth Burton, a spokesperson for BC Transit, said work is already underway to replace three of the island's four buses by April 2015. She said the organization is considering replacing the current 20-passenger vehicles with units that can carry up to 28 people. Islanders can expect to see it being tested out on the streets of Salt Spring before the end of the month.

"What we're trying to do is right-size the fleet," she said.

Talk of the shuttle coincides with a Saturday Market survey released on Thursday that identifies parking as the top concern of market vendors and visitors.

Business owners who participated in the survey said market-related parking congestion takes space away from regular customers and discourages locals from shopping downtown.

"Parking is a major issue given that practically all vendors drive to the market with their goods as well as a vast majority of residents and visitors also use a vehicle to get to the market," reads part of the final market report. "What is clear across all groups is that no community stakeholder group found parking concerns during the Saturday Market entirely favourable."

Many survey participants suggested a shuttle between Centennial Park and a remote parking area such as the high school could alleviate some of the pressure.

According to the survey, 77 per cent of visitors and 87 per cent of islanders travel to the market in a vehicle. Only three per cent of market visitors use public transit.

"That really means we have a big opportunity to improve that part if we are planning for the future," Clouston said.

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OPINION



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



EDITORIAL

Feds' act still unfair

Come voting time, Elections Canada has been in the habit of running radio and television advertisements that encourage Canadians to vote.

The ads are one of the methods Elections Canada has used to try to stem declining voter participation in federal elections. They'll also be prohibited under the federal government's proposed Fair Elections Act.

It's been nearly three months since the federal government first proposed Bill C-23 and the uproar among political watchers of all stripes continues to grow.

Besides placing limits on what the country's chief electoral officer can and cannot say, Bill C-23 will give incumbent MPs the ability to select poll supervisors, loosen campaign financing restrictions and ban the use of voter information cards to prove eligibility.

THE ISSUE:

Fair Elections Act

WE SAY:

Amendments not enough

Rather than foster a more inclusive voting system with the tools to identify and investigate electoral malfeasance, Bill C-23 stands to do the exact opposite.

In other words, the Fair Elections Act isn't really

that fair at all.

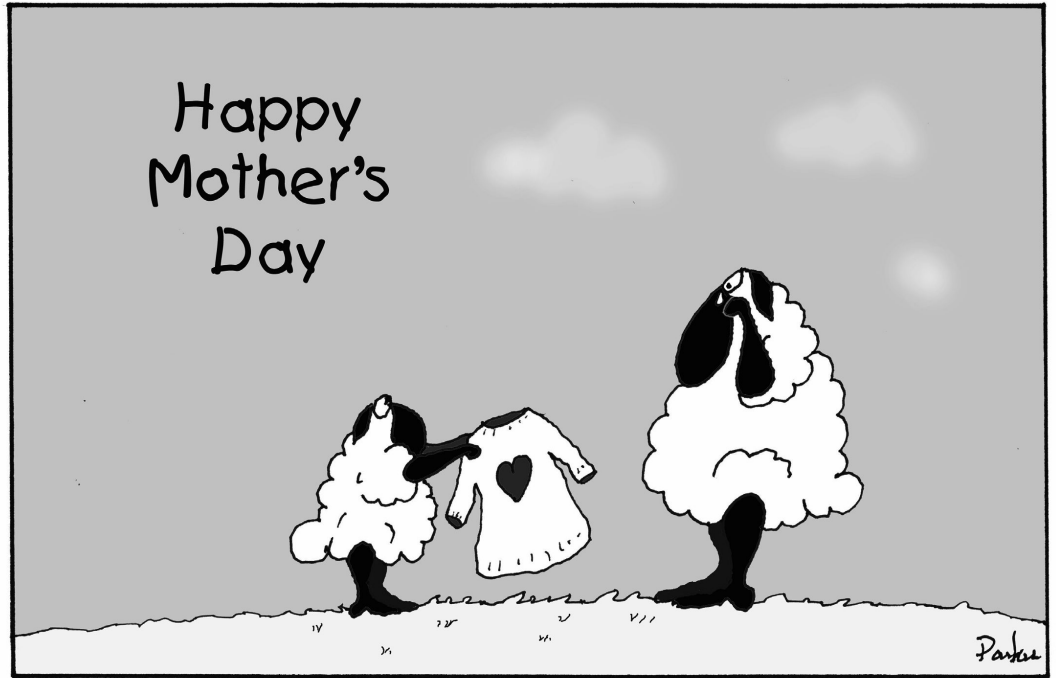
Even an effort last week to amend the legislation by Democratic Reform Minister Pierre Poilievre — a Conservative Party MP from the Ottawa area — was insufficient to silence the formidable level of opposition to the bill.

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May has been among those fighting Bill C-23 since the very beginning. May, who is certainly not known for her brevity, presented no fewer than 75 proposed amendments to the legislation last week.

Developing an electoral code of practice and implementing rules that govern televised leadership debates are a few of the changes she believes will actually strengthen the democratic process.

It's sometimes hard to separate the spin from the story, but the degree of cross-partisan opposition to Bill C-23 has so far prevented the issue of electoral reform from getting swallowed by the news cycle.

The federal government's recent changes to Bill C-23, though they do not go far enough, reveal a degree of opposition within the Conservative's moderate supporters. The message is being heard, but if there's to be any hope for a better democracy we must keep up the pressure.



VIEWPOINT by Matthew Coleman

ALR should not be weakened

The following was sent to Agriculture Minister Norm Letnick and filed with the Driftwood for publication:

This concerns Bill 24 that is being considered in the legislative assembly.

Bill 24 has just been brought to my attention and on looking into it I have become greatly concerned. As an ex-farmer who started farming just when the Agricultural Land Reserve was being implemented here in B.C., I came to realize the importance of this far-sighted vision of our government and hoped it would inspire the whole world to also protect their agriculture land. After all, the bottom line of our existence is that the farmer feeds us all.

I am extremely concerned about any governmental action that might weaken its effectiveness in any way. Over the years I have seen it being repeatedly chipped away at as other interests have taken precedent. Now, I hear of Bill 24 and its probable purpose to further compromise this all-important safeguard of the well being of all of us living in beautiful British Columbia.

As I started to investigate what was being proposed with Bill 24 I noticed that there is a withholding of 93 pages of information from B.C. citizens pertaining to this bill. A deep pain started to arise in my heart and I became sickened with the fear that certain people in the government we elected were acting dishonestly and unfairly in order to gain some personal advantage. Why else would 93 pages be kept secret regarding a proposed bill on the ALR? Just what is it that should be kept secret about growing food?

We must take a long-term view when thinking of changing the ALR. The World Wildlife Federation says one half of the world's topsoil has been lost in the last 150 years. The world's population is growing, people are hungry, farm land is being eroded world-

wide by encroachment of expanding cities and desertification.

Every year, the cumulative effects of overgrazing, over-cultivation, deforestation, poor irrigation and increasing extreme weather events — including those that cause drought — permanently degrade close to 10 million hectares of land. In the 15 years between 1985 and 2000 25 million hectares were lost to desertification, 60 million to salinization, 50 million to erosion, and 150 million to urban development — and since then it has only gotten worse. This has led to a creeping loss of places where food can easily be grown. The present drought in California where up to 60 per cent of our fruit and vegetables come from is a case in point. If the drought continues our food supply could be in serious jeopardy. Don't you agree that when it comes to long-term food security for the people of British Columbia that the land we grow food on is of the utmost importance?

One might say that with our world economy we don't have to be so food security conscious as we can always import food from somewhere else, but the statistics disagree with this point of view. With food consumption exceeding the amount grown for six of the past 11 years worldwide, countries have run down reserves from an average of 107 days of consumption 10 years ago to under 74 days recently.

Considering all of this information, don't you think a strong Agricultural Land Reserve is a good and essential law? After all, we in British Columbia only produce 48 per cent of the food we eat. Wouldn't it be a good idea to take our present ALR policy to the United Nations as an example of what the nations of the world could and should do to protect the food security of our world?

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Does Canada need temporary foreign workers?

Yes No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Would you serve as a SSI fire trustee?

58

23

YES NO

Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
 Ph: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll Free: 1-877-537-9934
 Email: inquiries@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
 Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
Subscription Rates: In the Gulf Islands \$52.50
 Elsewhere in Canada \$88.20* Foreign: \$235.00*
 Digital Edition: \$39.85 anywhere | Prices include GST
 Digital Edition with Print Edition subscription additional 1yr
 \$12.60 | 2 yr \$18.90

Editorial: Sean McIntyre, Elizabeth Nolan
Front office: James Burton, Johanna Walkner

Advertising: Elena Dumn, Jennifer Lannan



Amber Ogilvie PUBLISHER aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg MANAGING EDITOR news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Lorraine Sullivan PRODUCTION MANAGER production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "It would be like opening up 20 stores and that wouldn't go over well. It has to be done slowly."

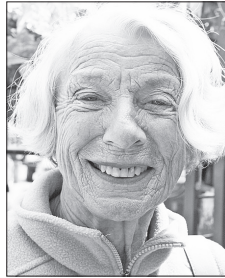
DONNA JOHNSTONE, MARKET VENDOR, ON MARKET EXPANSION IDEAS

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
What's your ideal Mother's Day?



MALLORY PRED
Going on an airplane to California with my son.



PAT LOW
To see my family, of course.



SUE BECKLEY
To be surrounded by children and grandchildren.



TERRY SIMARD
I'd like to hear from all my kids.



SHERALIN COOK
I would send my kids away and go to the spa. P.S. I love my kids.

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.

Oppose NSSWD bylaw

I feel compelled to speak regarding the North Salt Spring Waterworks District borrowing bylaw that will automatically raise the property taxes of water users in the district in order to pay for the required upgrade of the St. Mary Lake water treatment plant.

In my opinion, there are flaws in the way the waterworks board has gone about handling this issue. I believe it is fundamentally wrong for the waterworks board to arbitrarily tell users that their property taxes will be increased by an estimated \$350 to \$400 over a number of years — decades in this case.

The numbers are estimates and it is highly unlikely that

the cost will be \$10.4 million or less as stated. Any professional in the construction business knows that cost estimates inevitably run over-budget, so the yearly increase will likely be higher. How much higher? No one knows.

It is not acceptable for the board to say, "We are proceeding with this and if you do not like it then sign a form saying so" and if a minimum of 10 per cent (approximately 250) property owners in the district oppose then the deal is off and back to the drawing board, so to speak.

Other water districts on Salt Spring are affiliated with the CRD and may be or even are eligible for grant money. Why haven't we been told about this and why hasn't this avenue of revenue sourcing been explored?

It is well known that for many years, septic systems and farm animal waste has been leaching into the lake. Shouldn't this have been better managed in the past, mandating that all properties have up-to-date septic and animal waste controls? If better management of this precious drinking water resource had been a priority then perhaps we would not have a pollution problem of the magnitude that now exists.

For the North Salt Spring Waterworks District to ask water users for money to fix this problem is not fair when they have not fully done their due diligence and kept St. Mary Lake clean.

This arbitrary bylaw should be opposed.

