



Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, April 22, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 16 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

FIRE DISTRICT

Fire board gets down to work

Four new trustees take seats following election

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District ushered in a whole new era on Monday night as four new trustees took their seats following the annual general meeting.

Linda Lee, who was elected by acclamation to fill the final year of the three-year term held by Ron Chamney, was elected as the board's new chair during its first order of business. She started by announcing that changes to the meeting structure would most likely occur, and asked each trustee to state how they would like meetings to be run.

Noting the new board's strong mandate, Lee added, "There's going to be super high expectations of us. We'll do our best moving forward."

Joining Lee as board newcomers were her running mates Derek Hill, Mitch Forest and Norbert Schlenker, who ran on a platform for change in fire district governance. They received 921, 878 and 877 votes respectively in Saturday's election, tidily winning the day against Maxine Leichter, who came in fourth place with 506 votes. The new members join already sitting trustees Mike Garside, Michael Schubart and Michele Severn.

After assigning cheque-signing authority and receiving the 2015 Fire Underwriters Survey, the board introduced new business, including a number of motions presented by Schlenker and Hill.

FIRE BOARD continued on 4



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

STICK HANDLING: From left, Malaya Hart-Weller, Nathan Clark and Kaliya Hart-Weller demonstrate Stick Technique #2 in Kobudo at the Blossom Festival on Saturday, as their instructor Brenda Guiled looks on. See page 8 for more photos and details about the event.

PARC

Centennial Park video monitoring probed

RCMP favours use of cameras in troubled area

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Video surveillance retook the spotlight at Monday afternoon's Parks and Recreation Commission meeting as members agreed to study how nearby communities have used it to ensure safety in public areas.

Commissioners asked staff to investigate how Victoria-area jurisdictions have implemented video monitoring in parks. Results will be used to determine if a similar strategy might work in Salt Spring's Centennial Park, where public nuisance complaints have become commonplace.

"It's not to push people out of the park," said RCMP Const. Gerard Kopperud during a presentation to PARC on Monday. "It's to make the park a safer place where kids can play and not have to watch somebody urinate or fall over drunk."

Kopperud and Sgt. George Jenkins attended the April 20 meeting to update commissioners on efforts to restore order in Centennial Park. During the past year, Jenkins said, Salt Spring RCMP have registered 50 prosecutions and conducted more than 200 foot patrols in the area.

"We spend a huge amount of our resources on the park," Jenkins said. "It's disproportionate to the problems on the rest of the island."

PARC continued on 2

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Surveillance pondered

PARC
continued from 1

Regardless of the effort, problems and complaints about unruly behaviour, drug dealing, public intoxication and occasional assaults in the park have become the norm.

"I used to take my kids there and play soccer in the park," he said. "I wouldn't do it now, we could step on a knife."

He added that it's entirely reasonable for people to be monitored in public areas, so long as park users are notified that cameras are in place.

"It's not a secret that you're being recorded and really there's no expectation of privacy in a park," he added. "You're in a public place and you have a certain obligation to the public at large."

The officers said video surveillance in Centennial Park could deter criminals and help the Salt Spring detachment use its limited resources more efficiently.

"I don't like the idea to have cameras, but if we can remotely monitor what's going on, we could intelligently patrol the park and react to the activity going on there rather than just going on a patrol. That's just not an effective use of our time," Jenkins said. "I think it will be a deterrent to some behaviour."

Commissioners welcomed the opportunity to learn how nearby communities on the Saanich Peninsula and Westshore have implemented video surveillance and if the efforts have produced results.

Commissioner Garth Hendren, however, was not supportive of the camera idea.

"Parks are available to everybody in the community and that's what public parks are all about," he said. "That being the case, is it appropriate to have surveillance? Maybe we just have to live with what's going on."

Other commissioners remarked about the larger social issue of how small communities can deal with homelessness, addiction and mental health problems. Some expressed concerns that monitoring Centennial Park would merely shift problems to other parts of the island.

"I don't think it's black and white," said commissioner Brian Webster. "I don't think we just throw up our hands and say, 'This is the way the world is.' I don't think we just say, 'Everybody smile and be happy' and that solves the problem, but likewise I'm extremely hesitant and concerned about creating an environment that implicitly becomes less welcoming to many of us by going too far, whether it's in terms of surveillance or enforcement."

The PARC study coincides with an effort by commissioners, business owners, community groups and the RCMP detachment to examine ways to make Centennial Park more welcoming. Landscaping, lighting improvements and more public events are among options to be considered.

"This isn't something we can just sit back and let go; this issue isn't just going to go away," said PARC chair Jon Suk. "This is an issue of concern and some action needs to be taken."

MARINE SEARCH AND RESCUE



PHOTO BY PAUL ZOLOB
A private floatplane that flipped over at Maple Bay on Sunday is secured to a dock by a Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue crew from Salt Spring Island, who were first on the scene.

Rescue unit at plane crash

Vessels also in trouble this week

Volunteers from Salt Spring's Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue detachment (Station 25) had a busy weekend with two taskings on Friday followed by a call to respond to a float plane crash in Maple Bay on Sunday afternoon.

Friday's calls includ-

ed an abandoned vessel adrift off Wallace Island and a commercial fishing boat that ran aground on Panther Point on Wallace Island.

The float plane crash occurred at approximately 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 19, close to the community of Maple Bay.

RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring, crewed by Nic Futter, Brad Grindler and Paul Zolob, was the first marine rescue unit on scene, with a

response time of 20 minutes.

The Salt Spring crew towed the overturned Cessna 185 aircraft to a dock and passed it into the care of its owner, who was the aircraft's sole occupant at the time of the crash. The 68-year-old pilot, who had training in underwater egress, escaped the accident uninjured and was left in the care of the Maple Bay Fire Department.

Capital Regional District



Park Attendant

The Capital Regional District is seeking an auxiliary Park Attendant to perform a variety of routine janitorial and park facility maintenance. The position requires independent judgment and the ability to effectively respond to routine situations as they arise. Excellent customer services and public relations skills are essential to this position. This position works a variety of shifts and hours to meet operational needs, including weekends.

For complete job description and qualifications, please visit www.crd.bc.ca

Closing Date: April 27, 2015

GANGES VILLAGE

LTC pushes Tree House 'plaza' proposal

Plan faces considerable practical barriers

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A plan to redesign a contentious corner of Ganges village may offer much to get excited about, but the project's completion will require community groups, government and landowners to follow through with action, according to Salt Spring trustees.

"I think this will be a worthy entrance into Ganges from the sea," said trustee Peter Grove at Thursday's Local Trust Committee meeting. "I'm hoping we will move forward on this; I'm hoping it will grow legs, and I'm hoping that all those involved will participate and see the light."

Salt Spring's LTC offered unanimous support for the Kanaka Plaza concept and has referred the plan to the Capital Regional District, business owners and the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island for further review and possible action.

The Kanaka Plaza concept was developed to resolve a conflict between the owner of the Tree House Café and HASSI over dock access and the res-

taurant's popular outdoor seating area. HASSI board members ordered the Tree House Café to stop serving alcohol to customers at the restaurant's laneway tables in spring of 2014. The letter further asked that all seating along the laneway — alleged by HASSI to be on its right of way — be removed due to liability concerns and to improve access to Kanaka Wharf.

Conceptual drawings were completed by Whitempine Consulting at the request of Salt Spring's LTC. The committee allocated \$1,000 for the project at its February meeting. With an idea in place, Grove said, the LTC can pull back and let those more directly affected by the project work out the details.

"It's important to report that this is just a concept," he said. "This whole exercise started from the escalating conflict in the community . . . We have managed to diffuse this [conflict] and promote open-minded thinking among all those involved."

"So that, in itself, is a very positive development."

The Kanaka Plaza concept features a complete redesign of the area around the Tree House Café. The design incorporates outdoor seating in a treed

plaza that features a tourist information kiosk, public art and a water taxi waiting shelter, while providing access to the Kanaka Wharf for boaters and maintenance personnel.

"I do think this project has significant community value," Grove said. "This will tie in nicely with the boardwalk and will indeed be the gateway from the sea into Ganges; so let it be a gateway that we can be proud of. Right now, it's only half of what it could be."

"I'm hoping that all those involved will participate and see the light."

PETER GROVE
Salt Spring trustee

Nancy Krieg, the concept's designer, said Kanaka Plaza represents a vision of what can be achieved. Moving from possibility to reality, she added, rests upon the will of government agencies, community groups and landowners who have an interest in the area.

"I was asked to ignore the property lines and come up with the best possible

design for the plaza," she said. "How it gets funded and which property it lands on is to be discussed once it gets approval in principle."

Among the parties with a stake in the project, none are as significant as Mouat's Trading Co. Ltd. As owner of much of the property within the plaza's footprint, consent from the company is paramount.

Speaking on Friday afternoon, company president Dave Toynbee wasn't as enthusiastic as those gathered around the LTC table.

"It's unrealistic at this point," he said. "There are considerable practical issues with what they're proposing, and those practical issues are extremely relevant."

Toynbee said moving the road over to border the Harbour Building and eliminating parking spaces in front of Mouat's Home Hardware are not options, and the Trust was advised of this.

Toynbee suggested that a realistic first step will be to confirm what authority HASSI has over the contested right of way next to the Tree House Café.

"Once HASSI's authority and intentions are clarified, then the next steps, if any, can be determined and discussed with the stakeholders."

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!
NSSWD Annual General Meeting:
 Tuesday, APRIL 28
 Community Gospel Chapel at 7 p.m.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Hug-A-Tree survival program visits island schools

Volunteers offer wilderness essentials

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Judy Burch has an important message for young students on Salt Spring who may someday find themselves lost and alone in the woods.

"Tell an adult where you're going, hug a tree, stay warm and dry, and listen for rescuers," Burch told a rapt kindergarten audience at the Fernwood Elementary School library on Monday afternoon.

The class was the first in a series of similar programs that will be held in schools across the island in coming weeks. Since 1994, Burch and other search and rescue volunteers have been giving kids the tools and confidence needed to stay calm and get found. Thanks to them, an entire generation of Salt Springers has learned what to do in the not-so-unlikely event they may become lost in the woods.

"We teach kids how not to get lost and what to do if they do," Burch said.

Salt Spring may be an island, but it's still relatively easy for a child who wanders away from their parents or friends to lose touch. It can happen on a school outing, weekend hike or family camping trip.

Burch helped launch the program on the island more than 20 years ago alongside Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue search manager Chuck Hamilton. Burch and Hamilton have



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue volunteer Judy Burch offers wilderness safety tips to students at Fernwood Elementary School.

a combined 50-plus years of search and rescue experience. Since the pair began to deliver the Hug-A-Tree program, Hamilton estimates more than 2,000 elementary school children have received training about what to do — and what not to do — when things begin to go sideways in the backcountry.

"It's been terrible for business," Hamilton said.

Joking aside, Hamilton is confident that training youngsters about the basics has helped keep islanders alive when trouble beckons on and off the island and beyond. Staying in one place and making yourself comfortable may seem counterintuitive

when you are lost in the woods, but it's often far easier for help to reach a lost person than it is for a lost person to find their way out of a jam.

By staying in one place, Hamilton said, lost subjects eliminate the need for searchers to revisit search areas. Since lost persons have a tendency to panic and run through the bush, staying put greatly reduces chances of an injury, thereby avoiding a more complex rescue operation.

A phenomenon known as woods shock outlines five distinct stages that a person's behaviour can go through when lost in the woods. The syndrome begins with denial and panic. If a lost person can calm down

and develop a plan, they are often left disheartened when their strategy fails to get them out of trouble. The fifth-and-final stage sees the lost person become demoralized and resigned to their plight.

"What they decide to do may appear irrational to a calm observer but does not seem nearly so unreasonable to the lost person, who is now totally disoriented," said William Syrotuck, a researcher and writer who specializes in lost-person behaviour.

Burch's suggestion to hug a tree raises more than a few of the little eyebrows among the young Fernwood school audience. They are reassured when she and co-presenter Tudor Davies offer the kids emergency blankets, whistles and details about how to build a "nest" where they can stay warm, dry and safe until help arrives.

Because kids are sometimes shy, afraid of strangers or worried they'll get in trouble for getting lost, Burch said, they need to be assured that it's okay to respond when they hear a searcher calling for them.

The primary goal, Burch said, is to plant a seed so that kids will remember some of the survival basics when they need them. She agreed it might not seem relevant for kids gathered in the comfort of their school library, but it's reassuring to know students have been able to recall lifesaving wilderness skills when they find themselves in an unfortunate bind.

The Hug-A-Tree and Survive program is a joint effort between SAR

Four keys for survival

1. Tell an adult where you're going.
2. Hug a tree.
3. Stay warm and dry.
4. Listen for help.



volunteers, the RCMP and AdventureSmart, a national program that encourages people to explore the great outdoors safely.

