

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

Back-to-school time
 Stories, tips and bus schedule
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PAGE 18

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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 34



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

SNUFFING IT OUT: Salt Spring firefighters dig out a smoldering stump off Mobrae Avenue on Thursday afternoon. See Page 5 story.

GRACE ISLET

CRD won't expropriate

Researcher calls for permit process review

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Capital Regional District directors have turned down a motion to initiate expropriation proceedings against the owner of a contentious property in Ganges Harbour.

"This has probably been the toughest collective decision I've faced within the board," said Wayne McIntyre, CRD director for Salt Spring Island. "It's not an easy decision."

"We're trying to set the tone of moving forward and not trying to make the same kind of mistakes again so as to avoid this situation in the future."

McIntyre said the expropriation option surpassed the CRD's authority, a fact outlined in a CRD statement released Thursday.

"While the CRD provides a very wide range of services within the current authority granted by the province and fully recognizes the interests that First Nations have in Grace Islet, the CRD is simply not able to proceed with initiating an expropriation process to acquire the islet with any assurance of a positive outcome given the complex regulatory framework and interests of all the parties involved," the statement reads.

Directors voted on the motion during an in-camera meeting on Aug. 13 in Victoria. The CRD statement indicates the decision is based on advice that the CRD's expropriation efforts could be "subject to challenge."

"The owner of Grace Islet has a building permit and provincial Archaeological Branch approval to build a private residence on what First Nations have identified to be a cultural heritage site," said Alastair Bryson, CRD board chair.

Directors said they will urge the provincial government to halt construction of a

GRACE ISLET continued on 2

WATER REFERENDUM

Close vote stymies plant funds

Island Health to get involved in NSSWD project

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A narrow defeat in Saturday's referendum means the North Salt Spring Waterworks District must continue its quest to secure funding for a new water treatment plant.

The request to borrow up to \$10.4 million for the mandated upgrade at St. Mary Lake failed by a 283 to 281 vote.

"About as close as things can get" is how returning officer Ray Koch described the

results, which were confirmed by an immediate recount undertaken on Saturday.

"When it's that close, you automatically go for [a recount]," he said. "It's sort of a no-brainer."

Approximately 22 per cent of the estimated 2,560 eligible voters cast a ballot in the decision. Advance polls were held Aug. 6 and 13.

Approval of the proposal would have cost the owner of each parcel in its district between \$350 and \$400 per year for 25 years.

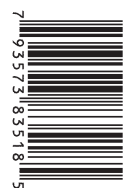
The new treatment plant is mandated by Island Health so the NSSWD can comply with federal and provincial drinking water guidelines.

"Somehow, that's going to have to happen," said Murray Fyfe, a medical health officer at Island Health, on Monday. "We do know that there is not an option to not meet the [drinking water quality] policy."

WATER continued on 2

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Island Health water plant deadline still on horizon

WATER continued from 1

Fyfe said Island Health will work with the district on a summary assessment that will examine "current water system parameters and treatment levels."

Results of the assessments are anticipated by the end of September.

Though Fyfe wouldn't provide a list of possible outcomes, he said NSSWD ratepayers will have to pay for whatever project is eventually acted upon.

"I don't want to prejudge what

might happen," he said.

All waterworks systems with more than 500 hook-ups in Island Health's jurisdiction must meet water quality guidelines or have a plan in place to do so by January 2016, he said.

NSSWD board members plan to stay the course and work with Island Health to find a solution, said vice chair Jeff Thompson.

"We're sort of in limbo at the moment," he said. "We'll wait and see what the boys upstairs have to say."

"It's a public health issue; it's not like the fire hall which people didn't

have to have. Good water is something that we actually have to have."

Representatives from the "no" side say the result of Saturday's vote entitles district ratepayers to an independent engineering and financial audit before any further action is taken.

Bill Coté said everyone agrees about the need for clean and abundant drinking water, but more clarity and transparency are needed before he and other opponents will support the NSSWD's request for financing.

"This audit is necessary to get the confidence of the ratepayers due to

the lack of clarity and transparency from the NSSWD during the period leading up to the two defeated votes," Coté said in a letter to the Driftwood. "Many questions raised by various ratepayers went unanswered and they were simply referred to the NSSWD website for information."

"This website did not answer the specific questions."

Coté wants to see more public meetings, where the district can explain the situation and respond to questions.

Thompson is unaware of any legal

obligation to go ahead with an audit at this point.

"I think a lot of people don't really understand what our mandate is," he said. "We've gone over this thing a zillion times. We know what we're doing; it isn't like we're babes in the woods."

An Alternate Approval Process undertaken in May was initially used to seek borrowing authority. With more than 10 per cent of eligible voters submitting counter-petition forms, a referendum was forced on the question.

Discrepancies alleged in Archaeology Branch documents

GRACE ISLET

continued from 1

residence on the islet, which is considered a sacred burial place by First Nations.

Wednesday's decision followed nine delegations who spoke to the issue. Eight of these were from people opposed to the project, including chiefs from across southern Vancouver Island and archaeology experts.

"It is appalling that it has gotten to this point at Grace Islet," said chief Don Tom of the Brentwood Bay-based Tsartlip First Nation. "It is sad and frustrating that First Nations have to continually prove our existence."

Only one speaker, the property owner's legal representative John Alexander, spoke against the expropriation motion. (See story below.)

Directors agreed to have

CRD staff organize an inter-governmental meeting between First Nations, the provincial Archaeology Branch and the Islands Trust as a way to restore trust and ensure steps are taken to "increase protection of First Nations cultural heritage sites within the Capital Region."

Opponents of the project have staged rallies throughout the summer to raise awareness and encourage

politicians to get involved and halt construction.

Lori Waters chose to add her voice to the fight after she noticed discrepancies in documents provided by the B.C. Archaeology Branch and made available through a freedom of information request.

Waters, who works as a medical illustrator in Victoria, wants the province to revoke or suspend the permit and review all available

information.

"I believe some serious ground truthing is required," Waters wrote. "My overlay of the available archaeological sites versus proposed building footprints . . . shows that, with the size of the proposed dwelling on this small islet, given the location of the archaeological features . . . there does not appear to be a way in which one could locate an enclosed dwelling structure . . . to avoid and

thus preserve the archaeological features: there simply isn't room."

Waters applied a similar technique to the one she used in a 2012 campaign against Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline. Her research revealed islands along a proposed tanker route were omitted in an Enbridge promotional video.

She had not received a response as of Monday.

GRACE ISLET

Lawyer speaks up for property owner

CRD will stick with original motion

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In his first public appearance since the fight to halt construction of a home on Grace Islet ramped up this spring, the property owner's lawyer has asked the Capital Regional District to deescalate the conflict over construction of a home on the property.

"There is no evidence that there will be any damaging or destruction or desecration," said John Alexander, who represents Grace Islet owner Barry Slawsky, during the delegations portion of the CRD's Aug. 13 board meeting in Victoria.

"That essentially is an

allegation that [the property owner] has or will commit a crime; it is a very, very serious offense to disturb, destroy or alter any heritage property without a permit."

Alexander wants the CRD to remove part of a July 9 motion that states "development of a private residence of Grace Islet . . . will result in the desecration of a First Nations burial site."

All work on Grace Islet, he said, is being conducted according to the process outlined by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, and the province's Archaeology Branch.

"The board knows that there is a permit and an amended permit," he said. "I don't know if the board has ever seen those permits. I don't know if

the board has ever seen the very significant protections in those permits or the provisions that say none of the archaeological features can be modified, altered, destroyed or desecrated."

Alexander said there is no factual basis that construction of the home will result in the desecration of First Nations graves.

He urged lawyers to reconsider the motion which was unanimously supported by CRD board members at their July 9 meeting. The motion was presented by Victoria city councillor Ben Isitt and seconded by Wayne McIntyre, CRD director for Salt Spring.

"We all know how quickly our municipal governments are to withdraw any approval granted that turns out to have been

granted based on inaccurate facts; the board should act no differently," he said.

Speaking on Tuesday morning, McIntyre said the board intends to stick with its original wording, adding that it is based on a "softer definition" of the word "desecration."

Alexander said that public consultation with First Nations representatives had taken place before construction on Grace Islet.

"There's probably no doubt that some people who were consulted weren't happy with the decision that was made," he told directors. "How many times do you make a zoning decision on your council table after consulting? There's always somebody who is unhappy but that doesn't mean you didn't consult."

NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Salt Spring Toy Run:

Friday, AUGUST 22 to Sunday, AUGUST 24
Farmers'Institute

ECOLOGY

Invasive purple loosestrife stalks local waterways

Removal important before seeds drop

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Groups concerned about invasive plant species in the Gulf Islands are taking notice after two patches of purple loosestrife popped up in the creek near Barb's Bakery and Bistro.

A native species of Eurasia, *Lythrum salicaria* was brought to North America sometime during the 1800s. It's not surprising the pretty flowering stalks, which resemble fireweed, have been incorporated into local gardens. But like broom and other plants on B.C.'s noxious weeds list, the damage this invasive species can do is not pretty at all.

Rachelle McElroy, executive director of the Coastal Invasive Species Committee, explained that purple loosestrife has qualities that can cause it to disrupt water flow and choke out native plants, which in turn negatively impacts birds, amphibians and insects.

"Once you get an infestation, it might look like one little plant, but it packs a punch," she said.

For one thing, purple loosestrife seeds can lie dormant for up to 20 years and still germinate. For

another, a single flower stalk can produce 300,000 seeds.

McElroy noted that purple loosestrife's location in a Ganges creek is particularly troubling.

"That will lead down to the ocean there, and we want to keep it out of the intertidal area," she said.

"We want to make sure it doesn't get into our waterways because that's where it can really explode," she added. "It can soak up all the water and if the water is gone, it doesn't fulfill its ecosystem function."

The Coastal Invasive Species Committee holds the contract to control invasive plants on Crown lands, including Ministry of Transportation right-of-ways, on Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast. The B.C. Weed Control Act makes it the responsibility of all property owners to control designated noxious plants found on their lands.

Notification that purple loosestrife had been spotted in town provoked immediate action from Jean Wilkinson of the Salt Spring Conservancy's Stewardship Committee. After verifying that the weed was identified correctly and receiving permission from staff, Wilkinson removed the flower heads of the smaller patch on Thursday. She was intending to



PHOTO BY ROGER BRUNT

Salt Spring Conservancy president Bob Weeden checks out a patch of purple loosestrife growing near the creek outside of Barb's Bakery and Bistro.

get the bigger patch once she collected a big enough plastic bag for all the seed heads.

"If people see this anywhere, now's the time to cut it and stop seed distribution," Wilkinson advised. "Once we deal with the flower heads we can deal with the roots later."

The best time to control the plants is when they are in flower and before the petals and seeds

begin to drop. Hand-pulling or digging out the roots is also necessary because the plants spread both by seed and rhizome. Plants and flower heads should be thrown into the garbage in a plastic bag, or else burned, and never put into compost.

A purple loosestrife control program was initiated at Salt Spring's Cusheon Lake after a small infestation was discovered there in

2010. The consequences of failing to control could mean greater measures need to be enacted, such as by introducing leaf-eating beetles as biocontrol.

McElroy said this has been successful in a number of areas with wide plant distribution. For example, CIPC did a release in Saanich two years ago. The district has waged a war of almost 20 years against the plant following a serious infestation during the mid '90s.

Any sightings of suspected purple loosestrife should be reported to the Salt Spring Conservancy or to CISC through its Report a Weed options. Islanders can call 1-888-WEEDSBC (1-888-933-3722) or use the mobile app to send a photo directly from a site.

Both agencies would also like to be notified of other noxious weeds on their hit lists. CISC is currently focused on giant hogweed and knotweed, while the Salt Spring Conservancy has a campaign to remove tansy and ragwort. Like purple loosestrife, now is also the best time to spot and control those plants while they are in flower, Wilkinson said.

Post your comment to this story online at
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NEWS BRIEFS

Missing man sought on island

RCMP are asking the public for help in locating a missing man.

Joseph Patrick Bernie, age 44, spent time on Salt Spring during the summer of 2013 and may have been en route to the island on the last occasion he spoke with police in October 2013.

Bernie was reported missing in April of 2014. At that time, he had not been heard from by family members since before Christmas 2013.

Bernie is an itinerant



JOSEPH PATRICK BERNIE

who does casual labour, including farm work and some artistry.

He has a history of mental health issues.

Bernie is described as 188 cm (6'2") in height, weighing 95kg (208 lbs.) and having brown hair and blue eyes.

Anyone with information about his whereabouts is asked to contact Cpl. Martin Beardsmore at the Salt Spring RCMP detachment at 250-537-5555.

All invited to island party

Islanders have only two more opportunities to take advantage of the summer's Friday evening "island hopping ferry excursions."

Organizers promise live music and a great atmosphere on events planned for Aug. 22 and Aug. 29.

The inter-island ferry party allows participants to take a trip to Galiano, Mayne or Pender islands

(or a combination) and return to Salt Spring the same night.

The schedule offers riders the chance to connect with pre-arranged local transportation and embark on a tour to see what's happening on the other islands.

Past tours have included visits to farms, affordable housing projects, galleries, bookstores, museums and restaurants.

People can tag along in a group or feel free to

branch off on their own.

Anyone who joins the Aug. 29 event at the Long Harbour ferry terminal will be entered to win two free tickets to Sip and Savour Salt Spring, a Hennessy Hammock and a \$50 gift card for Mouat's Trading.

The weekly party takes off on the 3:55 Friday afternoon sailing out of Long Harbour.

Visit saltspringchamber.com for more information.



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WILDLIFE

Jonathan returns

Annual visitor sticking close to Cusheon Lake friends

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The 19th consecutive annual visit by Jonathan Seagull has started earlier than ever before, with the friendly glaucous gull turning up at Connie Hardy's lakefront home on Sunday, Aug. 10.

"Last year was Aug. 27, which was early," Hardy said.

Past visits normally ran from September to March, when Jonathan returned from his mysterious spring and summer life.

Glaucous gulls can live for up to 30 years, and since Hardy has been supplying an adult Jonathan with his dinner for 19, she figures he's probably in his 20s. It seems that he might be approaching his elder years if his recent behaviour is anything to go by.

"He used to eat and leave," Hardy said. "This time he's staying and hanging around on my deck."

The gull was even seen to enjoy the view from under the shade of Hardy's patio umbrella. But despite sticking close to "home," he does look extremely

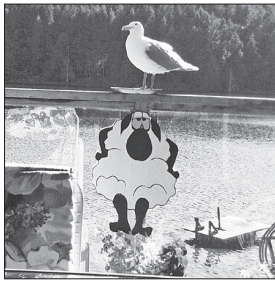


PHOTO BY CONNIE HARDY

Jonathan Seagull sits on Connie Hardy's deck railing at Cusheon Lake.

healthy and handsome, according to his friends.

Hardy normally serves up a breakfast of fish or meat scraps and leaves Jonathan to procure the rest of the day's meals so that he doesn't get too dependent. Occasionally he gets a special afternoon snack of dry cat food.

While no one knows where Jonathan is when not on Salt Spring, Hardy believes he's probably sharing nesting duties wherever he is.

"Then he comes back here where he knows he's going to get a good meal every day . . . Nineteen years. It's pretty phenomenal," she said.

DYING WITH DIGNITY

Greens adopt end-of-life policy

Salt Spring group at forefront of national charge

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The fight to remove doctor-assisted suicide from the Canadian Criminal Code has gained new traction with help from the federal Green party and three Salt Spring residents.

Joan Farlinger, Brian Finnemore and Brian Smallshaw provided the legwork that resulted in the Green party membership adopting the need to revise the Criminal Code as an official policy.