MEL FEDORUK,
SALT SPRING

Unintended consequences

Re: "Salt Spring's trash tossers are causing a big stink," April 30 Driftwood.

In the discussion of possible remedies for indiscriminate trash disposal, it seems to me that nowhere is there an acknowledgement of a major root cause of the problem.

If my memory serves me correctly, several years ago, after the Blackburn Road landfill was condemned due to potential watershed effects, Salt Spring held a referendum regarding what to do about alternatives for trash disposal. At that time, islanders, exemplary environmental citizens all, voted against any form of municipally funded garbage disposal facility on the island.

Recall this was because all solutions involved shipping our waste off-island and we should be able to look after our own problems. The result: no way to dispose of garbage on Salt Spring except via a privately owned, for-profit waste disposal service that (no surprise) ships our garbage off-island.

Over the years, the cost of getting rid of a standard green garbage bag has gone up and up. At \$4 per bag now, there is a strong economic incentive to employ the "midnight trash disposal." The high cost of garbage disposal hits some of our most vulnerable citizens the hardest — young families with small children.

Food waste can be completely recycled. Not so dirty diapers!

So, Salt Spring citizens with high principles about what we do with our garbage, we are now reaping what we sowed all those years ago. Did we think about those unintended consequences then?

Salt Spring Islanders are encouraged to contribute practical solutions to a real problem we have helped to create. Would partial local government funding for a garbage disposal system offset the increasing cost of cleaning up the mess?

DOUG MACDONALD,
LONG HARBOUR ROAD

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Salt Spring Islanders are encouraged to contribute practical solutions to a real problem we have helped to create. Would partial local government funding for a garbage disposal system offset the increasing cost of cleaning up the mess?

DOUG MACDONALD,
LONG HARBOUR ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 11

St. Mary plant consent process not democratic

BY DOUG SMITH

Several years ago, a large cable television company was criticized for its attempt to impose "negative option billing" on its cable customers.

The company announced that existing customers would henceforth receive additional television channels as part of their cable service and would be charged an additional fee unless they notified Rogers that they did not want the extra service. This was offensive to many consumers, who resented being forced to take action to stop a service they did not want and had not asked for. Since the company had a monopoly on cable service, some people felt they were acting unfairly. Many frustrated customers complained and the company eventually backed down.

Negative-option billing schemes are now covered in Section 13 of British Columbia's new Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act [SBC 2004], Chapter 2. This section puts the onus on the supplier of either goods or services to produce evidence to establish the consumer's consent. It stipulates that the supplier cannot establish such consent by providing notice to the consumer to the effect that consent exists unless the consumer instructs the supplier NOT to supply the goods or services.

Section 11 of the act states that a request for goods or services must not be inferred

only from the consumer's payment or use of the goods or services, or from a request for similar goods or services, or from any inaction on the consumer's part.

"Negative option" practices for consumer services are not permitted but are being used by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District for an \$11-million improvement project. How can a lower standard be justified for public services?

Negative option is currently being used by the NSSWD to gain approval for an \$11-million capital improvement project. The so-called "Alternative Approval Process" has been selected to avoid a proper referendum. It is a legal process under the Community Charter. It requires that you voice your objection only if you are opposed to action. If less than 10 per cent of the "eligible" electors/ratepayers sign an Elector Response Form in opposition to this borrowing, the capital project will proceed. Does this sound the same as what the cable companies tried to do? How this process creates legal binding consent for such an expensive capital project is mind boggling.

My objection is not about the need to improve water quality in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District. That is a separate issue entirely.

I strongly object to this process on three counts:

INDEPTH

1. "Negative option" or the "Alternative Approval Process" is a process intended to "railroad" a result. It is not democratic. An \$11-million capital expenditure requires a proper referendum with privacy for the participants and scrutineers of the result.

2. The property owners' and ratepayers' interests are not fairly represented in this process. Applying the eligibility principles of the Elections Act as if you were voting for an MLA or MP is wrong.

Consider the following:

- If one registered owner is on title of 10 tax-paying properties, one dissent is permitted.
- If two registered owners are on the title of one tax-paying property, two dissents are permitted.
- If a corporation is the registered owner of 10 properties, then 10 dissents are permitted.

I have been told that in the case of a single registered property owner of multiple properties that "the extra properties" — (the properties for which a dissent was not permitted) — would be removed from the "eligible electors/ratepayers" total to calculate the dissenting 10 per cent threshold. Huh?

3. The fox is in the henhouse. Who is determining the total of "eligible electors/ratepayers"? Who is scrutinizing and verifying the eligibility of voters? Who is protecting dissenters' privacy? Who are ratepayers of more

than one property being denied a voice to dissent for each property they own?

The Alternative Approval Process is flawed, discriminatory to ratepayers and undemocratic.

What can you do? The train has left the station!

• If you are in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District and are against the approval of an \$11-million capital expenditure resulting in additional tax assessments per lot of between \$350 and \$400 per year without the benefit of a legitimate referendum you must complete the Elector Response Form now. The deadline is May 30. Forms are at the waterworks office or downloadable at www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca.

• If multiple persons are named on your property title, make sure each person named completes this form.

• If you know seasonal property owners who may be unaware of this process, tell them about it and encourage them to complete a form.

Contact and voice your concerns about the process to: MLA Gary Holman at 250-387-3655; gary.holman.mla@leg.bc.ca; and the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development — Honourable Coralee Oaks at 250-387-2283, CSCD.Minister@gov.bc.ca.

The writer is a Sunset Drive resident.

'Intransigence and arrogance' plagues fire board

BY ROSS KING

In response to last week's "Join the party" editorial, the Salt Spring fire board, under the leadership and dominance of the "ol' boys," has only itself to blame for the acrimonious tenor this last year.

There was a meeting a few months ago that was very acrimonious, but your reporter made no reference to the palpable anger the board's intransigence engendered among the audience.

What I said at the April 28 annual general meeting is what many people think — 60 per cent of voters?

In the early days of the new fire hall debate, we "alternatives" proposed a "Plan B," which was repudiated for a baffling raft of reasons that had no objective basis. Perhaps — having hired an architect, they were locked in to the architectural mantra that only they can handle such a project. Several times we were told at board meetings that "only an architect is allowed to be lead professional" according to the laws of B.C. We researched the laws of B.C., got a legal opinion contrary to trustee Michael Schubart's interpretation, and sent the adducing documents to the board. Yet, at the AGM, here was Mr. Schubart still arguing

that what he said was the law. He read out the exact same clauses of the relevant law that we had sent, and — to our huge amusement — tailed-off as he got to the defining bits. Here was the head of the building committee for the last year, in charge of the appointment and oversight of Johnson architects, shooting himself in the foot.

It is this sort of arrogance and intransigence which gets up people's nostrils. Other such instances are numerous, starting with the board's decision to "duck" all questions to it, reasoning that the applicant must seek the answer through Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy procedures, even when the answers reside in the files at the fire hall. This went on for three to four months.

At the AGM, the ol' boys were evidently still in a state of complete denial.

Ask yourself, dear reader, if this is open, frank, transparent governance? No, it smacks of ducking and weaving the questions, which creates the

INRESPONSE

impression loud and clear of the ol' boys running the board "circling the wagons." Getting a copy of a report out of the board on ventilation issues — long sought — was fobbed off for months.

What really puts all this in perspective is board chairman Bruce Patterson's report on the last year. It bleats on about how they were misled about the mood of the electorate, and how it was all our fault that they didn't get it right.

Ladies and gentlemen, several of us were making alternative suggestions from the get-go of the architectural process. We tried our hardest to get them to consider a "Plan B," reliant on a pre-engineered steel-framed building (that met all functional, code requirements as to health and safety, occupation standards). This suggestion was repudiated at every opportunity by the board, most particularly by Mr. Schubart who, frankly, made himself look excessively partisan to the architectural profession.

We pointed out that the egregious fees for design development could largely have been saved by adoption of a much cheaper design-and-build, functional steel

building, but no, we had to have an architect!

I could go on and on with issues we raised but were put down in the building committee's singular-minded pursuit of an architect's dream to the exclusion of all else.

And so, chairman Patterson's report comes across — at least to those of us who battled long and hard to get alternatives considered in the design process — as nothing but rapid excuses of the board's performance without any sense of reality.

We voters weren't responsible — the board was. Two referenda on two fire hall/property-purchase proposals, both failed, from essentially the same leadership team, with over \$100,000 of our money down the drain on the last one. How many strikes before you're "out"?

At the AGM, the ol' boys were evidently still in a state of complete denial. I say again: "If you can't get over it, learn from your mistakes, and move on, then resign and let a new board comprising fresh trustees take charge." I will run for a vacant position!

In the last year, Messrs. Mark Lucich and Grant Eckberg resigned because of the dominating clique — ask them for details. I, for one, considered running, but was repelled by what I observed of the board's

corporate style of governance.

I address the following to the new trustees: Text books deal with "sources of power." Two deserve mention. "Legitimate power" (by way of tenure — think ol' boys), and "expert power" ("I know what I'm doing and you don't yet" — think ol' boys and the potential for new trustees to feel intimidated into silence). You new trustees bear a heavy responsibility to hold the old guard to account for every suggestion: Ask "Why? What alternatives? Can you back that up to our satisfaction?"

Assert yourselves — your inexperience is a huge asset — and do not be brow-beaten into submission. Ask stupid questions!

In conclusion, the board made its own bed last year, and can't complain if the majority didn't like it. Vox populi, vox Dei.

To chief Tom Bremner and his worthy crew, I ask if you were as well served by the board as you deserve, given the status quo result.

My case rests. By shooting me in last week's editorial, you are shooting the majority's messenger.

The writer is a retired engineer with an interest in Salt Spring Fire Protection District matters.

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Please explain

In reply to C. Holding's April 30 letter saying political-party cooperation "isn't going to happen anytime soon," I reject the familiar, despairing arguments why out-parties "cannot" cooperate — party differences too complex, reform demands too naive, a two-party race too "American" (two words: Al Gore).

The answers lie somewhere up there in the highest party reaches, so will somebody from the club, the dues-paying party members, the plethora of candidates they nominate, the bosses they answer to, the leaders calling the shots, please explain, plainly and with transparency: What policy difference precludes cooperation? Which privilege is paramount? Can your competing campaigns craft a strategy more promising than a strip-tease of false hopes and dashed expectations? Must the perfect be the enemy of the good?

The robes of power glitter, but not on the shoulders of the too-numerous pretenders for the crown. Figure out a solution.

DENNIS LUCARELLI,
ISABELLA POINT ROAD

Fed up too

In response to B. Little's April 30 Rant telling PARC to do its job and provide soccer and baseball fields, believe me, I share your anger and frustration.

About four years ago PARC thought it had found a suitable site for sports fields. But the good, community-minded neighbours on the access road, plus I suspect, a few others, didn't want the kids and their parents driving up their road. With assistance from the then Islands Trust planners, they effectively nixed the project.

