



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 54TH YEAR — ISSUE 8 **\$1.25** (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

PROVINCIALS BOUND: From left, wrestling coach Leon Esquivel, athletes Kevin Marr, Karol Esquivel and Jorel Anderson, and coach Robert Anderson celebrate achievements and pride at hosting the Vancouver Island championships Saturday. See story on Page 18.

FERRIES

Ferry cuts input wanted by Friday

Coastal residents prepare for protest in March

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ferry users have just a few more days to give feedback on BC Ferries schedule changes set to begin on April 28.

A section of the BC Ferries website called New Schedule Options lays out two choices for passengers to decide between on each affected route: the cuts as originally suggested by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, or a tweaked version that takes into account passenger input as to time of day, but maintains the government-mandated decrease. Choices can be registered until Feb. 21.

Salt Spring's Ferry Advisory Committee chair Harold Swierenga calls BC Ferries' options the best available compromise given the circumstances.

"It's not perfect — in fact, what we have now is not perfect. But it's better than what the ministry had proposed," he said Tuesday.

On Salt Spring's Vesuvius-Crofton route, the ferry company's option removes a late-morning sailing each day and one dangerous cargo sailing per week, but shifts sailings to allow evening service to leave Crofton just 25 minutes earlier than it does now. The MoTI version proposed cutting the last two evening sailings of the day during off-peak season, as well as early morning service on Saturdays.

One schedule will cover the Monday through Friday period, with another for Saturday and Sunday. At present the division is Monday-Thursday, and Friday-Sunday.

Gulf Islands passengers will also be affected by changes to Route 9, which include eliminating direct service between Long Harbour and Tsawwassen and other schedule adjustments on weekends during the off-peak season.

FERRY CUTS continued on 2

PARKS & REC

Off-roaders trash ridge trails

PARC asks for public assistance

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Users of the popular Channel Ridge trail network have been shocked to discover widespread destruction of natural areas and trails at the hands of dirt bikers and ATVs.

"This is going to damage the park significantly if it keeps going," said Lorraine Brewster, manager of the island's Parks and Recreation Commission, last week. "We don't want to see

it continue because it would basically destroy the ecosystem up there."

Damaged trails also mean PARC must deploy staff at the expense of other projects.

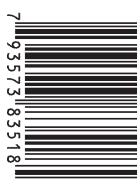
"It involves maintenance crews and can mean significant hours to bring trails back up to standard," Brewster said.

Much of the damage occurred along hiking trails and in a mossy meadow-like area between trail markers 21 and 26.

PARC staff and Capital Regional District bylaw enforcement personnel ask trail users and neighbourhood residents to watch for off-road vehicle owners using the Channel Ridge trails. Although anyone riding on PARC trails can be fined \$150 and charged under both the Criminal Code and Motor Vehicles Act, catching people in the act is problematic.

TRAILS continued on 4

Selected Bios ON SALE
Salt Spring Books



INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- Uncle Alberts
- Ganges Pharmsave
- Staples
- Thrifty Foods

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Ganges Auto Marine
MARINE

Zen Master Wolfgang says:
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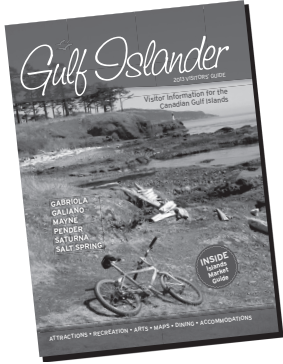
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SCHOOL DISTRICT

School board budget tips to deficit

Contract changes increase expenses

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Smaller-than-expected provincial grants and higher expenses have resulted in a probable deficit by the end of the school year, School District 64 financial administrators told the school board at its monthly meeting on Feb. 12.

Presenting the monthly expenditure report for January, treasurer Rod Scotvold noted the district is currently running 3.17 per cent under budget, but that he expected the situation to change.

"The best I can say is, based on the expenditures to date, I would say we are moving toward a small deficit at the end of the year," Scotvold said.

The district's finance manager Cindy Rodgers confirmed the projection in her presentation of a draft of the amended 2013-14 budget, which included a capital deficit of \$55,598. An operating deficit of \$227,963 is also registered, but will be covered by the prior year's operating surplus.

"The capital deficit is really just a timing difference between revenue recognition and amortization of capital assets," Rodgers explained.

She said the deficit had accrued

through a combination of factors, including smaller provincial transfers for students with designations and for geographical distance. At the same time, the district was required to pay higher teacher pensions that weren't funded by the government and an increased wage for CUPE union members.

Funding protection legislation meant the district's grants didn't fall below preliminary budget numbers, but they were less than last year's amount.

The school board can expect to do some more juggling in preparation for next year, as chair May McKenzie reported the district would be looking at how to comply with the recent B.C. Supreme Court judgement knocking down the province's authority to dictate class size and composition without teacher negotiation.

Deborah Nostdal, president of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, said she was pleased to hear it and she hoped the district would keep the ruling in mind when preparing the budget, noting how central class size and composition are to teaching conditions.

"It's a motherhood issue for us — it's so important," Nostdal said.

In other school board news, superintendent Lisa Halstead and Doug Livingston, the district's director of

instruction and learning, presented information on the Ministry of Education's plan for transforming assessment practices. The idea is to focus more on key competencies rather than only on concepts, and to use assessment to assist learning. The topic of how to actually do this will be addressed in depth at the district's planning retreat on March 7.

Halstead reported on the progress of a math-based inquiry project involving 20 volunteer teachers throughout the district. The project is based on a previous initiative called Changing Results for Young Readers, with consultation from Janet Hoag and Salt Spring Elementary principal Shelly Johnson. Each teacher chooses one student who may not have the greatest need but might "fall through the cracks," and works on different methods to change the outcomes for that person. The theory is that improving results for one student will improve results for everyone in the class.

Parent Jenny McClean presented a delegation in opposition to the Salt Spring Transportation Commission's plans to build a multi-use pathway for students on Rainbow Road.

The school board's next regular meeting will be held at Fernwood Elementary School on March 12, with the public portion starting at 1 p.m.

Buses organized for March 11 rally

FERRY CUTS

continued from 1

An option for feedback has not been provided for Route 9 changes.

Swierenga believes capacity could be a worry during the shoulder season on Route 9, as sailings tend to be completely booked by reservation.

"I think on balance, though, we're not as hard hit as other areas, like Powell River," he said.

He added the potentially devastating interruption to the Cariboo-Chilcotin tourist trade, caused by MoTI's decision to end Route 40 to Bella Coola, is causing the most outrage from businesses both at home and in Europe, as reported in Sunday's Province newspaper.

MoTI predicts the changes, which follow an extensive con-

sultation process initiated by the provincial government last fall, will save BC Ferries \$14 million over two years.

The Salt Spring Island Ferry Action Alliance, a group that includes the island's elected officials and other community leaders, is equally concerned about the local impact of service cuts and rising fares. The group is organizing bus transportation for islanders who wish to take part in a massive protest at the B.C. Legislature on Tuesday, March 11.

"Salt Springers have not been as badly hit by the current round of cutbacks and fare increases as many communities to the north, but our economy will still suffer," a press release from the group explains.

"In addition, the B.C. government's current ferry policies mean that further cutbacks and

fare increases in the future are inevitable. This is already creating considerable uncertainty for all Salt Spring residents and businesses, and will lead to more hardship in coming years."

Participants should car pool to Fulford and board the 9:50 a.m. ferry to Swartz Bay as foot passengers. Buses to Victoria will be waiting at the Swartz Bay terminal.

Return tickets for \$10 will be available at Salt Spring Books. For more information, call Peter Grove at 250-537-1117, or email pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca.

BC Ferries will post its final schedule changes by April 1. The changes will go into effect on April 28.

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NEWS BEAT

Heads up!

SS Parks & Recreation Commission meeting

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 25

Portlock Park portable, 5 p.m.

EDUCATION

Island schools in crisis look for new home in SD64

Denman Island latest to consider switch

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An ongoing crisis at Denman Island Community School that erupted into a full-scale protest earlier this month has resulted in a desperate request from parents wanting to join the Gulf Islands School District.

The plea may seem to have come out of the blue, but what's more surprising is it's not the first island to propose such a move during the past two years. Thetis and Gabriola island parents have made similar requests, suggesting a district formerly plagued by financial disasters has come into its own as a place of stability and progressive ideas.

School District 64 may have received its reputation as a centre of innovation under former superintendent Jeff Hopkins. His interest in shifting outdated education structures to a new philosophy dubbed "21st-century learning" gained the attention of the world's biggest champions of the movement, bringing British education pioneer John Abbott to visit the district several times.

Hopkins' willingness to stretch the boundaries of how education is delivered also helped bring about a singular event in B.C. history, when Windsor House School left its North Vancouver School District to join the Gulf Islands in 2011 — not physically, but administratively and philosophically. While the move was never intended to become a model

for future policy, Hopkins noted at the time that it did set a precedent.

"Schools that are feeling threatened by being too small or not aligning philosophically with their district could look for another umbrella to be under. I think if that does happen it could be very interesting for B.C.," he said in July 2011.

May McKenzie, the longtime chair of the Gulf Islands Board of Education, said the move undoubtedly led to the more recent appeals, such as the email she received from Denman Island.

"The main reason people have heard of it is because of Windsor House, because it's such an alternative program and we took it on happily and cheerfully," she said.

"And they also know we have a good handle on maximizing the funds on the smaller islands."

However, a set of unique circumstances surrounded the earlier deal, including a district that could no longer support separate alternative programs and wanted to consolidate five offerings, and a school founder who was strongly opposed to such consolidation and committed to keeping the program going.

The North Vancouver School District was happy to let the program go. Hopkins was meanwhile excited by what Windsor House had to offer, with its co-constructive teaching model.

More recent requests have been driven by parent groups who want to establish alternative programs on their home islands, or who feel like they're not getting a fair deal from their home districts. In each case, island schools and their unique cul-



PHOTO BY COLBY O'NEILL

Denman Island families protest abrupt staffing changes at their school, which led to parents contacting School District 64 about a possible move.

tures have clashed to some degree with larger school districts governed from a distant municipal base in Duncan, Nanaimo or Courtenay.

The situation in Denman Island's Kindergarten-Grade 8 school involves a new principal and an apparently unresponsive senior administration.

"Over the past three months, every teacher has resigned, been seconded to a new post off of their island of residence, or gone on an unexplained leave of absence," parent Colby O'Neill wrote in an email to the Driftwood. "Children at the community school are reeling from the abrupt displacement of the school staff and, after receiving no answers from the school district or the principal, parents are taking matters into their own hands."

Parents staged a protest at the school on Feb. 6 in an attempt to get answers and their previous teaching staff restored. Denman's Parent Advisory Council then had a long-awaited meeting with district superintendent Sherry Elwood on Feb. 9.

PAC liaison Keith Porteus, writing another email to the Driftwood, reported the meeting was a positive one and that steps were made to move past conflict and into collaboration.

"We felt our concerns were heard and were met with a series of mutually satisfying commitments from SD71 . . . We believe that Sherry Elwood and her staff have acted in good faith and everyone is mindful that the follow-up work will be key in moving all of us forward in support of a healthy learning environment

for Denman Island Community School children," Porteus said.

While the situation on Denman will potentially be resolved, O'Neill said there may still be interest in joining SD64. Getting Ministry of Education support for such a plan without the backing of the home district is questionable, however.

"Windsor House was a fully functioning program. The only issue was finding them space," McKenzie said.

It is also debatable whether any district would let its island school go, since school boards receive extra funds for students in schools that are distant from their head office. The geographical formula is one of the things that makes it more financially sound to keep the Gulf Islands' outer island schools open despite low enrollment.

McKenzie said SD64's philosophy is to accommodate as many programs as it can, but when it comes to incorporating more distant islands, so far the answer has been no. The reason is a combination of having a new senior administration team that has enough on its plate, and not being able to offer more staff or resources than schools are already getting.

"Windsor House got complex because of union issues, but we got through that and we had the ministry's blessing so it was a win-win," McKenzie said. "It would be a different thing to try to do [with other island schools]."

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

NEWS BRIEFS

Volunteers accept branches

Saturday, Feb. 22, is Bring Your Branches Day.

With spring just around the corner, volunteers at the Salt Spring Golf Club parking lot will be welcom-

ing surplus tree prunings and branches — clean material under 15 centimetres (five inches) in diameter that will go through a chipper. A suggested donation of \$5 per pickup is requested to help cover chipping costs.

Invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and broom cannot be accept-

ed, but may be dropped off in the marked enclosures at the end of Kanaka Road (on the left before Rainbow Road Park).

B&E suspects identified

Salt Spring RCMP have three suspects in a rash of break and enter incidents

that occurred over the Family Day long weekend.

Thieves broke into the Vesuvius Cafe and Store, Gulf Islands Secondary School and two private residences, nabbing over \$500 in merchandise, a laptop computer and two cameras in the process. Sgt. George Jenkins

said no information on the suspects could be released at this time as the investigation is still underway.

In other police news, RCMP officers responded to 27 calls over the past week. Incidents included the theft of a bicycle on Maliview Drive and a report of the Microsoft

Scam.

Jenkins warned residents not to fall for unsolicited service calls and never to give out passwords or credit card numbers.

"Unless you call in on a confirmed Microsoft line and ask for tech support, Microsoft is not going to be calling you," he said.

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

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Islands Trust

ISLANDS TRUST MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee will hold a Public Hearing within a Local Trust Committee Business Meeting on:

- Proposed Bylaw No. 159 – cited as “Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144, 2007, Amendment No. 1, 2013”
- Proposed Bylaw No. 160 – cited as “Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146, 2008, Amendment No. 2, 2013”

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaws at **1:00 p.m., February 26, 2014, Mayne Island Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island, B.C.**

At the Public Hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaws shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaws.

Proposed Bylaw No. 159 – cited as “Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144, 2007, Amendment No. 1, 2013”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 159, is to amend Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144, by establishing policy that would permit secondary suites within the Mayne Island Local Trust Area.

Proposed Bylaw No. 160 – cited as “Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146, 2008, Amendment No. 2, 2013”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 160, is to amend Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146, by inserting wording to allow secondary suites having a floor area of 60 square metres or less to be permitted in the Settlement Residential, Rural, Upland and Agricultural zones. All subdivisions on community water systems have been excluded. Proposed Bylaw No. 160, contains several conditions that apply to the establishment of a secondary suite.

