



**Year in Review**  
News highlights from 2013  
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**Brian Logan retires**  
Looking back on 47 years  
in the cable business  
**PAGE 4**

**\$125**  
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# GULF ISLANDS *Happy New Year* Driftwood

Wednesday, January 1, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 1



Sheep rest in a field at Ambledale Farm on Beaver Point Road.

PHOTO BY JEN MACCELLAN

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Salt Spring Books



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## TYPHOON HAIYAN

# Storm survivor gives thanks to Salt Spring

Rebuilding process underway in the Philippines after devastating typhoon Haiyan

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Given the circumstances, Jennifer Close couldn't have hoped for a better end to the Christmas season.

On Dec. 26, she received the first direct contact from her mother in the Philippines since a devastating typhoon left much of her native country in ruin.

"Because we live on a small island, it's hard to get in touch," Close said. "I was so happy."

Posted on Dec. 5, the letter from Close's mother Dolores Caballegan depicts a chilling picture of life in the disaster zone.

"Our place was totally devastated by the Super Typhoon Haiyan," she wrote. "Almost all our houses were blown away and we have no more shelter. All our farms and coconut trees were destroyed and all the fishing boats were washed out."

Although none of

the residents in Caballegan's community on Suluan died in the storm, the island was the first in the Philippine archipelago to feel the typhoon's 315 km/h winds. As if the island's exposed location wasn't troubling enough, Suluan's isolation meant it was among the last regions to see emergency resources.

**"On behalf of all the people of Suluan Island, we thank you."**

DOLORES CABALLEGAN  
*Resident of Suluan Island, Philippines*

In the days and weeks that followed the storm, the only news Close received about her family was through acquaintances on social media. Despite reassurances, images of the hardest-hit areas on television and the internet did little to keep her at ease. Reading and re-reading her mother's handwritten note finally confirms her hopes and offers a massive relief amidst the ongoing disaster.

Caballegan gave a

special thanks to Salt Spring residents who raised more than \$800 during a fundraising barbecue in November. The money was used by Close's brother to buy rice, canned goods and other staples for many of Suluan's 5,000 residents.

"People were so happy to receive the donations," Close said.

The contribution followed a \$5,000 donation from the Salt Spring Lions Club. Those funds were administered by the International Lions Club and matched by the federal government to fund nationwide disaster relief efforts.

"On behalf of all the people of Suluan Island, we thank you," Caballegan wrote in her letter.

The destruction of Suluan's agricultural potential, fishing fleet and infrastructure means a full recovery is still years away. The emotional legacy of the strongest recorded typhoon in history is sure to endure for generations.

"We have no more ways of living," she wrote. "That's why we need more help from the good people of Salt Spring community."

Nearly two months after the storm hit, more



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Jennifer Close with a letter from her mother, Dolores Caballegan, of Suluan Island in the Philippines. In it she gives her community's thanks to Salt Spring residents for donations made so far.

than 6,000 people have been confirmed dead and some 1,800 are missing. The storm is reported to have left 4.4 million people homeless and crippled much of the country's transportation and communication networks.

Close offered a personal thanks on behalf of Salt Spring's small Filipino community to all islanders who organized and contributed to the Haiyan relief effort. The group hopes to host more fundraising events in the new year.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Property assessment data out this week

Assessment roll data for B.C. properties will be available as of Thursday, Jan. 2.

News releases, statistics and general information will be posted on www.bcassessment.ca on Thursday, and property owners should soon receive their assessment notices in the mail.

People can also use the free e-valueBC search tool on BC Assessment's website to compare their property assessment to others.

### Story winners list revised

A slight change has been made to the Driftwood Christmas Story Contest winners list, after it was determined that one of the first-place stories was not original.

First-place winners in their age categories are Caitlin McDermott, Ronan Wardroper, Nina deRoo, Ella Guin Bilney, Griffin Bohnet-Maul, Stuart Hambrook, Norees Gasper and Andre Ruckdaeschel. Those individuals can pick up their prize cheques at the Driftwood office as of Friday, Jan. 3.

## FOR THE RECORD

A CFSI-FM radio spokesperson advises that programmers continued to broadcast and the radio station was accessible online and at its 102.1 frequency after a snowstorm knocked out the company's signal at 107.9 on Dec. 20. Although Driftwood staff could not access the radio station on the website, Radha Fournier says that others were able to hear programming online and at 102.1.



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# NEWSBEAT

**Heads up!**  
**Polar Bear Swim**  
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**A NEW YEAR**

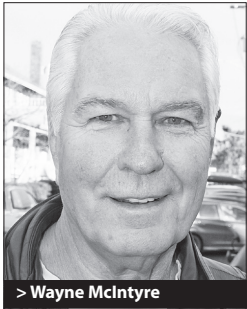
## Priorities for 2014 shared by community leaders

Out with the old; in with the new

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

**EACH YEAR AT THIS TIME, MORE THAN HALF OF CANADIANS VOW TO LIVE BETTER.** Top New Year's resolutions for 2012 were to spend more time with family, get more enjoyment out of life, get into shape and pay down debt.

There must be something about long nights and cold temperatures that caters to introspection since only 20 per cent of those hopes and dreams last until the summer. But it's the thought that counts, right? To mark the season of self-improvement, the Driftwood sought community members to contemplate 2013 and look ahead to what's in store for the coming year.



> Wayne McIntyre

### Capital Regional District

The turning of the year holds special significance for Wayne McIntyre; it coincides with his birthday.

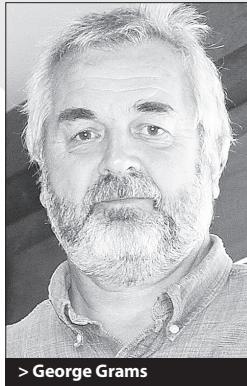
The new year's baby turned Capital Regional District director isn't big on resolutions, preferring instead to set personal objectives.

"Resolutions are too easy to break," he said.

Some of the objectives he's happy to have completed in 2013 include work on the North Ganges Transportation Plan, upgrades to the Highland/Fernwood and Beddis water district infrastructure, expansion of public transit and support for affordable housing.

Though he would like to have closed a deal to ensure more playing fields for islanders, that's slipped to the 2014 objectives list, along with bringing more CRD support to Salt Spring, implementation of the Salt Spring Economic Development Action Plan and construction of a new liquid waste management facility near Burgoyne Bay.

"I am a realistic optimist," he wrote in an email. "We have some significant challenges ahead, but with constructive community dialogue, collectively we can develop options to meet them."



> George Grams

### Environment

Salt Spring's greatest environment challenge is arguably the restoration of healthy island lakes. Algal blooms in St. Mary Lake have divided experts and spawned various theories about causes and solutions.

Getting the dialogue started among multiple levels of government and local groups through the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority is the year's top highlight for George Grams, a Local Trust Committee representative who chairs the watershed group.

Grams is hopeful about St. Mary's problem given that islanders are in the driver's seat when it comes to deploying solutions.

"I'm optimistic about the island's future, insofar as those issues that are within local control are concerned," he said. "I'm less optimistic about issues that are within provincial and federal jurisdiction, including the Kinder Morgan pipeline, increased tanker traffic in our waterways, the economy in general and BC Ferries strategy in particular."



> John Macpherson

### Island Governance

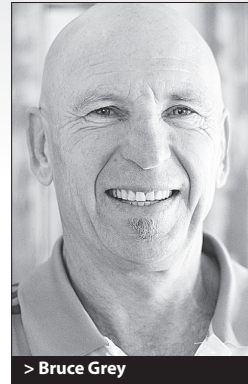
There may be nobody more happy to see 2013 end than John Macpherson, chair of the island's Governance Study Committee. As the head of a group of island volunteers selected to survey islanders' views about local governance and the need for a more detailed incorporation study, there are few people on the island who devoted more time to the divisive topic of island politics last year.

In keeping with the GSC's recommendation to support an incorporation study, Macpherson said he hopes clear-mindedness and balance will prevail as the next phase moves ahead.

"This will enable the community to make an informed choice about a possible change to a centralized local governing body," he said.

"The island is full of intelligent and well-intentioned people who continue dedicating countless hours to volunteerism. More than ever I believe people realize the need to roll up their sleeves and work together on the intransigent problems.

"Clear communication will lead the way."



> Bruce Grey

### Health and Wellness

Since setting goals for yourself can be a slog for anyone, it's worth having an extra hand or two to ease the burden.

That's a piece of advice from Bruce Grey, who's worked as a kinesiologist and exercise therapist for more than 25 years.

"Get some help," he said. "Sometimes people think they can do it themselves, but everybody needs some help."

"Find a friend, a partner, a dog or a trainer."

Class settings or clubs, he added, are a great way to add a sense of accountability to your health regimen. It's one thing to justify not going out for that run to yourself, but something entirely different when you're part of a group.

People who stand too much should make time to take a seat. Likewise, anyone who spends all day sitting at a desk should find ways to stand up more often.

"Sitting is the new smoking," he said.

The key to the long-term success of any health program, Grey said, is to carve out some time for oneself. Exercising for 20 or 30 minutes per day is a manageable unit of time that can really pay off.

"The cumulative approach to better health and fitness is key in my talking to people. A little bit, a little bit and a little bit adds up to quite a bit. After four to six weeks, you'll feel some difference and in six to eight you should see some difference."



> Marguerite Lee

### Agriculture

Marguerite Lee is among those who don't believe in New Year's resolutions. Instead, the president of the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust tends an ever-changing set of to-do lists. She's got a daily list for high-priority goals and a monthly tally for broader-range projects.

"I'm generally an optimistic person who generally considers that things are not impossible; they just take a little longer to achieve," she said. "There isn't any point in looking back because we are not going that way."

Lee and other boosters of island agriculture have plenty to celebrate, however. There's a wait list for the Burgoyne Valley Community Farm's 96 plots, three farmers have rented 15 acres of community farm land, the island's abattoir is processing poultry, lamb and beef, and the Salt Spring Fall Fair drew more participants with an interest in local food than ever before.

With spring around the corner, Lee hopes to help even more families produce their own food. Getting there will require completion of a produce centre that will enable farmers to market their crops year round.

"I believe that people are finally getting the message that they need to eat healthy food in order to be healthy," she said.



## The Gulf Islands Contractors Guide will be published in January, watch for the magazine in your Gulf Islands Driftwood.

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ISLAND PEOPLE

# 'Cable guy' set to change the channel

Brian Logan caps long career in the business

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When Brian Logan entered the cable business on Salt Spring, islanders could watch up to nine channels and the monthly bill for each of the company's 217 subscribers was about eight bucks.

Things may have changed a lot in the intervening years, but Logan has always enjoyed the hearty welcomes and friendly smiles from loyal customers.

"People have always been happy to see me," he said, during an interview ahead of his highly anticipated retirement on Friday.

Even after the havoc wrought by the region's notorious winter wind storms, Logan has always been amazed at the patience and understanding shown by customers who've become neighbours and acquaintances.

"They know they're 150th in line and just accept that," he said.

Logan's four decades in the business have featured an uninterrupted stream of experiences with islanders of all stripes who've welcomed him into their homes.

On one occasion, Logan received a call from a customer who claimed to have found his wallet in the attic. Logan wasn't even aware he'd lost his wallet but decided to check things out anyway. The wallet had fallen out of Logan's pocket during a cable installation job nearly 30 years earlier.

With 47 years in the busi-



Brian Logan of Shaw Communications, and formerly Salt Spring Cablevision, retires on Friday.

ness, Logan suspects he may be the longest-service cable repair man in the country, even though he admits many in the field may have lost out on the honour after accepting tempting managerial positions.

Logan got his start with Victoria Cable, and later took weekend jobs on Salt Spring. Seeking to take advantage of a promising business opportunity, in 1974 he became a 30 per cent partner in what became known to a generation of islanders as Salt Spring Cablevision.

The anticipated population explosion — and ensuing business opportunity — never fully transpired, but Salt Spring's threefold population increase was just enough to make things worthwhile.

The island never lost its allure for Logan, who took on cable jobs on Vancouver Island for the additional income. Like many others

determined to make a go of it on Salt Spring, he and his young family did whatever they could do to stay. Life may not have been as lucrative as it could have been in a place like Victoria or the Lower Mainland, but the Logan family had found a home.

**"People have always been happy to see me."**

BRIAN LOGAN  
 Cable hook-up and repair man

"Money isn't everything," he said. "It's been lots of fun and I couldn't think of a better place to have done it in."

From 1982 to 2006 he was an employee of SS Cablevision, which was owned by Geoff and Linda Phillips.

With increased competition and strong demand for

internet and telephone services, it was inevitable that a larger company with money to upgrade infrastructure was needed. Logan has worked with Shaw Communications since the company took over the local cable office and island operations in 2006. The result has been a level of coverage and service Logan could never have imagined when he started out in his nine-channel universe.

"The basic product is the same," he said. "The thrust of the service is the same, but the public demands that even a rural cable company stay abreast of new technology."

It's an amazing thing, he said, that residents of Salt Spring Island, no matter how remote, can choose to access many of the services to be had in downtown Vancouver or Toronto.

Fortunately, he added, the friendly small-town attitude is still there too.

ISLANDS TRUST

## Public hearing for Collins Rd. dock

Rezoning needed near Bader's Beach

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will host a public hearing to gather opinions about a plan to build a private dock north of Bader's Beach.

The owners of 250 Collins Rd. seek to amend the island's land use bylaw to construct the dock to serve their residential property. According to a staff report presented to trustees in November, the dock's construction is not believed to have any impact on recreational use of the Bader's Beach area. A biologist's report has provided assurance that the shoreline zone boundary reflects a need to protect the area's sensitive eel grass beds, states the staff report.

The report notes the dock will have a surface area of up to 70 square metres (753 square feet).

The public hearing begins at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at the Lions Hall (108 Bonnet Ave). For more information, about the hearing or Proposed Bylaw No. 470, contact the local Trust office at 250-537-9144 or ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca.

No further public comments on the proposal will be accepted after the public hearing.

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**EVIDENCE:** Yes, it does sometimes snow on Salt Spring and at Fernwood Dock, above, as it did on Dec. 19-20.

**ISLANDS TRUST**

# One-stop water shop created

Project's completion needs funding

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Efforts to curb budget increases for the coming fiscal year could stall the Islands Trust's effort to complete an online water resource database.

The water resource pages offers information about water organizations, drinking water, private wells, water conservation, rainwater catchment, contaminants and saltwater intrusion. Project contributors include Local Trust Committees, communities on Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast and Lower Mainland. Additional information is from provincial and federal agencies.

Population pressures and climate change are among reasons behind an interest in water issues, according to Lisa Gordon, the Islands Trust's director of Trust Area Services.

"It's definitely been getting more political attention," she said.

Members of the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society praise the project as a step in the right direction.

"The Water Preservation Society says kudos to the Islands Trust for providing a comprehensive website on water issues," said Maxine Leichter, WPS president. "That Trust Council chose protection

of island water resources as a priority shows the importance of water to islanders."

Leichter said the WPS urges the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee and Trust Council to "follow talking the talk with walking the walk." Completion of the island's Riparian Areas Regulation bylaw and funding effective enforcement of existing environmental bylaws are crucial to protecting the island's drinking water lakes, she said.

Work on the Trust's resource page has been conducted through staff time and trustee advice, Gordon said. Filling the gaps in the resource page will depend on the forthcoming 2014-15 budget.

Gordon asks islanders with an interest in water quality and quantity issues to examine the documents and identify goals for further information. Gaps can be forwarded to the Trust through the website or in person with LIC representatives.

If enough public comments are received to continue the work, trustees may be persuaded to include funding in the upcoming 2014-15 budget, Gordon added.