Volunteer groups across Canada teach kids between ages five and 14 how to prepare for and avoid serious injuries that can result from dehydration, hypothermia, hunger and fatigue. These groups have offered Hug-A-Tree training to more than 5,500 students across Canada since the start of 2015.

Information about the program and more tips on what to do in a wilderness emergency is available at adventuresmart.ca.

More details about Salt Spring Search and Rescue is available at saltspingsar.org.

ISLANDS TRUST

Local Trust Committee heeds Fort Street concerns

Action to address water worries

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The prospect of further development in one of the island's most densely populated neighbourhoods has sounded the alarm among residents who feel further growth means greater strain on their groundwater supply.

Some people who live in and around the Fort Street neighbourhood near Walker Hook have had to contend with water shortages and bacteriological contamination for years. When the neighbourhood was initially laid out more than a century ago, planners of the day imagined the community would become the island's vibrant commercial centre.

As properties were developed or subdivided into

quarter-acre parcels, more wells increased the strain on groundwater resources.

"Right now we might be okay, but in a couple of years, when those other quarter-acre lots come up for development, we could have some problems," said Gayle Baker, one of at least nine speakers who addressed trustees during the town hall session of Thursday's LTC meeting. "We are, as a community, trying to be as pro-

active as possible."

Speakers shared their worries about water quality and quantity in the area, often citing personal experience about their own contaminated or depleted wells.

In January, LTC members declared the Fort Street neighbourhood's water issues a top-priority item. Last week, they voted unanimously to develop a plan to address water concerns

in the area. A report about what the plan might entail is anticipated in time for next month's LTC meeting.

"It is very general and it's not as robust as some might like, but I have faith in staff that they are telling us this is the right way to go, and let's get on with it as quickly as we possibly can," said trustee Peter Grove.

Trustee George Grams said he's keen to examine the prospect of a develop-

ment permit that would somehow restrict further densification in the neighbourhood.

"Normally I don't abide by the precautionary principle because, all too often, [it] is used as an excuse by those who don't have the evidence and can't find the evidence to prevent something ... but I think the precautionary principle is absolutely appropriate in this circumstance," he said.

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ISLANDS TRUST MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

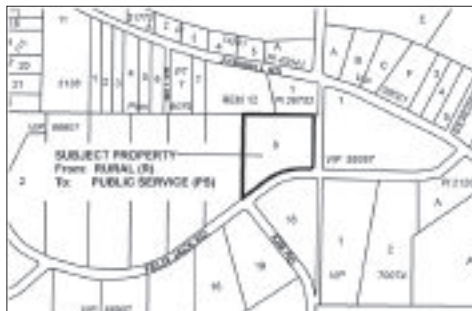
- Proposed Bylaw No. 161 – cited as “Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144, 2007, Amendment No. 1, 2014”
- Proposed Bylaw No. 162 – cited as “Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146, 2008, Amendment No.1, 2014”

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaws at **1:00 p.m., April 27, 2015, at the Mayne Island Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island, BC.**

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

- **Proposed Bylaw No. 161** – cited as “Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144, 2007, Amendment No. 1, 2014”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 161, is to amend Mayne Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 144 by making various technical amendments, including updating the background section of the OCP, correcting cross-references, correcting typographical errors, updating references to Ministries and agencies, making changes to reflect updated legislation, and by re-designating Lot 8, Plan VIP66907 from Rural to Public Service to be consistent with zoning and current use, as show in the following plan:



- **Proposed Bylaw No. 162** – cited as “Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146, 2008, Amendment No.1, 2014”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 162, is to amend Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw No. 146 by making various technical amendments, including correcting definitions, inserting additional definitions, updating administrative provisions, correcting cross-references, correcting typographical errors, updating references to Ministries and agencies, making changes to reflect updated legislation, inserting a maximum accessory building height in the S1, S2 and S3 zones, and by including “Waste Transfer Facility” as a permitted use in the Industrial One zone.

A copy of the proposed bylaws and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaws may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing April 15, 2015, and up to and including April 24, 2015.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the Local Government Act, additional copies of the proposed bylaws may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Mayne Island, B.C., commencing **April 15, 2015.** The proposed bylaws can also be viewed on the internet at the following URL: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/mayne/bylaws

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. The office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, by Fax (250) 405-5155 prior to **4:30 p.m. April 24, 2015**
2. By email to: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca
3. After **4:30 p.m., April 24, 2015**, to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at **1:00 pm, April 27, 2015.**

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

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

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

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

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario, Deputy Secretary

Several board motions passed



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

The new Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District board of trustees poses for a photo after the district's AGM on Monday night. From left in back row are Mike Garside, Norbert Schlenker, Mitch Forest and Derek Hill, while from left in front are Michele Severn, Linda Lee and Michael Schubart. Schlenker, Forest and Hill were elected on April 18, while Lee was acclaimed to fill a seat vacated by Ron Chamney. Lee was chosen new board chair.

FIRE BOARD

continued from 1

Trustees approved Schlenker's proposals to create email addresses for each trustee under the saltspringfire.com domain; to give trustees business cards and name tags for doing board business and name plates to identify them at meetings; to open all committee meetings to the public; and to receive legal advice on current voting guidelines under the improvement district's letters patent.

Public comment during the evening's AGM prior to the meeting raised the point that people living in Brinkworthy Place were not sure whether they could vote or not. The mobile home park for seniors converted to bare-land strata in 2011, giving residents the opportunity to purchase their lots if they wished. Schlenker also noted contradictions between contents of the Election Act and Local Government Act and the fact that in improvement districts a person may vote more than once if he or she is a personal property owner and also acting as the authority for a corporation that owns land. Executors of estates may also vote on behalf of a property interest.

New committees were not established

Monday night. The board agreed to work out a fixed schedule so that adequate public notice could be given and so that corporate administrator Andrew Peat would have time to process minutes.

Schlenker withdrew a motion that would have the fire board voluntarily supply information about employee remuneration and contracts awarded, after noting the information for 2014 had in fact been supplied at the AGM as part of the financial documents. Peat pointed out the change had been recommended by the finance committee and was approved at the March board meeting.

Hill's motion asking Fire Chief Tom Bremner to look for ways to reduce spending was tabled to the next meeting to give the new trustees more time to understand the district's financial workings. Trustees approved a second motion from Hill asking Bremner to prioritize all the recommendations made in the FireWise portion of the Walker Resource Group's Fire Service Review report released in February.

The next board meeting will take place on Monday, May 11. The session has been scheduled one week earlier than usual because the Victoria Day holiday falls on the regular third Monday slot.

FIRE DISTRICT

Service level options outlined

Fire chief presents report at AGM

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Monday night's annual general meeting of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District offered the occasion for residents to learn more about their options for fire service, with a presentation by Fire Chief Tom Bremner in the spotlight alongside financial reports and election results.

Bremner delivered his report following a request from the board of trustees to outline fire service levels and associated costs so that a policy could be set, as recommended by FireWise Consulting in the recent Walker Resource Group Fire Service Review report. According to

the report, “There is no formal policy statement from SSIFPD determining the level of fire department training for the services provided.” Service levels and associated minimum training standards are outlined in the B.C. Structure Firefighter Competency and Training Playbook.

Bremner began by emphasizing that the provincial guideline does not deal with other services aside from actual firefighting.

“The playbook deals with structural fire suppression. All the other services we do, we will need a policy, in my opinion, to address those as a group for what we're doing,” he said.

The basic service levels outlined in the playbook are exterior firefighting only unless there is no immediate danger

to life and health atmosphere detected, interior access with restrictions, or full service. Bremner said that Salt Spring is training to National Fire Protection Association Standard 1001, which positions the department “to consider the designation level at full service.”

“Full is when you have the training of your firefighters, the proper equipment, the proper tools to work with, and officers that are trained to do the business as leaders, particularly when you're talking incident scene command, rapid intervention team structure and safety,” Bremner explained.

“And Salt Spring for the past 30 years has been training in conjunction with those kind of guidelines and the NFPA.”

ROAD SAFETY

No lines and sinkhole continue to plague island drivers

Ministry considering courses of action

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring drivers may have to wait until next summer to see lane delineation on local roads, according to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

That solution may not be the timely response required with visitors unused to Salt Spring roads about to descend on the island, and another full winter of dangerous conditions looming behind that.

"It's very irksome to feel confined at night," said south-end resident Wendy Hilliard. "If

there's a ferry dump and it's foggy, I'm really at risk."

Hilliard was part of a group of concerned Salt Spring residents who met with MoTI's new area manager Brad Boyden last month to discuss the issue. Richard Moses was another participant at the meeting, and wrote a letter to the Driftwood earlier this year suggesting it would be awful if it took a traffic fatality to get better markings.

"We obviously were concerned about the safety of people driving at night in various weather conditions, as many of us are getting older," Hilliard said, noting that diminishing night-vision is a natural consequence of aging.

After meeting with Boyden, the group was hopeful that reflective tape might be employed as an alternative option. The ministry has since

reported this will not happen, although it is exploring the case for guardrail-mounted and in-pavement reflectors. Staff are also "assessing the condition of pavement markings across Salt Spring Island in order to identify priorities for the upcoming year."

Hilliard said reflectors embedded in the road around the most treacherous corners would certainly be welcome.

"Anyone who's been to Hawaii is blown away by their great road markings," she said, pointing out those twisting island roads have embedded reflectors in multiple colours to indicate which side of the road drivers are on.

Another ongoing road issue with no immediate solution in sight is the Fulford-Ganges Road "sinkhole" on the southern edge of Gan-

ges. MoTI's island contractor Mainroad South Island has repaired the crack at least twice and completed drainage work in an attempt to solve the underlying issue, but the spring of water has appeared each winter for the past three years.

In response to a question from the Driftwood, the ministry stated that remedial works were performed on Ganges Hill last year to intercept excess water moving under the road, which is exacerbating the pavement deformity.

"This project has resulted in notably less water under the pavement, however it has not completely resolved the issue as intended. Ministry and Mainroad staff are working to identify any further contributing factors to the pavement deformity and will be developing a plan to mitigate the cause in the coming months."

ISLANDS TRUST

Proposed TUP sparks neighbourhood conversations

LTC wants second opinion

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee has asked its Advisory Planning Commission and the North Salt Spring Waterworks District to comment on a request for a temporary industrial use on an Upper Ganges Road residential lot.

Applicants Eric and Kim Beamish and Nicholas Williams say the prop-

erty at 248 Upper Ganges Rd. is the ideal spot to relocate their business and ensure they can continue to work and raise their families on the island. If approved, the TUP would enable the applicants, who own Mid-Isle Marine and Equipment (currently at 1429 Fulford-Ganges Rd.), to relocate to the site. The business currently provides boat and motor servicing and repairs, and sells Husqvarna products.

"It's property that we feel is suitable

for how we want the business to go forward," Eric Beamish told trustees. "The property has a long history of this kind of use and we feel that we are not going to change that use drastically in any way that's going to affect the neighbours."

"I want to express my desire to work with the neighbours, to be a part of the neighbourhood, because my wife and I live there."

Beamish said the decision to apply for the TUP rests partly on the site

being identified as a potential "industrial node" in a 2014 report published by the Industrial Advisory Planning Commission.

"We would like to be examples of how that can progress," he said.

Neighbour Sharon Taylor spoke against the proposal. She told trustees she believes the young entrepreneurs' growing business will further degrade the neighbourhood's already endangered residential feel.

"We know that we are going to be

influenced with the harmful effects of the whole situation," Taylor said during the town hall session of Thursday's meeting. "It's going to be an eyesore, it's going to mean depreciation, it's going to be groundwater problems, it's going to be dust, it's going to be noise, it's going to be pollution, it's air pollution and it's eye pollution."

Taylor's concerns were among three letters submitted to the LTC from neighbours expressing opposition to the plan.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

LTC grants Drake project first reading

Applicant feels optimistic on water shortage issue

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A plan to build up to 80 units of affordable housing near Ganges received first reading on Thursday afternoon despite worries about water supply in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

"I can't understate that first reading is simply first reading," said Peter Luckham, chair of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee, after the decision. "It's only an opportunity for discussion."

Applicant Janis Gauthier, who spoke to trustees on behalf of the Capital Regional District and Gulf Islands School District, said first reading is essential to preserve momentum for the project. She acknowledged the NSSWD's moratorium on new water hook-ups due to shortages in St. Mary Lake but expressed optimism that a solution will be found.

"I think this community will come up with a solution to the water; we have to," Gauthier said. "If [the water shortage] isn't addressed,

then the process can be stalled later down the road. Without at least first reading of the bylaw, it puts this whole project on hold."