A copy of the proposed bylaws and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaws may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing February 12, 2014 and up to and including February 25, 2014.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the proposed bylaws may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Mayne Island, B.C., commencing February 12, 2014. The proposed bylaws can also be viewed on the internet at the following URL: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/mayne/bylaws

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. The office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, by Fax (250) 405-5155 prior to **4:30 p.m. February 25, 2014**
2. By email to: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca
3. After **4:30 p.m., February 25, 2014**, to the Local Trust Committee at the **Public Hearing at 1:00 pm, February 26, 2014**

The public is asked to send any electronic response by using the email address vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca. The Islands Trust does not guarantee that any email submission will be received by the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide email submissions, if they are opened and received, to the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee for consideration, but the public should not rely on email as a means of providing a written submission.

Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaws may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Gary Richardson, Planner, at (250) 405-5157 or, for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

NO REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario, Deputy Secretary

FEDERAL POLITICS

Chow connects with islanders

Memoir recounts life of ‘Shakespearean’ proportions

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For an ArtSpring crowd unsure about how to handle the prospect of another Conservative election victory in 2015, Olivia Chow's visit to Salt Spring last week offered an opportunity for hope.

“This was unlike any other book launch I’ve ever been to,” Chow confessed near the end of a nearly two-hour question-and-answer session moderated by George Ehring, a former Salt Spring Local Trust Committee member who met Chow 30 years ago while both worked on an NDP campaign in Toronto.

Politics, it turned out, proved the order of the evening, which isn't too surprising when you consider Chow's lengthy career as an eminent Toronto NDP MP, former city councillor and spouse of the late Jack Layton, who guided his party to unprecedented heights in the last federal election. Then again, perhaps Chow hadn't expected Salt Spring to be the source of such fervent interest in federal affairs.

On the federal scene, she still has many questions about Justin Trudeau's vision and harsh words for the scandal-bound Senate. On the municipal level, she wasn't prepared to offer Salt Spring's press a scoop by announcing plans to run against incumbent Rob Ford in local elections later this year. Provincially, well, she neglected to speak to the topic of what exactly happened to



OLIVIA CHOW
AT ARTSPRING

the BC NDP — Salt Spring's Gary Holman notwithstanding — in the 2013 provincial election.

“You never know about the polls,” she said. “Just look at what happened for us

in Quebec [in 2011's federal election].”

Throughout the barrage of political queries posed by many of the roughly 150 participants, however, Chow offered a glimpse of the person beneath the political veneer.

Chow's memoir, *My Journey*, is divided into four main sections, only one of which deals specifically with politics of the parliamentary variety.

More than a book about the life of a Toronto MP, Chow's story offers an intimate look into the struggles so many face on a daily basis. It's that background that, somewhat ironically, has fuelled her political drive.

As a fine arts major, she breaks the educational mold set by most MPs. Born to parents from Hong Kong, Chow brings a first-hand perspective on the immigrant experience into the federal political arena.

By openly speaking about the grieving process in the wake of Layton's death, Chow has established an emotional bond with thousands of Canadians who've turned to her for advice and inspiration. Similarly, Chow's eagerness to speak of her faith and an appreciation for Canada's wild places provides depth to a character one wouldn't normally expect to come out of a downtown Toronto riding.

Throughout her political career, which began at a rainy Toronto demonstration held to raise awareness about Vietnamese boat people, Chow said she's based her entire philosophy on the need to break down the abstraction that prevents people from trusting and relating to the individuals elected to represent them.

“Once you translate the issue, make connections and connect it to the politicians,” she said, “it's no longer an abstract process.”

As a Toronto School Board member, Chow gained insight into empathy and community protest when she assisted a student-led campaign to obtain fair transit fares. The effort, which required her to begin by letting students know school board and transit board members were, one, elected and, two, accountable for their decisions on election day, resulted in thousands of people paying their transit fares with pennies, a move that ground operations to a near standstill and encouraged trustees to heed students' demands.

“There are a lot of situations where youth can be involved. They just need someone to lead them, but not by telling them but finding out what bothers them,” she said.

For those in the audience who felt fearful, angry or powerless at the prospect of another four years with Stephen Harper at the helm, Chow said it's time to get proactive and spread awareness to neighbouring ridings.

“It's up to people who are politically engaged to connect with people who are interested with the issues but are not engaged politically,” she told the audience.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Wind storm sparks power-line fire

Public reminded to stay away from downed lines

Firefighters and linesmen faced arcing power lines and downed trees when a winter storm blew across Salt Spring Island over the weekend.

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue was paged for a power-line fire just before 9 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15.

Two trees fell across the road onto power lines,

which caused an electrical fire in roadside brush and blocked traffic at Langs Road, reported SSIFR incident commander Cody Hunsberger.

“They were sparking pretty good and it started a fire that was getting bigger until it tripped the breaker,” Hunsberger said.

Eight firefighters monitored the scene and blocked access to the area until a Mainroad crew barricaded the road and B.C. Hydro workers arrived to repair the line damage.

“As soon as the power went out, the fire was extinguished.”

Hunsberger reminds islanders that they must remain at least 10 metres (33 feet) clear from downed power lines, even if they do not obviously appear energized.

“When in doubt, it's best to stay a power-pole length away.”

He noted that two would-be Good Samaritans were killed in August 2012 when they approached a car-crash

victim under downed power lines near Los Angeles.

BC Hydro crews contended with numerous lines down and power outages on Saturday night following powerful southeast winds.

A weather warning from Environment Canada forecast winds of 80 km/h with gusts up to 100 km/h as a Pacific storm arrived Friday. Occasional gusts reached 85 km/h on Sunday.

TRAILS

continued from 1

“Getting the community involved is so helpful for us because we can't be there all the time,” she said. “You need to be there at the right time and at the right place.”

CRD bylaw enforcement officer Wolfgang Brunnwieser said he suspects many people who use the trails drive their off-road vehicles to the trailheads in pickups or trailers. Pictures of riders or licence plates, he added, are very useful.

He said it's hard to determine where the riders are accessing the park but added that most of the incidents

are probably taking place during the day on weekends.

“It's not at night,” he said. “They're not that stupid.”

What sounds like a neighbour's chainsaw, he added, might indicate that a suspect is riding around in the trail network.

“The only way the whole system can work is if we all work together. This is for the island, for everyone's benefit,” he said. “We are trying to keep the parks nice and the vegetation healthy, but it only takes a couple of yahoos to mess up everything.”

“Every pair of eyes that watches helps.”

Anyone who catches people using PARC trails illegally is asked to call PARC at 250-537-4448 or the RCMP at 250-537-5555.

Channel Ridge eyes and ears needed

HEALTH CARE

Greenwoods gets green light on sprinkler installation

Island Health funds project

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Greenwoods Complex Care facility will soon receive an important safety upgrade thanks to Island Health's support of a sprinkler system installation.

Greenwoods manager Andrew Brown said the seniors home will start asking for project tenders this Friday, having just received word that its request and the \$408,000 in funds to go along with it have been approved.

"Island Health has been very receptive to my plans

and has expedited approval for this project," Brown said.

"We're really pleased. Island Health has been supportive of all our efforts to improve safety and care."

Despite having advanced safety and emergency evacuation plans in place that were endorsed by Salt Spring Fire Chief Tom Bremner and take into account the lack of sprinklers, Greenwoods became one of the seniors' facilities in focus after a tragic fire in L'Isle-Verte, Que. claimed 32 lives last month.

"The trouble we have with our sprinkler system is that we don't have a sys-

tem outside of the administrative areas," Brown explained.

"The building code did not require sprinklers in buildings of this type until the mid 1990s. A renovation of the front administration area in the '90s resulted in sprinklers being installed only in those areas to meet code. All other areas have been excluded due to government allowing for 'grandfathering' to bypass federal recommendations."

Brown's capital plan includes the installation of sprinklers throughout the areas not currently covered, including all clinical and common areas and the attic, as well as updating a

number of supporting systems and equipment.

"Island Health has been supportive of all our efforts to improve safety and care."

ANDREW BROWN
Greenwoods manager

In addition to the safety upgrades, Brown said education and awareness for staff on how to maximize safety plans and technology

will be of primary importance.

Greenwoods relies on fundraising for almost all of its costs outside of basic operations, and will seek help from the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society for this need.

"I have applied for support from the LMHA and they will be discussing funding our education costs for the roll-out of the new plan and for ongoing annual support for the next couple of years," Brown said.

"Such a grant would be an extremely effective means to improve the safety, comfort and care of our residents in a disastrous event."

Brown said because this type of education needs to

be done in small groups, the cost is high, and is estimated to fall within \$6,000 to \$8,000.

LMHA, which raises money through the Lady Minto Thrift Store, contributed almost \$104,000 to Greenwoods and Braehaven in the 2013-14 budget year. President Ann Heeley-Ray said the organization will discuss and vote on next year's funding awards at its annual general meeting in May.

"There's always some piece of equipment that would be a great help," she said, noting the health authority's funding formula "doesn't begin to cover the extras beyond staff salary and medicine."

OUTER ISLANDS RCMP

Telephone scam reaps thousands

Wood thieves strike Galiano

Outer Islands RCMP warn people to be wary of telephone scammers following an incident that cost a

Mayne Island resident nearly \$4,000.

The scammer called the elderly woman in January to report that the woman's grandson had caused an accident and required immediate financial assistance by

means of a money transfer.

"It turned out to be a scam and her grandson had not been in an accident," said Cst. Christopher Stoddard.

Meanwhile, on Galiano Island, police are on the lookout for up to four cords of

wood that were stolen from a Clanton Road property.

Anyone with information about the stolen wood, believed to have a value of approximately \$1,000, can speak with Cst. Stoddard at 250-629-6171.

WATER QUALITY

Forum buoys hope for St. Mary

Tax requisition comment deadline is Feb. 28

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The chair of Salt Spring's Watershed Protection Authority is optimistic about remediation plans to bring St. Mary Lake away from the brink of disaster.

"I get the feeling the tide is turning," said George Grams, speaking in the wake of a national water quality conference held in Duncan at the end of January.

"It was very encouraging to see so many local communities from across British Columbia and Canada working together to determine how they can play a stronger role in the protection of their local watersheds," he added.

Grams, who attended portions of the three-day conference with other SSIWPA members, said the event emphasized the role of multi-agency collaboration and stable funding, be it from local or provincial government or philanthropy, when it comes to solving watershed problems.

"On Salt Spring Island,

we are confident that, with appropriate support from the member agencies of SSIWPA, including the provincial government, and with a strong community engagement process, we will be able to collaboratively create the most effective remediation strategy for the St Mary Lake watershed."

The conference coincided with SSIWPA's request for approximately \$110,000 in funding for a full-time coordinator. The funds are being requested through a special property tax requisition that, if approved by Trust Council in early March, will apply to all Salt Spring property owners.

Property owners can anticipate a 4.3 per cent increase in the Islands Trust portion of their tax bill later this year. The special requisition will require an additional \$3.38 in tax for every \$100,000 of a residential property's value.

Budget details are available from Salt Spring's Trust office or by calling 250-537-9144. The deadline for public submissions on this — or any other aspect of the Trust's proposed 2014-15 budget — is noon on Friday, Feb.

28.

The Watersheds 2014 conference featured leading national and international speakers on a wide range of watershed issues, including watershed governance, such as community-based monitoring, public engagement, legal tools, sustainable financing and shared decision-making.

"Across Canada, and definitely in B.C., there is a rapidly growing movement of community leaders, local governments and experts who see collaborative, watershed-based approaches to decision-making as essential for protecting our rivers, lakes and streams," said Michele-Lee Moore, an assistant professor in the University of Victoria Department of Geography and one of the lead organizers of Watersheds 2014.

"Coming out of the forum, the message was loud and clear. Local communities and First Nations want to see their knowledge and interests reflected in decisions that affect their local watersheds. They are ready to be leaders in freshwater stewardship."

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BC Ferries' Sailing Schedule Refinement Options — Public Survey

After conducting engagement sessions in the communities that would be affected by proposed sailing reductions across the coastal ferry service network, the provincial government has recently confirmed a plan to reduce sailings across a number of routes serviced by BC Ferries.

BC Ferries will now implement these service adjustments to ensure new route schedules are in effect by April 28, 2014.

BC Ferries is seeking public opinion regarding schedule options for all of the affected routes. Anyone interested in recommending a preference for one of the schedule options available for each route they utilize may do so through an online survey that will be made available from **February 12 - 21, 2014**. To participate in the survey, please visit bcferries.com and look for the section titled "New Schedule Options".

BC Ferries

OPINION



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



EDITORIAL

What we really think

Sometimes it's hard not to laugh at the preoccupation with "public input."

Take the BC Ferries process that wants opinions about specific sailing cuts coming our way as of April 28. A "New Schedule Options" page at www.bcferries.com sets out two choices, asking us to name a preference. Using the Crofton to Vesuvius Bay route as an example, it sets out the ridiculous option first proposed by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, which would have seen the last two sailings hacked from current service and the last ferry to Vesuvius leaving at 6:55 p.m. in off-peak season (among other changes). The second choice is the much more reasonable schedule released last week, where the final sailing from Crofton is at 8:35 p.m. through the week and 9:35 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Two sailings are still lost: one in the late morning and one in the early evening when departure times are spread out. Although some

THE ISSUE:
Proposed ferry schedules

WE SAY:
Public input process is silly

individuals will no doubt be negatively impacted, Salt Spring Islanders can't complain about the compromise schedule. How it could possibly be considered less desirable than the crude option first proposed is baffling. Still — we've been asked for an opinion and should probably take a moment to give it, in case apathy lands us with something we don't want.

We'd love to cry about the off-peak-season loss of direct sailings between Long Harbour and Tsawwassen on Fridays and Saturdays, but that would not be reasonable. In any event, the consultation process does not allow for input on that plan. It's happening regardless.

Whether the schedule changes will actually help achieve the targeted \$14 million in operational savings remains to be seen. With the seniors subsidy cut in half, another fare hike set for April 1 and fewer sailing options, halting the downward ridership spiral could be a challenge. The lower Canadian dollar, which should fuel American tourist visits, may be BC Ferries' best ally in the fight to boost revenue.

Even if the government's plan achieves the short-term savings it desires, that won't make BC Ferries "sustainable." The last few months spent dissecting ferry operations have made that clear.