The resolution, as presented by Smallshaw at the party's July convention in Fredericton, states the law must be updated "to enable medical assistance in dying under specific conditions when chosen by competent adults who have a terminal illness in consultation with medical practitioners." The policy further resolves that medically assisted death be exempt from the code.

Farlinger, who is one of the founders of Dying With Dignity's Salt Spring chapter, said getting the Green party endorsement is a significant step toward achieving eventual success.

"This is tremendously important to the cause of trying to change the criminal code so physicians can assist patients in their wish to die, because they have unbearable physical or existential pain, and have a terminal illness," she said.

Some doctors already assist their patients through "palliative sedation," she noted.

"They shouldn't, out of compassion, have to expose them-

selves to the possibility of criminal charges and conviction," Farlinger said.

Dying With Dignity has already received support from federal Green party leader and local MP Elizabeth May in its quest. She encouraged the group to work with her legislative assistants to draft a petition on the issue and presented the results in Parliament in 2013. May and Green party deputy leader Bruce Hyer also co-sponsored two private member's bills written by Conservative MP Steven Fletcher.

While Stephen Harper's majority Conservative government adamantly opposes doctor-assisted suicide, Farlinger said May's support counts for a lot.

"The Green party only has two members currently in Parliament, but because of Elizabeth May's reputation, and the regard with which she is held by her fellow parliamentarians, whatever she presents is listened to or heard. They respect her and they respect what she stands for, whether they agree with her or not," Farlinger said.

With the Liberal party already on board with the need to create end-of-life amendments, the next step will be to work with the NDP. Farlinger said because of what she knows about their existing policies, "I'm pretty confident that we can work with them."

Meanwhile, despite federal government opposition, the campaign to allow terminally ill patients to choose peaceful deaths has gained momentum in several other quarters. The Province of Quebec passed its landmark Bill 52 in June, which instructs the attorney general not to seek charges in cases where patients request medical aid in

dying when facing "an incurable disease [or] an incurable illness, which is causing unbearable suffering."

Farlinger said that although Bill 52 is encouraging, amending the criminal code remains Dying With Dignity's end goal.

"It's something, but it's much better if the law were to be changed."

Toward that end, the Supreme Court of Canada will hear an appeal of Carter v. Canada in October. The case, which was originally filed by the BC Civil Liberties Association in 2011, argues that physician-assisted death should be allowed, with specific safeguards.

According to its website, "The lawsuit claims that Criminal Code provisions against physician assisted-dying are unconstitutional because they deny individuals the right to have control over choices that are fundamental to their physical, emotional and psychological dignity and restrict the liberty of physicians to deliver end-of-life care to incurably ill patients."

The lawsuit includes Gloria Taylor among the plaintiffs. Taylor, a B.C. resident who suffered from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, received a B.C. Supreme Court exemption in 2012 that gave her the right to seek a physician-assisted death. She died suddenly before that could occur.

The Salt Spring Dying With Dignity chapter has regular meetings and education sessions to discuss the law and end-of-life planning. They usually meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the public library, but there will be no August meeting. Watch the Driftwood for details of the September date.

HEALTH CARE

Gulf Islands in line for hospice beds

Potential funding for 2019-20

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands could receive some much-needed hospice beds within the next five years as part of a new program being rolled out by Island Health.

A range of new services and supports is being developed by the regional health authority in collaboration with hospice societies and other community partners as part of end-of-life care provisions. Island Health's updated priorities include doubling the number of hospice beds from the current 32 to a total of 64 by 2020.

The plan reflects provincial end-of-life health

care goals.

"The hospice bed plan is a significant investment in end-of-life care services," Don Hubbard, Island Health board chair, stated in a press release.

"A number of considerations — including demographic projections, where hospice services are currently available and access to regional hospital-based palliative services — went in to developing this plan."

The health authority will begin adding 21 new beds to Comox Valley, Oceanside, Sooke, Campbell River, Cowichan Valley and Mount Waddington starting in 2015. An additional 11 beds are planned for 2019-20. The distribution has not been decided, but Nanaimo, the Gulf Islands and Victoria have been identified

as priority areas.

Salt Spring Hospice Society is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing comfort, care and support to people affected by life-threatening illness, and is a member of the island's palliative care team. The organization is one of the community hospice societies that Island Health consulted with to create its updated end-of-life strategy.

"We're very happy with the news," said executive director Rob Lowrie.

"We do have a palliative care suite currently [at Lady Minto Hospital], but we would welcome more for palliative care hospice.

"It's a step in the right direction in recognizing the importance of end-of-life care, especially for

Salt Spring with its large seniors population."

Island Health's most recent profile of the Gulf Islands shows the population here is older than in the rest of the region and B.C. The average age of 50.4 is higher than anywhere else in the Vancouver Island region except for Parksville/Qualicum, and it's getting older: the Gulf Islands population is projected to grow by 27 per cent by 2033, while the population over the age of 75 is expected to grow 132 per cent in the same period.

In light of those figures, "We will certainly welcome more and we will need more," Lowrie said. "Sooner would be better, but we're happy at least with the recognition that palliative care beds are needed."

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FIRE SAFETY

Cigarette butts targeted as fire risk

Mobrae brush fire deemed accidental

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Cigarette butts are being highlighted as tiny items with the potential to cause catastrophic damage as drought conditions persist across the province.

A butt was declared the cause of an accidental fire that ignited an old stump on a Mobrae Avenue property on Thursday. Salt Spring Fire-Rescue had been to the area two times to search for the cause of neighbour complaints, before a resident returned home for lunch and noticed smoke coming from the forested part of the property. A cigarette that one of the residents had put out the night before was determined to be the source, even though the island had experienced heavy rainfall that morning.

"Careless disposal of cigarette butts can always be a danger, with varying factors, reasons and conditions," said Salt Spring Fire Chief Tom Bremner.

"Anything that's dry and dusty has the potential to ignite."

Cusheon Lake resident Connie Hardy reports she recently collected half a can of butts in about 200 metres along the road near the beach access. Aside from disliking litter, she wanted to remind residents and guests of the hazard the items can pose.

"My opinion is we need a week of rain, minimum."

Tom Bremner
Salt Spring Fire Chief

"I was just amazed. It just seemed like a good time to have everyone aware as this is such a high-risk time," Hardy said. "Even the little bit of rain [we've had] didn't soak in."

Bremner agreed that overall conditions are still extremely dry, prompting him to maintain a complete fire ban on the island even

though the fire risk rating was reduced from extreme to moderate last week.

Cigarette butts have been fingered as the possible cause of a number of grass fires in the District of North Vancouver this summer, with the locations suggesting people had thrown their butts out of car windows. The district issues a \$100 fine with its "flick it ticket."

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cigarette-caused fires resulted in 540 deaths and \$621 million in direct property damage in the U.S.A. in 2011. These statistics represent a 30-year low.

Here in B.C., a cigarette caused one of the largest wildfires in Canadian history. The McLure-Barriere fire of August 2003 started when a resident dropped a butt that he thought was extinguished on a local trail near McLure. Fuelled by constant wind and 30- to 40-degree days, the resulting brush fire forced 3,800 people to evacuate their homes by the following day. The final size of the blaze was 26,420 hectares, affect-

ing residents of McLure, Exlour, Barriere and Louis Creek.

The fire destroyed 72 homes and nine businesses including Tolko industries' Louis Creek sawmill, the region's largest employer. Resident Mike Barre was charged under the B.C. Forest Practices Code and fined \$3,000 for negligence.

Thursday's brush fire was fortunately another matter, as firefighters soon had the smouldering stump contained. But islanders who have noticed cigarette butts on the ground from Trincomali Heights to Mount Maxwell have forwarded their complaints to the Driftwood and their plea for smokers to be more careful during these dry days.

"My opinion is we need a week of rain, minimum," Bremner said about the burning risk. "We've had a few showers, that's it."

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



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Fire hazard sign at Ruckle Park indicates the level of caution needed this summer on the Gulf Islands.

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OPINION



2014 CNA Awards
 Gold - Excellence in Rural Reporting (Elizabeth Nolan) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
 Gold - Special Section (Best of Salt Spring Island) | Silver - Promotional Campaign (SS Conservancy Blackburn purchase)
 Silver - Multimedia Feature (Pride Festival) | Bronze - Community Newspaper Magazine (Aqua)
 Bronze - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker) | Bronze - Arts Coverage | Blue Ribbon Award - General Excellence

2014 BCYNA Awards
 Silver - Special Publication (Gulf Islander) | Bronze - Special Publication (Aqua) | Bronze - General Excellence



EDITORIAL

All votes count

If the impact of a vote has ever been questioned, the St. Mary Lake water plant referendum outcome should put that to rest.

The 283 to 281 result saw three voters effectively deny the North Salt Spring Waterworks District the authority to borrow up to \$10.4 million to fund a new water treatment plant.

With the NSSWD not receiving that authority, Island Health will now undertake a detailed review of the situation to see what will be done next. Hopefully that process will lead to a clarification of costs and give some assurance to ratepayers that they will truly not be burdened with more debt than necessary.

The NSSWD board took unnecessary offence at our last editorial on this topic, and the comments of resident Bill Cote in an Aug. 6 story, when it was suggested that too many questions remained unanswered to support the proposal. As board chair Marsh Heinekey stated in a responding Aug. 6 letter to the editor, the NSSWD has indeed produced a considerable amount of printed and online material, and provided cogent updates as the process unfolded in the last couple of years.

THE ISSUE:

Voter response

WE SAY:

Each one crucial

We understand the trustees have done their best to research and explain the situation and acquire the funds to build and operate an essential piece of infrastructure.

Further, no one questions the need for the plant or for drinking water that meets provincial and federal health standards.

But there is something eerily wrong with a system that increases the tax burden of one segment of the population so dramatically with so little free flow of discussion prior to a request (or two) for borrowing authority. The estimated \$350 to \$400 annual amount is seven or eight times the \$50-per-year fire hall tax increase proposed last year, over which the island gleefully ripped itself apart.

It is more than two and a half times Salt Spring's next-expensive borrowing amount — the \$4.2 million granted to build the Rainbow Road Pool, which was estimated at the time to add \$72 to the taxes of the average residential property, (but ended up being less due to a \$2-million grant received).

We maintain that if more people truly understood the issues, they would have been engaged enough to make the effort to vote — one way or another. The outcome instead looks like one giant shrug of the shoulders, which is a sad thing for our island.



VIEWPOINT by Ron Pither

Eco-gifts program a Grace option

The final line of last week's Driftwood editorial wondered "if there's anything that can be done to bring the two sides closer together around the issue of Ganges Harbour's Grace Islet."

The short answer of possible realistic solutions to this complex and near-graceless islet "development" within our 150 years of too-white colonial history is going to be a strong and multi-varied "yes" and involves the federal government as much as the province. However, our Capital Regional District that Salt Spring is part of must and can press the other levels.

There exists a plan by some for a solution that might be termed "radical centre." It involves the federal Ecological Gifts Program. Grace Islet would definitely meet Canada Revenue Agency guidelines for properties that merit the rather unique and very generous financial compensation provided to qualifying property owners and properties by the federal government.

Otherwise, some "direct action protection" in a civic manner in our supposed democracy is planned that might or might not be in congruence with Occupy and Idle No More tendencies out there. Indeed the situation is fluid, but to be more specific from my point of view, there exists an everybody-wins solution, involving fiscally conservative and responsible tools of eco-gifting, which would meet affected First Nations' sovereign, cultural, spiritual and might I underline fiscal needs. Natives too often impoverished by egregious colonialism even today don't want to spend their limited funds on legal fees, but if that's the case, the law of the land and recent jurisprudence is clearly now on their side. Sorry, white skins, but the natives are restless and have properly gamed us at our own game in our own courts, notably recently by Salt Springer Jack Woodward's law firm's Canadian Supreme Court decision affecting the Tsilhqot'in nation.

If the CRD's recent extraordinary proceedings of expropriation at fair market value had happened, islet owner Barry Slawsky would have been hit with serious capital gains exposure, having bought the islet in 1990. The federal Ecological Gifts Program absolutely avoids this exposure and compensation in the way of a tax credit. People must clearly understand the advantageous meaning of "tax credit." It took some of us decades working on the feds' bean counters and policy wonks to get this tool in place.

Expropriation should, in my opinion, still and yet again be considered by the CRD Board, but be a stated fallback position. Their number-one everybody-wins position should be to facilitate the federal and provincial tools and partnerships available and have full concurrence and involvement by affected First Nations.

If for some imaginable or unimaginable reasons Mr. Slawsky continues to hold his ground like he has in the face of much valid public concern about how he and we came to be where we are with Grace Islet, he might also want to consider, like the CRD is beginning to do, the ramifications of the recent federal Supreme Court Tsilhqot'in decision on the necessity of meaningful consultation with our First Nations neighbours.

With direct protection actions increasing, time is of the essence so that a purer grace can be achieved and remediation of site and spirits can be gotten underway.

So this short op-ed piece is a call-out for folks to stay studied and aware, to stay strong and neighbourly, and to thank all our relations, and remember we're all cousins to every living thing.

Please be prepared to assist in any way you can.

The writer is a long-time Gulf Islands activist and farmer.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think the school year will begin on time? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should experimental drugs be used against Ebola?

NO	YES
4	72

Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "[Drs.] shouldn't, out of compassion, have to expose themselves to the possibility of criminal charges and conviction."

JOAN FARLINGER, SALT SPRING CHAPTER OF DYING WITH DIGNITY

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What's your favourite summer reading material this year?



JACK HORSBURGH
Plato and a Platypus Walk Into a Bar, by Thomas Cathcart and Daniel Klein.



TIFFANY CAUBIN
I haven't been reading, I've been sailing — enjoying the view and chatting with my mates.



JORGE COELHO
Mysteries — anything by Robert Parker.



SUSI DOLLHEISER
I like the Swedish crime authors like Henning Mankell.



LESLIE WALLACE
*I'm reading the most amazing book right now: *The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know is Possible* by Charles Eisenstein.*

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.

Protect source

I am very disheartened with Peter Vincent's disparaging attitude in his "Bullock opportunities lost?" piece (Aug. 13 Driftwood).

We, residents of the Cedar Lane Water District, are not using any "tactic" with an "end justifies the means" sinister plan; but yes, we are "manning the ramparts!"

In this "established neighbourhood," the spectre of an "arid wasteland" is a constant reality. We have upgraded our water system (which costs money), we valiantly, diligently, collectively watch our households' water consumption. Our final option is to protect the source of our

groundwater, Bullock Lake.

Here's a simplistic analogy: each October the good citizens of Maliview prepare for the onslaught of ghosts and goblins who'll soon invade their neighbourhood in their annual quest for treats. (No one expects the wee ghoulies to bring their own candies!)

Lest there be a candy shortage, a concerned islander places candy boxes in stores and pharmacies. Crisis averted!

Cedar Lane residents are not asking for a candy box. We are asking for support — and understanding — from our fellow islanders.

True, Bullock Lake has a large tank for potable water. We, too, have a large tank!

Yet the fact remains that we run out of water during peak dry-season periods despite tanks and diligent conservation strategies.

Therefore we need — want — to protect the Bullock Lake watershed.

I'm sorry Mr. Vincent perceives us as hoarding this "paradise" at the island's expense, but this limited precious groundwater is now our "candy box."

We will continue to unapologetically fight to protect this basic right to potable water!

A little support and understanding would, however, be appreciated.

FRED & MARIANNE HOBBS,
CEDAR LANE

Other island sites are sacred too

Now that we have a cohesive group of well-meaning people bringing justice to the owner of Grace Islet, there are many such sites on Salt Spring Island, mostly designated residential or commercial.

So let us expand our campaign to include all such sites that we declare sacred.

