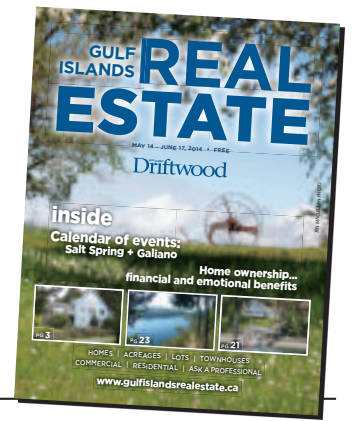


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 PAGES 11-17

Gulf Islands Real Estate
 Up-to-date listings
INSIDE



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, May 14, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 20 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

FIRE

Holmes Road cabin saved from fire

Residents and fast response save log structure

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It was a long drive but Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue crews reached a south-end property in time to save a remote log cabin on Wednesday morning.

"That's pretty much as far as we can go," said SSIFR Deputy Chief A.J. George about the Holmes Road site. "We had an excellent response and an excellent response time."

Fortunately, a crew of firefighters had just completed a training session and was ready at the Ganges fire hall when the call came at 11:18 a.m.

"This is the kind of fire we can really celebrate," added Capt. Jamie Holmes. "It might not look like much from the photos because there are no pictures with big flames and it didn't look very dramatic. But this is what it looks like when we win. The house has minimal damage and no one was hurt."

George said fire crews found the cabin filled with smoke, a small fire in the roof and residents holding the blaze at bay when they reached the scene.

"There was almost no water damage and very little smoke damage," George said. "It was definitely a save."



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue personnel attend a Holmes Road cabin fire last Wednesday.

FIRE continued on 2

CHANNEL RIDGE

'Private property' signs questioned

Channel Ridge receiver contradicts sign-posting resident

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Hikers on Channel Ridge have walked into the centre of a trailhead turf war between a former investor and the court-appointed company that oversees lands associated with Channel Ridge Properties Ltd.

Bryce Chapman posted at least three "private property" signs near trailheads off Channel Ridge Drive in early May. The notices, directed at "neighbours and everyone," inform passersby that the trails are on private land and closed permanently.

In an interview last week, Chapman said he posted the signs to warn neighbours and other trail users about his plans to fence and bring horses into the area by the spring of 2015.

"I just want to kind of ease them into it," he said. "I don't want to seem impolite."

Chapman confirmed his intention to provide an alternate trail further up the road "in due time."

Though the intent is clear, it's the legitimacy of the message that's had neighbours and hikers scratching their heads since the first signs appeared on May 4. That's because signs are posted on a property still listed among 18 parcels associated with Channel Ridge Properties Ltd., the beleaguered real estate development once spearheaded by Chapman.

CHANNEL RIDGE continued on 5

EMERGENCY

Teen airlifted after rolling truck

Friday night crash blocks main road

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A roll-over car crash on Friday evening saw more than a dozen paramedics, police and firefighters working to rescue an 18-year-old driver who was trapped in his vehicle.

Emergency response teams were called to the single vehicle collision in the 1200 block of Fulford-Ganges Road between Horel and Kitchen roads around 7:30 p.m. on May 9.

According to a police report, a witness who was travelling southbound watched as a northbound pickup swerved onto the right shoulder of the road and then back. The other motorist was able to stop her vehicle in time to avoid a collision when the out-of-control pickup entered her lane, but the truck driver ended up rolling his vehicle.

"When I arrived, it looked like a truck had rolled over several times and landed on its wheels in the middle of the road," said Salt Spring Fire-Rescue incident commander Ken Akerman.

CRASH continued on 2

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Early response critical to stemming fire

FIRE Normally, SSIFR relies on paid-on-call firefighters for structure fire responses, which can cause a delay of 10 minutes or more before firefighters even arrive at the fire hall to fill a fire truck, Holmes noted.

And since fire can double in size every five minutes, or faster, depending on conditions, early notification and response are critical to a positive outcome, he said.

Additionally, the house was not located in an area served by fire hydrants. But SSIFR tender trucks, that each carry 1,500 to 3,000 gallons of water, responded from all three fire halls to provide a mobile water supply, as per the Superior Tender Shuttle that firefighters have trained for to reduce fire-insurance rates in the community.

In this case, the fire kindled in a hidden void space around a chimney and smouldered until it ignited the roof structure. Residents of the home halted fire growth with buckets of water until firefighters arrived.

"We encourage occupants to 'get out and stay out' when they detect fire, and that's the safest thing to do. They breathed in some unhealthy smoke and placed themselves at risk. But they helped save their home," Holmes said.

Since the home's occupants were moving out when the fire occurred, they were able to find alternate accommodation.

Twenty-one firefighters attended the call. BC Ambulance Service and BC Hydro crews were also on scene.

Non life-threatening injuries sustained

CRASH

continued from 1

"The driver was hurt and he was trapped."

Firefighters used hydraulic extrication tools, also known as the "Jaws of Life," to cut the vehicle away from the driver. The Salt Spring resident suffered a fractured spine, serious facial injuries and a broken arm as a result of the collision.

BC Ambulance Service paramedics treated the patient for head and spinal injuries before he was taken to Lady Minto Hospital for stabilization. He was subsequently airlifted to Victoria General Hospital for further treatment. His injuries are believed to be non-life threatening.

"The patient appeared conscious and stable when I last saw him before he was taken in the ambulance," Akerman said.

Police believe the injured youth had consumed liquor earlier in the evening at a Ganges drinking establishment.

"The driver was also



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Patient is loaded onto an air ambulance at the Lady Minto Hospital pad on Friday evening.

not wearing his seat belt, which would have likely contributed to the seriousness of his injuries," stated Sgt. George Jenkins.

The fire department said traffic control was an important part of the response and may have delayed several islanders since Fulford-Ganges Road was closed between

Kitchen and Horel roads for three hours during ferry sailings.

"We apologize for any inconvenience, but it is imperative that we protect the safety of the public and our crews during emergency operations," said Salt Spring Fire Chief Tom Bremner.

"While BC Ferries was

notified of the road closure, several motorists were still adversely affected."

Road closure was required while responders removed the patient, firefighters cleared debris from the road, a tow truck removed the vehicle and RCMP officers investigated the crash, Bremner noted.

ISLANDERS

Mike Reynolds and family come home

En route to Royal Jubilee Hospital this week

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Mike Reynolds will be returning home to Canada this week after a horrifying ordeal that landed him in critical condition in a Thai hospital for the past three weeks.

News from the family's Facebook update page is that Reynolds, age 73, will leave Phuket this Wednesday evening, May 14, en route to Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria. The medevac flight will make stops in China, Tokyo, Russia and Alaska on its way.

Reynolds' wife Dora and daughter Katie have been at his side at Bangkok Hospital Phuket throughout his stay, Dora joining her family members in Thailand after the accident occurred. They will be returning to Salt Spring five days later than Mike due to a change

in the insurance company's medevac booking.

Reynolds' condition is still serious. He has limited consciousness after a near drowning and complications including a heart attack following an accident near Phi Phi Island on April 22. He was rescued by two Australian surf guards from North Cronulla Surf Lifesaving Club, a father and daughter pair who happened to be on the same boat tour.

The Reynolds family were recently connected to Jason Gollan and his 18-year-old daughter Sophie through a newspaper story in the Daily Telegraph and have finally been able to give their thanks in phone conversations and Facebook messages.

The Gollans have also been deeply affected by the experience.

"All the members of North Cronulla Surf Lifesaving Club and the greater Surf Lifesaving Australia community are wishing you all the very best in Mike's recovery," Jason Gollan wrote on

the update page.

"Sophie and I take comfort that we were able to help out on that day in such chaotic conditions. The motto of Surf Life Saving is 'Vigilance and Service' and we are so happy to have been able to do so. To hear Mike is on his way home is so wonderful and words cannot express how all of us feel."

Fundraising efforts are still underway to help the family with the financial hardships caused by the accident. An online campaign at Sharespring.ca offers one way to make donations. Mouat's Hardware, where Dora Reynolds has worked for six years, is also organizing help to complete building projects at the Reynolds home.

For more information on how to contribute labour, roofing materials or other help, contact Kim Young at 250-537-5551.

More information can be found at Updates and info on Mike Reynolds on Facebook.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!
Victoria Day Long Weekend
 Monday's a holiday!

SCIENCE

Geology students make use of Salt Spring terrain

UBC field trip a decades-long tradition

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents were curious about last week's appearance of a large group of young people clinging to local cliff faces, including the eroding bank near St. Mary Lake.

While some islanders wondered what gave these outsiders the authority to block traffic and transverse sensitive areas, others viewed their return as a seasonal event similar to the spring arrival of hummingbirds or a favourite sea gull.

With their bright orange vests, the flock did make a colourful bunch, but in this case, the species originated from the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences at the University of British Columbia.

"It's a wonderful place to teach basic geology skills," professor Jim Mortensen said of Salt Spring. "There's nothing like actually seeing things in the field. If you can't get students fired up in the field, you should probably turn in your badge."

A trip to Salt Spring when he was a geology student back in the 1970s may have been what fired up Mortensen's own academic career and his love of practising it on local rocks. Some form of the annual field trip has been going on for close to 50 years. Mortensen and program leader Mary Lou Bevier bought their own place on Salt Spring 10 years ago.

Martin Golding, who was helping supervise his fifth annual field trip, said each year around 60 second-year students gain valuable experience during a seven-day exercise that takes them to various locations around the island. In addition to the cliff beside St. Mary Lake and Trincomali Heights, field exercises are conducted at Vesuvius Bay, Ruckle Park, Cusheon Cove and Mount Tuam.

Students make field observations of the rocks in each area and create their own geological maps.

"The reason that we come here and to a number of the other areas is it's a good level for second year, not too difficult but with some challenges," Golding explained.

"This is the first time they've really come out and looked at

rocks in the field. It's really important to come out and build what they've learned in the lab into practical application."

With the large group spread across two resorts on the lake, it's no doubt a welcome boost to the island's off-season market. And as Golding reports, "It seems like we've always had a good relationship with everybody."

Though some local observers wondered about the condition of the bank beside St. Mary Lake, Golding said as a geology expert he didn't have concerns about the extra impact to the existing erosion.

"It's a nice place to look at the rocks because of the exposure, even though the traffic can be crazy," Mortensen added. "It's really good fun."

The UBC group received permission from Mt. Tuam Estates to use its lands for the exercise in the area as a new arrangement this year.

"We're hoping to go back every year because it's an excellent exercise," Golding said. He said permission was not needed to visit the other roadside and beach locations.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Students from UBC's Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences investigate rocks on Trincomali Heights during a field trip to Salt Spring last week.

NEWS BRIEFS

Book club info wanted

The Salt Spring Literacy Society is planning a special event for island book club members later this year, but needs to hear from club representatives in order to make it happen.

Book clubs that would be interested in participating should send a name and an email contact to ssliteracy@gmail.com to get on a list for future communication about the event, as well as the number of people in the club.

Drinkers resist arrest

Among Salt Spring RCMP's 54 calls for service last week was a complaint of three men drinking and being belligerent on the beach near Centennial Park on Sunday afternoon. When they investigated at 4:50 p.m., police encountered resistance that carried on far into the evening ahead.

Two of the men began taunting them, according to the police report. The two were noticeably intoxicated and causing a disturbance. Officers placed both men under arrest and attempted

to bring them to their vehicles. Both refused to walk, forcing police to drag them across the beach and up the stairs.

Once back at the detachment, the two men continued their behaviour in the RCMP cell block. Police attempted to release them at 11:40 p.m. when they had sobered somewhat, but one of the males did not want to be released and had to be physically removed from the detachment.

Once outside, he went to the phone outside the front door and claimed to be in trouble. When the releasing officer went to investigate, he was threatened and spat

on by the recently released individual. He was then re-arrested and placed back in cells until he sobered up further. He was released to appear in Ganges court for causing a disturbance and assaulting a police officer. Police continue to investigate the other individual for uttering threats against the cell guard.

Sgt. George Jenkins noted RCMP will be focusing on cleaning up activity in local parks as part of the local detachment's annual performance plan. Increased seatbelt enforcement is also a focus of that plan, with observation that local compliance has slipped.

Trust Council on Saturna

The Islands Trust Council is inviting members of the public to participate in its next quarterly meeting on Saturna Island, with a town hall session to take place at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 19.

Persons or organizations wishing to reserve time to make a formal delegation to Trust Council must receive an appointment by sending the topic, speaker's name and contact information to the attention of Marie Smith (email: msmith@islandstrust.bc.ca; fax: 250-405-5155) by Thursday, May 29.

The public business meeting starts Wednesday, June 18 at 8:30 a.m. and is expected to finish by 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 19. An agenda package will be available by June 9.

FOR THE RECORD

Last week's story on Mike Reynolds incorrectly stated a fundraising campaign on Sharespring.ca had a \$50,000 target. The amount is actually \$5,000. As of Tuesday the campaign was only 28 per cent funded.

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RIPARIAN AREAS REGULATION

RAR event draws questions, few concerns

LTC staff anticipate draft bylaw by June

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The tense drama that punctuated the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee's 2011 effort to adopt the provincially mandated Riparian Areas Regulation was replaced by public engagement, tabletop exercises and cheese platters on Thursday evening.

About 60 people gathered at ArtSpring on May 8 to view, question and discuss the effects of legislation designed to protect sensitive fish habitat. The regulations place guidelines on how development can proceed along designated watercourses such as lakes, streams and ditches.

Mapping undertaken since a bAccording to Islands Trust planner Stefan Cermak, mapping of relevant areas has introduced a new level of certainty about who will be affected by a potential bylaw. Whereas a broad approach adopted in the first

round of RAR discussion affected 3,200 properties, the latest "watershed-approach" applies to 1,544.

Cermak will examine the stack of comments from people who attended last week's meeting. He said responses will be reviewed and referenced when LTC members give the go ahead to create a draft bylaw, something that could happen before the end of the month.

"We really want to make sure we have feedback before we draft a bylaw so we can incorporate feedback into a draft bylaw," Cermak said in an interview after the meeting.

Peter Grove, a member of the Salt Spring LTC, said gathering public opinion is crucial to RAR's success.

"Participants worked hard in a collaborative and constructive way to provide staff with their ideas and suggestions. It brought people with very different points of view together, and watching them discuss and sort out those differences was very pleasing," Grove said on Monday. "I am certain that the draft bylaw and the process will benefit significantly

from the opinions received."

One participant voiced concerns about the meeting's format. By splitting the audience into smaller groups, participant Maxine Leichter worried many views and questions would not be heard by all in the room.

"It prevents me from hearing what other people in the group have to say... and it also prevents people who've been working on this for a long time to bring points forward so that everyone can hear them," Leichter told the crowd during the evening's question-and-answer session. "When we come like this and pick something up off the table, most people can't see all the details of what's there to be able to comment appropriately. It's just a lot being thrown at people all at once."

According to the suggested RAR legislation, regulations will apply within 30 metres of major streams, 15 metres of minor streams and five metres of ditches. Rather than prohibit any activity in the designated riparian area, RAR legislation will require property owners to hire a

qualified environmental professional to outline what can and cannot be built in the riparian zone.

Any property owners affected by the proposed regulations should have already received notification from Salt Spring's Islands Trust office.

