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Keep the Fall Fair memories alive
INSIDE

Driftwood

Wednesday, September 30, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 39 \$125 (incl. GST)



FIRE DISTRICT

Two fire trustees resign

Three of seven spots now vacant on fire board; by-election decision to come

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The last of the “old guard” has parted ways with the Salt Spring Fire Protection District, with resignations filed last week by trustees Mike Garside and Michele Severn.

In a letter to the board of trustees dated Wednesday, Sept. 23, Severn described conflict between the four new trustees’ desire to trim expenses and the ability to work in an environment of teamwork and respect. Severn was elected by acclamation in 2014.

“This new board’s primary goal is to save money at all costs,” she wrote. “While I acknowledge that there is much room for improvement, the current lack of teamwork, respect and camaraderie will, I fear, in the end, be more destructive and costly than constructive.”

Severn added she could not in good conscience continue in a process so at odds with her ethics and heart, and cautioned the board to examine its “narrow focus.”

Garside submitted his letter of resignation on the same day, citing lack of time and his primary responsibility to his employer.

“I feel the board would be better served by someone that has the time and can make a full commitment to the community,” he wrote.

FIRE TRUSTEES continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

SNIP! Judi Francis cuts the ribbon at the start of the Terry Fox Run at Rainbow Road Pool on Sunday. More than 100 participants and 80 volunteers enjoyed an activity-filled day and raised over \$4,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police investigate indecent act

Man seen in bushes near high school

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring RCMP are investigating an alleged indecent act after high school students reported seeing a man masturbating near school property on Monday afternoon.

While School District 64 and police are taking the matter seriously, Corp. Martin Beardsmore said students are not perceived to be at risk.

“This is an incident we’d like to prevent the repeat of, but there’s no more inherent danger to our kids than there was yesterday,” Beardsmore said Tuesday afternoon.

The suspect was spotted in the bushes close to the high school. Beardsmore said that the act could constitute a criminal offence because it was done where it could be witnessed.

“We treat it seriously because it’s something children or youths on their way to school shouldn’t see — they should be free from that,” he said.

A letter from district superintendent Lisa Halstead that went out Tuesday afternoon advises parents to ensure children use the buddy system when walking to or from school, waiting for the bus or waiting on playing fields, and to call RCMP if any suspicious activity is observed.

Students who were impacted by the incident will have access to counselling through Salt Spring Community Services.

RCMP continued on 5

Protect your WEALTH
BMO Nesbitt Burns
Joni Ganderton
537-1654



INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- Ganges Pharmasave
- Thrifty Foods
- Home Hardware
- The Source
- Sears
- Rona
- Staples

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ENVIRONMENT

Symposium seeks industry oil-spill accountability

Participants want producers to contribute fair share

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Delegates at a Sidney symposium to assess the region's oil-spill response capabilities want industry to contribute more money for prevention and clean-up.

"It makes sense for the industry that creates the risk to mitigate that risk," said Malcolm Inglis, president of the Mayne Island Conservancy. "We'd like to look at ways to keep

industry at the front of whatever that mitigation might be."

The Mayne Island Conservancy initiated Monday's oil-spill discussion, which was part of a cross-border economic development and collaboration summit. The group organized the Sept. 28 meeting in response to the rising number of commercial ships going through the Salish Sea and a growing concern about the implications of a spill in local waters.

Many participants noted a need for further training and awareness among island volunteers keen to respond in an emergency but also questioned if such groups would be

sufficient if a major spill occurred.

Jeanine Dodds, a Mayne Island Local Trust Committee member, said she worries about linking the region's hope for a rapid response to volunteer groups, who would assist efforts undertaken by the West Coast Marine Response Corporation.

"We have an aging population here; I don't think it's something individual Gulf Islanders can do," she said.

Peter Luckham, a Thetis Island trustee and Trust Council chair, raised similar concerns about relying on volunteers.

"We're not talking about a bake

sale or a community centre clean up, we are talking about sending people into a hazardous situation," he said.

Given that the Port of Vancouver handles more than 800,000 cruise-ship passengers and 140 million tonnes of goods valued at nearly \$190 billion annually, Saturna Island trustee Paul Brent suggested the shipping industry be charged a modest levy to fund oil response.

He said a fraction of a penny from every dollar that goes through the port could establish an admirable response system.

Gary Holman, NDP MLA for Saanich North and the Islands, said

volunteer efforts by groups like the Mayne Island Conservancy and Washington's Island Oil Spill Association have arisen to fill a vacuum. He said it's incumbent upon industry to step up and offer financial assistance and effective tools to handle an oil spill.

"The risks are not being generated by the people who live in the southern Gulf Islands, the risks are generated by oil tankers," he said.

The Mayne Island Conservancy proposes to send letters to the CRD and Islands Trust, urging regional governments to push for an industry-funded oil-spill preparedness levy.

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Public pool to get multipurpose room

Recreation space will help fill gap

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission has approved construction of the Rainbow Road indoor pool's most significant expansion project since the facility opened in 2008.

Commissioners agreed to move ahead with plans for a multipurpose activity and meeting room. Final approval for the project is required from the Capital Regional District board in Victoria, but PARC members anticipate the new space will be completed before the end of 2016.

The decision follows find-

ings of PARC's 2015 Program Needs Assessment survey, which identifies significant gaps in recreation programming on the island and recommends PARC pilot a series of recreation programs.

"The need for an indoor multi-use space was evident," said Dan Ovington, PARC general manager.

Committee members heralded the \$255,000 facility, made possible with a \$25,000 contribution from SSPash, as a way to encourage recreation, promote healthy lifestyles and increase the range of programs offered to island residents.

PARC staff undertook a business plan to establish what rental facilities are available on the island,

what types of activities can be accommodated and how much facilities cost. Ovington said results show a dearth of affordable and flexible recreation spaces on Salt Spring.

"We kind of have to understand everything we have before we embark on something like this," he said. "I was quite surprised by the high cost and limited uses of some of the facilities we reviewed."

"When we're looking at running a one-hour music class and we need to spend \$75 [for a three-hour room rental], the cost begins to get prohibitive."

The analysis considered All Saints By-the-Sea church, Central Hall, Community Gospel Chapel, Farmers' Institute's exhibition hall, Lions Hall, Mahon Hall,

Meaden Hall, Salt Spring United Church and the Salt Spring Public Library.

PARC has set a goal to launch 17 new programs during the multipurpose room's first year of operation. The business plan anticipates the new room will generate additional revenue for PARC in the long term.

The second phase of the Rainbow Road pool's development originally called for construction of a leisure pool, though such a project won't be possible "until external funding sources become available or additional funds are raised through increasing revenue sources or an increase in tax requisitions," reads part of the business case presented at the Sept. 21 PARC meeting.

Board yet to decide on by-election

FIRE TRUSTEES

continued from 1

"When I had agreed to become a trustee, the time commitment required at that time was considerably different than it is now."

Garside was also elected by acclamation, first in October of 2013 to fill the last six months of the three-year term held by Mark Lucich before he resigned. Garside was re-elected by acclamation in 2014.

Fire board chair Linda Lee said that she was extremely disheartened and shocked to learn the two former trustees will not fulfill their term commitments, and said they did not discuss their concerns with her before tendering their resignations.

"These resignations have put the district and its ratepayers in an awkward and potentially very expensive dilemma," Lee wrote in a letter to the Drift-

wood. "SSIFPD will likely need to call a by-election as quorum may be difficult to achieve moving forward. This could cost ratepayers thousands of extra dollars only months before the regular election next spring."

Trustees left on the board are Linda Lee, Mitch Forest, Derek Hill and Norbert Schlenker. Michael Schubart, the only other trustee not new as of 2015, resigned in July.

According to the provincial Improvement District Manual, "Where a trustee position becomes vacant before the end of the term, an election is required to fill the vacan-

cy." The manual further states an election should be called within 60 days of the vacancy occurring.

Trustees left on the board are Lee, Mitch Forest, Derek Hill and Norbert Schlenker. Michael Schubart, the only other trustee not new as of 2015, resigned in July.

The SSIFPD board had decided not to hold a by-election when Schubart resigned since his term was set to expire in April 2016 anyway, citing the extra cost and the short time frame for a new person to get up to speed on the job, only to face another election.

They will hold a special public meeting at Salt Spring United Church's upper hall on Tuesday, Oct. 13 starting at 2 p.m. to discuss whether it is now necessary to hold a by-election.

Both letters of resignation and the response from Lee are printed on page 7 of this issue of the Driftwood.

Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Monday, Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, Oct. 13.



Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Oct. 14 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline:
Thursday, Oct. 8, 12 noon

Classified Display Deadline:
Friday, Oct. 9, 3pm

Classified Word Deadline:
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 9am

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Contact Laurel Hanley at 250 537-1220 or ssidepc@crd.bc.ca to find out more about connecting to your neighbours through the POD program.



Driftwood
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

NEWS BEAT

Heads up!

Federal All-Candidates Meeting
Monday, OCTOBER 5
GISS gym, 2:45 to 4:15 p.m.

Federal Election 2015 — Saanich-Gulf Islands candidate Q&A

ALICIA CORMIER —
New Democratic Party



my time as your representative in an NDP government.

2. What do you tell people who feel alienated from the political system to get them engaged and encourage them to vote?

AC: I think it's clear that people want change. And it's important to remember that change is at our fingertips. All we need is another 35 NDP seats to replace the Conservatives. Every vote and every seat counts if we are to defeat Stephen Harper.

If elected, an NDP government will implement a mixed-member proportional representative voting system to ensure that Parliament truly reflects the voting intentions of Canadians. In the last Parliament, the NDP introduced a motion to bring forward such a system, but it was defeated by the Liberals and Conservatives.

3. Describe the Canada you wish to see in 20 years.

AC: Canada has been transformed for the better by the progressive leadership of an NDP government. We are a leader for world peace and development and are honouring international obligations.

Seniors are retiring at 65 with dignity and living comfortably due to enhanced CPP and GIS programs and veterans are receiving the services and respect they deserve.

Stringent greenhouse gas reduction targets are being met and the transition to a low-carbon economy is well underway.

Families can afford quality childcare and housing, and are receiving better health care from more doctors, more clinics and more affordable prescription drugs.

OCCUPATION: Municipal councillor in Central Saanich; 30 years management experience in small business, health care, education and social enterprise.

YEARS IN POLITICS: Central Saanich councillor (two terms); a champion for sustainable land use, farmland preservation, local food production, affordable housing, jobs and businesses.

LIVES IN: I've been living on the Saanich Peninsula since 1969.

AGE: 51; a proud mother and grandmother

QUIRKY PASTIME: Enjoying quiet time in nature with my fiancé Gary Holman and my dog Misty.

1. What persuaded you to get involved in politics?

AC: I want a better future for my children, my grandchildren, for our community and Canada. I've seen firsthand how important the federal government can be to our local environment, economy and quality of life.

I want to help establish a Tom Mulcair government that will bring about change for the better. We have a unique opportunity to address issues like climate change and growing inequality, not by just advocating for progressive policies, but actually forming a government that will implement these policies. As MP, I will devote 100 per cent of

TIM KANE —
Liberal Party of Canada



OCCUPATION: Business owner, community volunteer

YEARS IN POLITICS: A lifetime (I was a scrutineer when I was 14)

LIVES IN: Saanich

AGE: 63

QUIRKY PASTIME: I like house-cleaning! The first business I started was a janitorial firm, and I was my own first employee.

1. What persuaded you to get involved in politics?

TK: When my nephew returned home from serving Canada abroad in the military, he and his wounded comrades were treated shabbily by Veterans Affairs. I'd been outraged by the Harper government's lack of respect for science, their lack of action on the environment, their dismantling of our open and responsible government, but their treatment of veterans was the tipping point. I've worked in the public and private sector in Ottawa, I understand the nature of the commitment, and I have the energy and the experience to take on this incredibly important job. The tougher the challenge, the harder I'll work.

2. What do you tell Canadians who feel alienated from the political system to get them engaged and encourage them to vote?

TK: Many people I meet when I'm door-knocking do feel disengaged from politics and I don't blame them. We've had 10 years of being told we should be afraid of change, fearful of new ideas, satisfied with the status quo. I talk about meeting Justin Trudeau, and how I was inspired by his energy and openness. I share his vision of bringing real change to our lives, to see Canada once again become a country that is known for our civility, integrity and generosity. More often than not, people end up with a bright red Tim Kane sign on their lawn.

3. Describe the Canada you wish to see in 20 years.

TK: In 2035, the historic infrastructure investments Canada made two decades ago have enabled us to regain our stature as a model of environmental excellence for the world. My grandchildren — all children — have clear air, clean water and a diversified, green economy offers them meaningful career opportunities, not just in business but in scientific, artistic and cultural endeavours. The economic divide between indigenous and non-aboriginal peoples has been eliminated, and every single citizen has equality of opportunity. We have rebuilt our civil democracy, made the transition into the knowledge economy and restored our traditions as a caring society.

ELIZABETH MAY —
Green Party of Canada



OCCUPATION: Parliamentarian, federal party leader

YEARS IN POLITICS: 9

LIVES IN: Sidney, B.C.

AGE: 61

QUIRKY PASTIME: Answering surveys in the middle seat of economy on Air Canada.

1. What persuaded you to get involved in politics?

EM: Having worked in the environmental movement since 1970 — as a volunteer, a lawyer, as senior policy advisor to the Minister of Environment and as executive director of Sierra Club of Canada — in 2006 I concluded that Stephen Harper had just become prime minister by accident. I also recognized that the environmental movement was being silenced by threats of loss of charitable status. To protect the environment in a new way, I decided to run for leader of the Green Party. I have never been more honoured than by working for the citizens of Saanich-Gulf Islands as your MP.

2. What do you tell Canadians who feel alienated from the political system to get them engaged and encourage them to vote?

EM: The parties, people and behaviour that have turned you against voting are the very parties and people who hope you will stay home and not vote. To restore democracy with elected representatives who understand that they work for the well-being of our community, our country and for you, we need to re-engage and vote.