Does this not appear to be logical and reasonable to all concerned?

JIM SPENCER,
SALT SPRING

Grateful to Salt Springers

Over the past few months I have worked with many Salt Spring Islanders, including our MLA Gary Holman, to draw attention to the construction on Coast Salish graves on Grace Islet.

I continue to be amazed by the level of compassion and empathy on Salt Spring. I am grateful for those who have stood in opposition to this project.

It has been difficult to gain traction with the B.C. government on this issue. Perhaps Minister of Forests, Lands and

Natural Resource Operations Steve Thomson will respond, but I have also sent a letter to John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, asking that he get involved.

Despite the frustration we have experienced over the past few months I am encouraged by the support of Salt Springers. I am honoured to stand with you!

Hiswke (thank you!)
ADAM OLSEN,
GREEN PARTY OF B.C.
INTERIM LEADER,
SAANICH

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

More planning crucial for a healthy economy

Salt Spring summers seem schizoid. For some, they are about doing as little as possible — lazing in the sun, skimming through forgettable fiction, pondering another drink or an early supper. For others, summers are about working hard to gather enough tourist dollars to last through the leaner months to come.

The glorious weather has already made this summer a success for sun worshippers; for those angling for tourist dollars, the degree of success will be assessed in another month.

And while most islanders have been focused on this summer, the CRD's community economic development commission has been thinking about future summers — about how we can make our island economy more resilient, and less dependent on vagaries of weather and tourist whims.

Back in June, the CEDC held a half-day workshop on Salt Spring Island's economy. More than 60 people attended, representing close to 50 organizations. Attendees learned about the island's economic assets, including its rural ambience, attractive lifestyle, growth potential, entrepreneurial workforce and the contributions of its retirees. Major challenges were also presented: low earnings levels, difficulties in retaining young families, over dependence on tourism, and lack of infrastructure and other long-term planning.

Unsurprisingly, much of the discussion

focused on tourism, the prime driver of the island's economy, and on revitalizing Ganges, the commercial and tourism hub of the island.

Tourism is increasingly competitive and highly dependent on economic confidence. Like druids at the winter solstice at Stonehenge, fearful that the sun might never return, we can never be sure that tourists will come back in the numbers we want.

So, like the druids, we must work together for the outcome we need. Top priorities identified at the workshop were improved data to allow focused marketing and better coordination of all tourist-related organizations. There was strong support for Experience the Gulf Islands, a new collaboration with the southern Gulf Islands to develop and market an integrated system of hiking and biking trails to attract more long-haul visitors. It was also suggested that marketing of the island needed to be better aligned with our "green" credentials.

The last few decades have seen tremendous advances in understanding how to create exciting, enticing places. Encouraging downtown living to maximize after-hours activity, making the most of water features, ensuring public spaces are easily navigable for pedestrians, and providing wayfinding so visitors feel safe to explore



John Tylee

ECONOMIC EXPLORATIONS

— these techniques are successful throughout the world. But they are conspicuously absent in Ganges. We need better understanding of the dynamics of village vitality and a grassroots effort to address the somewhat tired appearance of our villages.

Relying on tourism and the small but important agriculture sector will not ensure economic resilience. The June workshop looked at several possible opportunities to diversify the economy: green industries, the digital economy, educational and research facilities, services to seniors and moving more public sector jobs to Salt Spring. Each of these requires further research; the CEDC is eager to work with others to explore the possibilities.

The CEDC will continue its work in training, marketing and advocacy. Workshop participants suggested an increased focus on advocacy. Priorities for advocacy to senior governments are ensuring Salt Spring becomes designated as "rural," which would make us eligible for more infrastructure and business assistance programs, and developing an equitable long-term approach to financing ferry services.

For local advocacy, the top priority is

development of a comprehensive long-term infrastructure and sustainability plan for the island. Without such a plan, it is much more difficult to develop effective plans for any aspect of island living, including economic development.

Workshop participants recognized the very limited amount of data available on Salt Spring, and the need for more data to allow better analysis of our economy. The CEDC will develop better information, in part through partnerships with post-secondary institutions and others. By sharing new information at future meetings, the CEDC hopes to stimulate collaboration among different organizations that often work independently of one another on closely related issues.

The CEDC is currently revising its economic development plan to reflect findings from the workshop. A public information session in the fall will help finalize the plan. Our goal is to provide an actionable roadmap to a more sustainable economic future.

Thanks to all who attended the June workshop and provided feedback. We always welcome the assistance of others interested in our work — please contact us at cedcssi@gmail.com.

The writer chairs the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission. The views expressed are his own.

Pathways help improve health

BY JEAN GELWICKS

A number of studies from Canada and other places in the world are demonstrating a definite relationship between the physical designs of communities, also known as the built environment, and the health of people living in them.

Creating physical environments that facilitate healthy living is a critical component of supporting individuals and families in making better choices for their health. This is a goal of Island Pathways.

It is no secret that in recent years, Canadians and others around the world have become less and less physically active and more overweight. Physical activity is associated with more positive health outcomes, including improved physical, mental and social health.

INDEPTH

Physical inactivity and obesity are growing issues of concern in Canada. We are told 69 per cent of Canadian adults and 91 per cent of Canadian children and youth are not getting the recommended levels of daily physical activity, and this lack of physical activity is a key contributor to Canada's high obesity rates.

There is a large amount of research that proves students need adequate amounts of physical activity throughout the school day, not just to prevent obesity but to help them learn better. Physical activity directly impacts the behaviour and development of the brain. We all, but especially students, need to get out and exercise more.

Physical activity directly impacts the behaviour and development of the brain.

All this is a lead-up to tell you how happy Island Pathways is to announce the building of another section

of the Ganges Village Pathway Network. This network is a part of our community's built environment that we hope will encourage a healthier lifestyle for all of us. We especially hope it will make it possible for more students to walk to school, like many of us used to do when we were children.

If you take a wander to Upper Ganges Road you will see Charles Gosset and his crew at work putting in our latest pathway from Long Harbour Road to Churchill Road. Later this year we will also be constructing a pathway from Moby's Pub to Lower Ganges Road.

We were exceptionally lucky this year to receive a CRD Active Transportation Innovation grant that is making this second pathway possible.

We want to thank all our donors: CRD, Salt Spring Island Legion, BC Hydro, Salt Spring Island Foundation, Thrifty Foods, Country Grocer, Shell Canada and Mid Island Coop. Without them we could not be building a healthier, greener Salt Spring. Be sure to say a big hello to volunteer project manager Richard Shead.

The writer is chair of the Partners Creating Pathways committee of Island Pathways.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

MIDWIVES' ALLIES: Katie Watt nurses her daughter Avelyn, age three and a half, at the Latch On event held in Centennial Park Saturday to support the Midwives Association of B.C., which is in a labour dispute with the provincial government.

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MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Premier Clark has the power

The following letter was written to B.C. Premier Christy Clark and filed with the Driftwood newspaper for publication.

On the pressing issue of Grace Islet, I write to you as a citizen of Canada and a resident of Salt Spring Island, as well as a former senior scientist and science advisor to Statistics Canada, and a current senior advisor to UN agencies and international authorities on a variety of social, economic, cultural and environmental concerns.

As you well know, Grace Islet, located in Ganges Harbour, is and remains a traditional and well-documented burial site of First Nations peoples. As you are well aware, your minister has permitted the use of this sacred ground for the building of a luxury home on top of the centuries-old First Nations burial site. Even without any additional information you should be aware, from the public outcry, that to allow this activity to continue constitutes an egregious act, an act of utmost disrespect to the First Nations peoples of British Columbia and to First Nations peoples across the land.

Premier Clark, this is happening on your watch — and you have the power to stop it by:

- Sacking your minister for insensitive and wrongful behaviour in allowing this to proceed;
- Withdrawing the permits and bringing the owner to the table to negotiate fair

market value for the land;

- And restoring the land, with respect, to its heritage and spiritual value to the First Nations peoples of British Columbia.

If you fail to act, you personally (and your government) will have in effect become complicit with a most egregious and disrespectful behaviour towards these long oppressed peoples. You would be joining a long line of oppressors — following the atrocities of the residential schools, and all of the hardships that have befallen these peoples, both before and after.

I hope you will heed this plea — and remedy the situation with decency and promptness.

DAVID J. RAPPORT,
BAKER ROAD

Peter Vincent's columns missed

Hey, Peter, further to your reality-based contribution to last week's newspaper — "Bullock's opportunities lost?" — can you please start writing for the Driftwood again?

Maybe it will add a bit of sanity to our little "utopia."

WAYNE LEE,
SALT SPRING

GMO apple leaves bad taste

The following letter was sent to B.C. Agriculture Minister Norm Letnick and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

Congratulations on almost making the one-year mark as minister of agriculture.

By way of introducing myself to you, in my youth I picked apples and other tree

fruit in the Okanagan. For a while I was a nurseryman here on Salt Spring Island. We helped to save many of the old varieties of apples that were dying out on the island by grafting them on to new root stock.

Last year at the annual Salt Spring Island Apple Festival there were 262 different apple varieties grown here. Please come and visit this year, on Sept. 28, we'd love to meet you.

I am concerned about the plan of introducing a genetically modified apple into the consumer market that does not turn brown for up to 15 days when bruised or cut open.

Even though I can see the advantage of this product, there are some troubling potential problems and the short-term advantages could be negated or worse. First, it seems way too soon to try to introduce this into the market. I'm sure you have noticed that there are severe objections to GMO products not only in North America but also the European Union and China. If this movement continues to grow it could be the cause of a huge backlash against B.C. fruit growers and especially apple growers.

The iconic status of the apple in North America could make it the poster fruit for the anti-GMO crowd with B.C. apples taking the brunt of the censure and huge financial loss.

I just now noticed that the BC Fruit Growers Association wrote your predecessor, Gerry Ritz, with the same argument against this Arctic apple and that they are asking for "a pre-emptive moratorium on this apple before our markets suffer."

MATTHEW COLEMAN,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Audit required

The ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District are now entitled to a full independent engineering audit and financial audit that answers the following four questions before any more progress is made.

1. Is the proposed DAF plant the right design solution over all other designs?
2. Was the \$1-million contract (this value is from the NSSWD) to Kerr Wood Leidel won on a competitive process over all other qualified engineering firms? How much of this has been paid to date?
3. Is \$10.4 million required,

or a lesser figure, to account for savings the water district say they have found?

4. What project management procedures are in place to ensure accuracy of design and control of financial commitments and payments?

This audit is necessary to get the confidence of the ratepayers due to the lack of clarity and transparency from the NSSWD during the period leading up to the two defeated votes.

Many questions raised by various ratepayers went unanswered and they were simply referred to the NSSWD website for information. This website did not answer the specific questions.

The NSSWD said after the second defeat that this project will proceed regardless of the outcome of the voting.

This is public money and as such all commitments and expenditures must have clarity. We cannot be told by the NSSWD that we have to have this without there being full disclosure on the design solution and the cost.

How do we, as financiers of the project, customers of the water district and voting public, ensure that mistakes are not being made?

We all agree that we need clean and plentiful water. With clarity and transparency we will support the NSSWD request for financing, but not until then. This clarity and transparency can be provided by town meetings where the NSSWD explains the situation to their proposed financiers.

BILL COTÉ,
NSSWD RATEPAYER



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

TWO SPORTS ARE BETTER THAN ONE: Tennis pro Pete Schelling (left at back) and golf pro Steve Marleau (right at back) celebrate with participants in last week's junior golf and tennis camp co-hosted by the Salt Spring Golf & Country Club and Salt Spring Tennis Association. The groups expressed thanks to Island Savings Credit Union and Country Grocer for their support, and to Doug and Darlene Wellington for running a great wind-up BBQ.

RANTS and Roses

An annual subscription of roses to our local Thrifty Foods for generously paying for Salt Spring Island Public Library's annual Driftwood subscription. Our patrons enjoy sitting down with the Driftwood, keeping informed about our special island community. On behalf of the library and patrons — many thanks!

A tragic separation of young mother and baby was magically resolved in mid-August, when Diane Kray of

Long Harbour B&B on Salt Spring was able to put "Baby Doll" (as an unescorted passenger) on the ferry to Mayne, to be reunited with her owner, four-year-old Leila. Thanks to Diane and BC Ferries for help in a time of need!

Heritage roses to all those who made the new nautical history plaque display in Centennial Park a success. The project was made possible by the generous donations and support of

designer and metal fabricator Tough Tiny Welder Nycki Samuels, CRD – PARC, Burton Bronze Foundry, Salt Spring Archives, Mouat's Home Hardware, Salt Spring Historical Society, Salt Spring CNC, Salt Spring Lions Club, Salt Spring Metal Recycling, John Helme, Welbury Bay Construction, Ken Renaud, Windsor Plywood and Susan Wetmore.

Bunches of fabulous roses to all the folks who supported our IODE

garage sale in aid of library books for elementary schools. Jack Austin roses to Sandy Hyslop and Mary Korosic for their very generous donations. Roses to our few remaining members of the organization and last but not least Nancy Holcroft, Victoria Woodman and Donna Way for their awesome home baking!

A large basket of fragrant roses for the Fulford merchants and their customers, as well as the commuters on

Morningside Road, for their patience during this past month while work was being done at the Rock Salt Restaurant. We are now finished! Gladys and John

Copper-dusted roses for Rick and all the Country Grocer staff for the burger kings and queens, for the customers and for those who donated the extra dollars. We are truly grateful for a successful BBQ fundraiser. Love from the Copper Kettle folk

HUMOUR

I ran with the bulls — no bull

You don't hear much about Saint Fermin — unless you live in Pamplona, that is.

The man who would become Saint Fermin was born in that Spanish city about 17 centuries ago. He became bishop of his home town and embarked on a cross-border tour to spread the gospel to the heathen French. Who beheaded him for his trouble.

Gone, but not completely forgotten — especially in Pamplona in July when celebrants from around the world take part in the Fiesta de Sanfermines, a two-week bacchanalia during which participants sing, dance, get drunk . . . and then run with the bulls.

Six Iberian fighting bulls and every one of them a mean mother. To compare the Spanish fighting bull to the dozy, cud-chewing Holstein or Hereford variety is like comparing a Porsche Spyder to a cross-town bus. The Iberian bull is One Huge Muscle. It can outrun a horse in 100 yards, turn on a five-peseta piece and fears nothing on this earth, including locomotives, horses and two-legged bipeds.

It goes without saying that only an idiot would be stupid enough to get out in front of such critters and try to outrun them, right?

Hello, my name is Idiot. I ran with the bulls. Twice.

This, of course, was back when I was young, fit and even stupider



Arthur Black

WIT & WHIMSY

than I am today. So stupid that I didn't realize that the dice are actually loaded in favour of the bulls.

It works like this: each morning of the Fiesta, six new bulls are corralled in front of Pamplona's city hall. Four hundred yards down a narrow, snake-like street the dopes who have elected to "run with the bulls" are similarly corralled. A cannon fires, the bulls are released at the same time as the barrier comes down for the runners. Everybody — bulls and runners — now takes off for the bullring, which is another 400 yards down the aforementioned twisty road.

Oh, and all side streets are blocked off. If you run with the bulls, you've got to go the distance.

Well, big deal. Four hundred yards, who can't run that? Have I mentioned how fast the Iberian bulls are? I hadn't even covered half the distance when I heard the unmistakable staccato beat of hooves coming fast. I looked back and saw a

wall of wicked-looking horns coming my way.

What did I do? I made an immediate right turn and slammed myself into a stone wall, which I hugged closer than a sailor with a five-dollar taxi dancer. The wall was white-washed and so was my complexion. The bulls ignored me. I think protective colouration saved my life.