The project was completed by Trust staff based on priorities established in the local government body's strategic plan. The water resource information page is online at [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/projects.aspx](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/projects.aspx).

**RCMP**

# Tractor stolen

Police are investigating the theft of a John Deere ride-on lawn mower that was removed from a property on Richard Flack Road.

The owner of the mower noticed it missing on the 26th and last saw it on Christmas Eve. If anyone has information regarding this theft they are asked to contact the local RCMP detachment.

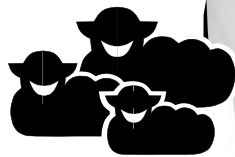
In other police news, a male driver received a 90-day driving prohibition and his vehicle was impounded for 30 days after he was discovered parked in the 400 block of Stewart Road on Christmas Eve at about 5 p.m. A witness reported seeing a male passed out behind the wheel and called Salt Spring police, who attended and administered a roadside breath test, which indicated the driver had over the legal limit of alcohol in his blood.

## Get started on your New Year's resolutions!

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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**

## New Year's wish

**L**et's face it, nobody loves a controversy more than those of us in the newspaper business.

Newspapers began to roll off the presses centuries ago as a way to spread specific political opinions. In the early days of newsprint, reporters often adopted a no-holds-barred writing style that could have supported generations of modern-day libel lawyers.

The search for truth and objectivity is reported to have only entered the journalist's lexicon at the turn of the 20th century. After a little more than 100 years, that quest for objectivity continues.

Here at the Driftwood, we sometimes joke that objectivity is attained when we receive damning letters to the editor from opposing factions, each accusing us of bias towards the opposing camp. It's a strange reward, but shared displeasure

**THE ISSUE:**

Island governance

**WE SAY:**

Less talking, more listening

Ideology and political posturing have, for the most part, proven mostly unsustainable. Lasting political change always requires broad compromise and buy-in from the majority.

In the coming year, Salt Springers may have the chance to witness the start of an incorporation study on the island's political future. As in the case of the escalating ferry service cutbacks, creation of affordable housing or the preservation of island healthcare services, a united front is imperative if there's to be any hope of achieving a winning result for Salt Spring. When the island's tribes are pitted against one another, the powers that be in Victoria can easily overlook our requirements. We don't need to start holding hands in the checkout line or hugging in the streets, we just need to shut up and listen to the person speaking to us.

Should the scale and tone of debate to date be any indication of where we're headed, we've still got much work to make sure meaningful communication and discussion can defeat the divisiveness of ideology. It's a worthy resolution. Otherwise we're certain to replay this debate in another 10 years.

nearly always trumps one-sided praise. When kudos arrive from all corners, we reach an elusive kind of newsroom Nirvana and break out the chocolate. In politics, as in much of life, truth is elusive.



**VIEWPOINT** by Jan Slakov

## Study process deepened wariness

As we ring in the new year, I want to sound the alarm. The Trust, and its preserve and protect mandate ARE under threat.

No, this is not solely because of the effort to turn Salt Spring into a municipality. But that effort is certainly part of the problem.

My brother once said that one of the things that first endeared Salt Spring to him was the way people carry on discussions in the local paper. Thanks, Greg; otherwise I might not have the heart to write yet again on this thorny governance issue.

I thought Jean Gelwicks' "Get on the same page" article, with its informative, non-adversarial approach, would be widely appreciated. The following week an article by John MacPherson, the former chair of the governance study committee, presented another, strongly pro-incorporation point of view. I can agree with some of what John wrote, but I totally disagree that there were "significant errors" in Jean's article.

Someone from the now defunct Governance Study Committee thought John's article was worth sharing with everyone on the study group's email list. Jean's original article was not sent out. To me, that fact alone is enough to show that there was serious pro-incorporation bias on the Governance Study Committee.

When the governance study process started, I knew there were some compelling arguments for incorporation. I have since learned of a couple more reasons for incorporating.

But my initial wariness towards incorporation has deepened and solidified. Looking back on how the governance study of 2013 was conducted, I realize it is not just the prospect of incorporation I object to, but the process we got. Complex options were reduced to either or choices. Instead of helping diverse people to find common ground, the process was alienating.

I feel embarrassed for our elected representatives. They "stewarded" a process that was not really open and transparent. They know that

a provincial law prohibits elected officials from getting together out of public scrutiny, to make decisions before the actual public meeting where the decisions are supposed to be made. And, since the Governance Study Committee was not elected, I suppose they can get away with what they did: on Nov. 21 they issued a statement, explaining: "the consultants are now completing the final report that will be officially received by the committee on Nov. 29 . . . The committee, at that meeting, will determine, by consensus, the recommendation it will forward to the minister."

Well, the committee's decision had obviously been discussed beforehand because a letter to the minister was already prepared. It turns out, from Oct. 5 until Nov. 28, all the committee's meetings were held behind closed doors.

I have to smile. Public scrutiny must be scary for some. Maybe that is not such bad news! We do not have to heckle, etc. to have an effect. Maybe the consultants were not keen to have members of the public spot further errors in their "facts", or bias in their approach. Recent polls show support for incorporation is dropping. It seems that persistent, respectful critiquing, anchored in an abiding love of this place, has made a real difference.

I remember being struck by Elizabeth Nolan's comment on the Imaginelle show earlier this year: Salt Spring can be more than "an argument surrounded by water". I really hope that those of us who care about political issues can do more than merely try to win arguments. Engaging in another one of these limited, limiting studies on the governance issue would probably make it more challenging for us to do that "more" I'm sure we are capable of. But if that's what's in store, I don't plan on giving up.

*The writer feels blessed to live a pretty eco-friendly life on Salt Spring.*

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**

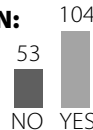
**Are you optimistic about the coming year?**

Yes  No

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

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:**

**Do you want an incorporation study for Salt Spring?**



### Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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 Website: [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://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

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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

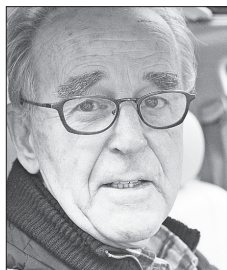
**QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Clear communication will lead the way."**

JOHN MACPHERSON, CHAIR, SSI'S 2013 GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:**

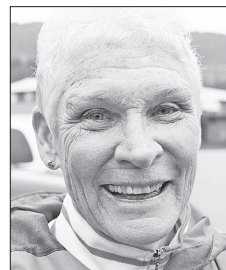
How do you plan to ring in 2014?



**TERRY DAVID MULLIGAN**  
*The same way I have for the past 32 years: dinner at 5:30 at West Van's Le Régale, in pajamas by nine, in bed by 10, and running along the seawall by 8:30 a.m.*



**BOB BRYANT**  
*A quiet night at home with my girlfriend.*



**SUSAN DAVIDSON**  
*Climbing up Mt. Erskine with my son, his wife and my two grandboys.*



**THEO DWYER**  
*Going to the Enliven show at Mahon Hall to dance my butt off.*



**MAX CHRISTMAS**  
*Partying on the mountain.*

## 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](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) under the Opinion tab.

### Barney is missed

I so appreciated the thoughtful and humanizing article from the niece of Barney Peter Holmes in last week's paper. So often we only see one dimension of our neighbours.

I never truly regretted picking Barney up hitchhiking as there was always a story. Nor do I regret the several times I passed the guy by just because I needed some peace and quiet on the way to town. He never seemed to hold it against me the next time he got in the car.

All I can say is I know his spirit is happy on a thousand-acre ranch somewhere in the tropics with his

seven-foot Fijian girlfriend I heard quite a bit about.

Miss you, Barney.  
**DAN DICKMEYER,**  
ROLAND ROAD

### New way of thinking

The Dec. 25 guest column entitled "Where is the peace in the new Greenpeace?" is an excellent piece of writing. Not only well written, it is sensible, well thought out and right on the mark. The politics of confrontation are ineffective and counterproductive. Increasingly, we see outrageous behaviour as an end objective, rather than a means to some end. This behaviour might attract the attention of the media, but it does little to create positive change.

It is really heartening to me to see "next generation" thinking that recognizes the futility of this approach. I am also encouraged that her point of view might very well be shared by her contemporaries.

Well done, Kirsten Harms.

**BEN GOODMAN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Different take on actions

I read with interest the guest column "Where is the peace in the new Greenpeace?" I have a different perspective.

For most of my lifetime, Greenpeace has been a clear, consistent and loud but peaceful voice for protecting the environment, defending our oceans and

forests, and promoting sustainable agriculture and world peace.

Climbing an oil platform in the northern ocean makes people aware that there is drilling there today. Public awareness of the threat that this drilling poses to the Arctic environment is essential, given massive oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico (2010) and Alaska (2006), and the fact that 60 to 80 per cent of known fossil fuel reserves must stay in the ground to prevent cataclysmic climate change.

So why does Greenpeace resort to dangerous "stunts" in its campaigns? Sadly, that's what it takes to get media attention. Traditional print and television media have failed to

educate the public sufficiently well on the most critical issue of our time, climate change, in a way that allows them to understand the risks and choices ahead. The result is devastating — without pressure from a well-informed public, world leaders such as our own prime minister have gotten away with doing nothing.

So when I see Greenpeace activists committing acts of courage and daring, I say bravo! What's the alternative? The writer's idea of translating Baby Beluga into Russian to inspire a new generation to protect the Arctic sounds like a lot of fun. Do it! But be aware that it's not going to stop the execs at Gazprom who own that oil

platform, and by the time the next Baby Beluga generation grows up, it will have been too late to take the measures that should have been taken decades earlier.

The planet needs us now. As Sierra Club president Michael Brune said earlier this year, "The decision to actively, deliberately, and peacefully disobey specific laws or rules can play an important role in any social movement." Exactly. So until our leaders take appropriate action, civil disobedience is on the table, and hopefully, on our TV screens in the correct context.

**BRIGITTE HAYES,**  
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

# Intoxicated by a new year's boundless potential

Okay, my mind's a blank after all the turkey and frivolity. Let's start off by listing all the topics I won't be writing about this Christmas/New Year's season.

In past years, I discussed the origins of the Santa Claus tradition and how he still manages to deliver innumerable gifts before Christmas Day morning irrespective of all the different time zones he has to cross. Likewise, I showed how to imaginatively draw up New Year's resolutions (involving "getting in shape" while at the same time achieving an online doctorate in subatomic particles theory), none of which have ever been known to actually work.

And remember the obligatory, ubiquitous, self-glossing Christmas "form letter" you receive annually from that relative you can't stand who always manages to make you feel less than adequate because all their children have gone on to become either heads of major corporations or have given up their material possessions to tend to the needs of a leper colony in Burkina Faso? Been there, done that.

Struck from this year's holiday topic list, as well, is the previously detailed account of the different religions and cultures that give a "global" meaning to the "return of the light" aspect of the season. It doesn't matter whether you are celebrating Iranian Yalda, the Hindu Pancha Ganapati, or Dongzhi in East Asia, you are in essence blowing a goodbye kiss to darkness in hope that the warmth of the sun will

follow in its place.

Same thing for the topics of highlights of the past year (Salt Spring general public enthusiastically approve a referendum to study whether there is enough support to initiate a study to measure the feasibility to draft a study on self-governance), plus predictions and prognostications for the coming year (the study to study the pending study will be revoked on the grounds that not enough time was allotted to study the study's repercussions).

Add to the current "no write zone" list the subjects of gift giving and especially gift returning for refund or exchange ("no, the sweater fits me and there are no holes or defects, but it's just hideously ugly"), and the commercialization of Christmas ("I always know when Christmas is because it falls the day before the annual Boxing Day Sale Extravaganza").

Adding to the depression over my lack of subject matter is the fact that even the "winter blahs" can't help me out at all. These physically disabling blues, which are now medically recognized as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), usually come hard on the heels of the festive season and would serve as a perfect counterpoint to all the "tidings of comfort and joy" that abound during the



**Shilo Zylbergold**

### NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

tail end of December. But alas, once again, it's already been done.

That takes care of all the topics I've covered this time of year in past columns. What's left?

Uh-oh. I was afraid this might happen. The writer's nightmare: having nothing left to write about.

There must be something. All I have to do is close my eyes for a minute and just think.

Ouch! That was painful. Let's try another tack. This time I'm going to empty my mind completely (not a difficult task) and see what rushes in.

Still nothing. I thought nature hates a vacuum. Let's try a little word association. Here goes.

Year . . . new year . . . calendar . . . pages . . . tear off pages . . . replace calendar . . . new beginnings . . .

Bingo! That's it. New Beginnings. This is the time of the year when our potential seems unlimited. The slate has been wiped clean, the canvas is blank, and all things are possible. We tear off the last page of that dusty old calendar and replace it with a shiny new model that oozes promise back in our faces. This is the annual equivalent of the game of Monopoly where we get to figuratively pass "Go" and collect our \$200.

Think about it. Never will the time ahead

seem as limitless as it does at the beginning of January. Imagine all those untouched calendar pages just itching for you to circle a date or mark down a time. Maybe it's the day you hope to graduate, or set off on your dream vacation (or perhaps it's when you get all four wisdom teeth pulled at once). There's so much time and so many opportunities to accomplish so much!

Nobody asked me, but why can't something as simple as a calendar be a metaphor for where our lives are headed? At this time of year, there are still so many pages to turn and such an almost limitless number of days to circle, that we feel nearly intoxicated with the boundless potentiality of it all. The infancy of the calendar year fills our hearts with the hope that we will yet find time to begin the projects of our fantasies (writing that novel or cycling to the Yukon or learning to knit), or complete the ones we started at some time in the past when everything also seemed possible (organizing the workshop or emptying the freezer or finishing that quilt).

When all is said and done, this time of year is a symbolic "crossroads" between the past and the future. All things are possible. Don't be afraid to take that first step into the unknown. The next chapter of your life is sure to follow. And hopefully my next topic will leap into view like a frisky rabbit bounding joyfully across the empty white expanse of my mind. Until then, Happy New Year to all!



The GULF ISLANDS CONTRACTORS GUIDE will be published in January, watch for the magazine in your Gulf Islands Driftwood.

Driftwood

If you are building, renovating or repairing, this guide is essential in helping you find professional contractors and suppliers to help you get the job done right. Call 250.537.9933 for more details.



Islands Trust

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE Proposed Bylaw No. 470

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will hold a Public Hearing concerning **Proposed Bylaw No. 470**. The purpose of the hearing is to allow the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw. At the public hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions.

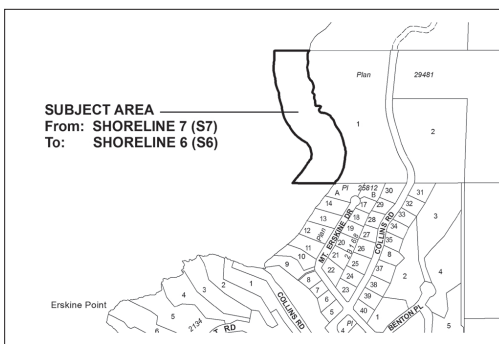
**DATE:** Wednesday, January 8, 2014  
**LOCATION:** Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Club), 103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island  
**TIME:** 5:00 PM – Public Hearing

1. Proposed Bylaw No. 470, cited as "Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 4, 2013" (250 Collins Road, Salt Spring Island).

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 470 is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 as follows:

1. By changing the zoning classification of a portion of the waters fronting Lot 1, Section 2, Range 2 West, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 29481, from Shoreline 7 (S7) to Shoreline 6 (S6), as shown on Plan No. 1, to permit a private wharf or dock(s) associated with upland residential use.

