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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 14 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

WATER RESOURCES

NSSWD extends moratorium

No new water connections to be approved for time being

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The island's largest drinking water supplier has extended a moratorium on requests for new water connections until a weir near the outlet of St. Mary Lake is raised by 30 centimetres.

"Nobody's come up with an idea to increase the water supply, so we've got to live with what we've got," said Marshall Heinekey, chair of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

Heinekey said the moratorium on new water connections will likely stay in effect until 2016, if building of the weir is completed before the end of this summer. He said the weir's completion rests on approval from owners of waterfront property around St. Mary Lake.

Board members plan to host a public meeting and meet with any individuals whose property might be affected by rising lake levels on a one-on-one basis.

The NSSWD implemented the moratorium in August 2014. The original six-month restriction has been expanded based on the lack of any apparent progress on the weir.

"This is sort of to tell people where we're at," Heinekey said of the district's announcement, issued this week. "This will be an ongoing process, and there might be some things that won't go ahead that had been planned."

NSSWD board members imposed the moratorium based on preliminary results of water quantity reports undertaken at Maxwell and St. Mary lakes by Kerr Wood Leidal Consulting Engineers.

NSSWD continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

EASTER SHOPPING: Jade Larson gets Easter treats from the Saturday Market in the Park, which opened for the first time this year on April 4.

ECONOMY

CEDC sets out plan of action

Report shows Salt Spring lags behind provincial averages

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission are optimistic their new action plan for the island will stimulate economic growth to benefit the whole community.

"What we lack in quantity we make up for in quality and motivation," said Darryl Martin, chair of the seven-member CEDC. "We have a plan that is pretty challenging . . . but we think it's doable if we really work hard."

The final draft of the plan called Toward a More Resilient Salt Spring is set for approval by the Capital Regional District Board in Victoria today (April 8).

The project began two years ago with CEDC members looking at prior efforts, speaking with islanders and plotting a path that stimulates the island's economy while celebrating its natural environment.

"When we started off, I guess we discovered that there was a lot of frustration in the commission because we discovered there were so many studies," said Wayne McIntyre, Salt Spring's CRD director. "It was classic Salt Spring."

CEDC continued on 5

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Waterworks board seats need to be filled

Dr. James Buchan Medical School Awards

Under a trust under the will of Dr. James Buchan, provision is made for annual awards to former students of Gulf Islands Secondary School who are attending an accredited medical school on a full time basis. The trustee may review a variety of criteria including:

- Academic excellence
- Financial need or
- Leadership qualities and school/community involvement.

This award may be renewable in subsequent years, should the student wish to re-apply. The value of the awards may vary.

Final deadline for applications (letter, resume, transcripts of marks, letters of reference and income information) is May 19, 2015 to the Counselling Office at GISS.

NSSWD

continued from 1

According to the draft hydrology reports, both lakes are "very vulnerable to drought" and unable to support additional water demand based on the NSSWD's current water licence.

NSSWD has withheld several water applications for proposed developments, including a request to supply water to secondary suites on Mount Baker Crescent and Perdue Avenue, and a 26-unit subdivision on Norton Road. The decision has also delayed work on a plan to build up to 80 affordable housing units on Drake Road.

"The district does not have a clear understanding of how much water is needed for build-out under current zoning. Furthermore, zoning does not assure water is available," reads part of the notice published in

its entirety on page 23 of this paper. "The district is keeping a queue of properties requesting water service."

The decision affects any "uncommitted" development within the NSSWD's jurisdiction that results in greater demand for water.

"The district does not have a clear understanding of how much water is needed for build-out under current zoning."

NSSWD PUBLIC NOTICE

Heinekey said anyone who pays a parcel tax to the water district, regardless of whether a structure has been built

on their property, is considered committed within available water supply. That is not the case for titles whose zoning enables subdivision but have not yet been divided into more than one lot.

Property owners who plan to request water service and are unsure of their status within the district are encouraged to speak with NSSWD staff, Heinekey said.

The hydrology reports, which are expected to be released at the end of the month, have encouraged board members to consider a water conservation bylaw to limit outdoor water use during periods of extended dry weather.

As of December 2014, the NSSWD served 2,076 properties. The district's boundaries extend from Southey Point to the Cranberry Valley, including properties along Sunset Drive, Channel Ridge, Vesuvius Bay and Lower

Ganges roads, and Fulford Ganges Road until Cushoon Lake Road.

Raising the weir from 40.7 to 41 metres above sea level would guarantee the NSSWD could meet all of its "existing commitments," but it's unclear if enough water would be left over to meet Islands Trust and Capital Regional District build-out projections.

"At this time, it appears that there is not enough water to meet all the planned development; however, to be certain, the district must have the potential build-out clearly defined by the Islands Trust," board members said.

Heinekey anticipates working with the Trust, CRD and other agencies to make sure projected water demands meet the reality of water supply.

Leah Hartley, regional planning manager at the Trust's Salt Spring office, said the NSSWD's letter will be considered at the

Local Trust Committee's April 16 meeting.

In other NSSWD news, the district is accepting nominations for potential board members until Monday, April 13 at 12 p.m. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor.

Nominees will vie for two trustee positions. Each position will be for a three-year term. To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District and entitled to be registered as a voter under the Elections Act.

Board members will be elected during the NSSWD's AGM on April 28 at 7 p.m. at the Community Gospel Chapel.

More information about the nomination process is available from the NSSWD office or at northsaltspringwaterworks.ca.

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SCAMS

More scams at tax time

Don't give out info

Financial service providers on the island warn residents to be wary of any email or telephone correspondence that purports to be from the Canada Revenue Agency.

According to the CRA, people should be especially aware about "phishing scams" looking for credit card, bank account, passport or social insurance numbers.

A good rule of thumb to keep in mind is that the CRA never asks for this type of information over the phone or by email.

"Some of these scams ask for this personal information directly, and others refer the taxpayer to a web site resembling the CRA's, where the person is asked to verify their identity by entering personal information," reads information on the real CRA web site. "Taxpayers should not click on links included in these emails."

A new breed of telephone scam sees callers use "threatening or coercive language" while claiming to represent the CRA.

VOTE

For Fire Trustees



Norbert Schlenker **Acclaimed Linda Lee** **Mitch Forest** **Derek Hill**

For a Change

NEWS BEAT

Heads up!
GISS Improv Team Show:
 Saturday, APRIL 11
 ArtSpring at 7:30 p.m.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Fallow deer threaten to become regional problem

Volunteers groups,
 Parks Canada search for
 solution

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Changes to BC Wildlife regulations in 2014 have created an open season on fallow deer across the Gulf Islands, with no bag limits and no date restrictions aside from special requirements on Mayne Island.

Ian Dow, who is the Southern Gulf Islands Economic Development Commission member for Mayne, calls the move a “fabulous” development in the history of the imported species, which has caused drastic effects to his home ecosystem and now threatens to become an even bigger problem.

“They’re all over Saturna, they’re now on Cabbage and Tumbo islands and they may be on Galiano,” Dow said. “It’s spreading — it’s a regional issue now.”

Fallow deer is a European species that was brought to B.C. in the early 1900s to stock private game reserves. More recently, a government economic initiative encouraged game farmers to raise the deer for the organic venison market. According to the B.C. Minister of Agriculture, approximately 80 per cent of the provincial venison market is now supplied by B.C. fallow deer producers.

Mayne Island’s fallow deer problem originated in a commercial farm that operated in the 1980s and 1990s.

The current population is thought to have grown from a small number of escapees that found their way out in the ‘90s. There are now anywhere from 500 to 1,000 animals, which are competing with and outstripping the native black-tailed deer. Without management, that number could have been more like 4,000: one doe can produce 50 deer within the span of 10 years.

According to Tom Masters of the Mayne Island Deer Committee, “Wildlife biologists estimate that a normal, sustainable population of deer on an island the size of Mayne, in the presence of natural predators like wolves, cougar and bear, would be about 200 individuals. Mayne Island today has no predators at all.”

Significant changes to the island’s ecosystem have occurred as the flowering shrubs the fallow deer prefer become more scarce, and at the same time, the range of plants the deer will eat is increasing. Their eating patterns are also harmful.

“Native black-tailed deer, having different nutritional needs, are opportunistic browsers, taking what they need here, there and everywhere. The invasive fallow deer, on the other hand, are grazers and, if left alone, will strip the ground bare,” Masters explained.

Since 1996, the B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has provided annual permits to up to six Mayne Island hunters to take fallow deer on private lands where they have permission from the landowners.



Fallow deer graze on Sidney Spit.

PHOTO COURTESY PARKS CANADA

The Mayne Island Deer Committee formed in 2013, prompted by the ministry’s proposal to re-introduce hunting on the island after 40 years. The Mayne Island Conservancy Society and the Residents and Ratepayers Association completed an in-depth consultation process and determined that islanders preferred to limit hunting of fallow deer through special permit.

Parks Canada issued a public alert in 2013 regarding fallow deer’s possible spread from Mayne to Saturna Island, approximately one half of which belongs to the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. The federal agency has already been involved in attempts to eradicate or at least control fallow deer on Sidney Island. A partnership between Parks Canada, private landowners and First Nations closes the park to members the pub-

lic every winter so that hunting can occur.

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve’s resource conservation officer Nathan Cardinal estimates Sidney Island’s population is holding steady at around 600, although sampling challenges make it difficult to be sure.

“It seems to be keeping at a stable level (but) we’re looking at a variety of strategies to further reduce or eradicate them,” Cardinal said.

One of the possibilities has been presented through research into how predation risk plays a role in ecosystem management. The idea is to deter the deer’s presence by introducing a fear of predators into the environment.

Cardinal said Parks Canada continues to consult with private landowners on how to deal with fallow deer on Saturna Island, but that little

action has been detected since the initial sightings occurred just over two years ago. Camera traps have failed to capture any fallow deer on film, and the agency has not received new reports from islanders.

“It’s my feeling that the population there is pretty small,” he said, adding Parks Canada wants to do more substantial work in the fall after the visitors’ season has ended.

Fallow deer are smaller and have lighter coats than native black-tailed deer. They often have white spots like fawns in their adult years. Cardinal asks that if anyone does spot fallow deer on any of the Gulf Islands, and particularly within the parks reserve, to notify Parks Canada so conservation officers can better track the populations. The head office in Sidney can be reached toll-free at 1-866-944-1744 or by email to gulf.islands@pc.gc.ca.

The Mayne Island Deer Committee continues to liaise with the ministry, holds information sessions and coordinates hunting efforts. Until recently its volunteers have financed the work completely from their own pockets. A Capital Regional District grant-in-aid of \$4,200 approved in March will go a small way toward reimbursing fuel and ammunition costs for hunters, as well as supporting hall rental fees and publication costs.

The committee is hoping to get some additional aid from the province, especially in light of fallow deer’s potential spread across the Gulf Islands.

NEWS BRIEFS

Break-ins reported

Salt Spring RCMP members responded to a couple of residential break-ins among 43 calls for service over the past week.

On Sunday, April 5, property owners on Bulman Road reported that their main residence and a number

of cabins had been broken into and vandalized. Police believe squatters were living on the property for an extended period of time while the owners were not present.

Police also received a report on April 6 that \$7,500 worth of carpentry tools had been stolen from a home under construction on Mountain Park Drive.

Anyone with information regarding these crimes is asked to contact the local detachment at 250-537-5555.

Vesuvius repairs

BC Ferries has advised passengers it will be carrying out necessary repairs to its Vesuvius terminal trestle

from Thursday, April 16 to Sunday, April 19.

The repairs will require a portion of the trestle to be blocked off, allowing for the removal and replacement of trestle decking and support beams. There will therefore be a temporary restriction to some vehicle types while work is taking place, beginning with the 4:10 p.m. sailing from Vesuvius on April

16. Any single combination vehicles over 10 metres or 30 feet and any vehicles pulling a trailer with either the tow vehicle or trailer exceeding 10 metres or 30 feet will be asked to travel using the Swartz Bay to Fulford Harbour route instead, or if possible to travel on alternate dates.

BC Ferries states there will be no impact to sched-

uled sailings, with most work taking place over the weekend to lessen the impact on commercial customers.

For ferry traffic updates or more information, please call toll free at 1-888-BCFERRY (223-3779), check the website at www.bcferries.com or visit mobile.bcferries.com on mobile devices.

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FIRE DISTRICT

Candidates suggest district priorities

Trustee candidates outline positions

The following are answers to two more questions the Driftwood asked candidates for Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District trustee seats to answer in advance of the April 18 election. The candidates are listed in reverse alphabetical order to balance last week's answer presentation. Three three-year terms are open for election.

3) Which services do you believe our fire department must provide, and which might be negotiable?

Norbert Schlenker

Our letters patent require fire suppression, search and rescue, and first response to emergencies. It's a trustee's job to examine the services possible, cost them out, get the input of the public and the firefighters about what's appropriate for our community, and only then make decisions. I've been hearing many individual opinions since nominations closed, including the Bateman et al letter in last week's paper, but do not possess enough solid information at this point to say yes to X and no to Y.

Maxine Leichter

Our fire department must remain the full-service department it has always been, meaning it goes beyond just fighting fires. For example, the department provides emergency medical response and backup to our overextended ambulance service, saving lives every year. A recent chemical incident at the Harbour

House could well have caused an explosion and deaths had the fire department not been able to provide immediate and top-notch hazardous materials response. It is the fire department that uses the Jaws of Life to extricate people trapped in vehicles after an accident. These services will not be provided here by any other agency.

Full-time firefighters' salaries, on-call duties and the number of positions are set in a binding union contract that expires in 2016. I will move to immediately engage professional assistance to explore options and help negotiate a fair and affordable contract with unionized firefighters.

Derek Hill

The island is happy with the level of fire protection we have, but not happy with the cost. With a "zero-based budget" the board should examine all of our costs from zero, rather than just adding onto what was spent in previous years. Purchasing and equipment replacement should include greater scrutiny in the context of a 10-year plan. This method doesn't mean removing important services like the "Superior Tanker Shuttle Service" but rather keeping costs in line.

Mitch Forest

Fire suppression is at the top of the list along with answering motor vehicle incidents when necessary, dealing with hazmat calls and search and rescue. Fire inspections do reduce the number of incidents and should continue with a well-planned needs assessment for frequency. Proper training for all members, volunteer and

career, is critical. The selected board will need to determine which services are negotiable.

4) What is the top concern facing the district over the next few years?