The next year I was a little wiser (though still dumb enough to do it again). I trained by doing wind sprints. I sharpened my elbows Gordie Howe style to help me hack my way through slower runners. When the cannon went off I ran like a cheetah on meth.

I got to the bullring long before any other runner — so quickly in fact that the crowd in the stands whistled a personal greeting to me.

While I was taking bows, an American came up and whispered that actually whistling is the Spanish form of the baseball raspberry. They weren't cheering my entrance; they were booing my cowardice.

Still . . . in the past 90 years 15 runners have been gored to death at the Fiesta. Dozens are injured every year. As a matter of fact, Bill Hillman took a horn through the thigh this year. He's the author of a book called Fiesta: How to Survive the Bulls of Pamplona.

I imagine he'll spend his recuperation working on a sequel.

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what's on this week



Wed. Aug 20 **Thurs. Aug 21** **Fri. Aug 22** **Sat. Aug 23** **Sun. Aug 24** **Mon. Aug 25** **Wed. Aug 27**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Marta Marta Productions Open Rehearsal.

Public invited to watch rehearsal of Marta Marta Productions dance and Microcosmos Quartet groups as part of ArtSpring creative residency. ArtSpring. Noon.

Twenty Years On. Music & Munch celebration of the consecration of All Saints' By-the-Sea church at All Saints. 12:10 p.m.

Mike Alviano. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Market in the Meadow.

Vendors set up in the United Church meadow every Wednesday. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Dancing Your Spine Workshop.

Join Martha Carter (of Marta Marta Productions) for a dance workshop that combines her experiences as a choreographer, yoga teacher and scoliosis specialist. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

SongJam. A 21st-century pub sing-along, to vocal and instrumental backing tracks. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Brothers.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Open Mic With Ross & Dave.

Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Nautical Installation Unveiling.

Historical sign/art piece by Nycki Samuels is unveiled at Centennial Park. 11 a.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Wine Down for the Weekend.

Live music with Sun Kings. Salt Spring Vineyards. 4 to 6 p.m.

Richard Cross. Free appies, followed by music by Richard Cross. The Local. 5 to 8 p.m.

Duck Creak. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Marta Marta Productions Informal Performance II.

See Wednesday listing, except the time is at 8 p.m.

Soul Shakedown. Live music and dance for Salt Spring Toy Run. Farmers' Institute. 8 to 11 p.m.

Compassion Gorilla. Latin/folk/dance band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Fri. Aug 22

ACTIVITIES

Friday Night Island Hopping.

Visit Galiano, Mayne or Pender islands due to favourable ferry schedule. Details on Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce website. Long Harbour Ferry Terminal. Ferry departs at 3:55 p.m.

PhotoSynthesis Opening Reception.

Opening event for 14th annual show and sale of work. ArtSpring Gallery. 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Rosalie Matchett-Short and Steve Paterson Artists' Reception.

Opening for Salvaged: Artifacts and Stories, a collaboration between painter Rosalie Matchett-Short and metal worker Steve Paterson. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.

Sat. Aug 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Deborah Inkster-Bain Kneebone.

Mistaken Identity Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.

The Barley Bros. Live at The Local. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

B.S. - Game-Show-Style Event. Guest comedians and volunteers from the crowd vie for the audience's vote in a game-show-style event, plus stand-up comedy and music. Meaden Hall. 6 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Frank Huether.

Piano Bar. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The Hooper Family Band.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

D'Ale and the Coolers.

Live music and dance for Salt Spring Toy Run. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park.

Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Toy Run.

See motorcycles ride through town at 11 a.m. Games, beer garden and more open to public at the Farmers' Institute starting at 12:30 p.m. www.saltspring-toyrun.com

Fireworks Fundraising BBQ.

Rotary Club and Salt Spring Fire Rescue team up. Ganges Fire Hall. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Summer Saturdays at the United Church.

Open house with musical entertainment, refreshments and stained glass window tour. Salt Spring Island United Church. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Support for Writers: Funding Through Grants.

This workshop will present the kinds of financial support available to writers from arts councils and organizations. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 2 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music in the Vineyards.

Live music with Sue Newman Jazz. Salt Spring Vineyards. 2 to 4 p.m.

Tom & Derry. Trumpet and Guitar Duo. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 p.m.

Alan Moberg. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

SSI Foundation's Party in the Park.

Celebration of the Salt Spring Island Foundation's 30th year in existence. Entertainment by Alan Moberg, Wesley Hardisty, The Gaia Soul Sistahs and Suzanne Gay. Free cake, lemonade, goodies. Kids' area. Centennial Park. Noon to 3 p.m.

Verna Meyer Art Show.

Paintings on display. Mistaken Identity Vineyards. 1 to 5 p.m.

Party in the Park at Centennial Park

30 Years Salt Spring Island Foundation

Come to Our Community

Party in the Park at Centennial Park

30 Years Salt Spring Island Foundation

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30 Years Salt Spring Island Foundation

Come to Our Community

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Edwin Coppard.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Cahalen Morrison & Eli West.

Old-time duo. Southend Grooveyard. Optional dinner sales start at 6 p.m. Music at 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

ToddlerTime.

For parents and children under four. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 10:30 a.m.

Salt Spring Antique and Classic Motor Club.

Regular monthly meeting. ArtSpring boardroom. 7 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage with David Jaquest.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Paddle & Play.

Family Place parent child drop-in. Vesuvius Beach. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Tuesday Farmers' Market.

Every Tuesday in Centennial Park. 2 to 4 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage with David Jaquest.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Paddle & Play.

Family Place parent child drop-in. Vesuvius Beach. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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Every Tuesday in Centennial Park. 2 to 4 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage with David Jaquest.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tamara Nile.

Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Market in the Meadow.

See last Wednesday's listing.

SongJam.

See last Wednesday's listing.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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: 250-537-9833 or dwsalty@driftwoodmedia.com

ACTIVITIES

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:

news@gulfislands-driftwood.com

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CINEMA

• **Guardians of the Galaxy** — The Marvel Cinematic Universe is expanded into the cosmos, where adventurer Peter Quill finds himself the object of a bounty hunt after stealing a mysterious orb coveted by Ronan, a powerful villain who threatens the entire universe.

• **Doctor Who Season 8 Premiere "Deep Breath"**: Season 8 begins with Peter Capaldi as the 12th Doctor. In the opener, the Doctor and Clara are in Victorian London where a dinosaur is on the loose and a spate of deadly spontaneous combustions take place. Aug. 27-28. Advance tickets \$15 at Island Star Video and Salt Spring Books.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Photosynthesis**, the 14th-annual exhibition and sale of work by several Salt Spring photographers, opens at **ArtSpring** on Friday, Aug. 22 with an event from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Show continues daily until Sept. 9.

• **Salvaged: Artifacts and Stories**, the final exhibition of ArtCraft's Showcase Gallery summer season, is a collaboration between painter **Rosalie Matchett-Short** and **Steve Paterson** and his metal work. The show opens at **Mahon Hall** with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 22 and continues daily through Sunday, Sept. 14.

• **Two Yellow Lines**, photographs by **Seth Berkowitz**, is the Showcase stage exhibit at **Mahon Hall** until Aug. 21.

• **Verna Meyer** has paintings on display at **Mistaken Identity Vineyards** on Sunday, Aug. 23 from 1 to 5 p.m.

- **Gallery 8** presents **Cross Country Inspirations**, featuring paintings by **Pieter Molenaar** and sculpture by **Vance Theoret**, until Friday, Aug. 22.
- **Leigh-Anne Maxwell** holds an exhibit called **Coastal Reflections** in the **ArtSpring** gallery until Thursday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Denys James** shows ceramic wall plaques at **kiZmit Galeria and Cafe** through August.
- **Jacqueline Meredith** exhibits paintings that capture the tranquility of the islands in the **ArtSpring** lobby through August.
- **Duthie Gallery** presents **Dead Reckoning**, sculptures in bronze, steel, cement and paper by **David Robinson**, through Sept. 30. The gallery is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays through Mondays. The Summer Lights Night Gallery is open nightly from 9 p.m. to 12 midnight.
- **Avril Kirby** shows photographs at **Salt Spring Coffee Co.'s cafe** in Ganges through August.
- **Carole Miles'** artwork is in the **Salt Spring Library** program room until Aug. 29.
- Original oil paintings by **Alunia** are on display at the **Country Grocer cafe** for the month of August.
- **ArtCraft**, the annual sale of some 100 Gulf Islands artisans, runs daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at **Mahon Hall**.
- **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.
- **Rhiana Lynn's** artwork is now showing at **Penny's Pantry**.

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL

EXTRACURRICULAR EDUCATION

4-H program offers hands-on, experiential learning

Leadership and teamwork skills developed

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As September's crisp fall days herald in "back-to-school" spirit for British Columbia's families, the time has also come to register for the 4-H Club's 2015 program year.

Though not aligned with the school year, 4-H (which stands for head, heart, hands and health) shares a goal of building skills and knowledge in youth that will give them better tools for succeeding as adults. At the senior level, the two worlds collide with an opportunity to earn high school credits and scholarships through the program.

for examples of how to tackle a project and achieve success with it," she added, noting the the bond that forms between club members can be one of the program's biggest rewards.

Rithaler's daughter Anna, 18, is one of many island youth who have made the most of the program. She joined the Cloverbuds pre-4-H program when she was eight years old because a couple of her friends were members and they seemed to be having a lot of fun.

Having graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in June, Rithaler is off to Vancouver Island University next week with help from two 4-H scholarships. The Ram Canada award from the Chrysler Foundation celebrates the 100th anniversary of 4-H in B.C. this year. She also received the BC Agricul-

chooses his or her project for the year and works through a series of requirements to complete one unit. Those who stick with a project advance through the units and gain deeper knowledge at every step. (Others may choose to explore a variety of interests through the years.)

"When I first started, I started with a camera that I got at the thrift store. It was a point and shoot camera and that was all the photography I'd done," Rithaler said.

"As I've progressed these seven years I've had a lot of help from community photographers. I now know how to compose a photo and what to look for when taking a picture."

The 4-H program is open to youth from ages nine to 21. At the senior level, completing the requirements to achieve three different pins allows high school students to receive credits equivalent to one class. The final pin includes a minimum of five program sections, which means the student learns more than just their individual project requirements.

Rithaler, for example, has used the public speaking component to win a first place ranking locally and fifth in the region. She said communication skills are also boosted through requirements for demonstrations and "speak and shows."

"Everything we do is to prepare you for whatever you want to do in the future," she explained.

"Not everyone is going into agriculture or veterinary science, but everyone knows how to apply the skills they learned in 4-H to whatever they do."

Rithaler is entering general studies at Vancouver Island University this fall but hopes to move into education. (Her plan to bring her knowledge into the classroom setting helped earn one of her recent scholarships.) She also hopes to keep up with 4-H along with her studies until she reaches the age of 21.

As for photography, that's something she will most likely pursue as a hobby.

"Photography's been a huge part of my life so I hope to continue, maybe not through 4-H but by joining a club," she said.

Registration for the 2015 4-H program opens in September. For more information, call local coordinator Christine Clare-Rein at 250-653-9054.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left, Salt Spring 4-H graduates Anna Rithaler, Amy Nowell, Izzy Nowell, Silas Nowell, Faeven Barstead and Helena Cuddy at the 2014 group campout.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Todd Blumel, owner of Bow-Mel Chrysler in Duncan, hands over a Ram Canada scholarship cheque to Anna Rithaler.

As a Salt Spring project coordinator, Loretta Rithaler has seen many islanders benefit from the program's educational values.

"Many of our program members have gone on to obtain their university degrees in veterinary medicine, public speaking (as a news anchor) and teaching," she said.

"Danica Jensen is a GISS graduate who received the CIBC National Scholarship a couple of years ago. She is presently attending UVIC in the field of science. Alumni like Danica and our former club president, Sarah Rowse, continue to participate and mentor young members by participating in fair preparation, judging and community events whenever their busy schedules allow."

"Members always seem to learn more from other members and look to them

ture in the Classroom Foundation Award.

"If someone was looking to join 4-H, I would really encourage them to. It's a fabulous thing to have on a resume, but it also helps you develop skills you don't even notice, like teamwork and leadership," Anna Rithaler said.

While 4-H started out as a program of the United States Department of Agriculture in the early 20th century, it has evolved to become an international organization focusing on youth development. Agriculture remains a strong core, with projects often relating to animal husbandry and showing, but other areas of interest such as public speaking, the creative arts and science are equally strong. Rithaler's focus for the past seven years has been photography.

The way the program works, each club member

Send them back in persnickety
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STYLE

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Fall stock arriving weekly.

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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">Rain Gear</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">SHOES</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">Girls Jeans, tops, Skirts, and Jackets</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">Boys Jeans, tops and Jackets</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">Socks/Tights</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">Pajamas</p>

1108 Grace Point Square Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4

BACK-TO-SCHOOL



SALT SPRING CONCERT BAND
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FOOD

Delicious tips for stress-free school lunch preparation



Having a 'go-to' the secrets

You're out of water bottle and this a familiar house?

If making your child's lunch here are five tips to ensure with healthy, quick options.

THINK ABOUT BALANCE with divided compartments add the four food groups:

- Vegetables and fruits and watermelon
- Grain products like corn bread and

YOUTH HEALTH

Ways to get young bodies

Outdoor free play should be encouraged

Canadian parents look to structured activities to get their kids moving, but let's not forget about the importance of free, unstructured play.

The before-, during- and after-school periods are opportune times for spontaneous, outdoor play and getting to and from places on foot. For back-to-school, ParticipACTION provides parents with a few backpack must-haves to encourage their children to be active throughout the school day.

"Sport leagues, programs and school activities are essential, valuable components of getting our kids to be more active, but kids need to do more than that, and more often," says Elio Antunes, president and CEO of ParticipACTION. "Our kids are missing out on opportunities for spontaneous movement — such as getting to places on foot and playing freely outdoors. So, let's pack our kids' backpacks for active play!"

ParticipACTION's backpack must-haves to encourage active play:

- **Pedometer** – Let children log the total amount of steps they take in a day and make a game out of getting healthy.
- **Rubber ball/chalk/skipping rope** – 63 per cent of kids' free time is spent being sedentary, so send kids to school with something to encourage spontaneous, active games with friends.

SALT SPRING KIDS SAY...

We asked: What are you looking forward to about going back to school?



STEVEN NORDINE
I am starting Grade 4 and I can't wait to see my friends and my teachers.

ANJAL
I like am n forwa

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

Lunch is one of

bread, can't find a and the school bus four minutes. Is scenario in your

ld's lunch seems stressful, ensure their lunchbox is filled options.

NCE: Use a lunch container ements, so you remember to ups:

uit: such as carrots, grapes

: such as whole grain bread, bulgur

- Milk and alternatives: such as cheese, milk and yogurt
- Meat and alternatives: such as tofu, eggs and chicken

STOCK CONVENIENT ITEMS: You can still include whole grains without preparing ingredients from scratch! Use whole grain breads, wraps and crackers to get Canada's Food Guide's recommended grain products at lunchtime. Choose foods that list 100 per cent whole grain as the first ingredient.

USE THE FREEZER: Stock your freezer with items that can be defrosted for quick lunches:

- Quick-to-cook vegetables like peas as great additions to grain-based salads.

- Whole grain breads for quick sandwiches and wraps.
- Sliced peaches, pineapple or mango for fruit salad or kebabs.
- Convenience tip: you can prepare and freeze soy butter and jam sandwiches, which can be slipped into lunch bags as-is — they will defrost by lunch!

ORGANIZE A SNACK DRAWER: For easy snacks, pre-fill containers with trail mix made with soy nuts, raisins and whole grain cereals. You can

also have a snack drawer in the fridge, filled with ready-to-go Greek yogurt, cheese strings or hummus cups.