To ensure the government doesn't think the ferry problem will sail away with new schedules on April 28, a rally is planned for March 11 at the BC Legislature. That's where real public input will be heard.



VIEWPOINT by George Grams

SSIWPA tax concerns addressed

This is a response to three points made by Lisa Maffi in the Feb. 5 Driftwood ("SSIWPA questions" letter).

The St. Mary Lake Watershed Management Plan identifies that "some mechanism is needed to identify the sum total of activities necessary to protect water sources, and to foster co-operation of agencies and residents." The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority does just that.

It brings together each of the individual decision-making entities that have jurisdiction over the state of our local drinking water resources. With this, a whole ecosystem approach to watershed management is possible. The member agencies have committed to "pool resources, gather and share information, integrate policy development and coordinate action for the improved raw water quality and the health and protection of both surface and ground-water watersheds in all of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area."

This example of collaborative watershed governance is innovative and recommended by think tanks such as the POLIS Project on Ecological Governance. It is a shift away from decisions that are limited in scope and authority, made in isolation without consideration of the big picture and a shift towards integrated decision making that can better meet the call for a more resilient future.

Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee is the first in the Trust Area to have been granted delegated powers with the purpose of assuming coordinated watershed management. We are breaking new ground in terms of Islands Trust governance, and I am very enthusiastic about our approach. I make no apology for expressing that enthusiasm nor for asking those in the community who share it to do likewise. Many have already done so. Equally, if islanders have questions or concerns, please communicate them, as Ms. Maffi has done, so we can try to address them.

Ms. Maffi expresses some perplexity with regard to how the

requisition tax will be expended. Because this is a new position, we can only make estimates on the likely time that coordination will require to effectively include the community in the decision-making process, to support the Technical Advisory Committee and to advance the goals of SSIWPA's annual work plan. Full disclosure has been made of the estimated budget breakdown and is posted on the Islands Trust website at <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/media/253414/SSI%20LTC%20Briefing%20to%20FPC%20Nov132013.pdf>.

- In answer to Ms. Maffi's concerns regarding transparency:
 - The contract for coordinator support was advertised in the newspaper and posted on public websites (SSIWPA and Islands Trust); the description of responsibilities was and is publicly available on the SSIWPA website; and the process to select a coordinator was extensive and is fully documented. That information involves the protection of privacy, and is not made public.
 - The selection process involved review by a subcommittee appointed by the SSIWPA steering group. Each member of the subcommittee ranked the candidates based on pre-set evaluation criteria. The coordinator was selected based on an average of these results. The subcommittee was unanimous in the recommendation they made to the steering group, and the steering group was unanimous in endorsing the recommendation from the subcommittee.
 - The initial contract was small — \$8,000 — which qualifies under Trust policies for a direct award.
 - The process was above and beyond Islands Trust procurement policy requirements to award a contract of this amount.
- I trust this addresses Ms. Maffi's concerns.

The writer is a Salt Spring Island local trustee and chair of SSIWPA.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

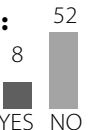
Do you support the SSIWPA Trust tax?

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.

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is the Fair Elections Act really that fair?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "When in doubt, it's best to stay a power-pole length away!"

SS FIREFIGHTER CODY HUNSBERGER, ON DOWNED POWER-LINE SAFETY

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Which Olympic event would you like to attend in person?



MIKE GRUENDEL WITH NOLAN
Snowboardcross — I find it exciting because there's usually bodies strewn everywhere by the end of it.



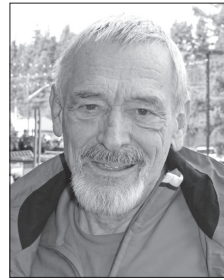
TRAVIS GREENHOUGH
Canada in the gold medal hockey game.



LORNE GRAND
Downhill skiing.



ROSE FEWINGS
Curling, because I lived in Manitoba a lot of my life and was an avid curler.



LARRY CROSS
Women's curling — Jennifer Jones is a beautiful woman.

Letters to the editor

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

Respect rights

"Private property phobias" my foot! What do people like Charles Kahn ("Island-wide trail system needs public vision," Feb. 5) do to maintain trails or paths on private property?

Trail users leave a worn footprint, cigarette butts and beer bottles; they disturb wildlife and farm animals; they don't clear brush, tend bonfires or cut the grass; and they don't pay our taxes — and they probably don't want strangers wandering through their own yards!

We have been happy to share our land with family, friends and neighbours for almost 40 years, but we like to know who is walking across our property. We love and tend every inch of it, leaving choice bits for the deer, rabbits, raccoons and birds.

The eco-system here is fragile, and there are no established pathways. Mr. Kahn's idealistic view of British "right-of-ways" is not comparable to

the situation on Salt Spring. Here we have numerous and very beautiful parks and public paths for people to enjoy without trespassing. Both a lawyer and an insurance broker contradict Mr. Kahn's opinion on liability issues. People like Mr. Kahn could cause us to rethink our "no fence" policy.

I believe we still live in a country with property rights, so please respect land owners' right to privacy. Thank you.

KATHY THOMAS,
SALT SPRING

Noisier guns?

I cannot help but wonder what this whole issue concerning Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club gun noise bothering the people of Churchill Road is all about. Are they building shotguns bigger now?

I don't know why it is that, in 50 years of living here, I have heard at most maybe 20 people talk about the sounds of a trap shoot at the Rod and Gun Club. And I know in those 10 or

20 times it wasn't in the nature of a complaint but more of a mention and conversation. It makes me wonder what the whole fuss and hullabaloo is all about.

The Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club is an old — 100-years-old — club. It provides a safe and organized place to shoot. It has experienced people who teach the finer points of rifle, pistol, trap shooting, gun safety and archery to many, young and old. It has put Salt Spring "on the map" with an impressive list of champs competing in other communities who started right here on Salt Spring.

It has also hosted wedding receptions, campouts and many other events over the years. I would add that the club is a self-supporting club, paying its own bills, and is no burden in any way to taxpayers.

I would suggest that the whole affair results from this: that the "live and let live" attitude that we've maintained

and cultivated in this community is being replaced by a creeping "urbanization."

I would also like to allude to a reference in last week's Driftwood by letter-writer John Callas that states "property values have been reduced by the club's shooting." This makes it sound like the gun club just came along out of the blue recently and everybody's values went down. If properties are at a reduced value, they were likely purchased at a reduced value.

The gun club has quite drastically reduced its shooting times from what they used to be, to cooperate with neighbours, or like I say, maybe they're building guns bigger and louder now.

In my opinion, the entirety of these recent efforts to shut down the Rod and Gun Club are less about family and community and more about enhancement of property values.

JIM MCCLEAN,
SALT SPRING

Tanker traffic

For those of you who are concerned about future tanker traffic in our waters, you might be interested to know that there are already many cargo/bulk carriers and a few oil/chemical tankers being parked within the southern Gulf Islands on a regular basis.

As of last Wednesday afternoon, 29 bulk/cargo carriers parked in our neighbourhood! Five were parked off Nanaimo, one off the southern tip of Gabriola, five between Thetis/Kuper and Valdes islands, five off Ladysmith, three off Penelakut Island, five in Cowichan Bay, and five between the Penders and Saturna.

What is it going to be like in the future when more oil tankers might be added to the mix?

If you want to watch the movement of these ships, you can see it all at www.marinetraffic.com. It's very interesting. **SUSAN THORPE MACLEOD,**
ROLAND ROAD

Ferry protest organized

A rally to protest BC Ferries fare increases and service cuts is being planned for March 11, starting at 11 a.m., at the legislature in Victoria.

The government's present approach to funding BC Ferries is not sustainable and will cause serious damage to our island's economy and future, and to that of other ferry-dependent communities, if it is allowed to continue.

Letters of protest to Minister Todd Stone are important. Send them to todd.stone.mla@leg.bc.ca.

We can also make our voices heard at the March 11 rally. I plan to attend and urge you to do so also. Bus transportation will be available.

PETER GROVE,
SALT SPRING TRUSTEE

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Pussy Riot film reveals true state of Russia

BY MURRAY REISS

Somewhere under the elaborate \$50-billion façade erected at Sochi for the Winter Olympics lies the true, bleeding heart of Vladimir Putin's Russia, and there is no better place to find it than Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer, one of the prize-winning documentaries featured in this year's Salt Spring Film Festival.

Before Pussy Riot became an international cause, taken up by the likes of Madonna, it was (and remains) a feminist art collective — a small, fluid band of balaclava-wearing women that staged guerrilla performances in Moscow locations ranging from fashion shows to a garage roof outside a jail. A group of girls in their early 20s, who pioneered a virtually non-existent Russian feminist/Riot Grrrl culture, using their art to bravely draw attention to Russia's urgent political state. Though they protested everything from political repression to unbridled consumerism, they were pretty much ignored by Putin's state apparatus.

All that changed when they sang their Punk Prayer: Mother of God Drive Putin Away in Moscow's most opulent cathedral, favoured

by government officials and church hierarchy. Their performance shook Russia to its core. The film focuses on Nadia, Masha and Katia, the three Pussy Riot members who were arrested there and charged with "felony hooliganism," a so-called hate crime against Russian Orthodox believers.

The ferocity of the state's reaction take even Pussy Riot by surprise. Remarkably light-hearted before invading the cathedral, their preparations amount to: "During the verses we just go nuts? Yeah, but let's try to make it go to the music."

Even more surprising is the undercurrent of medieval religiosity we see bursting through the surface of Russian society. Orthodox activists call the three young women, and mean it quite literally, demons.

"In the 16th century," one says, "we would have hanged them, burned them." They carry their "spiritual weapons" — long heavy crosses — to demonstrations. Earlier, Pussy Riot described their weapons as "masks, dresses, musical instruments, lyrics. We write a song, some music and think of a good place to

perform."

For the Orthodox, the cathedral is the fortress of their faith.

To Pussy Riot, it's a symbol of how Putin uses the church's legitimacy, congregation and nationalist bona fides as a political base, and the church gains protection from too much scrutiny.

Through interviews with band members and their family the film highlights the forces that transformed Masha, Nadia and Katia from playful political activists to modern-day icons. Their parents have all the reactions you might expect — baffled, frightened, shocked — and some you might not. Nadia's father helped write the controversial lyrics to Punk Prayer.

The film features footage of the defendants on trial, where they were placed in a glass cage, and forbidden to talk to one another. As they defend themselves inside the courtroom, other Pussy Riot members carry out new guerrilla performances and cultivate a protest movement across the globe.

The trial itself is compared to the infamous Moscow Show trials of the 1930s, and comes

to the same predictable conclusion: guilty verdicts. Nadia, Masha and Katia are allowed to make final statements, though, and all three of them are incredibly articulate, passionate and inspiring — all the more remarkable given that throughout the trial they get about three hours of sleep a night, and are kept in a perpetual state of thirst and hunger.

In December, Putin gave amnesty to the two Pussy Riot members, Nadia and Masha, who were still in prison. They can probably thank the Olympics. (So not all that \$50 billion was wasted.) Political prisoners who are not well-known in the West, however, remain behind bars.

The Salt Spring Film Festival runs from Feb. 28 to March 2. Pussy Riot is showing at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 2. Program guides for the whole festival are now at Salt Spring Books, the library, and Salt Spring Mercantile. They will also be available at the festival.

The writer is a Salt Spring Film Festival committee member.

GUEST COLUMN

MONEY MATTERS

THIRD IN A FOUR-PART SERIES

INVESTMENT PLANNING

Five financial questions to put to your own advisor

Start with ensuring retirement vision realistic

Are you financially prepared to retire? Every year more and more Canadians are closer to these golden years, so to

make sure we are on our way to reaching our financial goals, here are five essential questions to ask your investment advisor before it's too late:

1. Is my vision of retirement realistic? Communicate your future lifestyle

plans to the advisor. Do you want to travel, open a new business, or work part-time?

2. Is my plan working? Ask what the overall performance of your portfolio was last year; do the same for the last three-year period and for the last five years. Ask how much risk is being taken in order to achieve that level of return. If it's not a good risk-adjusted return, make adjustments.

3. Do I have all my eggs in one basket? If there is one lesson learned following the 2008 financial market crash, it is the importance of diversification.

If you only own a few types of investments or are relying on your home or business to appreciate in value, ask your advisor about Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). This fund is similar to mutual funds, in that they are

essentially funds that hold a collection of investments (such as stocks and bonds), but trade like a stock on the exchange.

4. Are ETFs right for me? With a single cost-effective purchase, you can gain access to entire markets or strategies, providing you have a diversified portfolio that's better protected against market shakedowns.

5. Am I saving enough? You may find the results unpleasant and surprising, but you need to discuss your spending habits with your advisor and adjust your lifestyle accordingly.

It doesn't matter how much money you have. If you spend more than you make, which a lot of people do, you're in trouble.

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The deadline for making your RRSP contribution is coming up fast — but not too fast for you to take advantage of a few last-minute RRSP tips designed to help make your retirement more financially comfortable.

Maximize this year's RRSP contribution

- Borrowing can pay. The money you borrow will generate an immediate tax break and add to your tax-deferred RRSP

growth potential. The key is to get a loan at a low interest rate and pay it back as quickly as possible.

- Split with your spouse to save. You can take advantage of a spousal RRSP to generate retirement income that is subject to less tax. This strategy works if your spouse's income will be lower than yours over the next few years or in retirement.

- Diversify for better, more assured growth. Because there is a limit on the amount you can contribute to your RRSP(s), it's a good bet you'll need additional income to fund the retirement of

your dreams — and that's where your Tax-Free Savings Account and non-registered investment portfolio comes in.

A well-balanced portfolio is based on an asset allocation plan that matches your risk profile and time horizon.

"With the right RRSP strategies you can save on taxes and retire with more," said Jack Courtney, Investors Group advanced financial planning expert. "A financial planner can help make sure all your wealth-building strategies hit the bull's eye on your life and retirement targets."

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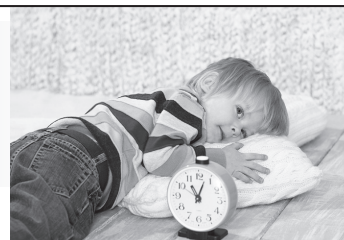
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MONEY MATTERS

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RETIREMENT PLANNING

Retirement income strategy needs inventory first

Monitoring crucial

Whether you're already retired or soon to be retired, worries about how far your savings will take you have probably crossed your mind more than once.