Norbert Schlenker

The failure to approve a new hall in the 2013 referendum didn't come from too big, too rich, too ambitious. It came from making decisions in a back room and then telling voters what they must swallow without meaningfully consulting them about the priorities. If I'm a trustee, transparency for, engagement with, and accountability to the public will be paramount.

Maxine Leichter

Many critical issues face the department. The public is concerned about rising costs. In addition to addressing the union contract, I support a cost/benefit analysis of every service and capital item in the budget to look for more opportunities to save and pursue other sources of revenue such as recovering costs for false alarms.

The Ganges fire hall is unsafe and must be replaced. An earthquake could collapse it on the fire trucks when we need them the most. Because the soil is saturated by the tide, it is subject to liquefaction. Because there is inadequate storage, the lifespan of expensive equipment is being reduced by being stored in containers outside rather than in a temperature-controlled building. These are just some of the reasons we need a new fire hall as soon as possible. I

want to help undertake a truly effective public participation process to design a fire hall that the public will support.

Derek Hill

Running a \$2.5-million business efficiently and effectively with a 10-year plan approved by Salt Spring residents and building a new fire hall.

Mitch Forest

Budget is a top concern and we need to get control of our budget and create a plan for the future. All matters recommended in the Walker report must be dealt with expeditiously. The contract negotiations must be handled with a thorough plan and presented by a seasoned hired negotiator. This is a big item of course, since 60 per cent of our budget is wage related. Planning must start immediately.

Our community and our firefighters must have a new fire hall. Here again a proper "needs assessment" guided by community input and stated desired fire service level along with a presentation by the chief will assist our trustees in making a decision . . . a common-sense decision. You can't put a fire out without water so we must maintain and possibly improve upon our water shuttle capabilities.

The number of on-call members has dropped. I will pursue ways to maintain and add members. Trustees are in place to represent and protect our citizens, property and dollars, and it is our trustees who are the employers of the fire service personnel, so any decisions must be held accountable on all those levels.

SPEAKERS

Truth & Reconciliation member visits SSI

SS Forum and CFUW co-presentation

Marie Wilson, one of the three commissioners for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, will be at ArtSpring on Wednesday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. for a Salt Spring Forum and Canadian Federation of University Women co-presentation.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was created to facilitate reconciliation among former students of the residential school system, their families and com-

munities, and all Canadians. More than 150,000 First Nations, Inuit and Métis children were removed from their homes and placed in government-funded, church-run residential schools over the system's span.

The commission is a component of the 2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. It is mandated to create a public historical record, promote awareness about the residential schools system and its impacts, and produce a report and recommendations to the federal government.

Prior to her appointment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Wilson

worked for more than three decades as a journalist in print, radio and television, and later as the CBC's senior manager for northern Québec and the three northern territories. She is the recipient of a CBC North Award for Lifetime Achievement and the Northerner of the Year Award. In May 2012, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by St. Thomas University in recognition of a professional career "marked by public service and social justice."

Tickets are available from ArtSpring, online at tickets.artspring.ca or at Salt Spring Books.

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PHOTO BY SUE HIGGS

ALL SHE WROTE: A murder scene is investigated after writer Agatha Mystry (aka Kathy Page) signed her last books at Murder in the Library last Wednesday evening. The inaugural Salt Spring Public Library Association fundraiser was a sell-out, with 85 bodies attending.

Target areas outlined in commission report

CEDC

continued from 1

Two years later, the result is a 38-page document that identifies 14 recommendations and covers six broader priorities, which include: tourism; agriculture and food; economic diversity; business efficiency; Ganges and Fulford infrastructure; and communication and advocacy.

Unlike all those previous studies, however, Martin and McIntyre stress this is more of an action plan and commissioners hope to implement seven of the recommendations within the year.

"This year we plan to be in action mode," Martin said. "We plan to go out and get it done with the resources and the people that we have."

provincial average), most working families on the island are not well off," the report states. "When all household incomes, retiree and other, are considered, Salt Spring's median income is 13 per cent below the B.C. average."

For families with young children, the median income drops to 27 per cent below the provincial average. People with full-time, year-round employment average approximately 12 per cent below their counterparts elsewhere in the province.

Two thirds of all jobs on the island are part-time or seasonal.

"Considering the higher costs on ferry dependent islands, it is clear why young families cannot afford to live on Salt Spring," the report states.

What the islanders lack in income, however, they make up for in diversity and entrepreneurial spirit. Nearly 35 per cent of islanders are self-employed — compared to 14 per cent provincially — and more than 25 per cent work from home, a rate that is almost three times higher than the B.C. average.

"Many [Salt Spring residents] work multiple jobs, hence the somewhat exaggerated title of a [2011] publication called 'You're not really a Salt Springer until you have held four jobs simultaneously.'"

Along with 14 action targets, the plan suggests a need for further collaboration between the Islands Trust and the CRD to address "land use and infrastructure planning challenges and infrastructure bottlenecks." It also calls for more public and private funding for economic development activities and strong community support for economic development.

"Obviously we've got one or two barriers to cross, but at least we've got a structure," McIntyre said.

Toward a More Resilient Salt Spring can be downloaded at crd.bc.ca. The Community Economic Development Commission meets monthly. Commissioners encourage anyone who wants to help implement the plan to step forward.

"We're trying to move people to the island."

WAYNE MCINTYRE
Salt Spring's CRD director

Martin has already donned his project manager's cap to promote Experience the Gulf Islands, working with residents on other southern Gulf Islands to strengthen inter-island links and promote the islands to a broader tourist market.

Other commissioners will soon be focused on promotion of shoulder and winter season visitation and a campaign to attract young entrepreneurs and increase public sector employment by relocating CRD and Islands Trust jobs from Victoria to Salt Spring.

"We're trying to move people to the island," McIntyre said. "Those are well-paid jobs and it makes sense to have them here."

While the action plan charts a clear course for the island's economic future, it also provides sobering insight on several economic indicators.

"In contrast to retirees [who are relatively wealthy compared to the



SSI Watershed Protection Authority Seeks Volunteer with Expertise in Limnology

The Watershed Protection Authority (SSIWPA) exists to cooperate on the development and implementation of policies and initiatives for improved raw water quality, and coordinated management of quantity of Salt Spring island water sources. SSIWPA is currently accepting applications for a volunteer position on its Technical Advisory Committee. (<http://ssiwatersheds.ca/technical-advisory-committee/>)

More information about the agencies involved can be found here: <http://ssiwatersheds.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Organizational-Structure-of-SSIWPA-0115.pdf>.

To apply, please send CV and a brief cover letter to ssiwpacoord@gmail.com, or telephone Shannon Cowan 250.537.4847 for more information.

Deadline: Friday, April 24, 2015.



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OPINION



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

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



EDITORIAL

Turning off the tap

Across the province and in many parts of North America, water shortages have increasingly become a mainstay of headlines and newscasts.

Just last week, California imposed the first mandatory water restrictions in the state's history. Towns and cities in the Golden State are scurrying to develop plans that will cut water consumption by a whopping 25 per cent.

Meanwhile, firefighters in northwest B.C. are already warning about increased wildfire risk, and the Cowichan Valley Regional District has applied for federal money to raise a dam on the Cowichan River in anticipation of drier times ahead.

On Salt Spring, four of the past seven years have been significantly drier than normal. The past two

years have featured back-to-back summer droughts that have encouraged water districts to ask property owners to consider voluntary water restrictions.

THE ISSUE:

Water moratorium

WE SAY:

Restrictions signal new mindset

According to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's chair Marshall

Heinekey, there comes a time when planners and elected officials need to begin treating recent trends like the new normal.

Six months ago, the NSSWD quietly implemented a moratorium on any new water connections that would increase its commitment to the more than 2,000 properties already listed on the district's tax roll.

With much of the trustees' attention diverted to the new water treatment plant at St. Mary Lake, the board has been unable to obtain approvals to raise a weir on Duck Creek and shore up more water supply in St. Mary Lake. As such, the moratorium remains in place.

Extended restrictions, combined with the district's renewed efforts to promote water conservation, signal it's time to take water quantity concerns very seriously.

"Adjusting to new limitations," as the board states in a notice in this paper, requires the coordinated efforts of government agencies and commissions, but ultimately rests on a new mindset to guide how island residents who live within the NSSWD and beyond use water in the drier months and years to come.



VIEWPOINT by RON MCCULLOCH

Opportunity for change at SSIFPD

Yet another election is looming, one for the board of trustees of the fire department.

Elections to the fire board occur annually but, unlike previous years, we have the rare opportunity in this one election to establish a new core team on our board. Four of the seven incumbents are either stepping down or not seeking reelection, and a slate of residents has stepped forward that is committed to change.

Ours is a rural community which, for decades, was served by a fire department comprised almost exclusively of volunteers. With no community consultation, the board has pursued a direction which relies increasingly on full-time "career" firefighters. Despite unanimous opposition from those who attended the last budget session six months ago, the current board approved the hiring of two more full-time personnel. As of 10 years ago the operating budget was around \$800,000. Since then it has ballooned to over \$2.5 million.

At the board's Feb. 16 meeting, consultant Richard Walker was present to answer some questions regarding his recent Fire Service Review report. From minutes of that meeting Mr. Walker commented "that the dollar cost of wages and benefits is too high to continue 'business as usual.'" Ratepayers couldn't agree more.

We need trustees that discuss issues in full view of the public, not behind closed doors. We need to have a board that seeks direction from the ratepayers instead of telling us what

we should think . . . and then handing us the bill. We deserve trustees who are able to find balance between wants versus needs. A trustee's concept of fiscal responsibility shouldn't be from the school of "No Price Too High."

It's ludicrous to suggest that any effort to trim fat from the budget is the same as putting the community at risk. Indiscriminate fear-mongering is not a substitute for rational decision making. But that is the rhetoric that's dominated the board for years and resulted in the current situation.

We're fortunate to have a team of individuals come forward to fill those four seats. One (Linda Lee) is already in by acclamation. The other three are Mitch Forest, Derek Hill and Norbert Schlenker. They each have different strengths which, when combined, are perfect to deal with the issues facing the fire department.

None of these four will need to recuse themselves from the decision-making process as a result of any ties to the department. They are each truly independent, not just "sort of."

The slate and its many supporting volunteers now want your vote to complete the change of leadership on the board. All three need to be elected to assume the majority position and create the change we need and deserve.

The above is also signed by Ron MacKenzie, Robert Steinbach and Conny Classen.

We deserve trustees who are able to find balance between wants versus needs.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
Are more NSSWD water restrictions needed? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION: 67
Are Ganges seawalk ideas too ambitious? 42
 YES NO

Driftwood

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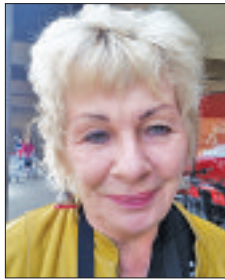
ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "What we lack in quantity we make up for in quality and motivation."

DARRYL MARTIN, SALT SPRING CEDC CHAIR, ON ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
What spring home-improvement project do you look forward to most?



EUNICE HOWE
Pressure washing the deck.



MATHEW MENARD
Constructing a greenhouse.



PAMELA BUNKER
The big one on our mind now is to get all the plants going.



MICHAEL MENARD
I like the idea of solar power.



LISA WATSON
We would normally be cleaning up and mowing the lawn, but we're in the middle of moving.

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. Send your letters to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Vote result analyzed

Paul Marcano expresses a common feeling that when the majority of people who vote on an issue represent only a small minority of the population eligible to vote that the result is somehow tarnished ("14 per cent not majority" letter, April 1).

I certainly agree that it is a pity that only 26 per cent of those eligible to vote in the NSSWD referendum did so. However, Salt Spring may be unusual compared to many jurisdictions in that quite a few residents do not live here full time, so perhaps at least a portion of the low turnout can be accounted for by absentee residents?

I have been told that perhaps 20 per cent of residents do not live here full-time. On the other hand, it is reasonable to suppose that even if they had all been here for the refer-

endum the turnout would still have been a low percentage of the total. In that case, the percentage who voted yes would probably not have been very much higher than 14 per cent, meaning that the decision would still have been made by a small minority of the eligible voters.

It's obvious that most people, by not voting, did not seem to care about the issue one way or the other, and so presumably they wouldn't care one way or the other about the result. A slight majority of those who did care decided the issue, and with all due respect to Mr. Marcano, why should one propose that there is anything illegitimate about that?

As for requiring "a minimum percentage of affected people to participate" in elections: where can one find a Solomon wise enough who will determine that value? And how many times would one have to repeat a referendum

hoping that eventually that minimum percentage would be achieved?

For better or worse, in our community the public at large decides important issues such as water and fire services by referendum. If only a minority choose to participate, nobody has justification to complain about the outcome.

REUBEN KAUFMAN,
SALT SPRING

Brilliant idea

I attended at Fulford Hall at 7 p.m. last Wednesday night, along with about 30 other expectant initiates, only to find the lights out, the door locked and nary a sighting of Al Gore, nor David Suzuki, whom I (and others) were very keen to welcome to Salt Spring Island.

We were all very disappointed, as Salt Spring Cast-Off's agenda (as stated in last week's letters column), goes right to the heart of saving Earth and resonates with the

sentiments of a large majority of Salt Springers.

Something must have gone wrong with the date and/or the time, and/or the visitors' schedules. I would urge the organizers to get better organized and re-schedule what could be a formative, foundational movement of which Salt Springers could be proud.

The idea is brilliant . . . let's breathe life into it. I look forward to it being rescheduled.

ROSS KING,
BEDDIS ROAD

Increase voting hours

The election that is coming up for Salt Spring fire trustees has generated quite a bit of interest. There is an opportunity to create a major change in the make-up of the board since three new members will be elected and, with Linda Lee already in by acclamation, a majority of the sitting board will be new.

Issues being faced will of course be a new fire hall and the upcoming negotiations with the union. These are important decisions.

If for one would like to see a large voter turnout, one that reflects the change islanders want. Every prospective voter I have spoken to wants to be able to express their desire to help create a decisive change.

What I have also heard is that the voting times simply don't work for many who have jobs during the day. They won't be able to vote.

Why would trustees set up voting times that disenfranchise business working people? Consider the hours to vote: on Wednesday, April 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, April 18 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. So if you have a 9 to 5 job and have a job where you work on Saturdays, it's been made extremely difficult for you to vote.

With the Saturday Market underway, parking near the library will be at a premium.

It's important to realize, though, that if you do make it to the polls and are in line before closing you will be able to vote.

Evidently the trustees could have changed the hours. According to the returning officer (the person who runs the election) ". . . I sent a draft copy of the Notice to SSIFPD [the fire trustees] for review and any changes but none were forthcoming."