HAVE A "GO-TO" LUNCH: When supplies are low, don't stress. Have a staple lunch in mind — one that's made from on-hand ingredients. The go-to lunch for my daughter is whole grain crackers, cheese cubes and soy butter, artfully arranged in paper muffin cups in a square container. With some fruit on the side, lunch is ready.

www.newscanada.com



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN
Violet Gaffney dances in Centennial Park on Saturday. ParticipACTION urges more outdoor free play for kids as part of a healthy lifestyle.

in motion

Mobile phone – Parents worry about safety of their kids. A phone can help stay in touch while their kids walk from school, or play outside with friends.

Weather – Weather is one barrier to play, so make sure children are ready for rain or shine.

Sun hat and sunscreen – Kids need a hat and sunscreen in order to protect from the rays and enjoy outdoor

Helmet – Wheeling to and from school quickly add up to a much healthier lifestyle, as will walking or running. 62 per cent of parents saying their children are always driven to and from school, why not let them walk or wheel? It's important for parents to remember

not to over-pack. Experts recommend that kids carry no more than 10 to 15 per cent of their total body weight.



RYDER MULHERIN
I am looking forward to starting Grade 2 and seeing my friends again.

I CAMPBELL
school but I really looking forward to getting my cast off.



ZAMA SZAKACS
I am looking forward to learning more French and seeing my friends.

Getting you ready!

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ends Sept. 10

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It's back to school time!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

GULF ISLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL 250-537-9944
 School is open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for registration of new students beginning August 18. Pick up of Student Schedule Packages and collection of Student Activity Fees will take place on Wednesday, August 27 and Thursday, August 28 from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Student Activity Fee is \$30 for everyone. Students may also purchase a yearbook at this time for \$45 (total for both is \$75). **OPENING DAY ONLY**, Tuesday, September 2 will be early dismissal (9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).
 Principal: Mr. Lyall Ruchlen

PHOENIX PLACE PROGRAM 250-537-9944
 Classes begin September 2. If you are interested in the services that Phoenix could offer your high school aged child, please contact one of the GISS counselors, Nia Williams or Tony Marshall at 250-537-9944.

SALT SPRING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 250-537-9928
 School will be open August 25 to 28, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for registration of new students. **OPENING DAY ONLY**, Tuesday, September 2 will be early dismissal (8:24 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.). Parents are welcome on the first day of school for an opening day welcome with coffee and muffins.
KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND DURING THE FIRST WEEK. Parents of Kindergarten students will be contacted by their teacher during the week of September 2.
 Principal: Ms. Shelly Johnson

PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 250-537-1156
 Please email Principal Sue McKenzie at smckenzie@sd64.bc.ca for information regarding registration of new students for the 2014/2015 school year. School will be open August 25 & 26, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and August 28, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Regular classes will begin Tuesday, September 2.
KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND DURING THE FIRST WEEK. Parents of Kindergarten students will be contacted by their teacher before or during the week of September 2.
 Learning Design Partners: Interested in home schooling your child? Call Gerardine Charlton at 250-537-1864.
 Principal: Ms. Sue McKenzie

SALTSRING ISLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL 250-537-1159
 School will be open August 25 to 28, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for registration of new students. **OPENING DAY ONLY**, Tuesday, September 2, will be early dismissal (8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.). Parents welcome on Opening Day – PAC representatives will be hosting a 'Meet & Greet'.
 Principal: Ms. Keiko Taylor

FULFORD COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 250-653-9223
 School will be open August 25 to 28, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for registration of new students. **OPENING DAY ONLY**, Tuesday, September 2 all students will attend from 8:13 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Parents are welcome on the first day of school for an opening day welcome with coffee and muffins.
KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND DURING THE FIRST WEEK. Parents of Kindergarten students will be contacted by their teacher before or during the week of September 2.
 Principal: Ms. Marie Mullen

FERNWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 250-537-9332
 School will be open August 25 to 28, 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. for registration of new students. **OPENING DAY ONLY**, Tuesday, September 2 all students will attend from 8:25 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. **KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS** will attend on a part-time basis during the first week of school beginning on September 2, as previously arranged.
 Principal: Ms. Kelda Logan

PLEASE CONTACT THE PRINCIPALS FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

GALIANO SCHOOL Ms. Boe Beardsmore 250-539-2261
 Office will be open August 25 to 28 – 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. First day of school, September 2, students will attend from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. All students, including Kindergarten, will begin Tuesday, September 2.

MAYNE SCHOOL Ms. Donna Kirkpatrick 250-539-2371
 Office will be open August 25 to 28 – 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. First day of school, September 2, students will attend from 8:40 - 10:30 a.m. All students, including Kindergarten, will begin Tuesday, September 2.

PENDER SCHOOL Mr. Cameron Fraser 250-629-3711
 Office will be open for registrations on August 25 to 28 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Opening day only, Tuesday, September 2 will be early dismissal, (8:50 to 10:30 a.m.). All students, including Kindergarten, will begin Tuesday, September 2.

SATURNA SCHOOL Ms. Shannon Johnston 250-539-2472
 Please email Principal Shannon Johnston at sjohnston@sd64.bc.ca or call 250-222-0080 for information regarding registration of new students for the 2014/2015 school year. Opening day only, Tuesday, September 2 will be early dismissal, (8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.).

The StrongStart BC Programs (ELF) on Salt Spring Island will start the second week of school: Fernwood, Fulford and Salt Spring Elementary (SSE) will start on Monday, September 8. SSE and Fulford programs run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday. Fernwood program runs Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

The StrongStart BC Programs at Mayne, Pender, and Galiano Schools run two mornings a week and at Saturna School it runs once a week. Please contact the Principals listed above for more information.

WATER TAXI SCHEDULE 2014 - 2015

District website: www.sd64.bc.ca/transportation

THE SCHOLARSHIP - Route 1

MORNING RUN

Location	Depart	Location	Arrival
Ganges Harbour	0645	Sturdies Bay	0722
Sturdies Bay	0725	Miners Bay	0735
Miners Bay	0737	Ganges Harbour	0827

AFTERNOON RUN

Ganges Harbour	1630	Sturdies Bay	1720
Sturdies Bay	1722	Miners Bay	1728
Miners Bay	1730	Ganges Harbour	1820
<i>Sturdies Bay = Galiano Island</i>			
<i>Miner's Bay = Mayne Island</i>			

THE GRADUATE - Route 2

MORNING RUN

Location	Depart	Location	Arrival
Ganges Harbour	0630	Lyall Harbour	0725
Lyall Harbour	0727	Port Washington	0752
Port Washington	0755	Ganges Harbour	0830

AFTERNOON RUN

Ganges Harbour	1630	Port Washington	1710
Port Washington	1712	Lyall Harbour	1732
Lyall Harbour	1733	Ganges Harbour	1835
<i>Lyall Harbour = Saturna Island</i>			
<i>Port Washington = Pender Island</i>			

THE GANGES HAWK - Route 3

MORNING RUN

Location	Depart	Location	Arrival
Ganges Harbour	0700	Port Washington	0740
Port Washington	0745	Ganges Harbour	0830

AFTERNOON RUN

Location	Depart	Location	Arrival
Ganges Harbour	1630	Port Washington	1710
Port Washington	1712	Ganges Harbour	1750
<i>Port Washington = Pender Island</i>			

Passengers are to be at the dock 5 minutes prior to departure.

SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS) DISTRICT WEBSITE: www.sd64.bc.ca/transportation SSI BUSSING SCHEDULE 2014/2015

Fernwood Elementary School				Start Time 8:25 am – End time 3:20 pm				
BUS	Location	Time	Location	BUS	Location	Time	Location	
#4	Walker Hook/Stark Rd	Lv from SIMS	7:57 AM	#5	Vesuvius/Sunset	Mobrae 1	7:24 AM	
		Central	8:07 AM			Channel Rdg/Sunset	Chu-Ann/Humphrey's H	7:27 AM
		160 Stark	8:11 AM			North End Rd	Mobrae 2	7:30 AM
		Grantville Rd	8:15 AM				Ves / Sunset	7:32 AM
		Maliview Rd	8:19 AM			284 Channel Rdg		7:35 AM
	Fernwood School	8:25 AM			Tern Road	7:40 AM		
Fulford Community Elementary School				Start Time 8:13 am – End time 3:00 pm				
#1	Fulford-Ganges Rd	Leaving from SSE	7:45 AM	#2	Beaver Point Rd	300 Stewart	7:36 AM	
		Blackburn Rd	7:53 AM			Forest Ridge Rd		7:49 AM
		Furness Rd	8:01 AM			Bullman Rd		7:58 AM
		Fulford School	8:09 AM			Reynolds Rd		8:00 AM
					Fulford School		8:07 AM	
Salt Spring Elementary School (SSE) and Phoenix Elementary				Start Time 8:24 am – End time 3:15 pm				
#3	Old Divide Rd	Old Divide/Cranberry	7:42 AM	#6	Long Harbour/Eagleridge	William Street	7:26 AM	
	Cusheon/Beddis Rd	Stewart Rd	7:51 AM			Long Harbour Ferry Term		7:30 AM
		1298 Beddis	7:56 AM			Quebec/Eagleridge		7:34 AM
		ArtSpring	8:07 AM			Thomas Rd		7:53 AM
		SSE	8:09 AM			Leisure Lane/Howell Lane		7:58 AM
					Drop off @ SIMS	for SSE & Phoenix	8:03 AM	
Saltspring Island Middle School (SIMS)				Start Time 8:30 am – End time 3:24 pm				
#3	Old Divide Rd	Old Divide/Cranberry	7:42 AM	#4	Walker Hook/Stark Rd	160 Stark Rd	7:28 AM	
	Cusheon/Beddis Rd	271 Cusheon Lake Rd	7:48 AM			Maliview Rd		7:39 AM
		Stewart Rd	7:51 AM			Whims Rd		7:44 AM
		Samuel Cr	7:56 AM			Acheson Rd		7:48 AM
	Drop off for SIMS @	SSE	8:09 AM		SIMS		7:56 AM	
#7	Beaver Point Rd	Forest Ridge	7:21 AM	#7	Vesuvius Loop	SSE	8:01 AM	
	Fulford/Ganges Rd	Reynolds Rd	7:29 AM					
	Isabella Area Student pick up @	Fulford Inn	7:36 AM			Vesuvius Ferry	Pick up	8:13 AM
		1621 Fulford Ganges Rd.	7:49 AM			GISS		8:23 AM
		Garner Rd	7:52 AM			SIMS		8:26 AM
	Drop off for SIMS @	SSE	8:06 AM					
Gulf Islands Senior Secondary School (GISS) and Phoenix Place				Start Time 8:55 am – End time 4:15 pm				
#1	Beaver Point Rd/past	Fulford Trn (past South)	8:15 AM	#2	Beaver Point Rd	Forest Ridge Rd	7:49 AM	
	Southridge	Burgoyne Triangle	8:20 AM			Reynolds Rd		8:00 AM
	Fulford/Ganges Rd	Kitchen Rd	8:26 AM			Isabella Area Student pick up @	Drummond Park	8:16 AM
		GISS	8:35 AM			GISS	8:33 AM	
#4	Walker Hook/Stark Rd	Fernwood School	8:26 AM	#5	Ves/Sunset	Canvasback	8:13 AM	
		Grantville Rd	8:34 AM			incl Broadwell/Channel Ridge	Southy Point Rd	8:26 AM
		240 Stark Rd	8:39 AM			North End Rd	Epron Rd	8:34 AM
		GISS	8:46 AM				GISS	8:47 AM
#8	Vesuvius Loop	Vesuvius Ferry	8:23 AM	#8	Vesuvius Loop...cont	Stonecutter	8:29 AM	
		Bayview	8:24 AM			Mobrae 1		8:33 AM
		Humphrey's Hill	8:26 AM			GISS		8:40 AM
#7	Vesuvius Ferry Loop	Vesuvius Ferry	8:15 AM					
		GISS	8:25 AM					
		SIMS	8:27 AM					

arts&entertainment

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8AM 'till LATE
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

ART SHOW

Shoreline paintings reveal lifelong passion for sea

Wesley Clark art shown Sept. 1-23

Salt Spring painter Wesley Clark will share the results of an artistic relationship he's nurtured over 30 years with a new show at the Harbour House Hotel opening Sept. 1.

The Shorelines exhibition will include watercolour and acrylics on rag paper and canvas dating from the 1980s to present, with British Columbia's natural beauty the central focus.

"These paintings showcase my interest in waterfront views and their environments over an entire career of painting," Clark says in an artist's statement. "British Columbia landscapes were a predominant theme in my paintings for the first 20 years



Winter View, left, and Return, two of Wesley Clark's acrylic paintings on canvas at the Harbour House in September.



IMAGES COURTESY WESLEY CLARK

and are by no means gone from my current painting repertoire. They harken back to my love of the Impressionists and the British Columbia

wilderness.

"The natural world themes of fish/crabs and other fauna are both decorative and serious art statements that convey

messages, such as the importance of salmon and their environment. Fish have a charming geometric quality that I find irresistible."

Clark is a graduate of the University of Victoria (BFA and MED), as well as a B.C. certified high school art teacher. His paintings have

won many awards and distinctions.

Throughout his fine arts career, he has been involved in various environmental issues, helping to raise public awareness through his remarkable wilderness images.

"Anyone who has tried to emulate the exquisite beauty of the natural world with mere paint and canvas knows it's a daunting challenge and is so far removed from the real thing. Artists are drawn to this challenge like moths to the light, as I have been all my life," Clark said.

The show runs to Sept. 23. An artist's reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4. For more information, visit his website at www.wesleyclarkfineart.com.

MUSICAL THEATRE

Powerful musical in the works



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Cast of the musical Rent rehearses for upcoming shows at ArtSpring.

SUBMITTED BY EXITSTAGELEFT PRODUCTIONS

"Starving artist" is a cliché. But Jonathan Larson's rock musical Rent takes us right into the world of the starving artists as they struggle to survive and create.

Those familiar with Puccini's opera La Bohème or Baz Luhrmann's Moulin Rouge (like Rent, loosely

based on the former) will recognize the themes, but the action this time is set in New York's gritty Alphabet City in the late 1980s, where AIDS rivals tuberculosis as a lurking killer.

Roommates Mark and Roger are distracted from their filmmaking and music by the need to come up with the rent for their substandard housing. But more importantly, they

and their friends are also rent, or torn, by doubt, illness, squabbling, misunderstanding and neighbourhood politics.

Gay or straight, the characters are infected and affected by their surroundings and their interactions with each other. Somehow they must find a way to connect with each other in love. There is no day but today to find fulfillment.

The theatre group called exitStageLeft Productions (in association with Graffiti Theatre) has gathered a strong cast of singers/actors for this rock musical. Cast members must not only have powerful, expressive voices but they must also be able to integrate physicality while they sing.

Co-directors Christina Penhale and Jekka Krayenhoff worked with musical director Wendy Milton to find the right balance of talent, drawing almost exclusively from the deep Salt Spring pool. A live band of exceptional musicians will make the most of the complex and interesting music.

Rent runs at ArtSpring on Sept. 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 at 7:30 p.m.

ArtCraft Showcase Gallery presents

SalvAGED

Artifacts & Stories
Encaustic Paintings & Metal Sculpture

Rosalie Matchett & Steve Paterson

Showcase Exhibition
August 22 - September 14
Opening Reception August 22, 6 - 8pm
Mahon Hall Open daily 10-5

salt spring arts council proudly presented by

Mistaken Identity Vineyards is thrilled to extend congratulations to our winemaker **Jesse Cooper** on winning two medals for his wines in the **All Canadian Wine Championships**. Our Bianco 2013, an estate organic white blend, took a silver in the blended white varietal category. Our Rosso 2013, a Gulf Island red blend, took a bronze medal in the red blended varietal category.