Gaetan Ruest, a retirement income sustainability expert at Investors Group, suggests five steps towards determining a basic retirement income strategy:

1. Add up your income from sources other than your

personal retirement savings, such as the Canada Pension Plan/(CPP), Old Age Security (OAS) and company pension plans.

2. Add up your expenses in retirement, both essential and discretionary.

3. Assess the gap between your known income and your expenses.

4. Determine the required withdrawal rate from your assets to bridge the gap between your income and your expenses.

5. Make adjustments if your expected withdrawal rate is too high, based on the projected returns from your savings and investments.

Specialists like Ruest suggest you monitor your plan and adjust your strategy to

improve the long-term sustainability of your investment income — otherwise you may find yourself needing to reduce the scope of your retirement plans.

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SCAMS

Ways to avoid being a victim of financial fraud

From pyramid schemes to foreign banking scams to phishing and identity theft

BY CARLA HINDMAN
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

You can hardly watch or read the news without hearing about the latest scam to separate folks from their hard-earned money. As criminals become increasingly more sophisticated, their schemes are more difficult to spot.

At the same time, people trying desperately to overcome financial hardships or to make a quick buck sometimes overlook red flags hinting that an offer is not quite right.

Skepticism is essential

Here are a few precautions to avoid becoming the next victim:

Be skeptical. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Beware of:

Investments promising to double your money in six months or claiming to be risk-free (like so-called "pyramid schemes" where returns for ground-floor investors depend on later investors falling for the same ruse).

The infamous "foreign banking scams," in which supposed foreign officials offer large rewards for helping them transfer money out of their country.

Never give out your payment card numbers over the phone unless you initiated the call.

CARLA HINDMAN

Director, financial education,
Visa Canada

Authentic-looking cheques from contests you supposedly won. You'll be asked to deposit the cheque and send a portion to cover processing fees and taxes. You should never have to pay for any legitimate prize; furthermore, you become responsible for any lost funds if the cheque you deposit is bogus.

When in doubt, consult a financial professional.

Other things to watch out for include:

Phishing defined

"Phishing." In this 21st-century version of identity theft, culprits go fishing ("phishing") for people's personal information by sending realistic-looking but fraudulent emails that seek confirmation of personal information such as account numbers, log-in IDs and passwords — supposedly for security purposes.

Online payment companies like eBay and PayPal, as well as conventional banks and payment companies, are common targets for fraudsters developing fake emails. Be aware that legitimate businesses will never ask you to verify sensitive information via email.

Identity theft

Each year, criminals steal billions of dollars by pretending to be someone else. By intercepting mail, going through trash or even peeking over someone's shoulder at the ATM, thieves use stolen Social Insurance Numbers, credit card numbers or bank account passwords to borrow money, open new accounts or charge big-ticket items to unsuspecting victims.

At a minimum, victims spend many hours undoing the damage. At worst, identity theft can ruin your credit rating and leave you deeply in debt. Visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's web site (www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca) for detailed identity theft and security precautions you should take.

Protect payment card info

It's very important to safeguard your payment card information. Never give out your payment card numbers over the phone unless you initiated the call. And, when shopping online, only use "secure" websites — those whose address begins with "https://" instead of "http://" and that display a small "lock" icon in the lower right-hand corner of your browser.

There will always be scam artists looking to rip off unsuspecting victims. Your job is to not be one of them.

Carla Hindman directs Visa's financial education programs in Canada. To follow Carla Hindman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/MoneySkillsCA

This article is intended to provide general information and should not be considered an endorsement or legal, tax or financial advice.

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Women & Financial Health

Times have changed. In the 21st century, women are retiring differently than previous generations. Almost half of Canadian Women over 65 are divorced or widowed and on average, women live about 5 years longer than men* requiring women to be financially well-informed. It's time to plan YOUR retirement.

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We've made great strides and broken glass ceilings, but there are still significant differences between men's and women's earnings. You may also have taken a few years off to care for children. With lower lifetime earnings, many women have less money saved.

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Women tend to retire younger and live longer than men. That means there is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a longer retirement. However, you must plan very carefully to ensure your wealth is available for your entire life.

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Women today are better prepared for retirement, better educated, and more financially independent. Women are more likely to enlist the assistance of a financial advisor in planning their retirement — a strong step in the right direction.

I would be happy to provide a second opinion on your current plan or help you get started on your future.



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AGING IN PLACE: What did you forget?

Second article in series for 2014

BY HELEN HINCHLIFF

“Your grandmother’s hands are cracked,” her friend told my niece. “Why don’t you buy her hand lotion?”

My niece visits my mother at her assisted living residence twice a week and sees to her needs. Was she shirking her duty?

“I’ve bought Grandma two bottles of lotion in the past two weeks,” she told me. “I don’t know what she does with them.”

Later, she discovered that my 93-year-old mother was storing them in her bar fridge. When I asked my mother why she thought she put her hand lotion in the fridge, she asked, “What’s hand lotion?” When I explained, she asked, “What does it look like?”

People experiencing dementia often become confused, losing the ability to distinguish, for example, between a plastic bottle of hand lotion from one filled with milk. I’ll never forget the day when my late loved one took a swig from a plastic bottle of drain cleaner, perhaps mistaking it for mouth wash.

When does dementia start?

Does it begin, for example, with forgetting where we parked our car? Maybe so; but forgetting like this may also be a case of “benign forgetfulness,” an affliction that affects practically everyone over the age of 65.

The key is this: If we have a healthy brain, we can usually avoid the problem by being mindful about where we park. If we forget anyway we can retrace our steps and reconstruct what happened. At a Victoria garage three hours after I parked there, I looked at my watch. Just enough time to catch the next ferry, I decided as I walked up the steps. I’d been mindful about the correct doorway — third floor, yellow — and I remembered my car was near the beginning of its row. Nevertheless, it wasn’t where I expected it to be!

Retracing my steps to the doorway, I reconstructed my parking experience. The angle had been tight and I had to back up and try again. A car coming around the corner had screeched to a halt. My mind now focused, I remembered the angle at which I’d parked.

A few minutes earlier, I’d let my mind drift into ferry land. On their own, my feet found their way up to level



HELEN HINCHLIFF

four where the cars were parked at the wrong angle. Back on the third level, I found my car at the other end of the row.

A healthy brain allows us to notice our surroundings, remember them, and understand how things work. The brain cells of people with dementia are increasingly unable to do these things. Vascular dementia can result when arteries are so clogged with plaque they don’t let enough oxygenated blood get to the brain. Brain cells begin to die. Or the plaques and tangles of Alzheimer’s disease turn the brain to mush. Either way (and others too), we can’t process our surroundings and we become confused.

How can you tell if you — or your loved one — has dementia? Apparently, a lot of people want to know the answer to that question. A few weeks ago, Ohio State University announced the availability of the Self-Administered Gerocognitive Exam, SAGE for short. So many people tried to log on to medicalcenter.osu after the six o’clock news, its website crashed!

The SAGE test is remarkably similar to the mini mental assessment your doctor

might administer. The main difference is you can take the SAGE test in the comfort of your own home. Ohio State gerontologists — in other words, doctors who study diseases of aging — recommend everyone over 50 take the SAGE test on an annual basis and give the results to their doctor for assessment.

If you think your loved one has dementia, then you need help. See your doctor and try to come to the Caregivers Support Group at the Seniors Services Society. We provide information and emotional support to people who take care of loved ones with dementia. Caregivers find that providing what soon turns into 24/7 care is stressful.

The Caregivers Support Group meets every Wednesday morning from 11 until noon. Some gather first at 10:30 for meditation, which serves to calm us. Most agree our weekly sessions are a life saver.

The Seniors’ Services Society is also sponsoring an Alzheimer’s Awareness program on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 1 p.m. If you need more information, be sure to come. The Seniors Services Society is located across from Country Grocer at 379 Lower Ganges Rd.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Mouat Park has even more problems

After over a decade of twice-a-day dog walks in Mouat Park, here are a few personal observations (in response to the Feb. 12 “Islanders get steamed over unscopied dog poop” story):

- Most dog walkers not only pick up their own dog’s poop but many ladies pick up other dogs’ waste as well.
- Those who do not clean up after their dogs seem to fit into two categories — the obviously “homeless” dog owners, and usually diligent dog-carers who become involved conversing with other walkers and are not mindful of what their pets are doing. Please keep an eye on your dog at all times!

Regarding dog waste, a study done in Ontario a few years ago concluded that since most

domestic and farm animal populations are on worming routines, the risk of worm-borne diseases and infestations do not come from pets — they are carried by wild mammals.

As well, dog waste is the food of slugs, dung beetles and other “bugs.” They remove the waste without polluting the environment with a plastic bag.

Instead of wasting CRD bylaw enforcement officer Wolfgang Brunnwieser’s time chasing after dog poop offenders, there are far more dangerous — and illegal — problems in Mouat Park Alcohol and drugs are openly used daily in the park. We need daily foot patrols by the RCMP to show that the police are making an overt effort to enforce drug and alcohol laws on Salt Spring.

Such a presence would reassure the many older walkers that not only is Mouat Park a lovely place to stroll but a safe one as well.

MARIANNE HOBBS,
CEDAR LANE

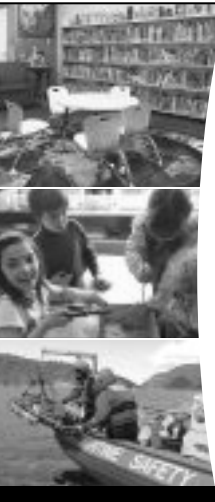
Fight for ALR

When the Farm Writers of Canada held their annual get-together in Harrison Hot Springs in the Fraser Valley, some interesting statistics arose.

It was revealed that the Fraser Valley is small (only 0.2 per cent of Canada’s arable land), but produces 4.5 per cent of the farm cash receipts. In terms of productivity, the Fraser Valley is unmatched in Canada, averaging \$18,000 per hectare. In comparison, the second most productive area of Canada is Ontario’s Niagara Peninsula at \$8,000 per hectare. This is the only area in B.C. capable of this kind of production. The only basin that produces food more efficiently than the Fraser Valley is the Nile.

The dismantling of the B.C. Agricultural Land Reserve waxes and wanes in the news like the comings and goings of some wandering gypsy. Is it worth fighting for? You can bet your sweet apple pie it is.

ROGER BRUNT,
SALT SPRING



Spring Grant Applications Invited

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is currently inviting local charitable organizations to submit grant applications for projects that aim to enrich the quality of life in our community. Thanks to the generosity of our many donors, the Foundation has granted over \$1.5 million since 1984, benefiting over 80 Salt Spring non-profit groups.

If you would like to apply for a grant for your current project, for full information, including eligibility, and an application form, please go to www.saltspringislandfoundation.org.

Applications must be received on or before March 31, 2014.



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Love Shilo's shining spirit

It is time I sung praises to Shilo for his "Nobody Asked Me But..." Driftwood articles.

I love them. I live for them. They are hilarious, tender, perceptive and always with a twist that makes one chuckle or belly laugh. Shilo's articles are great therapy for the frightening state our planet is in. We all need reassurance of humour and love.

I could not believe the twist in his last article about recycling on Salt Spring Island. "Nobody asked me, but it feels good to know we have a place on Salt Spring where we can assemble together to renew acquaintances with fellow islanders, while at the same time rid ourselves of those objects we no longer need or want (unfortunately, they are not accepting dead-beat husbands)..."

Before I started de-cluttering in preparation for my move from Bold Bluff to Ganges, I clipped out Shilo's articles and sent some of the funniest ones to my college room-mate in New Jersey. She loved them!

Thank you, Shilo, for sharing your shining spirit and fun with fellow islanders.

**TAMAR GRIGGS,
GANGES**

Don't risk Bullock Lake water

At their next meeting on Feb. 27, the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee will hear a proposal for 50 vacation rental units beside Bullock Lake.

The Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society is concerned about the damage to Bullock Lake and the local groundwater supply that is very likely to occur if the Local Trust Committee grants a zone change and official community plan amendment to allow this inappropriately large development to go ahead.

The impartial facts indicate that the groundwater supply in this area is already showing signs of strain in the summer months, and it is therefore not worth risking the water supply of existing users to put 50 additional households onto this limited supply.

Mitigations offered by the developer (such as that the units will only be occupied part time and that they will utilize only stored water if needed) cannot realistically be enforced, and there will be no affordable method for

MORE LETTERS

increasing the water supply if neighbours' wells run dry in the summer.

Septic discharge poses an additional threat. The developer's own report shows that phosphorus will be released from an albeit sophisticated septic system.

Ministry of Environment studies indicate that the lake is already nutrient-enriched. This makes it very likely that any addition of phosphorus to the lake from new development will be followed by blooms of toxin-producing cyanobacteria similar to what has occurred on St. Mary Lake and Cusheon Lake.

Once the phosphorus from septic systems is in the ground, from a practical perspective it will continue to flow into the lake for years. These risks to both lake water users and to wildlife are simply not worth taking.

The answer is for the LTC to turn down the current proposal and encourage the developer to propose a new plan that is consistent with the existing zoning and the limited water supply. The buildings were built with the

knowledge that they were in violation of new zoning that had been put in place before their construction.

The current developer purchased the property knowing the zoning and the requirements of the OCP. Now is the time to make the difficult but absolutely necessary decision to protect the broader community (all of us), from the risk of being handed huge financial costs to replace lost water supplies, and from irreparable damage to the environment of Bullock Lake from an inappropriate development.

**MAXINE LEICHTER,
FOR SSI WATER
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

Gravel road survivor

The article in last week's Driftwood regarding dangerous gravel on the bike lanes has made me aware of how fortunate I have been to survive.

My buddies and I biked to our one-room country school a mile and a half away every year all year long on a gravel road with never a thought that we were doing something dangerous.

**HAROLD SWIERENGA,
ISABELLA POINT**

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RANTS and Roses

A dazzling display of glittering multi-coloured glass roses to all who were part of our Road to Mecca journey. Active P.A.S.S.