Since then PARC has tried several times to find suitable land for

MORE LETTERS

sports fields: two grant applications were unsuccessful; owners couldn't decide whether to sell; the property was less suitable than first thought. And remember, because virtually all suitable land is in the Agricultural Land Reserve, if and when PARC offers to buy a property, the owners must wait at least 10 months for their money, while the Agricultural Advisory Commission, the Islands Trust and the Agricultural Land Commission ponder whether to rezone the land for non-farm use. PARC cannot advance the money up front because it is public money and PARC cannot risk paying the seller and then having the rezoning request denied by the AAC, Trust or ALC.

PARC has been trying for years and is still trying to buy land for sports fields, and I for one am as fed up as you are.

J. HORSBURGH,
PARC MEMBER

Our Lady of Ganges?

One morning last week, as I walked past the Creekhous building in downtown Ganges, a window display made me think of vision care.

Suddenly, in an incredible flash of light, I became aware that the water running down the middle of the road from outside Embe Bakery had momentarily assumed the shape of the Virgin Mary. A booming voice spoke to me, and the unexplainable was explained! It told me that the spring whose unpredictable location has so far defied the logic of Mainroad South Contracting and the provincial transportation ministry actually has a divine source.

Had Ganges become the site of a second Lourdes? Think of the tens of thousands of pilgrims who might now visit our beautiful island and the huge boost it would bring to a stagnating economy and the hopes of our Chamber of Commerce!

KEN LEE,
BRINKWORTHY

Killing questions

After reading Victoria Mihaly's April 30 letter about the relatively new slaughterhouse on Fullford-Ganges Road, in which she made some very good points, I realized I couldn't answer a simple question.

Exactly how are the animals slaughtered at the above? Are they using the stun method that renders the animal unconscious (hopefully) before slaughter?

To be honest, I don't hold much hope that people will ever stop eating animals due to human appetite, but public ethic does require certain standards.

We assume that local, provincial and federal laws reflect that, but is this convenience thinking?

I stopped eating animals years ago after reading about the castrating of animals such as cattle and pigs without painkillers. (Another industry standard.) I wasn't paying for that.

Let's get some answers. Mr. Brett?

E. GRAHAM,
SALT SPRING

Aboriginal day kudos

The following is a thank-you letter to presenters at Aboriginal Awareness Day, filed with the Driftwood for publication:

Dear May (Skip), Terry, Cate, Jim, Bill, Wesley and Brendan,

I want to thank you for a beautiful heartfelt learning experience for our students and adults who attended

our Aboriginal Awareness Day 2014.

To our openers May, Bill and Jim, who set the tone of the day by grounding our spirits and opening our minds and hearts to what was to come with your singing, drumming and rattle playing as one and for the closing that ensured all our people left with hearts beating as one. Your artefacts and stories left the children intrigued and their knowledge of aboriginal culture respected and enhanced.

Thank you to Wesley and Brendan, you rose to the challenge and came through with flying colours. There were so many positive comments from the teachers about how well you spoke and engaged the students. That I can assure you is not an easy task for teachers with years of experience.

Terry, thank you for the variety of baskets and creations that you shared with the children. You opened their minds and set their hands to explore the gifts that nature supplies. It was wonderful to see what creations the children came up with on their own as a result of your teaching.

Cate, the children were so focused and fully engaged with the games you shared and they played it in ways respectful of the ground that they were stepping on. You brought nature and play together in ways that were fun and meaningful and true to aboriginal spirit, thank you.

Organizing and participating in a School District 64 Advisory Council Aboriginal Awareness Day was a first for me and I could not have been prouder of the committee and presenters that made the day a success. It was so wonderful to be surrounded by professionals who are accommodating, and supportive. I truly believe that all people can benefit from the teachings of aboriginal culture and you certainly showed it on our day. Even the ravens stayed to

be a part of the experience!

I raise my hands to you and uplift you for your accomplishments and hope the weekend brought the rest that you deserved.

LORNA FRASER,
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM
SUPPORT TEACHER, SD 64



Media Release: Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

May 5th / 2014

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) Board of Fire Trustees is pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Andrew Peat as the new SSIFPD Corporate & Financial Officer.

Mr. Peat will fulfill his position within the coming week. Mr. Peat brings years of prior work experience within the government sector and other local agencies.

We welcome Mr. Peat to his new position and look forward to working with him.

Signed
**Salt Spring Island
Fire Protection District –
Board of Fire Trustees.**

Come to RAR night

On the evening of May 8, from 5 to 8 p.m. at ArtSpring, a public meeting will be held to discuss what features should be included in a new local bylaw to implement the Riparian Areas Regulation as required by the provincial government to protect fish habitat. We urge islanders to attend.

Two years ago, our previous Trust committee proposed a RAR bylaw but it was not passed, partly because of demands that it include maps showing which properties would be affected. Current trustees requested these maps, which have now been prepared at a cost of approximately \$100,000. This brings us to the point of discussing what language should be in the bylaw.

The Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society is interested in this bylaw because although the primary purpose of the bylaw is for the protection of fish habitat, an effective bylaw will also provide significant protection for our drinking water lakes: St. Mary, Cusheon, Maxwell and Weston. Any soil disturbance near streams can result in erosion of phosphorus-rich sediments into that stream and being carried into one of our drinking water lakes. An overabundance of phosphorus is associated with the blooms of algae and cyanobacteria that are occurring in our lakes. The management plan created in 2007 to address blooms of toxin-producing cyanobacteria in Cusheon Lake recommended that Salt Spring adopt a RAR bylaw. Since that time, WPS has been asking that an effective RAR bylaw be passed.

An effective bylaw is specific enough that it can be enforced rather than having weak language like some of our current bylaws.

For example, our current stream and lake protection bylaw advises that certain activities (such as land clearing) should "be done in a way that minimizes degradation in water quality . . ." The word "minimize" does not set a clear standard. It is an invitation to would-be violators because it is so difficult to enforce. It is also important that loopholes are not created by leaving out potentially harmful activities.

Hopefully, the public meeting will allow adequate time for the entire audience to hear from each other rather than being divided into groups, which results in suggestions, questions and ideas being reinterpreted by others. We look forward to hearing your opinions at this meeting.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
ON BEHALF OF THE SALT SPRING ISLAND
WATER PRESERVATION SOCIETY BOARD

Speak up for Earth

Two weeks ago we celebrated Earth Day on Salt Spring, but as our MLA Gary Holman noted, every day should be Earth Day.

After all, every day we take from the Earth. Whether it's the food in our bellies, the water we drink and wash with or the air that inextricably keeps us linked to the health of our forests, we are part of our planetary mother and she is in us.

And just like our community, we are it. We all are responsible for moving toward or away from the health of ourselves, our wee island community and the planet as a whole.

What part we play is of course up to us and those roles are all different. Appreciating those differences is something Salt Spring does well. As mentioned by Alex Lyons, my most patient, organized and effective cohort in co-creating the Earth

Day event, Salt Springers are always stepping up.

So on that note, it is my great pleasure to announce that the funds raised via the silent auction, message donations and table rentals amounted to \$830. And with the donation from Island Savings, that became over \$1,000!

After the expenses of the band, stage and sound rental and some advertising, we have \$156 to donate to each of our three charities: Salt Spring Island Foundation, Transition Salt Spring's Save Our Salish Sea group and Earth Day 2015.

Once again, we'd like to thank Country Grocer and the other silent auction donors: the Glass Foundry, Pharmasave, Solace Organic Spa, TJ Beans, Rainbow Road Trading, Treasures of the Heart, Living Strong, Winged Heart and silent auction organizer extraordinaire and donor Christine Grimes.

Finally, step-up time continues this month with many opportunities to speak up for the Earth. On May 16, the Round Salt Spring event will find the awe-inspiring Evolutionaries and other performers in the inner harbour to help raise awareness about the risks of an oil spill in our waters. The Only Planet Cabaret will present its first full-length show at Lions Hall on May 31.

And you may have heard that there's a huge rally in Victoria on May 10 to once again help save the Salish Sea. People can sign up through Facebook at Defend Our Climate: March for an Oil-Free Coast! [Victoria].

Thank you, Salt Spring, for playing your role so well in speaking up for the mother of us all!

NOMI LYONNS,
CO-ORGANIZER, 55 EARTH DAY 2014

NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOTICE FLUSHING OF WATERMANS

**FLUSHING OF WATERMANS WILL BE
CARRIED OUT IN THE DISTRICT ON
TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS
AND FRIDAYS -
MARCH 11 - MAY 30, 2014**

Short periods of low pressure and discolouration of water can be expected between these dates. Consumers are warned to be on alert for discoloured water, especially before using washing machines, dishwashers and other appliances.

Commercial establishments such as laundromats, restaurants and beauty salons will receive advance warning of flushing in their vicinity if a request for such notification is received by the District. Please contact the NSSWD at 250-537-9902.

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PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

MUSIC ON MONDAY: Salt Spring Island Middle School students participated in the Canada-wide initiative called Music Monday with a short concert in the Centennial Park gazebo led by music teacher Michelle Footz. Above left is Atisha Roach-Lloyd, and sax players, from left, Harrison Sweet, Niko Reveley and Aramis St-Gelais. Music Monday stresses the importance of music education in schools.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, May 10th, at 2pm

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EXHIBITIONS

Simons show reveals light hand

kiZmit retrospective on through May

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

KiZmit Café and Gallery has launched its spring season with a retrospective show of one of the island's longest-serving artists, Art Simons.

A member of the Salt Spring community for 48 years, Simons has been involved, along with his wife Marg, in some of its most enduring traditions. The two were instrumental in helping form OGIFA, the volunteer organization that serves up Ometepe coffee (as outlined in last week's issue of the Driftwood) and they cofounded the Salt Spring Film Festival with Bob Wild.

The deep affection Simons has for his island home and other small communities both in B.C. and abroad is easily transmitted through his sketches and watercolours. With an eye for the aesthetically pleasing attributes found in old brick and stone buildings, antique cars and ornate storefronts, Simons has also captured the remnants of a time gone by. KiZmit owner Carola Heydemann points out this includes Salt Spring itself, with some of the artworks on view revealing the Fulford and Ganges villages of 30 years ago.

Whether in crisp black ink



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Art Simons piece at kiZmit.

with minimal line shading or in simple forms filled in as blocks of colour, Simons has an ability to deliver a scene without overthinking it. His pen drawings are remarkable for their amount of white space, which provides a clean and airy feeling that is emphasized rather than overpowered by the black line.

This sense of balance is conveyed beautifully in street scenes from an Interior town, where Simons has focused his detail in areas of architectural interest converging toward the centre (in window ledges,

bricks and striped awnings) and left the outer edges of sky, foreground and the sides of opposing buildings completely blank. Cars and a central figure are likewise defined mainly through their outlines for a light touch.

In another street scene, Simons again puts his heaviest ink into the darkened windows and describes the eclectic buildings in few strokes, while a tree canopy overhanging the street has every leaf articulated, creating a true sense of its density and coverage.

In contrast, Simons' watercolour sketches have a cheerily abstract quality, sometimes featuring thicker black lines dividing basic forms. The sketches of Nicaraguan villages are in this vein and contain a suggestion of folk art that seems suitable for the region depicted.