Gauthier said the CRD and school district are keen to incorporate as many water-conservation measures as possible into the nonprofit development planned for 161 Drake Rd. These include rainwater-catchment technology, dry landscaping and water-efficient appliances. First reading, Gauthier said, gives proponents room to plan.

"I think this community will come up with a solution to the water; we have to."

JANIS GAUTHIER
Drake Road project rep

"Without some ability to explore those options, we'll never know," she told LTC members.

Trustee George Grams voiced reluctance about first reading due to NSSWD board members' continued

efforts to solve the water crisis.

"I think we have to look at the optics of advancing this in the face of a declared moratorium in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District," he said. "How are they going to perceive that?"

All trustees acknowledged the Islands Trust policy statement and Salt Spring's Official Community Plan explicitly prohibit any increase in density or intensity of land-use in areas with known water quantity problems.

"We have to recognize that the success or failure of this isn't predicated by the Local Trust Committee," Grams said. "It's predicated by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District."

Trustees will send a letter to NSSWD board members that outlines reasons behind their decision to give the housing project first reading.

"We are not trying to . . . subvert their authority, however, as the applicant has explained, there are measures that can be advanced in the hope that the water supply can be expedited, and the applicant is willing to take that risk," Grams said.

CRD director Wayne McIntyre and school board

vice chair Rob Pingle encouraged trustees to give the application first reading during the town hall session of Thursday's meeting.

"I see this as a marathon, and first reading is like a drink of water along the way," Pingle said.

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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

Road regrets

Anyone who dares to venture out on Salt Spring's roads after dark knows the dangers that lurk around every corner all too well.

Barely a week goes by without a Driftwood reader calling in or writing a letter about another stretch of deplorable and decaying island road. Yet nothing is done.

In a recent meeting between concerned island residents and staff from the province's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, beleaguered drivers had reason to celebrate the possible installation of reflective tape on stretches of road where lines are wearing thin or have completely disappeared.

It was a small step, an interim measure to offer some respite and a sign that someone was listening. To the great dismay of the meeting's participants —

THE ISSUE:
Deteriorating driving conditions

WE SAY:
Roadmap required

and drivers across the island — MoTI has since announced it doesn't plan to follow through with the upgrade. It will, however, explore reflector options and assess markings to "identify priorities for the upcoming year." As it stands, islanders may have to wait until next summer before any progress is made.

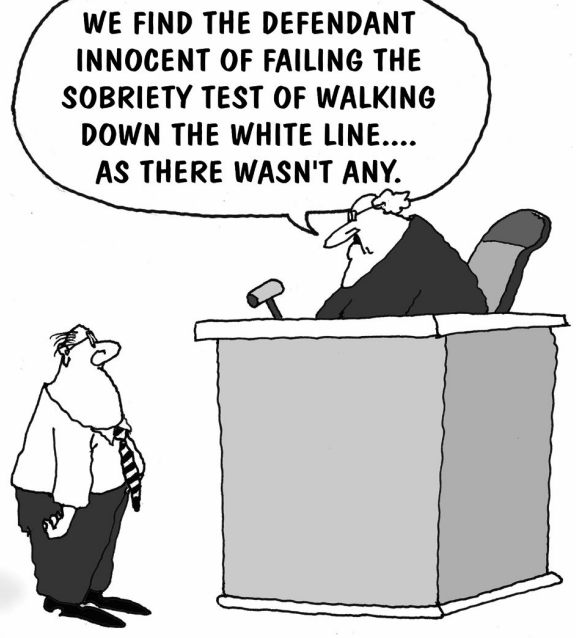
While island residents have local knowledge to tell us where drivers are prone to cut corners, which way the roads curve and where to pay special attention for cyclists, scooters and pedestrians, visitors to the island are often in the dark.

As various island commissions and community groups extend their marketing reach to attract more visitors to the Gulf Islands, it follows that Salt Spring should have the infrastructure to handle the anticipated crowds.

Adequate road lines foster a positive impression among visitors who travel to the island by foot, bike or car. Happy travellers make for happy travel stories, which translate into the possibility of others dropping by to see what all the excitement is about. On a more fundamental level, visible markings are essential for safe travel and to decrease the likelihood of collisions.

As Salt Spring prepares for another busy tourism season, it's imperative that residents, community groups and local government organizations do their part to apply the pressure needed to find the fix to make sure drivers aren't faced with a guessing game when getting from A to B.

ADDITIONAL LINE PAINTING ON SALT SPRING ROADS NOT SCHEDULED UNTIL 2016



Parker

VIEWPOINT by ROGER BRUNT

A tribute to travelling Dan Davies

Dan Davies passed away on March 18 while I was away travelling. As many of you know, I was Dan's cruise-mate on several ocean adventures — through the Panama Canal, through the South Seas to Australia, and from Japan along the Aleutian Islands to Alaska.

We had fun, and when I learned of his passing via e-mail aboard the Holland America ship Rotterdam just off Mumbai heading for Oman, I saw him everywhere aboard ship for the rest of the voyage in all of his favourite spots — the Show Room at Sea lounge, the Bridge Club Room (his favourite), the Lido, the Ocean Bar, the Crow's Nest, the dining rooms. Dan loved music, theatre and all things to do with the arts and good living.

What I remember most about Dan is that everything was always "marvellous."

We could be stuck in a raging blizzard in Hokkaido with no cabs to be found and a long, cold night ahead of us and Dan would say, "Look at all the snow. Isn't it marvellous?"

I'll tell you how we started travelling together. I had booked my first cruise through the Panama Canal. I knew Dan had cruised extensively, so I called him up to ask about what I should bring — a tux, Mexican money, malaria pills?

"Well, Roger," he said. "I'll need more information. Where are you sailing from?"

"Fort Lauderdale," I replied.

"What cruise line," he asked.

"Holland America," I said.

"What date?"

"In the fall."

"I'll be on that boat," he said, and that was that.

Funny things happened. To break the boredom on our long flight from Sydney, Australia to Los Angeles, I told our seat-mates that Dan was a famous artist. They were thrilled to meet him, until I went on

to say that it was Dan's job to draw the little cows on all the tiny milk containers that came with our cups of coffee.

Then there was the story I made up of how we were mugged coming back from the laundry room on Deck Four and had all our clothes stolen. "You should have seen us at the front desk in our bath towels trying to get new room keys," I told the rather stuffy evening seating at our dining room table for eight.

And the story we told about the huge sushi-bound octopus we rescued from a Japanese fish market. "We put it in the hot tub," we told everyone. "When the ladies got in the tub, they suddenly found they were being caressed by all eight legs at once. By morning, there was a line-up of ladies waiting to use the tub that stretched all the way to bridge!"

Oh Dan, I'm going to miss you.

Dan said the highlight of our trips together was when I pushed him around Ueno Zoo in Tokyo in a wheelchair. The zoo is vast, like Stanley Park, and Dan couldn't walk very far. So we arranged for a wheelchair and away we went.

"I want to see the panda bears," Dan said, and all was well until we passed the wall of the elephant barn where a large panda bear poster was displayed. "There they are, there they are," Dan yelled as we hurtled down an off-ramp from an overhead walkway.

But in the end we did get to see the pandas. Dan even got his picture taken with a giant panda teddy bear. I chose to get my picture taken with a pretty Japanese attendant. To Dan, that was marvellous, and that's how we travelled together, by holding each other loosely.

Wherever you are, Dan, I hope there are lots of panda bears there with you.

Roger Brunt is a writer and all-around Salt Spring character.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you satisfied with the federal budget? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should Elizabeth May be in the leaders' debate?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I see this as a marathon, and first reading is like a drink of water along the way."

ROB PINGLE, SD64 TRUSTEE, ON DRAKE RD. AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: How are you marking Earth Day on April 22?



OLIVIA SILVER
All the students at school will be wearing the Earth's colours.



BURKE STANCILL
We'll be enjoying a bike ride, but we always truly endeavour to nurture our relationship with the Earth; every day is Earth Day.



JAS CRANT
By not using a lot of electricity.



MIKE EATSON
We'll be out sailing around the Gulf Islands.



MARGARET MCCAFFREY
I'll be in my garden.

Letters to the editor

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

More options, please

While the incorporation study being proposed for Salt Spring will be an interesting exercise, I am disappointed that there is only one option being offered.

I would like to see a discussion that involves more creative approaches such as the formation of a Gulf Islands Regional District with the same geographical boundaries as the Islands Trust. By bringing the Islands Trust and a regional district together we could unite the two systems into a unique governance unit and bring well-paid jobs into the islands. As islanders we would all have similar restrictions and be dealing with common problems. We could have a more equal representation than we do at present and we could defuse a lot of frustration.

Remaining rural within a regional district means we would not have to take on additional responsibility for

roads and policing, the two biggest municipal costs. We could build an administration that met the needs of islanders rather than trying to fit the needs of islanders into a system designed for larger communities with shared boundaries.

Building an administration among the islands would enhance local economies and make it easier to deal with local governance issues. It would also avoid adding another level of bureaucracy to what we already have. While there would be challenges, I doubt it would be any more difficult than creating a new municipality.

Sadly, this Liberal government is not interested in creative solutions. They have a one-size-fits-all position. As a municipality within the Capital Regional District we will still have only one voice among 24 at the CRD board table and we will have an intermediate level of bureaucracy to pay for and to deal with.

CAROLE EYLES,
MORNINGSIDE ROAD

Remain engaged

I congratulate Norbert Schlenker, Derek Hill and Mitchell Forest on being elected and Linda Lee on being acclaimed new fire district trustees. You put on an effective and energetic campaign.

I look forward to your improving board transparency and putting in place an effective public participation program for a new fire hall. I will certainly support you in these endeavours which we all agreed were needed. I wish you all the best.

A sincere thank you is given to all the people who helped with my campaign for fire district trustee. I very much appreciate your support. It was inspiring that so many of you went out of your way to talk to your friends, neighbours and relatives about the election or help in other ways.

The campaign gave many of us a reminder, or a new

appreciation, for the vital services provided to our vulnerable community by our fire/rescue department. I urge you to remain engaged to make sure that we support and maintain the important firefighting, fire prevention, emergency and rescue services provided by our firefighters.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
SALT SPRING

ISG goal achieved

The B.C. government has provided the funds for the people of Salt Spring Island to have the second phase of an incorporation study to explore and get the facts about becoming a municipality.

The first phase proved there was a desire to move forward to this second phase. The Islands Trust was provided with funds to hire consultants to explore the financial implications of Salt Spring Island becoming a municipality. That study has been

completed and released to the public and clearly shows that Salt Spring becoming an island municipality would not cause the Trust to cease to exist. It also states that Salt Spring would continue to provide funds to the Trust and Salt Spring would still have two trustees who would also sit as council members of the new municipality.

Islanders for Self Government's sole goal was to obtain an incorporation study, and as we have reached our goal the organization has been dissolved.

We sincerely thank our elected officials for their commitment to following through on their promises to support the study. And of course we want to thank the hundreds of folks who supported the cause so far and hope they will continue to participate in the process as it moves forward, with open discussion among all islanders, based on fact, without fear mongering and with the knowledge that no matter which model of governance the island chooses,

Salt Spring will remain within the Islands Trust and abide by its "preserve and protect" mandate.

CLIFF JONES,
ON BEHALF OF ISLANDERS FOR SELF GOVERNMENT

Astounded

I have been away, so you can imagine my amazement when I saw the newly relocated metal recycling yard being set up in the heart of a busy, residential neighbourhood at the top of "Run-off Hill" on the way into Ganges.

I had to shake my head as I turned onto Rainbow Road and drove past the mechanics yard, lumber yard, recycle depot, cement plant, several garages and an industrial strip mall to where the metal recycling site used to be — an industrial waste-land fit for little else.

I am continually astounded.

ROGER BRUNT,
BRINKWORTHY

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Conquer the 'ick factor' and feed the world

I believe I've come up with the all-in-one cure for world hunger, environmental devastation, animal cruelty and jock itch.

Okay, I'm not sure about jock itch — but it'll fix everything else.

It's bugs. We need to eat more of them.

When I say bugs, I mean crickets, meal worms, ants, grasshoppers, termites, wasps, locusts, wood-boring beetles and . . . well, most bugs actually. They're packed with protein and they're everywhere. They not only grow on trees, they grow *in* trees. Plus they don't have those Bambi blinkers that make eating meat such a guilt trip. Nobody ever looked into the compound eye of a cicada and thought, "Aw . . . cute little guy."

You're probably already eating more bugs than you knew. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the U.S. Federal Drug Administration have actually established permissible levels of bug

parts in the produce we buy. That's right — you are already gobbling down thrips, mites and lice (or parts thereof) pretty much every day.

See? Didn't hurt a bit. Do you like canned mushrooms? Lucky you! The FDA has approved up to 20 maggots per 100 grams of drained mushrooms at no extra charge.