### Plan No. 1 – Residential Bylaw No. 470



Copies of the proposed bylaw, and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust office, 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday inclusive, commencing Monday, December 16, 2013 and up to Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 12:00 noon. However, please note that during the holiday season Islands Trust offices will be closed from **Tuesday, December 24, 2013 to Wednesday, January 1, 2014 inclusive**.

The proposed bylaw may also be viewed on the Islands Trust website at <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/salt-spring/bylaws/salt-spring-island-land-use-bylaw-no-355.aspx>

Enquiries regarding Proposed Bylaw 470 may be directed to the Islands Trust at (250) 537-9144. For Toll Free access, request a transfer to the Islands Trust via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver at 604-660-2421; elsewhere in BC at 1-800-663-7867. Written submissions may be delivered as follows:

1. By mail to the Islands Trust at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8; or by Fax to (250) 537-9116.
2. By email to [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)
3. In person to the **Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 8, 2014.**

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

**NO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BYLAW WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

Pauline Brazier  
Deputy Secretary

# Data defies peak planet assertions

INDEPTH

BY ELIZABETH NICKSON

At least there are no exploding children. The green movement's latest unseemly manipulation of kids casts Downton Abbey's butler as Santa Claus in a dripping ice bunker, saying he has had to cancel Christmas because the North Pole is melting—please send money. The culprit, this time, is Greenpeace, an outfit in Canada which had its charitable status yanked in 1998, because its actions "served no public purpose."

Whatever the season is, the preferred target of the collapse crowd is a young eager mind. Into which they inject terror. Never mind that it is snowing in Cairo and Israel, there has never been so much ice in Antarctica and that 2000 cold records were set in North America this past week.

Instead, the debate at the forefront of environmental discussion is Peak Planet, or post-scarcity and the abundance economy. We are close. Human knowledge and inventiveness have so far outpaced the Suzukis of our world, they are not only irrelevant, but broadly destructive of the public good.

Let's remember that both Malthus, who in 1798 predicted a never ending cycle of famine, squalor and disease, and Paul Erhlich, who in 1968 claimed that by 1985 "hundreds of millions are going to starve to death" were not only wrong, they were hugely, unassailably wrong.

All by itself the planet is healing from the burst of industrialization that created the prosperity we enjoy today. Population explosion? In North America, Europe, China and Japan, the birthrate is now at or below replacement and

even in sub-Saharan Africa fertility rates have dropped to near four children per woman. As countries develop, women have fewer children. Demographer Joel Cohen of Columbia University predicts that "many of us may live to see population peak in the middle of this century." The UN agrees.

In the developed world, we are now "peak-stuff." Even before the '08 crash, people were consuming substantially less than in the '90s. In the UK, Europe, Canada and the U.S., people are driving less and using less water, and theirists now believe that beyond a certain level of economic development, people simply stop consuming so much.

In the developing world, resource use has become more efficient. New Scientist reports that in 2008 Jesse Ausubel and Paul Waggoner of Rockefeller University drew on data covering 1980 to 2006 to argue that there had been "declining intensities of impact, from energy use and carbon emissions to food consumption and fertilizer use, globally and in countries ranging from the US, France, China, to India, Brazil and Indonesia." They referred to the trend as economic "dematerialization."

Here is more fact-based good news: shale gas is doing more to halt CO2 emissions than all the billions spent on climate science. Even the NYTimes admits there has been no warming for 17 years. It can be argued that this summer was the coldest summer on record

at the North Pole. We recorded the highest August Arctic ice extent since 2006 and record high August Antarctic ice.

There have been no major hurricane strikes for eight years (Sandy was a tropical storm when it hit New Jersey). It was the slowest tornado season on record, second lowest fire season in two decades, and four of the five snowiest winters in the northern hemisphere have occurred since 2008.

In Canada, ambient concentrations of sulphur dioxide decreased by 57 per cent between 1996 and 2009. Ambient levels of nitrogen dioxide and volatile organic compounds (VOC) dropped too.

According to the internationally respected Environmental Performance Index (EPI), Canada is a world leader in terms of water quality.

Our forest cover is not in decline, our soil is not eroding, nor desertifying, an 80 per cent improvement from decades ago.

The environmental movement and its allies have become abusive, and not just to children. Tell your kids that the haters are dead wrong and their future has never looked better. Because that is the truth.

*Editor's note: The above piece with footnotes is on our website at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) in the Opinion section.*

*The writer is a senior fellow with the Frontier Centre for Public Policy, and the author of Eco-Fascists, How Radical Conservationists Are Destroying Our Natural Heritage (Harper Collins 2012).*

## MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

### Thumbs up on Salt Spring

Salt Spring Island is a great place to live thanks largely to its strong sense of community.

As a frequent hitchhiker, I can attest to the fact that it is nearly impossible to thumb a ride on the big island, especially if you happen to be an older male. Here on Salt Spring, however, it is a different story. I can travel about the island almost as easily without a car as I can with one.

Everyone should try hitchhiking — it's environmentally friendly, saves money, offers insights into nature and simple living, and is a wonderful way to meet neighbours. People are so kind and varied, and they have such interesting stories to tell!

Some folks do not, of course, feel comfortable stopping for strangers, and this I fully respect and understand. However, to everyone who has given me a lift over the years, I say thank you ever so much.

FRANTS ATTORP,  
MEADOW DRIVE

### Kudos for People Like Us

Sandi Johnson's People Like Us, the story of a Canadian military policeman's return from the 1991 Gulf War was performed at the Firehall Arts Centre in Vancouver in November.

A one-woman play by a Salt Spring writer, Kate Rourke tells the story of a family living with PTSD. This harsh and very relevant subject is handled with gentleness and humour. Kate intersperses her monologue with belly dancing; the beauty and movement of dance helping her cope with a husband dying of cancer, his body and mind ravaged by war. Kate struggles to keep her family intact on a dwindling income as the military turns its back on a tragic situation.

The living room where the play takes place is overspanned by an army tent, and as Kate recounts memories and dreams, images are projected across the set. I was

mesmerized.

It is a riveting story of love and courage. Above all I found the play very kind to the audience, bringing the reality and humanity of a contemporary subject to our attention.

STEFANIE DENZ,  
BEAVER POINT

### Prioritize bus service

I was at the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission meeting before Christmas. I did not leave with the impression that there was complete support for another referendum to add money to this cause.

The money that was recently approved through the alternate approval process was meant for the bus service. I hope that will be a priority for the plans of the SSITC. There are still problems with the service. For example, the bus stop was moved from a sheltered location to the current one that was in the picture in the Dec. 25 Driftwood, yet there were many details yet to be worked out that have left people in the rain for five months now.

Also, many people who live down Isabella Point Road would like to use the bus and they cannot as the bus does not go down that road. Only people on main roads can currently use the service. I would hope that this would be the priority before asking for more money for trails.

In any case, all the plans for Rainbow Road are still there and it seems that the alternative route that is already being used, which involves the children going to the high school along Kanaka Road, has not been considered.

There is quite a bit of forcefulness from a certain group here and they are trying to push their vision of the island onto others. There have been many changes and new families here since 2006 and I think it is time to really listen to all the people of the island, not just a small group who can get out to all the meetings.

JENNY MCCLEAN,  
ATKINS ROAD

# 2013: Islanders speak out, dance, study and wrangle

## January

• Alaysha Mergaert and Cody Hunsberger brought home Salt Spring's 2013 New Year baby with a 9-lb., 2-oz. boy born at 5 a.m. on Jan. 1.

• Annette Magled's Jan. 20 appearance on the popular CBC TV show *Dragons' Den* set the island's entrepreneurial community into motion. Following Magled's pitch for *Vida Grains*, *Dragons' Den* producers hosted an audition session at the Harbour House Hotel at the end of January and then flew Palu Rainbow Song to Toronto to tape his pitch. That episode aired in November.

• Salt Spring resident John Paterson was sentenced to six years in prison for entering false positive gold assays for the Boka mine in China and subsequently defrauding investors of \$260.5 million. Victims of the fraud included fellow island residents who had received Paterson's personal assurance the mine claim was good.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Adam Olsen, the Green party candidate for the Saanich North and the Islands riding in the 2013 provincial election, was one of the speakers at the Idle No More protest in Centennial Park on Jan. 5.

• A group of island petitioners found victory at last in their suit against two former Islands Trust trustees when the B.C. Court of Appeal reversed an earlier Supreme Court judgement. Justice Ian Donald found that George Ehring and Christine Torgimson violated the Community Charter by awarding funds to community groups they were directors of, although they did not personally benefit from the actions.

• Islanders registered their environmental concerns at an Idle No More protest at Centennial Park on Jan. 5, an open house hosted by Kinder Morgan on Jan. 12, and by giving testimony at Enbridge

Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel hearings in Vancouver and Victoria.

• Salt Spring's Governance Study Committee, which was tasked to decide whether an incorporation study for the island was warranted, met for the first time. The committee received \$60,000 from the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural development for the task, with an additional \$20,000 grant awarded to the Islands Trust to study how incorporation of Salt Spring Island might affect the Islands Trust. The 11 volunteer committee members were selected from 36 applicants.

• Gulf Islands teachers joined their colleagues across the province in rejecting a government proposal to establish a 10-year labour agreement and to have policy matters decided by an Educational Policy Council.

• Vancouver punk rock legends DOA played ArtSpring as part of their farewell tour.

• DW Salty, an otter with a Scottish accent, was hired on as the Driftwood's junior reporter. His column on the history of Salt Spring street names is now a regular feature. He was also promoted to become the media outlet's first official video news reporter.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Middle School students formed part of the One Billion Rising crowd on Feb. 14. With song and dance, the worldwide event rallied against violence against women and girls.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

John Quesnel of Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling addressed the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee and members of the public at a February meeting at Lions Hall.

## February

• The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee passed a series of motions to streamline its advisory groups, amalgamating the Advisory Design Panel and the Environmental Advisory Committee into a single, nine-member Advisory Planning Commission. The Agricultural Advisory Commission was also planned to be folded into the new group, but community opposition convinced trustees it should continue with its specific objectives.

• The LTC caused consternation by suggesting the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce step in to mediate the long-standing issue of Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling operating in a neighbourhood zone, and to help facilitate a way for the business to operate legally. Chamber directors voted not to do so, citing potential conflict of interest and a wish not to get involved in political decisions.

• Salt Spring farmer Ron

Pither presented information about sustainable projects on Ometepe Island in Nicaragua, before leaving to participate in the community's gruelling Fire and Water ultra-marathon race.

• Islanders, including almost all the students from Salt Spring Middle School, joined the One Billion Rising street dance on Valentine's Day. The event sought to raise awareness of violence against women and put an end to rape culture.

• CFSI founder Gary Brooks shocked islanders and close to 60 volunteer radio hosts by selling the community-style radio station to Sukhdev Dhillon of Satnam Media Group. Volunteer programmers elected to stay on after Dhillon promised he didn't plan on making any major changes.

• The Salt Spring chapter of Dying with Dignity launched a House of Commons petition asking government to legislate doctor-assisted suicide for terminally ill Canadians.

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PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Seagulls feast on herring and eggs in Vesuvius Bay thanks to a massive herring spawn in March.

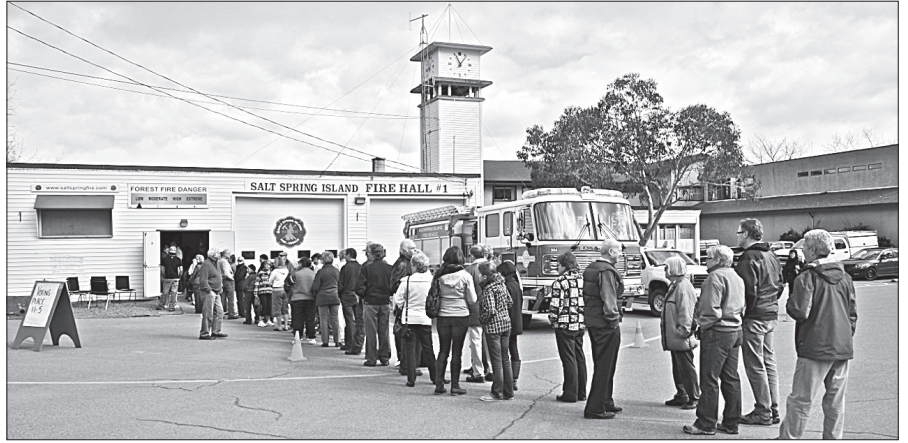


PHOTO BY RICK NEUFELD

Voters lined up outside the Ganges fire hall to mark their ballots for fire trustees in a hotly contested election.

## March

- Salt Spring authors kicked off a busy programming schedule at the new public library building with "Ideas of March," featuring talks by two writers every Friday at noon.

- School District 64's financial manager Cindy Rogers reported the district would finally be able to pay off more than \$500,000 in debt under its Special Purpose Fund. The debt was caused by the dissolution of the district's business company in 2007. Its ventures had included a preschool in Poland.

- Passengers using the unstaffed BC Ferries terminal at Vesuvius got some help in the form of electric signage.

- Salt Spring Fire Protection District trustees and Johnston Davidson Architecture and Planning unveiled site plans for a proposed new fire hall project next to Brinkworthy Properties.

- Kirk and Co. Consulting released the results of public consultation sessions it had organized for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on how to find savings for BC Ferries. Not surprisingly, the majority of comments focused on concerns about fares, rather than suggesting possible service reductions. "I'm really disappointed they put so much effort, so much time and so much money into a consultation

process, and they didn't ask the right questions," said Brian Hollingshead, Ferry Advisory Committee chair for the southern Gulf Islands.

- Salt Spring RCMP issued a warning after a man attempted to attack a 17-year-old girl from behind on Park Drive. She evaded the attempt and a search for a 30-year-old suspect was initiated. No further attacks were reported.

- Island business owners joined those across the province in preparing to return to the PST on April 1. The reversal of the HST meant that consumers would find food, restaurant meals, movie tickets and haircuts were once again free of the provincial tax.

- Sabine Georgy was hit by a car at the intersection of Lower Ganges and Atkins roads while crossing the road with her running club, the Salt Spring Sneakers. She was airlifted to Victoria for treatment. Although Georgy escaped serious injury, she suffered from a concussion, bruised back, neck, forehead and hands, and required stitches on her head. No charges were laid as the accident was deemed to be caused by poor visibility.

- Salt Spring resident Stephen Roberts won the Liberal party nomination as provincial election candidate for Saanich North and the Islands, beating out Stephen Chang of Saanich.

- The Parks and Recreation

Commission evicted about a dozen squatters from Mouat Park. CRD bylaw enforcement and PARC staff removed tents, tarps and piles of rubbish from the illegal camping site.

- An Ode to the Road segment on Salt Spring Island with comedian Ron James aired on his CBC television program in March.

- The Salt Spring Conservancy applied to rezone the Blackburn Organic Golf Course to allow for conservation and education programs, a critical step in the process of purchasing the property.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Mike DeRoos with a humpback whale carcass being prepared for research and possible display at the Royal B.C. Museum.

## April

- Salt Spring RCMP arrested a fugitive who arrived at Walker Hook in the early hours of the morning after fleeing police on Pender Island. The 32-year-old man escaped to the island by rowboat and was tracked by RCMP helicopter Air 8 from Comox.

- Island residents were still marvelling at the masses of seabirds and other wildlife feeding off a bountiful herring spawn in Sansum Narrows, Stuart Channel, Fernwood beach and other places.

- Salt Spring residents Michael Brown and Thomas Wood were charged with harassment, extortion, and unlawful confinement for attempting to collect a debt at a Maliview Drive home. Police tracked the offenders down on Hereford Avenue.

- Mike DeRoos of Cetacea Contracting made headlines at multiple media outlets when he brought home a juvenile humpback whale carcass for interment in horse manure in his back yard. The clean skeleton, estimated to be ready a year after burial, was destined for research and possible display at the Royal B.C. Museum in Victoria.