Watercolours of boats in Salt Spring harbours also have an abstract edge, constructed with organic blocks of tone to reliably reproduce water's motion and the leafy shoreline, while the boats themselves are of the homey, workday variety rather than ornate sloops.

Simons' tender translation of the human environment can be seen at kiZmit through May. Opening hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

The cafe is located on Beaver Point Road between Beaver Point Hall and Ruckle Park.

LIVE THEATRE

GISPA students reel in Big Fish for year-end show

ArtSpring performances
May 14 & 15

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts students are in the final stages of preparing for their year-end finale, with a custom-made collaboration of music, dance and acting in store for audiences during a unique retelling of Big Fish.

With only two nights at ArtSpring on Wednesday and Thursday, May 14 and 15, islanders should ensure to get tickets early. The popular annual event has become known for having a production value that rivals any Salt Spring performance, whether amateur or professional. GISPA has also set the bar for uniting three streams of study into one cohesive offering that allows everyone to shine.

This year's production comes courtesy of a novel study in English class, where the original book by Daniel Wallace was introduced. GISPA students used the novel, as well as a few scenes from the Tim Burton movie and a more recent Broadway musical, to put together their own retelling of the story, which features a series of fantastic events described by a dying father to his skeptical son.

"The whole thing is made out of these tall tales the father tells his son," said dance student Zoe Hasenfratz. "He's on his deathbed and the son is trying to find out who his father really was. But he can't, because it's all fantasy."

Acting student Brittany McAree has participated in many theatre productions in both major and minor capacities in the past. She says Big Fish stands out from among those previous experiences.

"It's absolutely amazing just because it's so different from anything I've worked on before. It's definitely special — it's mythical and a really beautiful story," she said.

"Basically it's positive but sad at the same

time, but really nice because of the character development."

Students in GISPA's music stream have been responsible for bringing all the elements together through their compositions, as well as creating pieces to develop characters and building music to support choreography.

"It was really experimental this year," said Phœnix Lazare, who is completing her fourth and final year in the program and at high school.

"We really tried to focus on what's happening. And it's set in the '50s, so we tried to channel '50s music."

Performers will appear on stage as if part of a radio station that goes on and off the air, keeping in tune with that '50s vibe.

In terms of the choreography, Hasenfratz said the dancers worked on several themes, including the returning motif of water and its movement. Feelings and moods were strong drivers for both individual and collaborative creations.

"I guess it's really just portraying characters' emotions in a scene through body movement or music," Hasenfratz explained about their process.

The unity between dance, music and characters is essential since there are so many different threads to keep track of.

"All the characters have different things you can relate to, and that's really nice," McAree observed.

"It's really cool, I personally think, that we have a lot of different actors playing different characters and you can really tell the characters apart."

Presented with GISPA's typical flair for costuming, this time with the cool '50s edge, audiences will have a full audio-visual entertainment experience that anyone young or old can enjoy.

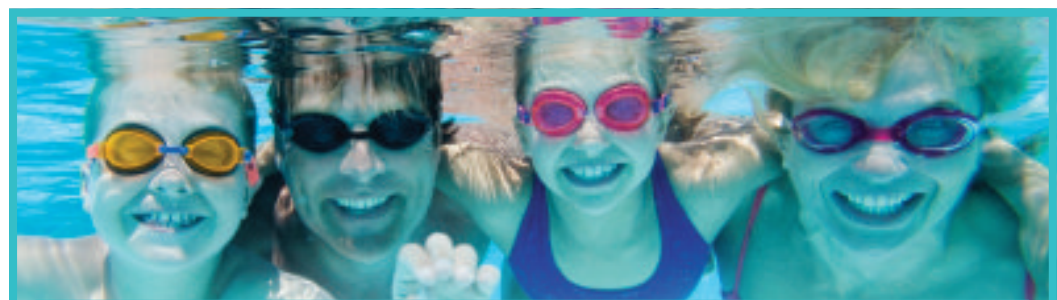
"It's definitely appropriate for all ages. It's really colourful, like a circus," Lazare said.

Shows start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available online at tickets/artspring.ca or at the ArtSpring box office.



PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON FOR GISPA
Actor Brittany McAree in a promotional shot for GISPA's Big Fish show, which runs at ArtSpring May 14-15.



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Energizer 8:00 - 9:00		Energizer 8:00 - 9:00		Energizer 8:00 - 9:00		
Open	Lap Swim 9:00 - 10:30	Open	Lap Swim 9:00 - 10:30	Open		
Aqualite 9:30 - 10:30		Aqualite 9:30 - 10:30		Aqualite 9:30 - 10:30		
Lessons & Lap 10:30 - 12:30	Lessons & Lap 10:30 - 12:30	Lessons & Lap 10:30 - 12:30	Lessons & Lap 10:30 - 12:30	Lessons & Lap 10:30 - 12:30		
Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		
Nooner 1:00 - 2:00	Adult Youth 1:00 - 2:00	Nooner 1:00 - 2:00	Adult Youth 1:00 - 2:00	Nooner 1:00 - 2:00		
Everyone Welcome 2:00 - 6:30	Everyone Welcome 2:00 - 5:30	Everyone Welcome 2:00 - 6:30	Everyone Welcome 2:00 - 5:30	Everyone Welcome 2:00 - 6:30		
Shared 4:30 - 6:30		Shared 4:30 - 6:30				
Swim Team 6:30 - 8:00	Swim Team 5:30 - 8:00	Swim Team 6:30 - 8:00	Swim Team 5:30 - 8:00	Friday Night Madness 6:30 - 9:00		
Evening Lengths 8:00 - 9:00	Evening Lengths 8:00 - 9:00	Evening Lengths 8:00 - 9:00	Evening Lengths 8:00 - 9:00			
					Toonie Swim 1:30 - 5:30	

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MUSIC CELEBRATION

Salt Spring label pulls out all the stops for the big 50

Saturday night show for Interchill

Interchill Records celebrates its 50th album release with a show at Mahon Hall on Saturday, May 10.

The world-renowned Salt Spring enterprise will welcome Jinniyah, made up of

producer, journalist and label owner Gio Makyo from Tokyo and producer/percussionist Drumsyde from California for the show that starts at 9 p.m.

Also performing with Jinniyah are two of Japan's finest tribal bellydancers — E-Chan and Milla. The show will start with sets from Gordon Field

and Andrew, and Drumsyde will play the last set after Jinniyah.

Sumptuous decor and delicious raw food will be provided by Seed of Life Catering. Tickets for this all-ages show are \$20 and available at the door only from 9 p.m.

As Andrew Ross-Collins of Interchill explains in a press

release, the label started out in Montreal and went on to release its first compilation — Northern Circuits — in 1997.

"Known for putting out quality downtempo, dub and world-beat sounds, the island-based label has built a catalogue of music from a network of artists from all around the world."

Ross-Collins said the 50th release will be the album called Firedance by U.K. act Kaya Project, out on May 13, followed by an EP of remixes by Seb Taylor, Grouch and former island resident Kami-nanda.

Current releases can be streamed and downloaded at interchill.bandcamp.com and more information about the label and artists is at interchill.com.

Locally, Salt Spring Sounds and Gaiama Yoga stock CDs.

Looking ahead, Interchill has a release schedule filled for the next 12 months and label artists booked to headline music festival stages the world over.

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LOCAL AUTHORS

Wild book makes the case for mythology

Salt Spring's Bob Wild publishes Realm of the Sacred

BY PAT BARCLAY
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

You really have to hand it to Salt Spring's Robert C. ("Bob") Wild.

His strong belief in the value of telling our stories to each other is once again substantiated by a fresh despatch from the frontier of the personal spiritual journey of this nominally "retired" Anglican priest.

Taken together, Wild's various writings constitute a modern-day Pilgrim's Progress. And this time out as never before, he minces few words.

"[My] central conviction is that Christianity needs to be profoundly re-imagined in the 21st century," he announces. "A supernatural world 'existed' for early peoples because something in the human heart profoundly desired this to be

true," he argues. Further: "Spiritual awareness has become a significant element in the evolution of human nature . . . We wonder who we are, where our being came from, and where it is going."

Referring to what he terms "The Hebrew Exception" compared to other religions of the Near East, he writes: "It is important to realize that these early writings were history mythologized."

Of mythology itself, he writes: "Wherever it occurs, a strong mythological tradition expresses the spiritual essence of the society which both creates it and is created by it. There is a dynamic interplay . . . and each person becomes unconsciously conditioned by [it]."

Fast forward to today, when the early "Christ Myth of . . . Creation, Fall, Redemption and Eternal Salvation . . . has gradually become obsolete" as competing myths of technological progress and the acquisitive society take its place. Assem-

bling on the horizon, however, are new discoveries about the cosmos and a growing consciousness of the sacredness of Earth.

"Wherever it occurs, a strong mythological tradition expresses the spiritual essence of the society which both creates it and is created by it."

BOB WILD
The Realm of the Sacred

"There is a fundamental unity between human spirituality and Mother Earth," writes Wild. "We need a new myth and its mythological expressions which can express this

unity." It is his central message in *Realm of the Sacred*.

In support, Wild produces an impressive array of biblical examples, informed musings and personal revelations. He claims "apocalyptic theology . . . can only lead us down a blind alley," states his qualified disapproval of Paul's teachings, and champions the "unconditional loving" of Jesus vs. the "opposing theme of divine judgement and punishment."

He also gives examples of "spiritual practices which strengthen the work of soul," cites many worthwhile references, and offers excerpts from his own "pilgrim's notebook." Above all, Bob Wild's *Realm of the Sacred* seeks to leave us with an image of Jesus that conveys "new life, now, and not salvation in the future." Which does rather suggest the presence of an emerging mythology, inspired by spring and resurrection as harbingers of a new way of life on planet Earth.

Realm of the Sacred is available at Salt Spring bookstores.

EXHIBITIONS

Women artists inspire kid-sized exhibition

Film screening and show on tap at ArtSpring

Ten young artists between the ages of 10 and 12 will show how they have been influenced by iconic women artists of the 20th century with an exhibit of their own at ArtSpring opening this week.

The show, which runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily from Sunday,

May 11 to Wednesday, May 14, is the result of studio work funded by ArtSpring and facilitated by art educator Tracy Harrison. Harrison said she was thrilled to introduce personal heroes Georgia O'Keeffe, Emily Carr and Frida Kahlo to local students. These three remarkable artists were in turn the source of inspiration for new images by island youth.

"Each woman is an inspiring model of belief in self as artist, rising to iconic status worldwide," Harrison noted.

Part of the children's introduction to the artists was viewing the award-winning documentary *Bone Wind Fire* by Canadian filmmaker Jill Sharpe. Sharpe will be on Salt Spring for the exhibition's opening reception on Monday, May 12. She will present an artist's talk on her seven-year process making the film and painting series



Film still from *Bone Wind Fire* by Jill Sharpe.

inspired by it at 7 p.m., with a film screening to follow at 7:30.