Now don't go all swoony on me here — there's nothing wrong with chowing down on bugs. They are a chosen dietary staple for two billion humans around the globe. Bugs are snack food in parts of Asia, Africa and Mexico. I once had a chance to buy a newspaper cone full of candied scorpions from a street vendor in Hanoi. (I'd have gone for it but I was on a diet.)

As far as efficiency goes, bugs are a real



Arthur Black

WIT & WHIMSY

no-brainer. With cattle, it takes 13 pounds of grain to produce one pound of meat. Fish on fish farms consume five pounds of wild fish in order to produce one pound of farm fish. You don't have to be Einstein to do the math.

Fertilizer and pesticide used to raise bugs? Nada. Greenhouse gas emissions? A joke. And think of the land-use savings. No need for greenhouses, stockyards, silos or vast swathes of pasture land. With insects you could raise several million head on a "ranch" no bigger than your apartment balcony.

Scientists say when it comes to converting feed to meat that crickets are twice as efficient as chickens — and 12 times as efficient as cattle. David Pimentel, a professor at Cornell University, says if all the grain currently fed to U.S.

livestock was fed to people instead, 800 million humans would have full bellies.

So why don't we do it? The "ick" factor, of course. Somehow we decided that frogs' legs, pork trotters and "sweet-breads" (thymus and pancreas glands) are acceptable but insects are a no-no.

Funny thing, taste. Reminds me of the story of the American tourist in a Paris restaurant perusing the menu. "What's this 'soupe aux nids d'hirondelles'?" he asks the waiter.

"Birds' Nest soup, monsieur," says the waiter.

"Izzat like twigs and feathers and crap?"

"Non, monsieur. It is made from the saliva of swallows."

The American is appalled. "What? You expect me to eat somethin' that came out of a bird's mouth? Screw that, buddy. Just bring me a couple of hard-boiled eggs."

Blossom Festival



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

CELEBRATING SPRING: Clockwise from top left, singers share the spirit during Saturday's Blossom Festival at Peace Park; Rose Murakami recounts stories of Salt Spring's Japanese-Canadian heritage; a freshly made bowl of chirashi sushi; and Ruwadzano marimba players prepare to take the stage.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Plant has medicinal uses

Thank you for your March 25 edition of Aqua magazine and the article celebrating the glorious skunk cabbage.

In this article, Hans Tamme-magi mentions "swamp lanterns are not used in any practical way today."

I'd love to share a different experience of this. When safely processed, *Lysichiton americanus* (or skunk cabbage) root is fantastic medicine.

At my bustling not-for-profit holistic health clinic in East Vancouver, we dispense swamp lantern frequently. I have used this plant with success in a multitude of conditions, including bronchitis and whooping cough, the spasms of MS, to lower the intensity of tics in Tourette's syndrome and for menstrual cramps.

Indeed, each year at the Wild Seed School of Herbal Studies here on Salt Spring, my students make an extract of *Lysichiton* and learn its uses as part of their program. It is the local antispasmodic in their home-made apothecary. They love it. I warn them that this may be the muddiest harvesting they will ever do!

If people who aren't enrolled in

MORE LETTERS

herb school want to learn about the uses of swamp lantern, they can read about it in *Medicinal Plants of the Pacific West* by one of my teachers, Michael Moore.

JASMYN CLIFT,
CLINICAL HERBALIST,
SALT SPRING

Reduce town speed limit

Formerly car-centric Toronto is rapidly seeing the light. With a new mayor in office, anything seems possible.

Two months ago, Canada's largest city moved in favour of significant investment in active transportation (bike lanes). Now the city is moving to reduce speed limits to 30kph to make life safer for pedestrians. Bravo. Better late than never.

Why should it be any different in downtown Ganges? Our main street should be a maximum 30kph speed zone. No one can drive through town safely at the current speed limit of 50kph.

Salt Spring Island should be in the vanguard of looking for ways to make our main village pedestrian-friendly. It is a case of acting in our own economic self-interest to make Ganges more comfortable and enhance quality

of life for pedestrians, Saturday Market shoppers and tourists.

John Tylee, the former chair of the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission, said it best: "Creating pedestrian-friendly environments is at the core of every truly successful community."

We need to broach this subject with our friends at the Ministry of Transportation when the moment is right.

DONALD MCLENNAN,
SALT SPRING

Dangerous times

May I strongly recommend voters in Saanich and the Gulf Islands give the most careful attention to the words of our MP Elizabeth May, published on the front page of her Spring 2015 Newsletter, under "Alternatives to combat terrorism."

After reading her suggestions to resolve conflict and protect local culture on the same day that we heard King Abdullah of Jordan speaking of the mass murder of Muslims by Daesh and saw video of the destruction of ancient Nimrud by ISIL, I am compelled to ask: "Is an MP holding these views one who we should have in Ottawa in these dangerous times?"

RALPH SMITH,
VICTORIA

MORE LETTERS continued on 9



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@cvrld.bc.ca.

Project Contact:

Email: cslwmp@cvrld.bc.ca

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



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

FIRED UP: Students celebrate the opening of a new kiln shed at Salt Spring Elementary School. The project's completion follows two years of planning and support from the Salt Spring Island Foundation, School District 64, Lions Club, Salt Spring Legion, Salt Spring Potters' Guild, Salt Spring Elementary PAC and Hazenboom Construction.

RANTS *and* Roses

Roses

Chocolate-covered roses to Bruno and Georgina for driving me from the Swartz Bay ferry terminal to Lady Minto Hospital. I'm so grateful we have wonderful people living on Salt Spring Island. This was above and beyond. Ann van Oeveren

Helping handfuls of magenta and sky-blue roses to those who attended the launch of the Volunteer and Community Resources Salt Spring Society, held at the library on April 17. The founders of the society were honoured, the funding organizations were thanked and there was a celebration of all volunteers during this National Volunteer Week. Our community benefits from many "helping hands." If you are looking for an opportunity to volunteer, please visit vcrsaltspring.org.

Home run roses to Country Grocer! They provided great burgers, hot dogs and drinks for the Salt Spring Pee Wee boys baseball team and our opponents, the Cowichan Lake Pee Wees, during our double header on Sunday. It was a great kick-off to our season's fundraising. Thank you for your continued support of our local teams. Every bite is appreciated!

A big heap of roses and love to all those who donated their creativity, passion and energy to bring us the Herford Avenue Plenty Project gardens over the weekend. Your inspiration brought us a weekend of fun, music, entertainment and a stellar product of how people working together can make a positive difference within our community, especially in the face of those who only complain about change. I admire you all! Jeremy Milsom

Beastly night of poetry

Phyllis Webb spat blood. Brian Brett hissed at the sunset. Sandwiched between these two poetic powerhouses Lorraine Gane and Diana Hayes grounded 60-plus audience members by unearthing selections from Webb's vast new collection, Peacock Blue.

The April 15 reading was hosted by the Salt Spring Public Library and sponsored by the Association of Book Publishers of B.C. It was an evening of places and beasts. We watched as Brett's ashes scattered then sank to the seafloor at Rebecca's Spit, his "toxins and dioxins" building cities for his beloved from lumbering cedar. The centre-piece of his performance was a libretto to Yukon watersheds.

Brett takes us to a place "where stones are born," where uranium conspicuously lazes amongst its cousins, and where He — a puny-handed shadow in a grizzly's print — tracks Himself into a chain of previous inattentions: of fox to mink, moose to fox, wolf to moose. Oh woeful moose!

It is a simple truth that Phyllis Webb's physicality is waning. Yet

as she rounded the lectern and aimed herself in our direction, out came a basso profundo of crimson vitality: "I am wearing absent-minded red/slippers and a red vest -/spots of blood. . . ."

We sit with Webb in front of her radio, listening to Dracula recount disappointment. We regard Webb's proximity to "14,000 rats and the citizens of Delft,/for the women of the world and their menses" and watch in awe as our soul of the universe stands "Breathing poppies. Thinking."

The strength of her voice lifts us out of our chairs and onto a beach. Webb, who for many years held "deep-south" Salt Spring status, is intimately familiar with the eccentric and predictable comings and goings of this little community. They share the stage with her.

"Four swans in Fulford Harbour. . . ." In a miracle of movement her words locate a creative, resilient space between wind and wing that resists being named as either. "Uprush of inspiration brush past the broken shell of my ear." Indeed.

JOHN ROWLANDSON,
FULFORD

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Valuable volunteers appreciated by SPCA

Bushels of roses and high tails to the volunteers at our little gem of a shelter on Lower Ganges Road who help on average 150 kittens and cats a year, including providing shelter, care and adoption, fostering for special needs and for dogs, too, humane education in our elementary schools, and fundraising to support our non-profit operations.

Each summer, over 50 volunteers provide one-on-one dog sitting and enrichment at the Saturday Market BCSPCA Doggie Daycare, and this leads to win-win-win situations for our community. Dogs are not left in hot cars, and vendors benefit from happy customers.

With one full-time manager and two part-time staff, our branch simply could not operate without the time and energy commitment of people who care about the plight of animals on Salt Spring. This year we are aiming to surpass 5,000 hours volunteered.

What a difference it makes knowing that our shelter has the support of such kind and giving souls. Animals are pampered and cared for in ways most shelters cannot achieve and, best of all, we get our animals adopted sooner than ever before.

In 2011, for instance, the average length of stay for a cat in care was 150 days. Now, cats are adopted in under 40 days and we never euthanize healthy, adoptable animals.

Community members and businesses can show their appreciation for the hard work and dedication to our volunteers by replying to this post with your kudos, high-fives and praise and we will print these out and post

them in our branch for our volunteers.

If anyone wishes to offer discounts or special deals for our volunteers at their business, contact me directly at 250-538-7618.

Thank you to our volunteers and thank you Salt Spring.

We love you and appreciate all the kindness shown to animals every day.

SEAN HOGAN,
BRANCH MANAGER,
SALT SPRING BCSPCA

Apology

I am a young person in the community and I would like to apologize for stealing something that did not belong to me.

I did not earn it and I now have realized my mistake and the harm I've done to myself and my community.

I am genuinely sorry.

NAME WITHHELD

Editor's note: The above letter is submitted by a youth through the Salt Spring Restorative Justice Program.



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

Attention New Salt Springers!

Don't miss your opportunity for a great welcome visit. Call Jennifer today for your greeting, gifts & useful info. 250-653-9222



arts&entertainment



LIVE THEATRE

James and the Giant Peach rolls onto ArtSpring stage

Stagecoach classes present finale

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Everyone in the community is invited to StageCoach's fun-filled season-ending show this weekend to see what the theatre school students have been working towards since September.

With ArtSpring show dates on Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25 at 7 p.m. plus a Sunday matinee on April 26 at 2 p.m., there are plenty of options to enjoy the fun. StageCoach improv and intermediate students will open the show with a demonstration of their skills. The first half of the program will also include a short student screening from StageCoach's new digital artistry class, as well as a montage edited by the group covering class material.

After an intermission, the audience will see what happens



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

From left, StageCoach students Chloe Haigh, Ezra Daws-Knowles and Emma Thomas in costume for their James and the Giant Peach production, with three shows scheduled at ArtSpring this weekend.

when a young boy escapes his two vicious aunts by way of a magical peach with help from a number of new insect friends in a play based on the children's book James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl. Artistic director

Adina Hildebrandt adapted the play version, which was originally written for six characters, to include the entire On Stage class of 15.

"So there are some new characters that people haven't met

yet," she said.

While the feature production is always the showcase for StageCoach's most senior students (the program is open to students up to the end of middle school), this time around is unusual for the number of fresh faces, all of whom have taken up the commitment with great zest.

StageCoach has itself transformed over the past year, with the departure of longtime teacher, producer and administrator Maggie O'Scalleigh. Cindy Jacobsen has stepped in as a producer, and in addition to teaching the digital artistry class, she has created her own original animation to supplement the play. Jen MacLellan is the new administrator.

"We've all had to pick up our game since Maggie left," Hildebrandt observed.

Original music will also be part of the show, thanks to band leader Karen Arney. Hildebrandt noted the play was not designed to be a musical, and

when the theatre school failed to obtain other music rights, Arney stepped in to provide the necessary compositions.

"We're just so unbelievably lucky to be able to work with a live band," Hildebrandt said. "It's just crazy these kids get to work with professionals."

The show features fabulous costumes created by Michele MacKenzie and production design by Hildebrandt that includes moving set pieces. With all the elements in place to create a wonderful fantasy world, audiences should be prepared to laugh and have a good time.

"I think what's so great about this particular show is there's just so much humour," Hildebrandt said. "You've never seen James' two aunts as funny as these kids do it."

A silent auction will be in progress in the ArtSpring lobby throughout the weekend. Sponsorship for the program is provided by Country Grocer and the Lions Club.