3. Describe the Canada you wish to see in 20 years.

EM: Canada in 2035 will be a successful, prosperous nation with a thriving economy built on renewable energy, clean technology and creative small and medium-size enterprises. Our society will be resilient with a strong social safety net, universal health care (including pharmacare and dental), and a highly educated and meaningfully employed population. Relations between and among indigenous peoples and those descended from immigrants (recent and ancestral) will have a strong partnership, built on respect. We will look back on 2015 as the year everything got better, right around Oct. 19.

Note:

Progressive Conservative Party of Canada candidate ROBERT BOYD did not respond to our phone or email communications about answering these questions.

Libertarian party candidate MEGHAN PORTER appeared as a candidate on the Elections Canada website too late to meet this week's press deadline, but her answers will appear in next week's Driftwood.

New!! PARC Programs Starting Soon

Register in person at the PARC Office, at 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, or by phone at 250-537-4448, if using VISA or MasterCard. Our office hours are 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays.

BALL HOCKEY

7-9yrs

Have fun while learning the basic techniques of ball hockey with Coach Quentin. Young players will be creatively introduced to stick and ball handling and learn the fundamentals of the game. Equipment required: Helmet with cage, hockey stick, puck and knee pads. Other protective gear encouraged. If you require a helmet and or hockey stick please sign up a minimum of one week in advance and let us know at the time of registration.

Tu.....4:30pm-5:30pm..... Sept 29 – Nov. 3... \$33/6

Location: Portlock Park Multisport Court

SCHOOLS OUT!

FRIDAY ADVENTURE CAMP

6-12yrs

Looking for a way to stay active and have fun. Join us on the first Friday of each month for an action-packed day of games, arts & crafts and swimming. Campers 5 years of age and have completed Kindergarten can register for Friday Adventure Camps.

F.....8:30am – 4:30pm... Oct 2..... \$34/1

F.....8:30am – 4:30pm... Nov 6..... \$34/1

F.....8:30am – 4:30pm... Dec 4..... \$34/1

Location: Community Gospel Chapel

147 Vesuvius Bay Rd. Upstairs Classroom

BABYSITTING SAFETY

11-14yrs

Learn to care for children of various ages. This course is designed for youth 11 years and older who want to become a certified babysitter. The Red Cross Babysitting Course covers the responsibility of a babysitter, basic first aid, safety tips, basic child care skills and what to do in case of an emergency. Get certified today!

Sa.....9am – 5pm..... Oct 3..... \$64/1

Location: Community Gospel Chapel

147 Vesuvius Bay Rd. Upstairs Classroom

CHECK OUT MORE PARC PROGRAMS IN THE FALL LEISURE GUIDE AVAILABLE NOW!

BUSINESS

Cross-border islanders conference inspires big ideas

Economic collaboration among topics explored

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Politicians, business leaders and interested observers from both sides of the Canada-U.S. border shared visions of what's possible in the Gulf Islands and San Juan Islands during a Monday meeting at Sidney's Mary Winspear Centre.

"The best way to move forward is to think big, and the way to think big is to begin working together," said Rick Hughes, a San Juan County councillor.

Tourism on both sides of the border is finally up, but speakers stressed the need to learn from the lessons of the 2008 economic downturn, which delivered a significant blow to the tourism sector.

Affordable housing, support for island families and fostering a more diverse economy should be priorities for all islanders, he said. With fears of

a vanishing middle class on many of the San Juan Islands, Hughes challenged conference participants to find common ground on projects like inter-island transportation, free-trade zones and economic diversification.

"This has been the best year for tourism in our history, but we need to have sustainable long-term alternatives," he said. "My goal is to tear down the barriers and to make it possible. It really is a 10- or 15-year plan to have a more open border."

"We've been doing the same thing for a long time and I don't think it's working. Let's think big, and let's think different."

Dave Howe, Capital Regional District director for the Southern Gulf Islands, called for a gradual transition from retirement income to a knowledge-based "steady state, triple-bottom-line" economy that fits within the Islands Trust's preserve and protect mandate.

Delegates spoke about a need to refine the area's tourism potential,

develop regional branding, encourage manufacturing, enable broadband internet access throughout the islands and consider creation of a free-trade zone between the islands.

"We are the same people, we just happen to live on different sides of an imaginary line," Hughes said.

"We're very much connected and it's this kind of meeting that keeps us connected."

NILS JENSEN
Chair, CRD Board +
Oak Bay Mayor

Island delegates from the U.S. and Canada said they often learn more from each other than when they talk to their counterparts on the mainland.

CRD director Wayne McIntyre, Local Trust Committee member

Peter Grove and Community Economic Development chair Darryl Martin represented Salt Spring at the event, which brought together representatives from various points in the CRD and Washington State's San Juan County. Saanich North and the Islands MLA Gary Holman also attended.

"We're very much connected and it's this kind of meeting that keeps us connected," said Nils Jensen, mayor of Oak Bay and chair of the CRD board, in his opening remarks. "We have a lot in common between the Canadian side and the American side."

Inspired by the popularity of June's Tour des Iles event, which featured three days of free passenger-only shuttles between the Gulf Islands, attendees from both sides of the border devoted considerable time Monday to transportation.

"I want to go to Orcas Island to see my friends, but I don't have 13 hours to get there," said George Harris, a Galiano Island Local Trust Commit-

tee member and lead coordinator of the Tour des Iles event.

Hughes said he'd love to see a water taxi service implemented between San Juan Island and the Gulf Islands.

"Greater transportation links between the San Juans and Canada are essential for the sustainability of our economies. This is a long-term project, but we assume that, sooner or later, it will happen," he said. "It shouldn't take 13 hours to get from San Juan Island to Mayne Island when it only takes 40 minutes by boat and nine minutes by plane."

Tony Simpson, a commercial airline pilot and manager of the Orcas Island airport, said he's amazed the Gulf Islands have no registered land-based landing strip, despite the presence of many unmarked private facilities.

"I look down at these grass strips and I think it would really be nice if you could make them available to bring people to your islands," he told representatives from the Gulf Islands.

FEDERAL ELECTION

Candidates meeting at GISS on Monday

Plenty of opportunity for people to ask questions

With the federal election date of Oct. 19 fast approaching, Salt Spring will have its all-candidates meeting in the Gulf Islands Secondary School gymnasium on Monday, Oct. 5 from 2:45 to 4:15 p.m.

All five Saanich-Gulf Islands riding candidates have been invited to participate in the event, which takes place during school hours to encourage student participation.

All attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Parking will be available in the Rainbow Road school parking lot, including spaces for those with mobility challenges. Additional parking is available on Kanaka Road and along Rainbow Road. As always, car-pooling is encouraged.

The event is co-presented by the Salt Spring Forum and Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Members of the public are encouraged to come up to a half-hour earlier to assist in an innovative exercise to help students articulate questions for the candidates.

People are also reminded to verify that they are registered to vote in the upcoming federal election. Visit <http://www.elections.ca/>.

Non-partisan support to address voter registration issues will also be available before and after the meeting on Monday.

If you got this card, you're ready to vote!



Federal election day is October 19.

Did your voter information card arrive in the mail? It tells you that you're registered to vote, and explains when and where you can vote.

If you didn't receive one, or if it has the wrong name or address, **check, update or complete your registration at elections.ca.** Or call **1-800-463-6868** (TTY 1-800-361-8935).

Elections Canada has all the information you need to be ready to vote.

**Ready
to vote**

October 19, 2015



RECREATION

Parks and rec commission nears home-run land deal

Site would expand island's recreation opportunities

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission has announced a tentative deal to buy a 15-acre property near Ganges.

Commissioners have been eyeing the property at 181 Brinkworthy Rd. for months as part of their goal to build new and improved soccer and baseball fields.

"It's been a long time coming," said Dan Ovington, PARC's general manager, following Thursday's announcement.

The \$575,000 deal is subject to a zoning amendment from the Islands Trust and

approval for non-farm use on agricultural land from the province's Agricultural Land Commission.

"We don't have all our green lights yet," Ovington said.

Finding a location for new sports fields has been a PARC priority for nearly two decades.

PARC chair Jon Suk said challenges of finding a location that meets the commission's requirements has filled the journey with many challenges, starts and stops.

"It is tremendously exciting to have reached this important milestone toward making a new playing field for our community," he said Tuesday on behalf of the commission. "There is much work ahead that will need the concerted efforts by all the people involved,

including sports organizations, governmental

agencies and residents.

"We at PARC are looking forward to making this much-needed facility a reality."

Corey Johnson, president of Salt Spring Minor Baseball, said he's hopeful the property will allow teenaged players to train and host matches on the island. The fields at Portlock Park are only big enough to host games up to the pee-wee (U13) level. Anyone who wishes to continue playing is forced to travel to Chemainus.

"It just adds a lot of complications," he said, adding that there were approximately 150 children registered in Salt Spring Minor Baseball this past season.

"I think it's an excellent opportunity," Johnson said.

Should the deal go ahead, PARC plans to

pay for the land with money from its capital reserve fund.

Plans for the property include three baseball fields and two soccer fields. PARC members and Capital Regional District staff will identify additional uses for the site through public consultation sessions with sports groups, neighbours and other island residents.

Ovington said he anticipates the meetings will begin within six months.

"This announcement is an exciting step toward the fulfillment of this long-standing need. Congratulations to PARC and the CRD staff for their hard work and perseverance," said Wayne McIntyre, Salt Spring's CRD electoral area director. "This project will provide our community with both recreational and economic opportunities."

WATER COUNCIL

Report draws lessons from drought

Group wants water plan

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Water levels on Salt Spring may have dropped to near-record lows and gardens across the island certainly felt the sting of summer sunshine, but organizers of a water conservation forum earlier this summer say the drought of 2015 offers some valuable lessons for the future.

"The island has to plan for this kind of situation," said John Borst, chair of the Salt Spring Water Council. "There are all kinds of plans in places like Nanaimo and elsewhere in the Capital Regional District, but we were really surprised to discover there was nothing for Salt Spring."

Water Council members released the final report recapping the July 19 event last week. The document calls for creation of an island-wide water conservation plan and the need to make water the focus of all island planning. The plan urges the CRD to

develop grey-water recycling and water-storage guidelines, and to reduce property taxes for people who install water catchment systems and other water-saving improvements.

Water Council members also ask the Islands Trust to require rainwater conservation features like ponds, swales and rain gardens for new construction on Salt Spring.

On a more personal level, the report's authors urge islanders to review how water is used on a daily basis.

"Without these steps and other water-centric approaches, the island will continue to face water shortages as our population grows," Borst said.

The 43-page final report includes a thorough summary of the presentations made by the 12 speakers who attended the July open-house event at Meaden Hall. It covers historical weather patterns, water use, tips for conservation and ideas about ways islanders can adapt to a drier climate in

years to come.

George Grams, a member of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee, supports the role of legislation when it comes to water conservation. As chair of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority, Grams said the topic of water conservation deserves attention.

"SSIWPA has set a budget of \$45,000 to look at the subject and, now that the management plan for St. Mary Lake is all but complete, it liberates time and resources to examine conservation measures in detail, and in consultation with other agencies and stakeholders," he said.

Borst said attendance of more than 100 people at the July event demonstrates many islanders have begun to take the situation seriously, regardless of whether they use a private well or shared water system.

"I was really impressed. I feel like it was really well received," he said. "Before this event, nobody was really talking about it."

HISTORY

SSE plans diamond anniversary bash

Party organizers sought

Anyone in the public who attended Salt Spring Elementary School in the past and would like to help plan the school's 75th anniversary celebrations is invited to attend a meeting at the school this Thursday morning, Oct. 1, at 8:30 a.m.

An alumni-led committee working in conjunction with SSE administration is focussing on the school's history as they ready for a community celebration in the spring. One of the projects underway requires finding past students who are

willing to be interviewed by a current SSE student for a group project. The end results will include a written record of the interview, a filmed presentation if the subject is willing, and a multi-squared quilt made of current students' painted interpretations of their interview subjects.

Anyone in the community who is interested in joining the planning committee or participating in the interview project should call the school office at 250-537-9928. Thursday's meeting is open to the public and takes place in the SSE multi-purpose room.

Students' emotional health is priority

RCMP
continued from 1

"It is important that we take steps to ensure the emotional safety of our children by making

them aware of potential dangers of situations and simultaneously assuaging any feelings of panic or undue anxiety," Halstead wrote.

Police will continue to investigate the incident while increasing their visibility in the

school area. The school district is also reviewing its supervision practices.

"We're following up on what was reported and expect to have this matter addressed in fairly short order," Beardsmore said.

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BUYING EVENT!

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Saturday, October 3

Turn your gold, silver, art, rare books, coins and estate items into money today!

WE BUY: Gold and silver coins, watches, fine art, unwanted jewellery, dental gold, silver flatware, tea sets, bowls, rare books & manuscripts.

THE ROADSHOW
steffichfineart

Grace Point Square
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Matt Steffich
FINE ART

John Newman
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OPINION



2015 CCNA Awards
Gold - General Excellence | Gold - Front Page | Gold - Editorial Page | Gold - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre & Elizabeth Nolan)
Gold - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker) | Gold - Agricultural Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Aqua)
Silver - Editorial (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)



2015 BCYCNA Awards
Gold - Environmental Writing (Elizabeth Nolan & Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - General Excellence

EDITORIAL

Working together

When it comes to establishing a true Canadian identity, the claim that we are “not American” ranks close to the top of any list, yet shared concerns on either side of the Salish Sea’s international boundary are signalling time for a rethink.

In a meeting between elected representatives, government staffers and members of the broader public from the Gulf Islands and Washington’s San Juan Islands held in Sidney on Monday, it didn’t take much

THE ISSUE:

Oil-spill response

WE SAY:

Cross border approach needed

to make councillor Rick Hughes from Orcas Island feel at home.