Shouldn't we try to allow everyone a chance to vote? An 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. day would help, or even an 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. day.

If there's still an opportunity to change it before the election, the trustees should extend the voting hours.

MITCH FOREST,
SSIFPD TRUSTEE ELECTION CANDIDATE

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

AGING with GRACE: First responders to the rescue

BY HELEN HINCHLIFF



HELEN HINCHLIFF

Third article in a series for 2015

"Sir! Sir!" I heard a 20-something male voice call out around 7:30 in the morning on July 15, 1999. "Sir, are you all right?"

"He's talking to Donald," I said to myself, having observed that my husband was the only guy at North End Fitness that morning who was old enough to be a "sir." I raced down the hall and found him staggering across the room, his left hand clutching at thin air. The young man grabbed him just before he pitched head first onto the floor and, together, we steered him to a nearby bench. I sat down on Donald's left, slipped my arm around his waist, and kept him from keeling over. Gradually, he regained consciousness but had no memory of what had just happened.

I didn't know it at the time, but Donald was experiencing a massive ischemic stroke that was tak-

ing out the entire right side of his body — he would have no movement, no feeling, and almost no speech. When a stroke affects one side of your body, the resulting paralysis is called hemiplegia.

"I think we'd better call 911," I heard myself saying to a group of stunned onlookers.

"Yes, that's a good idea," someone replied and ran to the front desk to place the call.

Time stands still when you're waiting for an ambulance, but almost immediately the fire chief, accompanied by one of his colleagues, was racing up the steps to North End Fitness's second-floor facility. Donald had just regained consciousness, so the chief started to assess his condition by asking his name, where he was born and what day it was.

The fire hall is across the street from North End Fitness, so maybe you're thinking, "What's so impressive about that level of response? They were practically on the scene."

I didn't realize it then and it wasn't until just last week that I learned that our fire-rescue personnel often arrive before ambulance paramedics and are immediately ready to respond to a wide variety of crises, making critical assessments and, in appropriate cases, starting treatment before the paramedics arrive.

This is exactly what is meant by the term "first responders." Members of Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue — whether they are full-time professional employees or paid on-call volunteers — are trained to deal with all kinds of emergencies. They can arrive before the ambulance paramedics because they live and work throughout the community. Wherever they are, they are ready to drop everything and come to our assistance.

By the time the ambulance arrived (which, by the way, was only a few minutes later), the chief had already called to let them know his assessment of Donald's condition. This is important

because when someone is having a stroke, every minute counts. Even more important, I now realize, is that when someone is on the second floor of a building, it takes four people to carry him on a stretcher safely down the stairs.

Months later, I had bought and renovated a wheel-chair friendly house so Donald could come home. As a full-time caregiver, I had a lot to learn. For example, someone with hemiplegia can be unaware of one half of their body. One morning, Donald was sitting on the side of his bed and momentarily let go of his safety pole. Unbalanced, he was soon sliding to the floor. I was able to prevent a hard landing but unable to lift him. I dialed 911 and four members of Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue arrived promptly to pick him up again.

As our island population ages, our need for a well-equipped, well-trained first responder team will increase. This is particularly true since we are spread out over

185 square kilometres. Whether it's a stroke, a heart attack, a fall from which we can't get up, or some other emergency, someone will be dialing 911 on our behalf.

SSIFR made 229 first-responder calls in 2013 and 231 in 2014. A brief review of its statistics for 2015 on the www.saltspringfire.com website shows that SSIFR has already made 51 first responder calls out of a total of 109 crises of one sort or another. That's almost 50 per cent of the total.

Right now, I'm only three years younger than Donald was when he had his stroke and I can almost hear a 20-something female voice calling out, "Ma'am! Ma'am! Are you all right?"

I hope I'll be able to reply, "If you have the presence of mind to dial 911, a first responder team will be here in a few minutes and I'll be just fine."



The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) is Seeking Volunteers. Become a member of the Board of Variance or a member of an Advisory Planning Commission.

Board of Variance

Purpose: To adjudicate appeals for minor variance to the Zoning Bylaw and rule on applications as set out in Section 899 of the Local Government Act.

Term: 3-years. Meets when required (once or less per year).

Advisory Planning Commission

Purpose: To provide recommendations to the LTC on matters referred to it concerning land use, community planning, or proposed bylaws and permits.

Term: 1-2-years. Meets on average once per month.

Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission

Purpose: To provide recommendations to the LTC on matters referred to it concerning land use, community planning, or proposed bylaws and permits specifically related to Agriculture.

Term: 2-years. Meets on average less than once per month.

If you are interested in an Advisory Commission appointment, please contact us for an application form or provide a statement of interest, relevant experience and qualifications by April 30, 2015.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Variance, please submit a written expression of interest specifying your background by April 30, 2015.

Applications should be addressed to the: SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE, ISLANDS TRUST
1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8 or ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

For more information please contact 250.537.9144 or ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

VOTE FOR Maxine LEICHTER for Fire District Trustee



VOTE
Wednesday April 15 11-4
Saturday April 18 11-5
Salt Spring Library



Maxine's Priorities:

- Engage the public in meaningful dialogue about each service provided by the Fire Department and how to save money without reducing community safety.
- Engage professional assistance in negotiating a fair and affordable contract with unionized firefighters.
- Undertake a meaningful public involvement process to design a new fire hall that will be acceptable to the community.
- Implement the Walker recommendations through a respectful collaboration between the Trustees, staff and the public.

Maxine knows how government should work

- For decades she has been involved in public participation and government decision making. On Salt Spring she has been promoting inclusive and effective public involvement in government decisions, making presentations to the Islands Trust, community groups and writing in the Driftwood.
- Retired policy analyst with the City of Los Angeles finding solutions to community problems.

Maxine has leadership experience

- Elected Director of the Three Valleys Municipal Water District providing drinking water to 13 cities and entities in Los Angeles County.
- Served on the board of many non-profit organizations.
- Currently a Commissioner on the SSI Liquid Waste Commission.

The other candidates are running together. Maxine is the only INDEPENDENT candidate in the race.

Broom cutting time again

BY JANE PETCH

It's blooming broom season again and many Salt Spring Islanders can take huge credit for all the work parties and broom removal efforts over the past year.

The results are easy to see. A walk along Old Scott Road, for example, is a far different walk than it was a year ago.

Back then the broom grew heavy and thick along the roadway. After a rain the plants hung forward into the road, touching passing vehicles.

Of more concern was the fire accelerator factor. A wild fire is hard to stop in any dry hot weather, but add in a corridor of resinous, thick broom plants and you have a racing fire bullet aimed straight at your house. Just ask the island's fire chief.

On April 15 last year, 15 neighbours turned out for a work party along Old Scott. By the end of the day, nearly a kilometre of broom had been cut. We stacked the broom along the side of the road in huge piles, butt ends out for easier chipping.

We broke for lunch and by four in the afternoon we were done, and done in. A few diehards went back to search for camouflaged plants over the next few days. A week later Cal Mills came by and, with the help of a few neighbours,

chipped the whole lot in just over two hours.

At \$100 an hour, the total cost of chipping and removing the kilometre of cut broom was about \$250, covered by neighbours who paid \$20 a household. Thanks to Cal for all his work. The new owner of the business is Cameron Proudfoot of Salt Spring Wood Chipping.

Today I walk along that same kilometre of Old Scott Road and I see a road that looks like it was "in the old days," green and lush with new native vegetation. Cutting the broom in bloom, at ground level, and before the summer drought sets in, seems to have finished off most of it.

As the annual broom and invasive plant campaign gears up, with a free public drop-off in May, volunteers are preparing hand-made signs reminding us all that, as the yellow broom flowers appear, it is time to stop the spread of this invasive fire accelerator and to start cutting.

To dispose of freshly cut broom at any time you can call Jan Steinman at 250-653-2024 and take the green plants to feed his goats. For more information an about broom removal, call Jean Wilkinson at 250-537-4877.

The writer is an Old Scott Road resident.

Herring roe fishery is destructive

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has become useless in its role of managing and protecting fish populations for a sustainable, viable fishery in Canada.

Herring are a vital food for salmon, halibut, cod and many other fish we enjoy eating. Herring also feed people, orcas, other whales, sea and land mammals, sea birds and eagles. They are a vital part of the marine food web, affecting all these other species.

Herring have been over-fished for decades, but the roe fishery is most destructive, killing them before they can spawn.

Mature herring should live for many years, spawning many times and growing to eight or 10 inches long. Most now never get to grow more than five or six inches, killed before their first spawn. It takes far more of these small fish to make up the tonnage allowed in the roe fishery.

The roe-on-kelp herring fishery as successfully practised by First Nations is sustainable and marketable. Only roe-on-kelp harvesting should be allowed.

Roe-on-kelp allows the spawners to survive and renew the resource as well as sustaining the populations and health of those other species that depend on herring for food. A healthy herring population would thereby do much

MORE LETTERS

to enhance the survival of young salmon as they emerge from rivers to begin their migration. These salmon are being eaten in place of the scarce herring.

The federal government needs to expect and instruct our Department of Fisheries and Oceans to serve the people of Canada by maintaining and enhancing our marine resources rather than serving corporate profits. Our future depends on sustainable resources, particularly right now our herring.

NANCY WIGEN,
FERNWOOD

Politics of inclusion

The Salt Spring Voice of Women for Peace group agrees with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon when he says, "Over the longer term, the biggest threat to terrorists is not the power of missiles, it is the politics of inclusion."

Of course we want to help the people being terrorized by ISIS and other terrorist groups. We wanted to help victims of the Taliban as well. In choosing war, we squander resources that could be put to much better use.

Indeed, when we attack "enemies," we just add to the killing, and can't help but kill people who are not terrorists. Our attacks add to the feelings of despair, fear and anger and the widespread

perception of unbearable injustice which throws fuel on the fire of terrorism.

The "politics of inclusion" is the opposite of injustice. It means communicating in ways that build trust and foster the rule of law — much better than using military attacks with ill-defined and unattainable goals.

When we look at the results of our interventions in the Middle East, how could we possibly think it makes sense to continue with more of the same?

JAN SLAKOV,
AND OTHER VOW MEMBERS

Voting for Maxine Leichter

I hope to vote for one of the fire trustee candidates only, and her name is Maxine Leichter.

I'm voting for Maxine because she brings a career in civic infrastructure to the job; because she has engaged for more than a decade with the warp and weft of our community; indeed because to Maxine the very word "community" denotes an organism with a heart — and a pulse; and finally because I share the belief that there's a moral distinction between a system whose citizens' annual tax assessment dollars flow into a life-saving community service and a system in which those dollars flow into the province's insurance apparatus.

MICHAEL BUTLER,
SALT SPRING

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the art of Jill Louise Campbell



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Original Paintings April 9, 10, 11
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Salt Spring BLOOMS in APRIL



Thursday, April 9
Special performance called A Tapestry of Japanese Sounds Vol. 2. Dynamic Shamisen and Taiko Drum Duo performs at Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
Collection: Reading Selected Works with Brian Brett & Phyllis Webb. This free Read Local BC literary event takes place at the Salt Spring Island Public Library at 7 p.m.

Friday, April 17
The Salt Spring Concert Band presents music from award-winning anime films and exceptionally beautiful selections by Japanese composers. One night only and not-to-be missed! ArtSpring Theatre will host the 7:30 p.m. performance and tickets are available at the box office or at: www.artspring.ca

Saturday, April 18
Blossom
The Japanese
Salt
Join the comm
on J
from 1
Food, music, d
Sunday, April 19
A Taste of Sa
wine-tastin
Harbour Hous
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you will enjo
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a
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SPCA
540 Lower-Ganges Road, Ganges
250-537-2123
The SPCA's mission is to protect, enhance the quality of life for farm and wild animals in British Columbia. At this time of year, we urge cats to please consider having your cat spayed or neutered. Nothing is more devastating than the inadvertent death of kittens on roads, or the overpopulation of cats in adoption centres all over the world.

GARY HOLMAN, MLA
Constituency Office
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Saanich North and the Islands

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Monday, April 18
 Festival hosted by
 Peace Garden Society of
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 Community in the Peace Park
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Monday, April 19
 Salt Spring – a food and
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 Peace Hotel from 4 to 6 p.m.
 Advance or \$20 at the door,
 enjoy tastings from various
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 and brewery.
 Peace Salt Spring Chamber
 Courthouse Hotel.

Wednesday, April 22
 Earth Day in Centennial Park
 Yoga in the gazebo from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Vendors, speakers, music & dance 3 to 5 p.m.
 Conversations With the Wrong Listeners
 interactive performance at 5:30 p.m.
 At the Salt Spring Public Library,
 a documentary film
 will be shown at 6 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, April 24, 25, 26
 StageCoach Theatre students present
 James and the Giant Peach,
 with improv students opening the show.
 ArtSpring. 7 p.m. on April 24-25,
 and 2 p.m. on April 26.

Saturday, April 25
 The Annual SSI Garden Club Plant Sale
 is on from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the
 Farmers' Institute at 351 Rainbow Rd.
 This is the place to see and purchase shrubs,
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Tuesday, April 28
 Buffy Sainte-Marie at the
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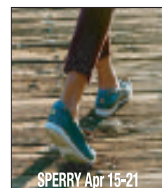
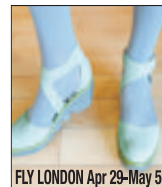
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BCSPCA
 SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS

What does health care really cost?

BY RON MACKENZIE

I will be 73 this year. Being a non-smoking, average-drinking, safe-driving male in B.C., the actuarial people suggest I am on track to live until I'm about 85.

Alternately it means that I have now completed about 85 per cent of my statistical life... 15 per cent to go. It would seem that I am just starting the Sunday of my life, with six days down and one to go. A day of reflection and thought, and then poof.

I suspect that I may be counting on the Medical Services Plan much more in the future than I have in the past. And the Supreme Court has recently asked of a physician one last task on my account — to assist me to become a post-Canadian — and it seems I may have some say in the timing of the matter.

And so I start to wonder about the three-legged stool comprising my choices on life enhancement/extension, health-care costs and society's needs.

To help in considering this matter, let me introduce a term: the TEU — standing for Teacher Equivalent Unit. A TEU is funded by our society in much the same way as our health-care costs are. And a TEU is worth about \$100,000, the amount of money that our society invests to maintain a teacher for about a year. This will be helpful as we consider the impacts of our decisions on society.

As an example, two new hips in B.C. will cost our society about \$100,000, or one TEU. To the person with the hip pain, there is no question. But, for others, there is. Our society can choose to support the education of about 25 kids for a year, or permit a person to walk less painfully for a few years.