- Community members were sad to lose a popular eatery and music venue when Moby's Oyster Bar and Marine Grill closed its doors. The event also sparked concern about the island's economic sustainability, coming on top of two other restaurant closures in the previous few months. Moby's Pub re-opened later in the year under the helm of Dale Schweighardt, whose 30 years in the hospitality industry included the last eight spent managing the Lighthouse Pub in Sechtel.

- A new flagpole was installed at the Ganges Visitor Centre on the 89th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force's formation. The pole was dedicated to the memory of Jack Frazer and donated by his family.

- A heated battle for two seats on the Salt Spring Fire Protection District Board of Trustees resulted in record voter turn-out and the re-election of incumbents Ron Chamney and Michael Schubart by a clear majority over challengers Darlene Steele and Scott Simmons.

- Islanders mourned the loss of firefighter Travis Guedes, who died of brain cancer at age 35.

- Ganges business owners moved to mitigate the effects of high rent and sagging tourism by forming four committees to help revitalize the village economy.

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

A memorial vigil was held for three-year-old Kilaya Singh, who died in a car crash on Fulford-Ganges Road on May 28.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Bike to Work Week coordinator Jan Slakov and North End Fitness owner Peter Vincent at the TJ Beans celebration station. Twenty-nine teams participated in the event on Salt Spring.

April, continued

• Salt Spring physicians formed a local chapter of the Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice, a collective non-profit organization aimed at improving health care delivery.

• Vancouver Island Health Authority issued a notice warning Salt Spring patients not to clog up Lady Minto Hospital's emergency room with non-urgent cases. Islanders were recommended to visit clinics during their visits to larger centres instead.

• BC Ferries introduced a proposal to replace the aging Queen of Nanaimo and Queen of Burnaby with three smaller standardized ships. The plan, which was expected to meet traffic needs more effectively and allow changes to the problematic Gulf Islands schedule, was met with strong approval by island residents.

May

• Salt Spring became the second community within the Islands Trust's jurisdiction to legalize secondary suites. The decision to approve Bylaw 461 followed

nearly three years of planning, deliberation and public consultation. Secondary suites were permitted in a pilot area based on access to transit routes, potable water capacity and sensitive ecosystems.

• A call to expand the Saturday Market at Centennial Park kicked off both a petition from the public and a period of input-gathering by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The market had already been allowed to overflow onto part of the boardwalk, but some vendors were still turned away in early May.

• Channel Ridge Properties and investors owed more than \$46 million suffered a major blow when a Supreme Court of British Columbia judge approved a lenders foreclosure application.

• Saanich North and the Islands provincial election candidates played a waiting game, while the rest of the province saw a majority Liberal government voted in and Christy Clark returned as premier, contrary to the polls, after the May 14 election. Fewer than 400 votes separated NDP frontrunner Gary Holman, Liberal candidate Stephen P. Roberts and Green party hopeful Adam Olsen.

Recounts saw Holman carry the election with 10,515 votes, 163 ahead of Roberts and nearly 400 votes ahead of Olsen.

• The son of a Salt Spring woman who was waiting for a second lung transplant in a Toronto hospital received a \$40,000 boost from Donald Trump. Kathy Reimer said the donation eclipsed all expectations of the family's hopes to raise \$10,000 through an online crowd-sourcing campaign. Funds were to be used for rent, medications, food and transportation for her son James. A transplant was successful and he and his wife Adena were able to return home to Victoria in September.

• A serious two-vehicle motor vehicle incident along Fulford-Ganges Road killed three-year-old Kilaya Singh on May 28. The event triggered an outpouring of community support to assist the families of both drivers involved in the crash. A Harry Manx concert was among benefit events.

June

• A pod of transient orcas dazzled onlookers by making a rare appearance in Fulford Harbour.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Provincial election candidates seen at an all-candidates meeting were, from left, Scott McEachern, independent; Adam Olsen, Green party; Stephen P. Roberts, Liberal party; and Gary Holman, NDP.

"It was pretty exciting for sleepy Fulford," said Marilyn Guille, who captured a video of the pod's visit. The five whales swam to a point near Drummond Park before retracing their wake out of the harbour.

• The driver of a car that smashed through a wooden guard rail and plunged off the side of a BC ferries loading ramp on Mayne Island forced the temporary closure of the facility. Emergency crews took 40 minutes to extract the driver, who made a full recovery.

• Seven-year-old Dylan Rouselle was presented

with a special certificate for her part in bringing emergency responders to her home. Rouselle had returned to the house when she noticed her father and brother attempting to extinguish a grass fire. Though her mother made the initial call, Rouselle dialed 911 after realizing firefighters were taking a long time to reach the Sunset Drive property.

• Salt Spring Capital Regional District manager Kees Ruurs announced his retirement after nearly five years of service on the island, most of it spent as the Parks and Recreation Commission

manager. Karla Campbell was hired to continue the work of Salt Spring's senior administrator for the CRD.

• Some farmers were looking at their apple crops with concern as plans for the Salt Spring Apple Festival were again threatened. The 2012 event had been cancelled due to western tent caterpillar damage to apple trees, and organizers hoped a second consecutive cancellation wouldn't be required. As it turned out, island orchards had enough fruit to ensure the festival's success, and Captain Apple was able to smile once again.

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## July

• July 1 festivities in Ganges featured an unexpected spark when a live BC Hydro power line took centre stage at the island's annual car show beside Centennial Park.

"I looked up and saw sparks and flames shooting into the air," said John Bateman, who was attending festivities with his family. "Then there was a second explosion and the lines started coming down. People started yelling 'Run, get out of the way.'"

The incident was caused when five red-and-white helium balloons became caught in the lines above the car show area.

No injuries were reported, though some vehicles sustained damage.

• Salt Spring resident Solomon Ruben was charged with attempted murder and assault causing bodily harm related to the stabbing of two young women on July 6. Two women had been stabbed at a Howell Lane home at around 6 p.m. and were taken to hospital for non-life-threatening injuries and later released.

• Firefighters spent five hours battling a large fire that destroyed a three-storey home near Bullock Lake. Smoke from the fire, which threatened to spread through a nearby forested area, could be seen as far away as Portlock Park.

The homeowners were able to escape without injury. The cause of the fire was deemed "accidental" by Salt Spring Fire Chief Tom Bremner.

• Plans to resurrect a development at Bullock Lake met a flood of opposition during a July meeting of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

"We find this application inadequate," said Molly Wilson, a neighbour and co-owner of Bullock Lake Farm, during the meeting's town hall session.

Developers had significantly altered their application by year's end, but concerns about the project's implications for water quality in Bullock Lake had yet to be addressed.

• The Make-a-Wish Foundation and Salt Spring volunteers made seven-year-old Angus Newton one happy kid when a deluxe playground set was installed in his yard in July. Angus had been undergoing treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The process entailed rigorous chemotherapy sessions and frequent trips to the BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver.

• The appearance of several pianos on street corners and other public locales on the island had people dancing their fingers and scratching their heads. While the backers of similar projects in Austin, London and Vancouver announced their intentions, the instigators of the Salt Spring project kept their identities a mystery. The pianos filled the air with music until they were removed,

under equally mysterious circumstances, in the fall.

• Salt Spring became the focal point of opposition to BC Hydro's smart meter program when local resident Nomi Davis claimed damages on behalf of herself and others who had smart meters installed at their homes against their wishes.

## August

• The province extended a heritage alteration permit for an islet off Salt Spring's Grace Point. The First Nations burial ground is the site of a proposed residential development by Alberta resident Barry Slawsky. The province of British Columbia granted the extension to allow further consultation about plans for the site. The permit was eventually granted in September, to the dismay of Cowichan Tribes representatives.

• A Salt Spring Island resident survived a tragic plane crash on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Lali Formaggia was on her way home from a multi-day backpacking trip on the remote Hesquiat trail when the floatplane she was travelling in hit a tree soon after takeoff. The crash killed two of the six people on board. In November, legendary rocker Randy Bachman put on Vinyl Tap Tour benefit concerts for Formaggia, a naturopath who had helped Bachman in the past.

• Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District trustee Mark Lucich announced his resignation, citing problems with spending funds on the proposed site of a new fire hall on Lower Ganges Road.

• A 41-year-old Salt Spring resident was killed in a logging mishap near Lake Cowichan on Vancouver Island. Ryan Burch was remembered by family, friends and acquaintances as a hard-working and loving family man.

• Galiano resident Janusz Kowalski was among people lucky enough to see an estimated 60 transient orca whales travel through Active Pass close to shore. His video of the event became a smash YouTube hit, with almost 475,000 views by the end of 2013.

• Work was substantially completed on a paved path, sidewalks, bike lanes and bus pull-out on Lower Ganges Road as part of the North Ganges Transportation Plan of the Salt Spring Transportation Commission. The project had received \$1.45 million in funding through the CRD and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

• More than 100 people attended an information meeting and feedback session put on by the Salt Spring Governance Study Committee held at Community Gospel Chapel on Aug. 19.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring firefighters battled a blaze at a home near Bullock Lake in July. The fire threatened to spread as it ignited trees on the property.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Emergency tape kept the public from the Canada Day car show at Centennial Park after balloons tied to a water bottle hit and broke a power line that came down on the show.



PHOTO BY KRISTEN BRAND

Street pianos created joy for players of all ages in Ganges through the summer.

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# 2014 VOLVO XC60



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Caroline Hickman had to retrieve Maggie Monsanto the mule and Farley the donkey after the pair escaped from their fall fair pen.



PHOTO BY DAVID BORROWMAN

Salt Spring Island Conservancy members and friends celebrated the successful fundraising campaign to purchase land to create the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve.

## September

- North Salt Spring Waterworks District staff pulled the plug on the St. Mary Lake aerators after determining they could not handle the excessive amount of phosphorus in the lake. The aerators cost NSSWD ratepayers \$440,000 when installed in 2008.

- Salt Spring enjoyed its ninth annual Salt Spring Pride festival, which included sold-out shows of Mamma Priscilla's Cagney Revue at ArtSpring, the sixth annual Pride parade and other events from Sept. 5 to 8. One black mark against the community occurred when a rainbow Pride flag was found burned in Ganges, although Helen Hinchliff then created a "Phoenix Rising" flag from the damaged pieces. Another occurred later when several Pride banners were stolen.

- Both sides declared victory after Justice Gregory T.W. Bowden issued his judgement on the Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club challenge to the CRD's noise bylaw. The judgement did not overturn the CRD's noise bylaw of 2006, as desired by the club, but did quash bylaw infraction tickets arising from neighbours' complaints and determined that club members could shoot between the hours of 9 a.m. and sunset.

- Salt Spring's Fall Fair saw a bit of extra excitement when Maggie Monsanto the Mule and Farley the

donkey escaped from the livestock pens at the Farmers' Institute on the Friday evening before the fair gates opened in the morning. The pair were on the loose for 16 hours before being tracked down thanks to eyewitness Pat Shewchuk.

- Salt Spring bus service was expanded to Walker Hook Road, following a successful petition by area resident Wendy Hartnett.

- Bylaw enforcement against Salt Spring Island Metal Recycling was adjourned following a Sept. 25 Supreme Court of B.C. order that determined owner John Quesnel must stop "rebuilding vehicles and crushing or dismantling vehicles, vehicle parts, appliances or scrap metal" on the Rainbow Road property.

- David Toynbee took the helm of Mouat's Trading Company, Salt Spring's 106-year-old business, following the retirement of Kevin Bell. Toynbee's father Dick and uncle Tom had also previously run the family-owned company.

and emergency operations centre would have cost the owner of an average-assessed residential property \$55 per year for 20 years.

- Salt Spring's BCSPCA branch launched a campaign to raise \$50,000, which would be matched by a \$50,000 bequest from the Estate of Margaret Franey in order to solve Salt Spring's stray and feral cat problem. The campaign was successful as of Dec. 17, two weeks before its deadline.

- The first Light up the World Purple event was held in Centennial Park on Oct. 10 to raise awareness of cyber-bullying and youth mental health issues. It was also World Mental Health Day and the date that Port Coquitlam teen Amanda Todd took her life last year after enduring online harassment.

- The Salt Spring Island Conservancy announced the successful completion of a campaign to raise the million dollars needed to purchase a 32.6-acre property at Blackburn Lake.

- Anti-pipeline campaigners deposited hundreds of postcard-sized wooden cards into the Salish Sea as a way to show where spilled oil would end up. The campaign, coordinated by the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and the Georgia Strait Alliance, aimed to create a visual representation of the potential fallout from an oil tanker spill in the region.

## October

- The fire hall referendum debate dominated news headlines in October. The \$6.25-million borrowing question was rejected by 61 per cent of voters — 1,604 and 1,018 in favour — in an Oct. 26 referendum. Costs for the proposed 18,000-square-foot emergency centre to house the Ganges fire hall, search and rescue group



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

GISS students were among those participating in the first Light up the World Purple event on Oct. 10 to raise awareness of cyber-bullying and youth mental health issues.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Some of the cast members of the wildly popular Mamma Priscilla's Cagney Revue performed at the library plaza as part of the 9th annual Salt Spring Pride festival.

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PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Salt Spring Lions Club members Gail LeBlanc and Mark Ritchie, in the back row, presented Jennifer and Lorne Close with \$5,000 to aid in Haiyan typhoon relief in the Philippines.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJURBERG

Salt Spring residents took the opportunity to tell BC Ferries and Ministry of Transportation reps how they felt about proposed ferry service cuts at a Dec. 7 meeting at GISS.

## November

• High winds pushed the Queen of Nanaimo into a private dock in Village Bay on Mayne Island and damaged the BC Ferries vessel on Nov. 2. All passengers except two had already left the vessel, which had cancelled its return sailing to Tsawwassen due to the weather. No replacement vessel for the Long Harbour-Southern Gulf Islands-Tsawwassen route was available while the Nanaimo underwent repairs. It returned to service on Nov. 15.

• The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission took the unusual step of requesting that property owners with acreage in proximity to Ganges that would be suitable for baseball and soccer fields contact PARC to discuss the possibility of sales.

“We encourage residents to submit an [expression of interest] if their land would be suitable and available,” said PARC chair Gregg Dow.

• The annual general meeting of the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island was a tumultuous affair at the Harbour House, as community members criticized the board’s communication practices, inability to provide basic documents and its penchant for closed meetings.

• The first Transgender Day of Remembrance was organized by Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island on Nov. 20, with a cande-

light ceremony held in Centennial Park.

• BC Ferries and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure proposed \$14 million in service cuts over two years for minor and northern routes as a way to help meet an \$18.9-million shortfall projected for the ferry corporation’s third performance term. Ferry-dependent communities showed their displeasure at the plan, which would see almost 7,000 round-trip sailings cut beginning April 1, 2014. Elimination of free sailings for passengers over the age of 65 on Mondays through Thursdays was also announced, along with a pilot project to put slot machines on the Tsawwassen-Swartz Bay ferry route.

• Platform Properties, the Lower Mainland company that purchased the half-finished Salt Spring Island Village Resort project at Bullock Lake through a receiver in 2011, presented its latest plan to the community. The company proposed no new cottage construction on the 35-acre lakeside property, limiting the plan to the existing 50 cottages, and adding only a 6,000-square-foot amenity building. Neighbours and other community members were still not happy with the plan, which saw the unit numbers reduced from an original 123.

• An appeal for community funding to keep the In From the Cold extreme weather shelter open an additional 20 to 40 nights this winter was made by Salt Spring Community Services execu-

tive director Rob Grant through the Driftwood newspaper. At \$600 per night for staff and other costs, Grant aimed to receive between \$12,000 and \$24,000 to cover nights not funded by BC Housing. Within two weeks, \$18,000 had been received. According to BC Housing stats, Salt Spring’s shelter provided nine per cent of the provincial total of extreme weather spaces in all of B.C. in 2012.