If trustees advise staff to draft a bylaw at the May 29 LTC meeting, a community information meeting will be held before the end of June and public consultation could conclude in July.

"As you know, it hasn't been an easy exercise," Grove told participants at Thursday's event. "In 2011 the community turned down the proposal... for all sorts of reasons, but we've come along way since then and a great deal of hard work has been done.

"We now have certainty; we know what we're talking about."

More information about RAR, including detailed maps of affected riparian areas, is available at Salt Spring's Islands Trust office or by following the links at www.islandstrust.bc.ca.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Safety net probed in legal advocacy sessions

Free programs make tour of islands

Three agencies are pooling resources to present a community education series on legal advocacy on four Gulf Islands.

Salt Spring Community Services, Together Against Poverty Society and the Law Foundation of B.C. are collaborating to provide sessions for people who provide advocacy services and supports, and for members of the public who want to learn about the intricacies of residential tenancy law, disability benefits and other topics.

As explained by Rob Grant, Salt Spring Community Services' executive director, Canada's safety net for people who are particularly vulnerable or in need consists of programs such as income assistance, disability benefits, old age security, residential tenancy standards and employment standards.

"The effectiveness of the safety net depends on the ability of individuals to access the supports in a timely fashion. This, unfortunately, often involves a great deal of skill and effort to determine personal needs, find the correct resource, understand and comply with eligibility, establish contact with the appropriate office, and navigate the complex systems developed to deliver the various services. Most of us have experienced the frustration and challenges of interacting with complex government systems at one time or another. For those individuals who are most vulnerable and in need, this is a daily, weekly and monthly experience."

The Legal Advocacy Community Education Sessions will take place on Salt Spring at Lions Hall on Wednesday, May 21; on Pender Island at the Community Hall on Tuesday, May 27; at Mayne Island's Community Centre on Thursday, June 5; and the library meeting room on Galiano Island on Monday, June 9.

Times on all islands are from 2 to 4:30 p.m. for people who are advocates for others accessing "safety net" programs, and from 6:30 to 9 p.m. for the general public.

The afternoon sessions for advocates have limited attendance and require registration through Grant at rgrant@ssics.ca or 250-537-9971.

No pre-registration is required for evening programs.

All sessions are free, and more information is available from Grant.

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust area stewardship nominees released

Winners to be named in June

Islanders have nominated three individuals, two couples and two groups for the 13th annual Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program.

"As always, the calibre of the groups and individuals nominated is outstanding," said Sheila Malcolmson, chair of Islands Trust Council. "The dedication and passion of the nominated individuals are inspiring. Our communities and islands have benefited tremendously from their efforts."

Nominees are from Denman, Galiano, Salt

Spring, Saturna and the Pender Islands.

In the group nominations category, the Association of Denman Island Marine Stewards was nominated for protecting the marine environment over a 15-year period; and the Galiano Conservancy Association for its 25 years of leadership in sustainable community building.

- Individual nominations are:
- David Denning of Salt Spring Island for inspiring people about Salt Spring Island's natural world;
 - Brian Hollingshead of Saturna Island for championing coastal ferry services;
 - Barrie Morrison and Nancy Waxler-Morrison

(posthumous) of North Pender Island for creating an ecological legacy for the Pender Islands;

- Paul and Monica Petrie, Pender Islands, for fundraising to complete the Brooks Point Regional Park; and,
- Christa Grace-Warrick, publisher of the Pender-based Island Tides paper, for 25 years of promoting community connection.

Recipients will be determined by Trust Council during its quarterly meeting on Saturna Island from June 17 to 19.

For more information, visit www.islandstrust.bc.ca and search "awards."

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CANADA POST

FOI response flabbergasts islander

Censored document reveals 'unprecedented arrogance'

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

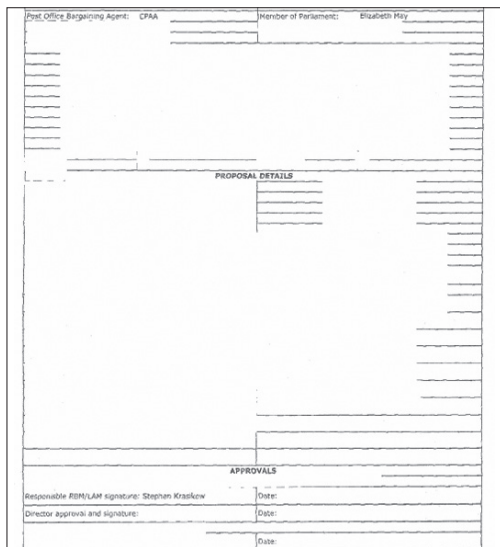
A Salt Spring man's Freedom of Information request to Canada Post has left him at a loss for words.

Almost. "It feels as though I've been screwed without being kissed," said Ken Lee, who presides over the South Salt Spring Island Property Owners & Residents Association. "There's been more and more stories about the arrogance shown by Canada Post, but this takes arrogance to new heights. I hate arrogance and I always have."

Back in March, Lee requested a copy of a Canada Post "business plan" that reportedly justified a 25 per cent service reduction at the Fulford Post Office. Lee was curious to know what kind of plan recommended cuts at one of the few profitable rural post offices in the province.

Canada Post's response arrived in Lee's community mailbox late last month.

"I bought three pages of blank paper," he said, incred-



One of three blanked-out pages of a Canada Post business case document sent out in response to an FOI request.

ulous, on Monday afternoon.

According to sections of Canada's Access to Information Act, the head of a government institution may withhold information requested under the act if it is deemed to contain classified trade secrets or financial, commercial, scientific or technical information. The head of any government institution

may also refuse to disclose records requested under the act if such information is felt to include "advice or recommendations developed by or for a government institution or minister of the Crown," or is a result of consultations involving directors, officers or employees of a government institution.

These conditions applied

to all of the information Lee had requested, leaving him with three sheets of censored documents.

Lee has already penned a letter to Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May to ask for advice.

"In my opinion this takes Canada Post to new levels of arrogance that relegate Paul Poilievre [Conservative MP who sponsored the Fair Elections Act Bill C-23] into the amateur leagues," Lee writes in his letter to May.

Lee said he plans to file a formal complaint with the Information Commission of Canada. He still wants to get more details about the business plan that justifies the service cuts or, at the very least, have his \$5 FOI application fee refunded in full.

More than 400 people signed a petition to oppose service reductions at Canada Post's Fulford office before cutbacks came into effect on March 17.

A Canada Post spokesperson identified in the FOI response did not return an interview request in time for the Driftwood's Tuesday afternoon deadline.

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

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Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the *Gulf Islands Driftwood* will be closed on Monday, May 19 - Victoria Day - and will reopen on all business hours on Tuesday, May 20.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday May 21 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline: **Thurs., May 15, 12 noon**
Classified Display Deadline: **Fri., May 16, 4pm**
Classified Word Deadline: **Tues., May 20, 9am**

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No buyer in sight for bankrupt lands

CHANNEL RIDGE

continued from 1

The term "formerly" is a crucial distinction in this case.

That's because Ernst & Young has overseen the property since Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. entered receivership in 2013. According to an April receivership order of that year issued by the Supreme Court of British Columbia, Ernst & Young is authorized to "take possession of and exercise control over the Property and any and all proceeds, receipts and disbursements arising out of or from the Property."

The Supreme Court order lists the land where Chapman posted his "private property" signs among the properties in Ernst & Young's possession.

"If the land in question is actually part of PID: 005-939-241 [the property's parcel identification number], it is part of the Channel Ridge lands subject to the receivership and Chapman has no rights with respect to these lands," said Michelle Grant, vice president of Ernst & Young's transaction advisory services division, on Monday. "We did not authorize the signage, but I expect if we asked someone to take the signs down on our behalf they would simply reappear."

Grant said her company has tried unsuccessfully to reach Chapman about the matter in the last week.

Chapman owns a neighbouring 80-acre property at 361 Sunset Dr. He said the trail network frequently leads hikers on to his property.

He has a different interpretation of the receiver's role and told the Driftwood he still possesses rights to the property.



Sign posted on trails by neighbouring property owner Bryce Chapman.

"[Ernst & Young] are simply a receiver for the creditors," he said. "The bottom line is this is still private property."

When it went into receivership last year, Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. owed \$46.8 million to secured creditors. Kelowna's Mission Creek Mortgage Ltd. was in line for \$7.6 million, Equishare Mortgage Investment Corporation was owed \$32 million, and Calgary-based Olympia Trust Company was out \$7.2 million.

Chapman is among investors of Equishare, a mortgage investment corporation formed by Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. shareholders, as well as being CRPL's main spokesman for years. The 830 acres associated with Channel Ridge Properties Ltd.,

which includes the property where Chapman posted his signs, are listed with Colliers International for \$11 million.

Mike Bell, a spokesperson for Ernst & Young, confirmed last week that his company "has not yet identified a buyer at terms which ascribe sufficient value to the Channel Ridge property."

MANY BRILLIANT MINDS DECIDED MAKING REALLY SAFE CARS WAS A NO-BRAINER.

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OPINION



2013 CCNA AWARDS
 Gold - General Excellence | Gold - Front Page | Gold - Environmental Writing (Sean McIntyre)
 Gold - Special Section (Best of SS) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
 Silver - Editorial Page | Silver - Outstanding Reporter Initiative (Sean McIntyre)
 Silver - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - Sports Photo (John Cameron)

2013 BCYCN 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

Censored mail

There was a time when journalists, and anybody else for that matter, only had to pick up the phone to ask a question.

These days, it's common for those questions to get rerouted through a phalanx of communications gatekeepers.

There's something to be said for managing the influx of questions submitted to our government representatives. Politicians and government staff have duties that extend beyond answering questions; it's only fair to let them get on with those tasks.

What's happening, however, is the conversion of information into canned responses of questionable value. A minister of so-and-so's candid response stands no chance to cross a communication officer's screen without being bled of all relevant content.

But even that's becoming a rarity.

Access to the juicy bits often requires the filing of access to information or freedom of information requests. This in itself has become more difficult considering the conditions under which documents can or cannot be released.

THE ISSUE:

Public information

WE SAY:

Gatekeepers tightening the locks

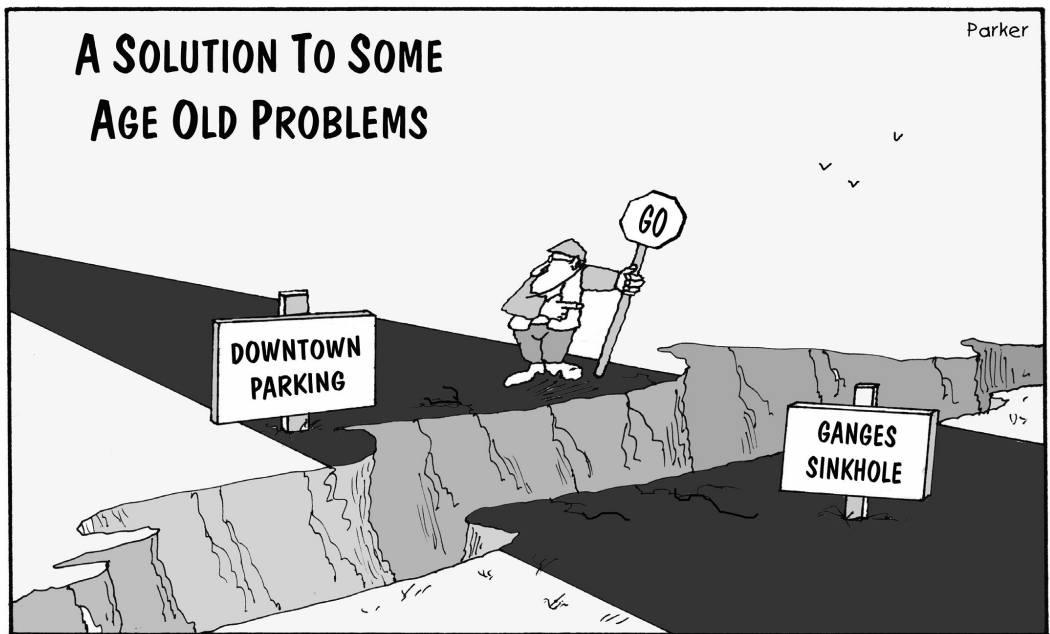
Just last week, for example, the Supreme Court of Canada decided against the federal information commissioner's argument to expand a requirement for the country's top politicians and officials to disclose information. Many Canadian media groups say the decision has left Canada "out of step with most other democracies and with international law."

Should you happen to think, these matters only apply to Parliament Hill, consider the plight of Salt Spring's Ken Lee (see story on page 5).

Lee wanted the rationale for Canada Post's decision to cut service at Fulford's post office earlier this spring. Having received the runaround, Lee paid a \$5 access-to-information fee and awaited an answer — something to tell south-end friends and 400 people who signed a petition against the cuts.

The result is three heavily censored pages that's left him with more questions than he started with.

In an era of accountability, in which technology has redefined our view of personal privacy and offered unprecedented opportunities to communicate, it's unsettling to watch government tighten its privacy settings, leaving citizens in the dark about the services they are paying for.



VIEWPOINT by Adam Olsen

Site C dam not B.C.'s energy answer

The Joint Review Panel report for the Site C dam was released last week. Panel members did not say whether they supported the project or not.

The report was an indictment of the regressive approach taken by the B.C. government and BC Hydro in proposing the mega-project as a solution for this century.

Site C is perfectly matched with the old school corporate culture in BC Hydro. With \$8 billion on the line, it has the capacity to keep them busy for a decade. The question is, why would the provincial government support the project?

A project like Site C blatantly contradicts the government's commitment to prudently manage the province's scarce fiscal resources. The panel report provides no compelling justification for the government to dump billions of dollars into the project. In fact, BC Hydro failed to convince the panel that Site C was even necessary.

Site C fails both the ecological and social tests. The panel details a comprehensive list of environmental and social destruction it will cause. In most cases, the damage is permanent and despite the 50 recommendations and hundreds of suggestions made by BC Hydro and the panel, the damage, to a great extent, cannot be mitigated.

With two strikes against the project, the panel went on to question the financial foundation of Site C. They significantly weakened the arguments that may be used to defend the viability of the project.

While the panel found that over decades Site C "would be the least expensive of the alternatives," they stated "the proponent has not fully demonstrated the need for the project on the timetable set forth."

The panel also questioned whether BC Hydro had considered other options, notably geothermal, and they highlighted that the B.C. government had put "policy constraints" on the utility that made "some other alternatives unavailable."

The panel suggested that even though some of the alternatives might come at a slightly higher cost, they "would allow supply to bet-

ter follow demand, obviating most of the early-year losses of Site C."

While Site C may be the "least expensive of the alternatives" for BC Hydro to build, it is also the least innovative and comes with extremely high social and ecological costs.

There is a better way: clean technology. Unfortunately, these solutions are being intentionally sidelined even though they stimulate new investment, create jobs, cause less damage and all without the huge burden to the taxpayer.

For example, why are wind projects on southern Vancouver Island collecting dust? Rather than building a single large project in the north, and then move the electricity south at a great cost and energy loss, why not decentralize our energy production? As the transmission infrastructure connecting the mainland and the islands age, it is sensible to invest in more local power generation.

Site C is 1950s thinking; it is a big-government solution. It is massive government-funded infrastructure in rural British Columbia with crippling up-front costs and a long payback period. In addition, it must be serviced with extensive transmission infrastructure to ship the energy around B.C.