A year in a long-term care facility costs about one TEU. Again, our society can choose to support someone for another year of their roughly 80 so far, or educate 25 kids for a year. Many of us, if we could see through the dementia fog, might rather opt for the children of our society, their needs and their futures.

If we lived in a remote aboriginal community, in remote aboriginal times, and we felt ourselves to be a cost or a drain on the vitality of our tribe, we might wander off into the woods, or onto the ice flows, and let nature do what nature does best. Score one for the TEU.

If we had no insurance, our health-care decisions in later life would comprise a balance between the benefit we expect to receive, the future needs of our partner and the wishes we might have for our children. And we come to be aware that a TEU is also about equal to a four-year university degree for one of our grandchildren.

With health-care insurance, such as our MSP, we generally think there is no particular cost attached to the services we receive. And so we might go along with some pretty heavy financial lifting to extend or

INDEPTH

improve our lives. We would seem to hope that our political and bureaucratic folk have everything under good management and control, and there is not much need for us to pay attention. This is a major, untested assumption.

From time to time we see glimpses of what health-care really costs, though. Some new drugs have been approved for coverage in other provinces, and that coverage will cost medical plans \$300,000 to \$700,000 per patient per year. In our new language, this amounts to three to seven TEUs, and that means the education of about 100 to 200 kids per year per patient.

And then we note that pharmaceutical companies are financially supporting patient groups who choose to lobby our decision makers to obtain approvals for their drugs, and we are hoping mightily that the right decisions are being made. We are not invited to be a part of those decisions, leaving things instead for professional and academic experts who seem to float from industry to government to health care, and back again with little apparent concern for conflicts of interest.

Thus we find there is not much dialogue in the public interest areas of the cost of health care, except that we sense the growth of health-care costs as being somewhat metastatic in its nature. And we know what happens when that word is used.

One thing we can do is encourage our provincial government to issue each of us a statement advising how much health-care money was spent on our behalf during the previous three months. We would finally come to really know how much that visit to the specialist really cost, how much the week in the hospital cost, or how much the pacemaker cost. This would entail a fair bit of money, but it would start to condition us to the fact that health care does cost money... a lot of money. And we might start being just a little judicious in how we consume it.

Another thing we can do is to start conversations on how we choose to balance the three-legged stool. These chats are not definitive, but they will help us and our families, when the going gets tough.

A third thing we might do is be really interested in the new rules coming out of Ottawa with respect to physician-assisted dying. And to also note what other jurisdictions in North America and Europe are doing.



RON MACKENZIE

The writer is retired from a career in biotechnology and active in the Salt Spring community.

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SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING FOR TRUSTEES

ELECTION BY VOTING

Public Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District an Election by Voting is necessary to elect, for a three year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on April 20th, 2015 and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2018, to fill the offices of three (3) Trustees on the Board of Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District and that the persons nominated as candidates at the Election and for whom the votes will be received are listed below:

TRUSTEES - three persons to be elected:		
Surname	Given Name	Residential Address
FOREST	Mitchell	267 Suneagle Drive, Salt Spring Island, B.C.
HILL	Derek	221 Chu-an Drive, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 1H9
LEICHTER	Maxine	706 Mt. Belcher Hts., Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2J3
SCHLENKER	Norbert	30 Bittoncourt Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C.,

AND THAT the one year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on April twentieth (20th), 2015 and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2016 for which nominations were received:

TRUSTEE (One person to be elected)		
Surname	Given Name	Residential Address
LEE	Linda	220 Park Drive, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2R6

ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

VOTING DAY for the election of Trustees will be open on **Saturday the eighteenth (18th) day of April 2015**, TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT at:

SALT SPRING ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, 129 McPhillips Avenue

AND SUCH VOTING PLACE SHALL BE OPEN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF **Eleven (11:00) A.M. and Five (5:00) P.M.**

ADVANCE VOTING for election of Trustees shall be open on Wednesday the **fifteenth (15th) of April 2015** TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT **between the hours of eleven (11:00) A.M. and four (4:00) P.M. at the Salt Spring Island Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue.**

Given under my hand at Ganges, B.C. this twentieth (20th) day of March 2015.

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS
You are qualified as an Elector if you are:

- (a) **A Canadian Citizen**
- (b) **eighteen years or older on Voting Day**
- (c) **a resident in the Province for at least six months before Voting Day**
- (d) **an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District**
- (e) **an authorized agent, designated in writing as the said agent, of a Board or Corporation that owns land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District**

If more than one person is registered on title as owner of land then those owners are entitled to vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis. **Please note that when checking the list of owners provided by the B.C. Assessment Authority the multiple ownership of some properties may not have been recorded. If the property that is being used for voting purposes is held in multiple ownership it is recommended that the persons intending to vote bring suitable identification, as listed below, to avoid any inconvenience.**

If you are not on the List of Registered Electors you may register on Voting Day providing you produce two pieces of identification, one of which has your signature, preferably with pictorial identification, e.g drivers licence, and documentation proving ownership of the land for which you are owner, e.g tax notice, assessment notice or duplicate certificate of title.

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Spring Home IMPROVEMENT

12 | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015

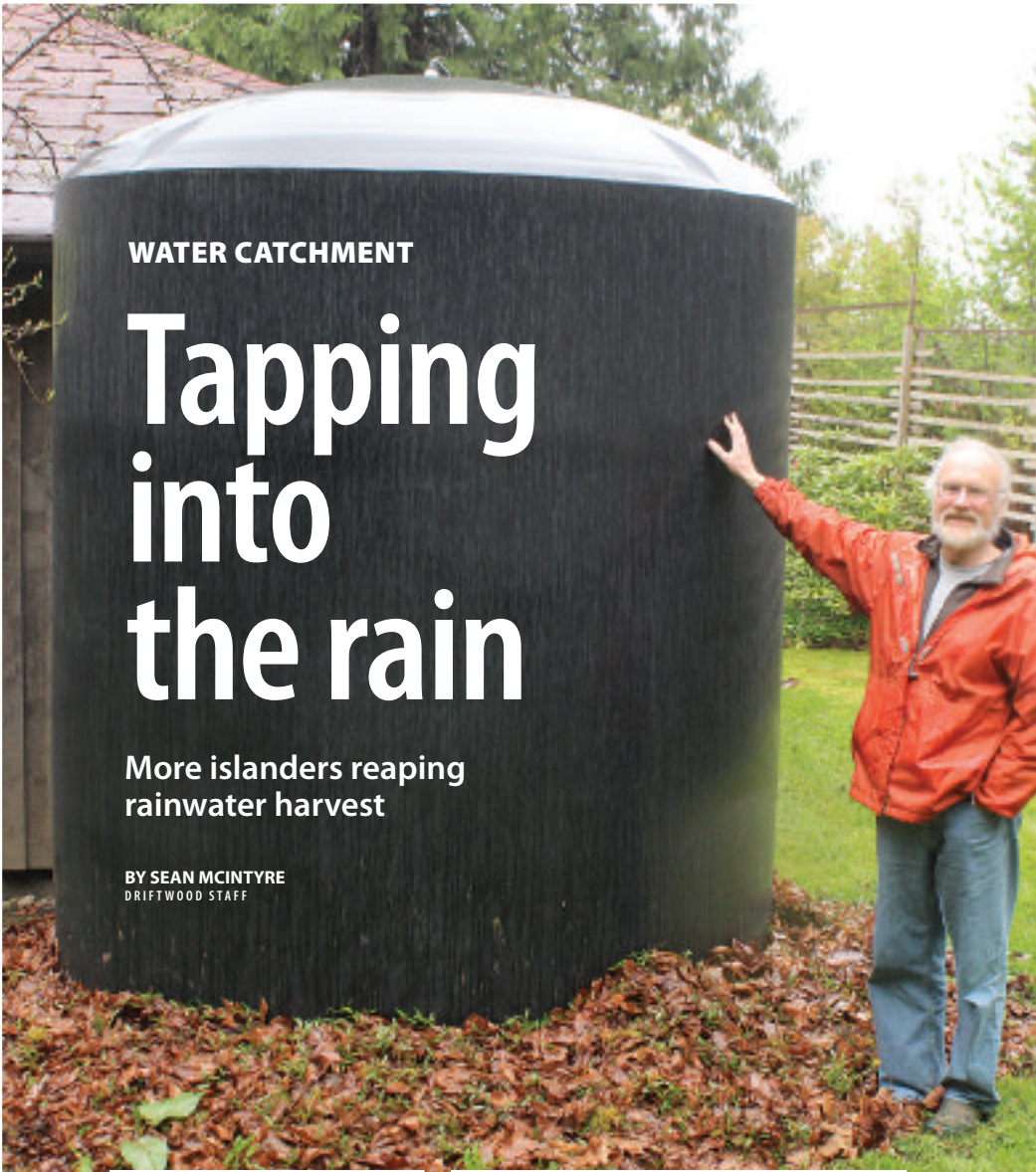
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WATER CATCHMENT

Tapping into the rain

More islanders reaping rainwater harvest

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF



PHOTOS BY SEAN MCINTYRE

North Beach Road resident John Campbell with tanks and pipes that form part of his household's rainwater catchment system.

It's fitting that the rain begins to fall in time for an interview with John Campbell.

When he and his wife Gillian moved into their North Beach Road home in the early '90s, neither was familiar with living on well water or the massive water cistern buried in the backyard.

"I don't think we really appreciated it at all," Campbell said during a tour of his property.

"Pumps and pressure tanks were all sort of new to us." Twenty years later, the couple's elaborate rainwater catchment system has reached a capacity of roughly 32,000 litres (7,000 gallons).

What the secret?

Get to know your plumber.

By treating the simplest plumbing jobs as a kind of private workshop, consulting local experts at Windsor Plywood or Slegg Lumber and wearing out his copy of Rainwater Collection for the Mechanically Challenged, Campbell developed a whole new understanding of water, conservation and technical proficiency.

"It really helps to get a good book," he said.

Campbell stores water in two above-ground cisterns with a capacity of about 3,000 gallons. A further 4,000 gallons of capacity is available in that underground tank buried in his back yard. Water collected off the roof fills the tanks over the winter. By April, he said, the tanks are fully loaded.

Rainwater passes through a series of filters on its way to the house, where the Campbells use it for everything except drinking.

"[The water quality] has been tested and found to be satisfactory, but we wonder how often we'd have to test it on a regular basis in order to feel confident [about drinking it]," he said. "We also have an asphalt roof, and I think we would be more inclined to drink it if it was off a metal roof."

The Campbells are among island homeowners who've begun to store water for any number of reasons. Some, like the Campbells, act out of necessity to augment their well's limited capacity. Others have started to heed warnings of looming water shortages and mounting infrastructure costs for the delivery of potable water.

Several of the island's rain-catchment pioneers opened their homes to more than 100 participants at the Every Drop Counts Rainwater Harvesting Tour in March. Organizers said the successful event, which coincided with World Water Day, reveals a growing interest in water conservation. Salt Spring Water Council and Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority members will consider making the tour an annual event.

Participants like Chris Dixon showed more than 100 curious visitors his Mansell Road property, where rainwater from his roof is collected in two second-hand above-ground pools. Dixon's water catchment capacity, which reaches 68,200 litres (15,000 gallons), is enough to irrigate several dozen blueberry bushes and two bowling alley lane-sized greenhouses.

Across the road, Jane Squier has devoted 20 years to the trial-and-error of building a massive 227,300-litre (50,000-gallon) system that feeds her aquaponic Living Lettuce business.

"It's been fun for about the past 12 years," she told visitors on the tour. "Before that, I was just trying to make it work."

Twenty years later, the couple's elaborate rainwater catchment system has reached a capacity of roughly 32,000 litres (7,000 gallons).

WATER CATCHMENT continued on 16

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

INNOVATIVE PROMOTION

Construction a hilarious breeze in The Dowry silent film

Filmmaker shares tale behind Windsor Plywood project

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

How hard can it be to build a house for one's still-blushing bride?

That's the question posed by a 95-second silent film called *The Dowry* made earlier this year by Keith Picot of Hek's Half Acre Silent Film Studio on Salt Spring.

The project commissioned by Windsor Plywood, which can be viewed online or at The Fritz Movie Theatre before the main attraction each night, features Picot in his lovable but hapless Lucky Douglas role circa 1925.

"My character tends to be one who never wins," said Picot. "As far as I know he is the only silent movie character that has nothing you can grab onto and look up to. Your heartstrings might go out to him because he's gentle and he's nice, but he's a loser — happily so."

A few visually hilarious challenges pop up as he tries to build the house for his chocolate-

devouring wife, but in the end the task is completed.

"The idea is that if a dope like me, with the helpful guidance from the experts at Windsor Plywood, can build a pretty little house, anyone could."

Tiffany Wightman plays the part of the wife in *The Dowry* — she is always the lead female in Picot's local silent films — and Jennifer Middleton, another regular, also graced "the stage."

Otherwise, everyone else seen on the screen is a Windsor Plywood Salt Spring employee.

"We presented the idea to staff at a staff meeting," explained Windsor co-owner Mike Stefancsik, "and Keith's dedication, energy and professionalism made it easy for staff to get on board with the idea. The quality of work and attention to detail represented in a comedy slapstick format paints a great picture of the service aspect of our business along with a great deal of fun putting this together."

A photo of staff in period costumes at the summer picnic is displayed prominently in the Rainbow Road store and the whole concept is used in its promotional materials.

About six hours of footage were



COURTESY KEITH PICOT

Scene from *The Dowry*, commissioned by Windsor Plywood.

captured, said Picot, and he could have easily made it a five-minute film instead of only 95 seconds long.

"I had so many gags I could have used with that house," he said.

He is thrilled to have at least replicated a famous gag done by Buster Keaton from the 1928 film called *Steamboat Bill Junior*, where the wall of a house falls on him but he's unharmed because a window is positioned in the exact spot where he's standing.

"There was four inches of room

all around Keaton . . . I measured and I had about six inches all around me. Because the wall was so short I just traced out the window on the floor and I had to actually travel with the wall as it came down. I had to bend and travel or it would have gotten the back of my heels and I would not still be walking."

Picot has also done short silent films for island businesses The Local Barber Shop, Dagwood's Diner and The Rental Stop, among his many other creative projects.

A secondary aspect of *The Dowry* was a "hoax" that re-created the unearthing of a mysterious chunk of film during an excavation behind the Windsor Plywood building on Rainbow Road. It was then sent to Dutch vintage film enthusiast Geoff Vane for restoration and conversion to digital format. The final project was revealed on Feb. 7, with viewers soon realizing that present-day Windsor employees had somehow shown up in film footage purportedly taken 90 years earlier.