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Salt Spring Singers
Salt Spring FEVER

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ACCOMPANIST: DAVID STORM

SPECIAL GUESTS:
STEVE MADDOCK AND
LAURENT BOUCHER

SAT MAY 2, 2015 AT 7:30 PM
SUN MAY 3, 2015 AT 2:00 PM
ARTSPRING

Tickets: Adult \$18
Senior \$16 Students/Children \$8
ArtSpring Box Office 537-2102

EXHIBITIONS

Photomontage captures India's energy

Elehna de Sousa at Fernwood Road Café

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With over one billion inhabitants sharing the Indian subcontinent, key words for the region invariably include "hot, crowded and colourful" — especially when it comes to the cities.

Elehna de Sousa, a longtime Salt Spring resident who was born in India but never lived there, captures all those keywords and more in a new series of work called Goa, India: Street Portraits & Vignettes.

In 2014, de Sousa made her first visit back to her ancestral home in 25 years. The exhibition at the Fernwood Road Café, which opened on April 13 and runs to May 14, is her answer on how to capture everything she felt and saw there within the photographic medium, settling on photomontage as the best method.

"I had all these images when I came home, and I wanted to recreate the experience of being in India visually," de Sousa explained.

The photomontages are mounted on Baltic birch, a more environmentally-friendly method and also less slick-looking than aluminum mounting. There is a resulting immediacy to the images that truly suits the subject material, which is



A Day in the Life, Goa, India is one of Elehna de Sousa's photomontage panels currently on display at Fernwood Road Café.

mainly Goa's people.

De Sousa noted that her family came from the high Brahmin class and her grandfathers were doctors. They would no doubt be surprised to see how she has incorporated the crumbling exterior walls of their two ancient homes as the background for portraits of people they would not have associated with. Street Kids is an assemblage that focuses on those who were formerly known as untouchables. The term has since become illegal to use in India, but the social stigma is just as firmly entrenched as ever.

De Sousa captures some of their plight and their underlying humanity in her unflinching but sensitive portrait of young girls she found making bracelets to sell.

"The juxtaposition of the migrant family, doing their best to eke out a living, together with

the visible disintegration of a dwelling that once served as a stable family home, speaks to me of the transient nature of our existence in this world, and the fundamental truth that change is the only constant," she said.

Though unused to having their photos taken, de Sousa found people were quite willing to do so. Because they weren't posing, the subjects stare deeply into the camera lens, willing a similar honesty from the viewer. Almost all the montages feature subjects engaged with the camera in this way, although they may be seen against chaotic assembled backgrounds like the street-scapes in On the Move and A Day in the Life, Goa, India.

Many of the montages reveal the contradictions that are embedded within Indian life, such as the wealth of spices and fresh produce at a market

located next to people suffering deepest poverty. The market stall in All is Good underlines this as well, with traditional embroidered textiles and saris sold alongside an orange tank-top with hot lips graphic. One of the young boys in the photo wears a sports jersey with Samsung's name splashed across it.

All of the montages were made according to de Sousa's vision and direction, although she contracted out the technical work. Don Romanchuk, who has 20 years of digital/media experience and used to teach at the Alberta College of Art and Design, did the majority of the work before buying the Laughing Daughters Bakery. David Borrowman took over for the last little stretch.

Fernwood Road Café is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., (except Wednesdays) and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

Gallery anniversary inspires works



Janet Cameron's painting *Mixed Nuts* takes up Gallery 8's anniversary theme.

Symbolically 8 runs through May 10

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gallery 8's sixth anniversary has its full roster of artists celebrating, with new works on exhibit both referencing the "eight" theme and showcasing some fresh new directions.

Longtime gallery stalwart Dennise Stambuck never disappoints, and her piece *After 8* is no exception. This stylish abstract acrylic on paper suggests reverse silhouettes against a dark background with emphasis on the negative space, the blocks of solid tone broken up by a ripple of bright red pebbles cascading down the centre. Taken together with the title, the scene and the graphic elements suggest a busy evening party, just right for the celebratory theme.

Janet Cameron's series of four paintings in modelling paste and acrylic are worked out in shades of grey, with

lovely shadows and emphasis produced in the contrasts between light and dark. The eight theme comes out playfully in *Fleece of 8's*, one of Cameron's popular sheep figures with tiny numerals forming strands of wool. The still life study *Mixed Nuts* (which contains eight pieces in the bowl), features especially marked contrasts, while the paste's texture makes a table-top surface intriguing.

West Coast favourite Carol Evans can be relied on to produce an amazingly layered painting no matter what the theme, with her trademark watercolours somehow depicting water's depth, surface reflections and movement all at once. *Eight Ravens* at Agate Beach balances the translucent jade green of a wave about to crest in the mid-background against the bright ribbon of a shallow stream cutting across the sand in the mid-foreground. It's fun to see Evans work the theme in with beautifully rendered birds, especially those in flight just off the sand.

Bob Leatherbarrow addresses the eight theme in a playful yet delicate manner in his kiln-fired glasswork, with a set of seven sharp-nosed fish set into a wide vessel of serene powder blue, plus one more in the inset dish. The work is further lightened by its title: *Eight in the Bed and the Little One Said . . .*

Internationally collected artist Deon Venter can now be found at Gallery 8. His contribution to the show is an airy harbour study, where loose brushstrokes on linen suggest free movement of air and water. The study conveys the energy of the scene rather than its particulars, with light swirls of red, yellow and blue mapping key areas.

Gilleen Proctor is another heavy-hitter who is newly found at the gallery. His photo of a crab float is shot close-up and cropped to focus on the patterns of colour in scratched paint and line in engraved numerals. These appear on the side and upside down to the viewer, but it's easy to spot the eights that make up part of the serial numerals.

Florence Roberge has contributed a slightly intimidating but humorous study in head and shoulders portraits of a rooster named Karma. Several views make use of graphite on canvas, while one is filled in with oil paint for a full-colour effect. The ornery-looking character appears ready to take on any comers in a bar-room brawl — especially in the magnified view demanded by Roberge's customary large canvas size.

Peggy Bagshaw's pastel painting series on rowboats is themed in size by eight-inch canvases. The paintings themselves suggest twilight's calm, with tones of deeper blue, teal and emerald contrasting with ruddy brown

wood. The series is a progressively closer look at one scene, with the central boat dominating the canvas in the second view and only part of the boat visible in the third. This treatment allows for different use of colour and how it builds up to create the overall image.

Space does not allow for descriptions of more pieces in the show, but it continues daily through May 10 at the Grace Point gallery. Private viewings are also available upon request.



A painting from Florence Roberge's *Karma* series.

ArtSpring presents

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Patricia Cano

Tuesday, April 28 – 7:30pm
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ArtSpring presents

Renowned early-music vocalists return to ArtSpring

VocaMe

Monday, April 27, 2015
Vocal/choral workshop – 2:30–4:30pm
\$20 Workshop Fee; \$40 Workshop & Concert
Concert – 7:30pm
\$25 Adults; \$20 with choral workshop; \$5 Youth
Proudly supported by Joan Farlinger and Mout's Clothing Co.

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VOCAL MUSIC

Voices sail around the world

Two special concerts at ArtSpring this week

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

ArtSpring presents two incredibly unique vocal performances this week.

On Monday, April 27, listeners can go far back in time to experience the brilliant medieval female vocal quartet VocaMe, with music of Hildegard von Bingen.

"Hildegard was a career woman who lived between 1048 and 1179," explains a press release. "As a writer, composer, philosopher, mystic, Benedictine abbess and polymath, she was the sort of person one might like to have a long conversation with. Her literary compositions include theological, botanical and medicinal texts. Interestingly, some scholars assert that Hildegard made a close association

between her music, the female body and the anatomy of female desire."

Then on Tuesday, April 28, the audience will travel to the warm and passionate Latin countries on the voice of Patricia Cano with her band: Carlos Bernardo on guitar and bouzouki, Francisco Luviano on bass and Luis Orbegoso on cajon, percussion and vocals.

Through Brazilian jazz blended with traditional sounds, this Sudbury native who began her career as a dancer and actor embraces this music and makes it her own. In 2008, Cano spent six months in Rio de Janeiro, befriending exceptional musicians of the Carioca jazz scene, as well as beginning to write music of her own.

Monday's VocaMe concert begins at 7:30 p.m., with a vocal workshop running at 2:30 p.m.

The Cano concert also starts at 7:30 p.m.

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what's on this week

Wed. Apr 22 **Thur. Apr 23** **Fri. Apr 24** **Sat. Apr 25** **Sun. Apr 26** **Mon. Apr 27** **Wed. Apr 29**

ACTIVITIES

Earth Day in Centennial Park. Yoga in the gazebo from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. plus other health and wellness practitioners offer mini treatments under the Our Body Our Earth banner (7 a.m.-6 p.m.) Vendors, speakers, music and dance from 3 to 5 p.m. Conversations with the Wrong Listeners interactive performance begins at 5:30 p.m.

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

Salt Spring Seniors Services Society AGM. Annual general meeting at SS Seniors Centre. 2 p.m.

Blue Gold: World Water Wars. Earth Day film screening, based on the groundbreaking book by Maude Barlow and Tony Clarke and narrated by Malcolm McDowell. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 6 to 8 p.m.

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

Salt Spring Garden Club Meeting. Guest speaker is professional horticulturalist Jeff de Jong with a talk called Elements of Design. Meaden Hall. 7 p.m.

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

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with Ross and Dave. Local musicians on stage. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Library Book Club. This month's pick is Half Blood Blues by Esi Edugyan. Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

Tech Tutoring With Lisa Pearce. Windows and tablets. No Macs. Salt Spring Public Library. 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Transition Salt Spring Film Series: The Future of Energy. An inspiring solution-oriented film about how American youth and visionary elders are remaking the energy picture in the great turning. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

Fri. Apr 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Costners. Live music, plus free appies made by Dagwoods. The Local Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

StageCoach Theatre presents James and the Giant Peach. End-of-year production with improv and intermediate students entertaining during the first half, followed by feature presentation. ArtSpring. 7 p.m. Silent auction in the lobby.

Pinkertons Dance Party. Live band performs music of the '60s, '70s and '80s. Clubhouse Bar and Grill. 8 p.m.

Ange Hehr. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

StoryTime. For children 3 to 6 years of age. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

The Radicle Seed Library. Last session of the season. Salt Spring Public Library, Room 103. Noon to 2 p.m.

Friday WineDown TGIF at Salt Spring Vineyards. Wind down the week with wine and music. Salt Spring Vineyards. 4 to 6 p.m.

A Symphony of Colour Opening Reception. For Ilse Leader art show at Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.

Games Night. An evening of board games and other interactive games, facilitated by Bryan Dubien. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 5 to 9 p.m.

Your Treasure Map for Great Relationships. Weekend-long workshop led by Eric Bowers starts this evening. Info/register: eric@roadtocompassion.com

Sat. Apr 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

StageCoach Theatre presents James and the Giant Peach. See Friday's listing. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

Latin Jazz at the Legion. With Cuban pianist & composer Pablo Cardenas, Peter Dowse on bass, Jose Sanchez and special guest Miguelito Valdes featuring most popular Cuban jazz standards. Doors open at the Legion at 7:30 p.m. and the band starts at 8.

Soul Shakedown. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market. Famous market event with all items made, baked or grown by Salt Spring residents. Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Kids Don't Float Program Launch. Event to mark new PFD loaning station takes place at Centennial Dock at 11 a.m.

Work On Your Own Terms with Janine Moore. Workshop creates a spiritual journey for boomer women who seek meaningful work. Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 4 p.m.

Garden Club Spring Plant Sale. The Salt Spring Island Garden Club offers a huge selection of local plants at amazingly low prices. Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. 1 to 3 p.m.

Ingelise Nherlan Yoga Workshop. Taught by one of Canada's most senior Iyengar yoga teachers. Ganges Yoga Studio. 1 to 4 p.m.

Tech Tutoring With John. Saturdays at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. (Note new day!) Salt Spring Public Library.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

StageCoach Theatre presents James and the Giant Peach. See Friday's listing, except the time is at 2 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Unitarian Fellowship. Topic is Palestine and Israel: A Non-Violent Path to Peace? by the Social Justice Committee with Mary Toynebe. Salt Spring Seniors Services Society. 10:30 a.m.

Faces of Salt Spring Opening Party. Reception for Tamar Griggs' photo show documenting 20 years of island life. With special guest Valdy, who with his wife Kathleen has written a special song for the occasion. ArtSpring Gallery. 6 to 8 p.m.