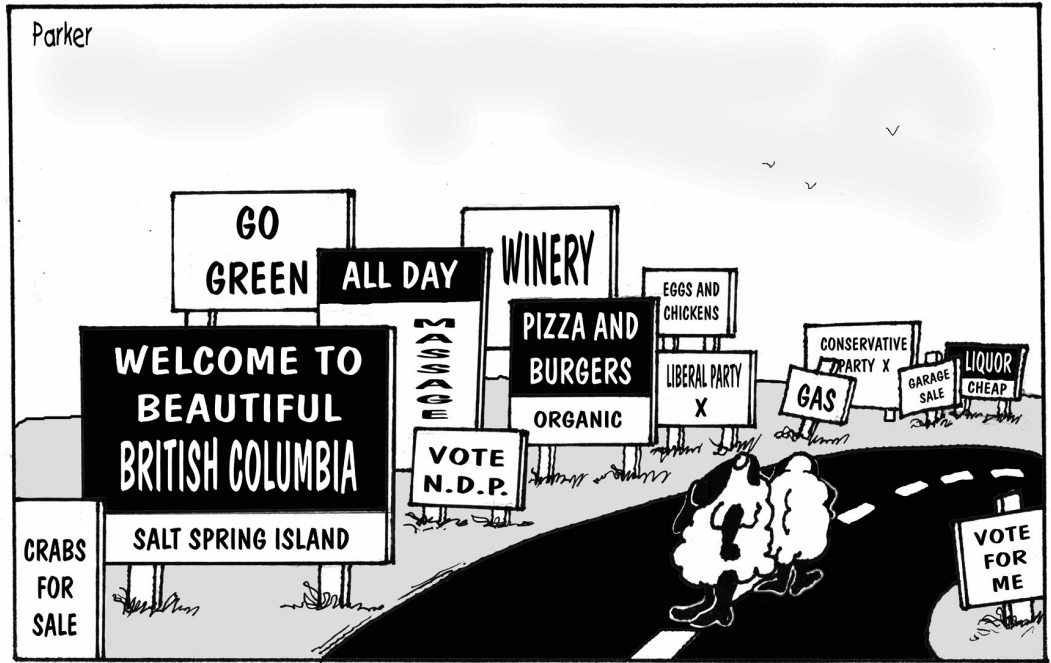
“We like to joke that we feel more kindred to our island neighbours to the north than we do to our neighbours on the mainland,” he told the gathering.

We may live under separate flags, but shared geographic, demographic and economic realities mean folks in Ganges have more in common with their neighbours in Friday Harbour than they might think.

With international shipping to ports in the Vancouver and Seattle areas on the increase, risks posed by a major collision have risen to the forefront of debate on Mayne Island as much as on Lopez. Regardless of the shared threat, training and resources differ drastically. Many of the Canadians at Monday’s event looked to the American response capabilities with awe, while the Americans admitted to not doing nearly enough.

Regardless of our resources, discussion about shipping and disaster response in the Salish Sea is an ideal starting point to build ties and form a louder voice to grab attention from provincial, state and federal governments. Beyond that, there is much more to learn about strategies to tackle common problems like the shortage of affordable housing, an aging population and a struggling manufacturing sector. By sharing our approaches to these common challenges at future cross-border collaboration sessions, we can learn how to face the challenges ahead.

Canadians may always define themselves as “not American,” but rest assured people on both sides of the border stand united with equal passion to defend the island communities they call home.



VIEWPOINT by David Rapport

Defensive position won’t help lake

In his Sept. 9 Viewpoint, George Grams, chair of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority, did not take kindly to my In Depth critique of the authority’s lack of core expertise and direction in handling the situation of St. Mary Lake (Sept. 2 Driftwood).

Rather than address the main point of my critique — the need for ecosystem science, and in particular ecosystem health science — he prefers to assert that he seeks solutions based on “data rather than dogma.” That is all well and good, but data collection is always informed by perspective, and in the complete absence of an ecosystem approach and ecosystem science expertise, the perspective on how to restore health to St. Mary Lake is completely missing.

Grams asserts that humans have had nothing to do with the ongoing and worsening problems of St. Mary Lake. This is hardly a credible claim. While the natural evolution of the lake may well be in the direction of eutrophication, there can be little question that disturbance in the watershed, along with phosphorus inputs from septic fields and agricultural runoff, has speeded up the process. Ironically, in the same issue of the Driftwood in which he makes that claim, one reads that the ITC aims to restrict human activities in rural watershed zones, including St. Mary.

Grams also muses that climate change is not relevant because the “data on the specific impacts . . . are flimsy.” With the entire west coast of the U.S. and Canada reeling in one of the worst droughts on record, does Grams think that the impacts of climate change have magically bypassed Salt Spring and in particular St. Mary Lake, leaving this precious jewel unaffected?

Here it is not data that are needed, but the explicit recognition that St. Mary is being subjected to growing pressure from climate change, resulting in the increased likelihood of negative water bal-

ances, more intensive algal blooms and further stress on an already over-pressured food web.

Grams also makes a point of informing us that, between SSIWPA’s steering committee and coordinator, the authority counts as many as five doctorates. However, he appears to be confusing academic titles as such with the specific expertise that is essential to carry forward the restoration of St. Mary Lake. While steering committee members have relevant expertise in technical aspects that are undoubtedly useful, the relevant core disciplines — ecology, ecosystem science and ecosystem health — are woefully absent. In the absence of these core disciplines, SSIWPA cannot mount a credible effort.

All credible efforts currently underway globally to restore health to the world’s ecosystems are governed by these core disciplines. The most recent initiatives to restore health to the Great Lakes, the Baltic Sea and hundreds of other ecosystems are explicitly implementing an ecosystem health approach.

St. Mary is the bell-weather lake for our island. It is apparent that SSIWPA is ill equipped to even recognize the nature of the science required, let alone carry forward the analysis and actions. That, as I argued in my Sept. 2 piece, strongly calls for independent external review.

The SSIWPA chair’s defensive denial does not bode well for the lake. If that attitude continues, I fear that it will no longer be a matter of wishing St. Mary well, but rather, sadly, of bidding it farewell.

The writer co-authored the first State of Environment Report for all of Canada and conducts studies on the health of ecosystems worldwide.

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION:

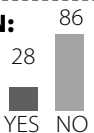
Should fire board seats be filled before the next AGM?

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 the Meyer Road fairies move on?



Driftwood

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Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR
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Sean McIntyre,
Elizabeth Nolan

Front office:
James Burton,
Johanna Walkner

Advertising:
Elena Dunn,
Jennifer Lannan



Amber Ogilvie
PUBLISHER
aoilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Elena Dunn
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
edunn@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Lorraine Sullivan
PRODUCTION MANAGER
production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We are the same people, we just happen to live on different sides of an imaginary line."

RICK HUGHES, SAN JUAN COUNTY COUNCILLOR

SALT SPRING SAYS

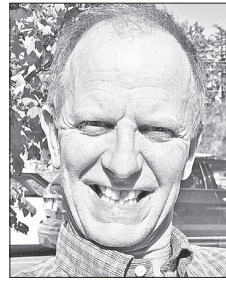
We asked: What facilities do you want to see at PARC's Brinkworthy Road park site?



CAROLYN CRESWICK
I think an indoor area with a kitchenette and toys for kids and moms would be good.



SHAUNDR A JONES
Soccer fields would be nice.



PETER PARKER
A new community centre with activities for kids.



EVELYN SIDEEN
A labyrinth made from stone.



ANDREW BARBUTZA
An outdoor climbing wall.

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

Critical road safety issue

The Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission and Partners Creating Pathways have a growing track record in creating pathways for safe walking and cycling.

One very critical element is missing in these initiatives: proper marking on the roads so that cars can navigate and avoid intrusion into bicycle and walking routes (and into each other), and so that bicycles and pedestrians can avoid verging off the shoulders into main automobile traffic lanes.

Yellow centre lines and white shoulder lines (using reflective paint) have long been an issue on Salt Spring. I have been advised by the transportation commission that this is the responsibility of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and that any concerns on this issue must be taken up with the MOTI.

I respectfully submit that surely the transportation commission and our local Capital Regional District and Islands Trust representatives are likely to have far more influence with the MOTI than an individual resident of Salt Spring Island. As well,

they would have the personal contacts to get action.

Proper road marking is absolutely critical for safe movement of pedestrians, bicycles, cars, buses and trucks on our island. In fact, I would submit that without these boundary markings, pathways could be increasing the risk of accidents by lulling users into a false sense of security.

We are approaching the time of year with early darkness and rainy periods when this need is particularly pressing. It would be outstanding to see at least a start on meeting this need this year — particularly on

the main roads from Fulford to Ganges and Vesuvius.

Let's shift the priority from pathways to proper marking of main roads where most of the pedestrian and auto movement takes place.

BEN GOODMAN,
SALT SPRING

More paths

The following letter was sent to the Salt Spring Transportation Commission and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

I want to tell you how much I appreciated using the new pathway from Atkins Road to Tin Can Alley and the entrance to

the fall fair. For the first time, I felt safe walking along there. I noticed too that the drivers looked much less relaxed knowing they weren't going to hit anyone.

On another note, I would like to suggest a pathway along Robinson Road from Long Harbour Road to Mansell Road. This is a very dangerous roadway to walk and cycle on. I have almost hit pedestrians more than once as they were walking with their backs to me, wearing black clothes and walking in the rain with no light. So dangerous.

Also, in the summer, a couple of times cyclists have stopped to check maps or their bikes and there is no place to properly get off the road, and so on blind corners I am forced to go around them. Again, this is so dangerous and I fear there will be a serious accident one of these days.

So I'm hoping that the next pathway built will be this one to keep us all safe. Thank you.

KISHORI HUTCHINGS,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Fire trustee resignation letters and response

Following are the letters of resignation of Salt Spring Fire Protection Board trustees Michele Severn and Mike Garside, and the response of board chair Linda Lee.

Michele Severn Resignation Letter

When I first started on the board, I felt as though I had become a part of a team. The trustees had respect for one another, even when they disagreed. The relationships between the chief, his staff and the trustees were ones of mutual respect and honour.

At public meetings, however, I was saddened to see a small group of community members be disrespectful and at times hostile towards the trustees and the chief. Then trustees began to step down or didn't let their terms continue, mainly due to stress and simple "burn-out."

Then came the "new board" who brought a very different perspective and set of values to the fire service. This new board's primary goal is to save money at all costs. While I acknowledge that there is much room for improvement, the current lack of teamwork, respect and camaraderie will, I fear, in the end, be more destructive and costly than constructive.

I have now watched every single member of the "old board" step down and sadly there has been no acknowledgement of the service each has given over the years.

I cannot in good conscience continue to participate in a process that is so at odds with my ethics and "heart" and so I hereby tender my resignation as trustee of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District effective immediately.

I leave you with the best of wishes for the

board and the fire service. I caution the board to examine your narrow focus on money saving; without truly respectful, positive and strong relationships with the men and women who serve our community, the currently acknowledged high level of expertise received by Salt Spring Island will inevitably be damaged.

I am sure that you each know deep in your hearts that the care of people should be your primary goal and a healthy way of balancing this goal with fiscal needs is possible.

Respectfully submitted,
MICHELE SEVERN

Mike Garside Resignation Letter

The purpose of this letter is to give notice of my wish to resign as a fire trustee effective immediately.

The main reason for resigning is that I'm simply unable to devote the time needed to contribute to the board and their projects. I feel that the board would be better served by someone that has the time and can make a full commitment to the community.

When I had agreed to become a trustee, the time commitment required at that time was considerably different than it is now.

The nature of my job is such that I need to give it my full attention and it is simply unfair to my employer not to give them my full attention.

I appreciate the expertise and dedication that the board is giving to the community and trust that you'll understand my decision.

I wish you all the best in your work. Thank you.
MIKE GARSIDE

SSIFPD Board Chair Linda Lee's Response

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District recently received two letters of resignation from board members. Trustee Michael Garside submitted his letter on Wednesday, Sept. 23 and trustee Michele Severn followed with her own letter the next day. I was surprised and disappointed to learn of their resignations only through my SSIFPD email. Neither Mr. Garside nor Ms. Severn gave me any notice of their intent nor did either one attempt to discuss their concerns with the board or me prior to submitting their resignations.

I will say that I have respect for the way Mr. Garside has written his letter. In it he is honest about the amount of work involved in being a trustee and has noted that it is not what he signed on for. I can appreciate that. He also shows respect for those of us who remain by saying, "I appreciate the expertise and dedication that the board is giving to the community . . ." However, had he been willing to sit for a few more months I would have ensured that he only needed to attend board meetings. The other trustees would have picked up his workload. We were not given this opportunity.

Ms. Severn's letter is not so respectful and her tone certainly feels like an attack. Suggesting that her "ethics" and "heart" have been compromised by being a part of this board's process is ludicrous.

I do not appreciate Ms. Severn's innuendo that somehow her morals are any better than those of the other trustees. It may have been tremendously difficult for Ms. Severn

to be part of a team that needs to address challenging issues when she has close personal relationships with district employees but this is no reason to criticize those with whom she may disagree. I believe that any board benefits from a variety of perspectives.

I am extremely disheartened that Mr. Garside and Ms. Severn do not intend to fulfill the commitment they made to this community even after having recently stated to me that they were willing to finish their terms of office.

These resignations have put the district and its ratepayers in an awkward and potentially very expensive dilemma. SSIFPD will likely need to call a by-election as quorum may be difficult to achieve moving forward. This could cost ratepayers thousands of extra dollars only months before the regular election next spring.

To say that I am shocked at their decision is an understatement. The remaining trustees are working countless hours on behalf of this community.

If anyone wishes to challenge our morals or work ethic I invite you to speak to us personally. We continue to invite you to attend public committee meetings and the regular SSIFPD board meetings instead of relying on second and third-hand information. I cannot state strongly enough how much we welcome your presence and your input.

CHAIR LINDA LEE,
FOR THE SSIFPD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Study's engagement plan outlined

INCORPORATION STUDY CORNER

SSI INCORPORATION STUDY COMMITTEE

The Salt Spring Island Incorporation Study Committee (ISC) is responsible for guiding and managing the research, analysis and public discussion of the implications of municipal incorporation based on the terms of reference for the study. Put very simply, the ISC will gather and share fact-based information relating to municipal incorporation.