We cannot begin to list or acknowledge all the kind deeds that our friends and family did for us at Tim's Celebration of Life, because there were so many. Our hearts are swollen with love for you all. Thank you to everyone for coming and for the beautiful flowers and cards. We feel blessed that such wonderful people were in Tim's life. Jenna, Michelle and Marit

Fragrant, long-lasting roses to all of those who made Grace Garceau's memorial such a great send-off for a lovely woman. It was a vibrant gathering of friends, family, mom's church family and friends from Braehaven — she would have been so pleased. Thank you Clark and Shirley and the choirs of the church and the Lost Chords and to niece Ela for her solo. Hugs to you all. Susan Grace

Truckloads of multi-coloured roses to thank our family, friends, neighbours and acquaintances for all their help and assistance in this challenging chapter of our lives. We thank you all so much and greatly appreciate all you have done for us. Joe and Judy Clark

A basket full of baby pink roses to all the local businesses who celebrated the birth of our "New Year Baby." We really appreciate your generosity and feel blessed to live on such a special island. Mana, Lionel and Amelie

Bouquets of roses of all colours to the generous knitters of the Teddybear Project. On Feb. 25 our 130 teddy-bears will be off to Kenya with the SOLID team. Special thanks for bears and encouragement to Carole Reiner and Jill Evans, to Marjorie Martin for adorable bears with 3-D faces, to Joyce James, Diane Hales, Linda Stanton (bears) and Barbara Jackson (their bags), and we are grateful to the late Louise Woodward and Marguerite Sargent. Sincere apologies to any neglected donors — all the bears were so welcome. Some will reach surgical teams, some go to maternity units, others directly to Kenyan tots. Thank you all so much. Cara Joy

My sincere thanks to the gentleman who drove all the way from Ganges to my home to return my wallet before I even realized it was gone! Nelson Kennedy

Sprays of fire-engine red roses to Raymond Heung, for donating the land, and to Michael Schubart, Bruce Patterson and the Salt Spring Fire Protection District board for their dedication towards securing this gift for the location of our future fire hall.

Housing Matters

Islands Trust

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee is considering allowing Temporary Use Permits for residential uses such as secondary suites and care cottages.

Come Find out More. Snacks Included!
Community Information Meeting and Workshop

February 27 2014
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D.W. Salty
REPORTER

250-537-9933

Housing ends homelessness

Jennifer Blyth
Black Press

Housing is a fundamental human need, yet here in Victoria, the high cost of living, often paired with health or social factors, can put this basic necessity out of reach for many.

For the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, that's simply not acceptable.

The Coalition's mission is to end homelessness by 2018, so that all people facing homelessness in Greater Victoria will have access to safe, affordable, appropriate, permanent housing, with support if they require it.

"We understand that people will continue to experience homelessness in our community due to economic, health or other reasons outside of their control," says Andrew Wynn-Williams, executive director of the Coalition. "Our goal is to prevent homelessness where we can and shorten the time people experience it."

A partnership of all levels of government, service providers, business members, the faith community, post-secondary institutions and private citizens dedicated to ending homelessness in Greater Victoria, the key to the Coalition's success will be its ability to bring partners and organizations together to build affordable housing, supportive housing and create additional rental supplements.

How urgent is the need?

The Housing and Homelessness in Greater Victoria report identified some of the myriad needs facing the Capital Region. Beyond the lack of available housing for those with low incomes, the report also identified a shortage of supportive housing for those with complex needs.

In one year, 1,617 unique individuals accessed Greater Victoria's emergency shelters, yet even this does not reflect all of those in need. During the Coalition's February 'point in time' count exploring how many people sought, on that one night, temporary accommodations such as emergency shelters, transitional houses, budget motels and hotels, the number totalled 1,170. Further, 1,545 applicant households in Greater Victoria currently



More supported housing like Pacifica Housing's Camas Village, shown here at the 2011 opening with Supported Housing Coordinator Angela McNulty-Buell, would help address homelessness in Greater Victoria.

sit on the Housing Registry, a list of those in need of subsidized housing.

While it's clear Greater Victoria's significant housing shortage for those with lower incomes is a primary driver of homelessness in the region, additional factors exacerbating the situation include poverty, domestic violence, challenges facing on- and off-reserve Aboriginal people, untreated mental illness and addiction.

How do we address the challenge?

While it's difficult to state exactly how many housing units are required to address the need, the Coalition offers a few educated estimates based on the evidence.

Research shows at least 13 per cent of those 1,617 shelter users would require supportive housing and since not everyone in need of supportive housing visits a shelter, at the bare minimum, 250 supportive housing units are needed. If 250

is minimum, other data indicates the need could be as high as 719 units.

For affordable housing, the 'point in time' count and the Housing Registry waitlist, paired with the unknown number of people living in vehicles, couch surfing, sleeping outdoors and experiencing other types of homelessness, suggest at least 1,500 units are needed.

However, a plan to increase housing must be considered in the context of a broader strategy addressing the many other underlying causes of homelessness.

"Our success is evident on the streets of Victoria," says Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin, Coalition Co-Chair. "Since the Coalition began in 2008, we have built 706 units of supportive and affordable housing and provided rental assistance with supports to more than 90 of our hardest-to-house citizens. We have accomplished a lot, but ending homelessness in our community will take more work. Now is the time to renew our commitment."

STREET SURVIVAL GUIDE

If you're living on the street and hungry, where can you go for a meal or a hot cup of coffee? Where can you access a hot shower, do your laundry or find employment support?

All that information and more is found in the Street Survival Guide, providing vital information about resources and services available in Victoria to survive, and move on from, homelessness.

A one-stop resource for those experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness in Victoria, the guide was created by a group of dedicated individuals with street-life experience and contains more than 80 resources, including housing, food, laundry, harm reduction services and more.

The pocket-sized, waterproof guide is available at many service agencies across the region and has proven extremely popular; it's currently being updated with the hope of having more copies on the street in March.

"There was a great need, absolutely," says Hilary Marks, a member of the group that worked with the Coalition to create the guide.

The Victoria project is unique in that it was the local homeless community that recognized the need to have the information in one place, in a compact, durable format, and it was homeless individuals themselves who did much of the research and information-gathering, with the help of the Coalition, Marks says.

"It was something that was needed and the homeless community that got together and said, 'Let's do it.' For people who think homeless people are lazy and not smart, this proves them wrong."

For more information or to view the guide, visit www.victoriahomelessness.ca/streetsurvivalguide



How can you help?

For more information about homelessness in Greater Victoria, visit victoriahomelessness.ca. To support the Coalition's members, visit victoriahomelessness.ca/members

Unacceptable.

Just because it's called "couch surfing" doesn't mean it's fun.

If you agree that homelessness is unacceptable, tweet #unacceptablyyyj to @homeforhope and go to our Facebook page to spread the word and end homelessness in our community.

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BUDDHISM

Buddhist women explored in book

San Francisco-based Zen teachers and editors visit



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sue Moon and Florence Caplow will give a reading and participate in a workshop on Sunday at the Salt Spring library.

Editors of a groundbreaking book about Buddhist women visit Salt Spring this week, with Sunday, Feb. 23 events open to the public at the Salt Spring library.

Florence Caplow and Susan Moon are Zen teachers currently living in the San Francisco Bay Area and editors of *The Hidden Lamp: Stories from Twenty-Five Centuries of Awakened Women*. It's a new collection of 100 koans and stories of Buddhist women from the time of the Buddha to the present day.

"This revolutionary book brings together for the first time many teaching stories of women that were hidden for centuries and unknown

until this volume," explains a press release.

Caplow and Moon will hold a reading and book-signing at 2 p.m., with copies for sale, followed by a 3 to 6 p.m. workshop based on the book. Heather Martin, a local Buddhist teacher and contributor to the book, will also read and participate. The reading is

free and the workshop portion is by voluntary donation. No one will be turned away for lack of donation.

"In the pages of the book we meet nuns, women practicing with their families, uppity teenage girls, famous teachers honoured by emperors, and old women selling tea on the side of the road. Full of

humour, clarity and wisdom, these stories are powerful expressions of freedom and fearlessness, relevant for men and women of any time or place, Buddhists and non-Buddhists. Each story is accompanied by a reflection by a contemporary woman teacher — personal responses that help bring the old stories alive for readers today."

John Tarrant, a Zen teacher and author of *Bring Me The Rhinoceros and Other Zen Koans That Will Save Your Life*, wrote about the book: "The Hidden Lamp is an amazing collection.

"This book gives the wonderful feel of the sincerity, the great range, and the nobility of the spiritual work that women are doing and have been doing, unacknowledged, for a very long time . . . An essential and delightful book."

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**. If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com

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CONCERTS

Canadian composer and pianist unite in Egoyan recital

Innovative film collaboration screened following night

BY GEORGE SIPOS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Julius Caesar began his book about the Gallic Wars with the following famous sentence: "All Gaul is divided into three parts."

We love a blunt phrase like this because it captures a deep human desire to understand complex things in terms of simple parts. The last 500 million years of the earth's geological history, for example, comes in three distinct ages: the Paleozoic, the Mesozoic and the Cenozoic. Easy. Simple.

We do the same with the arts. The post-medieval history of western music falls into three periods: early music (including everything from the Renaissance to the Baroque), classical music (the 18th and 19th centuries), and "new music." This last category is a bit tricky because nowadays we can hardly call such 20th-century composers as Stravinsky or Shostakovich, or even the avant-gardists of the 1950s, "new." But if simple categories were good enough for Caesar, they're good enough for us.

Our responses to these three ages of music are often quite simple too. Early music we judge to be lovely but dull; classical music is beautiful and noble and expressive and full of grandeur and deep emotion; new music is frightening.

This is quite a burden for contemporary composers who, no less than Mozart or Beethoven or Brahms in their day, work to craft sound into compositions to help us understand the world we live in and the inner

workings of our minds and lives. Alas, audiences often shy away from the new and the unfamiliar. Of course they did so in the past too, but that was then and this is now.

Last summer we had a rare opportunity on Salt Spring to witness one of Canada's most important living composers, Linda Catlin Smith, in the process of working on a new solo piano work for one of Canada's best pianists, Eve Egoyan. They were at ArtSpring for a week-long creative residency exploring, developing and refining the new work.

Now, *Nocturnes and Chorales*, which is what the new work has come to be called, will be premiered in a concert on Friday, Feb. 21 as the centrepiece in Egoyan's presentation of new music from four contemporary composers: American James Tenney, Britain's Michael Finnissy, Piers Hellawell from Northern Ireland and Catlin Smith.

And if that weren't exciting enough on its own, ArtSpring has added a special extra concert the following evening, Saturday, Feb. 22. In this, Egoyan will play a composition called *Simple Lines of Enquiry* by Ann Southam to accompany a video work by Toronto artist David Rokeby. The video, called *Machine for Taking Time* and compiled from 750,000 images taken of the changing seasons and weather over a Montreal cityscape during an entire year, is an extraordinary time-lapse meditation on the passage of time.

This Saturday showing/recital is our chance on Salt Spring to experience the quickly emerging new medium of art video. The evening is free to those who attend Egoyan's Friday concert, or tickets can be purchased from the ArtSpring ticket centre at 250-537-2102 or online at tickets.artspring.ca.

IslandSavings

Annual General Meeting

Please be advised that Island Savings' Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at the Island Savings Centre in Duncan, BC.

Call for Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for four positions on Island Savings' Board of Directors; please visit iscu.com/agm for details on Director expectations, candidate requirements and application materials.

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SMART IS THE NEW SEXY



POETRY LAUNCH

Shirley Graham dives into poetry of blue

New book elaborates on theme

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's quite possible that blue is the most poetic colour. With its wide range of tones and its immediate metaphoric values, there is endless potential for making blue a platform for describing the world in all its physical and emotional complexity — which is exactly what good writing does.

Salt Spring poet Shirley Graham has been listening to the colour's siren call for much of her time on a writer's path. Blue Notes was the name of her first chapbook and an additional section of Blue Notes featured prominently in her last book, *What Someone Wanted*. Graham returns to the colour as a central motif in her new publication by Black Moss Press called *Book of Blue*, which she will launch with a reading at the Salt Spring library at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27.

"I think I was astounded by how many of these poems I had," Graham said. "When I was putting together the manuscript I had lots of choice — it was a happy surprise how robust the series of 'blue

poems' had become."

Graham said she is drawn to her signature shade both for its visual quality and for its metaphoric applications.

Many years ago she made a choice between taking an MFA at Columbia University and a career in psychology.

"I decided I wanted my income to come from another place so I could be completely free in my writing," she explained. "But the price of that has been lack of time, so I've reverted to the style of short poems."

Graham's favourite theme and her writing style are therefore influenced by the fact that most of the poems were written on ferries as she travels to and from work in Victoria.

"In the winter it's dark and insular. I think that helps me focus. And in the summer it's open and beautiful and I'm reminded of why we live here," she said.

Graham's spiritual practice (her husband is Salt Spring Zen Circle teacher Peter Levitt) also informs her writing.

"Zen meditation gives you excellent practice in staying with something, and seeing beyond the immediate. I hope that shows up in my



Poet Shirley Graham

work," Graham said.

Philosophical aspects of the practice such as the dichotomies of personal and universal, life and death, are also present in these poems.

The sheer pleasure of words and language is the main factor compelling Graham to write. Her poetry epitomizes the form's ability to evoke sharp visual images and activate an emotional response at the same time.

"Imagery is one of the things I'm most drawn to in other people's writing and poetry," Graham said, observing her favourite Japanese novelists tend to create a strong visu-

al impact.

She expresses this talent vividly in poems like *Rage Born* from her book *What Someone Wanted*, in which she compares her anger to 10,000 volcanoes about to erupt on her tongue. Here's another delightful image: "When the mountain claps its cloud / wild island pigs run straight for the sea-cliff / squealing into the wind."

"The visual is what we respond to most often," Graham said, "and the emotive part is a plumb line through the poem that helps you keep on track, staying with the integrity of the emotional essence."

The *Blue Eye*, another poem from her earlier book, is another fine example of this gift, along with showcasing the many possibilities of the colour: "It is the one which sees best when shut, the unexercised eye, the eye you believe belongs to someone else..."

Graham said she is fortunate to have another poet in her husband, and a son who is interested in writing, as a kind of at-home writing circle. Along with her reading, both the men in her life will read their own blue poems at the launch.

Book of Blue is available at Salt Spring Books and will be available for signing at the launch.

MUSIC

Moby's presents monthly live jazz

Bourbon Street Sundays debuts Feb. 23

Salt Spring's original home of live jazz will once again set the island swinging with a new monthly event called Bourbon Street Sundays starting up at Moby's Pub this weekend.