Bone Wind Fire is a meditation on the work of the three artists, each of whom centered much of their art on the environments in which they painted: O'Keeffe's extraordinary desert landscapes of New Mexico, Carr's lush rain forests of British Columbia, and Kahlo's heat and dust

of Mexico City.

Produced by the National Film Board of Canada's Vancouver studio, the film has won Best Canadian Film at Montreal's International Festival of Films on Art, an Artistic Innovation Award from Vancouver Women in Film and Television and Best Short Documentary at the Sonoma International Film Festival, among other awards and nominations.

SAFE BOATING WEEK

MARINE SEARCH & RESCUE

Busy boating season already begun

Salt Spring's auxiliary group in high gear

May is a busy month for RCMSAR Station 25 as more people take to the water for the summer season and the number of incidents increases.

Boating safety is a key part of what we do, and Salt Spring's marine search and rescue volunteers were over at Maple Bay Yacht Club recently to conduct 26 vessel safety checks, and again this last weekend at Salt Spring Island Sailing Club.

Our annual program of primary school presentations is underway, with members visiting schools throughout the southern Gulf Islands to provide basic marine safety information.

Our junior program is progressing well, with six students from the high school well on their way to achieving basic crew level.

Later this month on May 24 our popular marine garage sale will return and give islanders a chance to donate useful gear and pick up some great bargains too. (See story below.) Visitors will also be able to buy tickets to our firewood raffle, with the winning ticket to be drawn at the fall fair.

Anyone interested in volunteering for marine search and rescue is invited to come and meet us to find out more.

Full information on Station 25 can be found at www.rcmsar25.com.

Article submitted by Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Station 25.



PHOTO BY LARRY MELIIOUS

RCMSAR Station 25 volunteers in Sansum Narrows.



PHOTO BY PER SVENDSEN

RCMSAR Station 25 coxswain Nic Futter at a recent Maple Bay Yacht Club vessel safety check event.

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GARAGE SALE

Marine treasures wanted

Sale aids operations and education

Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society volunteers are looking for marine items for their third annual fundraising garage sale.

Volunteers will consider any marine-theme donations, from anchors to Zodiacs, so long as items are in good condition. Proceeds from the sale will fund boating safety, school programs, and search and rescue operations.

Donations can be dropped off between 3 and 6 p.m. on Friday, May 23 at the search and rescue building (294 Fulford-Ganges Rd.). Pickup of items can be arranged by calling Ronan at 250-537-7248.

People with an interest in marine-related items are encouraged to bring their friends and family to the sale and support the island's Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue group.

The marine garage sale is at 294 Fulford-Ganges Rd. between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 24.

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what's on this week



Wed. May 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Cross. Guitar player/vocalist performs at free Music & Munch recital. Optional lunch for \$5.50 follows. All Saints' By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Texas Holdem Poker. The Local. Sign-up at 6:30 p.m.
SongJam. Informal group singing of 6 decades of classic rock and pop hits and more. Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Thurs. May 8

ACTIVITIES

Community Information Meeting on RAR. Islands Trust-sponsored meeting about the proposed Riparian Areas Regulation bylaw. ArtSpring exhibition area. 5 to 8 p.m.
Poetry Night Open Mic. Ahava Shira is featured poet for the night, with special guest Nomi Lyonns. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m., with open mic sign-up at 6:45.

Fri. May 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Soul Shakedown. The Local. Free appies at 5 p.m. with music from 6 to 9 p.m.
Duck Creak. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Helix Dance Theatre: Let Your Spirit Soar. Pre-professional youth dance company from Parksville performs. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.
Ange Hehr. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

StoryTime at the Library. For kids aged 10 and under and their families. SS Public Library. 10:30 a.m.

Fri. May 9

ACTIVITIES

The Radicle Seed Library. Salt Spring Island Public Library. Noon to 2 p.m.
Sea Kayak Guides Alliance Exchange. Island Escapades welcomes Kayak guides from all over B.C. May 9 to 11.

Sat. May 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Bros. The Local. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Brent Shindell. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Wii Mimnaugh. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.
Interchill presents Jinniyah. 50th album release celebration with Tokyp-based performers Jinniyah and tribal belly-dancers E-Chan and Milla; plus DJs Drumsydyer, Gordon Field and Andrew. All ages. Mahon Hall. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

Sat. May 10

ACTIVITIES

Invasive Plant Drop-off Day. Bring broom and other invasive species for disposal. Small donation is requested to cover disposal costs. Portlock Park. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Met Opera - La Cenerentola. With Rossini virtuosos, soprano Joyce DiDonato and tenor Juan Diego Flórez. ArtSpring. 10 a.m.
Harold Steves. Agricultural Land Reserve promoter, farmer and activist speaks. Admission by donation. Farmers' Institute. 2 p.m.
SS Centre School Random Acts of Kindness. Treasure for hunt kids 10 and under. Centennial Park. 2 p.m.
Northern Grease Film Screening. With Beyond Boarding crew in attendance. Lions Hall. 8 p.m.

Sun. May 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Latin Jazz. With Alvaro Sanchez & The Chamigos. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association Rideathon/Walkathon. Ride or walk the beautiful trails for pledges. Entry and sponsorship forms available at www.sstr.a.ca or 250-653-0043. Anderson/McEwen property. 11 a.m.
Mother's Day Champagne Picnic. Bring your own picnic — and mom — to Salt Spring Vineyards. 12 to 5 p.m.
Foosball Fun. The Local. 1 p.m.

Mon. May 12

ACTIVITIES

Bone Wind Fire Film Screening. Film on artists Georgia O'Keefe, Emily Carr and Frida Kahlo as part of opening event for Kid Size Exhibit of work inspired by those artists at ArtSpring. Filmmaker Jill Sharpe will give an artist's talk at 7 p.m., followed the film at 7:30 p.m.
ToddlerTime. For parents and children under four. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 10:30 a.m.

Tue. May 13

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Probus Meeting. Guest speaker is John Macpherson, who was chair of the Salt Spring Governance Study Committee through interesting times. Meaden Hall. 10 a.m. to noon.
Family Fitness At Portlock Park. Parents and children ages 0-6. Portlock Park. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Grief Recovery Program. Spring session begins today. Call Salt Spring Hospice at 250-537-2770 for details.
Vesak Celebration. Multi-lineage Buddhist celebration of the full moon in May — the Buddha's birthday, and day of his enlightenment and death. Meditation, chanting and social. All welcome. The Gatehouse. 7 p.m.

Wed. May 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

GISPA presents Big Fish. A visually stunning student-led union of theatre, music and dance, based on the novel by Daniel Wallace. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Library Writers' Group. Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Salt Spring Library Room 103. 2 to 4 p.m.
Reverend Wilson and the 'Fair Play' Papers of 1893. Usha Rautenbach gives the Salt Spring Historical Society's monthly presentation. Central Community Hall. 2 to 4 p.m.
Grid-tied Solar For Salt Spring. First in a new series of free Wednesday public information presentations on renewable energy subjects. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 4 to 5 p.m.
SongJam. See last Wednesday's listing.
Texas Holdem Poker. See last Wednesday's listing.

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@driftwoodmedia.com

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL: news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

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CINEMA

The Grand Budapest Hotel — Held over! This film recounts the adventures of Gustave H, a legendary concierge at a famous European hotel between the wars, and the lobby boy who becomes his most trusted friend. The story involves the theft and recovery of a priceless Renaissance painting and the battle for an enormous family fortune. Featuring an amazing all-star cast with Ralph Fiennes, Bill Murray, Tom Wilkinson, Edward Norton, Jude Law, Tilda Swinton and more.

EXHIBITIONS

- Emily Carr, Georgia Okeefe and Frida Kahlo** Kid-Size Exhibit of work by 10 young artists. Sunday, May 11 to Wednesday, May 14 at **ArtSpring**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with an opening art talk with Bone Wind Fire filmmaker **Jill Sharpe** on Monday, May 12 at 7 p.m., and screening of the film at 7:30 p.m.
- Symbolically 8 Exhibition** celebrates the 5th anniversary of **Gallery 8** and features all gallery artists. Runs until May 11.
- Gwen McDonald and Curt Firestone** show photos in the **Harbour House Hotel** lobby and restaurant through May.

- Art Simons** artworks are at **kizmit cafe and gallery** through May. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.
- POD Contemporary Gallery** shows a **Sophia Burke** photography exhibition until May 16.
- Above & Below**, an exhibit of work that gives viewers a look above and below local waters, is on display in the **Library Program Room** through May. Participating artists are **Melodie Herbert, Libby Jutras, Ingrid Korner, Jackie Meredith, Bernadette Mertens-McAllister, Judy Nurse, Herb Otto, Ellen Mae Simmonds, Margaret Threlfall, and Doug Wahlsten.**
- Balancing Act: Interim Report** is the latest body of work from **Jeanne Lyons**. The exhibit, which is featured in the **ArtSpring lobby** from May 1 to May 30, includes works on paper using graphite, coloured pencils and pastels. The exhibit is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on weekends and evenings when performances are scheduled.
- 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.
- Jerry Witmer** shows imaginary landscapes in acrylic at **Island Savings**.

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

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SPONSORSHIP

Island girl aims for Miss Teen Canada title



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Minah Jacobson, a participant in the Miss Teen Canada Globe competition.

Help needed to attend competition

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

She may be only in Grade 8, but Salt Spring teenager Minah Jacobson is already thinking beyond what the island community can ultimately offer and setting her sights on the national and international arenas.

Currently finishing up her last year at Salt Spring Middle School, Jacobson could start high school in September with a huge title to her credit. An interest in modelling has resulted in her being recruited for the Miss Teen Canada Globe competition, with a weeklong series of events taking place in Toronto starting Aug. 14.

"It was kind of a surprise," Jacobson said of being scouted for the competition. "I was really excited and now it's kind of a big thing to take on."

"I'm really proud of myself, but this is kind of a really big thing because it's televised and it's going to be crazy."

Jacobson, who turns 14 this June, will be competing in several categories during the competition week, as well as doing fun activities and networking with other participants aged 13 to 18. In addition to fun get-togethers like karaoke night, she'll be facing her fellow competitors in bathing suit, ball gown and talent events. She is also responsible for choosing a charity to promote or raise funds for.

Jacobson has a wide variety of interests that include photography, sports, horseback riding and music; she would like to learn how to play guitar and ukelele one day. For her talent competition she'll be centering on her interest in words and current events, doing slam poetry focused on education and society.

"I'm hoping that will cause change," she said.

As for the bathing suit component, Jacobson said Miss Teen Canada Globe is more concerned with bringing out inner beauty and confidence than requiring its contestants to conform to one ideal shape or size.

Jacobson has been receiving tips on what to do and not to do from a previous winner who is acting as a mentor, and she will have the chance to meet with other girls in the region before the main event. Expanding her contacts across the nation, with the potential to go on to international competitions, is a large part of the appeal.

"I'm really hoping to meet new people and get noticed," Jacobson said. "It's really just to have a good experience and have good memories."

Jacobson needs to raise \$3,000 to take her place at the pageant and is seeking pledges and other fundraising opportunities. Pledges will be put toward the event productions, transportation and participation in the competition. Business sponsors that contribute larger donations will have an opportunity for national recognition through an ad in the official program book.