• The Salt Spring Governance Study Committee presented the final report of Urban Systems Inc., the consultant hired to do a governance study for Salt Spring, on Nov. 29. The committee recommended requesting funding for an incorporation study for the island, based on community input received through the process.

## December

• Representatives from BC Ferries and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure got an earful from Salt Spring residents upset with plans to cut 605 sailings from the Crofton-Vesuvius route, and other proposals to save \$14 million over two years as announced in November. Ferries rep Peter Simpson told a Dec. 7 Salt Spring meeting that it appeared the last weekday sailing from Crofton could perhaps leave at 8:30 p.m. rather than the 6:55 p.m. first proposed.

• Salt Spring radio station CFSI-FM faced the wrath of the CRTC for failing to comply with regula-



PHOTO BY SUSAN DE STEIN

The Queen of Nanaimo was escorted out of Long Harbour, heading to drydock in Vancouver, after damage was assessed following a “high-wind incident” at Village Bay on Mayne Island on Nov. 2.

tions related to providing program logs and other materials. A hearing to determine if the company, Satnam Media Group, will maintain its licence from the CRTC was set for Jan. 27, 2014 in Surrey.

• An immigration saga affecting Salt Spring resident Jennifer Lannan, her husband John Emekoba and their two-and-a-half-year-old son Gerard saw a happy conclusion when Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May told Lannan it appeared Emekoba would be allowed to join his family in Canada after a four-year battle with bureaucracy. Emekoba arrived on Salt Spring on Dec. 29.

• The boards of Island Savings and First West Credit Union unanimously approved the business case that would see Island Savings join First West, a credit union based in the Fraser Valley. The merger still required approval of the Finan-

cial Institutions Commission and Island Savings members.

• The Salt Spring Transportation Commission passed a five-year capital plan bylaw at its Dec. 17 meeting. Plans include creating a multi-use pathway on Rainbow Road from the Lower Ganges intersection to the pool, a connector path on Lower Ganges from Rainbow to Upper Ganges Road, and safety upgrades to Ganges Hill, along with other small projects. A referendum to gain a \$250,000 increase to the commission’s tax requisition was proposed for November of 2014.

• Fulford Water Service Commission members threatened to resign in light of continued frustration with the Capital Regional District. Members Martin Day, Carole Eyles, Anthony Maude and Jonathan Yardley set a special information meeting for Jan. 11 in order to discuss the issues.

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# Good news stories highlight milestones and honours



PHOTO BY RICK NEUFELD

Jim Erickson with his Oscar for set decoration work on the movie Lincoln, which was directed by Steven Spielberg. The trophy was seen and touched by many islanders in 2013.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jean Gelwicks received a B.C. Community Achievement Award from then Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Ida Chong, left, and Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon.

## A selection of stories about individual and group success

- Set designer Jim Erickson won a career-topping Oscar for his work on the film Lincoln. He watched proceedings on TV, being too ill to travel to Los Angeles for the ceremony.

- Pat Campbell received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of her pioneering work in the field of adult literacy.

- Salt Spring Coffee's Ethiopia Amara Gayo was selected by blind jury as a beverage of choice for the TED and TEDActive conferences in California.

- Jean Gelwicks received a BC Community Achievement Award for her environmental stewardship, as demonstrated in volunteer activities with Transition Salt Spring, Partners Creating Pathways and the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

- Fire chief Tom Bremner joined a select group of islanders to receive a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for community service. MP Elizabeth May presented the medal on Salt Spring.

- Salt Spring teen Phoenix Lazare was nominated for a best youth artist award in the 2013 Vancouver Island Music Awards and made it onto the top-20 regional shortlist for CBC Radio's national searchlight contest. Lazare was only in Grade 11.

- Salt Spring Community Theatre brought laughter and tears to audience members during a sold-out run of Harold and Maude directed by Suzanna Laine and starring Ann Stewart and Jonah Grindler.

- Salt Spring's girls U15 soccer team were crowned champs of the silver division after a dramatic double overtime win against Cowichan. They then came out in top spot in the gold-level district cup in a match against Bays United.

- The Driftwood won the

2013 Canadian Community Newspapers Association award for best all-round newspaper in its circulation class and netted another six top-three awards, including first place for front page and a first place in environmental writing for reporter Sean McIntyre. At the end of the month, the paper picked up two more first-place national awards for the Gulf Islander Visitors' Guide and the inaugural Best of Salt Spring section, and also won six top-three awards from the B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association competition.

- Lost Chords Choir director Shirley Bunyan received the Joyce O. Maguire Award for outstanding long-term service as a choral accompanist at the BC Choral Federation's Seniors' Chorfest. Bunyan is the founder of the seniors Salt Spring choir that she directed for close to 20 years.

- Deborah Forsyth hit the big time with her scratch-and-win ticket purchase from uptown Pharmasave, earning her the grand prize of \$77,777

in the Diamond 7's game.

- Viva Voce, now known as Viva Chorale!, won the Victoria Commonwealth Shield for community choirs. The honour was awarded during the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival.

- Karen Hudson was appointed chief librarian at the Salt Spring Island Public Library, replacing Brigitte Peter-Cherneff, who retired from the post. Hudson's librarian position was filled by Danielle Hubbard.

- Gymnast Darby McIntyre won two silver medals at the Western Canadian Championships in Winnipeg. McIntyre, who lives on Salt Spring but trains with the Duncan Dynamics, competed against 15 athletes from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

- House Piccolo was named on a list of the best places to eat in the country in a new edition of Where to Eat in Canada.

- Salt Spring FC crushed Comox to win the men's

comp title during the May long weekend Challenge Cup soccer tournament.

- Graduating Gulf Islands Secondary School student Maddee Nash received a \$70,000 scholarship to cover tuition and living expenses for a four-year undergraduate degree. She was among only 20 people from across the country to win the 2013 TD Scholarship for Community Leadership.

- Jan Slakov and the Salt Spring Island Water Council received Community Stewardship Awards from the Islands Trust. Slakov was honoured for her environmental and social justice work, while the Water Council was commended for a decade of work to promote awareness about water-related issues.

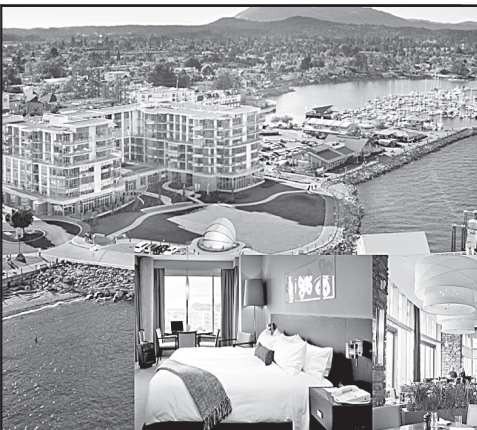
- Salt Spring resident Cheryl Heykoop's quest to help Ugandan children tell their stories to the world earned her an opportunity to present her work at the international conference of the World Social Science Forum. Heykoop was one of among 25 competitors selected

by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

- Nigel Fisher was named to the Order of Canada. He was honoured for decades of diplomatic work in dozens of countries, including Haiti, Afghanistan and Rwanda.

- Rosalie Matchett joined the ranks of the island's high-calibre artists by winning the prize for best mixed-media work from the Sooke Fine Arts Show in late July. Salt Spring artists accounted for two of the competition's three jurors' choice awards. Jerry Davidson got the nod for his painting Winter Coat, while Heather Martin-McNab's With the Flow piece earned a top vote.

- Huib de Roo capped his return to the world of competitive mountain bike racing by completing a challenging seven-day race between the Comox Valley and Whistler. The 40-year-old former Dutch national team member finished the race in eighth place in the event's masters category.



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## Good news, continued

- Salt Spring's Special Olympics team came back from their first-ever appearance at the B.C. Summer Games in Langley with silver and gold medals. Bowlers Mahjor Bains, Daniel McEachern and Dominic George earned silver medals, while bocce players Jason Newport, Carlos Manzano and Chris Joynson brought home the gold.

- Marshall Heinekey was named Toastmaster of the Year for the Salt Spring club, Christin Boyd won the Kathryn Holm Memorial for speaking development achievement and rookie of the year honours went to Arthur Black.

- Salt Spring's Cassidy Fraser won gold medals in the 50- and 100-metre races during the B.C. Summer Swimming Association provincial championships in Coquitlam.

- Alice Bibeau Tester celebrated her 100th birthday at Lady Minto Hospital's Extended Care Unit on Aug. 24.

- Jonathan Seagull returned to Connie Hardy's Cusheon Lake deck for the 18th year in a row on Aug. 27, the earliest date ever. The bird overwinters at Hardy's home before leaving sometime in March each year.

- Island Pathways received an award for Outstanding Work by a Local Cycling Association at a national trade show held in Montreal. The group also earned the Eco-Star Climate Action Award for a non-profit organization from the CRD for promoting safe cycling through the 2012 Velo Village conference.

- The Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club celebrated 100 years of existence with a special event on Oct. 5. Ellen Bennett was one of several members to receive honorary lifetime memberships at the celebration.

- Wildlife artist and environmentalist Robert Bateman was honoured by Ducks Unlimited Canada when it dedicated its Ford Lake project to the celebrated Salt Spring-based artist.

- Among runner Susan Gordon's many honours for 2013 were a gold medal among 58 female competitors aged 50 to 54 at the Vancouver Eastside 10K race in September, and first in a New York City 5K event on

Nov. 2. Fellow Salt Spring Sneakers club members also made their mark at numerous regional events.

- The Canadian Power and Sail Squadron marked its 75th anniversary with a stop at the Salt Spring Sailing Club and a flag-raising event on Oct. 1.

- The Salt Spring Public Library held an official opening event on July 30, even though the facility had been used since Dec. 20, 2012. In its first year of operation the library saw 170,000 visits, 2,077 people attending author talks and other programs, and 2,179 youth take in special programs.

- Winners of the eighth annual Salt Spring Business Excellence Awards were: Business of the Year (over 15 employees) – Country Grocer; Small Business of the Year – Fishbowl Magazine; Outstanding Customer Service – Leon's Gardening and General Maintenance; Non-Profit Association of the Year – Salt Spring Public Library; Green Business of the Year – Thrive Lifestyle; New Business of the Year – Doctor Computer; Tourism Business of the Year – The Beach House B&B; Agriculture/Farm Business of the Year – Foxglove Farm; People's Choice Award – Doctor Computer.

- Phoenix Elementary School students joined participants stretching all the way to the other side of Canada on Oct. 18 in a bid to establish a new record in science. The attempt to hold the world's largest practical science lesson was organized by Science.gc.ca to celebrate National Science and Technology Week.

- The Gulf Islands Secondary School senior boys soccer team rode an 11-game unbeaten streak through north island, Vancouver Island and provincial AA championships until losing to St. Thomas Aquinas School from North Vancouver in the semifinal round of the championships in Burnaby for a fourth-place finish.

- All members of the GISS swim team earned a berth at the provincial championships in November, with team member Cassidy Fraser winning a silver medal in her 50-metre butterfly division.

- The Grade 8 girls' volleyball team at Salt Spring Island Middle School finished first in the Central Vancouver Island competitive division.

- Salt Spring Island Abbeyfield



PHOTO BY ARIJUNA GEORGE

GISS Scorpions senior boys soccer players rush onto the field after winning the final game of the Vancouver Island championships for a first-place finish and berth at the provincial championships.

Housing Society and Island Women Against Violence held an official celebration for the opening of The Cedars, a Ganges-area residence that unites affordable housing for seniors and transitional housing for women and children who have suffered domestic abuse. Numerous government and non-profit group partners made the project possible. It had already housed people for several months when the event was held Dec. 13.

- The Opt Clinic on Salt Spring received four awards from its provincial parent organization: Dr. Philippa Tattersall received the Dr. Jeffrey Dolph Memorial Award; nurse Jenny Redpath received the Executive Director's Award of Excellence for "above and beyond dedication;" Katherine Atkins earned the Long Term Volunteer Service Award; and Roberta Temmel was named Opt's Volunteer of the Year.

- A campaign to purchase a three-acre shoreline property on South Pender Island was successful when the Pender Island Conservancy Association was able to meet its \$300,000 contribution to the \$1.65-million purchase.

- Hastings House Country House Hotel was voted the third best hotel in Western Canada by readers of Condé Nast Traveler magazine. CNT readers also named the Gulf Islands the third best island in Canada, after Vancouver Island and Prince Edward Island.



At top, Robert Bateman at the ceremony dedicating Ducks Unlimited's Ford Lake project to the renowned wildlife artist. At right is Darby McIntyre with some of several medals she won at regional and Western Canadian gymnastics championships in 2013.



## The Gulf Islands Contractors Guide will be published in January, watch for the magazine in your Gulf Islands Driftwood.

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# arts&entertainment

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**FILM**

## GISS alumnus' film premieres at Fritz



At left, screen shots from A Day in a Life - The Hoops 4 Hope Story.

Hoops 4 Hope story on screen this Friday afternoon

Islanders are invited to attend the premier of an inspirational feature-length documentary film by Yoni Marmorstein.

A Day in a Life - The Hoops 4 Hope Story will screen at The Fritz on Friday, Jan. 3 at 3 p.m.

Marmorstein, who graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in 2006, produced and directed the film, which follows basketball coach Lala and Marmorstein deep into the violent and impoverished streets in townships surrounding Cape Town, South Africa, and Harare, Zimbabwe.

“Coach Lala is one of the top life skill coaches in South Africa,” explains Marmorstein. “After nearly being killed in a home invasion, Lala gets back on his feet and takes us through one day with five of the top young basketball prodigies in the nation. Basketball is more than just a game for these kids, it symbolizes hope for a brighter future.”

A trailer can be seen on YouTube, and a Facebook event page is found by searching Movie Premier: A Day in a Life - the Hoops 4 Hope Story.

Advance tickets are available for \$10 at Salt Spring Books and The Fritz, or \$12 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Day in a Life project.

<p><b>Tree House Cafe</b></p> <p>This Week's Music Friday 6-9pm <b>GENE GROOMS</b></p> <p>All day breakfast 7 days a week</p> <p><small>Open Mon-Wed Sat-Open Fri Sat Sun-Open Sunday Sun-Open Telephone: 250-537-5579 Visit to Moby's in Ganges</small></p>	<p><i>A Taste of India</i> Saturday 5-9pm</p> <p><b>\$10 Burger and Beer</b> Thursday 5-9pm</p>
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<p><b>Jan 1 - CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday Jan 5 - \$9 Fish n Chips</b> Canucks 5 pm</p>
<p><b>Thursday Jan 2</b> "The Pig" BarBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich \$10</p>	<p><b>Monday Jan 6</b> 2 for 1 apples</p>
<p><b>Friday Jan 3</b> BarBQ 18 hr Brisket \$14</p>	<p><b>Tuesday Jan 7 - Burger &amp; Beer Night</b> Canucks 7pm</p>
<p><b>Saturday Jan 4</b> Canucks 7pm</p>	<p><b>Wednesday Jan 8</b> Wings \$6</p>

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**DANCE**

## New year for dance classes

Hip hop, ballet, modern dance and much more begins in early January

sound workout designed to maintain technique and has the added benefit of accelerating training.”

Naomi Jason is on sabbatical this term and Rosita Larrain has stepped in to cover her modern classes and hip hop classes. Larrain has trained in modern dance with an emphasis on choreography.