The focus of this article is on the sharing element and to briefly outline the ISC's many plans for public engagement as part of this process. The ultimate goal is to ensure that the community has the factual information needed in order to make an informed choice on the question of municipal incorporation, should a referendum be held.

All relevant information pertaining to the study can be found on the ISC website at www.ssiincorporationstudy.com. This site will be updated frequently and promoted through Facebook. The website also allows people to sign up for email notices. These will be sent out when there are updates, fact sheets or other meaningful information to share. In fact, the ISC plans to release a series of fact sheets. These will be developed to succinctly summarize information on specific issues of interest.

Notices of meetings will be posted with local media. All ISC meetings are open to the public and include a question period.

Of course, other than video content only

available online, seeing the ongoing information flow will not require access to the internet. The ISC plans on maintaining a regular article in the Gulf Islands Driftwood. In addition, all key documents, notices of meetings and information posted to the website will be printed in hard copy and kept in a binder available for viewing and copying at the library.

The ISC will also employ surveys. Early on, the consultant that is preparing the report, Urban Systems, will be polling the community to learn what specific information expectations the community has. Later, some time after publishing the preliminary report, we will undertake additional surveying that will seek community feedback on the information presented.

Following publication of the preliminary report, we are also planning to conduct two open houses, one on the north part of the island and one in the south. At these open houses, Urban Systems will provide an overview of their findings. Then the public can visit different information stations where there will be deeper insights and discussion available on specific areas of the study. The infor-

mation stations have not been identified yet but could include topics such as the impact of incorporation on potential changes to service delivery, financial and capital cost requirements, and other key areas. This approach is intended to allow community members to focus on their area(s) of interest and engage directly with subject matter experts at the information station.

Based on community feedback on the preliminary report, as well as the outcome of discussions with the provincial government, with respect to its proposed financial participation in a possible transition to municipal incorporation, Urban Systems will create a final report before the end of March 2016. Once this final report is available the ISC will conduct a final public meeting and open house to allow the community to learn and digest its contents and conclusions.

This comprehensive public engagement plan is intended to provide frequent and meaningful information and information exchange throughout the entire study process. It will employ many different media in an effort to reach the broadest cross section and greatest number of community members so that everyone has the information they need in order to make an informed choice on the question of municipal incorporation, should a referendum be held.

www.ssiincorporationstudy.com

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MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Motion details

The following letter was sent to the board of trustees of the Salt Spring Fire Protection District and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

A couple of months ago, part of this board voted to require Fire Chief Tom Bremner and Deputy Chief Arjuna George to take on the command vehicle night duty shift. Your stated purpose was to save money. Last month you reversed that decision.

Was there any mediation, arbitration or grievance filed or entered into as a result of this decision?

Were there any legal costs; cost of mediation or arbitration and/or additional hours required by the CAO; and/or any other costs incurred as the result of this decision?

I respectfully request that the finance committee and the board present and file, at the October 2015 monthly meeting, a summary statement of monies saved and costs incurred as a result of the motion requiring the chief and deputy chief to assume the command vehicle night duty shift.

CAROLE E. DODD,
NORTH BEACH ROAD

Costs too high

A week ago the Salt Spring Fire Department hosted a public meeting starting with a presentation by Fire Chief Tom Bremner. Several members of the community thanked the department for the services provided by Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue. A few made comments such as "there is no price

too high to save a life."

I'm sure these people were sincere, but they seem to think our community should be willing to write a blank cheque to support these services. I think they're wrong.

I'd give everything I own to save the life of my child or grandchild. My child. But should I expect you to do the same for my child? No. Maybe if there are no limits to our bank books the answer might "yes," but that's not the world we're in. It's the job (and a pretty thankless one) of our elected officials to be careful with that money because it is limited.

They have to make tough choices all the time so our kids get educated, our old folks are cared for. You name it. The list is endless and they can't write a blank cheque, no matter how good the cause.

Chief Bremner talked about all the things done by his department. He didn't talk much about what it costs, or why the cost has gone up so much in the last few years.

I've lived here a long time, and for as long as I've been here we've relied on our volunteers (yes, I know they get some pay, but it's still pretty small). He talked about how he can't know if a volunteer is around to help when needed, compared to the "career" guys. From what he said, it seems Chief Bremner wants more of these full-time firefighters. If that's so, he needs to give a lot more information. How many does he think we need? Why? What would it cost?

He told us we've been getting "full service" for the last 15 years or so. That means it was before some of the firefighters became unionized. There were only three of them in 2006, and now there's six, with one more to be

added. Are things any better now than they were before? Are we any safer now with a budget that's three times what it was a few years ago? I don't think so.

At more than two and a half million dollars a year, that's not just nickels and dimes.

RON SMITH,
SALT SPRING

Jesse funds update

Salt Spring Islanders have responded very generously to donate close to \$3,500 since fundraising efforts began for contributions to the Jesse Schramm Fund via Lady Minto Hospital. (See my Sept. 9 "Hospital roommate initiates fundraiser" piece for more details.)

Thank you, all islanders, friends and neighbours for your heartwarming support! We have almost reached our goal.

Jesse, a paraplegic since she was a teenager, is now realizing after a six-month hospital stay that her desperate wish to go home and go back to work is now a real possibility.

We only need to find a used, automatic two-door car for Jesse and the funds to put her equipment in it so that she may return to her long-time occupation working to improve the lives of developmentally disabled adults at Choices in Ganges.

Any help you can give will be so much appreciated. Please put your contributions to the Lady Minto Hospital for Jesse Schramm in an envelope marked "Jesse Schramm Fund" and leave it at the hospital's front desk.

Thank you again!
SHEILA HOEN,
VESUVIUS

Trustee kudos

Thank you to our fire district trustees for following through on their election promises to carefully work towards a more cost-efficient and effective fire service for Salt Spring.

A small number of people have recently voiced their opposition to careful spending of public tax money in the district. Most of these people are conspicuously absent from volunteering to serve on or even attending board or committee meetings, so I find it difficult to take their comments and criticisms seriously.

The facts are that the fire budget has tripled in 10 years without an increase in tax base to support this. During this time there has been neither an increase in population nor an increase in responses to fire calls.

Prior to our current board, budgets were approved without much, if any, public debate or question. The current trustees were elected by a vast majority of islanders to get a much-overdue handle on costs and to follow through on the numerous recommendations made by the Walker Report. They are doing precisely that.

I work about six hours a week for the district as a member of the finance committee and that is probably less than any of the other finance committee members. This pales in comparison to the time, energy, commitment and work of the trustees who represent the taxpayers for no remuneration and little gratitude.

KEN MARR,
SALT SPRING

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RANTS *and* Roses

Roses

The athletes of Special Olympics BC on Salt Spring Island wish to present a veranda heaped with everlasting roses to Tim and John and their staff at TJ Beans coffee house for hosting a recent fabulous bocce wrap-up party for us. A huge bouquet also goes to our fantastic head coach Bob Elsea for another year of his patient guidance; to assistant coaches Ted Lane, Ross Harvey and Jean Elder for their constant inspiration; to volunteers Martin Mongard, Chip Chipman and Caroline Bracken for their weekly dedication. Individual roses also go to Harlan's Chocolates and Gelato for scooping the fantastic Gelato treats and to Barry at Uptown Pizza for making the mouth-watering pizzas. We always work to "do the best we can" in our bocce sport . . . and to have fun along the way. We do appreciate all your support. What a g-r-r-reat community!

A bouquet of yellow roses to the contractors who have volunteered to build several outhouses along the Chris Hatfield

Trail off Meyer Road so the elves and their visitors will not have to pee in the woods. Erskine Elf

A beautiful bouquet of roses to Nolan Magnus of Living Accents for his contribution to the driveway and parking lot of Tree Frog Daycare. The kids, parents and employees appreciate your work in making it all smooth and not bumpy anymore!

Wheelbarrows full of roses to Country Grocer for their generous donations for the abattoir fundraiser at the fall fair and for their ongoing support throughout the year. More roses to the farmers who donated the meat for the burgers (Rollie Cook, David Astill, Sandy Robley, Chris Schmah, Mike Lane) and to Riley Byers and the abattoir staff for volunteering their time to make it happen. Fields of roses to Val Perkins and Roger Charron for donating their property for the weekend and big bunches of roses to all the volunteers parking the cars. Thanks to all for your contributions to our fundraising efforts. SSI Agricultural Alliance

Trail action disappoints

I have been coming to the family cabin on this island for 57 years, and at the end of January I had the privilege to move here full time.

To my delight and excitement I happened upon the Chris Hatfield Trail. As I would wander the trail looking at the amazing forest art I kept thinking that the neighbours who live close to the trail must love and respect the forest because of the care and love put into the trail. Apparently this is not the case. ("Fairy encampments set for removal from busy trail," Sept. 23 Driftwood.)

I guess the bumper sticker "Relax, this ain't the mainland" means nothing as the voices of a few override the enjoyment of the many, just like in Vancouver.

How disappointing and sad that people of all ages will no longer get to enjoy the forest art that is on this incredible trail.

We have 30 turnarounds at the end of Beddis Road daily in the summer. You don't see us shutting down Beddis Beach.

**BARB GALLOWAY,
BEDDIS ROAD**

More magic, not less

That a few people deem vacant "public" road should be more important than supporting a gentle, magical experience for our community's children is beyond disappointing ("Fairy encampments set for removal from busy trail" story).

Our world needs more magic, not less. If the faeries are not welcome on a "public" trail on Salt Spring Island, where are they welcome? Where do they go? What happens to the magic?

We moved here three years ago with the hope of keeping our children's childhood magical. We have only visited the Chris Hatfield Trail a few times. But the fact

MORE LETTERS

that my little kids have had eye-witness accounts of a real faerie village and know where to find it again keeps their imaginations alight for months. On a recent trip to visit my in-laws in California I overheard my older niece telling my daughters that faeries don't exist. My daughter confidently replied, "They do on Salt Spring Island. It's not like California. It's a very, very, very magical place."

The last time we walked the trail was at the beginning of September. It was one of the nicest afternoons I've had with my children. We spent several hours walking, looking at the sculptures and building a driftwood house on the beach. We talked a lot about faeries and magic. There was no fussing, sibling squabbling or complaints. Just a lot of joy and laughter. Ours was the only car parked on the public road all afternoon. We only ran into one person on the trail, a nearby neighbour walking her dog.

We are so fortunate to live in a place with public parks, public beaches, public facilities and public roads. These assets belong to all of us, regardless of whether we own nearby property or not. Just as neighbourhoods with beach accesses will have extra visitors in the summer, so will neighbourhoods with other special public places. These places are not reserved for wealthy landowners or private clubs, as is often the case in other countries. Isn't that absolutely wonderful?

I want to thank those who helped the faeries build their village and who clearly treasure the magical time that is childhood. To those who don't understand this or simply don't value this, my heart aches for you.

**ELIZABETH FITZALAND,
SALT SPRING**

Parking space available

The first casualty of any debate on Salt Spring Island often seems to be the truth.

In the Sept. 23 article "Fairy encampments set for removal" the statement is made: ". . . it isn't uncommon for there to be more than a dozen cars parked along both sides of the narrow dirt road that leads to the trailhead."

This is not completely accurate.

I constructed Meyer Road (the road that leads to the trailhead) to highway standards and approval in the 1990s. It is finished with gravel to highway standards. There is a parking cul-de-sac that holds up to a dozen cars at the Chris Hatfield trailhead.

**NORM TWA,
BLACKBURN ROAD**

Fairy village loved

It does not seem possible that on our community-minded island someone could decide almost single handedly to remove something from public property (Ruckle Park) that seems to only affect his and a couple of other people's lives.

Meanwhile, countless kids and adults love the fairy village, balancing stones and eye tricks with natural objects that pepper this lovely walk to the sea.

The story in last week's Driftwood seems fabricated out of misconceptions and distortions. Meyer Road is wider than most of our rural roads and the cul-de-sac is ample for easy turn arounds. I have never seen more than six cars parked in that area and seldom meet more than a couple of families while on the trail.

There do not seem to be any homes near enough to hear the sound of voices, and as to the charge of public urination . . . well, when you gotta go you gotta go. Ruckle

Park is not very generous with its outdoor potties.

We took three groups of summer visitors there, including our grand-daughters, on consecutive August weekends and never saw crowds. The kids are delighted. What about the children who have contributed objects of their own as gifts to the faeries and will come back and find them missing? What does that teach kids about people and life? Nothing positive, I assure you.

I thought the whole goal of trails was to get people out walking and sharing our island. What next, the fairy doors on Mount Erskine?

I hope nothing happens to change this unique trail until a broader community is involved and other solutions are proposed.

**DAN DICKMEYER,
ROLAND ROAD**

Elf apology

The elves would like to apologize for any distress caused to the humans who live along Meyer Road on our magical Salt Spring Island.

We had no intention that our little elf house on the Chris Hatfield Trail, also known as the Fairyland Trail, would cause such distress.

We request your patience while we remind our visitors to be more circumspect and less unruly. You know how much the children love this fairyland adventure, and we do admit they can be a bit unruly. If occasionally they have to pee in the woods we apologize for that on their behalf.

In the meantime, we hope our good wishes will suffice to quell any discord that may have arisen because of their enthusiasm. You can trust our sincerity in this matter and we hope you reconsider your plans to dismantle our fairy house. We do love living here.

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VIA ROGER BRUNT,
FAIRYLAND TRAIL**

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SALT SPRING INN
Thursday Night - Prime Rib Dinner

SSNAP

Organizers pull off major coup with SSNAP opening

Weekend events underscore art's central role

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Arts Council and its supporters achieved a major triumph over the weekend by making the Salt Spring National Art Prize every bit as fantastic and serious as they dreamed it could be.

"I think it's a great step forward culturally for us," writer Kathy Page said at Saturday night's panel event.