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SALT SPRING INN, SEASIDE RESTAURANT & MOBY'S PUB.

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AMERICANA MUSIC

Seattle roots duo ready to excite

Traditional music reshaped

Cahalen Morrison & Eli West are the next Southend Grooveyard guests, sharing their acclaimed sound on Monday, Aug. 25.

"Cahalen Morrison's songwriting is as much informed by the dark lyricism of Cormac McCarthy as it is by Appalachian stringband songs, and Eli West's angular, racing arrangements owe

as much to the speed and aggression of early jazz as they do to bluegrass greats like Bill Monroe," says a HearstPR review about the duo's I'll Swing My Hammer With Both my Hands CD. "Together they make music that draws from the well of American tradition, but reshapes these traditions into beautiful new forms."

See www.southendgrooveyard.com for ticket information.

CAHALEN MORRISON & ELI WEST

live AT THE GROOVEYARD
AUGUST 25, 7:30 pm 128 HOLMES RD.

Tickets \$20.00, available at Salt Spring Books, Fever Tree, Stuff n' Nonsense or through our website
www.southendgrooveyard.com. Dinner at 6pm.
Doors open at 7pm. B.Y.O.B. All proceeds to the artist.



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the Stars
125 consecutive nights

Music This Week

Wed	Aug 20	Mike Alviano
Thur	Aug 21	The Barley Brothers
Fri	Aug 22	Duck Creak
Sat	Aug 23	The Hooper Family Band
Sun	Aug 24	Alan Moberg
Mon	Aug 25	Edwin Coppard
Tue	Aug 26	Open Stage <i>with David Jaquest</i>
Wed	Aug 27	Tamara Nile

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ART EXHIBIT

Relics explored in final Showcase

Rosalie Matchett-Short and Steve Paterson at ArtCraft stage show

BY HELEN MEARS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Salvaged: Artifacts and Stories is the final exhibition of ArtCraft's Showcase Gallery summer season and is a collaboration between painter Rosalie Matchett-Short and Steve Paterson and his metal work.

The show, which runs at Mahon Hall from Friday, Aug. 22 through Sunday, Sept. 14, with an opening event this Friday from 6 to 8 p.m., references industrial whaling practices that began in the 17th century, described by Greenpeace as "the madness of the whaling — hunting species after species to the verge of extinction."

Matchett-Short began researching the history of whaling in 2011 and has continually produced paintings based on this investigation and her discovery of documented whaling images.

"Frenzy is a word I kept thinking about while making this series. I wanted to show the repetition of a systematic slaughter of the whales and to create a feel-



Steve Paterson piece in Salvaged exhibit.

ing of hysteria and claustrophobia. I was struck by an image of remnants of ancient whalebones that still litter the beaches of the islands where the processing of whales took place over 300 years ago."

Working in encaustic, a medium that allows her to communicate and imply a history in her paintings, Matchett-Short explains why she is drawn to the medium: "The translucence of the encaustic medium enables me to create layers of both revealed and partially hidden images that act like visual clues to the almost forgotten threads of our past."

with cast-off, discarded and abandoned items." In Salvaged, he contributes to the whaling theme by taking an interest in "the relics left behind."

Using the remnants he has collected in his workshop, he liked the idea of exploring "a remote northern town on the edge of the ocean, surrounded by ice and mountains. This theme connects with Rosalie's paintings perhaps in a more mythical sense. Imagination is required to see the buildings, cooking utensils, the beach and the totems that belonged to this culture from long ago."

There is a compelling connection between their work and Matchett-Short expresses excitement about their Salvaged collaboration.

"I was confident that the wax and steel would look great together," ROSALIE MATCHETT-SHORT *Salt Spring artist*

"I was confident that the wax and steel would look great together. Also, the steel of course has an industrial feel and past, which automatically complemented my subject matter," said Matchett. "[Steve] decided not to pursue whaling as a subject but rather as a more generalized feel of past industry, which I think works."

Salvaged: Artifacts and Stories is sponsored by MacDonald Realty.

"I was confident that the wax and steel would look great together."

ROSALIE MATCHETT-SHORT
Salt Spring artist

Paterson is an artist/fabricator who has had formal art training and is also self-taught. Drawn to recycled materials, he explains that "most found objects have a story to tell, and this is often more apparent

MUSIC & MUNCH

Reeds and Wires makes M&M debut

Seven performers promise upbeat concert

Music and Munch ends its weekly summer series on Wednesday, Aug. 27 with a lively, toe-tapping recital by local group Reeds and Wires.

Comprised of a happy bunch of friends who get together regularly on Salt Spring to play at seniors' residences, Extended Care at Lady Minto Hospital and gatherings where dancing is enjoyed, they have no defined style or genre but will play anything from Irish traditional to old time to Latin and a bit of Greek. There is some a cappella singing and the occasional folk song. Wednesday's program will draw from all of these with a balance of vocals and instrumentals.

At the moment, Reeds and Wires consists of seven musi-

cians. They are Michael Aronoff on guitar, mandolin etc; Greg Duckett, violin, mandolin; Warren Langley, blues harp; Darryl Martin, guitar, banjo; Bob McIvor, violin; Dick Miller, bass; and Jane Squier, violin, mandolin. They all participate in creating each song, adding richness to the group with their different styles and musicianship.

Reeds and Wires provided an exciting touch to the last concert given by the Salt Spring Singers and for many music lovers it was the first taste of the exciting skill of the group. Free music begins in All Saints' By-the-Sea at 12:10 p.m., followed by a delicious light lunch. Tickets for the lunch must be purchased before the concert and all donations go towards the running of the series.

Patrons should note that the monthly fall and winter series begins the following week, on Sept. 3.

LITERACY

Giant Book Sale collecting now underway

High-quality donations appreciated for Salt Spring Literacy fundraiser

People who have been holding on to book donations for the 2014 Giant Book Sale can now lessen their load.

Collection bins are in place at Salt Spring's three financial institutions — Island Savings, BMO and CIBC — and at the Rock Salt Cafe and Restaurant in Fulford.

As well, drop-off days are set for Tuesday, Sept. 9 at the Country Grocer parking lot, and at Fulford Hall on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donors are asked to please bring only books in good shape, and no Reader's Digest publications, magazines, old textbooks, computer books, DVDs or videotapes.

The sale is an essential fundraiser for the Salt Spring Literacy Society, which provides a wide range of free tutoring services to adults and family literacy programs.

This year's Giant Book Sale is on Friday-Sunday, Nov. 21-23 at the Farmers' Institute.

More information is available from Aletha Humphreys at the Salt Spring Literacy office (250-537-9717) or at ahumphreys@saltspringliteracy.org. Special pick-ups may also be arranged.

Fall Fair Focus



ATTENTION: 2013 FALL FAIR TROPHY WINNERS

The trophies you won at last year's Fall Fair are due back NOW!!

Please drop them off at the Caretaker's house at 351 Rainbow Road (corner of Tin Can Alley) or Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply.



Have fun, and see you at the Fair!



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FESTIVAL

Creativity sparked for Firefly fest

Annual lantern procession next Saturday

An end-of-summer gathering that's grown exponentially over the years is hitting the streets again on Saturday, Aug. 30.

The Seventh Annual Firefly Lantern Festival is a performing arts extravaganza that sees dancers of various kinds, fire spinners and other artists and entertainers create a procession through Ganges with performance pit stops along the way.

"The community has kind of taken hold of it, which is really nice," said Lou Ellis, who spearheads the event along with

Sharyn Carroll.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. in Centennial Park, which will be the site of some art installations (with more contributions welcomed).

Samba du Soleil band members will lead the procession around town from there. The event also ends at the park with a fire-spinning show.

Costumes are highly encouraged, said Ellis, with prizes up for grabs.

People participating in the parade should have a lantern, although it's not mandatory.

A \$5 donation is suggested for the event to help cover costs like the insurance fee for park use, but nobody will be turned away.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN
Belly dancer Sarah Allen performs at last year's Firefly Lantern Festival. The 2014 version is on Aug. 30.

ENTERTAINMENT

Legion patrons ready to crack up

Comedy night set for Saturday, Aug. 23

Patrons of Salt Spring's Royal Canadian Legion have all the more reason to stick around after the Saturday evening meat draw on Aug. 23 thanks to a comedy-inspired game show.

The new program, called B.S., is a fun game-show style event that will feature guest comedians and volunteers from the crowd vying for the audience's vote.

Each contestant has a set time to convince the audience that a specific object belongs to them as opposed to their opponent.

Should the audience members choose the object's rightful owner,

they get a choice of boxes filled with various prizes. If they are incorrect, another contestant will be selected from the audience for another round of laughs and fun.

The debut of B.S. launches a full night of comedy, including skits and stand-up, with some terrific live music thrown into the mix. Performing guests include Jan Rabson, Arthur Black, Hayden Rabson, Becca Cox, Wendy Charlton and Cindy Akers-Rabson.

Admission to the event is \$5, with all proceeds going towards the Paint the House Blue campaign, which aims to raise funds to give the local Legion building a fresh paint job. More details about the event are available by calling the Legion at 250-537-5822.

VISITING PERFORMERS

Marta Marta injects excitement into ArtSpring

Open rehearsals, dance workshop and informal performance

There's still time to enjoy some events in the creative residency of Martha Carter's Marta Marta Productions at ArtSpring this week.

"As one of Vancouver's cutting-edge new-works dance companies, MMP is a response to artistic director Martha Carter's vision of dance as a necessity of life," explains ArtSpring's executive director Cicela Månsson in a press release.

The public can watch the company's free open rehearsals with Microcosmos Quartet on Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 20 and 21 from 12 to 1 p.m. for a unique opportunity to see the creative process in action.

For anyone who enjoys yoga and dance, the Dancing Your Spine Workshop with Carter will be an evening well spent. It combines her experiences as a choreographer, yoga teacher and scoliosis specialist to share gentle spine-based yoga and dance sequences that bring awareness, alignment, length and strength to the whole body. Using music for rhythm and flow, the 7 to 8:30 p.m. class starts on the floor and moves into space to finish with dynamic freestyle dancing.

On Friday, Aug. 22 at 8 p.m., an informal free performance of a dance and cello piece called Sonata set to the music of Gyorgy Ligeti takes place.

"Like most of Ligeti's work, Sonata is a reflection of the chaos of mid-20th-century social change, riding a fine line between classical and contemporary expression."

An informal presentation of another Ligeti work took place on Monday night.

Pianist/composer Eve Egoyan and installation artist David Rokeby will complete the final residency of the season. Their free informal performance is at ArtSpring on Thursday, Aug. 28 at 7 p.m.

Yoga with Dorothy Price and Santosha Yoga Retreats

"When I see the serenity in the faces of my students at the end of class and think of the very methodical and thorough physical practice we do together once or twice week, I cannot imagine what would happen to our bodies, and minds, if we stopped doing yoga! Why not try a class and see what I mean? You won't be disappointed. The only regret my students have is that they did not start sooner."

This fall would be a great time to get started with a Beginner class or try an All Levels class if you have some previous experience.

Dorothy is a senior teacher at the SS Centre of Yoga where she offers weekly classes. She also teaches at Gaiama Yoga Studio in Ganges and at the Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm (south-end). Dorothy also offers rejuvenating yoga retreats in beautiful havens on SSI and in Tofino, Mexico and Tuscany, Italy and Provence, France!

Dorothy Price
Certified Yoga Teacher
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4:30-6:00 pm
SS Centre of Yoga
355 Blackburn Road

YIN/STRETCH/RESTORATIVE
Tues 5:00pm - 6:00pm
SS Centre of Yoga

ALL LEVELS
Wed 9:00-10:30am
The Gatehouse-SL Farm
190 Reynolds Road

250-653-4655
Visit my website for my full class schedule & retreat info



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people&community

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

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



AGRICULTURE

Power of food unites Galiano Island

From nettle pizza to soup for seniors

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There's nothing quite like pizza day at the Galiano Island Community School.

Jaws drops and eyes widen when organizers lower the straight-out-of-the-oven pies onto lunchroom tables. A craving for cheesy goodness is quickly replaced by uncertain looks and a dare.

"It's always about who's going to try it first," said Alison Colwell.

The kids have good reason to be wary; each of their pizzas comes with a generous garnish of freshly picked stinging nettles.

The initial reaction, Colwell said, is usually the same: yuck.

It always takes one child to take up the challenge and the others quickly overcome the "eww" factor, she said.

"They realize that it tastes good and it's good for you."

Nettle pizza is part of Galiano's annual Nettle Fest. The spring festival celebrates all aspects of stinging nettles, including harvesting, cooking and preserving. Apart from making a great pizza topping, Colwell said, the event has shown many how much food is available at their fingertips.

The nettle festival is among a range of events, community programs and workshops organized by the Galiano Food Program in recent years. The program has encouraged kids to get out and scour the forest for wild foods, helped feed lower-income residents and brought islanders together in unprecedented ways.

"It's the best thing that's ever happened to the island, frankly, in the last 30 years," said Henny Schare, owner of Cable Bay Farm, who got involved with the program when it began four years ago. "There isn't an individual on this island who doesn't love the food program."

Schnare and her husband Thomas have been especially active in the food program's popular garlic co-op program, designed to educate anyone who wants to learn the basics or master the growing of organic garlic.

Islanders' passion for food, she said,



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Roger and Lisa Pettit at Sunshine Farm on Galiano Island.

has helped people overcome barriers that have been in place for generations.

"The world has been doing this for thousands of years," she said. "It's the one subject that everyone has in common. Everybody has to eat. Everybody can have a fascination for and a passion around food."

"Everybody can have a fascination for and a passion around food."

HENNY SCHNARE
Cable Bay Farm

Besides nettle fest, the largely volunteer-driven group oversees major community events like a community picnic (set for Sept. 7 this year) and a winter solstice celebration. Colwell said the events have become must-do functions among islanders.

From offering children a taste of wild foods to providing seniors with nutritious locally grown meals, Colwell has witnessed the program's incredible strides in

fewer than five years.

"When you have that response from your community, you know you're on the right track," she said.

Roger and Lisa Pettit have also watched the program's incredible rise. Ten years ago, when they began to terrace and shape their mid-island property, few people on the island paid much attention to the idea of local food.

Today, the couple cultivates rows of garlic and corn, a hothouse full of tomatoes and healthy crops of cherries.

Sunshine Farm is a major player at the island's farmers' market and supplies restaurants and stores across the Gulf Islands. Despite their broader success, the Pettits are always happy to offer a portion of every crop to food program initiatives.

"[The food program] is certainly great for the farmers, because it raised the importance of food in the community and really emphasized the local food," he said. "The food program is a good thing; there's no doubt."

The Galiano Food Program is administered under the oversight of the Galiano Club. For more information, visit galiano-foodprogram.ca.

GIRL GUIDES

Island girls take in international camp

SOAR event held in Enderby this summer

BY KERRY LEE
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Salt Spring Island Guides and Pathfinders "soared" into the small city of Enderby, B.C. last month for the Spirit Of Adventure Rendezvous (SOAR) camp.

The provincially sponsored eight-day Girl Guides camp is hosted by a different town in B.C. every three years. This

year, the seventh SOAR event saw 2,296 participants from across Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Granada, the U.K. and the U.S.A. join together for fun and adventures.

Campers created their own little city on the ball fields, and used the arena and curling rink as administration and food distribution centres. The girls enjoyed a plethora of activities, including scuba diving, river floating, roller derby, kayaking, canoeing, water slides, belly dancing, crafts and science projects.