Mon. Apr 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

VocaMe in Concert. VocaMe, an early-music ensemble made up of four renowned female vocalists known for their breathtaking singing, returns to the island with the music of Hildegard von Bingen. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Voice Workshop with VocaMe's Sigrid Hausen. Singers of all ranges and abilities are invited to join VocaMe's mezzo soprano Sigrid Hausen for a voice workshop in the ArtSpring theatre. 2:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Transportation Commission. Public welcome to observe regular monthly business meeting. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

International Dance Day Show. Kristen Lewis & the Children's Dance Workshop present The Dance is in All of Us. ArtSpring. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Tues. Apr 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Patricia Cano Concert. Born in Sudbury of Peruvian parents, Patricia Cano is an extraordinary singer imbued with the spirit of South America, especially in Brazilian and jazz genres. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

North Salt Spring Waterworks District AGM. Annual general meeting of waterworks district. Community Gospel Chapel. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

South Salt Spring Seniors Monthly Meeting. Events include a visit from OAPO regional director Shirley Lowe and a presentation from Dr. Brian Finmore on Dying with Dignity. Fulford Hall annex. 2 p.m.

Salt Spring Golf and Country Club AGM. Annual general meeting upstairs at the clubhouse. 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night Poker. See last Wednesday's listing.

SongJam. See last Wednesday's listing.

getnoticed board

Send your submissions to news@gulfislands.net or drop them off at the Driftwood office.

Published in the first Driftwood of each month!

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Faces of Salt Spring

Photography Exhibition by Tamar Griggs

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Opening reception on Sunday, April 26th, 6 to 8pm

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EXHIBITIONS

• **Ilse Leader** presents A Symphony of Colour, felted collages and wall hangings at **Salt Spring Gallery** from April 24 through May 14, with an opening reception on Friday, April 24 from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **Faces of Salt Spring**, a photo show and much more, presented by **Tamar Griggs**, opens at **ArtSpring** on Sunday, April 26 with an event from 6 to 8 p.m. The show runs daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for April 29, until May 5.

• **Symbolically 8**, an exhibition of all gallery artists, marks the sixth anniversary of **Gallery 8** in Grace Point Square. Open daily through May 10. (See review on page 11.)

- **Fabric of Friendship** exhibit of pieces by the Stitch Dimension Quilt Guild runs at ArtSpring daily until April 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Imprints 2015**, an exhibition of woodcuts, etchings, linocuts and monoprints by **Arnold Shives, Jan Smith, Richard Tetrault** and **Richard York**, runs at **Duthie Gallery** until April 30. Gallery hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Elehna de Sousa** shows photos in a series called Goa, India: Street Portraits and Vignettes at **Fernwood Road Cafe**. The cafe is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except closed Wednesdays, and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (See review on page 10.)
- **Steffich Fine Art** celebrates its 23rd birthday with an exhibition of new paintings by **Melanie Williamson**.
- **David Baughan** shows work in the lobby of **ArtSpring**.
- **The Salt Spring Library Program Room** exhibit for April is Interpretations II, work by the **League 181** artists.
- **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**.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/events/
view our online comprehensive interactive calendar of events listings

CONTEST

Stone Soup Singers win Lieutenant Governor's prize

Trophy to be presented by Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon on Salt Spring

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Stone Soup Singers are the winners of Sing Me a Song 2015, a contest sponsored by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

The casual community group received one of two prizes available in the open age category for their original composition This is Canada, which was written by Joi Freed-Garrod, Vera Algoet and Susan Worrall and recorded by a larger group of islanders.

"All of the Stone Soup Singers are thrilled and excited that our song This is Canada was one of the winners. We look forward to meeting the Lieutenant Governor and performing for her. We hope to perform This is Canada on Canada Day," the group said.

Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon will visit each winning group to present the trophy and the \$1,000 prize, which is to be put toward their music program or wor-

thy causes in their community. Word is she will be on Salt Spring sometime in June.

The Gabriola Island Singers received the other open age prize, while the Robertson Rockers of Robertson Elementary School in Chilliwack earned the award in the Under 18 category.

Entries were scored on musicality, spirit and originality by a panel of musicians including Lieutenant Matthew Clark, Commanding Officer of the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy; Maureen Archambault, musical director of Youth Choir 61, the Honour Choir of the Greater Victoria School District; and Heather Pawsey, opera singer and artistic director of Astrolabe Musik Theatre.

All submissions had to have a minimum of eight voices, be original content and inspired by the Canada 150 theme in the lead-up to 2017 celebrations.

Salt Spring's award-winning entry can be viewed on YouTube under Stone Soup Singers - "This Is Canada."

The Sing Me A Song contest begins again this autumn with songs due in early spring of 2016.



Stone Soup Singers of Salt Spring, winners of the open age class of the Sing Me a Song 2015 contest. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

BOOKS & WRITERS

Salt Spring Books hosts Authors for Indies Day

Part of nationwide celebration

Salt Spring Books will be a hotbed of literary activity on Saturday, May 2 when it hosts Authors for Indies Day.

Local authors Kathy Page, Arthur Black, Derek Lundy, Chris Smart, Margriet Ruurs, Gillian Campbell, Kim Thompson, Patrick Taylor, C.C. Humphreys and George Sipos will all

be on hand to greet customers and recommend their favourite books, and cake will be served to celebrate the store's 15th anniversary.

Authors for Indies Day is a nationwide event supporting independent bookstores and their communities' authors. Each store marks the day in whatever way they choose.

According to press material, the goals of Authors for Indies are to: increase customer traffic, raise

awareness of the importance of independent bookstores, strengthen relationships between authors and booksellers, and showcase local writers.

"Inspired by the hugely successful Indies First campaign in the United States, Authors for Indies started out as a B.C.-based initiative. With help from publishers, the B.C. Booksellers Association the Vancouver Writers' Festival,

and the Retail Council of Canada, the movement has spread across the country, with more than 500 authors and 130 bookstores already signed up."

Authors for Indies has attracted the support of bestselling Canadian authors such as Joseph Boyden, Cathy Marie Buchanan, Terry Fallis and Ann-Marie MacDonald.

The www.authorsforindies.com website has more information.

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Mechanic

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Get your vehicle in for a spring check-over soon, have your winter tires removed and store them in a dry dark place. A full vehicle systems check at this time will let you prioritize maintenance repairs and have them seen to before they turn into a breakdown repair.

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Real Estate

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Find A Realtor To Represent You - Most buyers just "happen" to connect with a realtor who has a house listed that they are inquiring about. Savvy buyers will seek the opinion of their lawyer, mortgage broker or others and determine whom they would like to represent them in obtaining what is likely the largest asset in their lives. Experience and strategic negotiation skills are great attributes. This is the person who will provide **guidance as to offer price and subject conditions to protect ... YOUR BEST INTERESTS.**



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Over the past twelve months I have undergone two total hip replacements. Before the first replacement we were living on our sailboat so my opportunities to exercise, in preparation for the surgery, were limited to leg lifts and some walking. Two months after the first surgery I got the clearance from my doctor to start aqua fit, under Brenda's leadership at Rainbow Road Pool. Out of the water I was dependent on my cane and had some difficulty walking, but in the water there were no restriction. The buoyancy allowed me to freely exercise my new joint without threat to injury. You could not tell that I was cane dependent by my actions in the pool. And the great thing was, the exercises didn't hurt. I just did what I could to the level I felt comfortable. Eight months of aqua fit later I went in for my second hip replacement. Having done aqua fit for the eight months prior to the second surgery, I experienced a noticeable improvement in my recovery rate. I have been back in the pool now for four weeks and just the other day one of my pool mates said to me "You can't tell you have been through a hip replacement by your level of work in the pool". That made my day. The key to the faster recovery with the second hip was due to the eight months of aqua fit beforehand, according to my doctor. It is exercise and movement without impact and it really works. I have played sports and exercised all my life but now, in my senior years, I am very happy with my fitness level derived from a combination of aqua fit classes and sensible stretching and weight training at the fitness centre. If you are planning on a hip or knee replacement my advice would be low impact water exercise and, as soon as your doctor gives you his blessing, **GET BACK IN THE POOL!**
Judy Henderson comes 3 times a week and is doing amazing.



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

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BOATING SAFETY

Youth lifejacket loan program set for two Ganges docks

Kids Don't Float launches Saturday in Ganges

Families who don't own life-jackets for their children or other youth boaters will soon be able to borrow them at two spots in Ganges.

A new boating safety initiative called Kids Don't Float is being launched this Saturday, April 25 at 11 a.m. at Centennial Dock.

Kids Don't Float is a project of the Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society offered in association with Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Station 25 and the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island.

Two separate PFD stations are



PHOTO BY TIM HARVEY

James Harvey checks out the new PFD loaner station at Centennial Dock.

being constructed in Ganges by renowned carpenter Josh Hart next to Centennial Dock and at Kanaka Dock. PFDs of vary-

ing youth sizes will be available and it is hoped that boaters will make use of them, ensure that they are sized properly for the wearer and return them in good order.

Project funding comes from HASSI, the Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society and the generosity of Chris Garrigan, who is dedicating this initiative in memory of his daughter Jenny.

"Having PFDs for your boating passengers is mandatory under Canadian law," states a GIMRS press release, "and wearing one is common sense: according to the Canadian Red Cross, in 87 per cent of fatal drownings in Canada the victim is not wearing or not properly wearing a lifejacket or PFD. Kids

should wear a PFD when next to deep water, which includes when they are on a dock."

"We are extremely pleased to bring this successful boating safety program to Salt Spring and are grateful to all involved in making it happen," said Andrew Ross-Collins, president of GIMRS.

He also encourages island boaters to attend the Marine Garage Sale from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 2 at 261 Fulford-Ganges Rd. and to donate any new or used marine items ahead of time for inclusion in the sale.

Marine gear donors are encouraged to call Mark McEachern at 604-202-9815 to arrange for item pick-up.

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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

'Ludo interruptus' hits bridge games

Heroes come to the rescue

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

April comes like an idiot, babbling and strewing flowers," said Edna St. Vincent Millay, so of course we have April Fool's Day, which all began with Charles IX of France when he adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1582.

This calendar change meant that the New Year's celebration, which used to begin on March 25 and end on April 1, now began on Jan. 1, and those who didn't like it or forgot were given foolish gifts and invitations to

nonexistent parties on April 1, and were known as "poissons d'Avril" or "April Fish." April Foolery was then taken up by the Brits, who introduced it to the Americans.

So perhaps at bridge on April 6 there was some leftover foolishness, but certainly not for the winners among the four and half tables. George Laundry and Paul Retallack were well ahead of their rivals, and second place was a tie between the Gisela Welsh-Gillian Moutat partnership and the Jeff Bell-Patricia Brown pair. Third spot went to Nick Beringer and Patricia Sutherland.

The Easter season also coincides with Passover, which ended this year on April 11, but perhaps there was a vestige of the 10 plagues of Egypt left over from then too. They are "blood, frogs, vermin, wild beasts, pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and

the plague of the firstborn," says Google.

The fact that bridge that Monday evening fell on April 13 possibly didn't help those with triskaidekaphobia. One might say it was a case of "ludo interruptus" because all of a sudden late in the evening one of the players suffered a big nosebleed which required the attention of other players (one of them a retired nurse) and the whisking off to hospital of the victim by heroic Paul Retallack. Some hands didn't get played or reported, but there were unofficial results.

Jeff Bell had been glad to see the return of Prem Margolese (as were the rest of the five and a half tables, also welcoming back Al Wilke and Nadene McCoy) and they came first, with Liz and Oleh Mycyk in second place. George Laundry and Paul Retallack were third, and Ted Baldwinson with Catherine Gardiner came fourth. And the nosebleeder was happily home later that evening with no further problems after a few hours of care in Lady Minto's arms.

GARDENING

Bumper year for club plant sale

Plants, seeds, books, advice and more at fundraiser

Gardeners won't want to miss the Salt Spring Garden Club's huge Spring Plant Sale this Saturday, April 25 at the Farmers' Institute.

From 1 to 3 p.m. an amazing selection of plants sourced from island gardeners will be available.

This is a bumper year for the sale, with an even larger than usual number of plants donated from club members and non-members.

"Even the sale organizers

don't know everything that will be there, as club members bring additional plants on the morning of the sale," explains a press release.

"As well, Chorus Frog Farm and Eagleridge Seeds will be joining the sale again with seeds and lots of veggie starts, and Bamboo Ranch will be selling their extensive inventory of deer-resistant bamboo varieties."

This year the club has already stocked lots of raspberry plants, some gooseberry bushes, a few large rhododendron plants and other shrubs, and many kinds of perennials including irises, lilies and primulas. Cuttings

from lovely mature hydrangeas have been prepared.

Representatives from the Salt Spring Island Conservancy will have a display on invasive plants, which will definitely not be included among the items for sale.

In addition to the great plant selection, the sale will include books, magazines, gardening tools and other garden treasures. Advice on plant selection and general gardening is offered for free by the club's mentor gardeners.