Ron Crawford, arts council president and an early champion of the prize, has stated several times that promoting dialogue about and engagement in the arts is one of the event's main goals. Thanks to Joan McConnell's seed idea and the major cash prize she offered, and Crawford's gumption in picking up the idea and running with it, those goals were clearly achieved during SSNAP's two premiere events: a packed-to-the-rafters opening gala at Mahon Hall Friday night and the thought-provoking panel discussion held at ArtSpring on Saturday.

Organizers estimate 400 people walked through the doors on Friday, including 25 of the 52 artists from across the country whose work was chosen for the exhibit. Those who bought tickets were no doubt pleased to learn the price included unlimited entry throughout the exhibition month, because it was difficult to actually



Elizabeth Nolan

ARTBEAT ON THE ROCK



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

From left, the electric cord piece titled *Just Once* by Dong-Kyoon Nom of Winnipeg is in the foreground, with other works hanging behind, while *It's Your World Now* by Alexandra Phillips of Vancouver captivates as part of the inaugural SSNAP Finalists' Exhibition. For more photos, see the Driftwood's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood.

see the art through the press of people. But everywhere you turned, people were having discussions about art and SSAC's accomplishment.

Comments heard on Friday included the fact that islanders were willing to line up for an art show and pay to get in — two almost unprecedented occurrences. This suggests an ongoing support for ventures like SSNAP in the future and the knowledge that community investment might include having a ticket price.

Others were thrilled to just see art and artists they'd never seen before. At the same time as admiring the freshness, though, there was a feeling that Salt Spring artists stand up well against their national peers.

Several of the 52 finalists appear to be up-and-coming artists not too long out of art school. Perhaps because of this, there was also a strongly high-concept, academic flavour to the show. Sometimes you had to read the tag to understand the work. This in turned prompted the question as to whether an artwork can be considered successful if it doesn't speak on its own terms, and what it is there to do, reflecting George Sipos' recent

Driftwood opinion piece on provocation versus entertainment.

Conversation also centred on the organizational triumph behind the weekend's events. Well-known photographer Larry Melious noted that Mahon Hall has never looked better, and truly there was no feeling the community hall wasn't up to national honours. Indeed, on Friday the setting was quite transformed with an elegant outdoor seating area where one could escape the crowds and enjoy live music from Sky Valley Jazz in the twilight.

The delivery of Saturday's panel event was equally impressive. Salt Spring is lucky to have attracted Canadian theatre greats Susan Benson and Michael Whitfield to the island, and Benson used her talents to make the event visually as well as intellectually exciting. An award-winning costume and stage designer, Benson had the brilliant idea of grouping sculptures by George Wallace around the stage. Set on vivid red plinths, Wallace's *Ten Characters* From a Spanish Comedy series (on loan from The Point Gallery) provided the perfect set piece for a fascinating talk.

Besides an overall acknowledgement of art's importance in all forms and the need to nourish it better through government support, the take-home message came from Veronica Tennant, a prima ballerina who went on to make arts and culture films after dancing with Mikhail Baryshnikov and Rudolf Nureyev. She pointed out that art isn't a one-way channel of self-expression but a form of communication that needs both a sender and a receiver to be successful.

The SSNAP exhibition continues daily at Mahon Hall through to Oct. 26. Upcoming events include another panel discussion, this time organized by Margaret Day of The Point Gallery. In and Out of the Box: Engaging in Contemporary Art takes place Sunday, Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. at the GISS multipurpose room. (See story on page 13.) Several artists' talks at Mahon hall are also part of exhibit events, including one by SSNAP finalist Nicola Wheston of Salt Spring at 12 noon on Monday, Oct. 5.

See www.saltspringartprize.ca for more details.

The awards gala is set for Saturday, Oct. 24.

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EXHIBIT

Charcoal pit art on display

High school artists involved in community project

Five local artists are teaming up with art students from Gulf Islands Secondary School to create an exhibition of drawings made with the charcoal from the Japanese charcoal pit recently discovered in Mount Park.

Gillian McConnell worked with art teacher Peter Legun and the students in the GISS art room last week as they made drawings related to the 92-year-old pieces of charcoal they will use to explore the idea of "fuel."

The resulting drawings will be shown in the Salt Spring Library Program

Room, along with pieces by artists Louise Goodman, Jeanne Lyons, Pat McCallum, McConnell and Legun.

The opening event is on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. and the drawings will be on display at the library for the month of October.

The drawings will also be displayed on Oct. 4 in the high school multipurpose room during the curator panel discussion called In and Out of the Box: Engaging in Contemporary Art, one of the exciting SSNAP (Salt Spring National Art Prize) events. GISS graduate Naomi Potter, currently a director and curator at the Esker Foundation and Gallery of Calgary, Alta., will be one of the panel members.

EXHIBITIONS

John Fulker shares life of architectural photography

Retrospective exhibit at ArtSpring

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring resident John Fulker will present a rare collection of photographs during a brief but fascinating show opening at ArtSpring this Friday, Oct. 2.

Fulker may be better known these days for raising heritage sheep and almost single-handedly willing a community spinning mill into existence, but the Images of Architecture exhibition at the Bate-man gallery will show how he spent the bulk of his time for close to five decades in a retrospective of 45 years of photography plus career-related materials.

Fulker studied his art at the New York Institute of Photography, originally intending to become a photo-journalist. His brother, an architect living in Vancouver, convinced him to focus on a niche market in need of manpower instead. He agreed, and then spent from 1959 to 1989 working out of Vancouver before moving to Salt Spring. He spent the last 10 years of his career juggling photo assignments with raising heritage sheep at Bullock Lake Farm.

Assignments for magazines and other employers took Fulker all over North America, the Caribbean, the U.K. and to South Africa during the course of his career.



One of John Fulker's images from the mission area in California.

"It sounds like a great life, traveling the world and taking pictures," Fulker said, but he noted one gets tired of living in motels, eating in restaurants and being away from home for weeks at a time. In his case the work was also physically demanding, as he had to lug around his own lighting equipment, cameras and tripod.

Fulker's retirement coincided with the dawn of the digital age, something he never got into and doesn't much appreciate, since he believes anyone can get a decent picture if they take 100 snaps.

"I used to work very deliberately," he said. "I spent a long time looking at a building before I took any photographs. And if I took 10 in a day, that was a lot."

Fulker has shot all types of buildings for all sorts of publications. He was employed by Colonial Home magazine photographing historic homes for 17 years. Other assignments included the oldest house in Alaska — a cabin built in Connecticut in the 1600s that was dismantled and then reassembled in Anchorage — the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City on a job for the Department

of Foreign Affairs, and a solar house made almost entirely of glass in Sun Valley, Idaho.

One of Fulker's favourite locations was King's Landing Historical Settlement in New Brunswick, which he first visited for Colonial Homes and then returned to at the request of the village's administration to catalogue every building on site. Another favourite

was the mission area in California, especially La Purisima, for the buildings' shapes, colours and textures.

"They're rich in subject matter. They're almost sculptural," Fulker said.

The display is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Friday, Oct. 2 until Wednesday, Oct. 7.



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CONCERT PREVIEW

Parker performs at ArtSpring



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Ian Parker opens the Great Canadian Pianists series at the island's arts centre.

Gershwin, Brahms, Haydn, Liszt and Beethoven on Sunday's program

BY CICELA MANSSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

About one year ago Ian Parker visited ArtSpring unexpectedly. He played for me and left me with a wonderful CD he had recorded with the London Symphony Orchestra.

I relished that CD as I listened to it at home, the Ravel Piano Concerto in G Major and a capriccio by Igor Stravinsky. But for me it was his recording of George Gershwin's Piano Concerto in F Major

that really caught my attention.

On Sunday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m., Parker will be the first performer in the Great Canadian Pianists series at ArtSpring. The intent of the series was to start the celebration of Canada's 150th birthday a little early and highlight some of the fabulous artists that Canada has produced.

This week Parker will play the three Gershwin Preludes, Brahms' Handel Variations, Haydn's Variations in F minor, Liszt transcriptions of Franz Schubert songs and Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 12.

Born in Vancouver to a family of pianists, Parker began his piano studies at age three with his father, Edward Parker. He holds both bachelor and master of music degrees from The Juilliard School, where he was a student of Yoheved Kaplinsky. While at Juilliard, the Canada Council for the Arts awarded him the Sylva Gelber Career Grant, which is given annually to the "most talented Canadian artist."

An enthusiastic recitalist, Parker has performed across the United States, Western Europe and Israel, and throughout Canada on tours with Debut Atlantic and Jeunesses Musicales du Canada. He made his Lincoln Center recital debut at the Walter Reade Theater in 2004.

Among his current season appearances, Parker will play recitals presented by Musica Camerata and the North Okanagan Community Concerts Association.

Parker will be back at ArtSpring to perform with the Vogler Quartet on Feb. 23, 2016.

Sunday's concert starts at 7:30 p.m.

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what's on this week



Wed. Sept 30 **Thur. Oct 1** **Thur. Oct 1** **Sat. Oct 3** **Sun. Oct 4** **Mon. Oct 5** **Wed. Oct 7**

ACTIVITIES

Computer Help Drop-in. Get free help with your phone, tablet or computer challenges every Wednesday at Salt Spring Literacy. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Poker Night at the Local. Hosted by Albert every Wednesday at The Local. Sign up by 6:30 p.m., start at 7 p.m.
Songjam. A pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Hit songs with lyrics handed out. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Sneakers National Seniors Day Invitation. Seniors are invited to the Sneakers' running club's regular workout at Portlock Park. Pre-run meet and greet from 9:30 to 10 a.m.
SS Seniors Centre National Seniors Day Coffee. Have coffee and discussion at SS Seniors Centre from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
SS Hospice Advanced Care Planning Workshop. For National Seniors Day at the Seniors Wellness/Hospice building on Hereford Ave. 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Info: 250-537-2770.
Salt Spring Literacy Open House. For National Seniors Day at the Elma Rubright Learning Centre on Hereford Avenue. 12 noon to 4 p.m. Info: 250-537-9717.
Elder Abuse Workshop. Part of National Seniors Day events at Seniors Wellness on Hereford Avenue. 2 p.m. Info: 250-537-4607.
Financial Planning Essentials for Seniors. Workshop at Island Savings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. RSVP to sharkema@islandsavings.ca.
Beginners Tai Chi. A 10-week introduction to tai chi begins at Cedar Lane Studio. 6:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667; 7stars@cedarlanestudio.com

ACTIVITIES

Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Elizabeth Ross. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m. Reader sign-up at 6:45.

Fri. Oct 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Gene Grooms. Live music at The Local. 5 to 8 p.m.
The Fabulous Flakes. Live at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

School's Out! Friday Adventure Camp. PARC-sponsored camp with games, arts & crafts and swimming held on the first Friday of every month at Community Gospel Chapel for kids aged five years and up who have completed kindergarten. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info/register: 250-537-4448.
Author J.B. MacKinnon. The Salt Spring Island Conservancy and Salt Spring Forum co-present J.B. MacKinnon, best-selling author of *The Once and Future World: Nature As It Was, As It Is, As It Could Be* and co-author of the 100-Mile Diet. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.
Karen Reiss Art Show Opening. Reception at Kizmit Galeria and Cafe from 5 to 7 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Barley Bros. Live music every Saturday at The Local pub. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Knacker's Yard. Live at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market. Centennial Park. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Met Opera Broadcast: Il Trovatore. Soprano Anna Netrebko's dramatic and vocal skills are on full display as Leonora, the Verdi heroine who sacrifices her own life for the love of the gypsy troubadour. ArtSpring. 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
The Roadshow. Buying event for gold and silver coins, art, rare books and more, plus free evaluation. Steffich Fine Art. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Breastfeeding Challenge. Local mothers help spread the word that breastfeeding is normal and an important strategy for child and maternal health at an Island Health-sponsored event. Salt Spring Island Public Library. StoryTime at 10:30 a.m.; latch on at 11 a.m.
Blessing of Animal Companions. Well-behaved pets and human companions welcome to receive blessing as part of St. Francis Fest at All Saints By-the-Sea. 2 p.m.
Death Cafe. Join Salt Spring Hospice facilitators for open, honest and genuine dialogue about death. Free. Refreshments by donation. ArtSpring Lobby. 2 p.m.
Book Launch & Celebration: Unforgotten. Local author Heather Luna-Rose launches her memoir of the challenging personal journey doing humanitarian work for a decade in Bangkok prisons. Drinks, food, music, and book signing. Clubhouse Bar and Grill. 6 to 9 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Ian Parker Piano Concert. Canadian pianist plays program with Gershwin, Beethoven, Liszt and more. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Unitarian Fellowship. No service due to B.C. regional fall gathering in Nanaimo.
Salt Spring Apple Festival. 16th-annual self-guided tour of Salt Spring Island orchards and farms, plus displays at Fulford Hall. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
St. Francis Fest. Special Sunday morning liturgy evoking St. Francis of Assisi. All Saints By-the-Sea. 10 a.m.
Paws for a Cause. Salt Spring BCSPCA fundraising walk with other fun events. Register from noon at Heiwa Peace Park. Route goes through Mouta's Park beginning at 1 p.m., returning to the Peace Park via Jackson Avenue.
SSNAP Panel: In and Out of the Box - Engaging in Contemporary Art. With curators Liane Davison, Michelle Jacques, Elizabeth Kidd and Naomi Potter. Moderated by Richard Steel. At the GISS Multipurpose Room. 2 to 4 p.m.
Sanctuary. New opportunity for prayer, song and communion in a contemplative atmosphere at All Saints By-the-Sea on Sundays. 7 p.m.
Trivia Nights. New event held every second Sunday. Snacks welcome. Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

SSNAP Artist's Talk. SSNAP finalist Nicola Wheston gives a talk at Mahon Hall at 12 noon.
Seniors Active Learning Group. Current topic is mythology, an exploration of myths from around the world to look at their similarities and why we have so many. SS Seniors Centre. 2 p.m.
All Candidates Debate. Federal candidates debate, co-presented by the Salt Spring Forum and Gulf Islands Secondary School. GISS Auditorium. 2:45 to 4:15 p.m.