If the B.C. Liberals go ahead with Site C they must explain to British Columbians why they are being saddled with the expense of a marginal project, especially in light of the fact that massive private investments are ready to roll.

They will have to explain why there is no policy in place to compel the public utility to work with private enterprise to innovate and harness the abundant solar, wind, tidal and geothermal energy in the province.

One thing is for certain, if the B.C. Liberals move forward with Site C they are locking British Columbians into huge, long-term debt while stifling innovation in energy production and transmission for another generation.

The writer is the interim leader of the B.C. Green Party.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

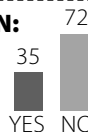
Do you support Bike to Work Week?

Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Does Canada need temporary foreign workers?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I bought three pages of blank paper."

KEN LEE, ATTEMPTING TO GET A BUSINESS PLAN FROM CANADA POST

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What are you looking forward to on the long weekend?



CAT PAQUETTE
Cooking dinner for a friend and hopefully lounging in the sun.



AUDREY POMEROY
I'm looking forward to sleeping in an extra day.



SHANE HOOPER
I'm excited to be off school so I can relax and enjoy the sunshine.



TINA SIMPSON
Just playing with the kids in the park.



KATIE WATT
Staying home and planting things in my garden.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Read and reply to letters online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com under the Opinion tab.

Waterworks response

In response to last week's In Depth piece by Doug Smith, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District would like to note that as an Improvement District we are governed by the Local Government Act, and its regulations and guidelines, not sections 11 and 13 of the Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act as Mr. Smith would like.

This act states that we must follow the guidelines and regulations stipulated in the Improvement District Handbook, the BC Election Act and the district's Letters Patent.

The Alternative Approval Process (AAP) we are undertaking is part of the democratic process as defined in the Improvement District Handbook. It should be noted that should the district receive a large number of "opposed"

responses the district will go to a full voting referendum. However, a full voting referendum is much more expensive to do than an AAP, so there would be significant expense to the district for this type of voting process.

The district worked in close consultation with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development to ensure that the AAP is conducted fairly and that the number of eligible voters was determined correctly. It included their review of our calculation for which they supplied the formula.

In any election governed under the B.C. Election Act, individuals are entitled to one vote no matter how many properties or residences they may have. Our letters patent also state that said individuals must be B.C. residents who are the property owners of title in the district, or in the

case of a business, the legal representative of the business and that their account must be in good standing. Prior to the start of the AAP process, eligibility requirements were mailed to each property owner, posted in the Driftwood and made available on our website. Ratepayers who object to the borrowing bylaw have been given a period of 33 days to respond in person or by mail.

To maintain confidentiality, elector response forms are placed in a locked ballot box by responders who drop their response forms off in the office. Those that are received by mail are also placed in the ballot box. Responses are confidential and only one manager will be privy to the names on the response forms as they are verified for eligibility against our tax roll. Once the voting period is over the responses will be locked in a

safe, where they will remain available to the ministry's inspector.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
NORTH SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS DISTRICT**

Plant capacity questioned

I have read the recent pieces in the Driftwood concerning the approval process for the proposed North Salt Spring Waterworks District treatment plant. While I share many of the concerns raised, my concern is in regards to the capacity of the proposed treatment plant.

It appears to me that the new plant has been over-designed. It will therefore be more expensive than a plant with a more moderate capacity and it appears that the board is trying hard to avoid a debate about design capacity.

The most water that the district has ever treated in a day is slightly less than half a million gallons. The amount of water treated last year was less than the year before, probably because of slow growth on the island and water conservation measures taken by water customers. Yet the new plant will have a capacity of one million gallons per day, over twice the maximum flow. And, the capacity of the intake pipes from St. Mary Lake is proposed to be 2 million gallons per day, over four times the maximum flow.

I can understand the need for some over-capacity in case of maintenance problems and to provide for future growth, but do we really need a plant that can pump water at over four times the maximum daily flow and treat water at over two times the daily flow?

The board has not been bringing these capacity issues to its customers. There is nothing on the district website about the design capacity of the proposed plant.

The design engineer, in his presentation at the AGM, did not mention the capacity figures. The board members, in their presentations at the AGM, did not mention the capacity figures. They came out only after questioning from audience members.

I think that there needs to be much more debate about the size of the new treatment plant and how the size affects the cost.

I have voted against the borrowing initiative by completing an "elector response form" and recommend that others do likewise.

**DREW BODALY,
SALT SPRING**

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Salt Spring Recycle Depot changes coming

BY PETER GRANT

Salt Spring Island residents will notice some changes in the way materials are accepted at the municipal recycling depot at 349 Rainbow Rd.

While the changes should be minimal to the public, the depot staff will have more of a shift to get used to as of May 19. This is the day that the logistic and financial responsibility for collection of residential PPP (packaging and printed paper) shifts from local government to industry.

Until now, municipal and regional governments have dealt with the recycling of these materials (typically referred to as "Residential Blue Box Materials").

Throughout the province, there were many different systems of collection for both curbside and depots. In our region, the CRD has never charged a fee or a tax to fund recycling. It has been funded out of income generated at the Hartland Landfill. Now it will be paid for by the companies producing the packaging and printed paper.

In 2011, the B.C. environment ministry announced the latest in many EPRs (Extended Producer Responsibility). This is under the B.C. Recycling Regulation. Other previous EPRs

have included paints, pesticides and flammable liquids, electrical appliances, used beverage containers, light bulbs and lighting fixtures, household batteries, end-of-life electronics, the used oil management program, B.C. Tire Stewardship, smoke and CO alarms, and Switch the Star for mercury thermostats.

These regulations force the industries putting the materials into our lives to deal with them at their "end of life." So as of May 19, 2014, the organization formed by industry to oversee the collection, processing and marketing of packaging and printed paper — called Multi Material BC (MMBC) — will spring into action province wide.

How does this affect our depot? The depot has already been accepting the new added materials, which include Tetra Paks, Styrofoam and film plastic. However, some items that have been accepted will no longer be accepted, mostly noticeable in the plastic category.

The Gulf Islands depots have in the past been marketing their own material. This was under the old agreement with the CRD. Now the material becomes the property of MMBC and they will be paying to transport the material to their post-collection processor. There was a bidding process province wide and the

company that won the post-collection contract for the whole province is a newly formed entity called Green By Nature (GBN). There had been requests for proposals for many different zones but the overall province-wide proposal by GBN won. GBN is made up of three existing companies: Emterra Environmental, Cascade Recovery and Merlin Plastics.

Gulf Islands depots have tried to support local plastic lumber manufacturer Syntal Products in Victoria by sending as much plastic there as possible. Now, however, it will be up to MMBC and GBN to market all the PPP material, which means depots will have to stick to very strict guidelines as to which items are accepted. An example would be a plastic toy or perhaps a plastic lawn chair. These are not packaging and for now are unacceptable. However, these items can be dropped off at Syntal.

Depots have strived to go above and beyond over the years and hope people will appreciate all those "extras" rather than bemoan the current changes. Depots will try to work out ways in the future to recycle as much material as possible. But for now, the Rainbow Road depot will have to stick to the letter of the agreements. A bin with more than three per cent contamination can mean a \$5,000 fine to the depot.

One of the very important criteria for the PPP materials (tin, glass, paper, plastic, Tetra Paks, Styrofoam, film plastic, cardboard and boxboard) is that it must be residential — not industrial, commercial or institutional. Depots accepting commercial PPP are automatically subject to a 25 per cent reduction in payment and are then charged all fees applicable to deal with the material from bin rentals to transportation, etc. Commercial PPP must go to a commercial recycling hauler.

Expect to see some changes in signage. Depot staff find it frustrating that many people do not read signs. The depot has had signs for over 20 years prohibiting window glass, ceramics and Pyrex from the glass bin — yet they are continually ignored. For the next few months residents are asked to please check and abide by signs and if in doubt, ask staff for clarification.

A major part of the depot's annual budget is donations, mostly by way of deposit beverage containers. The depot receives the full deposit and the Salt Spring bottle depot (Island Return Centre) gets its full credit as well.

Thanks to all those who leave their deposit bottles and cans at the recycling depot.

The writer is SS Recycling Depot manager.

NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOTICE FLUSHING OF WATERMAINS

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

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

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

In no case can the District accept responsibility for any claims arising out of the use of discoloured water.

RANTS and Roses

Rants

Rants to the two women driving a blue Echo on Wednesday, April 23, who on the pretext of driving through to Fulford village managed to manoeuvre their vehicle into the waiting ferry traffic boarding the 9:50 a.m. ferry. Such a selfish act did not go unnoticed. The car left behind wishes them many missed ferries. C. Hardy

Roses

A giant bouquet of roses of all "possibilities" of colours and types imaginable to the Salt Spring Singers, Don and David, for their beautiful, sensitive and artistic performance of my music. The warm welcome into your happy, soulful, soulful community and your belief in me helped "birth" the Possibilities song in a very special way. With gratitude from a full heart, Joi.

A dozen creamy roses to Kelly at Burgoyne Bay for her kindness to a stranger with intense indigestion. May your gesture be returned many-fold in the most fragrant of ways.

A ball glove full of roses to Bill Boyd and Lloyd Cudmore for volunteering their time and equipment to regrade and gravel the fastpitch diamond in Fulford. The girls Salt Spring U14 Dynamite and U16 Salties are ready to play ball!

Salt Spring roses to Yaz Yamaguchi for making my introduction to shiatsu at Island Natural Health an enlightening experience! Welcome to our beautiful island! Cheryl!

ALR: a model for the world

For most people on Salt Spring, the city of Richmond is the sprawling suburb they pass through on their way to downtown Vancouver or the international airport.

But there was a time when Richmond was known as Lulu Island, a place where one could pick fabulous strawberries grown in some of the richest soil in the country. Thanks to the Agricultural Land Reserve created in the 1970s, the loss of good productive land has been curtailed somewhat.

Harold Steves has been

MORE LETTERS

a city councillor in Richmond since 1969, with a brief interlude from 1973 to 1975 when he was an MLA in the NDP government of Dave Barrett, spearheading the establishment of the ALR.

Last Saturday, Harold Steves gave a presentation at the Farmers' Institute in which he made a most convincing case against Bill 24 that would weaken the ALR. The legislation that created the ALR was recognized by the United Nations as a model that should be adopted by countries around the world.

But his activism goes beyond saving the ALR. His presentation also highlighted some of the inspiring measures that Richmond has taken over the years to encourage agriculture and especially urban agriculture.

In particular, Richmond has bought back some land that had been taken out of the ALR and that land has been returned to agriculture as part of a concerted effort to help new farmers in the city. Especially noteworthy is the program developed in cooperation with the Kwantlen Polytechnic University, whose farm school graduates can access for three years up to a half acre of the "incuba-

tor" farm land provided by the city of Richmond.

Still a committed New Democrat, he is more convinced than ever that the Site-C dam on the Peace River should not be built. It would flood some of the most productive land in the province and the electricity it would produce can be supplied almost entirely by geothermal, wind and solar energies. He reminded his audience that 40 years ago, the NDP advocated the production of those very same forms of energy.

Excerpts from Harold Steves' uplifting presentation will be available on YouTube in the near future. **HÉLÈNE NARAYANA,** BEAVER POINT ROAD

More water plan facts wanted

Re: North Salt Spring Waterworks District's request to borrow over \$10 million, I am supportive of the proposed upgrade to the NSSWD infrastructure being discussed; I'm less enthused about the prospect of the district borrowing \$10 million to achieve this.

I would like to see transparent disclosure of the cost of borrowing. If the cost per household of this upgrade was even \$5,000, there may be an argument made to offer, as an option, a one-time payment of this levy, rather than taking on an enormous amount of interest on top of the hard costs.

Let's see some facts from those in a position to provide them, and let's entertain some out-of-the-box thinking. Not everyone wants to buy now and pay later if it's going to cost twice as much to stretch this expense over 10 or 20 years. What are the hard facts?

STEVEN S. BARER,
SALT SPRING

Garbage costs held in check

This letter is a response to Doug MacDonald's May 7 "Unintended Consequences" letter, where he rants about the high cost of privately run waste removal costs on the island as the reason behind the side-road illegal dumping of trash. He also claims the island would have been better off with the CRD/BFI-run transfer station at the south end of the island.

Over the last 10 years, BC Ferries has increased its rates by 84 per

cent, mailing an invoice or a cheque has gone up by 104 per cent, diesel fuel is up 68 per cent, ICBC insurance up 42 per cent and CRD land-fill charges are up 31 per cent.

During this same 10-year period, the cost to legally dispose of a bag (can) of garbage at our Blackburn Road Transfer Station has increased from \$3 to \$3.50 or 17 per cent.

The not-for-profit government agencies noted above offer no saving to the public. The private sector is by far the fairest and most efficient.

Salt Spring Garbage Services has been supporting and serving the island for over 50 years.

I hope this information assists people in understanding some of the cost increases our business has had to absorb.

JOHN ELLACOTT,
SALT SPRING GARBAGE SERVICES

Highway book gives kicks

O Nostalgia, thy name is the old Trans-Canada Highway!

I've driven the more modern version several times as well as every U.S. Interstate freeway east and west, many north and south, as well as much of the old U.S. highway system too. But it seems to me that there's nothing south of the border like old Highway 1, unless, of course, it's Route 66!

You'll get your kicks, for sure, leafing through the well-illustrated pages of Clark Saunders' new book, Exploring Old Highway No. 1 West. Just out this week, it's available at Salt Spring Books.

Clark will read from it and

also sign your very own copy this Friday, May 16, at 4 p.m. at the library.

If you ever travelled this route, or only wish you had, I'm sure you'll enjoy reading about it.

HELEN HINCHLIFF,
GANGES

Please protest Bill 24

On Saturday, May 10, Harold Steves, "the patriarch of farmland preservation," reminisced about the creation of the Agricultural Land Reserve 40 years ago.

He has continued his advocacy for farmland and, as a Richmond city councillor, has encouraged both incubator farms and allotment gardens on municipal lands.

Steves spoke passionately against Bill 24, the Liberal government proposal to gut the protection of more than 80 per cent of the ALR.

Our local MLA, Gary Holman, said that the NDP will filibuster Bill 24 until the end of the spring session, if possible. Steves suggested we write the agriculture minister with our concerns. The passion and energy of this inspirational farmer deserves our attention and support.

Encourage the protection of farmland by protesting Bill 24 and write to the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Norm Letnick or email at norm.letnick.mla@leg.bc.ca.

FRANCES HAVELAAR,
SALT SPRING

Don't miss this opportunity
for a free hearing test.

Free Hearing Screening Day at Country Grocer May 14th



Schedule a Free Hearing Test and you will be entered for the Grand Prize Draw!

Door Prizes and Draws

Selene Finlayson
RHIP/Owner



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OAK BAY 250.598.9884
402 - 1990 Fort Street, Victoria

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NexGen
HEARING

The Next Generation of Hearing Care

nexgenhearing.com



Need a password? Take mine

Dear Cyberthieves Out There:

The first thing I want you to know is that you don't scare me.



Arthur Black

Your latest scam — this "Heartbleed" computer bug that's got security experts going apebleep? Advising us to "change all your passwords for everything," as one nervous nerd advised?