The garden club's new cookbook, *Eating From a Salt Spring Island Garden*, will also be available.

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DAVE, RUTH, NORMA, BOB, EDIE

GISS Salad biz has fresh take on education

GISS food truck debuts in Ganges

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A new food truck in Ganges offers so much more than just a healthy lunch.

Students from the Gulf Islands Secondary School's cafeteria program are mixing up a heaping dose of enthusiasm with a dash of business savvy, a slice of marketing knowledge and plenty of fresh, locally grown produce to deliver an unparalleled food-truck experience.

"I want these guys, when the summer is over, to understand how to run a small business. It doesn't have to be a restaurant but any small business," said Mark Kilner, who heads GISS' cafeteria program.

"What does it take to run a business? There's the opening, the closing, food costs, labour costs and all the other things; they're going to be doing all that. I'm just here as the teacher."

Students had a say throughout the whole process, including the kitchen's layout, the company's distinctive logo and uniforms, and a decision to use fully biodegradable containers and cutlery.

Patrons create their own salad based on a handy list of 26 ingredients. Home-made soups, specialty dressings and ice tea or lemonade are also on offer. The juices are sweetened with honey or palm sugar, and as many ingredients as possible are sourced from the high school's garden and greenhouse.

"It's natural and it's healthy," said Callysta Boyd, a Grade 11 student who has been enrolled in the cafeteria program for three years.

Many of Salt Spring Salads' menu options will vary depending on what's in season, but the wide selection of fruits, vegetables and seeds ensures every visit can yield a new taste experience. Students also try to incorporate a healthy selection of vegan and gluten-free options.

The 13-foot trailer, which features a sink, fridge, prep area, cash register and counter, cost roughly \$16,000 to buy and upgrade. Students paid for the project on their own by catering special events and private functions during the past year.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

From left, Molly O'Donnell, Ariana Fraser and Callysta Boyd were on deck for opening weekend of Salt Spring Salads, a food truck project that offers students valuable work experience and raises money for the GISS cafeteria program.

Money raised from the sale of soups and salads will be reinvested in the school's cafeteria program.

Much of the fundraising for and work on the Salt Spring Salads project was undertaken by Boyd and fellow classmates Molly O'Donnell, Ariana Fraser, Lauren Mollin and Kasea Campbell.

"I want these guys, when the summer is over, to understand how to run a small business."

MARK KILNER,
Cafeteria program teacher, GISS

During the past several years, Kilner has reinvigorated the high school's garden, overseen construction of a greenhouse, hydroponic vegetable project and a closed-containment fish farm — all of which are only a stone's throw from

the school cafeteria.

Faced with a proliferation of produce after students left on their summer breaks, the class began to ponder ways to use the organic fare in June, July and August.

"In the summer, all of the lettuces and everything else we grew always went to waste, so we wanted to do something with it," Boyd said. "All of the greens will be from the greenhouse."

Given the widespread popularity and relative affordability of food carts, it wasn't long before Kilner and his students began drafting their business plan.

After more than a year of planning and preparation, the fruits of the team's hard work hit the street next to Mahon Hall on Friday, April 17. Salt Spring Salads will be open between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Fridays, Saturday and Sundays until the end of June.

Once school is out for the summer, the salad truck will be open seven days a week. For more information about the project, visit GISS Garden to Market Initiative on Facebook.

FARMING HERITAGE

Ruckle Park farm day offers family fun

Volunteers needed for May 3 event

The long-standing educational family event known as Ruckle Heritage Farm Day is coming back to delight community members and visitors on Sunday, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Geared toward children and educational farm-related themes, the event displays heritage farming and crafts side-by-side with nature in the beautiful Ruckle Farm setting.

"As few free family events remain, this day has proven in the past to bring out a large crowd to experience the beauty of this magnificent park, made particular-

ly unique and special with the 'oldest operating family farm in B.C.' tucked right into the middle," said coordinator Marjorie Lane.

The day is arranged to invite participation on every level, be it volunteering, attending or taking part in the many hands-on activities. Last year's fun-filled day was achieved thanks to over 100 volunteers giving their time.

Typically, the event includes educational booths located in the heritage farm area demonstrating old crafts as spinning and weaving, basket making, fruit tree grafting and propagation, and more. The blacksmithing group and the leather crafter are set up

along the old forge building, and ice cream and butter are churned fresh at the milk house with the Jersey cow nearby.

The Salt Spring 4-H Club provides information and animals for display as well as selling baked goods. The Lions Club makes barbecued burgers and hotdogs while the kids get their faces painted or try their hands at log sawing, nail hammering, the fish pond or the tug-of-war.

Alongside the old heritage barn are farm product displays such as wool, hide items and an antique tool display. The quilters are busy on a project while other finished works are displayed around the barn

for viewing.

Old farm equipment is also on display while The Making of Ruckle Park, a film featuring interviews with Lotus Ruckle, is shown. Later, farm manager Mike Lane runs his border collies through their paces doing a sheep-herding demonstration.

The fire department displays their old and new trucks and there are also "then and now" tractors for all to see.

Local acoustical music groups are there for added entertainment.

Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact Marjorie Lane at 250-653-4071 or rucklefarm@shaw.ca.

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COMMUNITY HISTORY

Smiles galore in historical exhibition

Faces of Salt Spring runs from April 26 through May 5

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

After months of full-on work pulling everything together, Tamar Griggs' Faces of Salt Spring exhibition opens this Sunday at ArtSpring.

"I can safely say there are over 450 islanders in the show," said Griggs last week. "If you're not in it yourself you are bound to know someone in it."

The visual and written celebration of our community is aptly named, with most images including the face of someone photographed by Griggs in the years from 1990 through 2009, often at a particular Salt Spring event, such as a protest or a festival.

She has placed several related snapshots together on boards, which were then photographed by David Borrowman and printed by Apple Photo.

Some events get extra-special treatment in the show, such as the campaign in 2006 that repelled provincial government plans for overhead spraying of Btk to combat gypsy moths in the south end. That section includes not only photos but maps, a humorous piece Griggs wrote in the Drift-



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Tamar Griggs with one of the photomontages in her upcoming show.

wood at the time, and some moth illustrations done by Donald Gunn.

Islanders' stories with photos of themselves and/or their art are also part of the exhibit, which will be displayed in ring binders. With help from Diana English, as

of last week Griggs had collected 120 stories from people aged four to 89. Many of them are artists of one genre or another.

"It's a visual expression of how creative our community is."

Griggs advises people to give themselves lots of time to peruse everything in the ArtSpring gallery, or to come back more than once.

"Bring your reading glasses," she said.

Signs created by Dave Carlson will make it easy to navigate and find subjects of special interest.

Everyone is welcome to the opening event, which runs from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, and to view the show daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from April 27 through May 5, except for Wednesday, April 29 when the gallery is in use.

Support from the Salt Spring Arts Council and the Bob and Jenny Rush Fund of the Salt Spring Island Foundation has been much appreciated, along with donations from several island businesses, who will be acknowledged at the show.

Donations will also be gratefully received at the exhibit.

In addition, Griggs has compiled copies of the photos, and she invites people to take home the ones containing their faces.

ENVIRONMENT

Uplifting speaker shares marine stories

Elin Kelsey at Salt Spring Forum

BY JULIAN PAQUETTE
SS FORUM WRITER

When many of us think about the environment, we are filled with hopelessness and fear. We hear about the ice caps melting, more episodes of extreme weather and the latest species under threat.

But what if amidst this news there was also another narrative that could inspire and uplift us, and give us hope?

On Friday, May 1 at Mahon Hall, the Salt Spring Forum proudly presents Elin Kelsey, a remarkable communicator who is actively seeking to change the dominant environ-

mental narrative to one of hope and resiliency.

Kelsey is a researcher, educator and award-winning author with a particular expertise in marine-protected areas. She believes passionately in the power of stories to shape our world.

Kelsey leads a collaborative project called Circumnavigating Hope that conducts research into the emotional responses of children, environmental educators and conservation scientists to the culture of hopelessness that permeates environmental issues.

Having often heard stories of fear and discouragement — a perspective that shuts people down — Kelsey has made it her mission to talk to people,



ELIN KELSEY

can move beyond "doom and gloom."

Kelsey holds a Ph.D. in Science Communication and International Environmental Policy from King's College, University of London. She is an adjunct professor at Royal Roads University and works with a research team at Stanford University. She is a past recipient of a Rockefeller Fellowship.

including scientists, about what makes them feel hopeful. She believes we need to share these stories so that we

Kelsey wrote the scientific brief for Pew Global Oceans that led former U.S. President George W. Bush to create one of the world's largest marine reserves, the Mariana Trench National Monument.

The author of more than a dozen environment- and science-based books for children and adults, including the international bestseller You Are Stardust and the newly published Wild Ideas, Kelsey's narratives are truly inspiring. She is also an incredible speaker.

The May 1 event begins at 7:30 p.m. at Mahon Hall with tickets available through the ArtSpring box office.

Salt Spring Books will be on site to sell some of Kelsey's books.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Housing needs survey unearths challenges

Needs and desires articulated

A family housing survey completed last month confirms that many Salt Spring Island households are challenged to find suitable and secure housing within their financial means.

Conducted by Salt Spring Community Services, the survey considered a range of long-term housing needs, from very low-income households looking for rentals to dual-income families wanting to purchase.

With the elimination of the long-form census, there has been no current socio-economic data on the local population for almost a decade. The survey, concentrated on families and housing needs, serves to illustrate the current-day affordability challenges that are faced by families looking for secure housing.

The majority of respondents reported

annual household incomes of less than \$60,000 (71 per cent), while the largest income group was households earning between \$20,000 and \$39,000 (30 per cent). Salt Spring has traditionally had a lower average income compared to the rest of the province. The B.C. average income, according to Stats Canada, is \$46,500.

On average, single parent households reported smaller annual incomes, with nearly 75 per cent earning less than \$40,000 annually and 46 per cent earning less than \$20,000 annually.

While similar numbers of respondents currently rent and own their homes, 75 per cent stated a preference to own. Barriers to home ownership include producing a down payment, qualifying for a mortgage and finding suitable housing.

More than half of respondents identified private yards, proximity to nature, ability

to grow their food and home ownership as very important.

Despite preferences for larger, detached homes, respondents placed greater importance on affordability, long-term occupancy and quality than on housing form.

The majority of respondents indicated an interest in alternative means to home ownership and more compact housing forms to achieve greater affordability. This suggests a willingness to explore less common housing solutions that still provide the characteristics respondents considered important.

SSICS will use this information and further analysis of the data set to inform the current affordable housing project planned for the five acres they own in Ganges village, as well as future projects and programs.

More detailed results of the survey can be found on the Community Services website at www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca.

FUNDRAISER

Women in focus at Sparkfest

Annual celebration supports Pass it On program

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Sparkfest, the annual fundraising event supporting SWOVA's Pass It On program for Grade 8 girls, returns to the Orchard Room at the Harbour House Hotel on Thursday, April 30.

More than just a benefit, Sparkfest is a celebration and an opportunity to share what the program has to offer with the wider community. The evening features a rare entertainment platform that echoes the spirit of the program it supports.

"It's a wonderful night. The performers share a bit more about where they come from, with a level of intimacy that goes beyond the regular performer-audience experience," said Pass It On pro-

gram coordinator Kate Nash.

This year's Sparkfest includes more student involvement than ever before, with Pass It On participants helping to organize the event and introduce the performers, while some will contribute their own musical performances. Showcasing the event are Ashleigh Ball, singer of Hey Ocean! and vocal actor from the My Little Pony show, local singer/songwriters Suzanne Little and Tara MacLean, spoken word poet and GISS student Morgan Klassen and a ladies-only crew from GISS Improv.

Nash has been the program's coordinator for the past five years, and it's also the fifth year the group has put on Sparkfest.

"For me it's exciting, because every time you reach a small milestone like this, it's an opportunity to reflect on what you've done," Nash said.

Pass It On builds leadership, health

and safety for girls at a critical time in their development, with senior and junior mentors from GISS meeting weekly with Grade 8 girls from Salt Spring Island Middle School and Phoenix School.

"It's a chance for young women and girls to come together and talk about things that matter to them, to offer and share support and guidance for each other, make a difference in people's lives, and share positivity and love," explained Pass it On mentor Sierra Nicholson.

"It has been an amazing opportunity and experience for all of the girls involved in it. It instills a sense of pride and ownership in all of us and I really hope that it continues on over the upcoming years, as it has been an empowering and enlightening experience for me, as I'm sure it has also been for all of the other girls involved."

Nash points out

that Pass It On is one of SWOVA's smallest and least known programs, so the fact that it continues to be supported is something to celebrate. That's important, as there is more and more need demonstrated at the student level, with 17 mentors meeting with 19 Grade 8 buddies this year.