Sunday, Feb. 23's debut evening kicks off at 6:30 p.m. with el Zocalo Quintet and guest vocalist Sue Newman.

"Many people know el Zocalo Quintet or its gentler counterpart, el Zocalo Trio," said trumpet player and Bourbon Street coordinator Derrick Milton.

"Others may remember the group's rhythm section as the 'Rocky Horror band.'"

Joining Milton as regular players are Ian Van Wyck on bass, Peter Taschuk on guitar, Laurent Boucher on drums and guitarist Tom Martin.

"It's fitting for Sue to help kick off the program, as she and her dad, the



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Trumpet player Derrick Milton is one of the initiators of Bourbon Street Sundays at Moby's.

late Ray Newman, were favourites at the original Moby's Sunday Jazz," Milton added.

As a regular performer there during the '90s, Milton recalls that for almost a decade, the pub's jazz night was one of Salt Spring's most popular musical and social events.

"Moby's is a perfect setting for jazz, with its relaxed, homey atmosphere and its affordable, delicious pub food and local ales," Milton said.

When Moby's new owner, Dale Schweighardt, asked him to organize the new jazz night, he was therefore happy to step in.

Milton has been organizing musical events on Salt Spring for over 20 years, including 200 nights of music at his former restaurant, Café el Zocalo, and the jazz jam at Raven Street, which provided an opportunity for middle and high school jazz musicians to play with more seasoned colleagues.

Jazz jams will also play a role at Bourbon Street Sundays on occasion, with the first one scheduled for March, although due to B.C. liquor laws it will be an adult-only event.

Upcoming jazz nights at Moby's will feature both off-island and local musicians performing jazz and Latin, and sometimes music that defies categorization.

WRITING

Editing workshop registration opens

Library session in March

The "Editing Workshop . . . for writers too" that freelance book editor Cheryl Cohen developed on Salt Spring in early 2012 will be back in Ganges on March 8.

The early bird registration deadline is Saturday, Feb. 22. This will be the 10th edition of the workshop, which

Cohen has offered on and off Salt Spring for the past two years. Workshop topics covered include substantive editing, copy editing and proofreading; the editor-writer relationship; having fun with editing (hands-on); tools and resources; and why the future of editing looks bright.

For more information or to register, contact Cohen at cherylcohen@shaw.ca or 250-538-8172.



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COMMUNITY CLUBS

Personal skills blossom through Toastmasters club



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left, Salt Spring Toastmasters Club members engage in a "speed mentoring" exercise at a recent meeting; Suzanne Little gives a speech.

February is Toastmasters International Month

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

I'd been warned that showing up late for a Toastmasters meeting was absolutely verboten, so I found myself creeping into the Catholic church hall on Drake Road a tad on the early side one recent Monday night.

Salt Spring club members Marsh Heinekey and Arthur Black, the Toastmaster (or MC) for that particular evening, were setting things up, along with Suzanne Little, who was doing a tech check for her first-ever speech using a PowerPoint program.

"You're going to see a lot of hand shaking and clapping," advised member Anne Miller as she set out glasses of water around the tables.

Miller was right. Toastmasters shake hands every time there's a shift in who stands at the front of the room, or at the podium, and they clap after every oration segment, regardless of length.

The evening's theme of "Blue" permeated the 30-second mini-topics session that warmed up everyone's vocal cords, as well as the Table Topics section led by Inge Michaelsen. Perhaps the most "off-the-high-diving-board" part of the night, it required people to speak coherently about something blue-related for as close to two minutes as possible — with no opportunity to prepare. References ranged from Don Cherry's dog named Blue to blue rabbits, balloons and emotions. Pointing to the blue laces in his running shoes, Jim McClean said, "I would have been beaten up if I had worn them to school in Grade 8."

It was just one of several moments when laughter reigned, including when the official "joke master" for the night, Dennis Fortin, had the floor.

Member Laura Patrick, the club's vice president of education, led

a short workshop about mentorship that included a stint of "speed mentoring," like speed dating, with everyone taking turns telling each other something positive about their communication styles.

The exercise was intended to illustrate that "you have made an impression," said Patrick, and to perhaps spark a mentor-mentee relationship.

The air in the hall was remarkably free of "ums" and "aws," but thankfully it was not like being in a house of mirrors with Dale Carnegie.

In fact, everyone's individuality shone through beautifully as they spoke to the group of 15, whether they had years of experience or a natural style of oration or were on an earlier leg of their Toastmasters journey.

"People don't mind you making mistakes," said Miller.

Little, whose Theory of Multiple Intelligences speech earned a trophy that night, joined Toastmasters because a new U.S.-based job required her to give public presentations and she needed help to banish her public speaking fear.

"It's like exercising. The more you do it, the more you're able to do it."

SUZANNE LITTLE
SS Toastmasters club member

"It's something that holds a lot of people back," she observed.

Little saw immediate benefits last summer after attending only a couple of meetings, and has continued to build on her skills and confidence.

"It's like exercising. The more you do it, the more you're able to do it."

It might seem ridiculous that a famous CBC broadcaster has any-

thing to learn from a Toastmasters club, but as Black explained, speaking to a crowd of people and having a radio program are two different things.

"I spent most of my broadcasting career safely ensconced in a radio studio behind a microphone, armed with an on/off button and a script. That's not the same as standing in front of a roomful of people trying to remember what you want to say next. Toastmasters facilitates what should really come naturally — the ability to speak freely and easily in front of an audience."

Little observed how the Table Topics exercises teach people to trust themselves and learn that "you will always have something to say."

Sandi Johnson joined because extreme grief had literally affected her speech patterns. She realized that "if I forced myself to get up and talk, I would," which made Toastmasters an ideal option for her to explore.

Not only can she now speak to a group but she is thrilled with what she has learned at the meetings and through her mentor Oni Freeman.

"I think the skills are really fabulous," she said, noting the effectiveness of progressive skill building and the varying ways one learns to be a "competent communicator."

Evaluation is also a part of Toastmasters meetings, and Heinekey, who was tasked with evaluating the meeting as a whole, has oodles of experience to tap into. He's achieved the accolade of Distinguished Toastmaster, the highest award possible in the international organization. He spent many years honing his leadership and communication skills through Toastmasters before retiring on his home island of Salt Spring.

Overall, he said, the meeting was a well-run affair, but, yes, he noted, it

did start five minutes late.

Guests are always welcome to attend the Monday night gatherings that usually begin at 7 p.m. sharp at the Drake Road church hall.

It's not necessary to give notice before attending, but if anyone wants more information about the Salt Spring club or Toastmasters International, they can contact club president Dennis Fortin at dfortin12@gmail.com or 250-537-1710.

February is Toastmasters International Month in B.C., making it a perfect time to check out a new opportunity to grow.

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what's on this week



Wed. Feb 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Simply Organic. Organist Don Conley gives a musical tour of the pipe organ. Free music followed by a muffin and coffee for \$2. All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:10 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

Texas Holdem Poker. The Local. Sign-up at 6:30 p.m.
Songjam. Informal community singing of popular songs of the last 6 decades, led by Wendy Milton. First two sessions on Feb. 19 and 26 are free. Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.
Sustainable Food Systems for the 21st Century: Challenges, Opportunity and a Vision. A presentation by Kent Mullinix, director of Sustainable Food Systems at the Kwantlen Polytech University. Lions Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. Feb 20

ACTIVITIES

Junior Girls Basketball. Vancouver Island championships hosted by Gulf Islands Secondary School. 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. GISS team's first game is at 11:30 a.m. If they win, the next game is at 4 p.m. If they lose the first game, the next game is at 7 p.m.
National Theatre Live: Coriolanus. At The Fritz. 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. showings.

Fri. Feb 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Vaughn Fulford. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Soul Shakedown. The Local. 6 to 9 p.m.
Pianist Eve Egoyan in Concert. World premiere of Canadian composer Linda Catlin Smith's new commission as part of an ArtSpring creative residency, plus full concert of work by contemporary Canadian composers. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
Mindil Beach Markets. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Junior Girls Basketball. Vancouver Island championships hosted by Gulf Islands Secondary School. Day 2. GISS gym. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fri. Feb 21

ACTIVITIES

SSIWPA. Monthly meeting. Portlock Park Portable. 10:30 a.m.
StoryTime at the Library. For families with elementary school-aged children. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Pickleball. Fulford Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.
SRhythms Dance Meditation Class. Art Barn. 7 to 9 p.m.
Tree Cavities: Vital Habitat for Complex Wildlife Communities. SSI Conservancy hosts Kathy Martin, a professor in UBC's Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences, with tips for supporting birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

Sat. Feb 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Trio Light Fantastic. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Machine for Taking Time/Simple Lines of Enquiry. Collaboration between Canadian pianist Eve Egoyan and her husband David Rokeby, one of Canada's most innovative video artists. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
The Coalition. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Sat. Feb 22

ACTIVITIES

A Day in the Life of Greenwoods. A slide show tour, plus mystery door prizes, silent auction, music & refreshments. Fundraiser to help improve the courtyard garden pathways at Greenwoods Care Facility. Meaden Hall. 1 to 3 p.m.
Bring Your Branches. Drop-off for clean material only: branches for chipping. Golf club parking lot. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Break The Chain - Free Rehearsals. You don't have to be a dancer. Everyone who wants a safer world for women and girls is welcome. Every Saturday until March 8 One Billion Rising event. North End Fitness. 1:30 to 2 p.m.
Collage and Channeling Workshop. Unearthing Your Inner World brings together art and spirituality, guided by artists and facilitators Treena Norrish and Tina Louise Spalding. Info: 250-538-6221.
Tuff Love Roller Derby. Salt Spring's team The Committed holds a roller derby with visiting teams from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland at the GISS gym. Doors at 5 p.m., whistle at 6 p.m.

Sun. Feb 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Elektra Women's Choir in Concert. Vancouver's renowned choir, under the leadership of artistic director Morna Edmundson. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m.
KC Kelly. Harbour House Hotel. 6 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Street Sundays. First session of new monthly event, with live jazz and Latin music. Opening night features el Zocalo Quintet and guest Sue Newman. Moby's Pub. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Sun. Feb 23

ACTIVITIES

Pickleball. Fulford Hall. 9 to 11 a.m.
The Hidden Lamp: Reading and Workshop. Join Zen teachers and editors of The Hidden Lamp: Stories from Twenty-Five Centuries of Awakened Women - Florence Caplow and Susan Moon. Salt Spring Public Library. 2 p.m. Workshop follows at 3 p.m.
Rollerblading. Fulford Hall. 2 to 4 p.m.
Overcoming Food and Weight Issues. First meeting for a new book study group based on the book called Food is not the Problem: Deal With What Is. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 6:30 p.m. Info: Helani Davison, 250-931-5555.
Remember Who You Are. Self-awareness and meditation group led by Mark Brackley every Sunday. Side Door Studio. 7:45 to 9:30 p.m.

Mon. Feb 24

ACTIVITIES

Toastmasters. Salt Spring Toastmasters meet Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Catholic church hall on Drake Road. Guests welcome.

Tues. Feb 25

ACTIVITIES

Pickleball. Fulford Hall. 10 a.m. to noon.
Break The Chain - Free rehearsals. Every Tuesday until March 8 One Billion Rising anti-violence event. North End Fitness. 7 to 7:30 p.m.
Salt Spring Vipassana Meditation. Weekly meditation and meditation teachings with Heather Martin. The Gatehouse. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission. Meeting at the Portlock Park portable. 5 p.m. Public welcome to observe.

Wed. Feb 26

ACTIVITIES

Alzheimer's Education. A special program with Marg Monro. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 1 p.m.
SS Garden Club. Connie Kuramoto is the first speaker of the year. Her topic is Building Healthy Soil. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.
Texas Holdem Poker. The Local. Sign-up at 6:30 p.m.
Songjam. Informal community singing of popular songs of the last 6 decades, led by Wendy Milton. Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL: news@gulfislands-driftwood.com

Thurs. Feb 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

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CINEMA

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- National Theatre Live: Coriolanus:** Starring Tom Hiddleston. Two shows only Thursday Feb. 20 (3 p.m. and 7 p.m.) \$20 advance tickets are available at Salt Spring Books and The Fritz. When Rome is threatened, the city calls on her hero, Coriolanus. But, famine threatens the city, and the citizens want change. Coriolanus returns to confront the realpolitik and the voice of an angry people.

EXHIBITIONS

- The Salt Spring Painters Guild** shows Explorations in the ArtSpring lobby through February.
- Photographer **Doug Wahlen** shares magnified views of the local tidal area in At the Beach, showing at the Fernwood Road Cafe until March 12.

- Paintings by Salt Spring artist **Kristen Rae Finley** will be displayed at the Harbour House through the month of February in her exhibit called Inner Eyeland.
- Discover the World of Local Guiding** is an exhibit of uniforms, badges and other current and historical items related to the Girl Guides of Canada on Salt Spring Island. In the Salt Spring library program room and display case through the month of February.
- Photographs by **Asia Petis** and mixed-media works by textual design artist **Sabrina Edwards** are showing at **TJ Beans Coffee Shop**.
- Artwork by **Tina Louise Spalding** is at **Barb's Bakery & Bistro**.
- Judy Nurse** has paintings at the **Country Grocer Cafe** through February.
- Doug Rhodes** has multi-media pieces showing at **Penny's Pantry**.
- Paintings of the North by **Judith Currelly** is now showing at **Duthie Gallery**. Winter hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment at 250-537-9606.
- SOLID at the Market Place** (in Gasoline Alley) shares African art by **Louise Adelle**.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guest speakers touch on earthy topics

Round-up of some Feb. 19-26 activities

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club and the Farmers' Institute have invited Kent Mullinix, director of the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytech University, to speak to Salt Spring Islanders on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Lions Hall, Mullinix's talk will focus on examining the challenges and transgressions of our contemporary dominant agri-food system.

"He will inform and direct our thinking and subsequently our actions towards creating a sustainable food system that could form the foundation of a sustainable community and society," says a release about the event.

"Dr. Mullinix will describe a vision for sustainable food systems as well as research and community development work undertaken by the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University to actualize that vision."

Mullinix, who was also the guest speaker at the Feb. 18 Farmers' Institute annual general meeting, is described as a compelling presenter.

Coffee and goodies will be available by donation.