WIT & WHIMSY

Forget it. I'm not doing that. Not because I'm computer savvy (hah!) or feeling devilishly defiant — the fact is, I've already used all the passwords I can handle. My mental password floppy disc is full.

I've used my mother's maiden name, my father's middle name, my high school nickname, the name of my first dog, last cat and only parrot. I've combined them with my birthdate, my wedding anniversary, the square root of my childhood street address, my telephone number (backwards) plus a series of capital letters, not to mention #,\$,@,%,& and* inserted randomly, followed by the married name of the third male cousin on my wife's side. Want to hear my last password? BowSer52!!Minnie5805!!(yrplaceormine)198FOUR.

Take it. Run with it. Fill your cyberboots. That's just my latest password, you understand. Obedient little cybersucker that I am, I've been changing them every six months. When that became too mentally challenging, I started rotating them regularly, so that last month's Facebook password became this month's LinkedIn password which would be relegated to next month's Gmail account and . . .

Yeah, well. That, too, became cumbersome, so I invented this new system where I wrote out all my passwords in ballpoint and Scotch-taped the list to the wall beside my computer. Perfect! I had them all in one place where I could find them when I needed them. I showed off my new system to the Resident Critic.

"How's that for handy and innovative?" I crowed.

She rolled her eyes and remarked, "So now anyone who wants your passwords just has to walk into your office and steal this list?"

After pointing out to Resident Critic that sarcasm is not an attractive character attribute I fell to musing about her observation.

And that's when the scales fell from my eyes. Why, I asked myself, do I have all these stupid passwords? Why do I have any passwords at all? I'm not a CSIS agent or a dope dealer. I'm not a secret porn troller or a pedophile.

On-line banking? I don't indulge. I subscribe to this antediluvian habit of actually going to my bank and interacting with a human (we used to call them "tellers"). We banter, I get a free smile, sometimes two — and she has to do the math.

It's a great system, and I don't have to remember an eight-digit, purposely randomized cryptic and confusing Open Sesame code. I just have to remember what street the bank is on.

So I guess this column is an open letter to everyone in cyberspace. Please don't send me anything if it requires a password. I'm not playing that game anymore. The only "password" I'm retaining is my email handle and that's easy: rufus@saltspring.com.

Feel free to use that, copy it or sell it to that guy in Nigeria who's keen to send me \$36 million.

You'd rather do face-to-face? That's easy too. You can find me in the bank lineup most Monday mornings.



PHOTO BY MEL DIVERS

ANIMATION: From left, Violet Gaffney and Sophie Lam do actions as part of their group's performance at the Salt Spring Elementary School spring concert last week.

Notice of Intention to Issue a Park Use Permit

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

Name of Park	Activity
Ruckle, Wallace Island Marine	Kayak tours

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



Rainbow Road 250.537.1402
indoor pool

the FUN place to be this summer!

Rainbow Road Summer 2014 Schedule
Schedule in effect May 5 to Aug. 29, 2014

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

WATER FITNESS CLASSES

Energizer
This class will challenge you to work hard in shallow or deep water. A qualified Instructor will guide you through a number of exercises which will help with your strength, flexibility and fitness.

Nooners
For those looking for more strength and stretching. These exercises are designed to get your blood flowing and your muscles moving.

Aqualite
If you have had hip or knee trouble or have had heart problems, then this is the class for you. This low intensity, cardio exercise class is perfect for those needing to focus on balance and core strength.

Friday Night Madness
This is a fun time for the younger folks in our community to come out and enjoy the pool. Periodically special events will be planned for this time slot.

GENERAL ADMISSION

Single Admission rates apply to each entry per day. Fees include applicable taxes.	Single Visit	Taxes included			
		Passes			
		10 Time	20 Time	1 Month	Annual
Adult (19 yrs and older)	5.30	46.90	88.80	57.40	562.10
Youth/Student (13-18 yrs or valid Student Card)	4.20	37.50	70.90	45.90	479.70
Child (4-12 yrs)	3.15	28.15	53.20	34.45	359.76
Tot. (3 yrs and under)	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Family (max 5 members)	12.70	112.60	212.70	137.60	804.85

LESSONS
Lessons 1/2 hour class \$56.20/10 lessons
Lessons 3/4 hour class \$66.45/10 lessons
1/2 hour private lesson \$20.85
1/2 hour semi-private lesson (2 people) \$31.30
Waterfit
Pass \$7.45 drop in
1 month pass \$67.80 / 10x \$65.70

Please contact us at 250-537-1402 for MORE information and to register.
262 Rainbow Road www.recreationexcellence.com

VOLUNTEERS

Desbottes earns hospice accolades

B.C. group acknowledges contribution

Salt Spring Hospice volunteer Pat Desbottes was given Volunteer of the Year honours by the B.C. Hospice Palliative Care Association on Friday.

Thirty years ago, Desbottes helped create the Bessie Dane Hospice Foundation, now known as Salt Spring Hospice. As a volunteer she has served the dying and their families at every level of hospice care: from sitting vigils, to being with the bereaved and training new volunteers. She recently completed a two-year term as president of the board, and not for the first time.

"Because of Pat's unflinching dedication, we have a vibrant hospice organization that is an integral member of the health care team on this island," said Hospice executive director Rob Lowrie.

Salt Spring Air kindly flew Desbottes over to Vancouver for the award ceremony and home again. When she arrived at the float-plane dock she was greeted by a celebrating chorus of Hospice volunteers and singer Valdy.

See below for the letter written by Hospice volunteer and former board member Don Cockrill to nominate Desbottes for the award.



Pat Desbottes shows her just-received award after returning to Salt Spring to a singing chorus of friends and supporters.

Salt Spring Hospice member Barb Aust wrote the following about Pat Desbottes, using the language of The Virtues Project, which was co-created by Linda Kavelin-Popov, also a long-time Salt Spring Hospice member.

Virtues are an integral part of our work and it seems only fitting to recognize Pat's contribution to Salt Spring Hospice through that lens.

Pat and her fellow founders needed **courage** to bring this new idea to the community in 1984.

Pat showed **determination** to stick with it until the concept of hospice and palliative care became commonplace in people's consciousness.

It took **devotion** to both her friend Bessie Dane's memory and to a cause that would help so many that Pat both knew and didn't know.

Pat demonstrated great **hope** that despite the ups and downs, hospice and palliative care would prevail on Salt Spring Island.

She showed great **zeal** in being enthusiastic about the cause for 30 years without letting up.

Through the years Pat has treated everyone with the **respect** they deserved and has been unconditionally **compassionate**.

Her never-ending belief that **service** to others in their greatest time of need is an essential act of **kindness and love**.

Reliability — Pat never let the side down. And, in choosing to retire from hospice, Pat is moving on with amazing **grace**. She knows that there is a time to hold the cards and a time to fold them and the time has arrived. Pat has woven a quilt of service, kindness and love that will never be forgotten.

PHOTOS BY ROB LOWRIE

LEGAL ADVOCACY

Community Education Sessions

Salt Spring Island	Lions Hall	Wed., May 21
Pender Island	Community Hall	Tues., May 27
Mayne Island	Community Centre	Thurs., June 5
Galiano Island	Library Meeting Rm	Mon., June 9

Both sessions will take place on each island on dates noted.

SESSION ONE (limited attendance, free)

Training and supports for advocates 2:00-4:30 pm

For registration and information contact Rob Grant
rgrant@ssics.ca or 250-537-9971

SESSION TWO (open attendance, free, refreshments)

Community Information Event 6:30-9:00 pm

Residential Tenancy Financial/Disability Helpful Legal Advocacy Resources

Training and Information provided by legal advocates from



Founder deserves honour

The following is the letter written to nominate Pat Desbottes of Salt Spring Hospice and Bessie Dane Foundation for the Volunteer of the Year Award with the B.C. Hospice Palliative Care Association.

BY DON COCKRILL

This letter is written with gratitude for the opportunity to counter the very human tendency to diminish the gift of ourselves in the telling of our own life story. Pat Desbottes' story deserves recounting because of this embedded selflessness that inhibits her from doing it. Pat has spent 30 years volunteering with the most delicate of human endeavours.

Accompanied by others, Salt Spring Hospice / Bessie Dane Foundation has its roots in the caring companionship rendered to people at the end of life on Salt Spring Island. Beginning in 1984, this care necessarily happened in the patient's home. The growth of human empathy blossomed into community participation by helping neighbours to die where they had lived, with as much comfort as was possible.

Pat Desbottes was the first president (for nine years) of the organized

group, and so it is that, 30 years later, she is our present-day connection with the beginnings of hospice activity on the island. The initial hospice meetings were held in a church where the group was permitted to tag on to the church's charity number for the purposes of donation receipts.

Pat loves making sure that dying is a vital element of living in community.

Along with several organizational positions within the group, Pat has continued to sit vigil, to organize training of new volunteers, and, as a board member, to assist with VIHA and BCHPCA initiatives, as well as take a very active part in the fundraising necessary to the ongoing work of hospice. In the early years of the Bessie Dane memorial group, Pat did all this with two young children at home and a minimum-wage job as a home support worker.

Following initial contact with Hospice Victoria,

Pat has been instrumental in helping the local group develop in ways that helped it become more widely called upon by people and their families in the community. Because of her interest, compassion and energy, Salt Spring Hospice has become a vital part of the Vancouver Island Federation of Hospices. Pat's selfless accompaniment through all those years in her role as a volunteer is well deserving of recognition.

The many individuals she has helped live through death's wonderful mystery call loudly, with voices of gratitude, for this same recognition. Pat loves making sure that dying is a vital element of living in community. This tugs at my heart, and why writing this letter is a privilege beyond words.

To encounter her now in the hallways of Lady Minto Hospital in the early hours of the morning, on the way to relieve another volunteer doing a vigil, is in itself fullest confirmation of her continuing desire to be with the dying, respectfully accompanying them to the end of their life.

The writer is a Salt Spring Hospice volunteer and a former board member.

womeninbusiness

LI READ,
President of
Salt Spring Island
Chamber
of Commerce



"I am a strong supporter of Driftwood Gulf Islands Media's Women in Business event," says Li Read. "Women are amazing multi-taskers. Our local women entrepreneurs succeed at doing the things they love, which is the foundation of successful business." She adds, "At the same time, they are making sure that the family is well taken care of." She agrees with DgiM that the talented women of this island are what make our community strong and vibrant!

FRIDAY MAY 16TH - 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM • MAHON HALL

**MAHON HALL VENUE FOR
10TH ANNUAL WOMEN IN BUSINESS**



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

CELEBRATION TIME: A scene from last year's Women in Business trade show held at Mahon Hall. Crowds enjoyed meeting local businesswomen, as well as the samples of products and services provided, and some delicious food and refreshments.

**DON'T MISS
THE FUN!**

The 10th annual Women in Business event will be taking place this coming Friday, May 16th, 4pm to 7 pm at Mahon Hall.

You will not want to miss this fun event; it is a wonderful opportunity to come and meet some of Salt Spring's finest entrepreneurs.

Bring the kids! There will be a Kids Area and they will be asked to draw pictures of D.W. Salty and the picture will be entered into a draw. The winners will receive gift certificates supplied by Mouat's Home Hardware.

We will have tasty appetizers provided by Penny's Pantry and Coco Loco. Some of those yummy items will include mini quiches, delicious wraps, savoury chicken and scone appies, as well as dessert mini squares.

Advance tickets for the trade show are only \$3, or \$5 at the door. Come join the fun, bid on our amazing auction items and enter to win our fabulous door prize from Hastings House!

**Bid on some
fantastic
silent auction
items**

**FABULOUS
DOOR PRIZE!**

The Women in Business event door prize is a true dream! One night's accommodation at the luxurious Hastings House and gift certificates for the restaurant will be enjoyed by a lucky winner. Thank you to our major sponsor — Hastings House.

Find out what lies in your future with Tema Dawn



Well-known Tarot Card reader, Tema Dawn will be at the 10th annual Women in Business event this year at Mahon Hall. Dawn's professional experience includes many years as reader at Windflower Moon store where she developed an international

clientele. She has extensive experience in facilitating Women's Retreats and also works as an Intuitive Healer.

Dawn will be accepting donations for the 10-15-minute sessions at Mahon Hall.

"Readings are truly a

way to gain insight on life issues", says Dawn. She adds, "they're also fun!"

She is available for readings on Saturdays in town at Gaiama Yoga Academy 250-537-2257. For other appointments please call 250-537-5361 or email temadawn@gmail.com



10TH ANNUAL



womeninbusiness

FRIDAY MAY 16TH



4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
MAHON HALL

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The Gulf Islands Driftwood delivers

Deliver your message to consumers using the Driftwood

There is no denying that almost everyone on the island reads the Driftwood. A recent study shows that Driftwood is the number one source of information on the Island and 90% of those surveyed said they read the Driftwood last week.

Thousands of consumers are reading the paper every week. This means the Driftwood will deliver your message to both your current and potential consumers here on the Island.

Getting your message out to your consumers is a key to growing your business.

Our professional account managers can create a campaign that is custom for your business.

Target market your products and services in our supplements and other publications, including Gulf Islands Real Estate, AQUA Gulf Islands Living, The Gulf Islander.

We offer creative flexibility and are cost effective for all budgets.



10TH ANNUAL

womeninbusiness

silent auction items



- Chamber of Commerce - VIP Package** VALUED AT \$250
- Salt Spring Clothing - Gift Certificate** VALUED AT \$150
- Country Grocer - Gift Card** VALUED AT \$150
- Local company - Fun Basket** VALUED AT \$150
- Sonia Studio - Chic Chef Apron and Victorian Epicurean Selection of Herbs & Spices** VALUED AT \$150
- Moby's Pub - Gift Certificate** VALUED AT \$100
- Mouat's Home Hardware - Food Shedder** VALUED AT \$100
- Wellspring Spa - 90 minute facial treatment paired with the time - honoured tradition of healing the skin with gold** VALUED AT \$225
- Figs & Honey - Gift Basket containing 100% organic Spa Goodies**..... VALUED AT \$100
- Persnickety's - Gift Basket**..... VALUED AT \$100
- Ganges Yoga - Gift Package**..... VALUED AT \$90
- Monsoon Coast Spices - Assorted, exotic spices**..... VALUED AT \$60
- Pharmasave - Health & Wellness Gift Basket** VALUED AT \$60
- Salt Spring Kitchen Co. - Gift Basket** VALUED AT \$25



FRIDAY MAY 16TH - 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
MAHON HALL

Brenda Akerman

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I love my work! On Salt Spring it is difficult to find good quality skin care at a reasonable price. I offer quality products backed by a 100% guarantee, I pamper women and help them look and feel great and I offer personalized service. Plus I can offer women a chance for a better lifestyle. It is extremely rewarding for me to be in this business! Over 16 years ago I started my Mary Kay business, partly because I wanted everything in the line, but mostly because I saw an opportunity where I could work at home when I had children. Now that I do have young kids, I get to stay at home with them during the day and have my "girls nights out" pampering others as my "job". Really, it can't get better than that! I believe in everything the company stands for. I love the product and I meet some pretty neat women along the way! The mission of the Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation in Canada is to support women living with cancer through the Look Good Feel Better Program (over 80% of the women helping are Mary Kay consultants) and to help end violence against women by providing grants to women's shelters and community outreach programs across Canada. Mary Kay's company philosophy is faith first, family second and career third, which is how I believe life should be lived!