As well, they worked on a

variety of service projects, from stuffing hand-knit teddy bears for children in crisis centres and creating toys for dog shelters to clearing out and painting storage sheds in the town.

Everyone got to go on an all-day "out-trip" once during the week, which involved a swimming pool and an opportunity for a shower.

Mid-week brought an electrical storm along with high winds and torrential rains that created pools in some tents and incredible "new-age art" out of several mangled easy-up shelters.

Apologizing for the weather, the citizens of Enderby lined up to take wet sleeping bags and clothes home to dry for the campers. A beautiful rainbow announced the beginning of campfire time on Thursday evening, and the sun came out again for the last day of camp.

It was a unanimous "yes" from all those who attended when asked if they would go again in 2017.

The Guides thank everyone on Salt Spring who supports the organization throughout the year and made this adventure possible.

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NATURE

Seastars vanish in short year's time



Tamar Griggs

TALES FROM BOLD BLUFF

It is amazing being enamoured by a seastar. Yet when you know they are dying, you pay attention.

Gone at Salty's Cove and at Burgoyne Bay are the sunflower stars (*Pycnopodia helianthoides*). Gone are the ochre stars (*Pisaster ochraceus*). Only a few purple seastars (*Pisaster ochraceus*) have survived, tenaciously clinging to life. Or are they infected and dying, too?

If you Google "Seastar Deaths Pacific Coast" or "the Wasting Syndrome" you will discover that there has been a massive dying of millions of seastars from Alaska to California this past year. Scientists are concerned this could have a dramatic effect upon the intertidal waters along our coast. It is caused perhaps by an infectious pathogen, either a virus or a bacteria, and may be due to the warming of our oceans.

From the deck of the cabin at Bold Bluff at low tide I don't see any seastars. I put on my hiking boots, gather my walking stick and camera, and gingerly make my way down the steep shale bank of the cove, the rock layers tilted almost perpendicular in some historic upheaval.



PHOTO BY TAMAR GRIGGS

Sunflower seastar photographed at Salty's Cove in 2013.

Most of the way, I slide down on my bum.

Carefully walking over the slippery rockweed, I discover one purple seastar valiantly clinging to life on the shady underside of a small boulder. I bend over, and gaze at this miracle.

"Oh, poor creature! Are you OK? You are so beautiful! Please survive," I beg.

Are there others tucked away in this tiny cove? Sure enough, I find two others clinging to life in the shade of a crevice. Nothing like the masses of seastars that were here last year, but at least there are a few survivors.

You might think I am nuts, and perhaps I am, but watching a species vanish at your doorstep is startling. Whoever thought the sea-

stars along our coast would disappear in the blink of an eye? We marvel at the bright colours of orange, purple, pink, tan and vermilion as we gaze into the ocean and along the rocky shoreline. Their beauty fills our hearts with wonder and joy, even if we don't know their biology or their place in the intertidal web of life.

Knowing their place makes their disappearance even more shocking and scary. Seastars are keystone predators in the intertidal zone. Take them away and the health of the intertidal environment is reduced.

Biologist David Denning recently told me of a study done by zoologist Roger T. Paine in the late 1960s. He removed seastars from areas

along the West Coast and discovered that the total number of species dropped by half. His work was among the earliest to suggest that a single species might hold the key to the diversity and stability of a community.

Over 20 species of seastars have been infected, from the subtidal sunflower stars, mottled, leather, giant pink and vermilion stars, to the intertidal purple and ochre stars. No one knows what the impact will be along our coast or if they will recover.

How can children mourn the loss of something they have never seen? Last year I took for granted the clusters of purple seastars clinging to the shade of exposed rocks, and the bright orange sunflower stars, which are the largest and fastest moving seastars in the world, never for a second imagining they'd be gone in a year.

Nothing is permanent in our shifting climate and magical spaceship spinning around the sun. We must treasure every moment we share with other creatures, and try to understand to the best of our ability what is happening. We must enjoy with a wise and compassionate heart. All life is precious and has its place in the scheme of things. We can mourn for a seastar and wonder how it feels when it dies.

Will they come back in our lifetime? Some friends have seen baby seastars, so if they are not infected, maybe . . . And maybe some coastal areas will be spared.

CONSERVATION

Conservancy initiates wetlands plan

Office and education space also under construction at Blackburn site

Two major new initiatives will begin this September at the Salt Spring Island Conservancy's Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve: restoration of a small wetland area and construction of an education and office facility.

"We are so excited to initiate wetlands restoration work at the reserve, and we are thrilled by the incredible, spontaneous generosity of an anonymous donor to create a facility there," said Christine Torgrimsen, the conservancy's executive director.

"During the 2013 campaign to purchase the Blackburn land, we noted its species richness and how the streams and wetlands are critical to the Cusheon Lake watershed. We also dreamed of a public education facility and permanent home for the conservancy there someday."

"Our ongoing work at Blackburn meets our goals of habitat protection and happily also will create a permanent home for the conservancy, as well as a fine space for public education," added board president Bob Weeden.

The anonymous donor has provided a building design, all necessary funds and a local contractor, who will rely on local businesses, sub-contractors and some volunteers to help complete the construction. The facility will be at the north end of the reserve, in an area greatly changed by human use over the years.

Green building aspects that are affordable within the donation will be incorporated into the facility, such as passive solar,

extensive insulation and energy-efficient windows. Other green options, like solar photovoltaic, a heat pump and rain-water catchment, will potentially be added when further funds become available.

The wetlands restoration project will be at the south end of the reserve. Renowned wetlands restoration expert Tom Biebighauser, who has helped develop restoration efforts in B.C. and throughout North America, will be guiding the Blackburn wetlands project this fall.

Torgrimsen explained that the reserve's heavily altered landscape once provided much more watershed value than its current condition allows.

"Whenever affordable and advisable, we'll restore wetlands and streams on the reserve to a healthy condition, increasing the land's water-filtering qualities while also supporting more life," she said.

Also this fall, the conservancy will be repairing a walking bridge, doing some fencing, planting native vegetation and erecting signage. All of the necessary permitting processes are nearly complete. Torgrimsen said that people are still welcome to walk at the reserve, but a small area around the restoration activities will be closed off to ensure safety and support re-vegetation.

The wetlands work is supported by funds from the Government of Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk, Wildlife Habitat Canada, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, the Vancouver Foundation, the Public Conservation Assistance Fund and the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

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HISTORY

Nautical sign unveiling on Thursday

Historic photos showcased in Centennial Park installation

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring residents are invited to join community officials in celebrating the installation of a new structure focused on the island's nautical past, with a grand unveiling to take place at Centennial Park on Thursday, Aug. 21.

The new structure, located beside the boardwalk gazebo, is more sculptural than signage. Local welder and artist Nycki Samuels has created an interactive design that features a sturdy steel frame topped by whimsical wave shapes, and contains a moving steering wheel and portholes at child level. The main focus is the set of historic photos

of ships in Ganges Harbour from various eras.

"It was one of those projects that people said, 'this will never happen,'" observed Susan Wetmore, an islander who is interested in promoting historical tourism.

"It's a start and it's a first."

The project received support from Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission, CRD director Wayne McIntyre and the Salt Spring Lions Club. Samuels did most of her work pro bono.

Wetmore said additional funding help will be required for the final component, which will be a written description of the area's nautical history. There are also plans for adding historical plaques at other locations and with other themes, with First Nations history being a particular interest.

The unveiling ceremony takes place at 11 a.m. on Thursday. Everyone is welcome to attend.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Vincent and Marlo Leier check out the nautical history installation on the Centennial Park boardwalk. An unveiling event takes place on Thursday, Aug. 21.

PHILANTHROPY

Foundation marks 30 years of giving

Party brings community together this Sunday

SUBMITTED BY SSI FOUNDATION

John Lees would be proud. But no doubt the man who first envisioned the creation of the Salt Spring Island Foundation would also be astonished at the foundation's legacy over the past 30 years. By 2014, it had granted the amazing sum of over \$1.5 million to help support the work of local charities.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, from 12 to 3 p.m., the Salt Spring Island Foundation is celebrating its 30th anniversary with a community party at Centennial Park. The party is a wonderful opportunity for community members to come together with foundation volunteers and representatives of island non-profit organizations to enjoy a summer afternoon in the park and learn more about the foundation and its partners.

The Salt Spring Foundation has come a long way since John C. Lees first conceived of establishing a community endowment fund. Lees died on March 1, 1984, just five days before the Salt Spring Island Founda-

tion was registered as a public foundation with Revenue Canada in Ottawa. His \$10,000 bequest was the first donation to the Community Endowment Fund. Alan Pierce, Colin Mouat and Richard Toynbee were the first three trustees.

For several years, the foundation languished, but between 1991 and 2006, under the chairmanship of Bob Rush, the Community Endowment Fund swelled from around \$25,000 to \$2 million.

According to Carol Biely, who now chairs the foundation's board of directors, "Bob was, and is, devoted to the idea of the foundation and spent countless hours over many years encouraging islanders to support the fund and watching the impact our grants have made to island organizations. Most people living on the island have been touched by a foundation grant in some way, and Bob should take much of the credit for its success."

Rush's experience and knowledge of the island is still valued by other members of the Grants Advisory Committee.

Since Biely succeeded Rush as foundation chair in 2006, the organization has continued to flourish. In 2014, the Community Endowment Fund now approaches \$6 mil-

lion, mainly due to loyal donors and hard-working board and committee volunteers. Over 80 local non-profit organizations have benefitted from foundation grants since 1984. This means that the foundation has contributed to almost all of the island's important community projects and charitable institutions. This year, the foundation expects to grant over \$150,000.

The foundation's role has also evolved over the past 30 years. It now takes a more active part in assessing community priorities, such as the 2012 Community Needs Survey, and works with non-profit organizations to help address community challenges.

Sunday's party will feature a talented lineup of local musicians: Alan Moberg, Wesley Hardisty, The Gaia Soul Sistahs and Suzanne Gay.

Biely says, "This will be a fun event with great music and refreshments. We'll even have a kids' area with face painting, so it will be a real family party. It's our thank you to Salt Spring for generously supporting the foundation and local charities over the years. Even though there are many needs still to be filled in our community, we have plenty of reasons to celebrate."

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PHILIP JOHN TAMBOLINE

FEB. 10, 1938 - AUG. 17, 2014



IN LOVING MEMORY - It is with our deepest sadness that our husband, father and grandpa, Philip John Tamboline passed away at Nanaimo Hospital Sunday, August 17th after a long and courageous battle with several health complications.

Phil leaves behind his loving wife Marilyn, sons - Trevor (Katrina), Grant (Tina), Todd (Dawn), grandchildren - Sam, Alli, Jessi, Mikayla, Abi, Nicholas, Jacob and many relatives and friends.

Phil was a Commercial Salmon Fisherman for 25 years and worked for BC Ferries for 23 years. He was a gentle soul and loved by all.

The family is so very grateful for all those that helped take care of Phil and called with their love and concern. A special thank you to Dr. Robert Crichton, Maureen Gix and the rest of the team at Home Nursing Support, and the Canadian Red Cross. Phil requested a service not be held. In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to the Canadian Red Cross.

Salt Spring Hospice

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS DEATHS

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS DEATHS

Ruth Harriet Kreissl

August 20, 1917- August, 15, 2014.



Born to first generation immigrants from Norway in a sod hut on the family homestead near Plentywood, Montana. Ruth enjoyed an exciting life rich in history, adventure, family, humor, and mostly love.

At nearly 97, after receiving last rites with her children around her, she passed away quietly at Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring Island, BC after a quick but sharp downturn in health. Yes, she was predeceased by her parents, Ole and Ida, and two much older brothers, Overla and Boyd. After all, if they were alive, we would all be reading about what great medical miracles they are somewhere on an internet site instead of reading this obituary. Ruth is also predeceased by her beloved husband, Dr. Leonard John Kreissl, MD, who passed away in 1984, after 38 years of marriage. Mom leaves behind four much loved children: Mary Ellen (Ken) Warner of West Vancouver, BC; Leonard John "Jay" (Maureen) Kreissl of Seattle, WA; Laura Jean, Kreissl of Salt Spring Island, BC; and Teresa Alice "Terry" (Warren) Herzog of Broomfield, CO; and two grandchildren: Rachel Kearney Kreissl (Derek Tran) of Washington, DC and Lima, Peru; and Peter Kreissl of Seattle, WA.

Ruth spent her childhood years mostly in Montana, Chicago, and in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area of the United States. Her parents struggled hard throughout the great depression to not only keep the family housed and fed but also to insure that their children benefited from a higher education as they had done. Ruth graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1939. She trained as an X-ray and medical technician at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota and then worked throughout the 1940s in Grand Forks, ND, on US Army bases in Skagway and Fairbanks, AK during WWII, at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee, WI, and at Baylor Hospital in Dallas, TX before devoting many years of her life to raising their children in Dallas, TX; Milwaukee, WI; and eventually in Santa Rosa, CA with many summers, starting in 1962, on Salt Spring Island. She and Dad permanently immigrated to Canada and particularly to Salt Spring in 1971.

While raising the children, Ruth was an active member and often an officer of the Hospital Auxiliary, Blood Bank, Red Cross, Mothers' Club at the grammar schools, PTA, Catholic Women's group, helper at camp fire girls and boy scouts. Considering that most of the neighborhood children seemed to congregate at the Kreissl home and Mom still managed to keep the house and yard tidy, her patience and endurance became legendary. On Salt Spring, Mom was active as a volunteer with many organizations including the Red Cross, SS Library, Lady Minto Thrift Shop, Golden Hands, SPCA, Legion, Catholic Women's League, and as a teaching (reading) assistant at the grammar schools.

Throughout the years, Ruth and her family had a succession of pets. Mom endured some of the animals but was fond of or loved many others. In the last few decades Ruth could often be found walking one or two of her dogs at Mouat Park or on quieter roads around the island. She liked to remind her children at times that the pets were sometimes her "preferred" children as they hadn't been nearly as expensive or time-consuming to educate, always knew where their coats were, didn't squabble as much as youngsters, and were always happy when she called them.

Mom was blessed with good health throughout most of her life. It was only in the last few years that failing hearing, eyesight, and dementia seemed to rob her of some of the quality of her life. However, none of those could reduce her feistiness, or love of family and friends. We are so happy that Mom is in a better place but she will always be missed. Lawrence Welk has lost another fan.

Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 11 AM at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 135 Drake Road, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, BC with Father Ian Stuart officiating. A reception will follow at the church. Burial will be at Central Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the BC SPCA, SSI branch or the charity of your choice.

June Allison Beaddie

June 5, 1922 - August 17, 2014



It is with great sorrow that the family of June Allison Beaddie (formerly June Matthews/née Heather) announce her passing at the age of 92 in the Lady Minto Hospital.

June was born in Vancouver to the late Margaret and Guy Heather. During her twenties June worked with her father in the family fur business, G.G. Heather Furs on Granville Street. She was active in Soroptimist International and the United Church. June married Robert John Matthews, a British petroleum engineer, in 1951 and they had one daughter, Maggie Elaine.

June and Bob lived in Calgary until Bob's death in 1962, whereupon June returned to university (U.B.C.) at the age of 40 and qualified as an elementary school teacher. She then taught school for 10 years with both the Burnaby and Vancouver School Boards.

In 1968 June married Arthur Beaddie, and the two retired to Salt Spring in 1975, where they spent many happy years embracing the Salt Spring Island lifestyle. Together, they were active in the Anglican Church community, kept bees, grew vegetables and apple trees, hiked, and most importantly, enjoyed many wonderful friendships. Following Arthur's death in 1999, June continued to live in her beloved Vesuvius area home, and kept busy with church activities, growing prize winning dahlias, bridge and the rug hooking club.