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

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music & Munch. Alan Moberg performs at All Saints beginning at 12:10 p.m., followed by optional lunch.

ACTIVITIES

SSIWPA Research Talk. St. Mary Lake: Three Common Perceptions Challenged by the SSIWPA's 2014-15 Sampling Program, presented by Maggie Squires. Community Gospel Chapel (upstairs). 6 to 8 p.m. Info: ssiwpacoord@gmail.com; 250-537-4847.
Art Talk at the Library. Art students from GISS exhibit their work for the month of October and host an evening get-together with local artists to view and chat about their work, interests and influences. Library Program Room. 7 p.m.
Computer Help Drop-in. See last Wednesday's listing.
Poker Night at the Local. See last Wednesday's listing.
Songjam. See last Wednesday's listing.

Thur. Oct 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with Ross & Dave. Every Thursday at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

SS Elementary School 75th Anniversary Planning Meeting. At the school. 8:30 a.m.
Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Meeting. Regular business meeting at Lions Hall beginning at 9:30 a.m., with the town hall portion beginning at 12 noon, followed by more business.
BodyWork Clinic for National Seniors Day. People aged 55 and over get free 20-30-minute sessions at SS Wellness Centre from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tues. Oct 6

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Every Tuesday through October at Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

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CINEMA

• **Shaun the Sheep** — When Shaun decides to take the day off and have some fun, he gets more than he bargained for. A mix-up with the Farmer, a caravan, and a very steep hill lead them all to the Big City. Shaun and the flock must return everyone safely to the green grass of home.

EXHIBITIONS

• **SSNAP** — the Salt Spring National Art Prize Finalists Exhibit of work by 52 artists from across Canada — runs at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Oct. 26. This week's special SSNAP events include a Sunday, Oct. 4 curators' panel titled "In and out of the box: Engaging in Contemporary Art at GISS from 2 to 4 p.m.;" an artist's talk with SSNAP finalist Nicola Wheston at Mahon Hall on Monday, Oct. 5 at 12 noon.
 • **John Fulker** shows Images of Architecture, a retrospective from his 45 years as a professional photographer, at ArtSpring daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Friday, Oct. 2 through Wednesday, Oct. 7.
 • **Karen Reiss** shows new works, paintings and interpretations of Murray Reiss' poetry at Kizmit Galeria through October, with an opening event on Friday, Oct. 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery/cafe is open Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.-ish.

• **Wishes**, a multi-media art show through the GIFTS program runs at GIFTS on McPhillips Avenue until Oct. 26.
 • **Duthie Gallery** presents **Apis Mellifera**, new encaustic paintings by **Rosalie Matchett**, inspired by her experience as a beekeeper and the intensity of the hive. The show continues through Oct. 15. Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.
 • **Point Gallery** on South Ridge Road presents work by **Ian Thomas, Diana Thompson** and **Ronald Crawford** to Oct. 25. Open Thursday to Monday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Call 250-653-0089.
 • **Fuel - Charcoal Pit Art** by GISS art students and five island artists is exhibited in the **library program room** beginning with an opening event on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. Images will also be displayed at the Oct. 4 SSNAP panel event at GISS.
 • New photo-based work by **Greg Klassen** is exhibited **outside the public library** through Oct. 24. An artist talk runs on Sunday, Oct. 11 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the library program room.
 • **Jungle: Tangling with Complexity** is Mary Laucks' exhibit of abstract and non-representational paintings in the ArtSpring lobby through October.
 • **Dulcy Wilson** is showing a few of her oil paintings at the **Country Grocer Cafe** for the month of October.
 • **Beulah Gordon** shows mixed-media and glass work at **Island Savings**.

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VISUAL ARTS

Contemporary art in focus at panel event

Visiting curators lead talk

The second panel event for SSNAP 2015 will give artists, art patrons and anyone who enjoys an art gallery the opportunity to hear four noted curators discuss their roles in shaping the contemporary art world.

In and out of the box: Engaging in Contemporary Art runs in the Gulf Islands Secondary School multi-purpose room on Sunday, Oct. 4 from 2 to 4 p.m.

"The aim of SSNAP events is to spark ideas that we can build on to form a lasting legacy," explains a press release. "The aim of moderator Richard Steel is to promote a lively discussion between panel and audi-

ence that challenges us to rethink our art assets, spaces, places and people and bring them into new relationships with our 21st-century community and concerns."

The panel members represent a broad spectrum of experience and interest.

Michelle Jacques, chief curator at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria since 2012, is fresh from putting together a retrospective of conceptual performance artist Anna Banana at the AGGV. She will talk about who gets shown and why.

Naomi Potter, the director/curator of the cutting-edge Esker Foundation Gallery in Calgary, will consider the impact of benefactors on the

Canadian art community. Founded in 2012 by Jim and Susan Hill, the Esker Foundation represents a new model in Canada for institutional relevance, curatorial focus and audience engagement. Potter grew up on Salt Spring and is a graduate of GISS.

Liane Davison's topic, "Engaging art and audiences in a digital world," should appeal to the technology-minded art enthusiast. As director of the Surrey Art Gallery, she is known internationally for initiating the gallery's TechLab in 1998, a unique venue dedicated to supporting the production and presentation of digital art forms.

Until 1997, Elizabeth Kidd followed a conventional curatorial role, but

at that point she left her position as chief curator of the Edmonton Art Gallery to become the community arts programmer of the Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre in Vancouver. Her interest is in enabling arts and cultural organizations to collaborate effectively with their communities. For instance, in 2005, Out of the Rain was a collaboration with many community groups intended to raise awareness of Vancouver's homeless and which culminated in A Liveable City for Everyone: A Public Forum, held at the Roundhouse.

Tickets for Sunday's event are at Salt Spring Books, Mahon Hall and the door. Students get in free with ID.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Naomi Potter, director/curator of the Esker Foundation Gallery and a GISS grad.

BOOK LAUNCH

Life's big questions woven through new memoir

Brian Brett event with Lorna Crozier

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Award-winning writer Brian Brett delivers one of the most anticipated books of the fall with Tuco: The Parrot, the Others and a Scatter-shot World, which he launches for his home audience at ArtSpring on Thursday, Oct. 8.

Brett has lived through many personal revolutions to get to where he is today, and although he has achieved numerous awards and official stamps of approval in recent years, that doesn't mean he's forgotten the journey. In fact, his emotional scars haunt him with the same pain as his ongoing physical torments: the natural complaints of an aging 65-year-old are under-

scored by the effects of Kallman's Syndrome, including the osteoporosis that kicked in at age 20.

Brett's twin pains have perhaps led to his profound empathy for other beings on the planet as well as driving his creative expression in poetry and prose. Tuco, based on Brett's life with an African grey parrot, is the third of three memoirs that go over some of the same material but from different perspectives. In 2004, Brett described his childhood as an androgyne and ongoing suffering for the first time in Uproar's Your Only Music. Trauma Farm revisited that childhood while examining the toxicity of industrial agriculture, juxtaposed against tales of 20 years of small-scale farming life on Salt Spring.

If Trauma Farm showcased the horrors of factory-based



BRIAN
BRETT

intelligent, highly social and challenging. Those who take them on as pets and aren't up to that challenge can create disturbed birds prone to self-plucking, aggression and psychological damage.

There are countless birds in sanctuaries that might never be recovered to the point of living with a human companion. And yet, the outrageous cost of purchasing parrots as pets drives the market for more captures and smuggling, bringing the surviving birds into trauma while sacrificing

the huge percentage that don't make it.

In addition to illuminating human cruelty toward other species and the escalation in wild and domestic bird deaths world-wide, Brett uses his relationship with Tuco as the launching point for some big themes, from the battle between belief and facts to the stupidity of trophy hunting to the concept of entropy and its implications on theology.

"I have to admit it's a complex book, but I tried to do it in the complexity of the way an eagle circles around and around a field after its prey until it's in the zone. It's all about story," Brett explained.

Among the different threads, Brett explores some historical scientific battles and charts the direct link between birds and dinosaurs, the fearsome theropods who are

their proven ancestors. Birds' capacity to mimic human speech leads to discussions about language acquisition and intelligence.

"Can Tuco think like us?" Brett asks. "Yes. He can also not think like us. That's because he thinks like himself, and it's our refusal to respect a different kind of intelligence that demonstrates the gap in our own intelligence."

Fascinating and often hilarious vignettes about Tuco portray a bird who demands attention, loves women and has a penchant for bombing his owner with guano, followed by theatrical pirate laughs. But though charming, these anecdotes ultimately lead to further deliberations on how humans treat those with differences, as the parrot becomes both a stand-in for the "other" and the method

for a crucial moving past "othering."

"What has clearly become essential to the survival of our species is the need to evolve beyond cruelty into imaginative identification with the other," Brett concludes.

Brett shares his launch with his good friend Lorna Crozier, who appears in Tuco several times (and one of the funniest anecdotes involves her husband Patrick Lane). The prolific award-winning writer will be on Salt Spring to introduce a new collaboration with Ian McAllister of Pacific Wild fame. Their coffee table book features Crozier's nature poetry and 32 of McAllister's images of creatures from the Great Bear Rainforest.

Sponsored by Salt Spring Books and publisher Greystone Books, the event starts at 7 p.m.

MUSIC & MUNCH

Alan Moberg on stage

Music series favourite returns Oct. 7

One of the most popular entertainers to have graced the stage at Music and Munch over the last 10 years has been B.C.'s own singer-songwriter Alan Moberg.

He made his debut there in 2005 and has brought his guitar, his colourful original songs and his gift for storytelling to this audience every year since. This coming Wednesday, Oct. 7 at All Saints By-the-Sea Anglican Church sees him at that venue once again.

Moberg has been described as a quintessential Canadian troubadour. Born and bred in Pender Harbour on the Sunshine Coast, rubbing shoulders with fishermen and loggers there and up and down the coast, travelling and working throughout the ranchlands of the Interior, he has acquired a special love and understanding of the people and places of this province.

"That understanding is expressed in the songs he has written in more than 40 years," explains a press release. "Just as important as his writing is his natural ability to clearly express those words in song with a warm relaxed style that easily resonates with his listeners."

Moberg's performance begins at 12:10 p.m. and as usual will be followed by an optional light lunch by the Anglican Caterers.



SSNAP
and Salt Spring
Arts Council
Present:

In and Out of The Box: Engaging in Contemporary Art

Join us for a panel discussion with moderator Richard Steel.
Featuring guest panelists: curators Michelle Jacques,
Naomi Potter, Liane Davidson and Elizabeth Kidd.

Sunday, October 4 | 2-4pm

Gulf Islands Secondary School, Multi-Purpose Room

112 Rainbow Rd, Salt Spring Island

Tickets: \$10, at Salt Spring Books and Mahon Hall

Students free. Refreshments included.

Finalist Exhibition:

Mahon Hall, 10-5 daily, Sept 25-Oct 26.

www.saltspringartprize.ca



people&community

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

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



FESTIVALS

Apple growers ramp up for 16th annual festival day

Orchard tours, apple IDs and more this Sunday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Island apple producers are filling up bushels and getting ready to open their gates to visitors for the Salt Spring Apple Festival on Sunday, Oct. 4.

Now in its 16th year, the festival has become a much-anticipated fall tradition that attracts ferry-loads of

guests as well as local families. With anywhere up to 350 apple varieties to see and taste and 20 unique locations to tour, the day offers endless possibilities and combinations.

While weather conditions over the past year can have a huge impact on what growers can provide for sampling and sale during the event, apple fest organizer Harry Burton is predicting a fairly good return this Sunday. He hopes to have assembled 300 different varieties for the annual display at Fulford Hall.

"That's probably the biggest collection in Canada," he said. "Basically all the fruit from here is organic, which is pretty amazing. You wouldn't get that anywhere else. And we're pretty proud of our variety, too."

Peri Lavender and Brian Webster at Salt Spring Apple Co. will have lots to celebrate for this festival, which they are also helping coordinate. Volunteers who arrived at their farm on the tour four years ago helped them plant their very trees. They now have 3,000 trees in the ground, most of which are already producing fruit.

"We had 197 varieties produce at least one apple this year, all the way up to 500 pounds for one or two varieties, so we're pretty excited about the apple festival," Webster said. "Last year was the first time we were actually able to sell apples to people at the festival and we sold out. This year there will be fewer people leaving disappointed."

Salt Spring Apple Co. expects to have 35 bulk apple varieties plus certified organic trees for sale and



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Some apples displayed at Fulford Hall during the 2013 festival.

will offer tours and grafting demos, plus lunch. And similar activities will be taking place at 14 other farms and vineyards. Five non-farm locations will also be doing special events for the day, including Salt Spring Mercantile and Moby's Pub.

Visitors to Burton's Apple Luscious Organic Orchard can check out how his many red-fleshed varieties are doing, although he noted the Bramleys were his best producers for 2015. In addition, the orchard will look a little different than it usually does after 2015's hot spring and summer.

"Everything is three weeks early this year. Normally there will be

more apples on the trees, but this year a lot of them will have been picked," Burton said.

Fulford Hall is the base for self-guided explorations, and the place to find orchard bee experts from Be Diverse, local food treasures, incredible art and apple identification opportunities. Guest can bring an apple from the unknown heritage tree in their backyard for an expert to identify, or see what others have in the "big table" display. Each variety will be tagged with its name and the farms where it's being grown, so if people see something they think they might like, they can track it to the source and find out

for sure.

Unfortunately, due to her increased age and increasing worldwide demand, Burton reported "The Queen" was forced to decline from opening the apple festival this year.

"We are very disappointed as it is always such a highlight to get her," Burton said. "She always enjoyed her annual visit to Salt Spring, where she not only loved the apples, the many outstanding characters and the freedom from an entourage, but the Salt Spring lamb meal she always requested."

However, there will be three face-painters roaming the festival plus three clowns and a storyteller hitting the apple trail.