Savita Leah Young

Ram Spring Wellness, home of Amrit Dhara Ayurveda



As the loving steward of this 20 acre nature sanctuary, Savita Leah Young draws her wisdom from a lifelong path of yoga, meditation and healthy living. Savita is a Registered Yoga Teacher, Certified Ayurveda Practitioner and a Spa Therapist. She offers private and group yoga classes, wellness consultations, cleanse kits and detox programs, traditional ayurvedic therapies and rejuvenating spa treatments.

Ram Spring Wellness Sanctuary, a nature inspired sanctuary for conscious self reflection and holistic healing, hosts educational programs in personal development and healthy living, gatherings and retreats in meditation and self reflection, soulful musical events with local and imported talent and a myriad of celebrations year round.

Our 30 foot yurt is available to host your event, workshop or gathering, comfortably seating up to 40 participants.

amrit dhara ayurveda
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Treasures of the Heart, opened by Debbie Harris-Funfer, is full of unique and inspirational treasures that nurture the soul.

Debbie's vision was to create a beautiful and soulful oasis where people could stop, still their minds, relax and see themselves reflected in the beauty around them.

From 30 years of cultivating her spiritual practice and world-wide travel, Debbie has brought an intriguing range of products to Salt Spring. One of the store's newest features is a huge selection of extraordinary Healing Crystals and Natural Stones of all sizes and prices. It also has a wide variety of Unique Jewellery from around the world, Sacred Statues, Tibetan items, Incense, Sage, Books, CDs, Tarot decks, Greeting Cards and MUCH MORE.

It has one-of-a-kind Sacred Art pieces, Asian Antiques and Exotic Furniture and Home Decor items, to create an atmosphere of peace and beauty within one's home. The store is a serene and peaceful place for all to enjoy.



Christine Torgirson



Christine Torgirson is Executive Director of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy, the island's vibrant 19-year-old land trust. She has a rich background as executive director, staff, board and consultant for many non-profits over the years.

As Christine says, "I feel so fortunate to work with such passionate and willing landowners and supporters who love Salt Spring and want to voluntarily preserve its special places--from tiny habitats for red-legged frogs to large Garry oak meadows harbouring many species." The Conservancy owns 7 nature reserves, holds 14 conservation covenants, offers a program involving over 700 local students yearly, provides stewardship support to a wide variety of landowners and is currently working on several exciting new covenant and land acquisition projects.

"Working with conservancies is such positive, constructive work," Christine explained. "I am amazed by the generosity of our volunteers (over 6,000 hours last year), members and donors. The Conservancy is a vital part of Salt Spring's highly engaged community. I hope you'll join our busy hive of dedicated islanders."

Roberta Temmel

TRANSITIONS MANAGER



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Transitions Thrift store would like to extend its gratitude for the ongoing support and donations provided by community members for over a decade.

Thanks to widespread community involvement along with a dedicated staff and volunteer base, Transitions Thrift store has been in business for 15 years.

Proceeds from Transitions Thrift store go toward supporting the Transition House and providing counselling and outreach services to women and children affected by violence and abuse.

The Thrift store directly helps residents of the Transition House and Cedar House by providing in-store credits and supplies.

Closed just 2 days a year, Transitions encourages you to donate your unneeded items and welcomes you to come in and explore its treasure chest of previously loved items.

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As always, Transitions is looking for volunteers interested in helping out in a wide variety of capacities in an upbeat and positive environment.

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Li Read

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- John Lennon



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May 17th, 2010 was our first day as the new owners of Persnickety. Since then, we've changed logo's, locations and expanded to the point of BURSTING!

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SSI Chamber Celebrates 66 Years!



Janet Clouston, Executive Director

If you are a member of the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce here is our chance to say "Thank You". If you are not a member, we invite you to become one – with some of the best member pricing we have offered in years. For as low as \$125 per year (100% tax deductible) your business can be involved in growing the economy on Salt Spring and add your energy to Tourism Marketing, Events and Member Programs.

Executive Director Janet Clouston, who has been in the position since March of 2011, has been happy to work with hundreds of Chamber members and the community at large on events and programs that have benefited local business owners and have brought tourists to the Island. Events such as Sip & Savour Salt Spring, our harvest food and wine festival being held Sept 19-21st this year, Canada Day Fireworks and Kidz Zone and Salt Spring Blooms in April have all been successful events that the Chamber Board of Directors and volunteers are proud to support. Small Business Week, sponsored by Island Savings, features workshops, seminars and an awards banquet that has sold out for the last 3 years and will take place Oct 20-24, 2014.

We have reached out and have worked with many local groups and organizations to show our support and have been able to make donations to the Japanese Garden Society, West Coast Conservancy and Island Natural Growers through contributions from Sip & Savour. We are proud to be part of Women in Business 2014 and congratulate the many women entrepreneurs who make Salt Spring their home. We support your efforts and are working to ensure that Salt Spring is a great place to visit, live, work – and run a business.

Join... the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce

Join before MAY 31st and your name will be entered in the draw for a Country Grocer gift card.

New members - visit the office and say "I love Salt Spring" and receive a gift.

Join us for the SS Chamber AGM and member mixer, June 18th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm



Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce
250.537.4223
www.saltspringchamber.com

Beacon Community Services - Employment Services



For Gulf Islands Residents:
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Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2K6
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Petra Otten B.A. (Hons)



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Petra, an integrative bio-energy healing artist, has over 30 year experience in providing Reflexology, MindBody Harmonization and CranioFacial Massage and more recently Jin Shin Jyutsu@Physio-Philosophy.

Linda Koroscil



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We thank all of our loyal customers for their continued support over the years. We look forward to the years to come and continuing to be a part of and supporting our local community. Come and visit us at 140 Fulford Ganges Rd.

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May 25 - June 25

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June 28 & 29 at Still Point Yoga Studio · Free intro on Friday night June 27

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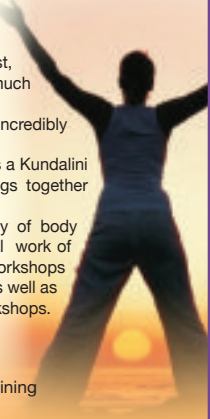
Your hostess with the mostest Nomi Davis considers herself to be incredibly blessed to share her knowledge and home on Salt Spring.

With a life long practice and a B. Sc. in Natural Health, Certified as a Kundalini Yoga Instructor, Reflexologist and Fitness & Weight Trainer, Nomi brings together a wide variety of skills and learning.

Her degree in Theatre Arts from Studio58 included the study of body techniques such as Alexander and Feldenkrais as well as the vocal work of Linkletter & Skinner. She has found inspiration through classes and workshops with top teachers from around the yoga and performance worlds. As well as hosting retreats, she teaches one on one and group classes and workshops.

Some of what Paradise Found offers:

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Coco Loco Bedding began in 1991 in St. John's, NL, relocated to Salt Spring in 1996 and continue to produce a full line of hand-made, hand-dyed cotton bedding in an array of colours and using fabrics from various countries! In our bakery, recently opened in December of last year, we produce a delectable collection of mostly gluten-free baked treats, 'drum roasters' coffee on the bar and featuring a line of exquisite chais and macchas from 'jagasilk'.



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Sandra Tong

Sonia Studio

142 Woodland Drive,
Vesuvius
250.931.8215
sandra@soniastudio.ca
www.soniastudio.ca

Join us at the bottom of the garden pool side, to enjoy what Sonia Studio has to offer. We are studio #9 on the Studio Tour map.

At Sonia Studio you will find Chic Chef retro aprons, handbags for every occasion, decorator cushions and other items of home decor.

I use a variety of fabrics and colours in my work. Each item is handcrafted with the user in mind. I hope you will enjoy the pleasing results.

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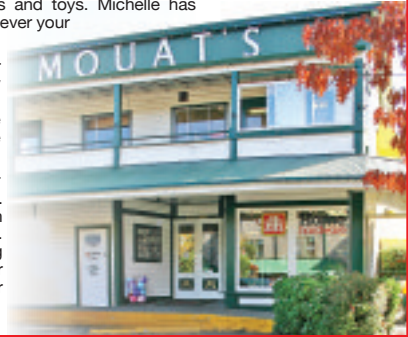
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CAROL WOOTEN - You can find Carol on the lower level of Mouat's Home Hardware. Carol has been with Mouat's Trading for eleven years and has a vast amount of knowledge about the products carried and she loves to cook. Carol will tantalize you with demos on Fridays in housewares.

MICHELLE KAY - Michelle also works on the lower level of Mouat's Home Hardware. Michelle is our expert on animal treats and toys. Michelle has worked for Mouat's for four years. What ever your pets needs are, Michelle is your girl.

KIM YOUNG - Kim has worked for Mouat's Home Hardware for twenty years and is the Store Manager. Kim can be found just about anywhere in the store. Just stick your head in the office on the main floor to say hi.

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Mary Gillies, owner

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Jean Elwell and Catherine Howe

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Jean Elwell, CA, operates a full service accounting practice from her home office on North Beach Road together with her assistant, Catherine Howe.

Before moving to Salt Spring Elwell was the western Canadian manager of internal audit for Canada Trust. Previous to that, she worked for Coopers & Lybrand at their

head office in London, England.

Howe has worked for the firm for close to seven years and is currently working on completing her qualification as a Certified General Accountant.

"We will address all Canadian tax issues," says Elwell, "and that means personal tax, corporate tax, and GST/HST." She advises clients on minimizing the tax consequences of life situations including marital breakdown and death. Other areas of expertise include: setting up accounting systems and working with not-for-profit organizations.

"Reporting requirements for not-for-profit organizations can be complex," says Elwell, "Many volunteer boards can become overwhelmed by preparation and interpretation of their financial statements and that's where we can help." Elwell works with boards to provide relevant financial statements and is fully qualified to perform audit or review engagements as needed.

Wellspring Spa at Hastings House

Where Time Stands Still

Terra Dimock, Director of Spa Services at Hastings House Country House Hotel, has extensive experience in the hotel and luxury spa fields and has been involved in the spa sector for 10 years.

To share her passion and knowledge in holistic nutrition, shiatsu therapy, massage and beauty, she trains the spa team at Wellspring Spa in signature spa services and also still personally treats guests in the spa.

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The boutique-style spa, located at Hastings House, is the perfect place to feel welcome and be treated to beautiful treatments in an idyllic setting.



Terra Dimock

Terra welcomes everyone to Wellspring Spa events on the stunning waterfront property. Last July, ladies enjoyed champagne and cucumber sandwiches on the veranda for the Spa Tea Party, with a free Brow Bar, Massage, Facial and Manicure services.

We rang in the Yule this winter in the Manor House with a Fireside Spa Evening.

Look for Terra and Spa Team Pop-Up Brow Bars at community events, fashion shows and at the Spa.

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what's on this week



Wed. 14 May

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Mike Alviano. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
GISPA presents Big Fish. A visually stunning student-led union of theatre, music and dance, based on the novel by Daniel Wallace. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Pickleball on Salt Spring. Learn the fastest growing paddle game. Portlock Park. 10 a.m. to noon.
Library Writers' Group. Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Salt Spring Library Room 103. 2 p.m.
Reverend Wilson and the 'Fair Play' Papers of 1893. Usha Rautenbach gives the Salt Spring Historical Society's monthly presentation. Central Community Hall. 2 to 4 p.m.
Grid-tied Solar For Salt Spring. First in a new series of free Wednesday public information presentations on renewable energy subjects. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 4 to 5 p.m.
Texas Holdem Poker. The Local. Sign-up at 6:30 p.m.
SongJam. Informal group singing of 6 decades of classic rock and pop hits and more. Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

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

Thurs. May 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Cowboy Ted. The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.
Wesley Hardisty. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
A Taste of Song. A cabaret evening with musical entertainment, appetizers, dessert, coffee, tea and wine tasting by Mistaken Identity Vineyards. Directed by Suzanna Laine, music direction by Deborah Inkster-Bain Kneebone and choreography by Sophie Rouger. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.
Youth Open Mic. Any instrument, any style. Every third Thursday of the month. Core Inn. Sign up 4:30 p.m., start at 5:30.
wGISPA presents Big Fish. See Wednesday listing. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
Open Mic Night. Hosted by Johnny Manouvers & Random Johnson. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Nordic Fellowship Open House. Local Nordic cultural society, the Fridgard Fellowship, hosts its monthly open-house meet and greet. Includes planning for upcoming Summer Fest event. Beaver Point Hall. 7 p.m.
Youth Book Club. A book club for youth ages 10-14, every second Thursday. Salt Spring library. 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Fri. May 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Coastal Giant. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Soul Shakedown. Free appies at 5 p.m. followed by live music. The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.
A Taste of Song. See Thursday listing. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.
Sailboat Circus Show. An interactive evening of aerial silk acrobatics, public art and theatre. Pier by Rotary Marine Park. Shows on the hour from 6 p.m. with the grand finale with "The Pirettes" at 9 p.m.
Euphoria. Salt Spring's biggest EDM event, featuring DJs Andrew Walker/Andrew Ashton and Bat Country. Ages 14-19. ID Required. Mahon Hall. 8 p.m. to midnight.
The Riverside. Rock/dance music. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

The Radicle Seed Library. "Check out" seeds, then return them to our seed library once you have grown them out. Library program room. Noon to 2 p.m.
Beach Walking For Citizen Science. Introductory beach walk and practice sessions for an upcoming Salt Spring Shoreline Survey, led by local marine naturalist David Denning. Meet at the ArtSpring parking lot. 12:30 p.m.

Fri. May 16

ACTIVITIES

Clark Saunders Reading. Local author Clark Saunders launches his book Exploring Old Highway No. 1: Your Guide to Scenic Trips and Adventures. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 4 p.m.
Women in Business Trade Show. 10th annual event features island women in business, samples, demos, snacks and more. Mahon Hall. 4 to 7 p.m.
Evelyn Russell Exhibit Opening. Reception for art show at Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art. 5 to 7 p.m.
Emergency Exhibit Opening. Reception for exhibit of work by Gail Sibley and Heather Martin-McNab at Gallery 8 from 5 to 8 p.m.
SRhythms Class. With Shauna Devlin. The Art Barn. 7 p.m.

Sat. May 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Bros. The Local. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Riverside. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
A Taste of Song. See Thursday listing. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.
Surrey Children's Choir. Plus Youth Chorus and Chamber Choir. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7:30 p.m.
Coastal Giant & Redwood Green. Challenge Cup soccer tournament dance at Mahon Hall. Doors open at 8 p.m.
Jose Sanchez Cuband Party. Jose's Kitchen Open Band starts at 8 p.m. Doors open early for the meat draw. Members and guests welcome. Designated driver available. Salt Spring Legion.
The Coalition. Rock/dance band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Sat. May 17

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Round Salt Spring Sailing Race. Boats leave Ganges Harbour at 10 a.m. for annual race around the island. Awards presentation Sunday at 12:30 p.m. at Salt Spring Sailing Club.
Pickleball on Salt Spring. Portlock Park. 10 a.m. to noon.
Challenge Cup Soccer Tourney. Women's and men's competitive and recreational divisions as well as over 30s for women and over 35s for men. Salt Spring soccer fields. Games start 10:40 a.m. and run all day.