“She also has three sons who are hip-hop dancers and will be calling on them to teach the occasional workshops in the skills needed for the solo parts like puppeting, waving, creeping, tutting, robotting, tick-

ing, strobing, so we are expecting some great moments in the year end recital with students busting some cool moves in their solos.”

Ballet classes with Jill Smith and Lisa Hall will accept new students in the January semester as will Sue Newman in her classes: tap, creative dance and musical theatre.

Pilar Brooks is also offering jazz on Tuesdays after a successful first semester with the academy.

For more information, see the academy website at [www.saltspringart-academy.ca](http://www.saltspringart-academy.ca).

**ART**

## Stratford exhibit of abstracts opens at the Harbour House

Paintings described as 'defiantly modernist'

Salt Spring Island painter Zandra Stratford's bold, textured abstracts are on show at the Harbour House in Ganges through the month of January.

Described as a “recovering ad agency art

director,” the Harbour House says Stratford's work has “an audacious graphic sensibility and structural topography on large canvases. Evoking wabi-sabi ceramics and with a forward-looking 1960s advertising palette, the collection is unapologetic in its optimism.”

An opening event for the show will be on Monday, Jan. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m.

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# what's on this week



## Tues. Dec 31

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**New Year's Eve** at the Legion. New Year's Eve party for Legion members and guests, with music by Valdy at 6 p.m. (for the Newfie New Year's) and The Pinkertons at 9 p.m. Cold plate buffet, party favours, snacks. Doors open 5 p.m.

**New Year's Eve with Billie Woods.** Singer songwriter. Harbour House Hotel. 6 p.m.

**Beat and The Sneaks New Year's Eve Party.** Live band featuring original tunes, R&B hits, classic rock and funk grooves and reggae. Food and drink available. Fulford Hall. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8:30.

**Enliven 2014.** Mahon Hall will be beautifully transformed into a magical ballroom with music by DJ K-Tel, Daniel Trump, Brontron, Blake Winkles, aerial hoop performance, Cheesecake Burlesque and more. Evening starts with light stretch lead by Dance Temple at 8 p.m. 16 years plus event.

**New Year's with The Coalition.** Appies, champagne at midnight, noisemakers, balloons and dancing. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## Tues. Dec 31

**ACTIVITIES**

**New Year's Eve Vigil.** Catholic service. Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. 5 p.m.

**Wed. Jan 1**

**ACTIVITIES**

**Polar Bear Swim.** At Vesuvius Beach. Wear what you were wearing the night before! Plunge at 12 noon sharp.

**New Year's Day Service.** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. St. Paul's Catholic Church in Fulford. 8 a.m.

**New Year's Day Service.** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. 10 a.m.

**The Naming of Jesus: New Year's Day.** Eucharist in the Celtic Christian tradition at All Saints. 12 noon.

## Fri. Jan 3

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Derrival, Bambi and Noble Savage.** Three youth bands from Vancouver, Salt Spring Island and Victoria have teamed up for a wonderful night of music. All ages; no drugs or alcohol. Mahon Hall. 9 p.m.

**Gene Grooms.** Live music. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**

**A Day in a Life - The Hoops 4 Hope Story.** GISS alumnus Yoni Marmorstein screens his new film. Through the hardships of growing up in South Africa and Zimbabwe where poverty, crime and HIV rates are extremely high, a group of basketball players' hoop dreams are what bring them hope for a better tomorrow. The Fritz. 3 p.m.

## Sat. Jan 4

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Alvaro Sanchez & Chamigos.** Live Latin American music. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Sun. Jan 5**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Piano Bar.** With Deborah Inkster-Kneebone. Harbour House Restaurant. 6 to 9 p.m.

## Mon. Jan 6

**ACTIVITIES**

**Opening Event for Zandra Stratford Art Show.** Reception for exhibition by abstract painter Zandra Stratford at the Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Tues. Jan 7**

**ACTIVITIES**

**Find Your Core Desired Feelings For the New Year.** A workshop led by Inga Michaelson where she will guide participants using experiential exercises. Salt Spring Public Library. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Info: 250-538-0201; inga@freebird-coaching.com.

## Wed. Jan 8

**ACTIVITIES**

**Parent Education Night With Dr. Allison Rees.** Sponsored by the Salt Spring Coop Preschool and the SS Library, Dr. Rees has been teaching the LIFE seminar courses since 1993, and is the author of Sidestepping the Power Struggle and The Parent Child Connection. Salt Spring Public Library. 6 p.m. Info: 250-537-8445

**Agriculture on Salt Spring Island - Past and Present.** A SS Historical Society presentation with guest speaker George Laundry. Central Community Hall. 2 p.m.

## Wed. Jan 8

**ACTIVITIES**

**Public Hearing for Bylaw 470.** Bylaw would change zoning to permit a private wharf or docks associated with upland residential use for 250 Collins Road. Lions Hall. 5 p.m.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL: [news@gulfislands-driftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislands-driftwood.com)



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"We're sorry but we cannot accept any passes to the Hobbit! The final 2 shows for The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug are Wednesday Thursday January 1-2 at 7pm

**A Day in a Life: The Hoops for Hope Story** Friday January 3rd 3pm One Show Only. Tickets available at Salt Spring Books and The Fritz. A Fundraiser for A Day in a Life Movement.

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**Awaken: Write & Dance for Your Best Year Ever**

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Sunday, January 19th, 10 am to 4pm  
Stowell Lake Farm  
Info: [www.annemariehogya.com/workshops](http://www.annemariehogya.com/workshops)

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**CINEMA**

- The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** — the second in the trilogy of films adapting the masterpiece The Hobbit, by J.R.R. Tolkien. It continues the adventure of Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) as he journeys with the Wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellan) and 13 Dwarves, led by Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage) on an epic quest to reclaim the lost Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor.
- Frozen** — Fearless optimist Anna teams up with Kristoff in an epic journey, encountering Everest-like conditions, and a hilarious snowman named Olaf in a race to find Anna's sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom in eternal winter.
- A Day in a Life: The Hoops for Hope Story** — runs on Friday, Jan. 3 at 3 p.m. One show only. Tickets available at Salt Spring Books and The Fritz. A fundraiser for A Day in a Life Movement. Coach Lala takes us into a day in a life of seven of the best young basketball players in South Africa and Zimbabwe. Through the hardships of growing up where poverty, crime, and HIV rates are extremely high, their hoop dreams bring them hope for a better tomorrow.

**EXHIBITIONS**

- Inspire Winter World** is an exhibition of small works by 11 artists showing at the **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** on McPhillips Avenue.

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- An exhibit of **fairy doors** painted by 20 island artists can be seen in the windows of **Apple Photo**.
- Photographs by **Judy H. McPhee** are showing at **TJ Beans Coffee Shop**.
- Photographer **Shari Macdonald** shows Whispering Wood Walks at **Kizmit Gallery Cafe** on Beaver Point Road.
- The **Fernwood Road Cafe** hosts an exhibit of amazing underwater photography of **Ken Sutherland** and **Ann Donahue**.
- Melinda** and **Ceilidh Divers** show photography and original artwork at **Barb's Bakery & Bistro**.
- SS Coffee Company** staff have an art show at their cafe.
- Delaine Faulkner** shows calligraphy and paintings at the **Country Grocer cafe**.
- Carole Leslie** shows new work titled Geography of the Heart at **Cafe Talia**.
- Paintings of the North by **Judith Currelly** is now showing at **Duthie Gallery**. Winter hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment at 250-537-9606.
- Juliana Paul** has photographs hanging at **Penny's Pantry**.
- SOLID at the Market Place** (in Gasoline Alley) shares African art by **Louise Adelle**.

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## ISLAND PEOPLE

# New Year's resolutions must be soulful to succeed

Use feelings for change

BY INGA MICHAELSEN  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

2014 is here and with it the New Year's resolutions have begun.

The tradition of New Year's resolutions goes back over 4,000 years. Babylonians made promises and offerings to their gods at the beginning of the New Year, so the gods might bestow their grace upon them. During Caesar's time in ancient Rome, the first month of the year was named after the god Janus, a two-faced god who looked backward into the old year and forward into the New Year. Resolutions were usually of a moral flavour — to be good to each other, to think of others etc. — and in one form or another, the tradition of making New Year's resolutions continues.

Indeed, making New Year's resolutions centred on the concept of self-improvement is still common. However, without fearing the gods any longer, most of us fail to follow through with what we resolve to do. In fact, the failure rate of those who come up with goals for the New Year



Inga Michaelsen

is 88 per cent (2007, Richard Wiseman, University of Bristol), even though 52 per cent of those who set out on New Year's resolutions feel confident they will succeed.

Let's explore why most people lose their motivation to reach their goals after only a short period of time.

The way we approach New Year's resolutions and goal setting is flawed, as we most often come from a place of fear. Our inner critic makes us believe that what we previously have done has not been enough. So we create a to-do list based on things we

should be doing to correct the parts we like least about ourselves — what a "good" person would do.

Obviously, these goals are coming from a place that is sabotaging our resolve. They are stressful to pursue, often uninspiring, and drain one's motivation.

However, if you observe closely beneath the surface, goals are always about creating a change in how we want to feel.

This year I want to invite you to clarify how you'd like to feel in 2014. Once clear on those feelings, you can envision those accomplishments and experiences that could make you feel that way.

Let me use an example. One of my coaching clients struggles with obesity. Her goal is to lose weight by doing her exercise program regularly and not eating junk food. When she explored the feelings she actually desired — feelings that lay underneath this goal — this is what came up for her: she wanted to feel a sense of accomplishment and pride, to feel self-respect and love. She wanted to feel the joy she gets walking her

dogs without being out of breath; she wanted to feel freedom.

Not only did she become clear on how she wanted to feel, she also started to come up with different pathways to reach those desired feelings that were not limited to her original goal. She could take the dogs for a walk, making the round a little longer every day. She could stand in front of the mirror and feel grateful for who she was. Create a support group that will exercise two days a week with her. Celebrate small accomplishments. Make a weekly meal plan. Envision how she wanted to feel (feel it, smell it, taste it).

You see, if we attach ourselves to a very particular goal — we can get stuck. However, once you focus on your desired feeling you will find that there is always an abundance of paths to what you want to create in your life. Your list of possible "to dos" becomes meaningful. And you can start right now.

So look at your list and ask yourself why that goal is on there. What's the desired feeling underneath?

Then question yourself further:

• What can I do today that gets me into this feeling?

• What do I need to stop doing to get me into this feeling?

• What new thoughts would get me into this feeling?

• What thoughts get in the way of feeling this way?

When you get clear on how you want to feel, your decisions on what to do get informed by the heart of the matter. You start to see that life is full of opportunities to feel exactly the way you want to feel!

If you want support in this effort, I am offering a workshop at the library on Tuesday, Jan. 7, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., during which I will guide you in the process of discovering your core desired feelings for the New Year through experiential exercises.

Also, Lynda Monk and Anne Marie Hogya are offering a write-and-dance workshop for your Best Year Ever on Sunday, Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Stowell Lake Farm. A great book on this topic is the Desire Map by Danielle LaPorte.

For more information, contact [inga@freebird-coaching.com](mailto:inga@freebird-coaching.com).

## NATURE

# Winter is duck soup time

Vast array of quackers found

BY BOB WEEDEN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Summer on Salt Spring is for little chirping birds. Winter is for big quacking ones.

Ducks begin plopping in from early November to mid December, stay for three months, and then leave in March and April. Freeze-up and break-up of ponds and lakes in the Okanagan, Cariboo and points north set the schedule, in a rough and ready way.

Our island can't offer the big wetlands of the Fraser delta, but we do attract ducks to inlets and eelgrass shallows in Fulford and Ganges harbours and the northeast coast from Walkers Hook to Southey Point. Ducks that dive deep concentrate wherever mussels, crabs and kelp fish are thickest. If you walk the shore trail from Ruckle Park's orchard, for example, you will see red-breasted mergansers, buffleheads and goldeneyes as soon as you reach Grandmother's Beach.

Another stroll brings you to the foreshore where ferry wash sloshes and gurgles among sandstone ledges. Harlequin ducks tuck in close to shore, diving for dinner with scarcely a look at birders



us to the utterly exact total of 230 ring-necked ducks, 75 common mergansers, 140 northern shovelers (rarely seen on Salt Spring Island) and 18 ruddy ducks, also rare here.

Shovelers look like undersized mallards but sport shnozzes that would turn Pinocchio green. They're useful for getting meals, however. Like baleen whales and flamingos, shovelers strain water for a living. As they rapidly open and close their bills, water squirts past the comb-like rakers, leaving algae, copepods, amphipods, and iPods behind. Yum!

When a tight flock of shovelers shows nothing but tails and flailing legs (to keep the bird upside down), the business is going on down below. (The habit makes shovelers easy to count, by the way. Count tails and divide by two.)

In contrast, common mergansers fish cooperatively. Usually in groups of 10 to 20, they move along a shore in a shallow U formation, ends forward. Birds dive and hunt individually, but keep their relative position in line. Fleeing fish have to run the gauntlet.

Winter on Salt Spring Island: duck soup everywhere.

in the meadow.

Farther out, bulky surf scoters dive for mussels or laboriously flap their way upwind. Are these black-clad ducks the Calvinists among waterfowl, obliged by the promise of salvation to make heavy work of everything?

I drive along St. Mary Lake often, and I usually stop at a pullout where I can look for ducks. At this season I'll probably see ring-necked ducks, mid-sized divers that really enjoy escargot on the full shell. A few come in late October. Bigger flocks join them in mid-November.

It is fun to watch them the day they arrive. Such a lot of splashing and bathing and social jostling! A holy terror must seize the snails a fathom or so below the hungry flock!

Five of us bird counters tried to tally all the ducks on St. Mary Lake on Dec. 15, the day of the all-island count. Spotting scopes, binoculars, argument and guesswork led

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By telephone 250-537-9933 or fax 250-537-2613  
By email to driftwood@driftwoodmedia.com  
By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd.,  
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

**Payment**

By cash, debit, Mastercard or Visa. Classifieds are prepaid.

**DEADLINES**

Class display deadline: Monday 4 pm  
Word ad deadline: Tuesday 9 am  
Too Late To Classify: Tuesday 1pm



**WHAT IT COSTS**

**3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS:**  
\$13.30 - additional lines 95¢ ea  
All ads are posted to BCClassified.com  
**EMPLOYMENT/LEGAL ADS:**  
3 line rate \$15.25 - additional lines 95¢ ea  
**DISPLAY ADS:** \$12.60 per col. inch

**YOUR AD ON-LINE**

All ads booked in the Driftwood Classifieds  
appear on-line at  
[www.bcclassified.com](http://www.bcclassified.com)  
Auto ads also listed on line at  
[www.bcautocentral.com](http://www.bcautocentral.com)

**BOOK YOUR AD ON-LINE**

Book your classifieds online -  
open 24 hours a day  
[www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or  
[bcclassified.com](http://bcclassified.com)



Please check your ad after the first insertion. Should an error appear in an advertisement, Driftwood Publishing Ltd. is only liable for the amount paid for the space occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	TRAVEL	PERSONAL SERVICES	HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES
CELEBRATIONS	COMING EVENTS	COMING EVENTS	INFORMATION	GETAWAYS	FINANCIAL SERVICES	CONCRETE & PLACING

*Guess who is going to be 80?*

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

**Salt Spring HOSPICE**

We cannot change the wind during a storm, but we can learn to adjust our own sails.