June was predeceased by four siblings, George, Jessie, Mary and Robin. Her loss is mourned by her sister Emily (Comox, B.C.), daughter Maggie Elaine Corns, five grandchildren (Dan, Ben, Megan, Jon and Alison), three great-granddaughters (Giselle, Marissa and Sherise) and numerous nieces and nephews, and her many dear friends.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to the medical and nursing staff of the Lady Minto Hospital for their dedicated and caring support during this last difficult week. Special thanks to Dr. Magda Leon and nurse Danielle.

A Service of Thanksgiving for June's life will be held at All Saints Anglican Church, Ganges, on Monday, August 25th, 2014 at 1 pm. In lieu of flowers please send a donation to either the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, or to Soroptimist International, a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls.



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Mary Hammond Carlson (nee Smith)

August 9, 1920 - August 17, 2014

Mary passed away peacefully in Fort Langley, B.C. surrounded by family. She will be missed by her daughters Sue and Lynda (John), son Richard (Kim), grandson Ben (Yvonne), great grandchildren Isabelle and Samuel.

She was predeceased by her husband Walter in 1999.

Mary and Walter moved with their family to Salt Spring in 1963, and stayed in their summer cottage for 45 years. Mary enjoyed golfing, playing bridge, and rambling with the Trail and Nature group. She volunteered weekly in the library and at the Lady Minto Auxiliary Thrift Shop for years and years.

A woman of great wit, Mary loved working in her garden, building rock walls, and fighting off the deer. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimers Society of B.C. would be gratefully appreciated.



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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDINGS WEDDINGS

Mark and Debbi Toole are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Meaghen Patricia Toole to Erik Stefan Isfeld son of Lawrence and Janis Isfeld.

Vows were exchanged on Sunday, Aug. 17th at 11am at Lakeside Gardens Resort.

Couple will be residing in Victoria.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARDS OF THANKS CARDS OF THANKS

A Thank You to Robin Annschild

Our longtime staff member and dedicated conservation advocate is moving on. We appreciate her:

- Love for Salt Spring Island
- Dedication to Species at Risk
- Passion for the natural world
- Grants fundraising successes
- Many years at the Conservancy
- Tireless efforts to protect & restore Mt. Tuam, the Makaroff reserve and other special island places

We wish Robin the best as she moves ahead with her career.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 20

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOST AND FOUND

Found - Prescription glasses at Plum stand in Fulford. Claim at the Driftwood.

LOST KITTIES in lower Mt. Belcher area - missing since late Thursday, Aug. 14th. Small/medium gray manx (tailless, short tail), sprayed female tabby cats lost on lower Mt. Belcher Hts. Names are Holly & Ivy (4 white feet). The little ladies escaped their kennel on the day of arrival to SSI so do not have a sense of home. Holly is very shy and Ivy is cautious. Both are micro-chipped. If you see, or are able to lure, them in with a bit of food PLEASE let us know. Owner just lost her mother so this added worry is really hard. Call 250 537-5604.

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SOCCER

Players, refs, coaches needed

Time to gear up for new season



Malcolm Legg

SOCCER SHOTS

The rains have arrived and I know you are all thinking the same as me: soccer season is starting, right?

Or are you still basking in the excitement of the World Cup? Or just enjoying the pleasures of summer? Whatever it may be, you

are correct, the soccer season for the Salt Spring United Soccer Club is about to begin again, for both youth and adult teams. Here are some key points for you to know.

Registration

Players are still needed at all age groups for the coming season, so if you have not registered as of yet, it is time to do so. It is easy to do as you just go to www.saltspringsoccer.com and look for "registration" and fill out the form. If you have any questions, registrar Maggie Montague will answer them at 250-537-2808.

Teams

Josip and the technical committee are working hard putting the teams together, but of course final registrations will fully determine that. Currently we are offering the following teams by age group and gender:

- Boys U-11, U-12, U-13, U-14, U-15/16, and U-17/18.
- Girls U-11, U-12, U-13, U-14/16 and U-17/18.
- House and Tots programs (10 and under).

Contact the head of the technical committee, Sean Norgard, at 250-537-8313 for enquiries.

Coaches

Some of our teams have coaches, while some need coaches and/or assistants. If you have an interest in coaching or being trained to coach you can either register as a coach/manager on the website (www.saltspringsoccer.com) or contact technical director Josip Bratanovic at 1-250-590-7964 to discuss.

Referees

Our referees program under the guidance of head referee Malcolm Legg will be operating again, but it is important you register, as follows:

If a new referee, please contact mlegg@shaw.ca to register as a new referee as either a Class 5 (12 to 14 years of age), Class 4 (youth 14 and up) or Class 3 (adult).

Or, if you're an existing referee, contact myself at the same email, to register for this season.

We need referees, because without them the players and coaches have no one to complain to other than each other.

Scheduling Start-Up

Dates to note for the upcoming season for starting games:

- Adult: Sept. 13-14
- Gold Youth: Sept. 13-14
- Silver Youth: Sept. 20-21
- Bronze Youth: Sept. 27-28
- House Program: Sept. 27-28
- Tots Program: Sept. 27-28

Volunteers

As a club that relies on volunteers, we always need volunteers, whether as a director, coach, manager or taking care of a small duty. If you have some free time and wish to help our club in some way, please contact me at mlegg@shaw.ca or call me at 250-537-4970 (evenings) so I can discuss the options with you.

So with all this info you are ready to move forward with the soccer season, unless of course, you have not registered — so get that done now! Teams will be finalized by month's end at the latest and we will update you on your progress, but we also really need you to do your part, whether you're a player, a coach, manager, volunteer, referee or a director. Come to join our team for 2014-15 and watch the fun unfold for another soccer season.

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

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This Week's Horoscope

by **Michael O'Connor**
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Tip of the Week:

The Sun enters Virgo on August 22 at 9:46 pm PDT. This marks the official last month of summer which ends on September 22nd, Autumn Equinox. This time can accurately be called 'Virgo time'. Due to the tilt of the Earth's axis we experience the seasons - elementary. This system of Astrology has been in operation for about 2000 years, it was created to work this way. It can be described as a system of Astrology linked to the Sun's light and, by extension, the seasons. It can also be interpreted the other way around. What this tells us is that the nature of the sign is directly linked to the 'time of the year'. The Zodiacal constellations, while still recognized, are not the basis of this system. This has been clarified many times yet some people seem unable or unwilling to understand that Western Tropical Astrology is founded upon the seasons and the Sun's light. The orbital cycles of the planets within the context of this annual rhythm represent the variable factor of overlapping cycles. Like basic arithmetic, Western Astrology features a relatively fixed common denominator and variables. Despite repeated efforts to explain this basic model, it remains that every now and then someone emerges to credulously proclaim that Astrology 'is out of whack', as if they are cracking the code on some global conspiracy, because it does not defer to the Zodiacal Constellations. It is also remarkable to see how many people idly fall for it, without even trying to truly understand what they were so easily convinced to believe. This tendency can be witnessed in other areas where news and information is openly shared with the public and does not only apply to the logical basis of the model of Western Astrology.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Although the languor of summer may linger, you are ready to get to business. Your tanks may be pretty full but you may want to get some extra reserves. Yet, your focus is beginning to take a more sober and serious turn. This will become increasingly evident this week. With awareness of this transition you can strike the balance and have it all.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21) Transferring inspiration into actual creative expression and/or genuine feelings of compassion and desires to serve and heal continues. Heart opening experiences are flooding your senses. Feeling confident that you can or that your expressions will be well received may be an issue. Affirm that if you do it with, for and through love you will succeed.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) A cycle of rises and falls and of dramatic turns continues. These are forcing you to make choices and efforts you would prefer not to. Yet circumstances are compelling you to make certain sacrifices. It is important that you be willing to work it this way for a while. Yet, you may also feel the need for guidance, instruction and/or training.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Just when you might have thought things would slow down, they are accelerating. Suddenly you have more work and errands and details to attend to. It remains likely that you are open to invest, to take a few risks. Yet, you want to be informed. So, this is high on your 'to do' list, to ask questions and, more importantly, to get answers.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23) All being well, you have begun to take some key initiatives over the past few weeks, to make some real power moves. Now it is time to bring more practical and constructive critical analysis to the fore. The main objective is to be effective and to save time and money too, and to advance all the same. Listen well now, think twice, and buy later.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) The Sun in your sign suggests you have entered an important cycle inviting you to take some pioneering initiatives. What these are specifically depends on your circumstances. Either way, the more willing you are to see yourself, others, current realities and what you feel you need to do from new angles and perspectives, the better. Try something new!

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22) An expansive cycle with increased social opportunity has begun. Yet you may suddenly feel the need to pull back for a while. The main point is to rest and re-center. Your ambitions will not cease. Rather, you will be able to pursue them from a clearer and more energized state. Some amount of social activity remains a good idea, just less for a while.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21) It is likely that you have successfully attracted more attention over the past few weeks. Hopefully it is the kind you want. Beyond simply getting seen, you also have wanted to be heard, to clearly get a few key points across. Now the results of your efforts will really begin to come in. They will guide you to your next set of strategies, which you are already keen to assess.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21) If you have been waiting for a window of opportunity to make your next big move then get excited because it has arrived. There is reason to say you are still on something of a high but are now coming back down to earth (sigh). Making the most of it includes taking stock of your gifts, talents, skills and resources and making these available to be recognized.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19) You are in the mood to go big somehow. To this end you have been busily educating yourself and getting the facts. This learning curve focus continues and will for a few weeks yet. It remains likely that to succeed you have to enlist the talent and resources of others. Weaving your own special talents with theirs remains the key.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19) The time has come to deepen your focus. This includes investigation, research and perhaps meditation or deepened concentration. Determining what you have to use, share and trade and perhaps what you believe you are worth is one aspect. The other includes deciphering what you feel you need. Get clear on both accounts for increased success.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Focusing to increase your overall state of health has been a central theme these past few weeks. This could extend to your work as well as to your constitution. Now it is time to extend your reach to engage with others. It is likely that communications to this end have already begun. Now it is time for the next phase which includes decisions and commitments.

sports&recreation



YOUTH TENNIS

Rogers rookies hit the hot courts for junior tourney

Director Banman pleased with players' progress

The sixth annual Rogers Rookie Junior Tennis Tournament saw 16 junior tennis players aged seven to 14 turn out on Saturday, Aug. 9 at the Portlock Park tennis courts, including one who came from Panama City to participate.

Tournament director and coach Marianne Banman noted that this year's tournament was by far the most competitive since the first Salt Spring Island rookie tournament was introduced back in July 2009.

"I was absolutely impressed with the players' positive attitude and integrity during the match play," said Banman.

She said the skill level of participants had "improved 100 per cent" due to many factors. Many of the juniors have taken lessons and attended the Baseline Tennis Academy Summer Tennis Camps every summer for

the past six years or more. Many Salt Spring children also attend the golf/tennis camps hosted by the Salt Spring Tennis Association and Salt Spring Island Golf Club.

"This, together with the availability to play indoors at our new Centre Court during the winter months, is allowing more juniors to hit the fuzzy red, orange, yellow and green ball all year long," said Banman.

She gave special thanks to Thrifty Foods and the SSTA for generously donating food and prize donations year after year, PARC for providing court time, the dedicated team of volunteers who help with all facets of the event and the parents for supporting the sport of tennis.

"A high-five to all the rookie players who hung in there for over four hours of matches in over 85-degree heat. It always feels hotter on the courts."

Winners were Evan Baukol (U-8 division), Sam Barrett (U-12 boys), Kate Dubois (U-12 girls) and Oscar Lyytikainen (U-14).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Participants of the sixth annual Rogers Rookie Junior Tennis Tournament hope for a breeze after playing like champions in 30-degree Celsius heat.

TRAIL RUNNING

Cecill climbs ahead of the pack at ultra marathon



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Island-raised Fat Dog competitors and friends Dave Melanson, left, and Matt Cecill.

Islander wins gruelling Fat Dog 120 race

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring-raised runner ran nearly 200 kilometres and climbed the equivalent of Mount Everest over the weekend to win the Fat Dog 120 ultra marathon between Keremeos and Manning Provincial Park in just more than 25 hours.

Matt Cecill, 32, set a new course record on his way to

top spot in what is widely considered to be among the most difficult running races in North America.

"Immediately after the race I couldn't even walk under my own power," Cecill said in an interview nearly two days after crossing the finish line. "I have some bad blisters on the bottom of my feet, but they are also improving quickly. The general fatigue is what lingers the longest."

"I will continue to sleep a lot for the rest of this week."

Roughly one-third of the way into the race, Cecill

thought he may have to pull out because of severe hydration issues which led to leg cramps. Then there was a stinking bog that forced Cecill to switch shoes midway through the event.

"We needed to put his socks in a Ziplock bag," said Lynda Laushway, Cecill's mother and devoted support team member.

Laushway was among a crew of family and friends that provided encouragement, nutrition, hydration and footwear advice at checkpoints along the course.

Dave Melanson, Cecill's long-time friend and training partner, finished the race in 73rd place, crossing the finish line in 45:48:56.

"The most stunning part is that [the course's total elevation gain] is almost like climbing Mount Everest," Laushway said.

Cecill's effort earned him a two-night stay at the Manning Park Resort as well as a \$500 bonus for knocking one hour off the previous course record.

The victory is the latest in an impressive season that's seen him post top-three fin-

ishes at the Gorge Waterfall 100K and Sun Mountain 25K. He has also set new speed records for the 47-kilometre Juan de Fuca Trail (5 hours, 17 minutes) and 78-kilometre West Coast Trail (9 hours, 32 minutes).

Cecill credits a strict physical training regimen and pure stubbornness for his results this year.

"There are so many reasons and opportunities to stop and drop out of the race," he said. "Without an almost obsessive desire to cross the finish line, it probably won't happen."

SWIMMING

Stingrays make waves in Kamloops

Swimmers post strong provincial results

When it comes to the world of water sports in British Columbia, events don't get much more competitive than the B.C. Summer Swimming Association's provincial championships.

At least 14 island athletes held their own against the province's best swimmers during the 54th annual championship event, held in Kamloops from Aug. 15 to 17.

"We can be pretty proud of the kids who went," said Tanja Akerman.

Akerman's daughter, Taylor, made it to the finals of the Div. 3 breast stroke, where she finished seventh. Taylor followed up with a

seventh-place result in the Div. 3 200M medley regional relay.

"She was really excited," Akerman said.

Cassidy Fraser capped another impressive season with a pair of bronze medals in the Div. 7 100M and 50M fly.

Stingrays coach Kevin Nickerson was part of the first-place Div. 8 200M medley regional relay team and picked up a fifth-place finish in the Div. 8 100M fly and a ninth-place in the 50M fly.

Shane Webster finished in ninth-place in the Div. 6 100M backstroke and Mac Flett place 10th in the Div. 3 50M breaststroke.

Aaryn Funk placed fourth in the Div. 7 200M medley regional relay and ranked 13th in the 100M free. Austin Bisnar and Nick Koby

were part of the sixth-place Div. 4 200M medley regional relay.

Griffin Bohnet-Maul placed 14th in the Div. 3 50M breaststroke.

Lyyli Kennedy finished 11th in the Div. 6 100M breaststroke.

Rylan Burnett placed sixth in the Div. 4 200M relay and got 15th in the 100M backstroke.

Maddie Wesley-Plambeck was 16th in the Div. 5 100M breaststroke.

The tournament marks the end of the Stingrays' successful 2014 season, which saw an impressive number of athletes reaching the provincial competition.

Akerman said the success is due, in part, to a combination of strong swimmers, committed board members and a great swimming facility for the team to call home.

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