"[The hoax] was a lot of work," said Picot. "I had to feed scripts to the guy in the Netherlands who was supposed to have taken the film we had found and to other friends around the world so they could pipe in and it could become a world epidemic — a phenomenon. I also fed some info to friends around here and then other people just started chiming in . . . It ended up being a tremendous success."

The whole film and hoax project was not only fun for everyone involved and a promotional boon for the company, but Picot even ended up with a cute little house on his property.

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<p>MEDIUM CLEAR • 500 sq ft Roll</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">5⁸⁸</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roll</p>	<p>• 1500 sq ft Roll</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">13⁸⁸</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roll</p>				

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

TRADES EDUCATION

GISS students get insight



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

GISS TASK class students, staff, City Green Solutions reps and other community supporters after an energy audit was conducted on the Core Inn building in Ganges last month.

Heritage building offers modern-day lessons

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

About 16 Gulf Islands Secondary School students learned how thermal-imaging technology originally developed by the military is being used to make homes and offices in Ganges more energy efficient.

The March event at the Core Inn youth drop-in centre was the first of what's hoped to be many more opportunities to show kids in the high school's apprenticeship program how traditional construction skills can complement advanced energy conservation technology.

"The more you put into this, the more you'll get out of it. This is a rapidly growing area that will have many jobs in the future," said Dion Hackett, a Salt Spring resident who helped organize the event. "The reason I invited you all here is to hopefully plant the seed for demand-side management."

and reduce their environmental footprint.

Torsten Ely, an energy analyst with a non-profit energy efficiency organization called City Green Solutions, works to identify where and how building owners can make their buildings more energy efficient. By conducting an energy audit on a home or business, Ely can identify recommendations for property owners to reduce regular energy bills and decrease their overall demands on the province's energy infrastructure.

During last month's visit to the Core Inn, Ely showed students the tools of his trade. There are machines to measure air flow within a home, a Solar Pathfinder that can highlight yearly sun exposure at any given location and a device to determine how much "phantom power" is used by idle televisions, computers and other electronic gizmos.

"We help our clients prioritize energy improvements to get the best energy savings within their budget," Ely said. "To meet our provincial energy and greenhouse gas targets by 2020 we will need a lot of skilled tradespeople upgrading buildings in every community, so I'm very pleased to meet with these students, and I hope they come away from this field trip with an interest in energy efficiency."

By looking through a machine that resembles a heavy-duty digital camera, users can identify hot and cold spots along a building's outer wall to quickly identify where heat escapes the building due to a lack of insulation or outdated windows.

Not surprisingly, it's the thermal imaging camera that gets most students buzzing.

Ely's visit to the Core Inn is hoped to be the first of other such opportunities offered to students in GISS' Trades Awareness, Skills and Knowledge class, a semester-length program that gives students in grades 10 through 12 training in careers linked to the construction trade.

GISS TRADES continued on 16

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MAGGIE ALLISON
Career development department, GISS

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Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

Energy audit displays tools

GISS TRADES

continued from 15

The TASK program is offered in partnership with Camosun College. Participants learn about energy efficiency ideas, diagnostic tools and career opportunities in the home energy efficiency industry.

"We're excited students will learn about energy efficiency and building performance in this real-life setting," said Maggie Allison, manager of career development and community initiatives at GISS.

The March workshop event was facilitated by the Salt Spring Island Community Services Society, owner of the Core Inn.

As Community Services and City Green Solutions prepare to conduct energy audits on more buildings, including the century-old former Lady Minto Hospital on Fulford-Ganges Road, executive director Rob Grant wants to make more learning opportunities available to island students.

"It's a win-win for us,



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Torsten Ely, an energy analyst with City Green Solutions of Victoria, shares information with GISS students during a Core Inn energy audit.

because not only can we shrink our environmental impact, but any money we save on our energy bills will help support our programs and services," he said.

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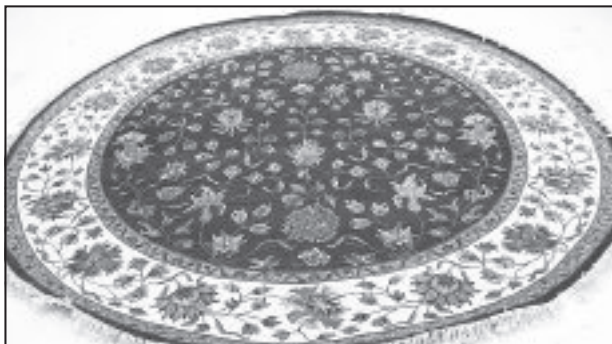
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People keen to save resources

WATER CATCHMENT

continued from 12

Without their rainwater systems, the limits of the Capital Regional District's modest Cedar Lane neighbourhood water system couldn't supply nearly enough water for the quantity of produce grown on the Mansell Road properties.

On Maliview Drive, where the Highland and Fernwood water system delivers water from St. Mary Lake, quality and supply are perennial concerns. In recent years, homeowner Sharon Bywater has countered increasing rates and water restrictions with rain barrels installed in strategic areas of her property.

With a mere 2,000 litres (445 gallons) of capacity, Bywater's system pales in comparison to others, but it gets the job done. By expanding it over the past decade, Bywater has produced a remarkably affordable system out of discarded blue 55-gallon barrels, a few valves and some PVC pipes. The result enables her to water a backyard garden that supplies the majority of the produce she and her husband Gary consume.

"My water consumption does not change from winter to summer," Bywater said. "There's no noticeable difference."

A United Nations report published in March 2015 lists preserving global water supply as a major issue of the coming century. Based on current trends, the report states, the world faces a 40 per cent water shortfall as soon as 2030.

According to experts, local solutions like those implemented by rainwater collectors on Salt Spring are part of the broader solution. By employing water conservation techniques, islanders are lightening the burden on potable water supplies and promoting a new way to think about a



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Gary Bywater with fittings used in his home's relatively modest rainwater catchment system.

resource we've taken for granted for so long.

"I look at the forecast more closely, and we are somewhat conscious of our water use," Campbell said. "When we have friends over we realize there is a big difference in how we treat water and how they treat water elsewhere."

More information about water conservation initiatives and rainwater harvesting systems is available from the Salt Spring Island Water Council at ssiwatercouncil.com.

Spring HOME IMPROVEMENT

ELECTRICITY USE

Energy efficiency upgrades prove a wise investment

Explore the options in lighting, heating, hot water and more

BY JEFF CHAMBERLAND
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Investing now in your home electrical systems can save you money down the road for years to come. Solar panels are a sexy option, but you must have the desire to reduce energy consumption to a manageable level. Here are some tips to help you get there.

>LIGHTING

Lighting can be an underestimated part of a home renovation, since it can account for 15 per cent of your electrical bill. Switching out incandescent and halogen bulbs is the easiest place to start when working towards the efficient home.

CFL bulbs have been around for a few years, but they have been a bridge to get LED technology into our homes. With a longer life span, durable construction, dimmable and mercury free,

LEDs are the obvious choice. Although at this time LEDs are three to four times more expensive than the CFL or incandescent, the power savings and longevity will win out in the end. I would suggest replacing your most used lights — in the kitchen, for example — with LEDs and start making the switch as your old bulbs pass on.

>WATER HEATING

The electric tank water heater leaves a lot to be desired in efficiency. Newer technology is utilizing a heat pump, which can save up to 50 per cent of the energy of the traditional style.

Solar hot water is becoming more popular on the island. They achieve excellent solar gains through our warmer months but need to be backed up in the winter with a traditional system.

On-demand gas is another efficient route, but one must weigh the cost and convenience of buying propane compared to using electricity.

For the do-it-yourselfer with an electric tank heater,

wrapping the tank with foil insulation, insulating hot water pipes and keeping the tank in a warm room are the easy jobs to tackle now.

>SPACE HEATING

Electric baseboard heat can occupy a third of your power bill in the cooler months. Keeping your thermostats set at 15°C as opposed to 20°C can help manage costs and improve your sweater selection.

Even better is to use a programmable thermostat to turn off your heat in the daytime or kick it down at night.

Heat pumps are becoming the new norm for space heating with great strides made in efficiency.

Wood heat is a standard choice on island. Ensure you install a ceiling fan to help push the warm air down and around your home. Conversely, a fan can pull the hot air out during warm summer months.

>APPLIANCES

When looking at new appliances, the Energy Star rating should be one of the

first features you look at. The refrigerator can be a large draw for power if it is over 10 years old. Newer models can be three times more efficient.

Clothes dryers are now also using heat-pump technology to save us from blowing hot air right out the vent.

Most electronics are efficient as long as we don't

leave them plugged in. This goes for cell phone chargers as well. Although it's a very small draw of power, it should be unplugged when not in use.

>SMART METERS

Right, wrong or indifferent, if you have a smart meter installed at your home, you

can now see your daily electrical consumption on the BC Hydro website and adjust your usage. Keeping power bills in the tier-one level is a major accomplishment we should all be striving to achieve.

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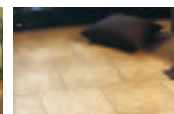
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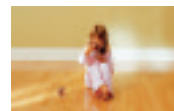


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What's on this week

Wed. Apr 8 **Thur. Apr 9** **Fri. Apr 10** **Sat. Apr 11** **Sun. Apr 12** **Mon. Apr 13** **Wed. Apr 15**

ACTIVITIES

Boomerfit.
Every Wednesday at Fulford Hall. Coed fitness class for the 50+. Don't lose quality of life, stay fit to stay active. Enjoy a variety of functional exercises designed for this age group. 9 to 10 a.m.

Drop-in Computer Help.
Free assistance with computer, tablet, smartphone problems every Wednesday at Salt Spring Library. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nina Raginsky Stamp Celebration.
Toast islander Nina Raginsky's accomplishment in having her Shoeshine Stand photo honoured with a Canada Post stamp. Ganges Post Office. 11 a.m. to noon.

Nicola Morgan Artist's Chat.
Part of Five Women in Abstraction show. Refreshments served. Mahon Hall. Noon to 1 p.m.

Salt Spring Historical Society.
Richard Blagborne from Saturna Island Heritage Archives talks on The Past & the Present. Central Hall. 2 p.m.

League 181 Interpretations II Art Talk.
Join artists exhibiting at Salt Spring Public Library in discussing work in current show. 6 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday Night Poker.
Hosted by Albert, sign up at 6:30 p.m. The Local.

SongJam. A 21st-century pub sing-along to vocal and instrumental backing tracks. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Dance Show: The Moment of Forgetting.
Composer James Maxwell and choreographer Claire French explore the manner in which we experience time in a Restless Productions show. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Come early for wine bar and Lobby Dance performance at 6:45 p.m.

A Tapestry of Japanese Sounds Vol. 2.
Concert of shamisen player Koji Yamaguchi and taiko drum player Yoshihiko Fueki at Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Coffee Meeting with Amanda Tarling. Everyone is welcome to the follow-up coffee morning with Unitarian chaplain Amanda Tarling for a talk about Vulnerability and then hopefully a small walk around Fulford Harbour. Meet at Rock Salt Cafe at 11:40 a.m.

Dragonboat Racing Practices.
Practices for men and women resume for the season on Monday and Thursday evenings. 6 to 7 p.m. Info: Mary Rowles, 250-653-4139 or onthewater181@gmail.com.

The Revenge of the Electric Car. Transition Salt Spring and the Salt Spring Public Library co-sponsored film screening, with Q&A about what it is like to own and use an electric car to follow. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 to 9 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Gene Grooms.
Live music at The Local. 5 to 8 p.m.

Voyager at the Legion.
The top live pub band voted five years in a row plays at the Legion during membership appreciation weekend. For members and guests. 8 p.m.

The Riverside.
Live music with Tom Hooper, Matt Johnson & Aidan Miller. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Boomerfit.
Every Friday at Beaver Point Hall. Coed fitness class for the 50+. Don't lose quality of life, stay fit to stay active. Enjoy a variety of functional exercises designed for this age group. 9 to 10 a.m.

StoryTime.
A free, interactive program for children and families, particularly suited for children 3 to 6 years of age. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

The Radicle Seed Library.
Every Friday through April 24. Salt Spring Public Library - Room 103. Noon to 2 p.m.

Games Night.
An evening of board games and other interactive games, facilitated by Bryan Dubien. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 6 to 9 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

GISS Improv. Gulf Islands Secondary School Senior Improv Team holds fundraiser show before heading to Ottawa to compete at the Canadian Improv Games. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Kemal Evans. Live funk/folk/reggae. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Voyager at the Legion.
See Friday's listing.

ACTIVITIES

Met Opera Broadcast: Iolanta & Bluebeard's Castle.
Double-bill encore presentation of two operas directed by Mariusz Trelinski, who was inspired by classic noir films of the 1940s. ArtSpring. 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Channel Ridge 9K. Salt Spring Trail Runners host opening event of the 2015 race season. Registration begins at 10 a.m. at the end of Broadwell. Race time is 11 a.m.

Toddler Time. Stories, rhymes and more for kids three and under and their families. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 a.m.

Central Community Hall Society AGM. Public welcome to annual general meeting at Central Hall. 1 p.m.

Death Cafe. Join Salt Spring Hospice facilitators for an open, honest and genuine conversation about death while enjoying tea, coffee and goodies by donation. ArtSpring. 2 to 4 p.m. Imprints 2015 Opening Event. Reception at Duthie Gallery for new art show. 6 to 8 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Barley Bros.
Live music every Sunday at Moby's Pub. 3 to 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Xwaaqw'um Culture Days.
Join local First Nations Elders, community knowledge keepers and others at Xwaaqw'um (Burgoyne Bay) for a day of stories, invasive species removal and indigenous plant gathering. First session for event happening every second Sunday of the month through October. Meet behind the Burgoyne Bay barn from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Unitarian Fellowship.
Guest speaker is Joan Carolyn - Small, Mighty and Vulnerable: walking together in our shared Unitarian values. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 10:30 a.m.

Five Women in Abstraction Artists' Closing Talk.
With Margie Korrison, Michela Sorrentino, Barbra Edwards and Helen Ormiston Smith. Refreshments served. Mahon Hall. Noon to 1 p.m.

Why Photography.
Greg Klassen presents a free series of seminars on the art of photography. Salt Spring Public Library. 2 p.m.

GLOSSI AGM.
Annual general meeting of Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island. Lions Hall. 2 p.m.