Sun. May 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

BobFest. Celebrate Bob Dylan's 73th birthday with a variety of island performers singing their interpretations of his songs. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 10 p.m.
Bourbon Street Sundays. Live jazz with El Zocalo and guests Bill Henderson, Sue Newman and Bob Delion. Moby's Pub. 7 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Challenge Cup Soccer Tourney. See Saturday listing.
Beach Walking For Citizen Science. See Friday listing. ArtSpring parking lot. 12:30 p.m.
Olive and Avocado Oil Tasting Event. Great recipe ideas and samples galore on hand. Fernwood Road Cafe. 1 to 4 p.m.
Peter Luckman Meet the Artist Reception. Photographic exhibition of underwater life in the Salish Sea at Fernwood Road Cafe. 2 to 4 p.m.
Foosball Tournament. The Local. 1 p.m.

Mon. May 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Chris Ronald. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
The Stray Birds. Original Americana music. Southend Grooveyard. Doors at 7 p.m., music at 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Pickleball on Salt Spring. Portlock Park. 10 a.m. to noon.
Challenge Cup Soccer Tourney. Final games. Salt Spring soccer fields.

Tue. May 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage. Hosted by David Jacquest. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Family Fitness At Portlock Park. Parents and kids ages 0-6. Portlock Park. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Apologies of an Economic Hitman Film Screening. Free event sponsored by Green Raven and the SS library, in advance of John Perkins lecture on May 31. Salt Spring library. 7 p.m.
Central Community Hall Directors Meeting. Public welcome to attend. Central Community Hall. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Vipassana. The Gatehouse. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. May 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Simply Organic. Last free organ recital of the season with Don Conley. All Saints' By-the-Sea. 10:10 a.m.
Susan Cogan. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
SIMS Year-End Concert. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Pickleball on Salt Spring. Portlock Park. 10 a.m. to noon.
Dying With Dignity Meeting. Guest speaker is lawyer Jim Pasuta on the topic of wills and power of attorney. Salt Spring library. 1:30 p.m.

Legal Advocacy Community Education Sessions.

Training & supports for advocates (limited attendance) from 2 to 4:30 p.m. (Pre-register at rgrant@ssics.ca). Then a Community Information Event for everyone from 6:30 to 9 p.m., covering residential tenancy, financial and legal resources info. Lions Hall.
Special Olympics AGM. Choices. 6:30 p.m.
SongJam. See last Wednesday's listing.
Texas Holdem Poker. See last Wednesday's listing.



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CINEMA

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EXHIBITIONS

- The Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild** presents **An Eye for Colour**, with works by guild members partnered with other island artisans. The show opens at **ArtSpring on Friday, May 16** and continues through **until Monday, May 19**, daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Rain Storms and Tea Cups**, an exhibition of hand-pulled prints and collage by **Evelyn Russell**, opens Friday, **May 16** at **Salt Spring Gallery of Fine Art** and runs to May 29. An opening reception takes place Friday from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Pastel and paper artist **Gail Sibley** and basket maker **Heather Martin-McNab** are in the spotlight at **Gallery 8** with their joint show **Emergence** running from May 16 to June 10. An opening reception is set for Friday, May 16 from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Peter Luckman** exhibition of photography of underwater life in the Salish Sea. **Fernwood Road Cafe** with opening reception on Sunday, May 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. Exhibition runs until June 14.

- Impressions** - Prints by **Benita Sanders, Richard Tetrault, Nicola Wheston, Mark Stevens, Jan Smith** and **Richard York** show at **Duthie Gallery** to May 27. Gallery hours for May are Friday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.
- Gwen McDonald** and **Curt Firestone** show photos in the **Harbour House Hotel** lobby and restaurant through May.
- Art Simons** artworks are at **kizmit cafe and gallery** through May. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.
- POD Contemporary Gallery** shows a **Sophia Burke** photography exhibition until May 16.
- Above & Below**, an exhibit of work that gives viewers a look above and below local waters, is on display in the **Library Program Room** through May. Participating artists are **Melodie Herbert, Libby Jutras, Ingrid Korner, Jackie Meredith, Bernadette Mertens-McAllister, Judy Nurse, Herb Otto, Ellen Mae Simmonds, Margaret Threlfall, and Doug Wahlsten**.
- Balancing Act: Interim Report** is the latest body of work from **Jeanne Lyons**. The exhibit, which is featured in the **ArtSpring lobby** from May 1 to May 30, includes works on paper using graphite, coloured pencils and pastels. The exhibit is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on weekends and evenings when performances are scheduled.
- Gulf Islands Picture Framing** in **Grace Point Square** shows new releases by the late **LeRoy Jensen**. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Jerry Witmer** shows imaginary landscapes in acrylic at **Island Savings** until mid-July.

Challenge Cup Soccer Weekend

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ART REVIEW

Nicola Wheston explores excesses of 'stuff' in new work

Salt Spring painter reveals dark side of consumerism in recent work

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring painter Nicola Wheston has chosen to look at the pitfalls of North America's elevated standard of living in her latest series of work, which examines the insatiable need to add more "stuff" to our environments.

Though the scenes that Wheston depicts in the series called *Stuff* were all constructed to show the most over-the-top examples of living spaces indiscriminately strewn with laundry, grocery bags and other items, the inspiration for the disastrous clutter came firmly from real life.

Wheston has cleared four estates, one of which took several years of work, and has learned first-hand just how things can take over. *Stuff* represents the painter's fascination with the phenomenon and her curiosity about how it would translate into art.

Wheston is an expert portrait artist and highly skilled at creating expressive landscapes, in both cases painting from directly from life. She did the same for these large-scale canvases, building up sets in her studio and other locations and then adding live models and animals as the rooms' denizens.

As she explains in her artist's statement, her figurative works "focus on the psychological aspects of our humanity, including all the foibles and eccentricities of our daily lives, as well as the relationships we have with each other, ourselves, our pets



Lazy Boy Time — oil on canvas, 48" X 72" — by Nicola Wheston.

COURTESY NICOLA WHESTON

and our surroundings."

With Wheston's lush painting style in vivid oils, *Stuff* recalls the Flemish Baroque masterpieces of the excesses of feast and hunt, but with a depressing banality to her modern spin as Coke bottles and household cleaning products replace wild game as the carnage. The paintings uniquely capture what Wheston terms "the pathology of consumption and the degree to which it can trap us."

During a recent studio opening for the Easter Art Tour, Wheston explained that even though the subject matter is chaotic, creating these paintings required perhaps the most careful planning she's ever put into her work. For example, *Lazy Boy Time*, a living room scene with a woman seated in a reclining arm chair, has various items of furni-

ture, cats, sunlight filtered through blinds, laundry, empty bottles and papers. There are a hundred different surfaces and textures on which the light and the perspective have to work correctly, colours and tones must be balanced in a complex visual arena.

Wheston does all this so well, as the viewer remains unaware of the construction and instead is occupied with trying to take in the individual components and the whole.

Another painting captures an out-of-control kitchen, where the domestic urge has apparently overrun the inhabitant's ability to deal with the aftermath. A woman stands facing the viewer with a platter of roast beef and potatoes ready to be served, but there's nowhere in this room for her to rest the plate: the table and counter space are covered

with dishes, pots and drinks.

The floor space is even more chaotic, with full grocery bags, an overflowing garbage can, a recycling bin full of wine bottles and three dogs vying for space among other items. The flowers and tablecloth on the table signal it's not poverty that's to blame, leaving the viewer to question just what has occupied this woman's attention and made a nice room so terrible.

Wheston's studio at Merchant Mews is open mainly by appointment during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. She can be contacted at 250-537-4922.

For more information, see her website at www.nicolawheston.com.

Wheston is also showing work from decades past as part of the Impressions show of prints by a number of well-known artists on at Duthie Gallery this month. The gallery is open Friday through Sunday or by appointment.

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Music This Week

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Thur	Wesley Hardisty
Fri	Coastal Giant
Sat	Riverside
Sun	Bobfest
Mon	Chris Ronald
Tue	Open Stage with David Jaquest
Wed	Susan Cogan

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SIMPLY ORGANIC

Organ recital series winds up

Handel, Bach and Stanley

The recital series *Simply Organic* ends the season on Wednesday, May 21 with the triumphant sounds of the pipe organ in All Saints' church.

Led by accomplished organist and choir director Don Conley, the series has been one of discovery both of the detailed intricacies of the

organ's mechanics and its compositional and performance challenges. Next week's recital will feature works by Handel, Stanley and Bach in a fitting tribute to this king of instruments.

Free music begins at 10:10 a.m., followed by freshly baked muffins and coffee for \$2.

The weekly schedule of *Music and Munch* commences on June 4 and runs through Aug. 27, replacing *Simply Organic* until the fall.

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FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

TOO COOL: From left, Derrick Milton, Ian Van Wyck, Sue Newman and Bill Henderson perform at a Bourbon Street Sundays jazz night at Moby's Pub earlier this year. El Zocalo with guests Henderson, Newman and Bob Delion are on tap this Sunday night from 7 to 11 p.m.

EXHIBIT

Eye for Colour

Guild presents creative show

This May long weekend, the Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild is once more offering its popular Eye for Colour exhibition at ArtSpring.

Celebrating the best of arts and crafts on Salt Spring Island, guild members partner with other island artisans to produce complementary pieces. An explanation of the inspiration for each display is provided so viewers can understand the creative process and collaboration required to sustain the partnership.

"This is not a juried show but becomes highly competitive and fun as members work in some secrecy; hiding their subjects and themes from one another until the final 'hanging' of the exhibits," explains a press release from the guild. "The result is the formation of interesting and unexpected partnerships with an unusual mix of creative artistic combinations on display."

More than 25 artisans will be represented in the show and selected items will be available for sale.

The show opens on Friday, May 16 and continues through Monday, May 19, daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MUSICAL THEATRE

Cabaret jazzes up dining experience

'A Taste of Song' makes debut

Musical theatre fans won't want to miss the debut of the Harbour House Restaurant's original cabaret act A Taste of Song, with three evenings of music, treats and wine set for Thursday, May 15 through Saturday, May 17.

The jazzy compilation consists of 18 Broadway and movie tunes, accompanied by a live band and further enhanced by choreography and tap dancing. Those in the audience will be

tempted to sing along, and may be inspired to get up and dance.

Directors Suzanna Laine (Harold & Maude) and Deborah Inkster-Bain Kneebone (a singer, musician and teacher) have brought together a delightful assortment of local performers to entertain audiences of all ages. Seasoned performers and musicians in the cast include Hannah Brown, Rosanne Leonoff, Scott Merrick, Clark Saunders, Karen Arney, Randy Marchi, Jim Shultz, Dave Milutinovic and Ben Arney, plus relative newcomers Julianna Slomka and Tom McKeachie.

Dancers Yvonne Crute and Tiffany Wightman will strut their stuff with choreography by Sophie Rouger.

It's not only song and dance that audience members will be savouring during the production, but also delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts from the Harbour House kitchen, along with wine from local vineyard Mistaken Identity.

If successful, the producers and directors have future productions in mind that could include live theatre such as mysteries and comedies, as well as more musical shows to

be served with dinner and wine.

All performances are at Harbour House, with a show time of 6 p.m. on May 15, 16 and 17, and again on May 29, 30 and 31. Hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting runs from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by the first set of A Taste of Song from 7 to 7:45 p.m. Dessert and wine tasting takes place from 7:45 to 8:15 p.m., with the show's second set running from 8:15 to 9 p.m.

Tickets are all-inclusive for the show, food and wine. They're at the Harbour House, or can be charged by phone by calling 250-537-5571.

SCHOOL DRAMA

Emperor's New Clothes at Mahon Hall

Centre school kids share hard work

Salt Spring Centre School's tradition of fine musical drama continues next weekend with a fun-filled production of The Emperor's New Clothes.

Directed by teacher Kate

Richer, the adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale will be a treat for the whole family, with upbeat music, action scenes, laughs and rich medieval costumes and sets.

Students have been working hard to prepare the musical, with the oldest students taking on some big parts this year. The role of the self-

absorbed Emperor will be played by Griffin Bohnet-Maul, and trickster Peter the Tailor will be shared by Trevor Farias, Christopher Elwell and Owen Norgard.

Ben Shugar acts as the doubting grandfather and the blacksmith. Dylan Rouselle and Gracie Williams share the role of the sensible Empress, and the rest of the school acts as the

comedic orchestra, peasants, townspeople, peddlers, and more. Kindergarten students will appear as princes and princesses and perform a song guaranteed to get audience members out of their seats.

The play runs on Friday, May 23 at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 24 at 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 25 at 2 p.m. at Mahon Hall.

FOLK MUSIC

Stray Birds alight at Southend Grooveyard

Holiday Monday concert at intimate venue

The South End Grooveyard hosts a young American band on the rise when the Stray Birds come to Salt Spring on Monday, May 19.

Maya de Vitry, Oliver Craven and Charles Muench are band members whose full-length self-titled debut album was named among the top 10 folk/Americana releases of 2012 by National Public Radio. Passionate live performances led to appearances on NPR's Mountain Stage, the Philadelphia Folk Festival, the Kerrville Folk Festival, and the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival.

"When the Stray Birds take the stage, the spotlight falls on three voices raised in harmony above the raw resonance of wood and

strings," says the band's website. "It is a sound drawn from the richness of American folk music traditions, spun with a stirring subtlety and grace. From bustling street corners to silent halls, their performances speak to an uncompromising reverence for songs."

A new album is set for release this year. Doors for the show at 128 Holmes Rd. (off Isabella Point Road) open at 7 p.m. with music beginning at 7:30 p.m. People are welcome to bring their own bottle.

Tickets are at Stuff & Nonsense, Salt Spring Books and Fever Tree or by emailing southendgrooveyard@gmail.com.

All proceeds benefit the artists.

The Driftwood is giving away two tickets for the show on Thursday via Facebook. See www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood.

ACROBATICS

Sailboat circus brings harbour alive

Special Salish Sea spectacle offered on Friday night

This Friday, May 16, some creative islanders are bringing an artful touch to the Round Salt Spring sailing race.

The local Save the Salish Sea group will host a thrilling evening of aerial silk acrobatics, public art and theatre on the boardwalk in Ganges. The Salty Sailboat Circus features dramatic trapeze dynamos the Elvolutionaries, with Cirque du Sel performing from the masts and rigging of the Andromeda sailboat.

The show will be visible from the public water taxi wharf. Visitors can stroll over and view from the boardwalk, while boaters are encouraged

to bring their dinghy/kayak or sailboats in close for a dazzling aquatic circus performance.

In addition to shows on the hour at 6, 7 and 8 p.m., the Intertidal Zone Chorus led by the Naughty Nudibrach will lead audience members on an interactive nature interpretive walk to share her knowledge of shoreline ecosystems of the Salish Sea throughout the evening.

The Naughty Nudibrach, when she's not luxuriating in the intertidal zone, is award-winning naturalist and author Briony Penn, who, together with a cohort of poets, singers and minstrels, will be shining a light on the marine ecology that makes the island so special.

Everyone is encouraged to don their pirate hats and join in the grand finale at 9 p.m. with the fabulous "Pirettes."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Salt Spring's own Elvolutionaries perform seaside acrobatics off their ship, the Andromeda.