Fulford Hall is just one of the options for a tasty apple-inspired meal made by local chefs using local ingredients. Burton said one of the ironies of being an orchardist is the growers have all heard about how great the festival is, but they never witness it beyond their own farms because they're so busy receiving guests.

"All the hosts want to have a Thai lunch at Cusheon Cove, but we can't get over there," Burton said.

Other tasty treats include barbecued meats, wood-fired oven pizza and "gluten-free everything," as well as a whole range of apple baking and fresh cider.

Events run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Maps for the self-guided tour are supplied upon ticket purchase, either at Fulford Hall or outside the visitors' centre in Ganges.

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250-537-0735 or
toll-free 1-877-435-7544

Women's Outreach Services
250-537-0717 or
toll-free 1-877-537-0717

Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
250-538-5568

Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
250-538-5569

Transitions Thrift Store
#1-144 McPhillips Ave.
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Please visit our website
www.iwav.org
Funded by BC Housing and the Ministry of Justice

SENIORS ACTIVITIES

Trivia night among fall activities at centre

• **CONGRATULATIONS** to the winners of our barbecue raffle: regular Seniors Centre volunteers Linda and Peter Steager. Money raised will go to purchase audio-visual equipment to enhance and increase the appeal of the Pioneer Room for events and presentations. Thanks to all who bought tickets to help us with this venture and to VCR for helping us choose the winning ticket at their booth at the Salt Spring Fall Fair.

• **SENIORS ACTIVE LEARNING (SAL):** the topic of discussion currently is mythology, an exploration of myths from around the world to look at their similarities and why we have so many. Mondays at 2 p.m. in the Pioneer Room.

• **NEW: TRIVIA NIGHTS** at 7 p.m. every second Sunday beginning on Oct. 4, then the 18th and Nov. 1. Come share the fun! Snacks welcome!

• **LUNCH!** Thursday lunches start again on Oct. 8. Call in advance to reserve your seat at 250-537-4604.

• **2-TOONIE LUNCH** (soup 'n' sandwich) continues on Oct. 12 and 26 after a delicious start in September. Many thanks to Thrifty's for their help with this new program. All welcome!

SENIORS CENTRE NEWS

• **SENIORS DAY** is Oct. 1. Join us for coffee and goodies at 10 a.m. and share your thoughts on when you knew you were a "senior" and what that means in the 21st century.

• **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS:** Volunteering is a way to keep alive the skills we've honed through our lives and to challenge ourselves in a time when much of our life is characterized by loss. If you can meet and greet people, you could be a receptionist one morning a week; if you have a bent for artistry, come guide our painters on Tuesday afternoons. Are you a good driver and like to talk to people? We always need reliable friendly drivers to take our members to appointments on and off Island. Call at 250-537-4604 and join the fun at Seniors!

The Salt Spring Seniors Centre is at 379 Lower Ganges Rd., across from Country Grocer.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Peter Steager holds the winning BBQ raffle ticket.

SSIWPA Research Talk

"St. Mary Lake: Three Common Perceptions Challenged by the SSI Watershed Protection Authority's 2014-15 Sampling Program"
by
Dr. Maggie Squires

Wednesday October 7, 2015
Community Gospel Chapel (upstairs)
147 Vesuvius Bay Road,
Salt Spring Island

Presentation: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

All welcome. Drop in.

Information:
SSIWPA Coordinator ssiwpacoord@gmail.com,
250.537.4847
www.ssiwatersheds.ca

TRAIL & NATURE CLUB

Glacier hiking, photo course on tap

Special Events

Hiking a Monster Glacier - Denali the Long Way — Wed., Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the Salt Spring library. Salt Spring naturalist and occasional mountaineer/hiker David Denning will give a two-part illustrated presentation on the joys and challenges of hiking on glaciers.

• **Photography Class for SSTNC Members** — Friday, Oct. 30 (evening) and Sat., Oct. 31 (morning). Pierre Mineau and Simon Henson will lead the free course for club members only with a Friday evening session in the lower hall of the United Church, and a nature hike and hands-on practice on the Saturday morning. RSVP to pierre.mineau2@gmail.com.

Hikers

Oct. 6: Gary Quiring leads a mystery hike, with the route based on the group and weather. Be prepared for an off-trail and up adventure! Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Oct. 13: Lynn Thompson and Al Lehmann will lead a moderate hike on Mount Bruce and/or Mount Sullivan. The route will be weather dependent and may involve

some bushwhacking. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10 a.m. to carpool to the trailhead on Mount Bruce.

Oct. 20: Tudor Davies will lead a hike from Beaver Point Hall to Cusheon Cove. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or Beaver Point Hall at 10 a.m. A car will be left at Meyer Road for return driver pick-up.

Oct. 27: Join Ashley Hilliard for a moderate but long hike (till about 3 p.m.) in the Beaver Point area. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or join the group at the foot of Meyer Road at 10:05 a.m. Sturdy footwear is essential as we will be crossing a rocky slope.

Walkers

Oct. 6: John Heddle will lead an easy walk to Nose Point in Maracaibo by a devious route with a slightly harder option en route. Carpool only from ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Oct. 13: Wendy McLean will lead us on an exploration of Blackburn and Frazier Road areas (and possibly the conservancy property). We will go up the stairs near the corner of Cranberry Road. We will

lunch on her deck on Frazier Road (bring your own), then back down the stairs and home. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to carpool, or at the corner of the Fulford-Ganges Road and Blackburn Road at 10:10 where Wendy will meet us.

Oct. 20: Gwen McDonald will lead a walk up Reginald Hill. This walk has a lot of uphill, but is on pathways. We will take it slowly. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to carpool. Please see website closer to the date for details on where to meet in Fulford.

Oct. 27: We are walking to the raptors! Join Jenny Meyer to walk on the 10:25 a.m. ferry to Crofton. We will walk on the road for seven kms (about one and a half hours) to the Pacific Northwest Raptors Centre where we will eat lunch (bring your own) and enjoy a guided tour and flying demo. We will walk back (seven kms) for the 4:45 p.m. ferry. Meet at Portlock Park to carpool by 9:50 a.m. or meet at Vesuvius to walk on the ferry. Cost for the raptors centre is \$14 for seniors and \$16 for adults.

Ramblers

Oct. 6: Jean Gelwicks takes us on a visit to private prop-

erty on Cusheon Cove. Meet in Centennial Park at 10 a.m. to carpool. South-enders can meet at the south end of Meyer Road at 10:20 a.m. Lunch will be at the Rock Salt in Fulford.

Oct. 13: Kathy Darling will lead a ramble in the Welbury area. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m. to carpool. Lunch will be in Ganges.

Oct. 20: Dorothy Kyle will lead a ramble around Brinkworthy. Meet at 10 a.m. in the Country Grocer parking lot. Bring a bag lunch.

Oct. 27: Harold Page will lead a ramble in Burgoyne Bay. Meet in Centennial Park at 10 a.m. to carpool. Lunch will be at the Rock Salt in Fulford.

Membership

Interested in joining us? Contact Barry Spence (membership) at 250-537-2332 or Nieke Visser (president) at 250-537-5443, or come on Tuesdays to the meeting point for the activity you are interested in.

Bring a lunch and wear appropriate footwear and outdoor clothing.

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



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

HOOVES & PAWS: Abigail Walkner, team captain for Mickey's Gang, holds Mickey as she gets set to ride her horse April in this Sunday's Paws for a Cause BC SPCA fundraiser. Registration begins at noon in Heiwa Peace Park with the walk through Mouat Park at 1 p.m. plus special events. Search for Salt Spring Island's site on the Scotiabank/SPCA Paws for a Cause website for all the details.

FOOD & DRINK

Sip & Savour shifts to Thanksgiving

Focus on local cuisine and products

The fifth annual Sip & Savour Salt Spring Harvest Food and Drink Festival takes place on Thanksgiving weekend.

While initially set for late September and with a "grazing experience," the emphasis has shifted to the island's

stellar food and beverage providers, who will host Sip & Savour inspired events from Oct. 9 to 11.

One highlight is a free tasting event on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Salt Spring Island Ales on Furness Road. It will feature local and regional food and drink offerings and entertainment.

During the weekend, guests will enjoy dining at restaurants showc-

ing special menus focussed on local ingredients accompanied by local and regional wine, beer and cider. Tours of vineyards, cidery, brewery, cheese makers and farm stands throughout the Thanksgiving weekend will also provide a unique culinary experience.

People can visit www.sipandsavoursaltspring.com for more information.

BUSINESS

Time for island businesses to shine

Award nomination deadlines around the corner

Nominations are now being accepted for the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce's 10th annual Business Excellence Awards.

"Do you have a great customer service experience you want to share?" asks the chamber in a press release. "A friend in business who deserves recognition? A great contractor or gardener worth nominating? Had a great dining experience lately? You can make sure that the rest of Salt Spring knows about it by nominating them for an award. Simply complete the application and we will do the rest. It will only take a few

moments but for the nominee and winners, it could change their lives."

Do you have a great customer service experience you want to share?

Nomination forms for the 10 award categories are available at Islands Savings, the Driftwood newspaper office, the chamber office or the Ganges Visitor Centre or online at saltspringchamber.com. The nominations deadline is Friday, Oct. 9. Nominated businesses then have the opportunity to answer questions on forms provided by the cham-

ber. The People's Choice Award for best customer service, sponsored by the Gulf Islands Driftwood, has a different process and deadline. Nominations are provided to the Driftwood office via paper, email, Facebook or Twitter by Friday, Oct. 16 at 10 a.m. Only the business name is required, although a reason for making the nomination or vote is also requested.

The awards gala event, which includes farm-to-table hors d'oeuvres prepared by chef Haidee Hart of Stowel Lake Farm and live entertainment is on Thursday, Oct. 22 at ArtSpring.

Tickets are available through the chamber office below the Ganges Visitor Centre or through 250-537-4223.

STITCHES Closing Sale!!

OCTOBER 2ND - 4TH
Friday & Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm
Closed Thursday October 1

All stock, samples & fixtures

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ROTARY CLUB OF SALT SPRING ISLAND EXTENDS A BIG...

Thank You

to everyone who enjoyed Dog 'N' Burgers this summer at the Fire/Rescue Hall #1

CONGRATULATIONS MUFFIN MADNESS WINNERS

- \$1000. Connie Cudrak, SSI
- \$100. Chris Scott, SSI
- \$100. Brian Miller, Aldergrove
- \$100. Alan Moberg, SSI
- \$100. Glenne Campbell, Brackendale
- \$100. Madeline Robertson, Brackendale

NATURE

Fall reflections include fruit's ancient provenance

October bears and apple festivals

BY BOB WEEDEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Heading for Fulford Hall on Oct. 4 to enjoy the Apple Festival? Tip your glass to Harry Burton, the festival's effervescent and tireless organizer.

And in a quieter moment pay your respects to the furry bear of China who started our big sweet apple on its globe-spanning journey over two million years ago.

With some fact and some guesswork, the two will connect.

As Harry shows us at the festival, island folks grow some 350 varieties of apples. That's huge, but only five per cent or so of the 6,000 named varieties grown today or historically. Astonishingly, all belong to a single species, *Malus pumila*. Of over 40 apple/crabapple species worldwide, only this one can produce such a bewildering variety of shapes, sizes, tastes and colours. Hobbyists and serious farmers have worked with this natural variation for 3,000 years, exaggerating flavour, size, keeping quality, tree vigour and colour, then stabilizing the characteristics by switching from seed to vegetative propagation via grafts (clones).

Here's how it works.

A MacIntosh tree will always bear MacIntosh apples no matter what



kind of pollen a visiting insect brings. That's because every part of the tree is genetically the same except for the seed. Very few apples are self-pollinating. Pollen can come from any *Malus pumila* within wing reach; so two apples on the same branch (both Macs) may have very different genes in their seeds.

The trouble is that only one in 1,000 seedling trees produces good fruit. Nevertheless, apple seeds are so light and durable that pioneers for several thousand years took them along. Seeds scattered in a corner of a clearing would grow with little care. When they set fruit the farmer kept the best and trashed the rest. From seedling orchards in Australia, New Zealand and North America we inherited varieties like the Granny Smith, Rhode Island Greening and MacIntosh. From the Roman conquest of Europe and the days of empire we enjoy Calville blanc, Gravenstein and Cox's orange pippin. Seedling orchards were planted

in the lands of Alexander the Great and earlier empires back 3,000 years. Some time in those ancient, dusty years of irrigation agriculture in the Middle East grafting was invented by the Persians; people now had a way to perpetuate good genes.

Travellers today along the many old trade routes crossing that enormous stretch of dry country between China and the Middle East find occasional cooler and moister mountainsides supporting forest growth. There are apples there of distinct species and ancient lineage as well as of *Malus pumila*, the domestic apple. People and apples have journeyed together for a very long time.

Ye-lu Tch'utsai, war correspondent for Genghis Khan — eat your heart out, Nahlah Ayed! — reported in 1219 that around a lake high in the Tian Shan Mountains of western China, behind the vast Himalayan wall, is a forest of apple trees from which a nearby city, Almaty, took its name. The forest was an Edenic dream, a place where plums, pears, cherries, walnuts, pistachios, almonds, grapes, figs, pomegranates and apples made up almost the whole stand.

Here, sadly battered by centuries of increasingly desperate grazing, farming and logging, is the birthplace of the domestic apple.

But this was to be a bear story. It becomes one when curiosity makes you ask, "How, in the evolution of this



Bob Weeden

species, did this one kind, alone out of dozens of species, come to be big and sweet while others stayed small and sour?"

The answer, scientists speculate, may lie in the appetite of the short-nosed bear, close relative of our brown or grizzly bear. This critter has lived in Asian fruit forests for several million years. It loves sweets. Imagine a bear hunting the autumn woods for something sugary to convert to winter fat before it hibernates. It pauses under an apple. It sees small green fruits and smells no sweetness.