Pledges can be made at Spa By Lenice in Grace Point Square or at the middle school. Lenice (Jacobson's mother) is also the contact for business sponsorships.

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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Card players do Dyngus Day

Most obscure holidays marked by club

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Unless you're Polish or from Chicago or Buffalo or somewhere like that, you mightn't know that Easter Monday is also known as Dyngus Day (Wet Monday, because of some countries' customs of throwing water around).

It's celebrated in those cities with parades and Chopin and polkas. And here on Easter Monday (April 21) six full tables danced their way to Seniors for duplicate bridge and a Howell movement where nobody gets to stay in the same place.

Number one Dynguses (not at all

BRIDGETRICKS

wet) were George Laundry and Paul Retallack, with Ian Thomas and Zelly Taylor polkaing to second place. Liz and Oleh Mycyk whirled third, and Joanne Elizabeth with Jill Evans galumphed behind. Maybe the rest who were all wet wished for a better day with Chopin's Fantasie Impromptu.

Remember that movie flop with Clark Gable and Marilyn Monroe, appropriately named The Misfits? Sadly, it was the last movie for both of them, made in 1961. It must have come to mind for many of the players on April 28, when there were seven

and a half tables confronting cards which just wouldn't match up, and just plain awful ones. Nevertheless, there was a Mitchell movement and among the North/South players the Laundry-Retallack pair overcame the problems best, with the Bob Morrisette-Ron Hall partnership just edging out Jeff Bell and Marcia Jeanne.

It was good to see the return of Flo Laundry and Jean Elder after some absence, playing East/West and frisking to first, with Patricia Sutherland and Nick Beringer in second place and Michel Jutras with April Wright coming third.

Others may ponder the statement by O.J. Simpson's lawyer about the glove, and change it a bit: "If it doesn't fit, you must, er, quit."

HISTORY

Fair Play papers explored at talk

Local historian shares wisdom of Rev. E.F. Wilson

BY USHA RAUTENBACH
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

On Wednesday, May 14 at 2 p.m., I will be giving the Salt Spring Island Historical Society's monthly presentation in Central Hall.

The subject will be a dramatic midlife re-evaluation of one's past work; a profound insight gained by Reverend E.F. Wilson, long before he came to Salt Spring in 1894. Freed by anonymity, writing under the pseudonym "Fair

Play," the Reverend Wilson sure could express what he really felt, and what he thought of others. It is startling, eye-opening writing.

Some 120 years later, with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearing from residential school survivors, it is riveting to hear a voice like his — especially considering the stance he'd held before, as founder of one of the very first residential schools — to understand the reasons for a great wrong done, and achieve that difference in attitude hereafter that Rev. Edward Francis Wilson was so frustrated at being unable to effect in his own time.

Come hear if you "see the light" as he had seen it.

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WEDNESDAY

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

GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month for discussion and sharing at the Mormon Church, 7 p.m. Info: claudia2@shaw.ca; 250-537-2588.

every WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT-FULFORD HALL with Trisha, cert. personal trainer, 9 to 10 a.m. Co-ed classes. Workouts include circuits, intervals, etc. for total-body fitness. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

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

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

COMMUNITY KITCHEN. Sign up for weekly sessions at Family Place, 1 to 3 p.m. Info: 250-537-9176; familyplace@ssics.ca.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors, 12:45 p.m.

IMPROVISATIONAL COMEDY WORKSHOP for beginners to advanced students, aged 15 and up. A free, ongoing fun, informative and friendly workshop designed to teach you the art of improvisational comedy. GISS Room 208, 7 to 9 p.m. Info: workshop@janbarb.com.

MEDITATION GROUP suitable for beginners led meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333

MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.

PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance. Information and registration: anna@bonesforever.com

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

SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. If interested, contact club president Carol Dodd at 250-538-0079.

SWING DANCE — East Coast Swing, Lindy Hop, Fox Trot. Activity Centre at Salt Spring Elementary School, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Larry Nelson, Wendy Hartnett: 250-537-4118.

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

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (With beginners classes from 6:30 to 8 p.m.) Info: David, 250-537-1871.

YOGA — GET UP AND GO class with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. NEW!

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

YOGA with Dorothy Price. At The Gatehouse at Stowell Lake Farm, 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

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

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

THURSDAY

BOOK CLUB meets once a month on the second Thursday at Salt Spring Seniors in the lounge at 1:30 p.m.

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB open to all meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the library, 1 to 3 p.m.

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION — Group meditations for all who have learned TM. Last Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. Call 778-353-3014 for address and more information. Free introductory lectures by appointment.

YOUTH BOOK CLUB meets every other Thursday at the library at 3:30 p.m. For ages 10 to 14.

every THURSDAY

AL-ANON meets at the portable behind Lady Minto Hospital from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

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

DRAGONBOAT RACING team for men and women practices on Monday and Thursday from April to end of August. Carpool from Moby's pub: 5:30 p.m. Contact Mary Rowles, 250-653-4139; onthewater181@gmail.com for more info.

ELEMENTARY BRIDGE LESSONS take place at Salt Spring Seniors, 10 a.m.

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

FLOWIN' YOGA with Robert Prince at Still Point, 5 to 6 p.m.

KUNDALINI YOGA with Shannon Cowan at The Gatehouse at Stowell Lake Farm, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

MEDITATION AND CHAKRA TONING SESSION at Still Point Yoga Studio, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333.

MEN'S YOGA with Ken Katz at Still Point, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

NIA — Experience the joy of Nial Daytime "Over 50s" classes with Arleen at Fulford Hall Annex from 10 to 11 a.m. Sponsored by SSI Seniors. Call Donna at 250-653-9985 for info re fees. Call Arleen at 250-653-9235 for Nia info.

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

SENIORS LUNCH runs at Salt Spring Seniors at 12 noon.

SEVEN SPIRITUAL LAWS Meditation Mantra Mudra with Deborah Stevenson at Still Point, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

STAY & PLAY DROP-IN at Family Place for ages 0 to 6 and caregivers. Come for a bowl of soup. Toy library open, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info: David, 250-537-1871.

VIJNANA YOGA with Liz Young at The Gatehouse at Stowell Lake Farm, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

YOGA FOR WOMEN with Shannon Cowan at The Gatehouse, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m. PLUS class at North End Fitness class from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., with babysitting available.

YOGA - Noontime Flow with Dorothy Price at Gaimea Yoga, 12:10 to 1:10 p.m.

FRIDAY

NEW WRITERS' GROUP aims to meet on the first Friday of each month at Salt Spring Seniors, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Call Helani Davison at 250-931-5555 or Seniors at 250-537-4604 for more info.

every FRIDAY

BELLYFIT-WARRIOR with Trina Aspinall at Still Point, 6 to 7 p.m. NEW!

BOOMERFIT-BEAVAR POINT HALL with Trisha, cert. personal trainer, 9 to 10 a.m. Co-ed classes, workouts include circuits, intervals, etc. for total-body fitness. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

BRIDGE GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:45 p.m.

CHURCH OF REGGAE yoga with Adam Clarkson at Still Point until Feb. 28, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

CONJURING CLUB meets at the Salt Spring Library, Room 106, 3:30 p.m.

COFFEE TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors at 10 a.m.

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

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT™ CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m. Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable.

Information and registration: anna@bonesforever.com.

MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:15 p.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion, 5 p.m.

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

PICKLEBALL at Fulford Hall. Equipment provided, 6 to 8 p.m. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579; hafizbhijmi@shaw.ca.

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

STAY & PLAY DROP-IN at Family Place for ages 0 to 6 and caregivers. Light lunch provided, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY for kids under the age of 10 and their families, 10:30 a.m.

TANGO PRACTICA on the third floor of the Core Inn, 8 to 10 p.m. Info: Mana 250-653-0099.

YOGA — GET UP AND GO class with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. NEW!

every SATURDAY

DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST. Drop-in at Family Place, 120 Park Drive, with free pancakes for dads and kids aged 0 to 6, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion, 5 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints with Lok Hup Practice from 10:30 to 11 a.m.; open practice from 10:30 to 12 noon.

YOGA - BEGINNERS' CLASS with Dorothy Price at Gaimea Yoga, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

every SUNDAY

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

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

PICKLEBALL at Fulford Hall. Equipment provided, 9 to 11 a.m. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579; hafizbhijmi@shaw.ca.

POKER at the Legion, 1 p.m.

QI GONG with Ne'ith Arrow — Still Point Yoga Studio, 2 to 3:15 p.m.

MONDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC on the last Monday of each month at SS Seniors, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT trustees hold their business meetings on the third Monday of each month at the Ganges Fire Hall, 7 p.m. Public welcome.

every MONDAY

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

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

BOOMERFIT-FULFORD HALL with Trisha, Cert. Personal Trainer, 9 to 10 a.m. Co-ed classes, workouts include circuits, intervals, etc. for total-body fitness.

Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

DRAGONBOAT RACING team for men and women practices on Monday and Thursday from April to end of August. Carpool from Moby's pub: 5:30 p.m. Contact Mary Rowles, 250-653-4139; onthewater181@gmail.com for more info.

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

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

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

KUNDALINI YOGA FOR BEGINNERS at North End Fitness, 1 to 2 p.m. Free for members, \$7 drop-in.

LEVEL 1/SENIORS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

Drop-ins welcome.

MOVEMENT INTELLIGENCE CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio. WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER.

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

SALT SPRING SCRABBLE CLUB meets at the library every Monday afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. For more information at the club, contact John at ssscrabbleclub@gmail.com.

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

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (with Lok Hup practice from 6:30 to 7 p.m.) Info: David, 250-537-1871.

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

TODDLERTIME at the library for children under four and their families, 10:30 a.m.

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

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

VISSANNA MEDITATION with Nicola Bishop at Still Point Yoga Studio, 7 to 8:15 p.m.

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

YOGA WITH CATE for teachers and friends at SIMS Theatre Arts studios, 3:45 to 5 p.m. Info: Cate, 250-653-9148, cmcween@saltspring.com

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Shannon Joyce at Still Point Yoga Studio, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.

TUESDAY

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

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

every TUESDAY

ART GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.

BELLYFIT class with Trina Spinnall at Still Point Yoga Studio, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. NEW!

CHAIR YOGA FOR SOUTH-END SENIORS with Gate McEwen at Fulford Hall, 2 to 3 p.m. Info: Cate, 250-653-9148, cmcween@saltspring.com

CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors, 6:30 p.m.

EVERYBODY MOVE with Catherine Bennett at Still Point Yoga Studio from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

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

KUNDALINI MOVING MEDITATION from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and ECKHART TOLLE PRACTISING PRESENCE from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info: Amrita, 250-537-2799.

LOST CHORDS seniors choir practices at Salt Spring Seniors, 10:30 a.m.

MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society, The Gatehouse at Stowell Lake Farm. Teachings offered by donation with Insight Meditation Teacher Heather Martin, 7:30 p.m.