CONCERT PREVIEW

Surrey youth singers set to charm

Concert on Saturday at All Saints

Making its fourth appearance on Salt Spring since 2003, the Surrey Children's Choir, Youth Chorus and Chamber Choir comprising about 24 young singers will perform on May 17 at All Saints' By-the-Sea Anglican Church.

Over the years this talented group has amassed many honours and awards. Last year the Surrey Children's

Choir won their category of the Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival and moved on to the Performing Arts B.C. Festival, winning Choral Class #102, the George Mathieson Award.

On May 2 of this year the Children's Choir and Chamber Choir competed in the Fraser Valley Kiwanis Music Festival, coming away with gold standings all around.

Gail Suderman, the resident choral adjudicator for this festival, said, "The Surrey Children's Choir is one

of the top choirs of its kind in British Columbia, setting a standard that other choirs can look to as an example of excellence."

Through the years this family of choirs has consistently competed in both local and international music festivals, gaining valuable experience, enriching the life of each singer in the process. Under the superb leadership of their director Stephen Horning, they have participated three times

in the Kathaumixw International Music Festival in Powell River, considered one of the top choral festivals in the world. The year 2009 was a highlight when they competed in the prestigious International Musical Eisteddfod held annually in Llangollen, Wales.

Saturday's concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Completing their weekend, the group will attend All Saints' church on Sunday morning to participate in the 9:30 a.m. service.

AUTHOR VISITS

Writers Fantetti and Para at the library

Fresh voices share works

Theatre Alive hosts two Mother Tongue Publishing authors at a literary event next Thursday evening.

Kathryn Para and Eufemia Fantetti will read at the Salt Spring Public Library's program room beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Para's novel Lucky was the winner of the 2nd Great BC Novel Contest and was a finalist for the 2014 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize.

"Lucky is a beautiful, harsh novel, tension-filled, its language startling and

fresh," writes Caroline Adderson, the final judge for the second Search for the Great BC Novel Contest.

"It's also funny, thanks to the unflinching perceptions of its daring and damaged protagonist, Ani, war photojournalist and surly survivor. Lucky me. I got to read this book first."

Fantetti's debut book, A Recipe for Disaster & Other Unlikely Tales of Love, is a collection of six skillful and witty stories that will engage readers' hearts. On Tuesday it was named a finalist for a Danuta Glead Literary Award for the best first

English-language short fiction collection by a Canadian author published in 2013.

Fantetti was winner of Event Magazine's Creative Non-Fiction Contest and the 7th Annual Accent Writing Contest.

"Recipe for Disaster is a delicious treat," said Ayelet Tsabari of The Best Place on Earth. "With her fresh, intelligent voice and lush prose, Eufemia Fantetti serves up stories that are at once achingly familiar and laugh-out-loud funny."

The May 22 event is free, with donations gratefully accepted for Theatre Alive literary programs.

TREE HOUSE CAFE

Fifth annual BobFest happening Sunday

Nightly music schedule gets rolling

Summer kicks off at the Tree House Cafe this Sunday, May 18 with the annual BobFest event.

From 6 to 10 p.m., the cafe will feature a variety of island performers singing their interpretations of Bob Dylan songs to mark Dylan's 73rd birthday later in the week. So far the bill features such varied performers as Harry Warner, Richard Cross, Megan Manning, Bill Nash & the Travelling Wheelbarrows, Nikki Hanssens and the Sleeparound, Martin Adams, Travis Puntarelli, Reisha Sarek, Alex Gay, David Eveno, Dan Smith and friends, and the much anticipated return of Sharon Bailey and the Skinnypipers.

Presiding over the evening will be host David Jacquest, this year appearing with the newly christened house band If Dogs Run Free.

This year differs from previous BobFests in that Manning has been invited to play songs by Joan Baez, and there will be a reading from the works of Allen Ginsberg.

People should come early and grab a table before 6 o'clock as they're bound to fill up quickly.

Anyone who hasn't signed up yet who would like to perform at this or any other events produced by Jacquest (Let it Beate, Neil Young night, etc.) may contact him care of Facebook or call 250-653-9172.

Music Under the Stars returns to the Tree House for the 16th year, with 125 consecutive nights of live music on tap, including an open stage every Tuesday.

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

BROOM BUSTERS!:
 Harrison Avenue neighbours joined forces on Saturday to cut broom and gorse in advance of the invasive species drop-off event set up at Portlock Park that day. May is the perfect time "to cut broom in bloom" to help stem its spread on the island. From left are Lionel Johnson, Hannah Brown, Barry Head, Kelly Johnson and Deborah Miller.

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BIKE TO WORK WEEK

Cyclists gear up for car-free week

Local businesses step up with support

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

People across the province are pulling out their bikes, oiling up their chains and making sure their helmets fit right in advance of the 2014 Bike to Work Week.

This year the event officially starts on Monday, May 26 and ends on Sunday, June 1, but local enthusiasm will see the Salt Spring week kick off two days ahead of time at the new bike path on Lower Ganges on Saturday, May 24. That kind of eagerness promises organizers will see more local participation than ever this year, as businesses jump on board to support riders with discounted treats and celebration stations on route, and riders get inspired to leave the car at home more often.

"Bike to Work Week should be great this year, especially if the weather holds a bit," said Island Pathways director and cycling enthusiast John Rowlandson.

"There's a lot of buzz because it's the 20th anniversary of Bike to Work Week in Victoria. And last year was really wet — so it's got to be better."

Bike to Work Week participation has been growing on Salt Spring and across B.C., with Victoria's initiative in 1994 becoming 20,000 people on 3,000 teams burning 22 million calories in the 2013 event.

The Driftwood will be reviving its Driftwood Dragsters team, which accomplished 165 km between three riders in 2013. Other past teams are also seeking to better their record, with strong encouragement from local organizer Jan Slakov.

"A lot of it is coordination. This is the second year that Jan's coordinated, so that's really good," Rowlandson said. "She's been able to animate the people from the past years."

"We don't have to wear tight

clothing or try to look

aerodynamic."

JOHN ROWLANDSON
 Cycling advocate

Salt Spring's hills and a full week of spring rain didn't deter local participants, with the 34 registered teams in action in 2013. Rowlandson said his team is already throwing down the gauntlet with a challenge from team leader Janice Dickie that they will once again earn the most kilometres, despite the fact they are "telecommuters."

"It takes me about 80 seconds to walk to my office, so that wouldn't count for too much carbon cancellation," Rowlandson observed.

Instead, his team members will log their kilometres by riding the equivalent distance to what they would do if they were physically commuting.

Those who don't feel as comfortable on two wheels can also participate by walking. It's all about replacing car dependency with active transportation, so non-cyclists need not feel left out.

Rowlandson said there are indications that more and more islanders are feeling brave enough to attempt local roads on bikes, however, as well as more happenings to improve their safety and improvements to road-sharing culture. The May 24 event kick-off, for example, will be the official opening of uptown's cycling lanes, sidewalk and intersection improvements on Lower Ganges Road.

"For me, Bike to Work Week is the way to mark the beginning of a new way for motorists to look at the road in the lead-up to the summer months," he said.

Coming up in June, Rowlandson and other cyclists such as Outspokin' Bike Shop owner Sean Mulligan will be taking training to help other adult cyclists ride safely, and they will be able to pass that training on to others. Even innovations like user-friendly bike helmets that aren't only good for road racers could help make a difference.

"It's nice. The world's changing. We don't have to wear tight clothing or try to look aerodynamic," Rowlandson said.

Registration of teams or individuals can be done online at www.biketowork.ca.

Capital Regional District **CRD**

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

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

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The CRD can accept no responsibility for damage arising out of the use of discoloured water.

ENVIRONMENT

Beach walkers needed for citizen science

Two intro sessions this week

"Citizen science" is a growing movement around the world where nature enthusiasts gather and contribute data to scientific studies.

Islanders interested in protecting the sea life along our shores might like to join the intertidal walking por-

tion of the Salt Spring Shoreline Survey starting up this month.

Two introductory beach walk and practice sessions for the survey will be held this coming Friday, May 16 and Sunday, May 18. The sessions will start at the ArtSpring parking lot at 12:30 p.m. Leading the sessions will be local marine naturalist David Denning.

The sessions will focus on techniques for walking the shoreline to collect abundance and cover data for key shoreline species. Participants should be 15 years or older and reasonably comfortable walking along muddy and rocky shorelines at low tide. Rubber boots or other rugged, wet-tolerant footwear is required.

Denning says the sur-

vey will be an opportunity to learn about intertidal life and to contribute to a baseline assessment of our shores that are vulnerable in the face of ocean acidification, climate change and the threat of catastrophic oil spills.

Denning can be contacted by email at ddenning@telus.net for more information.

BOOKS

Trans-Canada exploration offers ride through time

Clark Saunders hosts May 16 book launch

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders have the chance to travel across the sites and history of the Canadian West on Friday without even leaving the island.

Salt Spring's Clark Saunders presents his entertaining and informative new work that outlines the construction and symbolism of the Trans-Canada Highway between Winnipeg and Vancouver Island.

Mighty in scope and imagination, Canada's great asphalt dream is often dwarfed by

the romanticism, power and grandeur of the transcontinental railroad. Whereas the railroad sparked a young nation's hopes for the 20th century, completion of the Trans-Canada in 1962 tells the story of Canada's postwar rise. It recounts the tale of mighty motor cars, waitresses on roller skates and summertime family road trips.

Saunders' relationship with the Trans-Canada began in his youth during the 1950s. His book, *Exploring Old Highway No. 1 West: Canada's Route 66*, merges these early life memories with trips undertaken between 2011 and 2013.

Some of the inspiration for his book dates to a journey he and a friend took on the legendary Route 66 from the American Midwest to south-



CLARK SAUNDERS

ern California. Somewhere along the road, Saunders realized Canada's national highway was screaming to be written about.

"Route 66 has a big literature and it has a lot of guidebooks, so if you want to drive it and you want to keep in mind the heyday of the route ... there's books that will tell

you what to watch for, but there was really nothing like that for the Trans-Canada," Saunders said during an interview at the Salt Spring United Church, where he serves as minister.

"There were books that read like journals,

but they were really spotty. When you got to Winnipeg you got three or four pages about Saskatchewan and then, all of a sudden, you're in Saskatchewan.

With apt sidebars, intriguing historical and modern-era imagery, and illustrative maps, Saunders' work winds its way to the coast from his hometown in Winnipeg. The sites and stories recounted along the way take the reader from origin to destination, without neglecting to cover the monumental journey of Canada's history.

Saunders launches his book on Friday, May 16 at 4 p.m. in the Salt Spring Public Library's program room.

Admission is free.

SALT SPRING

FOCUS ON SENIORS

Talking about dementia

Howard Lamb and his wife have been married for more than 60 years; both are now in their 80s. On a trip to Europe several years ago, Howard noticed that his wife was reading the same page in her book over and over, that she didn't comprehend the words on the page and had to keep rereading it.

"In retrospect, there were signs that something was wrong," says Lamb.

Memory issues are common as we age. However, when memory loss affects day-to-day activities, especially along with changes in communication or reasoning abilities, it's time to visit a doctor to determine the cause.

While there are a number of physical reasons people experience these symptoms, the diagnosis could be dementia.

Dementia is an illness of the brain. There are a number of types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease (which is the most common) and vascular dementia. Alzheimer's disease is characterized by "plaques" and "tangles." "Plaques" are numerous tiny dense deposits scattered throughout the brain, which become toxic to brain cells at excessive levels. "Tangles" interfere with vital processes, eventually "choking" the living cells. As brain cells degenerate and die, the brain also markedly

shrinks in some regions.

Vascular dementia, the second leading cause of dementia, occurs when the cells in the brain are deprived of oxygen. It is often the result of a stroke, which occurs when blood flow in the brain is blocked.

The most important risk factor for dementia is age. The older you become, the greater the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. In Canada, 1 in 20 people over the age of 65 is affected by Alzheimer's disease. For people over 85 years, the likelihood of having dementia increases to approximately 1 in 4 people.

The majority of cases of Alzheimer's disease

in people over the age of 65 are the sporadic, or "late onset," form of the disease, which suggests that there is no family link. "Familial" or "early onset" Alzheimer's is a rare form of the disease that runs in families and is responsible for about seven percent of all cases.

While many people avoid discussing their symptoms with their doctor, it is important to understand the source. Finding out the cause can help you get the proper care, treatment and support, and the earlier you start potential treatments, the better the result.

For more information visit <http://www.viha.ca/seniors/dementia.htm>

Source: Island Health, with thanks to the Alzheimer Society of BC for providing the information and background.

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HISTORY

Beaver incarnations haunt island names & harbours

HBC ship source of multiple inspiration

For an otter cub reporter like myself, it's always exciting when my historical investigations have plenty of source material — which is precisely the case with Beaver Point Road.

Beaver Point was one of the earliest parts of the island to be settled, with a 640-acre homestead cleared by Theodore Trage and Henry Spikerman in 1860 being the earliest settlement. Twenty-five years later, the two pioneers donated the 40 acres where Beaver Point School and later on the hall (1934) were built, with most of the land



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF SALT SPRING

attached destined to become Beaver Point Park. Both historic buildings are still in use today.

The area's most famous pioneer is, of course, Henry Ruckle, who cleared and pre-empted the land that is today Ruckle Heritage Farm and Ruckle Park. He also built a wharf at Beaver Point to send supplies to and from Victoria and served as Beaver Point

postmaster. The Beaver Point General Store was built at the wharf head in 1911.

But what is behind the name of this extremely historic island location? Even more historical interest! The point was apparently named after the Hudson's Bay Company steamship, The Beaver, which was the very first to ply the Pacific Northwest waters. The Salt Spring Archives suggest the ship may have run aground on the rocks near Beaver Point during its travels, although this reporter failed to find any evidence for it.

Much information about the ship can be found in the transcript of a presentation to the Nanaimo Historical Soci-

ety made by William Barraclough in 1970, in honour of the 300th anniversary of the HBC's foundation.

"The steamship Beaver, being the first steamer to ply the Pacific Northwest coast in 1836, must be associated with much of the early history of this region," Barraclough said. "Previous to her arrival, sailing vessels were dependent on favourable winds and weather conditions to serve the Hudson's Bay Company's posts from the Columbia River to Alaska. The Beaver was also most useful in calling at Indian villages along the indented coastlines to deliver supplies for hunters and to those employed on the sailing vessels."



PHOTO COURTESY VANCOUVER ARCHIVES

The HBC steamship Beaver in its later life as a towboat, around 1870.

The Beaver was made of wood, including an elm keel, British oak stern and ribs, and outside planking of oak and African teak. She was constructed at the Blackwall shipyards, and launched from Gravesend in October 1835. She arrived at HBC outposts on the Columbia River in April 1836, after a six-month voyage around Cape Horn.

"From here on the Beaver went into a busy service without delay, running up and down the coast, in and out of every bay, river and inlet between Puget Sound and Alaska, collecting furs and carrying supplies for the Company's posts."

The Beaver helped ferry thousands of miners and prospectors from Victoria to the gold rush on the Fraser River in 1858. In 1860, she was extensively overhauled and fitted with state-rooms, and ran between Victoria and New Westminster. A few years later she was chartered by the Imperial Hydrographers.

"They kept her busy for several years, surveying the waters of the Northwest Coast," Barraclough said.