Tree cavity residents

For people wondering what goes on in the holes of dead trees, the Salt Spring Island Conservancy is hosting UBC professor Kathy Martin to talk about the importance of wildlife tree cavities.

She will speak at 7 p.m. at Lions Hall on Friday, Feb. 21.

Martin, from UBC's Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences, has coined the term "nest web" to describe the interdependence among birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles with respect to the creation and use of tree cavities for nesting and roosting. She will touch on how the average citizen can make decisions in their backyards, urban areas and farmlands to retain as many mature and aging trees as possible to support wildlife that use tree cavities.

Admission is by donation.

Build healthy soil

Connie Kuramoto is the Salt Spring Garden Club's first guest of the 2014 season, speaking on Building Healthy Soil on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

"Healthy soil is the cornerstone of a lush, vibrant garden that is free of pests and diseases," says the club in a press release. "The latest soil science shows the plants that

are grown in healthy soil, that is nutritionally and biologically balanced, are naturally resistant to problems."

Topics will include composting, sheet mulching and some easy soil biology. Kuramoto will also talk about how to add to the microbial actions in the soil by the use of microbial teas and brews.

The meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Community Gospel hall next to Portlock Park.

Food & weight issues

A study group based on the book of a disordered eating expert begins weekly meetings this Sunday, Feb. 23.

Coordinated by Helani Davison, the group will explore Michelle Morand's book called Food Is Not The Problem: Deal With What Is, including coping strategies, basic needs and unfinished business.

"Morand's book explains fundamental tools for recovery, such as the identification of stressors and triggers, stages of readiness for change and cues of resistance," explains a press release. "Mindfulness practice and emotional regulation skills are incorporated. Your relationship with food, yourself and others is also examined."

Meetings take place at the Seniors Services Society building at 379 Lower Ganges Rd. For more information, call Davison at 250-931-5555.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Bridge players scoop up gold

Olympic fever hits club

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Blow, blow, thou wintry wind/ Thou art not so unkind . . . as to keep duplicate bridge players away from their Monday night games.

Feb. 27 was wintry indeed, but six and a half tables showed up so there was a Mitchell movement. Blown high above the crowd were the North-South winners, Charles Kahn and Judy Norget, with Ian Thomas and Zelly Taylor soaring below and a tandem floating together into third place, namely Liz and Oleh Mycyk, who were tied with George Laundry and Paul Retallack. As for the East-West group, high in the sky were Ruth Hopping and Jean Elder, with April Wright

BRIDGETRICKS

and Michel Jutras cruising just below. Borne on the breeze in third place were Patricia Brown and Blanche Poborsa.

Feb. 10 saw the beginning days of the Winter Olympics in Sochi, so there were six tables of those who could stay away from TV on the occasion, and a Howell movement where everyone changes places. Gold this time went to the Thomas-Taylor pair, with the Laundry-Retallack partnership grabbing silver and the Mycyks earning bronze. The worthy pair of Jeff Bell (welcome back!) and newcomer Peter Robinson (glad to meet you) settled for, um, pewter? in fourth place. Others had to settle for fools' gold and hope for better things to come.



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What is Island Natural Health?

Salt Spring's new naturopathic clinic has been open for 1 year now! Owned and operated by island-raised Dr. Patrick Callas, ND. Naturopathic Physicians provide complete primary medical care with a focus on prevention and natural remedies. Our goal is to work with our patients to provide them with current evidence-based information and treatment options.

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The clinic is currently open Tuesday mornings, Wednesdays – Fridays, and Saturday by appointment only. Dr. Callas is also available for house-calls by appointment.

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

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WRESTLING

Wrestlers heading to provincial finals

Event lauded as success

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An enthusiastic crowd of wrestlers, parents and fans enlivened the GISS gym on Saturday as the Vancouver Island Wrestling Championships rolled onto the island for the first time.

All five Salt Spring wrestlers who participated in the event punched their ticket for a spot at the provincials in Prince George, scheduled for the end of February.

Molly O'Donnell, Karol Esquivel, Stefan Esquivel, Kevin Marr and Jorel Anderson will all get the chance to cap incredible seasons punctuated by hard work in the gym and welcome results on the mats.

Karol Esquivel earned a silver medal in his category while O'Donnell, who wrestles for Cowichan, picked up a bronze. The top four wrestlers in each division qualified for provincials.

Port Alberni and Dover Bay earned championship trophies for best overall team performances, while Salt Spring's modest team stood its ground against powerful big-island rivals.

"Everything went just as we expected," said Leon Esquivel, the Salt Spring coach.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Girls from off-island compete for gold at the island championships at GISS.

"People were cooperating and the wrestlers were outstanding... We are really gratified."

Esquivel thanked all parents, coaches, school staff and island businesses, including Windsor Plywood and TJ Beans, for their help to make the event so memorable.

Thanks in part to the success of this year's island championships, a regional invitational tournament that will be held at GISS

in January 2015 has already been sanctioned. Esquivel said he hopes the meet could become an annual tradition.

"We got it by working very hard," Esquivel said.

The sport's growing level of exposure on Salt Spring, he added, will hopefully encourage more islanders to give wrestling a shot.

ROLLER DERBY

Tuff Love derby at GISS Saturday

Double-header hosted by The Committed

Salt Spring's own roller derby team The Committed is back in local action this Saturday night with a double header at the Gulf Islands Secondary School gym.

After two previous sold-out events, volunteers will once again be working hard to transform the gym into a flat-track derby venue.

The evening promises to be a wild one with four teams in total ready to tear up the track. First up, The Committed take on The Black Pearls from Tofino-Uclulet. Salt Spring then hosts a bout between the Vancouver Island All Stars and The Anarchy Angels

from the Lower Mainland, a fast-paced team, coached by members of the men's Team Canada Roller Derby.

Salt Spring funny-man John Bateman will provide local colour during the events, while professional derby announcers Dr. Jenny Fever and Shawn LaRoc return for fabulous and entertaining commentary.

Doors open at 5 p.m. The national anthem and team intros get going at 5:45 and the whistle for the first game blows at 6 p.m. Refreshments and meals will be provided at the GISS cafeteria during breaks and between games. Two food carts will also be on site.

Tickets are still online at payforsports.com, at Salt Spring Books, or from The Committed skaters.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

United women best top dogs

Five-game winning streak for team

Salt Spring United pulled a David to Lakehill's Goliath on Sunday, becoming the first team in the 030B league to unseat the giant this season.

Having previously been the only team to tie with Lakehill (11-0-2) on Oct. 20, United was on a mission to better its record in a return to the scene of Victoria's Braefield.

Lakehill drew first blood during the game's first half with a kick deep into United's end.

"When our defence couldn't get back in time, they kicked it from the corner to one of their players in front of the net and got a

goal," United spokesperson and goalkeeper Kym Sheppard Bellavance said in a post-game report.

United responded immediately after kick-off, passing the ball up the field to Liz Wilson. Wilson crossed it to Sue-Anne Donaldson, who scored Salt Spring's first goal. Donaldson doubled her achievement towards the end of the first half, when she got a breakaway, dribbled through Lakehill's players and deked out their goalie to put a shot into the corner.

Coming out of half time with the score 2-1 for United, the Lakeview side came out strong with lots of shots. They were consistently blocked by United's defence until one of Salt Spring's players was called for tripping.

Sheppard Bellavance put a stop to Lakehill's penalty kick to keep the score at 2-1.

"Lakehill was aggressive but we were not getting sucked into that, but rather doing a great passing game and 'give and go,' getting it back out of our end," Sheppard Bellavance said.

Towards the end of the second half, another pass from Wilson to Donaldson earned the forward a hat trick goal and ended the game at 3-1 for United, pushing their record to 8-4-3. The result gives the team a five-game winning streak, including a win by default against Sooke last week.

Sheppard Bellavance noted that team members Danie Wood and Daria Zovi had excellent games.

BASKETBALL

Junior girls host island tourney

Thursday-Friday games at GISS

Islanders are invited to cheer on the hometown squad as the Vancouver Island AA Junior Girls Basketball Championships are held at Gulf Islands Secondary School this week.

Games run from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, with GISS playing Dover Bay Secondary at 11:30 a.m. If the host team wins

the first game on Thursday, they will then play at 4 p.m. If they lose, game time is 7 p.m.

Play resumes on Friday at 9 a.m., with the final battle for top spot set for 3 p.m.

Teacher Kim Chalmers coaches the GISS Scorpions team, with assistance from Val Harkema.

According to player parent Joan Gunn-Allard, the team is a strong one that has lost only one game this season.

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DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	IN MEMORIAM GIFTS	IN MEMORIAM GIFTS	COMING EVENTS	

ETHEL ROSE MIDDLEDITCH DIUBALDO (nee ROLAND)
August 15, 1940 - February 4, 2014

Our remarkable sister, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and dear friend passed away on February 4, at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg MB. with family by her side. She was predeceased by her parents Harry (Jack) Roland and Laura Roland, brother Herk Roland and most recently by her husband Dominic Diubaldo, February 3, 2014.

Ethel will be sadly missed by her six children: Tony Roland of Richer MB.; Linda McDonald (Doug) of Lillooet BC, Timothy Middleditch (Chun) of Columbus Ohio, Lanui Middleditch, Chester Middleditch and Lee-Ann Middleditch of Salspring Island BC; seven grandchildren, Amy (Lane) Falk, Sean (Bobbi)Day, Zacary and Emilie Verboom. Danny (Sunyount) Miller, Perry Miller and Carrie Middleditch; six great grandchildren, Chole, Alya, Chase, Gavin, Han, Ahra, as well as her six siblings, Leona Cook, John Roland, David Roland, Josie Morrison, Marina Dick, and Kate Roland as well as her close knit family and friends.

She was an Island girl, born and raised on Salspring Island and ever proud of her Hawaiian Heritage. Spending a majority of her life on the West Coast, she met Dom on the island and soon after moved East to Manitoba 20 years ago where she enjoyed working in her "Bloomin' Lovley" greenhouse, volunteering at Steinbach Central, being a member of the Richer, Young at Hearts Club and attending every garage sale in a 50 mile radius. She was known for her sense of humour, quick wit, an unique style. She also enjoyed spending time making jewelry and doing an array of crafts and adding to her treasured stamp collection.

She was an amazing woman, and taught her children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren, the meaning of life and love and respect and family. The most important things in her life were family and friends for whom she would do anything. She was truly young at heart and her gorgeous smile and incredible sense of humour and kindness will always be remembered by all who knew her, and never be forgotten.

Our family would like to thank each and every person who helped care for Ethel in her last days. The emergency crews, the amazing staff and Doctors of the surgical intensive care unit at Health Sciences Centre.

A Funeral service was held for Ethel and Dom by Dom's family on February 11 in Winnipeg. Our family will have a Celebration of Life here on Salspring. The Date and Venue will be announced soon.

*Last night in my dreams
I saw your face again
We were there in the sun
On a white sandy beach of Hawaii*

Belliveau – Ann Marie (Harvey)
Ann (Mimi) passed away peacefully at Lady Minto Extended Care Unit (ECU) on February 9, 2014. She was born in Calgary, AB on September 20, 1929 and moved to Salt Spring Island, B.C. in 2001 to be closer to family. Ann was a loving wife and devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt. She was predeceased by her husband of 50 years, Fred, parents John and Vivian (Bouyea) Harvey, sister Leone Fennings, and many other family members and friends.

Ann is survived by her children: Harvey (Marion), Carol, and Colleen (Geoffrey); grandchildren: Lindsey (Daniel), Sean (Bonnie), Catherine, and Jacqueline; great-granddaughter Laney; a great-grandson on the way; Marion's children: Erin and Joseph (Kally); sister-in-law Phyllis; and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

The family would like to extend heartfelt appreciation to the staff, volunteers, and special companions at Lady Minto ECU, Dr. Ryan, home care workers, and the C.W.L. for everything they have done over the years.

In accordance with Ann's wishes, a Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at Our Lady Of Grace Catholic Church on Salt Spring Island on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. A graveside service and gathering will be held in Calgary at a later date.

Further information and offerings of condolences can be found at haywardsfuneral.com. If so desired, in lieu of flowers, contributions to Ann's memory may be made to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation-Extended Care Fund or a charity of your choice.

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CLARKE, BEATRICE VICTORIA
May 24, 1923 – February 7, 2014
Passed away peacefully, surrounded by family. Bea is survived by her siblings Harold Plumsteel and Margaret (Ken) McLennan, sons Jim (Pat) Rogers and Ted (Karen) Clarke, granddaughters Leanne (Patrick) Giommi, Lisa (Milo) Kowbel, Ashley (Stefan) Schuster, great-grandchildren Giulia and Emilia Giommi, Aurelia and Aiden Demandre and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. She was predeceased by her daughter Angela (Ken) Kowbel, husband Edward Clarke, sisters Kay (Charlie) Lemon and Vivian (Max) Zuest.
Born and raised in Vancouver, BC, Bea also lived in West Vancouver, Chilliwack, Abbotsford and Salt Spring Island. Bea worked for the Bank of Montreal in various Vancouver branches, as well as the Chilliwack branch then retired after 35 years of service. An active member in any community she found herself in, Bea's sense of humor and spirit of cooperation and service benefited all - her achievements and awards in volunteerism are numerous.
Some places you may have met Bea include; Chilliwack Community Services Board of Directors, Chilliwack District Boy Scouts' Council, as Treasurer for 18 years, Rotary Club, Hospital Auxiliaries, Chilliwack Soroptimists. She was often at her husband's side as he conducted his many roles in Masonic Lodges in BC, Canada, the US and Great Britain.
Her travels took her all over the world (Great Britain, Austria, the Mediterranean, Malaysia, across Canada and throughout the United States). "At home," was a warm, welcoming place for family and friends, full of music and laughter and always a hot cup of tea.
She enjoyed needlework and crafted countless pieces (both beautiful and functional) to gift or to donate to charity over the years.
The family would like to express their sincere appreciation to Dr. Shane Barclay, the nurses, care aides, staff and auxiliary at Lady Minto Hospital and our extended Salt Spring family for your loving care. The family will have a private gathering as Bea wished.
You are welcome to make a donation to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation in Bea's honor. http://ladymintofoundation.com/how-to-give/Ph:250-538-4824
Online condolences and memories of Bea may be made to lkowbel@hotmail.com