NIA — Experience the Joy of Nial Daytime classes with Arleen at Still Point Yoga Studio from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Call Arleen at 250-653-9235 for more info (and ask about Tuesday evening classes in Ganges as well).

PICKLEBALL at Fulford Hall. Equipment provided, 10 a.m. to noon. Info: Hafiz, 250-653-9579; hafizbhijmi@shaw.ca.

ROLLER DERBY — Learn to roller skate with The Committed roller-derby group, Fulford Hall, 6 to 7 p.m. Info: Kaleigh, 250-653-9606.

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

SMARTSOMATICS classes with Helly Kostelick at North End Fitness from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. SMARTSOMATICS are gentle and effective with quick results. Once learned this can be done at home to reduce pain, stress and sore muscles. Info: 250-537-2056.

STAY & PLAY DROP-IN at Family Place for ages 0 to 6 and caregivers. Come for a bowl of soup. Toy library open, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info: David, 250-537-1871.

UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Stalter, Still Point Yoga Studio, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

YOGA - Noontime Flow with Dorothy Price at Gaimea Yoga, 12:10 to 1:10 p.m.


YOGA VIJNANA/FLOW with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. (New time)

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — Yin Style and Restorative, SS Centre of Yoga, 5 to 6 p.m.

YOGA WITH GAY MEAGLEY at The Gatehouse on Stowell Lake Farm, 5 to 6:45 p.m.

YOGA WITH CATE — All levels, at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

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Ruckle Heritage Farm Day

PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

Below, umbrellas and raincoats were out in force at Ruckle Heritage Farm Day on Sunday as people watched a rope-making exercise, while at left, Emily McNish had her face painted to match her ladybug rain slicker, and Sandra Hodgins separated wool before carding it as part of an old-time skills demonstration.



RANTS and Roses

Rants

A truckload of manure to the lady who walked away with the wheelchair from Country Grocer. I, along with many other disabled people who cannot walk, appreciated using the wheelchair to get groceries. Now when I can get someone to drive me, I cannot shop — no wheelchair in sight! You could have got one from the Red Cross depot without thievery. I am truly stuck at home. Dolores Bird

Roses

A pick-up full of purple passion-flowers for Steve Edge, best friend extraordinaire, Leslie Wiens, best trainer in the world, and my sister Tracey Dory; for all their lovely love and support during these past very challenging months. Maureen Phelan

Huge fragrant roses to John and Joanne at Agrichem Analytical for the fantastic lab analysis that you do on soil and water. We are so lucky to have your local expertise here on this island. I hope Salt Springers

will realize the value of this service and support you.

Roses all around for those who helped in putting on "Who's that Dame?" Our hospice volunteers put up posters, forwarded emails, baked cookies and attended a terrific story-telling presentation about Dame Cicely Saunders, founder of the modern hospice movement. In particular, red and white roses of gratitude to Pharmasave Salt Spring for enabling hospice to present this enlightening afternoon about how it all began.

Wheelbarrows full of flowers, veggies, puppies and nature. They say it takes a community to raise a child. It also takes a community to care for our loved ones. There are so many to thank who so cared for Elsie Cochrane during her illness. This continuation of thanks from last week's paper goes to Patrick Beattie of Hayward's Funeral Service, Rev. Clark Saunders and the UCW Tea Team of the United Church, Virginia Reynolds, Salt Spring Fire Department, community nurses, Thrifty Foods and

the Sendial program, Jim Pasuta, and all those who gave her support and encouragement. Bless Salt Spring Island.

A huge bunch of festive-coloured roses to all the supporters of Fulford Elementary School PAC's Family Dance on Saturday. Many thanks to all the artisans, retailers, restaurants and companies who generously donated so many wonderful items to the silent auction. A bouquet of appreciation to Birgit and Robert Bateman for donating a beautiful print for the raffle. Thanks to Country Grocer, Laughing Daughters Bakery, Thrifty's and TJ Beans for donating food and beverages. Thanks also to the GISS Culinary Arts Program, whose members baked such tasty treats. Thanks to all the families who attended the dance and brought their skills and talents to make the event happen. Thanks to Matt LaCarte and Catherine Black and their Never Never Band for the amazing music that kept everyone dancing!

Rain-freshened roses to all the wonderful folks who were not daunted by the weather, and still came out to attend Ruckle Heritage Farm Day. Thank you so much for coming! Armfuls of roses to all the volunteers who came out to make our day a great one in spite of the very rainy day. Many thanks from Mike and Marjorie Lane, Ruckle Farm

Either a baker's dozen of brilliant red roses or 2,287 bright yellow not-so creeping buttercups (take your pick!) to Jean Gelwicks and company for the Ganges Pathway Network. This afternoon, I discovered that I can walk from my house on Desmond Crescent to the Lions Club on Drake Road in 13 minutes taking 2,287 steps — nowhere near my allotted 10,000 steps per day.

A van full of roses to many people who stopped for us to offer help when we were stuck on Beddis Road. A big bundle of roses especially to the couple who drove all the way to the garage for the rescue. Thank you, everyone. Thank you, Erik! Thank you, Richard! Aki

here's my card

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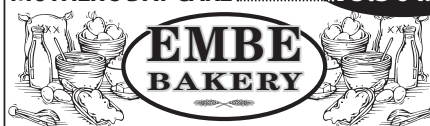
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ISLAND APPRECIATION

My special place: Salt Spring Island

MacKenzie Rogier, age 13, lives in Richmond, B.C. Her Salt Spring friends shared this piece with the Driftwood.

BY MACKENZIE ROGIER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Every Easter long weekend, my family, some family friends and I go to Salt Spring.

Behind our house there is this little strip of beach. Here I will see Jenn (her parents own the house that we stay in), her husband Ben, their son Nathan, Heather and Sasha and their two kids Abby and Claire.

I see the mesmerizing view of the other half of the island across the blue water, the bright purple of the starfish, like the house on the corner of Lamond Road scattered across the beach after the tide goes out, little slimy sea cucumbers, millions of rocks all across the beach, the few trees that offer a little shade, the occasional sea otter popping its head out from under the water like it was playing whack-a-mole, and the steep wooden stairs leading up to our house.

I hear the loud sounds of boat horns and engines, the gentle lapping of the waves, the hum of human voices, the annoying squawk of seagulls, the creak of our wooden stairs and the gentle sounds of leaves in the wind.

I smell the sweet salty sea air mixed



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Richmond resident MacKenzie Rogier, 13, takes photos on Maracaibo-area beach she loves to visit on Salt Spring.

with the bitter smell of starfish and seaweed. The soft smell of pine drifting down from the forest and the faint reek of fish.

I taste the freshness of the sea on my tongue, my sandwich and sometimes the occasional drop of sand.

I touch the soft, damp, squishy skin of the starfish, the spongy feel of sea cucumbers, the smooth but distin-

guished shape of rocks, rough wood on the stairs and the scratchiness of barnacles.

Here I love to run like the wind, explore, climb, jump, shout and just have fun.

When I am here I forget all of my problems. I am happy, relaxed, excited and carefree.

This is my special place.

PEACE PARK

History of park cooperation highlighted

Tree and plant dedication info sought

BY DEBBIE MAGNUSSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

When a glimpse of island history is offered, it often presents a view of people living with integrity and vision for the world.

Part 1: Ottawa, 1992: A Canadian vision for peace is conveyed in a meaningful nationwide program called Peace Parks Across Canada, organized by the International Institute for Peace through Tourism.

On Salt Spring Island, the Voice of Women took on this project and followed the suggested "planting 12 trees, to represent the 12 provinces and territories" (although when the park was dedicated, there were 13 provinces and territories — and Salt Spring has the honour of being the first community to plant a tree for Nunavut). Memorial trees have been planted,



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

The Japanese gate at Salt Spring's Peace Park and Heiwa Garden.

yearly events are held on Hiroshima Day at the Peace Rock, and the legacy of working towards a peaceful world continues.

Part 2: Salt Spring Island, 2005: The Japanese Garden Society was formed in the interest of building a public space where the history of Japanese-

Canadian pioneers is acknowledged. Named the Heiwa Garden, visitors were first welcomed through the beautiful Japanese garden gate in 2009. Volunteers hold events working for peace, reconciliation and cross-cultural unity. It furthers the intention of the Voice of Women as

a place of peace and harmony. Salt Spring Parks and Recreation staff help with maintenance and the society's devoted volunteers contribute throughout the year by weeding, feeding and planting.

Part 3: Salt Spring Island, 2013/14: The Ometepe-Gulf Islands Friendship Association has a tree planted in memory of former islander Jonathan Roise. Jonathan co-created Si a la Vida!, a society in Nicaragua that has built two "casas" where boys are helped to come in from the streets, be educated, returned to good health and socialized into contributing members of their communities. A gathering to honour Jonathan will be held this year on his birthday, May 11.

Now the parts merge. While planning the memorial for Jonathan, the members of OGIFA learned the original intention of Voice of Women members had urged that memorial trees and plants not be marked by plaques. Their prac-

tice, preference and value are that the park be plaque-free from personal dedications and to focus on and keep the wider vision of peace for all.

In addition, a history is being compiled for the Salt Spring Archives, which will be housed in the Salt Spring library. Anyone who knows of a tree or plant that was dedicated to a loved one's memory can add to the history of the Peace Park file being started by Marg Simons of both Voice of Women and OGIFA affiliation.

The Peace Park with its Heiwa Garden symbolizes the many people who are part of a variety of organizations on Salt Spring and who unflinchingly work towards peace and the well-being of people around the world. The age range of these dedicated people is like the plants in the park; natural, living treasures at every stage.

New members are welcomed by each group to sustain the good work already growing.

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Daphne Joyce Topping
November 8, 1921 - April 24, 2014

With family by her side, Daphne passed away April 24, 2014. Predeceased by husband Arthur. Survived by son Mel (Lorraine), grandchildren Derek (Kim), Debbie, great grandchildren Jeremy, Jordan and Kyle.

*There is no service by request.
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PLEASE CALL JOHN ELLACOTT 250-537-2870

Meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Community Hall Society

Tuesday 20th May, 2014 at 7:00 pm.
Public welcome

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 23

Alcoholics Anonymous Service Meetings

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WHAT'S ON page 16

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GET NOTICED page 18

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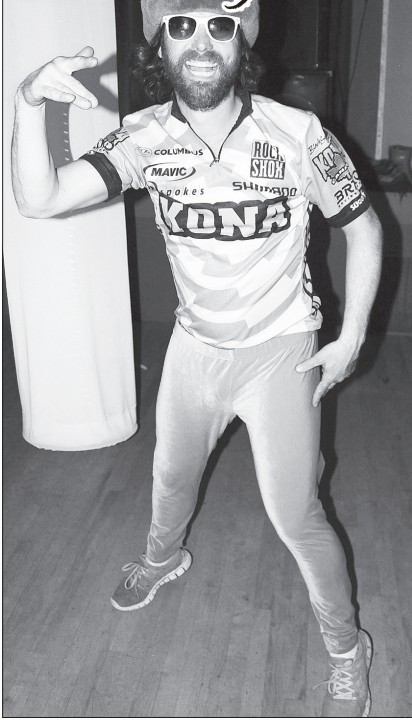
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SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 23

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Fancy Pants



PHOTOS BY KIM DALTON

An underground island tradition went official this year when Kim Dalton turned her annual birthday bash into a fundraiser for SOLID. The Fancy Pants party on May 3 netted over \$1,300 for the volunteer organization's African projects.