250-537-2770  
[saltspringhospice.org](http://saltspringhospice.org)  
Supported by

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

**TAOIST TAI CHI**  
For Health & Relaxation  
**OPEN HOUSE AND FREE INTRODUCTORY CLASS**  
Wed. Jan. 8, 7-8pm  
All Saints Anglican Church, Ganges  
New weekly classes start Thurs. Jan. 9, 10:30am- noon & Wed. Jan. 15, 6:30-8pm, at All Saints.  
Stephanie 250-537-1721

INFORMATION

**Al's Asian Treasures**

**OIL PAINTINGS HAVE ARRIVED**

**NEW STOCK**  
Lots of Buddhas & Pagodas

Gift Store Showroom

- handcarved stone statues
- driveway gates
- jewellery
- furniture • paintings
- wood carvings
- marble and rock sinks
- lava statues
- GATES ARE 25% OFF**

#1-3107 Henry Rd.  
Chemainus 250-324-4444

**Bible Believers Fellowship**  
of Salt Spring Island

Sunday service  
10 - 11:30 am

Core Inn -  
134 McPhillips Ave.  
[www.bbfsi.org](http://www.bbfsi.org)  
more info: 250-537-4934

**The British State Pension is Changing Again!**

Find out the details at an **INFORMATION MEETING** Sat., 18th January at 2 p.m. Salt Spring Island Library 129 McPhillips Ave. Ganges

Join us in the light to "UNFREEZE" Pensions  
Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners

For local information Call: 250-995-9356/250-537-9554  
[www.britishtensions.com](http://www.britishtensions.com)

**GET NOTICED**  
page 24

INFORMATION

**Haywards Funeral Service**  
Funeral Directors since 1867

**Free Community Info Sessions**

Wed. Jan. 15 - 12 pm  
What To Expect When Someone Passes Away

Wed. Jan. 22 - 12 pm  
Advantages of Pre-Planning Your Funeral

Wed. Jan. 29 - 12 pm  
Financial Advice with Markus Wenzel

~ Limited Space ~  
Please RSVP 250-537-1022  
contact@haywardsfuneral.com  
More details online:  
[www.haywardsfuneral.com](http://www.haywardsfuneral.com)

**SSI Historical Society Regular Meeting**

2:00 pm Wednesday, January 8, 2014

At Central Hall

George Laundry talks about the agricultural history and agricultural trends on Salt Spring Island

Check our website:  
<http://saltspringarchives.com/historical>  
for more program details.

Tea/coffee to follow the meeting

Donate your Country Grocer tapes to Box 131 to support the archives.

All are welcome

**BEGINNERS YOGA**  
SATURDAYS  
11:00 - Noon  
at GAIAMA YOGA in GANGES  
CALL DOROTHY 250-653 4655

INFORMATION

**Alcoholics Anonymous Service Meetings**

Salt Spring 250-537-7573

Gallano 250-539-2222

Pender 250-629-3631



**DID YOU KNOW? BBB Accredited Businesses** must pass a comprehensive screening process. Look for the 2013 BBB Accredited Business Directory E-edition on your Black Press Community Newspaper website at [www.blackpress.ca](http://www.blackpress.ca). You can also go to <http://vi.bbb.org/directory/> and click on the 2013 BBB Accredited Business Directory

**NEW Old Salty January Hours**  
Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm  
Sunday 11am - 4pm

LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS**

RE: THE ESTATE OF ELMA MCMEANS GLADYS RUBRIGHT, AKA ELMA M. RUBRIGHT, Deceased, formerly of 120 Pine Place, Salt Spring Island, in the province of British Columbia V8K 2N4.

Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of ELMA M. RUBRIGHT, are hereby required to send the particulars of their claims to the Executor at 1982 North End Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 1C9, on or before January 10, 2014, after which date the Executor will distribute the Estate among the parties entitled to it, having regard to the claims that have been received.

Carol Lynne Johnson Executor for the Estate of ELMA M. RUBRIGHT

LOST AND FOUND

Found - **TEDDY BEAR** Nov. 16th. Call 250 537-2827

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

**CRD**  
Making a difference...together

**Contract Opportunity**

The Capital Regional District is seeking proposals from individuals to supply local courier/delivery services on Salt Spring Island. Applicants must supply their own vehicle and have knowledge of Salt Spring Island. Responsibilities include pick-up and delivery of materials at a minimum once a month, but has the potential to increase as need arises.

Proposals: Applicants must have the following: supply their own vehicle and must be in good working condition, Commercial General Liability and Automobile insurance the contractor shall maintain Third Party Legal Liability Insurance in an amount not less than \$2,000,000, and WCB coverage.

To apply, email your quote for the contract opportunity with a cover letter. Applications will be received until 12:00 noon on Monday, January 14, 2014. For more information please contact the CRD office, at 250-537-4448.

**SNOWBIRDS - SOUTH PHOENIX** Seasonal - new home. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, double garage. \$1450./mo. Nicely furnished, all included. For pictures and more info call (250)724-3606 or email: [wavemagic33@yahoo.com](mailto:wavemagic33@yahoo.com)

**TIMESHARE**

**CANCEL YOUR Timeshare.** No risk program. Stop mortgage and maintenance Payments today. 100% money back guarantee. Free consultation. Call us now. We can help! 1-888-356-5248.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**TRAIN TO BE an Apartment/Condominium Manager** online! Graduates get access to all jobs posted with us. 33 years of success! Government certified. [www.RMTI.ca](http://www.RMTI.ca) or 1-800-665-8339, 604-681-5456.

TRADES, TECHNICAL

**JOURNEYMAN AUTOMOTIVE Service Technician(s)** in Hanna Alberta. Hanna Chrysler Ltd. offers competitive wages, relocation allowance, negotiable depending on experience. Bright, modern shop. Full-time permanent with benefits. Friendly town just 2 hours from major urban centres. More info at: [hannachrysler.ca](mailto:hannachrysler.ca). Fax 403-854-2845; Or send by email to: [chrysler@telusplanet.net](mailto:chrysler@telusplanet.net)

PERSONAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

**RAPID DEBT RELIEF.. NO Interest - LOW Payments**  
There is Special Government Legislation that allows you to reduce your DEBT by up to 100%

Call **KYLE for a FREE CONSULTATION**  
**1-855-812-6767**

**ABAKHAN & Associates Inc.**  
Debt Restructuring Consultant  
Business & Bankruptcy  
414 - 1207 Douglas St. Victoria  
1120 - 625 Howe St. Vancouver  
Good people to know in times of trouble

Serving Communities Throughout Vancouver Island  
[www.abakhan.com](http://www.abakhan.com)  
We'll help you get a fresh start!

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

**IF YOU own a home or real estate** Alpine Credits can lend you money. It's That Simple. Your Credit / Age / Income is not an issue. 1.800.587.2161.

**LEGAL SERVICES**

**LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE**  
30-min consultation for \$25+tax.  
1.800.663.1919  
604.687.3221

**DIAL-A-LAW**  
Access free legal info on BC laws.  
1.800.565.5297  
604.687.4680  
[www.dialalaw.org](http://www.dialalaw.org)  
Funded by the Law Foundation of BC

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

COMPUTER SERVICES

**CALL BOB'S Computer Service** for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 250-537-2827 or cell 250-538-7017. Please go & back-up your important data now!

**CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM**

DEATHS

**Margaret Prietz**

Margaret Prietz (nee Kuchnemann) died on December 29th 2013 in her 98th year, proud and loving mother of Sabine Swierenga (Harold) of Salt Spring Island and Tina Prietz (Doug Jemmett) of Huntsville, ON. She will be sadly missed by her grandchildren Stephan Swierenga (Natalie McMaster) of Ottawa, Heidi Swierenga (Tom Baker) of Vancouver, Charlie and Peter Jemmett of Huntsville and her great-grandchildren Cathy, Hayden, Jacob, and Kieran Swierenga of Ottawa, and Sidney and Sebastian Swierenga of Vancouver, and her sister Eva Borgstrom of Lund, Sweden. She was predeceased by her son Rainer in 1959 and her husband Dr. Hans Prietz in 1997.

Margaret trained as a dietician in Hamburg, married her childhood sweetheart in 1939, and survived the horrific war and post-war years with two toddlers. The family immigrated to Canada in 1952 after the birth of her third child. At 55 Margaret went back to school, earning a Fine Arts Diploma from Sheridan College in Oakville ON.

Margaret and Hanno moved to Salt Spring Island in 1992, where she built a pottery studio and spent many happy hours with her craft and her students. In 2012 island children were enchanted with her ceramic crèche Christmas display in the new library. She had a wonderful knack for connecting with people, creating long lasting friendships. Margaret kept diaries all her life from which she wrote a wonderful memoir that has become a lasting legacy for her family. She will always be remembered for her encouraging positive attitude to life and her strength in getting through the dark times. We will miss her very much.

The family would like to thank the dedicated staff of the Lady Minto Extended Care Unit and in particular we are grateful for the loving and compassionate care provided by Kathy Geldart, who made such a difference to Margaret's last years.

Donations in Margaret's memory may be made to her favourite charity, World Vision.

**GULF COAST MATERIALS**  
Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rock
- Rebar
- Bagged Cement
- Colour & Sealers

**Small Load Pick Ups Available at Yard**

345 Rainbow Road  
**250-537-2611**

DRAFTING & DESIGN

**LET'S GET STARTED**

Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

**HELSET DESIGN**  
250.537.1037  
Ask for Jim

DEATHS

**DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS**

**HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES**

**HAULING AND SALVAGE**

**STRONG WOMAN HAULING**  
~ Has a new phone number ~  
**Call 250-616-3364**  
A full service, I move it all, junk removal company!

**TELEPHONE SERVICES**

**DISCONNECTED PHONE?**  
National Teleconnect home phone service. No one refused! Low monthly rate! Calling features and unlimited long distance available. Call National Teleconnect today! 1-866-443-4408, or visit online: www.nationalteleconnect.com

**WHAT'S ON**  
page 18

**HOMES FOR RENT**

**REAL ESTATE**

**LOTS**

LAKEVIEW LOT FOR SALE ON BOWFRON LAKE. B.C. 2.58 acres, unserviced, small trees on it. 100 ft. from lake. \$250,000. Call: 1-250-983-2594

**RENTALS**

**COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL**

1,068 SF for lease, Merchant Mews nr. Ganges. Skylights, baydoor, upstairs office, bthrm. Richard, 250-380-1669 (Vic.)

**UPPER GANGES CENTRE**  
2nd Floor - 4 professional offices 272 sq.ft. at \$275 & up. Chair Lift, ample parking - call: Mary Lou at 250-537-5528

**HOMES FOR RENT**

2 BDRM MOBILE HOME, renovated, large deck, new appliances, WD, Avail. Jan 1, \$700/mo 250-537-8860

A VERY nice 2 BDRM home in Vesuvius \$1150/mo. Sunny, open, view, FP, decks, plus utils. Call 250 537-2809

**HOMES FOR RENT**

**RENTALS**

**HOMES FOR RENT**

2 BDRM TOWNHOUSE fully renovated, hardwood floors, plush carpets, close to town, 2 decks, WD, 2 baths, storage locker, \$1,050. Avail. Jan. 1. Call 250-537-6860.

APPLE TREE COTTAGE - 102 Orchard. Charming sunny cottage in heart of Fulford village. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced garden with old fruit trees. \$1,200 plus utilities. Avail. Feb. 1/14. Call 250 653-4322

**STORAGE**

**STORAGE**

- All units heated
- Humidity control
- 9 foot height
- 24 hours access

**MID ISLAND STORAGE**  
250-537-4722

**SUITES, LOWER**

LGE 1 BR, bright, clean, well-maintained, modern, ground level suite avl. long-term for quiet, mature adult. Priv. entr. Vesuvius. W/D. N/S. N/P. Ref. req. \$835/mo. incl. util. Avil. Jan. 1 Ph 250-537-7013

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLES FOR SALE**

2007 26RKS GULF BREEZE TRAVEL TRAILER \$14,900. Excellent condition. Very clean, well maintained and looks like new inside. One slide-out. Sleeps 6. Queen bed. Brand new tires, combination convection/microwave oven, HDTV (120 and 12 volt) with Blu-Ray DVD player and 5.1 surround sound. Comes with 4 stabilizer jacks, propane tanks, spare tire, new deep cycle battery, small propane bbq as well as the hitch, load bars and an anti-sway stabilizer. Dry weight 503lbs GVWR 7460lbs. Call Paul @ 250-526-2626

OLDER 24FT MOTORHOME, good condition, lots of new parts, \$3,900. 250 653-9820.

**News Updates**

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

**TRANSPORTATION**

**AUTO FINANCING**

**Apply 'N' Drive!!!**  
1-877-680-1231

GET \$1,000 XMAS CASH BACK  
repo-bankruptcy-no credit  
UapplyUdrive.ca

**APPLY TODAY! DRIVE TODAY!**

Dream Catcher Financing  
1-800-910-6402  
www.PreApproval.cc

**CARS**

1996 Dodge Caravan - \$2000  
2004 Sebring Convert. low mileage, \$9000 250 537-5773

2002 CHRYSLER Concord Fully loaded Good cond. 162,000km - Good tires \$3250. 250-931-3645

2003 Chevy Cavalier 4DR, 1owner, 158K, Std. racks - 6 tires \$2400. obo 250-537-0669

**SPORTS & IMPORTS**

2006 SMART CAR - convertible. \$7,900. Diesel, 65 miles/gal, 68,000 km, extra winter tires on rims, tow package bike/ski/carrier. Call: 250 537-4965

**MOTORCYCLES**

2009 HARLEY DAVIDSON, Fat Bob, still on warranty. Bags, windshield, top shape. \$12,000 250 537-7350

**MARINE**

**BOATS**

1976 30FT VERL 900 \$27,000. 250-507-3257  
<http://miellytava.webstarts.com>

OLDE STYLE - Converted Gillnetter 35' X 10' 125hp Chrysler Crown gas engine. \$10,000.tel.Rod 250-538-8304

**This Week's Horoscope**

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com

sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com

1.888.352.2936

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**

Cultivating a new quality of exchange in some of your closest relationships will be a core theme in 2014. You will continue to undergo measurable changes which may be linked to the way you look, think and conduct your affairs generally. At best, this includes a steady rise of power, authority, responsibility and confidence.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)**

Plans, dreams and schemes that have been brewing in the back of your mind for a long time will be brought out into the open this year. By mid-summer the pace should slow and the scope narrow compared to the past couple of years. This will help you to feel happier and more at peace. Still, your sights set on the future will remain a core focus.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)**

A steady learning curve with a major focus on health and/or the overall quality of your lifestyle will continue. You will feel inspired to do something extra special in 2014. Yet, to make your dreams, visions, hopes and wishes come true, you will be challenged to be more disciplined. Expect to work harder towards realizing measurable results and returns.

**Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**

The process of or at least the prospect of entering new territory somehow will continue through the first half of 2014. Then even more attention will be directed to home and family than usual. Learning about and making investments will gain your attention especially during the second half of the year. Generally, your financial picture stands to improve.

**Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)**

You will become more assertive and decisive this year. Your focus upon the future will inspire and/or challenge you to increase your network of friends and contacts. By summer you will be in the mood to take bigger risks than usual. Increasing the scope and quality of your creative abilities especially where financial returns is featured will emerge as a core motivation.

**Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**

Knowing your direction and empowering your focus with knowledge will continue all year. Taking calculated risks to strengthen your professional standing will remain a core theme. This could include a steady increase in your scope of friends and professional contacts. Yet, you will be inspired and perhaps challenged to move on somehow without looking back.

**Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)**

A process of establishing a whole new foundation which began about 1.5 years ago will continue this year. It will require, however, that you become even more assertive, determined, decisive and disciplined. Beginning in July this practical focus will turn to include a broader scope of social, political and/or humanitarian interests and causes.

**Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)**

The cycle of clearing, purging, dissolving and implementing the next major focus of your life will continue in 2014. Philosophical and/or metaphysical interests, especially towards gaining a clearer sense of your own individuality and particular needs will remain important all year. Yet, the focus will swing significantly to the importance of relationships by summer.

**Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)**

The cycle of clearing, purging, dissolving and completion in your overall lifestyle will continue in 2014. According to your evolutionary need this process has probably already proven to be quite dramatic. At best, you are feeling more liberated. The pressure will ease off somewhat during summer and will guide you to be more social and communicative.

**Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)**

Increasing your scope of influence will continue in 2014. In fact, you can expect it to go up a notch or two before spring. It remains important that you forge even stronger alliances with other key power players. As well, make sincere efforts to clear past debts and any other liabilities. Aim to establish a positive momentum by summer anyway and it could produce significant returns.

**Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)**

The steady if challenging task of refining your skills and establishing a more powerful place for yourself in the world will continue in 2014. The good news is that the cloud cover on your emotions will begin to clear by March. As well, your scope of social outreach will begin to increase by early summer. Overall, you can expect a progressive year.

**Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)**

It is important that you build a promising momentum by summer that will help see you through and into 2015. You will have to pay more attention to the details this year so do what you can to keep your mind clear and sharp. It may prove necessary for you to deepen your commitment, resolve and efforts. Set a determined pace early in the game to win.

**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE -**  
**New To You**  
Deadline 10 am Tuesday  
Merchandise ads with items totalling less than \$200 receive a 50% discount with your Residents Card

**EQUIPMENT/FIXTURES**

Would you like to make your own sausages? I have a perfectly sized stainless steel commercial grade meat grinder. Original cost \$3,000. Offers welcome. 250-537-9790

**FUEL/FIREWOOD**

**HONEST OL'S FIREWOOD**

GUARANTEED CORD  
Cut, Split & delivered  
Cedar Fence Rails  
250-653-4165

**PAUL'S FIREWOOD**

GREAT SERVICE!  
Serving Salt Spring for 31 years  
Ph. 250-537-4660  
Paul Konig  
Will BUY firewood logs.

**GARAGE SALES**

**LIONS GARAGE SALES & DROP OFFS:**  
Fridays & Saturdays only, 10am - 12pm.  
Many houses  
**CLOSED FOR DEC 27/28 AND JAN 3/4**  
accept large appliances, draperies or clothing.  
Drop-offs accepted only on Fri. & Sat. morning. Please no garbage!!  
103 Bonnet Ave.

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

2010 YARD MACHINES  
2 stage SNOW THROWER, 30" auger, electric start, yard light, manual & keys. NEVER USED Best offer over \$500. Call: 250 537-9301

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

EPIC VIEW 550 folding treadmill - paid \$1,456, asking \$600. Several programs and TV included. 778 353-0321

**DUNCAN FOAM AND FUTONS**

Sofa cushions too soft? Mattress too hard or needs replacement? RV, boat cushions need work? We can help! Replacement foam, latex foam. We can sew RV or boat cushion covers.  
4485 Trans Canada Hwy, Duncan  
1-250-746-0702

HOT TUB (SPA) COVERS. Best price. Best quality. All shapes & colours available. 1-866-652-6837  
www.thecoverguy.com/newspaper?

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

Renovation sale fridge, dishwasher, stove, hot tub. Offers? Delivery? 250 537-5773

STEEL BUILDINGS/Metal buildings 60% off 20x28, 30x40, 40x62, 45x90, 50x120, 60x150, 80x100 sell for balance owed! Call 1-800-457-2208 or visit us online at: www.crownsteelbuildings.ca

SUNQUEST WOLFF PRO TANNING bed for home use. 120Volt, perfect working order & all new bulbs. Cost \$4000 asking \$500. 250 537-2052

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

YAMAHA Disklavier DCSM4T 67" grand piano rec/plays, quiet/silent modes w/remotes. Exc. cond. Asking \$50,000 Please call (250) 537-9659 More info at www.disklavier.ca

[bcdclassified.com](http://bcdclassified.com)

CALL GAIL, SEAN OR ELIZABETH IF YOU SEE NEWS HAPPENING  
250-537-9933

**Complete Automotive Repairs**

- Hydraulic hoses
- Electronic engine analysis
- Tune ups • Oil changes
- Four wheel drive service
- Suspension shocks and struts
- Fuel injection • Tires

**HAROLD HARKEMA REPAIRS**  
427 Fulford-Ganges Rd. • 537-4559 • Mon. - Fri. 8-5

**TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

**CABIN FOR RENT:**  
Central, 2 BDRM designer cabin avail. Long term as of Feb. 1st. \$950/mo. Call: 250 653-9799

**DEADLINE FOR TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY IS 2:00PM TUESDAY**

**OUR BIGGEST SALE EVER**  
15th Year End Sale  
**The Wardrobe Fulford**  
Dec 26 - Jan 5  
50% OFF ALL CLOTHING  
30% OFF EVERYTHING ELSE  
Silk, Cotton, & Om Grown Clothing Tie-dye, Accessories  
20% OFF EVERYTHING @ OUR NEW LOCATION  
Hats, Beads, Silver Jewellery, Leather, Sweaters & More  
107 Morningside Fulford  
OPEN 10-5:30 DAILY

# DON'T DRINK and DRIVE!

## Be Responsible this Holiday Season

This message is brought to you by the following community minded businesses:

### Me & Ron's TOWING

Don't drink and drive  
Bring em back alive  
250-537-9383



**Keep Our Island Safe!**  
**Don't Drink & Drive!**

**Windsor Plywood**  
PH: 250-537-5564  
www.windsorssi.com

You Drink **SILVER We'll Drive**  
**HADDOX TAXI**

**250-537-3030**  
We delivery too! 24 hr. service  
**BE SAFE**

Don't drink and drive.  
Stay in the middle of the fairway.

*Merry Christmas*

Salt Spring Island  
**GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
250-537-2121



MID ISLAND CO-OP

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!**  
From the Staff, Management and Directors of Mid Island Co-op.

**Think Safety, Arrive Alive!**

**Gary Holman, MLA**  
Saanich North and the Islands  
250-655-5711 / 1-855-955-5711  
gary.holman.mla@leg.bc.ca  
www.GaryHolmanMLA.ca

Season's Greeting from all of the team at *Apple Photo!*

Bring in your Holiday pictures for printing!



Think before you drink.  
Do you have a safe ride home?

**SALT SPRING INN**

250-537-9339

**ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS SAFELY**

*Don't Drink and Drive*

**SEAFIRST**  
INSURANCE BROKERS

Mon.- Fri. 8:30-5 pm / Sat. 9 - 3 pm  
250-537-5527 / 1-888-537-5527


*Merry Christmas*

Drink responsibly and always use a designated driver

**Salt Spring Car Rentals**

**250.537.3122**

Have a Safe Happy Holiday



Bob Saunders

**SAUNDERS SUBARU**  
Sales & Service **1-888-898-9911**

**STAY ALIVE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**

**wilco**  
construction

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday  
**250-537-1603**

**STAY ALIVE - DON'T DRIVE**

**SALT SPRING AUTO SERVICE** *Tread Shed*

537-2876 • #2-319 Upper Ganges Rd.  
Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

**YULE TIME:** Dan Miller, left, raises the horn in the opening toast at the Nordic New Year and Yule Feast at Beaver Point Hall on Saturday, while guests watch proceedings at the event, which returned to the seasonal calendar after a few years' hiatus.

**iwav**  
Island Women Against Violence

**SAFE • FREE • CONFIDENTIAL**

**Salt Spring Transition House & Help Line**  
250-537-0735 or  
toll-free 1-877-435-7544

**Women's Outreach Services**  
250-537-0717 or  
toll-free 1-877-537-0717

**Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women**  
250-538-5568

**Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling**  
250-538-5569

**Transitions Thrift Store**  
#1-144 McPhillips Ave.  
**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Please visit our website  
[www.iwav.org](http://www.iwav.org)  
Funded by BC Housing and the Ministry of Justice

**ISLAND HISTORY**

# Agricultural heritage in focus at talk

George Laundry shares island experience and knowledge

George Laundry is the featured speaker for the Salt Spring Historical Society's Jan. 8 program at Central Hall.

Beginning at 2 p.m., Laundry will talk about past farming practices on Salt Spring, along with some of the modern trends evident on the island

at present.

Laundry was born at Musgrave Landing and left the island to pursue a teaching career.

When he retired, he returned to Salt Spring Island and began farming in the Burgoyne Valley near Fulford Harbour.

Laundry is an active member of the Farmers' Institute and very involved in presenting the annual fall fair.

He is also well known for his inter-

est in bridge and actively promotes bridge groups on the island.

Questions and answers will follow next Wednesday's historical society presentation, as well as the serving of tea and coffee.

In other society news, to help support the long-term goals of the Salt Spring Archives, grocery receipts can now be left in Box 131 at Country Grocer, with one per cent of the total donated to the society by the grocery store.

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**HUMOUR**

# In praise of 'the sticks'

*I'd rather wake up in the middle of nowhere than in any city on earth.*  
— Steve McQueen



**Arthur Black**

**WIT & WHIMSY**

All my life I've stood on the sidelines of a titanic battle between the City and the Country. Now it's official: the City has won.

Not for me personally. I'm still a country bumpkin who lives many green and verdant miles from the nearest stoplight, billboard or high-rise, but worldwide, I'm grasping the short end of the stick. Humans — nearly all 7.3 billion of us — are flocking to cities like fruit flies to an overripe kumquat.

In 1950 there were only two cities in the world with populations over 10 million. By 2007 there were 19. The U.N. estimates that within a dozen years, 27 cities will top the 10 million mark. As I write, there are 90 cities in China alone that host more than a million citizens each.

2008 was the tipping point. Since that year the world has officially had more people living in cities than in rural areas.

According to Laurence Smith, author of a book called *The World in 2050*, cities in the developing world have been bloating by about three million people per week. That, says Smith, is the equivalent of adding one more Seattle to the planet every day.

Worldwide, farmers and farm workers are becoming obsolete. Think of it: for the first time in history, most humans have no personal ability to grow their own food or supply their own water.

I can't be the only one who finds that ominous.

Mind you, it's not as if we're running out of real estate for all these cities. Experts say all of humanity could fit into a space the size of Alberta — each with a personal townhouse, in fact. But we lose an awful lot with mass

urbanization.

Just about everything I hold dear, actually. My city friends sometimes ask me if I don't get lonely, living in the country. I tell them that I only feel lonely on subway trains and in airports. They ask: "But don't you find it boring? Unstimulating?"

I refer them to a lady we all know who spent four decades living in the boonies of rural Canada. She went about her business with her eyes open and her ears cocked.

From what she saw and heard she wrote 14 books crammed with short stories about the rural world around her.

"I don't think I'd have been nearly so brave a writer if I'd lived in town and if I had gone to school with other people who were interested in the same things I was, and what we might call a higher cultural level," she said recently. "I didn't have to cope with that."

She did pretty well with what she had, though. Recently the world agreed and gave Alice Munro the Nobel Prize for Literature.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:claudia2@shaw.ca); 250-537-2588.

## every WEDNESDAY

**NOTE THAT** Jan. 1 is a statutory holiday and some activities may not take place.

**BOOMERFIT** — Co-ed classes for optimal fitness with certified personal trainer Trisha at Fulford Hall. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Info: Trisha, [trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:familyplace@ssics.ca).

**DANCE CLASS** with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 5 to 6:30 p.m. Multigenerational expressive dance class suitable for dancers of all levels leading up to Lobby Dance performances in winter/spring of 2014. Info: Anna, 250-537-5681, [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto:anna@bonesforever.com)

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE** group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 1 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@janrabson.com](mailto:workshop@janrabson.com).

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

**MIXED LEVELS YOGA** with Cathy Valentine at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 5:55 p.m.

**PARENT CHILD MOTHER GOOSE** at Fernwood Elementary. Songs, rhymes and playtime for ages 0 to 6 and caregivers. Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon until Nov. 13.

**PILATES ALL LEVELS CLASS** with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance. Info: Anna, 250-537-5681, [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto: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 David Waddington at 250-537-0854 or via email: [David@Waddington.ca](mailto:David@Waddington.ca).

**STAMPS GROUP** meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 10 a.m.

**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](mailto: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.

**VIPASSANA MEDITATION** with Heather Martin at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 7 p.m.

**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 Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:45 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

**BINGO** runs at Meaden Hall on the first and Thursday of each month. Games start at 6:30 p.m., with doors open at 6 p.m. Legion Ladies Auxiliary fundraiser.

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

## 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 gym shoes. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.

**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: [bllake@telus.net](mailto:bllake@telus.net); 250-537-1638.

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

**MEN'S YOGA** with Ken Katz at Still Point. 9 to 10:30 a.m. Adam Clarkson substituting for Ken through Feb. 24.

**MIXED LEVELS YOGA** with Celeste Mallett Jason at Still Point Yoga Studio. 3:30 to 5 p.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 begins Jan. 9. 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 Stowel Lake Farm. 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**YIN/YANG YOGA** with Robert Prince at Still Point. 5 to 6 p.m. (Begins Jan. 9)

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

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

**YOGA** — Noontime Flow with Dorothy Price at Gaiama Yoga. 12:10 to 12:50 p.m.

## every FRIDAY

**BOOMERFIT** — Co-ed classes for optimal fitness with certified personal trainer Trisha at Beaver Point Hall. 9 to 10 a.m. Info: Trisha, [trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com](mailto:trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com); 250-653-4656.

**BRIDGE GROUP** plays games at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.

**CHURCH OF REGGAE** yoga with Adam Clarkson at Still Point Jan. 10 to 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.

**DEBFTI YOGA BALL** at Still Point. 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. starting Jan. 3.

**EVERYBODY STRETCH** — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. Still Point Yoga Studio. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. No class Jan. 3.

**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. Info: Anna, 250-537-5681; [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto:anna@bonesforever.com).

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

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

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

**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.

## 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.

**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.

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

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

**ROLLERBLADING** to music for all ages at Fulford Hall from 2 to 4 p.m. \$2 for kids; \$4 for adults. Rollerblades available to use at the hall.

## 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, 250-537-5681, [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto:anna@bonesforever.com)

**BOOMERFIT** — Co-ed classes for optimal fitness with certified personal trainer Trisha at Fulford Hall. 9 to 10 a.m. Info: Trisha, [trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com](mailto:trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com); 250-653-4656.

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

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE** meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or [pastorale@shaw.ca](mailto: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@saltsping.com](mailto:alicef@saltsping.com).

**LEVEL 1 YOGA** (formerly 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, 104 Langs Road, 2-3 p.m.. A comprehensive exercise program to improve posture and increase strength and agility, through dynamic movement and weight-bearing activity. Movements are done lying on the floor, sitting in a chair, standing and walking. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681, [anna@bonesforever.com](mailto:anna@bonesforever.com)

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

**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.

**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, Stowel Lake Farm. 5 to 6:30 p.m.

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

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

**ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS** with Valri Cunningham 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](mailto: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.

**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.

**FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT** with Alice Friedman at Still Point Yoga Studio. 5 to 6:15 p.m.

**FIT FOR LIFE CLASSES** with Betty-Lou Lake. All Saints lower hall. 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. Focus on balance, strength, flexibility. Target group is boomers and up. Info: [bllake@telus.net](mailto:bllake@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.

**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.

**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. 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.

**SMARTSOMATICS** classes with Nelly Kosteljik at North End Fitness from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. SMARTSOMATICS are gentle and effective with quick results. Once learned they 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** song circle with Barb Slater. Still Point Yoga Studio. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**YOGA** — Noontime Flow with Dorothy Price at Gaiama Yoga. 12:10 to 12:50 p.m.

**YOGA WITH CATE** — Mixed levels class at SS Centre of Yoga. 9:30 to 11 a.m.

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

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

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





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