Rollerblading.
All ages. Many sets of blades available for use. Fulford Hall. 2:30 to 4 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Miss Caledonia.
Dora and Canadian Comedy Award-winning actor Melody A. Johnson presents this one-woman play set in 1955, about a farm girl determined to make it to Hollywood by winning the local beauty pageant. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring With Conrad.
iPad, Tablet and eReader Tutoring with Conrad Koke. Salt Spring Island Public Library. Sessions are available every Monday at 12 and 1 p.m.

Dragonboat Racing Practices.
See Thursday's listing.

Tue. Apr 14

ACTIVITIES

Probus Club.
Pat and Rosemarie Keough are guest speakers, presenting The Beer Bottle House of Norfolk Island: Another True Yet Unbelievable Keough Story. Meaden Hall. 10 a.m. to noon. (This event erroneously appeared in last week's calendar as being on April 7 - sorry! SSI Probus Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month.)

Tech Tutoring With John.
Tuesdays at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Salt Spring Island Public Library.

ACTIVITIES

Boomerfit.
See last Wednesday's listing.

Fire District Trustees Election - Advanced Voting.
Eligible ratepayers can vote for candidates for three positions on the Salt Spring Fire Protection District Board of Trustees. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective.
Documentary film event with international director, cinematographer and editor Costa Boutsikaris. Proceeds benefit Centre for Child Honouring and the Seven Ravens Permaculture Academy. The Fritz Movie Theatre. 7 p.m.

Read Local BC.
Poetry reading with nationally acclaimed locals Brian Brett and Phyllis Webb, part of province-wide celebration of local writers and publishers. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

Truth & Reconciliation Commissioner Marie Wilson.
A Salt Spring Forum and Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) co-presentation. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Drop-in Computer Help.
See last Wednesday's listing.

Wednesday Night Poker.
See last Wednesday's listing.

SongJam.
See last Wednesday's listing.

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CINEMA

- The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel** — Held over. Starring an ensemble cast as talented and charming as ever. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel has only one remaining vacancy, posing a rooming predicament for two fresh arrivals, so Sonny pursues his dream of opening a second hotel.
- Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective** runs on Wednesday, April 15 at 7 p.m. only. What if we could meet human needs while increasing the health and well-being of our planet? Costa Boutsikaris, Raffi Cavoukian, Michael Nickels and others will lead a discussion afterwards including a special viewing of Michael Nickels' new short permaculture video. Admission \$10 at the door only.

EXHIBITIONS

- Five Women in Abstraction** exhibit of work by Barbra Edwards, Margie Korrison, Nicola Morgan, Helen Ormiston Smith and Michela Sorrentino runs daily at Mahon Hall until April 12 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Two art talks are offered: Today, Wednesday, April 8 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. with Nicola Morgan, and Sunday, April 12 from noon to 1 p.m. with the other four artists.
- Imprints 2015**, an exhibition of woodcuts, etchings, linocuts and monoprints by Arnold Shives, Jan Smith, Richard Tetrault and Richard York, runs at Duthie Gallery from April

3 to 30, with an artists' reception on Sat., April 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Fri-Sun., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Steffich Fine Art** celebrates its 23rd birthday with an exhibition of new paintings by Melanie Williamson.
- Salt Spring Gallery** presents **Animal Magick** - New Works by Anais LaRue, and **Soaring on Broken Stapled Wings** - New Works by Slug-fae Blume until April 16.
- Jill Louise Campbell** features original flower paintings. Gallery open Thursday, Friday Saturday. 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- David Baughan** shows work in the lobby of ArtSpring.
- Bill Underwood** holds a photography exhibition called **Outposts at Fernwood Road Cafe** until April 11. From April 13 people can see **Eleha de Sousa's** photo show called **Goa, India: Street Portraits and Vignettes**, with an opening event on April 19 from 2 to 4 p.m.
- The Salt Spring Library Program Room** exhibit for April is **Interpretations II**, work by the **League 181** artists. A special talk about the work and process is on Wednesday, April 8 at 6 p.m.
- Avril Kirby** shows photographs in an exhibit titled **China at TJ Beans** through April.
- Kevin Vowles** has artwork hanging at **Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe** in Ganges.
- Ingrid Korner** shows watercolour paintings at **Country Roasters Cafe** through April.
- Heidi Van Impe's** oil paintings are on display at **Island Savings**.

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April 3-30, 2015

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Gallery hours: Fri, Sat, Sun 11am - 5pm

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LIVE THEATRE

Big dreams propel small-town heroine

 ArtSpring presents Miss
 Caledonia

Award-winning playwright and performer Melody A. Johnson is at ArtSpring as Miss Caledonia on Monday, April 13, bringing local audiences the one-woman play that's enchanted the nation.

"Peggy Ann Douglas, a.k.a. Miss Caledonia, has a problem," a write-up for the play explains. "The year is 1955 and she is

desperate to escape the chiro-ry-pulling, stall-cleaning, hay-baling drudgery of life in RR#2 Caledonia.

"But, she has a plan. She will follow in the footsteps of starlet Debbie Reynolds and simply become a movie star – and she will start her journey to the top by winning the local pageant."

Johnson has performed around the globe both as a solo act and with well-known companies such as Theatre Calgary, Canadian Stage, Factory The-

atre and Soulpepper. The Dora and Canadian Comedy Award-winning artist is also an alumna of The Second City, where she directed three hit productions.

Embodying the youthful spirit and vitality of Miss Caledonia hopeful Peggy Ann, plus a wide range of other characters, Johnson presents a delightful exploration of optimism and reality down on the farm. Audiences will be riveted by the question of whether the heroine can sing, twirl and pivot her way into the

judges' hearts, or if shaky nerves and a "puritanical work ethic" will sabotage her efforts.

Miss Caledonia has toured across Canada, including runs at Halifax's Neptune Theatre and Ottawa's National Arts Centre.

The 7:30 p.m. ArtSpring show is sponsored by Victoria Olcho-wecki and features live fiddle accompaniment.

Tickets are available at the ArtSpring box office at 250-537-2102 or online through tickets.artspring.ca.

CONCERT BAND

Animation style inspires April show

 Japanese works
 performed April 17

The Salt Spring Concert Band will present an exciting evening of interest to both music and movie-lovers when Anime! Music from Japan hits the ArtSpring theatre on Friday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Under the musical direction of Dawn Hage, the concert band will bring particular delight to fans of the great Studio Ghibli in Japan by performing music from three of its most famous movies: Princess Mononoke, Laputa: Castle in the Sky, and Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind. In addition, the concert will feature four other beautiful compositions by Japanese composers.



PHOTO BY RYO SAKAMOTO

From left, Salt Spring Concert Band director Dawn Hage, GISS student Ryo Sakamoto and band member Shinobu Murata finetune videos for Anime! Music from Japan.

"Wind music is exploding in Japan, with huge numbers of composers exploring the concert band genre and writing exciting, luscious, dramatic

scores for wind instruments of all levels," Hage said.

While the music written for anime movies stands alone, it is enhanced if one has a sense

of the stories behind the scores. Audiences will therefore enjoy video trailers preceding each of the three Studio Ghibli movies as prepared by Ryo Sakamoto, a 15-year-old Grade 10 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School who recently moved to Salt Spring from Kanagawa, Japan.

In addition to the anime music, the concert band will perform Arabian Star by Yoshio Matsuo, The Singapore Flyer by Satoshi Yagisawa and two gorgeous tone poems based on Japanese folk tunes.

The last two selections will be accompanied by a slide show of traditional Japanese culture, also prepared by Sakamoto, and preceded by a reading of the text and a vocal presentation by Shinobu Murata and Mana Nakata.

POETRY

Brett and Webb featured for Read Local BC

 April 15 event runs
 at the library

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders who have successfully adopted the "eat local" and "buy local" imperatives will have no trouble adding a new program to the list as Read Local BC gets underway this month.

Consuming delicious readable products created in British Columbia has never been easier, as the three-week event from The Association of Book Publishers of B.C. demonstrates. Running from April 1 to 22, the campaign will feature 23 publishers, 300 authors, 60 speakers, 50 bookstores and 40 libraries in events across the province.

Salt Spring's event on

Wednesday, April 15 puts poetry in the spotlight with award-winning poets Brian Brett and Phyllis Webb. For an island that produces more visual artists per capita than any community outside Cape Dorset, Brett said the number of writers has to be close behind. Poetry has found a special stronghold in Victoria, but that also extends over the Gulf Islands.

"They keep saying poetry's dying out and music's taking over, but I don't see that," Brett said. "It's merging back with song and morphing."

Brett will read selections from his recent work To Your Scattered Bodies Go, winner of the CBC poetry prize in 2011, as well as from The Wind River Variations, a collection of poems and prose poems about the Yukon's endangered Peel River watershed.

"I'll try to give a good assortment for islanders. I haven't actually done a reading here for a few years," Brett said.

Webb, an acclaimed poet, Order of Canada recipient, long-time Salt Spring resident and former CBC broadcaster who co-created the program Ideas, will read from the recently released Peacock Blue: The Collected Poems of Phyllis Webb.

Brett first met Webb in 1972 when she was working for the Burnaby Arts Centre.

"She didn't know me at the time — she was already super venerated in those days," he recalled.

Webb's book Wilson's Bowl is one of the nation's seminal poetic works and had a strong influence on other poets across the country. In fact, her fellow

writers forwarded Webb a cash prize they personally collected when the book was overlooked for a Governor General's Award nomination in 1980.

Speaking at the event just one week after her 88th birthday, the Victoria-born poet will be making a rare public appearance since having some trouble with her voice. Hayes and other island poets will assist by doing some of the reading.

"Phyllis vowed not to read anymore, so it's quite an honour she's coming to us," Brett said. "Her new book is fabulous — it's a life's work. This is her record that she wants to give islanders. I think it's a wonderful thing to have happen."

The free event takes place in the Salt Spring Library Program Room starting at 7 p.m.

Anime!
 Music From Japan
 Salt Spring Concert Band
 Music Director: Dawn Hage
 April 17th Friday
 @7:30pm
ArtSpring

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- Featured artists - Barbra Edwards, Margie Korrison, Nicola Morgan, Helen Ormiston Smith, Michela Sorrentino

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Dgim DRIFTWOOD GULF ISLANDS MEDIA

ART REVIEW

Abstract style extracts essential ideas at Mahon Hall

Easter tour showcase continues to April 12

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Arts Council's annual Easter Art Tour found a fresh and fascinating focus at Mahon Hall this year, with Five Women in Abstraction anchoring the weekend extravaganza.

In a show that continues daily through April 12, ceramic artist Helen Ormiston Smith caps off the production phase of her career with a retrospective of her Monuments series. Joining her are four painters hitting the peak of their stride: Barbra Edwards, Margie Korrison, Nicola Morgan and Michela Sorrentino.

Ormiston Smith's impressive 10-foot-long Escarpment (pictured on the cover of last week's Driftwood) and a related series of fractured slab vessels pay tribute to mountains, with roughened surfaces deeply scored and patterned into

strata. Bright coloured slip is applied in sections to create abstract patterns, which serve to emphasize the more horizontal lines and the movement from rooted base to soaring peak. As she explains on her website, "line and colour in the surface decoration imply the contrary characteristics of physical permanence and change" that exist with stone.

Though Ormiston Smith is concerned with nature's monuments, her work also has an architectural aspect and recalls the man-made structures that have nestled into desert cliffsides around the world. Cities of connected squared rooms whose earthen construction melds into the landscape, like the Pueblo adobe and Moroccan medinas, spring to mind.

Most evident is the artist's strong and unique hand in shaping these monuments; her arrangement of forms, planes and colour may be abstract but are never haphazard.

Korrison's Intermezzo series of acrylic paintings on paper has all the fresh-

ness of spring, with quick gestural strokes, cool but bright colours and a sense of energy and transformation. The repeated use of the same yellow-green that can now be seen on budding trees all over the island may heighten that impression. She expertly combines it with hints of icy pink and orange among lots of white for an airy appeal.

Also conveying the sense of the season's newly abundant light are two series by Morgan, who works in combinations of oil, wax, charcoal or graphite on paper and on wood. Expanses of paint in the delicious border between turquoise and pale blue successfully suggest reflections, space and movement in Wetlands and The Taste of Water. Morgan's Tempest is suitably stormy, with frothy white on black waves highlighted with gentle shimmers of pigment.

Sorrentino's background in graphic and textile design brings a strong sense of composition into her work. Areas of free-flowing gestural paint are balanced by

more defined stylized elements, as seen in her multimedia painting Everything on the Table. Amorphous layers contrast with sharp graphite sketches; neutral tones are spiced up with formal shapes in poppy red and light grey-blue.

Pender Island's Barbra Edwards has been going deeper into abstraction in recent years. Her West Coast nature-inspired works have moved to the macro-level where stronger emotions and colours can be let loose. Working on very large canvases, she has the space to be expressive like in the dripping reds and yellows of her piece called Blue Friday. The comparatively small 12X1-inch 'shroom is a delightful immersion into pure colour, with textured oil and wax on panel.

Five Women in Abstraction is open daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. An artist's talk with Nicola Morgan is scheduled for this afternoon, Wednesday, April 8 from noon to 1 p.m. The remaining artists will be on hand for a closing talk from noon to 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 12.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Monument 4 by Helen Ormiston Smith, with Nature Tem 1 by Barbra Edwards hanging on the wall behind.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

Tell us your views on our Preliminary Report before May 26, 2015.

In a Preliminary Report to the Legislative Assembly, the British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission is proposing changes to the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts in B.C.

Read the Preliminary Report at www.bc-ebc.ca/reports.

Tell the commission your views on the Preliminary Report online at www.bc-ebc.ca, at a public hearing during April and May, or by email at info@bc-ebc.ca.

All submissions and presentations to the commission must be made before 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES
COMMISSION

people&community

Easter at the CHEESE FARM



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Island Cheese Farm hosted its annual Easter egg hunt with lots of opportunity to get close to both the farm's animals and visitors from the Salt Spring 4-H Club. Clockwise from above, Seth Hughes finds an egg among the tulips, a ewe and lamb soak up visitors' attention in the field, and Nathan Welsh puts the escaped turkey named Cuteness back into the pen.

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

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



ART PRIZE

Wildlife art honoured

Hancock image featured on conservation material



Salt Spring wildlife artist W. Allan Hancock has created the image of the 2015 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print with his painting Blossoming – Mourning Doves.

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print are produced each year through unique partnerships among Wildlife Habitat Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, and Canadian wildlife artists. Revenues and royalties from the sale of the stamp and print fund WHC's habitat conservation grant program. Since 1985, more than \$50 million has been invested to support over 1,500 conservation projects across Canada.