This Week's Horoscope

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

Tip of the Week:

The Solar Eclipse on April 28th has passed its first quarter turn on May 6th and is now pushing on towards full. Even the first turn will produce measurable results if that seed event is destined to produce important changes in your life. If so, outer circumstances are pressuring you to assume a decisive action mode. Yet, the fuller measure of the eclipse will reveal itself at the time of the Full Moon on May 14th. Although the Moon does not harbour life, nor emit its own light, only reflecting that of the sun, it does contribute immensely to life on earth. It is presented as a fact by cosmologists that without the moon there would be no life on our planet. In this respect, it acts as something of a regulator at least. It is also a clear indication of the passage of time. And it literal and symbolic purpose and power goes far beyond these vital contributions as well. In one's Natal chart, the Moon represents one's mother or the parent who expressed the maternal and ideally the nurturing role. So, whatever sign your Natal Moon is in generally describes how you perceived and experienced your mother in your formative childhood years. This fact is easily measured and demonstrated. The exact degree, the location of the moon in your chart and the aspects it makes to other planets describes the deeper story. With Mother's Day on Sunday May 11, we are drawn to pay special attention to mother. Generally, this implies our biological mother and doing so is natural, healthy and fulfilling. However, we can also direct our attention to mother in other ways. There is the principle of mother, of feminine, of nurturing and of all the miracle and mystery of the fact that life comes from life. By extension we can pay tribute as well to Mother Earth and Mother Nature. Given the plight of our times regarding the environment and the delicate ecological balance of nature, which sustains all life on the planet, we are wise to honour mother in all her expressions and we are reminded of some of her majesty as expressed in the waxing and waning cycle of the moon. Happy Mother's Day!

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

All being well your plans are laid and a promising momentum has been initiated. Now the pace is accelerating. There remain some delicate negotiations. The key is to exercise an open mind and aim to see things as others do. Commitment and resolve are good but stubborn butt headedness gets an E. Allow room for the unconventional for best results.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

You have entered new territory and in more ways than one. In the literal sense you are challenged to work harder. On the other hand innovation is percolating in the back of your mind. Intuitions to take an alternate approach are poking for attention. You continue to be busy on a variety of fronts. You are almost there. Persevere!

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Setting the stage for new experiences to come is on your radar. Learning new skills is important now, especially if you have not already been focused this way over the past couple of years. There is an element of 'feel the fear and do it anyway' lingering. This feeling is your friend. Concentrate to break through habitual perspectives to activate new directives.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Making new friends and strengthening existing alliances continues. This requires a diplomatic yet alternative approach. Try something new. Shake-it up somehow and show yourself and others that your intentions are woven with creative intelligence and originality. Sometimes we have to get out of our own way. Now is one of those times.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

Mixing business with pleasure is always satisfying when it works. Weaving arts and culture into an otherwise practical focus is likely now. A down flow of intuitions will be the result of this synthesis. Be open to receive and take note. You may feel the need to dig deeper these days to feel confident but you should be used to that by now.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

You are in the process of building upon a new vision. This is a call for strategic thinking. It includes deciphering who has the talents and resources you need. Avoidance and escapism will produce a double jeopardy now. Summon your internal captain archetype and bark a few orders if you must. And then be the good soldier that obeys the command.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

Financial considerations remain a central theme. A steady flow of changes on relationship fronts is featured. Perhaps you have moved or are planning to. Whether literally or figuratively, now is the time to make some important changes. These require some measure of investment. It may be as much about having ample energy as it is about money.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21)

Entering into new partnerships is on your mind. This includes research for practical and useable answers. You are hardly in a frivolous mood. Yet, the need to overcome inertia and apathy is a lingering challenge. At best you open to new ideas. Innovation is a key word. This is a call to blend perseverance with flexibility.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21)

Changes in your daily rhythm and routine are brewing. Ideally you are willing to try new things. Doing so is all part of the process of clearing the old to make way for the new. Yet, it is not just possessions that have served their time and worth it includes attitudes, self-concepts, perspectives and habitual approaches as well.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19)

A creative focus directed towards home and family is likely now. You are in the mood to do something different. As your world expands socially, it may feel like time to match it in your personal life, to create healthy balance. Giving or receiving training and instruction is also implied. Direct any criticisms to ideas and not at people and keep it constructive.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19)

You have arrived at a new juncture on your journey. Now you feel it is time to establish a more solid base. However, you may still have a few unexpected turns in the road to overcome. Uncertainty in certain respects has become the new norm. Yet, in the bigger picture you are likely advancing. Continue to find reason and opportunity to assert your authority through service.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Many new ideas and perspectives are on your mind. With your ambitions running high, you are open to new input and are willing to do things differently. Taking creative risks is important now, however be careful not to overextend yourself. Brainstorm for new ideas that you can actually build upon. Enjoy the intellectual stimulation but aim to keep it practical.

LIBRARY

Rainy days make for great reading

Lots to find on 'new' shelves

LIBRARYSHELF

BY MAGGIE WARBEY
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

While you wait for the rain to stop so you can get into your garden, here's a few suggestions from among the many great reads on the "new shelves" at the library. No matter what your interests or dreams, you're bound to find a good book to curl up with while you wait for the sunshine.

Think Like a Commoner: a Short Introduction to the Life of the Commons presents a new look at the concept of the 'commons' as a co-shared space in both time and place. Not just about mutually held and worked land, this book takes on cyber-space and a wide variety of other shared endeavours that reflect the "now" age. While the author gives a peek into the historical background and laws that cover shared occupation, he also examines how and why, as a society, we need to explore and accept a more cooperative outlook to the local and global world we share.

A fascinating and thought-provoking text about a strange theme, **Great Minds Speak to You** by Tina Louise Spalding presents the chan-

nelled voices of more than 20 of history's greatest minds and/or talents, including such luminaries as Albert Einstein, Marilyn Monroe, the Kennedys, John Lennon, even Jesus Christ. Jerry Garcia's message, "...the systematic use of these substances [drugs and alcohol] to achieve the goals that you wish to achieve in the consciousness evolution is not beneficial," hits the right chord, as does Princess Diana's: "Allow beings to live their life in peace, appreciating their wonderful contributions to the world in a gentle and spiritual way...." Accompanying the book is a CD of the actual channelling events that provided the content of the text.

Gender Failure is a poignant collection of autobiographical essays, lyrics, and images documenting the author's personal journeys from gender failure to gender self-acceptance. An important read for people of all gender persuasions, this book brings humour and humility, as well as honesty and pride, to accepting who we are and who we are with. Rae Spoon and Ivan Coyote, both award-winning writers and per-

formers, give faces and hearts to the question of gender and what it means in a complex and often unforgiving society.

Awakening Joy: 10 Steps That Will Put You on the Road to Real Happiness is filled with moving stories and rich teachings that provide the reader with tools to experience real happiness and well-being. Well, I'm hooked. This author tells you that you can decide to be happy; then he gives you the pathway to achieve this comforting goal. Each chapter presents one step that you can practice, along with exercises and practical advice to help you along your way. This book offers the simple and inspiring message that happiness is the birthright within each of us.

The new fiction shelf is also bulging with new publications by both familiar and new authors. **The Devil I Know** is the latest novel by one of Ireland's hottest young authors, Claire Kilroy. The story takes place slightly in the future and tells the tale of Ireland's economic boom and bust. Part fable, part history, part cautionary tale, this dark, funny and purely Irish story will keep you engrossed, aghast and entertained. A great book for a rainy day or two.

Attention New Salt Springers!

Don't miss your opportunity for a great welcome visit. Call Jennifer today for your greeting, gifts & useful info. 250-653-9222



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



RUNNING

Sneakers soar in Vancouver race

Impressive finishes

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The weather may have stumbled but the Salt Spring Sneakers jumped at the chance to shine in Vancouver over the weekend.

"Standing clad in a garbage bag and shivering on a Sunday morning does make one ask what the heck is wrong with us," said Lynn Thompson in his post-race report from the BMO Vancouver Marathon. "The results, relative to the large fields, show once again how fit and ready our gang is."

The Sneakers running club's Melanie Van Soeren finished her 42.2-kilometre run in 3:25:23 to earn an impressive fifth-place result in the F20-24 group.

Also running in Sunday morning's marathon event were Salt Spring's Britta Rustad, who completed the course in 3:24:33, and Danielle Hubbard, who finished in 3:56:55. Neither runner is affiliated with the Sneakers.

In the half-marathon event, Keith Cloete finished seventh among 98 runners in the M65-69 division. He ran the course in 1:55:34. Other Salt Spring racers in the 21.1-kilometre race were Erin Madro, 1:46:14; Karen Madro, 1:53:25; Lynn Steiner, 2:01:01; Wayne North, 2:07:57; and John Millerd, 2:42:53. Times for finishers William Steiner and Helen Morrison were not available.

In the eight-kilometre race, Susan Gordon followed up a second-place finish at the previous weekend's Sun Run with a first-place finish in her F50-54 age group. Her time of 33:46 placed her third among the race's 1,291 female competitors and 23rd overall.

Thompson completed the course in 46:12. The time gave him top spot among the M70-74 category's five runners.

Julie Van Soeren ended the race in second spot among the 65 runners in her F55-59 category with a time of 48:32.

Donna Cloete placed fourth in her F60-64 group with a time of 48:13.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Susan Gordon in the April 27 Vancouver Sun Run.

BASEBALL

Bantams snag two

Rain and mud no damper on effort

Salt Spring pitching made the difference when the island's bantam baseball team took on Port Alberni in a doubleheader on a wet and muddy home field in Chemainus on Saturday.

Team manager Joel Shaver said Ian Hall, Patrick Little, Brennan Shaver, Andrew Archer and Will Nemeth took command on the mound, consistently finding the strike zone and changing speeds to keep the opposing hitters off balance.

Jackson Sweet ripped the ball down the third baseline for a double and teammate Jonah Baker crushed a ball to the right field gap for another double.

Aggressive base running also paid off for the boys. Wyatt Scheres, Max Temmel, Brennan Shaver and Nemeth all manufactured runs by showing great speed and savvy.

The steady drizzle never dampened the team's nor the fans' enthusiasm.

"The boys showed great poise when the game was on the line, returning to Salt Spring with two wins," said Joel Shaver. "Their record is now five wins and four losses — beyond all expectations."

The team is still accepting donations to help cover the extra travel costs associated with having to play all of its games off-island since Salt Spring does not have a regulation playing field for the boys.

Cheques made payable to SSIMBA — Salt Spring Island Minor Baseball Association — can be dropped off for the bantam boys team at the Parks and Recreation Commission office at Portlock Park, or mailed there at 145 Vesuvius Bay Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 1K3.

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