In 1874, the Beaver was refitted again, sold, and began life as a towboat. Eventually she came to an end on the dangerous rocks off Stanley Park's Prospect Point in 1888.

The Beaver's connection to Salt Spring and surrounding waters doesn't end there, however. The Canadian Navy created a replica of the ship in 1966 as its contribution to the Colonial Union Centennial Celebrations. There were a couple of significant changes. The original ship was 101 feet long while the replica came in at 137 feet; the all-wooden construction

was replaced with a steel hull with wooden siding, and a diesel engine replaced the steam turbines.

The newer Beaver made the front page of the Driftwood on Aug. 4, 1966 when the ship visited the island as part of local centennial celebrations, making stops at Fulford and Ganges harbours. Political leaders and citizens on board would travel to the original Beaver's ports of call up and down the coast and the Gulf of Alaska. The replica was outfitted with a museum below decks that included historical pictures of the original and "many genuine articles salvaged from her, including the great battered steering-wheel."

Over 500 islanders, including an official greeting party wearing period costume, inspected the ship at Fulford Harbour. Another 1,200 boarded her at Ganges Harbour the following day.

Some islanders may remember seeing the replica Beaver in more recent days. This reporter saw her docked at Saturna Island in April 2013, where she had apparently been abandoned after going through many owners and incarnations. Her life as a charter boat included carrying celebrities around during Expo 86 and a million-dollar refit in 2010.

By June of last year, however, she had been abandoned once more at Cowichan Bay, causing drama for local residents fed up with derelict vessels being dumped there.

The final chapter came just last Wednesday, when the replica rolled over and sank on May 7 around 8:30 p.m. Unlike the first Beaver, she left not with a bang but a whimper.

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JAN
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Fitness Expert

Spring tips

Spring has arrived and with it we experience longer days, increase in energy levels, and greater motivation to get moving. This might mean working in the garden, walking, golfing or playing tennis. Try to keep your regular fitness program up, as it will give you more energy for your extras. As we get busier, remember to eat 3 balanced meals and not just grab something on the go. Increase your water intake as the weather gets warmer and life gets busier. Also remember to take 15 to 30 minutes everyday for some quiet time for yourself to keep yourself balanced.

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SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 27

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COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

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business



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

FREE THE FISHIES: From left, SIMS student Hannah Saffel is set to release a trout she named Ore into St. Mary Lake, one of the 2,000 cutthroat trout fingerlings that Grade 6 and 7 students helped release last Tuesday, led by Tristan Robbins, assistant hatchery manager at the Vancouver Island Trout Hatchery run by the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C.

ENVIRONMENT

Recycling rule changes kick in

Local gaps left by new manufacturer program

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Users of Salt Spring's recycling depot will find some categories have shifted and some of the rules governing them have changed when provincial legislation takes effect on Monday, May 19. Although it's Victoria Day and the local depot isn't open for business on Mondays in any case, May 19 was the deadline the province named back in 2011 when it decided paper and plastic manufacturers would have to take responsibility for recycling the materials they produced. The new measures have already started to be seen on Salt Spring, where restrictions on some types of plastic and paper were introduced earlier this month.

Starting Tuesday, island residents won't have a place to bring hard plastics other than items that fall under residential packaging guidelines, such as food and beverage containers. Paper guidelines will also be more stringent, with bins for cardboard, printed paper and paper packaging only. At this time, it's unclear how the pulp fiction that doesn't make it onto the free shelves will be dealt with.

Volunteers who help coordinate the annual Giant Book Sale fundraiser for Salt Spring Literacy foresee that could be a problem.

"We get a lot of junk — literally," said Ed Walkner, who picks up donations from drop-off locations around the island. Walkner takes around 100 boxes in to recycle each year.

"And that could be conservative," he added. "Last year at our drop-off at Fulford, someone brought 11 boxes and 10 of them went straight to recycling. So that's going to be huge. What are we going to do with all these?"

The program of recycling packaging materials will now be managed by Multi-Material British Columbia, which is the nonprofit organization formed by plastic and paper industries in response to B.C.'s Recycling Regulation.

"The regulation was updated in 2011 to shift responsibility for managing the residential recycling of PPP from local governments and their taxpayers to businesses that produce these materials," the MMBC website explains. The BC Ministry of Environment approved the organization's stewardship plan in April 2013.

"Each industry has had to create its own program and now paper and plastics have to, too."

PETER GRANT
SS Recycle Depot manager

In turn, MMBC selected Green by Nature, a new company that was formed through a partnership of three existing companies, to manage post-recycling processing and marketing. Approximately 185,000 tonnes of packaging and printed paper material will be processed each year, with a targeted 75 per cent recovery rate.

Salt Spring Recycling manager Peter Grant said the idea of having industries take responsibility for the materials they produce is not new, with around 20 stewardship programs already in place to deal with items like tires, Tetra Paks and appliances.

"Each industry has had to create its own program and now paper and plastics have to, too," Grant said.

"Little by little, every recyclable has been legislated into existence."

While the change is actually good news for some jurisdictions, with new items being accepted in municipal blue box programs, islanders may find it's a step back from the level they're used to.

"We've done more than we had to for years, because we had the authority to market our own material," Grant explained.

"We marketed our recycling in the past, so we could accept just about everything."

One of the major changes for local users is to the paper bin, with tighter restrictions to ensure things like paper towels and tissues don't go in. Grant explained that while this was actually always the case, there will be greater oversight now.

"The thresh-hold for contamination is three per cent. If they figure more than three per cent of a bin is contaminated, it's a \$5,000 fine for us, so we're going to be very careful."

While broken toys, plastic hangers and other items that aren't considered packaging also won't be accepted under the new program, Grant said islanders can take care of the problem by bringing materials directly to Syntal, a company that produces synthetic lumber from recycled plastic. The company is located at 6722 Bertram Place in the Keating Cross Industrial Park in Saanich.

Grant said recycling depot staff will be doing their best to help islanders adjust to the changes, with on-site support, flyers and new signs. For more information, see Grant's article on page 7 of this issue of the Driftwood.

Attention New Salt Springers!



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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor
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Tip of the Week:

As Taurus time yields to Gemini this week, in the wake of the Scorpio Full Moon, this time merits some extra attention. The Solar Eclipse in late April planted some potent seeds. Not everyone has the soil destined to produce the abundance it implies, yet everyone is feeling the impact somehow. The steadily escalating gas prices are one of the more obvious synchronistic casualties with the greater collective bearing the brunt. That the Moon was in close proximity to Saturn is yet another reflection of this additional fiscal weight and restriction. Venus in Aries, not its bet placement, in close alignment with Uranus suggests that this rather sudden hike is also synchronizing with a general state of stress, dissatisfaction and even rebellion. When such a fundamental commodity that affects so many people and commerce in general, it is bound to produce shock waves rumbling in every direction. In other words inflation across the nation is the obvious consequence. Other factors in the planetary portrait indicate that the real reaction will be delayed, but it will come. It will likely take until about mid-June before the collective discontent rises and it will escalate through July and peak in August. When private interests disrupt the general economy, anger, distrust and cynicism are common reactions. The Gemini factor which has already begun and will continue throughout June will at least produce a lot of chatter on the airwaves and of course in the media, social and otherwise. So, the bull has been released from its pen and this one is a prize stock sample. How will the conquistador assert to prevail and overcome? This is one creature that will prove very difficult to defeat. Conflict is woven into the game of life but some opponents are much bigger and stronger than others. It seems quite appropriate that the new and bigger than even representation of Godzilla and with a unique twist (Venus conjunct Uranus) in that it is pitted with humanity against a common enemy — greed, arrogance and corruption, is slated to be released right at the time of the Scorpio Full Moon born of the Solar Eclipse which occurred on the heels of the first of 4 Lunar Eclipses or what have come to be called by some as the 'blood moon tetrad'. Yes, signs of the times.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20) A process of building upon new foundations continues. This focus directly includes creating a new state and quality of harmony in your relationship life. Equality is a key word. The challenge includes innovative thoughts, attitudes and action. In other words, your ability to break with habitual modes of engaging with others implies new psychological territory.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21) Perpetuating a momentum that you have been creating over the past couple of years or so is a central theme. Accessing with constitutes your authentic self is featured. What do you really think and feel deep down? Accessing this core level of motivation is a key to your outer success. This will facilitate and clarify effective communications.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21) Focusing your efforts close to home, or behind the scenes, remains important. In some way this constitutes inner work. Yet, with the Sun about to enter your sign, you will feel the impulse to take new leads soon. Already you are thinking and perhaps talking about it. This is all part of a process of preparing for new modes of expression or your next big thing.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22) The foundations of new friendships and other alliances have begun. Yet these have and continue to include a break with old patterns. Some sort of renovation process is implied. It could be in your home but it may be in your perspectives and approach. Combine your talents and resources with those of others for best results.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23) A series of unexpected twists and turns in your public and professional life are challenging you to remain open and flexible. Fortunately, your energy and enthusiasm levels stand to be riding high. Still, you may feel the need to access your hidden reserves of faith. Perpetuating open lines of communication with family, friends and business contacts is a key to peace of mind.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22) People and circumstances are pushing you to see both a bigger and deeper picture. Things may simply not be as straightforward as you would like. This is a call to adapt and this trend will continue. Exchanges of ideas and key communications especially linked to your career and professional life are important.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22) Getting clear somehow continues. This could include clearing debts, or clearing closets or getting clear regarding answers you are seeking. Either way, you are pushing for results. Contending with a few curve balls on relationship fronts has and continues to pose challenges as well. This is one of those times for a philosophical perspective.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21) Who has what you want and need? A steady flow of change in your daily rhythm finds you seeking allies. Breaking through inner and outer blocks and obstacles is a core motivation. The real answers and solutions you seek to current circumstances could take several weeks to resolve. This is a call for some serious thinking and strategies.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21) Creating a healthier overall flow continues. Entertaining alternative angles and approaches will prove inspiring. Already you are engaging in active communications leading to new deals and collaborations. It is quite possible that dreams are being realized. Your sights are set on the future and the time is right to adjust to a new norm.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19) Your creative juices have been flowing steadily over the past few weeks. These are inspiring you to make innovative changes close to home. Yet your real assertions remain prominent in your career, so each is significantly influencing the other. Casting a critical eye on people feels necessary in order to make some needed improvements.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19) Your focus on home and family remains strong. Yet your path is hardly straight and narrow. Circumstances have and continue to produce unexpected turns and surprises. You yearn to break free from the grip of this uncertain cycle. You should see a shift this week. This shift will support more active communications and inspire imaginative ideas.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20) A whole host of plans, dreams and schemes are running through your mind. You are determined to activate changes that will produce more satisfying returns. Although you have likely been working diligently to this end, your resolve to work even harder is on the rise. Brainstorm for innovative ideas and modes of approach for best results.

sports&recreation

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

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



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

READY TO RIDE: Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association Ride-athon participant Suzy McEwen gets set to take Laddy out on the trail, joining six other riders and 20 walkers who together with sponsors raised \$3,000 on a day filled with sun, music by Synergy and great food provided by Shane Barclay.

SOCCER

Challenge Cup fever hits shore

May long weekend tourney celebrates 29th year

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For Salt Spring's soccer fans, the Challenge Cup tournament is an event that's quite simply not to be missed.

The annual three-day soccer extravaganza represents a cherished opportunity for reunions, friendly competition and some well-deserved celebration. After 29 years, it's also come to mark the unofficial beginning of summer on the island, regardless of what kind of nasty weather lands on the field.

With the 2014 FIFA World Cup set to debut in Rio de Janeiro next month, the nearly 1,000 soccer players and fans anticipated to attend this weekend's tournament will have one more reason to add a splash of Carnival-themed spice to this year's event, be it on or off the field.

Of the 28 registered teams, five squads will carry the hopes of islanders onto the pitch. The Sons of Pitches is a team of young Salt Spring men, The Flashbacks is a team of younger women who once played on the island, Salt Spring United is the perennial women's entry, Salt Spring's Over-30 women's team will represent experience, and Salt Spring FC will vie for the men's competitive crown.

According to Jordan Morrison, a player for SSSFC who helps coordinate the tournament, the Gnome Hunters are early favourites to win the men's title. Morrison said the local women have a strong shot at the women's recreational title, so long as they can stymie the efforts of returning titans Dirty Sanchez.

Prospect Lake, he added, is a likely pick for the women's competitive division.

Look out for raffle tickets at all the games for a chance to win a variety of prizes, including packages donated by the Victoria Highlanders organization.

"It would be nice to get some local businesses involved next year as this tourney brings in a good chunk of money for the local businesses," Morrison said.

Games get underway at various fields across the island. Much of the celebration, including a concession stand and beer garden, as well as playoff rounds, will be held at Gulf Islands Secondary School's main field. The action gets underway on Saturday morning at 10:40. Detailed schedule information will be posted at www.saltspringmaylong.ca as it becomes available.

Tickets to a Saturday, May 17 dance at Mahon Hall, featuring Coastal Giant and Redwood Green with special guests, will be available at the door for \$10. Doors open at 8 p.m.

ROUND SALT SPRING 2014

Spring tradition sets sail again

Legendary race attracts 95 boats

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Nearly 100 vessels will hit the water this weekend as part of the 41st annual Round Salt Spring sailing race.

"It's the second-biggest race on the coast after [Victoria's] Swiftsure, and the main reason people come is because it's fun," said race officer Rich Ballantyne.

This year's race features returning champions and casual sailors from across the region. Boats large and small from Howe Sound, Vancouver Island, Vancouver, Victoria and Puget Sound will be sailing into Ganges Harbour all week in anticipation of Saturday morning's 10 o'clock start.

Part of the fun is the well-kept secret about the race's direction. The decision between rounding the island clockwise or counter-clockwise supposedly depends on a complex combination of tides, winds and weather, but Ballantyne seems to relish the idea of keeping racers unaware of their fate until the very last moment.

"One of the things that makes the race fun is that the winds are fickle," he said. "The currents can be strong, the wind will blow and will not blow."

Racers don't receive course details until Saturday morning but will have to navigate their boats back to Ganges Harbour by 11 a.m. on Sunday to complete the race.



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Scene of crowded vessels from last year's Round Salt Spring race.

The event also features a midway cutoff point near Vesuvius Bay, which must be crossed by 8 p.m. on Saturday to qualify.

Because of the range of boats, race categories and experience levels, landlubbers stand a good chance of spotting racers on Saturday afternoon or evening. Some of the best vantage points are Beaver Point and the Fernwood Dock.

Ballantyne recalled once piloting a boat so close to the dock at Fernwood during a race that he was nearly able to pick up a slice of pizza from a spectator.

While the fastest boats cross the finish line before dawn on Sunday,

it's common for many skippers and their crew to spend the full night out on the water. Everyone is usually back in good time for the Sunday afternoon awards ceremony and lamb barbecue, held on the grounds of the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club.

Registration for the event is closed for this year, but would-be crew members who want to participate can check out the "crew bank" at saltspingsailing.ca/round-saltspring/.

Likewise, Ballantyne added, showing up on the wharf with a six-pack of cold drinks has been known to plant the seed for many a good friendship over the years.

women in

* 10TH ANNUAL *

business

TRADE SHOW EVENT

Friday May 16
4pm - 7pm

advance tickets only \$3.00
at the Driftwood
or \$5.00 at the door
(Mahon Hall)