Wildlife Habitat Canada is a national non-profit conser-

The 2015 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp with Blossoming – Mourning Doves by W. Allan Hancock.

vation organization dedicated to working with landowners, governments, non-government organizations and industry to conserve, restore and enhance the great variety of wildlife habitat across Canada. A press release explains that each year, WHC hosts an art competition to select a painting created by a Canadian wildlife artist for its next image.

The stamp is purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their migratory game bird hunting permits, which contributes directly to "on-the-ground" habitat conservation and stewardship efforts. The 2015 stamp is the 31st to appear in

the series and is set to officially launch on Saturday, April 11 in Montreal with Hancock in attendance.

Hancock's career as a wildlife artist began in 1989 and his artwork has contributed to numerous fundraising projects for wildlife and habitat conservation projects since then. His winning artwork has also been featured on the 2005 (Harlequin ducks) and 2011 (American wigeon) conservation stamps.

To learn more about the art competition or conservation grant program, visit www.whc.org. Fans can also 'like' WHC on Facebook or follow @WildlifeHCanada on Twitter.

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If you don't have these documents your realtor can assist. By having all of your paperwork in order you set the stage for ease of negotiations for your property. A buyer will have more confidence in making an offer on your home when they can review paperwork that is readily available upon request.

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- 4) Keeping your shoulders under the water will force you to use a lot more resistance and core work, while providing protection for the submerged joints.
- 5) Maintaining an acceptable speed through a good range of motion.
- 6) Doing vigorous rebounds - lifting your body out of the water or "momentum rebounds" which is essentially bouncing. This requires a large amount of energy.
- 7) The factor affecting just how many calories can be expended by additional muscle mass and exercise is controlled by an individual's metabolism, genetic make up and level of fitness. Each class is approximately 400 calories of energy expenditure - but a lot depends on the intensity you are working out at and your metabolism level. Instead of stepping on the scale, measure yourself. If you add muscle you will weigh more, but measurements will show you are trimmer.
- 8) Eat right, exercise often and enjoy each day as we do not get a second chance!



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Managing for a Sustainable Water Supply

As the largest supplier of water on Salt Spring Island, North Salt Spring Waterworks District wants to ensure that the entire community is kept informed about the state of our water supply and the reasons for the current moratorium on new water demand.

In 2013, the District engaged the services of Kerr Wood Leidal Consulting Engineers to assess the capacity of St. Mary and Maxwell Lakes. For each source, water budgets were developed to compare the availability of water against the maximum licensed demand in an average rainfall year and a 1 in 10 year drought under both current and future climate conditions. These technical reports are in the final draft stage and will be made available to the public when they are completed.

Both hydrology reports contain a number of important conclusions and recommendations that the District plans to address. We now understand that both lakes are very vulnerable to drought and an increased focus on conservation and drought management will be necessary. For example, the Maxwell report has identified that following a drought it may take four years of greater than average rainfall to refill Maxwell. At St. Mary Lake, in 2014, the District would not have been able to maintain fish flows in Duck Creek if the total licensed volume had been withdrawn.

More importantly, these draft reports have identified that both lakes are fully allocated. Neither lake has enough water to support any additional water licences. With a number of developments on the horizon, the District needs time to complete the reports and strategically assess the situation. This assessment has taken longer than expected as information gaps required filling and additional data needed to be gathered. Even when the reports have been completed, monitoring to further refine our understanding will be ongoing.

Given that over-allocation of our limited freshwater resources would place our community at serious risk, in the fall of 2014, the District took the precautionary approach and placed a moratorium on new water demand until the reports can be completed and the full impacts assessed.

The District will be working with the Islands Trust and other agencies to determine whether or not the District has the ability to serve our current commitments and the full build-out planned for the community by the Islands Trust. Currently, the District does not have a clear understanding of how much water is needed for build out under current zoning. Furthermore, zoning does not assure water is available.

The District is keeping a queue of properties requesting water service. Owners that intend to request service are encouraged to contact the District. Although the Board of Trustees will

consider each request, in general, the decision to approve or deny service will be made according to the questions and answers below.

Does this mean that the District is out of water?

No, the District doesn't currently withdraw our total licensed peak day limit. In 2014, the District withdrew 58% of the licensed peak day withdrawal at Maxwell Lake and 48% of that at St. Mary. However, the remaining portions of the licences must first be reserved for undeveloped properties on the District tax roll.

What properties are eligible for water service right now?

Until the Duck Creek weir is raised from its current elevation of 40.7 m above sea level to 41.0 m, no new demand will be approved.

Projects that do not increase demand will be approved. For example, replacing an old single family home with a new single family home will be permitted because there is no net increase in demand. However, adding a secondary suite or cottage to a property that contains a single family home will not be approved because it would increase demand.

Raising the weir will allow the District to store sufficient water to withdraw our full licence from St. Mary Lake. The District has already begun the steps to raise the weir but a number of regulatory approvals are required. In-stream construction is only permitted in July, August and September so if the approvals are not secured before then, it will be delayed by at least one year.

What properties are eligible after the weir is raised?

Once the weir is raised, the District will honour all existing commitments. Existing commitments include properties that are on the District tax roll. This means a capital expenditure charge was paid to join the District and annual parcel taxes are paid each year. A property does not need to have a water meter installed to be considered an existing commitment. Even if existing commitments don't request water service at this time, their portion will be set aside for future use.

Why can't undeveloped properties on the Maxwell system be served before the weir is raised?

Although the District has two sources and distribution systems, they are interconnected. The District does not differentiate between the systems because many properties, including most of Ganges, can be served from either source. Any available water from the Maxwell system will be used to meet existing commitments in both systems before any new service is approved. Just as all ratepayers will share the cost of the new treatment plants, they will also share the water supply.

My undeveloped property is zoned multi-family? Will I be able to build a multi-family development?

No, zoning does not guarantee water service will be approved. After the weir is raised, one ¾ inch service connection would be permitted but a multi-family development would not.

What if I incorporate conservation strategies such as rainwater catchment into my project design?

The District strongly encourages water conservation; however, conservation doesn't reduce the potential water usage through a service connection. In order to approve water service, the District must be able to accommodate the demand in perpetuity. Rainwater catchment systems do not guarantee reduced consumption.

How much water will be left for new developments that are not considered existing commitments?

The District does not know exactly how much water will remain after existing commitments have been met. Completion of the hydrology reports has been delayed so that additional data could be gathered in order to help answer this question. At this time, it appears that there is not enough water to meet all the planned development; however, to be certain, the District must have the potential build-out clearly defined by Islands Trust.

If there isn't enough water to serve all planned development, who will get it and how will it be decided?

The District does not have authority to pick and choose who will be served. Islands Trust has sole authority for community planning. The District believes that community engagement should be undertaken in order to determine the answer to this critical question as it affects the entire community.

Conclusion

This new understanding of the limitations of the island's freshwater resources will be concerning to many members of the community. Be assured that the District recognizes the urgency of the situation and has made it a top priority. The Board of Trustees understands that it will require a strategic and coordinated response by a number of government organizations, both local and provincial. Adjusting to new limitations may be difficult but can be achieved with time. Therefore, the District will be continuing the moratorium until a full understanding of the "demand side" has been assessed. The District asks for your support as we embark on a new era of water management for Salt Spring Island.

The Board of Trustees and Management of North Salt Spring Waterworks District
www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

ECOLOGY

Permaculture film delves deep into farming practice

Special event at The Fritz

Salt Spring has an opportunity to view a special screening of *Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective* with its director, cinematographer and editor, Costa Boutsikaris.

Timed to spearhead the celebrations of Earth Day this year, the screening at The Fritz cinema on Wednesday, April 15 at 7 p.m. provides an opportunity for the community to watch a

film, learn about permaculture and engage in an informative and lively conversation. Boutsikaris, Raffi Cavoukian, Michael Nickels and other local permaculturists will lead a discussion afterwards, including a special viewing of Nickels' new short permaculture video.

Boutsikaris grew up in the Hudson River Valley of New York. He studied filmmaking at the New York Film Academy and went on to receive a B.A. in Visual Arts and Film at Rutgers University.

During his senior year he took a permaculture design course in New York City, which began his fascination with ecological design and regenerative agriculture. After travelling around the Northeast U.S. for a year, learning more about this design philosophy and living at permaculture sites, he was inspired to make his first feature documentary.

After raising funds on Kick-Starter he converted a 1982 VW Van to run on vegetable oil and solar panels and began a three-

year journey to make *Inhabit*.

Humanity is more than ever threatened by its own actions; we hear a lot about the need to minimize footprints and to reduce our impact. But what if our footprints were beneficial? What if we could meet human needs while increasing the health and well-being of our planet? This is the premise behind permaculture: a design process based on the replication of patterns found in nature. *Inhabit* explores the many environmental issues today

and examines solutions that are being applied using the ecological design lens of permaculture. *Inhabit* provides an intimate look at permaculture people and practices ranging from rural, suburban and urban landscapes.

Proceeds from this screening will go to the Centre for Child Honouring and Seven Ravens Permaculture Academy and permaculture garden projects in Africa.

Tickets are available at the door.

SALT SPRING **FOCUS ON SENIORS** TO ADVERTISE IN THIS POPULAR MONTHLY FEATURE CONTACT 250-537-9933

April is National Oral Health Month

Dentures do not have to be a fact of life. Provided you look after them, your teeth and gums will look good and stay healthy for life. Your needs change as you get older. Medications, diet, general aging, and more can all bring about changes in a person's dental and oral health.

As you age, however, you may need to make a few changes in the way you care for your teeth and gums. If you need advice on looking after your teeth and gums, or those of a dependent relative or friend, your dentist and the Canadian Dental Association can provide you with valuable information.

You are never too old to have healthy teeth and gums. And you are never old enough to stop seeing your dentist!

COMMON ORAL CONDITIONS INCLUDE:

- **Dry mouth** - occurs when the salivary glands do not produce enough saliva (spit) to keep the mouth wet.
- **Dysphagia/Swallowing Difficulties** - Dysphagia means difficulty swallowing and is most often caused by neurological problems such as stroke, depression and dementia.
- **Stomatitis/Mucositis (inflammation of the mouth)** - The inside of the mouth may appear red, inflamed and may bleed.
- **Root Cavities** - develop at the gum line and are caused by factors such as improper brushing of the teeth, receding gums that expose the root surfaces of the teeth and a diet high in sugar.

- **Tooth decay** - Bacteria (germs) collect in the mouth every day. If the bacteria are not removed thoroughly they form a sticky, colourless film called plaque, which attaches to the teeth.
- **Gum Disease (Periodontal Disease)** - is an infection that attacks the gums and bone that support the teeth.

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- Avoid all tobacco products
- Regular dental exams help prevent small problems from getting worse.

Dr. Lorraine Shaw will be making a presentation on "Oral Health and Seniors." She will talk about common conditions and treatments on Friday, April 17.

To attend the workshop, pre-register with Seniors' Wellness, 250-537-4607 or by emailing esmith@ssics.ca.



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Seniors Drop-in Centre 379 Lower Ganges Rd.

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• Seniors Luncheons April 9th, 16th and 25th
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CHILDREN

Island counsellors ready to play



PHOTO BY JEN HOLMES

Certified play therapists Jodi French, left, and Kiran Dhingra welcome families to their new practice.

The Growing Tree supports non-verbal expression

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The newest centre for counselling services on Salt Spring has a unique client base in mind, as the island's first official play therapy practice prepares to welcome children.

A cosy and cheerful studio located off Blackburn Road, The Growing Tree is an inviting space that contains all the items necessary to engage a child's imagination.

Founders Kiran Dhingra and Jodi French have created the facility with the primary focus of supporting children in their inner journey toward healing. Both are employed by Island Women Against Violence and have backgrounds working with families and children: Dhingra is a registered social worker and French is a registered clinical counsellor. Through their work they have formed a friendship and a desire to build a deeper partnership.

"We talked about how there are a number of counsellors on the island, but none that are really specific to children," Dhingra said.

While anyone can provide a sand table and some crayons, The Growing Tree is not a glorified daycare. Under the therapists' guidance, children can express deep emotions through the course of their play.

"I think each child is unique — each family is unique — and we really want to work from that basis, and remove any barriers to growth and healing," French said.

Dhingra and French use methods heavily inspired by Holistic Expressive Play Therapy as developed by Marie José Dhaese, under whom they studied for a certificate course at the Justice Institute of B.C.

"She was a very inspiring teacher because she's been doing play therapy for 40 years. We learned a lot," Dhingra said.

Dhaese is a pioneer in the field whose largely intuitive work has been backed up by a growing body of research completed over the past decade or so. As Dhaese explains on the website for her Centre for Expressive Therapy, "The younger children are, the more limited is their ability to express themselves verbally; but through play they can show what they think, feel and how they experience and understand the world in which they live.

"Just as adults talk things out,

children play things out. Since play is the natural means of expression for children, the most effective mode of therapy for them is play therapy."

Dhingra and French specialize in assessing the issues at hand, creating a treatment plan that best fits clients' needs and providing an engaging and healing array of therapeutic activities to address the difficulties being experienced. Children (primarily between the ages of three and 12) are encouraged to express their inner world through the use of a variety of materials and activities, which can include toys, drawing or painting, clay, crafts, sand play, music, stories and storytelling, puppets, dress-up and role play.

According to a 2005 study, play therapy can be effective for children experiencing a wide variety of social, emotional, behavioural and learning problems, which may have been triggered by stresses such as divorce, death, relocation, hospitalization, chronic illness, physical and sexual abuse, domestic violence and natural disasters.

Using play, painful memories and experiences can be channeled into constructive outcomes as children learn to express their emotions and employ coping tools. It is hoped that children will find an increased sense of self-worth, self-direction and an ability to take responsibility, among other strengths. Their positive growth then ripples outward to the family unit and beyond.

"It's sort of the vision of creating more lasting change. The idea of building a healthier community one child at a time is really stimulating to me," French said.

An important part of the therapy is the counsellor's ability to build up a trust relationship with the child. Multiple sessions are therefore required as the process unfolds. Support for parents or caregivers and their involvement in continuing the healing process at home is also essential.

More information can be found at www.thegrowingtree.ca.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

TEMPORARY USE PERMIT - NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a Resolution to issue a Temporary Use Permit pursuant to Section 921 of the *Local Government Act* for Lot A, Section 4, Range 4 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 42183 (248 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island – SS-TUP-2015.2).