Ethel Linnea Earwaker (Bennison)
Oct 1921 - Feb. 09 2014
Lynne is predeceased by Bill, her loving husband and soul mate of 67 years. Her children were the pride of her life, she will be sadly missed by Jack and Sue Earwaker, Donna and Gregg Edwards, Debby Hunter and close niece Sharon Volkommer. Lynne has 8 wonderful grandchildren- Bill, Jason and Jennifer Earwaker, Torie and Rob Edwards and Jackie, Tracy and Steven Hunter, as well as 9 great-grandchildren.
Lynne was raised in Vancouver attending Tecumseh Elementary and John Oliver High Schools. In 1961, Bill and Lynne started spending summers on Salspring Island and moved there permanently in 1971 into a house that Bill built at the end of Beddis Road. She and Bill hiked the island and enjoyed all the island had to offer. Wonderful neighbours helped in so many ways to make their lives richer. Many a good time were enjoyed in the summer when friends and family visited.
Lynne joined the Hospital Auxiliary in 1977 and was a willing worker for many years. She was known for the hundreds of sheep she made and sold in the support of the hospital. Lynne was a member of a large coffee group, the United Church women's group, line dancing, Aquatics and in the 80's a quilting group. In her senior years, Lynne enjoyed singing with the seniors choir, the 'Lost Cords'. Many thanks to the great neighbours in King Fisher Cove and other friends of Lynne that have gone before her, Emily Stewart and Jean Johnson among them. Lynne leaves her good friend Margaret Oldroyd, who has been faithful to her to the end. Thanks to all for making Lynne's life so full of fun and gave her such support and good times.
Finally a special "thank you" to Dr Woodley who took such good care of her and for always being there for her when she needed him. Huge hugs to her care givers and adopted daughters in her final years - Leslie Cheeseman and Barbara Ross- who loved her like their own.
Much of this is pre-written by Lynne; Her final thoughts- "A life well lived with no regrets"

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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastronomy.com
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Tip of the Week:
The big news this week, other than the fact that the Sun entered Pisces on February 18 at 10 am sharp PST, is the fact that the Moon's Nodes have also changed signs. More interesting yet, is the fact that the Lunar Nodes entered their new sign pair - Libra and Aries on February 18th as well. This 'ingress' occurred at 6:51 am PST, so just prior to the Sun ingress to Pisces.
What this basically means is that the Sun was in the last degree of Aquarius at the time of the new Lunar Node Cycle. The last degree of a sign is considered 'critical' in Astrology, especially when a planet or angle is at 29 degrees of any sign. The basic interpretation points to a theme of 'overcoming' which means it can be categorized as a challenge factor, linked to broad, collective human concerns, not just national. These are linked to how governments and organized power structures in general think and act. 29 Aquarius also points to higher spiritual realities and authority.
An analysis of this chart provides insights about the 18 month cycle that the Moon's Nodes encompass through any given sign pair. I will elaborate further in my New Moon Newsletter (sign-up on my website). What especially stands out is the fact that the Moon at the exact ingress moment was at 10 Libra and therefore comprised the 4th corner of a Grand Cross (also called a Grand Square) in Cardinal Signs, which are dynamic action and initiative oriented signs.
Altogether, these 'signs' blend well with the dynamic, dramatic Wood Horse year that is steadily gaining speed. This week's Horoscope offers insights linked to the Moon's Nodes in Libra/Aries for each sign.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
With increased levels of power and authority come higher levels of responsibility and stress. Yet, you feel compelled to take decisive and deliberate action. Diplomacy is one of the main keywords for this cycle of the Nodes. Balancing many changes, physical and psychological, with this dynamic and keeping the peace all the while will be a central challenge.
Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)
You may already assert an ambitious drive in your life, yet now you feel called to take things to the next level. You may surprise even yourself and certainly others how assertive you can be. The main challenge will be the process of clarifying your direction and the best approaches to take. Expect the pace to accelerate noticeably.
Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)
Deciphering what makes you special is a feature of this new 18 month cycle. But this will not be a solo journey. Accessing the talents and resources of other key players will prove to be important. These include teachers, mentors and guides and will require discipline. Arts, culture and travel are all likely features. What else is possible?
Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
An even bigger emphasis than usual upon home and family is indicated by the Moon's Nodes entering Libra and Aries. The fine print includes the need to deepen your focus to maintain your own center, poise and balance. The good news is that it includes practical steps you will take to increase your authority and earning potential. Focusing to increase your self-esteem is implied and may prove to be a pre-requisite for success.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)
The time has come to bring forward the many ideas and visions of your higher mind. A manifestation process is implied. It is not so much the principles of the Law of Attraction but of the Law of Expression. More than before you will feel the push to 'feel the fear and do it anyway'. This process will include shining and polishing your most precious talents.
Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
The time has come to look forward and not look back. This includes forging new relationships and/or approaching existing ones from new angles. There is a call to set clear intentions to creatively weave material ambitions with spiritual aspirations. This is the golden mean you seek. Aim for new collaborations and approaches and be willing to diversify as well.
Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)
Your assertion and drive factors are destined to increase now. All being well you have established new foundations. Or at least you have cleared blocks and barriers or they have been removed 'for you' in the past 18 months. Either way, the time has come to take more decisive action. Sharpen your focus and prepare to enter new territory.
Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)
The North Node in Libra will summon you to expand your horizons and your heart to feel a deeper connection to life and love. While romantic love may well be featured in your destiny during this cycle, the emphasis leans to the spiritual. Whether your focus is on community, empathy and compassion, humanity or otherwise, this is a

call to deepened states of unity.
Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)
Dedicated service to a higher purpose is a central theme over the next 18 months. This will include a big stimulation of your network and increased communications. There may even be a healthy twist of revolutionary activism in there. It may take until September before this momentum gets fully activated, though July will be expansive.
Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)
More responsibility, hopefully accompanied by power and abundance, is coming your way. Some of it will be directed to home and family and not only career and social status. Some measure of inner work, renovation and/or healing is implied. You will be guided or circumstances will push you to get to the bottom of things somehow.
Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)
Sometimes more than others require that we 'really put our heart into it'. This will be a core theme while the North Node is in Libra. The heart chakra is the higher mind, seat of the soul, intuitive center and the key to 'be here now'. These are hints at both the means and the end of this focus. Commitment is perhaps the main keyword.
Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
Are you ready to break a few habits? Are old ingrained attitudes, values and self-concepts in your way? Change is the law and it will accelerate during the next year and a half for you. Your best choice in this regard is to be willing, cooperative and proactive. Denial and resistance could be addressed with the cosmic two-by-four. Start building momentum now.

ISLAND WHEELS

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NEW VEHICLES

Canada's new car-show season revs up in Montreal

Auto companies share up-and-coming rides

BY JIM ROBINSON
METROLAND MEDIA

MONTREAL: The 2014 Salon International de l'auto de Montreal is not only the first Canadian car show of the year but also gives show goers a good idea of what they will see in Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary and other centres.

Because the Montreal show always happens during the same time as Detroit's, automakers in Canada have to scramble to display something new and this year they did a pretty good job with a number of Canadian debuts.

The first, and perhaps most significant, actually happened a week before the show opening with the unveiling as the for-Canada-only

2015 Nissan Micra marking its return the Canadian marketplace after 21 years.

Micra will go up against a growing number of sub-compacts such as the Mazda2 and Honda Fit and will only be sold in this country.

Mitsubishi chose Montreal to reveal the Mirage G4, a four-door, 1.2-litre three-cylinder subcompact with CVT transmission built in Thailand and a sibling of the 2014 Mirage hatchback currently sold in Canada.

Based on feedback from the public attending auto shows across the country, Mitsubishi will decide whether or not to sell it here.

The car shown in Montreal was quite well equipped with ABS, Electronic Brake Force Distribution, keyless operating system, power-side mirrors with integrated LED-type lamps and 15-inch alloy wheels.

MONTREAL continued on 23



The 2015 Subaru WRX has a new direct injection, twin turbo Boxer engine and a CVT transmission with eight "manual" gears. It was displayed at the Montreal Auto Show in January.

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ISLAND WHEELS

Canadian debuts include Sierra, Honda Civic coupe

MONTREAL
continued from 22

Chevrolet had a large display in Montreal featuring the Canadian debuts of the 2015 Tahoe, 2014 Corvette Stingray Convertible and the 2014 Malibu.

Tahoe power comes from a standard 5.3-litre V8 with leading-edge technology, including direct fuel injection, cylinder deactivation, continuously variable valve timing and an advanced combustion system designed to make the most of power, torque and efficiency across a broad range of operating demands.

Tahoe's utility includes fold flat second- and third-row seats and two inches greater second-row legroom with easier entry/exit. It also features up to six USB slots and six power outlets, including a three-prong 110-volt outlet.

GMC's Canadian debuts were the 2015 Sierra HD pickups and the 2015 Yukon, which shares much with the Tahoe.

The new Sierra HDs arrive in the first quarter of 2014, including 2500HD and 3500HD models, and the Sierra Denali HD



Kia had three models new to Canada on its stand in Montreal, the 2014 Soul, Koup and Forte5 (shown).

with segment-leading capabilities across the range including the highest payload — 3,508 kg (7,734 lb) — and the highest conventional trailering rating — 8,890 kg (19,600 lb). The maximum fifth-wheel trailering rating is 10,523 kg (23,200 pounds).

Gasoline and Duramax diesel powertrains are offered, includ-

ing a bi-fuel option that pairs the gasoline engine with a compressed natural gas system.

Honda let Canadians see the 2014 Civic SI Coupe for the first time with a redesigned front fascia, distinctive grille and bumper, new taillight design and 18-inch alloy wheels.

Power comes from a 2.4-litre DOHC four-cylinder producing



Erik Durand, regional marketing manager for GMC Canada, is shown with the 2015 GMC Sierra HD that had its Canadian debut in Montreal.

205 hp and 174 lb/ft of torque mated to a close ratio six-speed manual transmission.

Standard equipment includes a helical limited-slip differential.

Kia had three new-to-Canada models at their stand, including the 2014 Soul, 2014 Forte5 and 2014 Forte Koup.

The Koup and Forte5, both going on sale in spring, feature

a 201-hp, 195 lb/ft of torque, 1.6-litre, four-cylinder engine with direct fuel injection and a twin-scroll turbocharger on the topline SX trim models. The standard engine is a 2.0-litre, direct injection four-cylinder with 173 hp and 154 lb/ft of torque.

MONTREAL continued on 24

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* Pricing applies to a 2014 Forester 2.5i 6MT (EJ1 X0) / 2014 XV Crosstrek Touring 5MT (EX1-1P) with MSRP of \$28,070 / \$26,570 including freight & PDI (\$1,650), documentation fees (\$35) and battery and tire tax (\$30). License, taxes, insurance and registration extra. Model shown is a 2014 Forester 2.0XT Limited Package CVT (EJ2 XTU) with MSRP of \$37,570 including freight & PDI (\$1,650), documentation fees (\$395) and battery and tire taxes (\$30). Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. Vehicle shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Roof rack and accessories not included. Dealers may sell for less or may have to order or trade. **1.9% finance and lease rates available on all new 2014 Forester models / 2014 XV Crosstrek models for a 24-month term. Financing and leasing programs available through Toyota Credit Canada Inc. on approved credit. †\$500 bonus accessories offer applies to lease, finance and cash agreements for all new 2013 and 2014 Subaru models (excluding the 2014 XV Crosstrek Hybrid) and can be combined with Stackable Cash, Alternate Cash and Legacy VIP program, concluded respectively with TCCI. †† Offers valid until December 2, 2013. See your local Subaru dealer or visit www.western.subarudealer.ca for complete program details. Ratings of "Good" are the highest rating awarded for performance in IIHS safety tests (moderate overlap front, small overlap front, side, rollover and rear) conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). To earn a 2013 TOP SAFETY PICK+, a vehicle must receive a "Good" rating in at least four of the IIHS tests and a "Good" or "Acceptable" rating in the fifth test.



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MONTREAL

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The Forte5 is offered in eight trims, ranging from LX+ MT to SX AT Luxury, while the Koup offers six trim levels ranging from EX MT to SX AT Luxury.

Making its first Canadian appearance in Montreal was the 2015 **Subaru WRX** powered by a new 2.0-litre "Boxer" four-cylinder engine with direct injection and turbocharging for 268 hp and 258 lb/ft of torque.

It marks the first time a six-speed manual transmission has been paired with a Subaru direct-injection engine and replaces the outgoing five-speed manual.

Also available is a new, six-speed Sport Lineartronic automatic transmission featuring Subaru Intelligent Drive (SI-DRIVE). By selecting Sport Sharp (S#) the driver can switch to eight-speed gearing. SI-DRIVE's Sport Sharp mode within Sport Lineartronic emulates traditional shift points to let drivers feel the WRX's impressive power and performance.

Toyota's stand featured the Canadian premiere of the 2014



The 2014 Toyota Highlander, seen for the first time in Canada at Montreal, is one of the few vehicles in Canada with seating for up to eight.

Highlander, which is one of the few SUVs in the Canadian market with seating for up to eight.

With a choice of gasoline 3.5-litre or 3.5-litre hybrid power with three electric motors and two- or four-wheel drive, the new Highlander has 34 per cent more cargo area behind the third-row seats.

It will still tow up to 5,000 lb in gasoline form or 3,500 lb with the hybrid.

Volvo featured the new V60 Sportswagon, many of which have already been sold (starting at \$39,800) through a pre-sale incentive program.

Buyers have a choice of the 250 hp V60 T5 AWD, the award-winning T6 AWD putting out 300 hp, or may opt for the sporting V60 R-Design boasting 325 hp mated to Haldex electronically variable all-wheel-drive with Instant Traction. It is also



Infiniti was named the winner of AJAC's 2014 Best New Luxury Car (over \$50k), among other awards.

offered with Volvo's four-cylinder Drive-E powerplant mated to an eight-speed transmission.

Being a Volvo, it is extensively equipped with state-of-the-art safety equipment as part of Volvo's commitment to Vision 2020, a goal that no one shall be killed or seriously injured in a Volvo by the year 2020.

Infiniti was a double winner in Montreal after receiving two "Best New Technology" awards

from the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC).

The Direct Adaptive Steering and Predictive Forward Collision Warning systems represent the brand's commitment to Inspired Performance and are both found, as world's-first technologies, on Infiniti's new Q50 sports sedan, winner of AJAC's 2014 Best New Luxury Car (over \$50,000).

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