"The program has grown in demand for youth, who want to have that circle of connection," Nash said.

The milestone also provides the impetus to think about what else might be needed. One glaring example is the absence of a Pass It On program for boys, Nash said.

All proceeds from Sparkfest will go towards Pass it On funding. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8.

Tickets are available in advance at Salt Spring Books for a discounted rate.

All ages are wel-



CATHY MCMAHON,
FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER

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READING

Library harbours fresh treats

From Lasqueti Island hippies to new mystery divas

BY MAGGIE WARBEY
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

I like to check out the new shelves at the library every few days to see what's there. Though the titles can go back six months, frequently, the shelves are full of the very latest publications on a wide variety of topics.

Just last week, I found the latest Jacqueline Winspear, *A Dangerous Place*, on the New Fiction Shelf. Mystery lovers, if you haven't met Maisie Dobbs yet, you must. These novels are beautifully crafted psychological tales that take the reader into the streets, lives and minds of London between the Great Wars. Well-developed characters, detailed scenes that take the reader right to the action, and plots that intrigue add up to "can't put it down" reading. I also picked up the latest J.D. Robb thriller while browsing.

The New Non-Fiction Shelf has a lot of good reading, too. On the almost home front, *Accidental Eden: Hippie Days on*

LIBRARYSHELF

Lasqueti Island lays out the history and characters that made up the 1970s on that piece of paradise. As you flip through the pages you might well see faces you recognize, even your own, and certainly will be entertained by the ghosts, music makers, back-to-the-earth settlers who dedicate this book to their "horrified parents." Reading the stories, one can't help but compare the '70s life here and there.

On Marijuana is a powerful compilation of essays focused on attitudes, resources, history, science, and social ramifications of the decriminalization of pot. Alongside interesting nuggets such as "Canadian youth are the top users of cannabis in the developed world," the authors explore why that is so, as well as how other world communities, such as Australia, deal with controlled substances and public attitudes and outlooks towards them. Though this volume appears to present a particularly anti-pot stance, surely the questions raised and answered need to be

addressed when considering the widespread public use and acceptance of any "drug."

Apples under the Bed: Recollections and Recipes from B.C. Writers and Artists is a fascinating and eclectic collection of short tales and true recipes inspired by the lives and experiences of a number of famous and moderately famous B.C. persons. Included in the mix are our own Briony Penn and Christine Smart. While some recipes are purely delights of the heart and imagination, others rate among the best from family traditions and world travels. The artists' illustrations add a beautiful touch to this interesting volume.

If your imagination ever included life under the big top, the photos in *The Greatest Shows on Earth: a History of the Circus* are worth a good look. This lovingly detailed retrospective offers insights into the world shared by performers of all species. The photos that accompany the text tell the visual story that dates back to ancient times and ranges to the spectacular Cirque du Soleil we have come to enjoy today.

Notice to the Public

Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2015
5 pm to 7:30 pm
Harbour House Hotel

Meetings are open to the public.

For more information, please contact:

Herald Swierenga, Chair
Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee
Phone: 250-653-4950

or

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Table with 7 columns: FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS, DEATHS, IN MEMORIAM, COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS, TRAVEL, BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

NORMAN GAVIN MOUAT MARCH 18, 1936 - APRIL 19, 2015 With his family by his side, Norman Gavin Mouat peacefully passed away on April 19, 2015.

IN MEMORIAM KIND THOUGHTS AND REMEMBRANCE of Andy Gibson whose brilliant lyrics, and advocacy for the environment spearheaded songs and actions for the Raging Grannies - giving voice to us all.

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS Salt Spring Hospice We welcome friends to attend an informal celebration of the life of Don Stevens in the Crofton Room at Harbour House Hotel, on Sunday April 26th, 2pm to 4pm.

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Notice of Annual General Meeting Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club Wednesday, April 29th • 5:30 p.m. Upstairs at the Clubhouse, 805A Lower Ganges Road

COMING EVENTS NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOTICE OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 19 BACH ON THE ROCK MUSIC SOCIETY is looking for a Music Director for the Salt Spring Chamber Choir and Orchestra starting Sept. 1, 2015.

COMING EVENTS HOSPICE MONTH May Tuesday Night Film Series at the Library Salt Spring Hospice and Salt Spring Public Library invite you

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This Week's **Noroscope**
by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastrlogy.com
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TIP OF THE WEEK:
Sun, Mercury and Mars are currently in Taurus. As we gaze upon the beauty and color of flowers in bloom and absorb the sweet scent of trees in blossom and rejoice in the return of birds and of honey bees (we hope) busy and buzzing in the warm sun, the pleasure of Taurus time reveals that of the sign. The ruling planet for Taurus is Venus which is currently in the Gemini. Venus is that bright and beautiful planet that hovers like a jewel in the morning and evening skies. Beauty, values, wants, desires, priorities, affections, pleasures and sensuality are all aspects of love. Yet, in the deepest sense, love transcends all planets and signs and emerges from source, that higher, inner place which echoes with the song of divinity. Taurus is the farmer and the builder and the baker and, yes, the banker too. Its' polar opposite sign Scorpio in its higher reaches symbolizes the merging and sharing of our wealth, gifts and treasures. The other reflection is of vast public parks that reveal the joys of leisure and of enjoying quality time - the real fruit of our labors. Taurus is also the sign of talents, values, priorities, wants, desires, personal possessions and money. In light of the world we now live in, the Taurus theme is prominent. On a deeper note Taurus is about values and priorities. What Astrology can provide is clarification of what we truly need whereby living authentically and with purpose means more than the endless game of getting and maintaining more possessions. When we live authentically less can quickly become more. In a world with over 7 billion people and counting this is a good time to break away from the herd to assess what constitutes your higher values and priorities. I can assist you to bring these to light.
READ MORE ABOUT IT ON MY NEWSLETTER - SIGNUP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Tending to things on a variety of fronts continues. You remain in an industrious mood. Yet you would like to save your energy as well, to get as much done with as little effort as you can. This sort of thinking produces its own genius. See where your tasks overlap to minimize repeated moves. In the deeper end, conversations about relationships, personal and professional, look to the future.
Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21) A new wave of ambition and drive has kicked into gear. You have been conceiving and gestating plans for weeks now with added concentration. You began putting out feelers and even taking preliminary steps a while back as well. But now all lights are green and you are keen to accelerate. Fortunately, your confidences are rising. The real challenge is that you must change to advance.
Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) This New Moon in Aries will serve to activate many new innovative ideas for you. Many of these will occur at subconscious levels and/or behind the scenes. Thus this is an ideal time to engage in a brainstorming process. Focus to generate new ideas and possibilities for a while. This includes reaching out to key people and new ideas. Gather ideas and contacts now to act upon soon.
Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) The momentum of an already dynamic cycle continues to build. Already some lively interactions spliced with a few unexpected turns are keeping you busy. Building upon new foundations requiring innovative and strategic planning is featured. These have likely produced some mixed feelings and interpretations. This trend will continue for a few weeks yet.
Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23) You are entering the next leg or a power cycle. So far it has included connections with key contacts and the acquisition of tools, skills and strategic formulas. Now the flow will lead you to test these for their authenticity and quality. Generally, this is an expansive time yet you may feel a little uncertain of your direction. Take it slow enough to be sure.
Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) Some writing on the wall has already begun to direct your focus to see a bigger picture. In certain respects it is pushing you to re-invent yourself to adapt to the changing times. At worst, these realizations are stirring your fears. They are destined to push you to lay claim to some hidden reserves of power. Take command of your imagination and get it working for you.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22) Spring cleaning probably began weeks ago for you, at least in your mind. If it is not actual clutter you need to clear or corners and closets to clean... it could be dated self-concepts, attitudes and approaches. Nothing personal, change is the law and adaptation is the key. Opportunities to increase your friend list are available as well. However you can, clear the way.
Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21) Your world has begun to open again. Already you are meeting new people and exchanging proposals. As much as this probably includes personal life stimulations, business prospects are also likely. The more willing you are now to 'pay your dues' the better. This could simply include putting in the time required. Other investments are favored now as well.
Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21) Making some key adjustments to your usual rhythm, routine and perhaps lifestyle in general is likely now. There is reason to say you have been diligent over the past 2-3 weeks in this regard and really thinking about what you want, need and feel you therefore have to do. Meanwhile, satisfying social connections are inspiring and perhaps challenging you to reach for new levels of health.
Capricorn (Dec 1 - Jan 19) You are beginning to see the bigger picture again. This shift of perspective began several weeks ago. But now the energy for change is really beginning to move. Your home and family is a likely arena. You have been and continue to push hard, to address matters at root and foundational levels. Circumstances are making you give a lot to on a variety of fronts.
Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19) Many shifts and changes close to home are underway. At best, these are inspiring you to new modes of creative self-expression. You may also feel more confident to enter new territory. This is an expansive time for you overall so remain alert and open to opportunities for travel, meeting new people and possibly new employment opportunities as well.
Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) However you are doing it, you are shifting and shaking people and environments as well. It is important that you keep an open mind about how to approach people and situations these days. Fortunately, your energy levels should be running higher than usual. This is a support to create beauty in all the ways you can and not merely get things done. Aim to balance the two.

WHAT'S ON page 12

CHILDREN'S MISCELLANEOUS

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CHILDREN'S MISCELLANEOUS

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



RUNNING

Sneakers troop celebrates a record-setting season

Island's road runners make impressive strides in competitive race series

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Sneakers punctuated a record-setting season Sunday afternoon as 16 runners participated in the 2015 Vancouver Island Race Series finale in Sooke.

"The race was a hilly one run under hot, sunny conditions, but the Sneakers came through in their regular form with many top-10 finishes," said Lynn Thompson in his post-race report.

The Sneakers earned 245 points to lift the team's season total to 1,371 points and clinch a fifth-place finish among 84 registered teams.

Susan Gordon completed Sunday's 10-kilometre course in 43:07 to earn top spot in her F55-59 category. Marcia Jensen wasn't far behind, crossing the line in 47:48 to earn fourth spot in the F40-

44 age group. Eric Ellis finished second in the M65-69 group with a time of 48:32. Lise Fraser was third in F55-59 with a 48:43 finish time.

Marion Young, Gillian McConnell, Janice Dickie, Catherine Bennett, Doug Wahlsten, Julie Van Soeren, Lynn Thompson, Donna Cloete and Phyllis Wakelin placed within the top-10 runners in their respective age groups.

Twelve runners completed five or more VIRS races since the series began in January. The total is more than double last year's participation rate, Thompson said.

Susan Gordon placed first, and Catherine Bennett and Eric Ellis finished third in their respective running categories based on their season totals.

"This is one of the toughest race series in Canada and to place well is a significant achievement," he said.

"Records and personal bests abound in the statistics for this year, and we look forward to 2016 and further achievements."



Salt Spring Sneakers members with medals and ribbons from final event in the Vancouver Island Race Series. The runners placed fifth among 84 registered teams.

SNEAKERS CLUB PHOTO



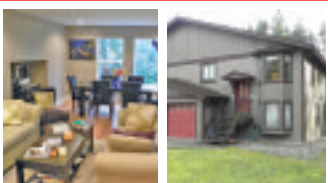
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EQUESTRIAN

Pony club wins regional first



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Elly, left, and Gracie Williams show off first-place ribbons they earned at a Vancouver Island pony club quiz held at Nanoose Bay on Saturday.

Becky Mason headed to nationals

BY LOUISE WILLIAMS
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Salt Spring Pony Club members who attended a regional pony club quiz on Saturday, April 18 in Nanoose Bay came home with a day to remember as well as some ribbons for their showcase.

Over 30 kids between the ages of six and 19 attended from all over Vancouver Island, representing all levels from beginner D through to B level. The quiz included individual and team work based on a wide range of topics such as breeds, grooming, feeds, famous horses, poisonous plants, veterinary first aid and games such as charades about horsey things.

It was a fabulous chance for our island kids to get together with clubs from all over Vancouver Island and a huge amount of fun was had by all.

We're excited to report that our D level (ages 8 to 11 years) beginner team of Samantha Goddard, Elly Williams and Gracie Williams came first in the region. Goddard also came fourth in her level individually. (A fourth team member, Saraphina Ogis, unfortunately was unable to attend due to sickness after putting in lots of hard work during the lead-up weeks).

B-level member Becky Mason came second individually in the whole region to Kendra Zimmermann from the Comox club, with both girls pulling in fabulous scores. This qualifies them to be part of the regional team who will attend the Canadian Pony Club's national quiz in Calgary later in the year. While there, they will compete against the top teams from across Canada.

A big thanks goes to the organizers headed by Tanya Richards and her family from the Parksville and Qualicum club, and to Wendy McEachern, who helped our team get there and cheered them on.

For more details on the Salt Spring Pony Club, contact klnlochan@gmail.com.

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