The purpose of the permit is to add a commercial and industrial use consisting of servicing and sales of marine equipment and small engines.

The location of the property subject to the proposed permit is shown on the following sketch:



Enquiries or comments should be directed to Planner Seth Wright at 250-538-5602, or by email to: ssinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca before 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2015.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 921.5 of the *Local Government Act*, a copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Salt Spring Island office at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, continuing up to Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee may consider the proposed permit at a meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2015 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Club), 103 Bonnet Avenue, Ganges. Please refer to the posted agenda available on the Islands Trust website at the beginning of that week for an indication of where this application is to be placed on the agenda.

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

Claire Olivier,
Legislative Clerk/Deputy Secretary

DEATH AND DYING

Death Café returns to ArtSpring

Conversation and treats at April 11 event

Salt Spring Hospice facilitators are inviting the community to have an open, honest and genuine dialogue about death during its fourth Death Café event on Saturday, April 11.

Coordinators ask, "If death is the last stop for all of us, why are we not talking about it more? It makes great conversation and is life enhancing. What is death like? Why do we fear it? How do our views of death inform the way we live?"

These are three of the kinds of questions that may be discussed in large and small groups while enjoying tea, coffee and goodies (by donation).

"At our three previous Death Cafes, participants have expressed their gratitude for being able to express their concerns and

points of view about death and by hearing from others expand their own perception on this topic," Salt Spring Hospice states.

The Death Café is part of a global movement to increase awareness of death with a view to help people make the most of their finite lives. The event has no agenda, objectives or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counselling session.

If death is the last stop for all of us, why are we not talking about it more?

The event runs from 2 to 4 p.m. in the ArtSpring lobby.

For more information about the Death Café movement, visit www.deathcafe.com.

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Annual General Meeting of Central Community Hall Society

Saturday 11th April, 2015 at 1:00 pm. Public welcome.

INFORMATION

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGALS

NOTICE is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SCOTT POINT WATERWORKS DISTRICT will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday April 21, 2015 at the RVYC Pavilion at 241 Scott Point Dr.



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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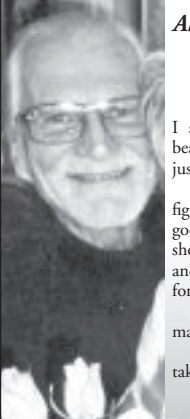
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*Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 27

DEATHS



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CHILDREN'S MISCELLANEOUS

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

Thinking of volunteering somewhere? Check out opportunities at: www.volunteersaltspring.com or phone Melanie 250 221 0078

COMING EVENTS

to our patients Please be advised that the office of DR. ROBERT CRICHTON WILL BE CLOSED

Monday April 20 & Tuesday April 21, 2015 and Monday April 27 to Monday May 18, 2015

We will have Dr. Philippa Tattersall, locum for April 22, 23 and 24

The office will re-open Tuesday May 19, 2015 at 10:00

We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE ATTEND LADY MINTO HOSPITAL

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given that at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on April 28, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, TWO trustees are to be elected, to serve for a period of three years.

Nomination of candidates for these positions must be made in writing, duly signed, seconded, with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the District Office at or before 12:00 noon, April 13, 2015.

NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR

To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, and entitled to be registered as a voter under the Elections Act.

Nomination forms are available at the District Office.

Anne Williams, Office Manager www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca 761 Upper Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1 (250) 537-9902

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Meeting Notice

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) will be held on 20 April 2015 at the Salt Spring Lions Club Hart Bradley Hall 103 Bonnet Avenue Commencing at 7:00pm

The election results will be announced, as well, the District auditor's report, Fire Chief's report & Trustees annual report.

A meeting of the SSIFPD's Board of Trustees will commence following the AGM.

Fire District ratepayers and the general public are encouraged to attend.

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186 MOBRAE AVE. Sat. Apr. 11 & Sun. April 12, 9am - 3pm. Moving/Downsizing Sale, tools, dishes, furniture, paintings, garden tools & much more. NO Early Birds!

280 SOUTH BANK DRIVE Sat. Apr. 11th 10am - 2pm Trash to Treasure, Feast and Famine All for Sale Good prices

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MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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This Week's Horoscope
by Michael O'Connor
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TIP OF THE WEEK:
As exciting as is the Full Moon and last week's Lunar Eclipse was a ripper, the Last Quarter Moon also represents a significant turning point in the cycle. Symbolically linked to Autumn Equinox and the sun setting on the horizon, this phase of the moon brings things to a completion and serves to clear the way in preparation for the new cycle. Yet, it can also prove to be an even greater culmination of the themes woven into the New Moon than when it culminated to full. So, watch for the synchronistic signs of this on individual, civic and national and even mass global levels. What this lunar cycle is destined to produce is a heightened degree of collective awareness and of awakening to larger perspective or reality. This includes gaining a clearer understanding of the human condition and evoking genuine feelings of concern on one hand, and resolve to make a difference, on the other. Fortunately, major initiatives like the move by the President of Brazil to lead a campaign to turn a very large portion of the Amazon basin, apparently twice the land mass of France, into a nature reserve where the exploitations of unscrupulous ambition will not be allowed to encroach, presents a clear and positive example. If this awakening has not occurred for you or others you know, it is not too late. But neither is it early. Fortunately, this next New Moon cycle will re-activate the energies of last month's Solar Eclipse. Even by simply being aware and choosing to care and replacing fear with love and exercising the awareness that 'they' are actually ultimately us implies you are tuned-in to the awakening that is sweeping the world. As well this awakening can be recognized by the realization that attitudes of oblivious denial, cynical indifference or blame and feelings of helplessness and victimization simply don't help. However you choose or are able to see it, our world is in crisis. Stay tuned.

READ MORE ABOUT IT ON MY NEWSLETTER - SIGNUP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) The steady process of building foundations or fortifying existing ones continues. Expect your focus to diversify this week. Attending to a variety of fronts will include expressing and perhaps asserting your opinion. Be aware that your communications now could have far reaching implications. Focus to see things from the perspective of others to meet in the middle.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21) Although you feel determined to advance your position, you may be happy to take it slow for now. This pace likely will continue for several weeks. Going slow can produce measurable results, especially if you are willing to work longer. Tending to a variety of fronts starting this week will feel good. Above all secure a creative space where you can return to regularly, to recharge.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) The urge to express your sense of individuality is strong now. You want to share some of the beauty you feel inside. You may have to overcome fears of rejection to succeed, however. There are three keys to this success: accept yourself, honor your style and pay attention to how others are responding. The time is also right to reach out to others for their assistance and cooperation.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Getting the attention you feel you deserve and want is a central theme now. The downside is that you may be getting attention you don't want as well. A rebellious mood prevails and you feel passionately about your position. Your dramatic side may well be flaring. Your ambitions are running high but your patience levels may not be. See the humor in it all to balance the scales.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23) You are in a visionary mood. Taking risks to expand your power potential and influence is featured. Your sights are set on creating a brighter and perhaps more profitable future. Gathering new knowledge, skills and tools to strengthen your overall position is likely. This momentum will continue for several weeks anyway. You can even expect the pace to accelerate...soon.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) Sometimes the best thing to do is to move forward without looking back, like now. Keeping the best and leaving the rest is required. Yet you may feel challenged to overcome feelings of inertia. Consider that what was once comfortable, familiar and secure is no longer. Beyond just stuff, you may have to leave old attitudes, perceptions and modes of expression behind as well.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22) Financial concerns and considerations are on your mind. These are leading or perhaps pushing you to new choices and modes of self-expression. At worst you feel caught between opposing forces. Forcing things will not help so you are left to exercise patience and trust. Making the most of the situation, seek opportunities for social and cultural activities all the while remaining open to sound advice.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21) Over the course of life our perceptions, interpretations and self-concepts tend to change, sometimes gradually while at other times more quickly, like now perhaps. These changes can also produce changes in how we live and/or where. Such changes are healthy and indicate an evolutionary rhythm of the soul. Stubborn resistance may indicate excessive ego. Go for soul.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21) As if awakening from a powerful and long dream that seemed so real, you are confronted with the reality of adjusting your perceptions to match this other reality. Slowly but surely a new sense of creative purpose and passion is rising. Yet there may still remain some confusion and a desire to go back to sleep. This other reality requires new perspectives and response and it will not go away.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19) Everyone is getting a wake-up call these days of some kind. Even so, many remain fast asleep wrapped in narcissistic dreams. You however are not being afforded such luxuries, at least not for much longer. Duty is calling and you are required to break free from certain associations and habitual perspectives. Fortunately this call includes some real perks such as renewed creative passion.

Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19) You may at times wonder where the solid ground you once stood upon has gone. The fact is it has been steadily dissolving for many years. The good news is that it is being replaced by a 'higher ground'. The challenge is to accept that this process will continue for years to come and to direct your focus to steadily adapt. This is the price of ascension and like it or not you must pay.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Yours especially is a healing journey these days. It could be as basic as losing weight and getting fit or improving your diet. Perhaps it is your attitude that requires some detoxifying. Maybe how you express yourself or your overall presentation needs some adjustment. Awareness is the first step. Next decipher and ideally outline a realistic strategy. Then set a clear resolve to follow through.



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sports & recreation

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

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



FISHING DERBY

Fishers angle for good times

Registration begins for Galiano derby



PHOTO COURTESY KING FISHER GALIANO ISLAND SALMON CLASSIC FACEBOOK PAGE

Derby co-organizer Cory Matheson, right, and Daniel DePedrina have a good haul earlier this month at a top secret location.

"on the pick" or tied up at the marina or provincial park dock. The Montague Harbour Marina offers a 50 per cent discount on moorage for derby registrants. Other accommodation options are available on Galiano. Shuttle service can be arranged.

Check-in for the event is on Friday, May 1 between noon and 9 p.m. at the Montague Harbour Marina. Registration in advance is required. Contact Ryan at 604-518-8946 or info@kingfisherapparel.com to book your spot.

The derby is sponsored by King Fisher Apparel, Salish Sea Charters, Montague Harbour Marina and the Pacific Salmon Foundation. Additional sponsors are welcome to sign up.

For more details and tickets, search for King Fisher Galiano on www.eventbrite.com.

Registration is underway for anglers keen to drop a line in Galiano Island's annual King Fisher Salmon Classic.

The popular fishing derby runs from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 2 out of the Montague Harbour Marina. The official weigh-in is at 4 p.m.

The \$100 per rod entry fee gives participants access to a Friday night check-in bonfire barbecue and Saturday night awards dinner. Besides all the fishing, organizers promise contests, music, art and good times.

Fifty per cent of the proceeds raised at the event will go to the Pacific Salmon Foundation to enhance coho and chinook salmon restoration projects.

The rest of the money will be awarded to participants who reel in the three largest salmon. The festivities will include a raffle and a silent auction with additional prizes

from sponsors and a 50/50 draw.

Camping is available at Montague Harbour Provincial Park. Participants can choose to sleep aboard their boats



Liquid Waste Management Planning – Amending the Central Sector Plan

The Cowichan Valley Regional District is working with the City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan and Cowichan Tribes, to update the Central Sector Liquid Waste Management Plan. This update (called an "amendment") focuses on reviewing options for moving the treated wastewater outfall that services the Central Sector area, from the Cowichan River to a new location.



As part of this review, the CVRD and partners will meet with stakeholder and community groups during a series of spring infosessions. Questions to be addressed during these sessions include:

- How is wastewater currently managed and treated?
- Why is a new outfall location needed?
- Where would the outfall go if it is moved?
- What alternatives have been considered?
- How much will it cost and who will pay?

Anyone interested in learning more about the project is invited to visit the project pages at www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp. Members of the public interested in attending a project infosession should contact the project team at cslwmp@cvrd.bc.ca.

Project Contact:

Email: cslwmp@cvrd.bc.ca

Project pages: www.cvrld.bc.ca/lwmp

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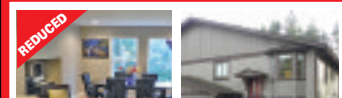
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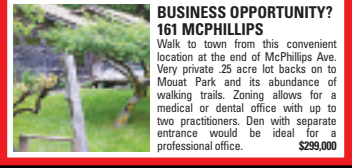
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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Mad Hatter influences games

Cards mimic tricky riddles

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

"Have some wine," the March Hare said in an encouraging tone.

Alice looked all round the table, but there was nothing on it but tea. "I don't see any wine," she remarked.

"There isn't any," said the March Hare. "Then it wasn't very civil of you to offer it," said Alice angrily.

"It wasn't very civil of you to sit down without being invited," said the March Hare.

"I didn't know it was your table," said Alice; "it's laid for a great many more than three."

Well, at bridge the tables are set for four, and on March 23 there were four and a half tables at Seniors, with no wine or tea offered, although the March Hare may have been hovering with muddled advice. George Laundry and Paul Retallack rose to the occasion quite civilly, and then there was a tie for second place with Nick Beringer and Pat Sutherland getting the same score as Flo Laundry and Jeff Bell. Liz and Oleh Mycyk politely settled for third place.

On March 30, the Mad Hatter spoke up at this long tea-party, and "opened his eyes very wide . . . but all he said was, "Why is a raven like a writing-desk?"

"Come, we shall have some fun now!" thought Alice. "I'm glad they've begun asking riddles. I believe I can guess that," she added aloud.

"Do you mean that you think you can find out the answer to it?" said the March Hare.

"Exactly so," said Alice.

"Then you should say what you mean," the March Hare went on.

"I do," Alice hastily replied; "at least — at least I mean

what I say — that's the same thing, you know." "Not the same thing a bit!" said the Hatter. "You might just as well say that 'I see what I eat' is the same thing as 'I eat what I see!'"

This is perhaps something that happens at bridge as players try to find the answer to the riddles of bidding and play, and to say what they mean or mean what they say. The Mycyks were really good at it all that time, and again there was a tie for second place. This time it was Zelly Taylor and Ian Thomas who equalled the score of the George Laundry-Retallack pair. Jean Elder and Ted Baldwinson occupied the third spot, being less puzzled than the rest.

And the mad March month came to an end like a lamb. What will April bring? The return of more players would be good, and for info please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

"And Alice . . . once more found herself in the long hall, and close to the little glass table. 'Now, I'll manage better this time,' she said to herself, and began by taking the little golden key, and unlocking the door that led into the garden. Then she went to work nibbling at the mushroom (she had kept a piece of it in her pocket) till she was about a foot high: then she walked down the little passage: and then — she found herself at last in the beautiful garden, among the bright flower-beds and the cool fountains . . . and The Queen's Croquet-Ground, with all the cards . . ."

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