It moves on. Under the next tree the signs are right. It stands, reaches a big paw to a branch laden with fruit and rakes its long claws along the branch. Small fruits slip through the claws, but big ones are knocked off to the leaf-covered ground. The bear eats the sweetest and moves on.

In the bear's gut the apple seeds are etched by acids but not digested. They pass through, to be left behind hours and kilometers later. To germinate, apple seeds need either to be exposed to low temperatures (2 degrees C or lower) for two months, or scarified by passage through a digestive tract. Ruminant guts (which cattle, sheep, goats, and deer have) destroy the seeds. Horses can do the trick, but they aren't naturally forest animals. The bear, it turns out, is the most likely partner in the sweet apple's quest to propagate and spread.

We all shape each other's destiny. The bear made the apple bigger and sweeter, and served as the apple's legs. The apple helped bears survive. The improved apple fed people and influenced agriculture. Farmers are destroying the ancient fruit forests and killing bears. If it is true that what goes around, comes around, perhaps Tian Shan bears are helping local people sprint at Olympic speeds.

Harry, when you pick your peck of pink pommes, thank a bear but keep your distance.

DISCUSSIONS

Popular Death Café resurrected at ArtSpring

Life and death matters explored

After a first successful season, Anna Haltrecht is continuing to host the Death Café at ArtSpring.

The next one is on Satur-

day, Oct. 3, from 2 to 4 p.m., and there will be one on Halloween day, Oct. 31. Three more will be held in 2016.

"The Death Café is part of a global movement to increase awareness of death with a view to help people make the most of their lives,"

explains press material. "It is not grief support or counselling, it is simply a conversation."

The free event is facilitated by Salt Spring Hospice volunteers Donald Cockrill and Rhema Cossever. All are welcome who are interested

in life and death. Refreshments and goodies are by donation.

Haltrecht is a movement educator and community engagement facilitator.

Salt Spring Hospice, a registered non-profit charitable society operating on

the island since 1984, is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing comfort, care and support to people affected by life-threatening illness.

For more information on the Death Café movement, see www.deathcafe.com.

Sun Life Assurance Class Action

A Class Action has been commenced in BC for Policy Holders of:

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- Universal Plus
- Universal Optimet

For more information and to register visit: www.sunlifeaction.com
Or e-mail: amy.jmp@shaw.ca

SENIORS

Salt Spring honours National Seniors Day

Several events planned on-island

Thursday, Oct. 1 is National Seniors Day and businesses, non-profits and individual Salt Springers have come together to celebrate.

Salt Spring Community Services' Seniors Wellness Program, with its office at 129 Hereford Ave., reports excellent response to its "Salt Spring Celebrates Seniors" campaign and Facebook page, where islanders were able to pay tribute to the seniors who have helped build their lives, community and country.

"We are proud of the seniors in our community. We value what

they have done for us, and they deserve our thanks. No matter how you choose to express your gratitude, the message that we value older Canadians will be heard — and appreciated," the organizers state in a press release.

"Individuals are showing their appreciation by making dinner for grandparents, taking a neighbour out for lunch, visiting an aunt, playing crib with their mothers and in so many more ways."

Anyone who would like to share how they are honouring the seniors in their life can post to the Salt Spring Celebrates Seniors Facebook page, phone 250-537-4607 or email seniors@ssics.ca.

National Seniors Day events on Thursday, Oct. 1

- **Island Savings:** workshop on financial planning for seniors from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (RSVP to sharkema@islandsavings.ca)
- **Ganges Yoga Studio:** free yoga sessions (call 250-537-2444 for info)
- **SS Seniors Services Society:** coffee hour from 10 a.m. to noon where seniors can share experiences (250-537-4604)
- **Salt Spring Hospice:** workshop on advanced care planning from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. (250-537-2770)
- **Salt Spring Sneakers:** seniors invited to attend the regular workout at Portlock Park, with a special pre-run meet and greet from 9:30 to 10 a.m.
- **Salt Spring Literacy Centre:** open house from noon to 4 p.m. (250-537-9717)
- **SSICS Seniors Wellness:** workshop on elder abuse at 2 p.m. (250-537-4607)
- **Salt Spring Wellness Centre:** free bodywork clinic sample sessions of 20 to 30 minutes between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for those 55 and older. (250-900-1125)

ARTHRITIS

EDUCATION EVENT: Salt Spring Island

TIPS, TRICKS & TOOLS

The 3 T's of Managing Arthritis

This interactive workshop will show you the latest gadgets and tools to make daily tasks easier and more comfortable. Get some new tips on how to do activities and how to better manage your Arthritis. Share your own helpful suggestions. Remember — that if you are not busy managing your Arthritis — then it will be busy managing you! Presenter: Cari Taylor — Manager of Education & Services for The Arthritis Society

DATE: Wednesday, October 14, 2015

TIME: 2:30 pm — 4:30 pm

VENUE: Meadowbrook Seniors Residence
121 Atkins Road, Salt Spring Island

COST: FREE

REGISTER: Call toll-free 1.866.414.7766

We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia



www.arthritis.ca



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IN MEMORIAM

Benjamin
SEPT. 29, 1950 - JUNE 8, 2005
*Missing your sweet laughter.
Love always,
- Rachel*

COMMING EVENTS

CHANNEL RIDGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Community Gospel Church
October 8, 2015
Registration 6:45 pm
MEETING 7 PM - 9 PM

INFORMATION

Introduction to 22 rifle shooting course
The Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club with the help and sponsorship of the Royal Canadian Legion will be holding a course for juniors (ages 10-17 years old).
Cost is \$50.00 per student only 9 spaces are available
All equipment is supplied
For further details please contact Derek Brazier (250) 537-4012
223 LONG HARBOUR ROAD

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GET FREE vending machines can earn \$100,000 + per year. All cash-locations provided. Protected Territories. Interest free financing. Full details call now 1-866-668-6629 Website www.tvend.com
HIP OR knee replacement? Arthritic Conditions/COPD? Restrictions in walking/dressing? Disability tax credit \$2,000 tax credit \$20,000 refund. Apply today for assistance: 1-844-453-5372.
INVESTOR ALERT! Soon government will require bars provide a breathalyzer machine. Learn how to be the first in your area to cash in! 1-800-287-3157; or visit us online: breathalyzerineverybar.com

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION! In-demand career! Employers have work-at-home positions available. Get online training you need from an employer-trusted program. Visit: CareerStep.ca/MT or 1-855-768-3362 to start training for your work-at-home career today!
CARETAKERS/RESIDENTIAL MANAGERS
MOTEL ASST Manager Team to run small Motel in Parksville BC. Non-Smoking, no Pets, good Health, fulltime live-in position. Fax 250-586-1634 or email resume to: kjrz27@hotmail.com

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TRAIN TO be an apartment/condo manager. Many jobs registered with us. Good wages and benefits. Government Certified online course. 35 Years of success! www.RMTI.ca/enq

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MEDICAL Transcriptionists are in huge demand! Train with Canada's top Medical Transcription school. Learn from home and work from home. Call today! 1-800-466-1535 www.canscribe.com or info@canscribe.com

INFORMATION

CANADA BENEFIT Group - Do you or someone you know suffer from a disability? Get up to \$40,000 from the Canadian Government. Toll-free 1-888-511-2250 or www.canada-benefit.ca/free-assessment

TRAVEL

CANCEL YOUR Timeshare. No risk program stop mortgage & maintenance payments today. 100% money back guarantee. Free consultation. Call us now. We can help! 1-888-356-5248.

COMING EVENTS

The key to your new CAREER.
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COMING EVENTS

TOP LOCAL JOBS!
LocalWorkBC.ca
YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR LOCAL JOBS

PAMELA MERIEL LEE
died suddenly on the 26th of August at the age of 93.
A small coffee party to remember her will be held at the Fernwood Cafe on the 15th of October at 10 a.m.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 19

classified@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

Meriel Pamela Lee
AUGUST 26, 2015
Meriel passed away peacefully after a very short illness at Lady Minto Hospital on August 26, 2015.
Beloved second child of the late Reginald and Doris Lee of England. Much loved sister to Peter, Rosemary, Robin and John and Aunt, Great Aunt and Friend. Adopted citizen of Canada and joyous resident of Salt Spring Island.
"May your soul fly free for ever now".
- The Lee and Jackson Families.
Donations can be made to the Salvation Army in memory of Meriel.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

NATURE... AS IT WAS - AS IT COULD BE
Featuring Author: **J.B. MACKINNON**
Friday, October 2, 7-9 pm
ArtSpring
Tickets: \$25
CONSERVANCY
Panel Discussion about our Corner of the World
Salt Spring Island's past, present & future with:
Darcy Matthews, Susan Hannon & Christine Torgrimson

Scotiabank & BCSPCA
paws for a cause
Walk to fight animal cruelty
October 4, 2015
Registration at noon
Walk starts at Heiwa Peace Park
Fundraise online to WIN!
spca.bc.ca/walk
Every \$150 raised online gives 1 chance to win 2 tickets anywhere Westjet flies!

HARLAND OWEN OLSEN
Sept 1930 - Sept 2015

The family are saddened to announce the passing of Harland on Tuesday, Sept 22 at age 85. He grew up in New Westminster with his 2 sisters and stayed to raise a family and carry on the family business; McLeod Cleaners.
The family spent many joyful summers cruising around the Gulf Islands on boats Harland helped design and build. He was Commodore of the Royal City Yacht Club and a very active member for a number of years. A love for the ocean and social gatherings with wonderful friends were precious to Harland. He then moved to Salt Spring Island where he and his loving wife Gwen opened Heritage Boutique and Harlan's Chocolates. His chocolates continue to be popular with locals and tourists today. Harland will always be remembered for his creativity and his love of woodworking/carving and construction. They moved to Nanaimo in 2000 to enjoy retirement.
Harland is survived by his wife Gwen, daughters Marlene & Elaine, stepchildren Sherry, Cindy & Cory & 4 grandchildren & 3 great grandchildren. The family is grateful to the wonderful staff at Nanaimo Seniors Village for his care.
In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the charity of your choice in Harland's memory.

16th Annual Salt Spring Island Apple Festival (2015)
Theme: Let the KID inside you escape
Sunday, Oct 4th from 9 to 5
Tickets: \$10 at Fulford Hall & Ganges Info Centre (day of festival only)
Get to Apple Heaven without even dying
Over 350 apple varieties grown organically with apple growing roots back to 1860.
Then explore the 18 farms on the tour.
<http://www.saltspringmarket.com/apples/>
SEE OVER 1000 PHOTOS AT:
www.saltspringapplefestival.org
Info: 653-2007 or harryburton@shaw.ca

Salt Spring Hospice
Want to know what happens at a Death Cafe?
Come to Artspring on October 3 from 2 to 4.
250-537-2770
saltspringhospice.org

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
13 October 2015 beginning at 2:00pm
Upper Hall, Ganges United Church
111 Hereford Avenue, Salt Spring Island BC
Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District have scheduled a special meeting of the Board of Trustees to:
1. Discuss and if deemed necessary call a by-election to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees
2. An In-camera session to discuss labour and employee relations.
For more information visit our website www.saltspringfire.com.
Board of Trustees
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
PLEASE NOTE PLACE OF THE MEETING

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
5 October 2015 beginning at 7:00pm
Hart Bradley Hall,
Salt Spring Island Lions Club
103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island BC
For Second Reading of Open-Burning Regulations - Proposed
POSTPONED
Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District have scheduled a special meeting of the Board of Trustees to consider and pass proposed Open-Burning Regulations No. 125. The proposed bylaw includes regulation of high risk activities.
Trustees invite input from interested community members to assist them in their deliberations.
For more information visit our website www.saltspringfire.com.
Board of Trustees
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
PLEASE NOTE PLACE OF THE MEETING

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM

PERSONAL SERVICES

PERSONAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

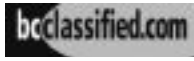
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GET BACK ON TRACK! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420 www.pioneerwest.com

NEED A loan? Own property? Have bad credit? We can help! Call toll free 1-866-405-1228 firstandsecondmortgages.ca



CHILDREN'S MISCELLANEOUS

CHILDREN'S MISCELLANEOUS

*** 14 DAY FREE TRIAL ***
We are a complete cloth diaper pickup/delivery service. Once a week our friendly driver will arrive in our pink van and exchange your dirty cloth diapers for nice clean ones. Convenient and affordable, from just \$25.55/week! We make cloth diapering as easy as using disposables. No rinsing or scraping required. You can enjoy more time with baby while we take care of your diapering needs. As former islanders, we are thrilled to bring our awesome service to Salt Spring!
Please visit www.happyislanddiapers.com or call Jane & Shawn @ 1-866-922-7377 for more info or to get started!

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island
Island Health is looking for casual workers who are flexible and available for a variety of shifts; have good written and verbal communications skills and are well organized.
Housekeeping Aides - #35034
In this job, responsibilities include:
• Light cleaning duties such as sweeping, damp mopping floors, vacuuming carpets, dusting, polishing furniture
• Cleaning, disinfecting washrooms, replenishing supplies
Food Service Workers - #34709
In this job, responsibilities include:
• Washing dishes, pots, pans and utensils; operating dishwashing and/or pot washing machines; stacking clean dishes and utensils; setting up trays
• Cleaning duties such as sweeping floors, cleaning counter tops, sinks, machines and equipment and spot washing walls and splash areas; removing garbage as required
Questions? Contact Cathy Marcano, Support Services Supervisor, Email: Catherine.marcano@viha.ca or phone: 250.538.4825.
LEARN MORE & APPLY:
Visit our website: www.viha.ca/careers
Select Public Job Postings and do Quick Search by Location: Salt Spring

INFORMATION

INFORMATION

CRD
Making a difference...together
INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??
Volunteers wanted to fill vacancies on several Water and Sewer Service Commissions
Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission
Cedar Lane Water Service Commission
Fulford Water Service Commission
Cedars of Tuam Water Service Commission
Beddis Water Service Commission
Highland Fernwood Local Service Commission
The Commissions include members who are appointed by the CRD Board, plus the Regional Director and are supported by local CRD Staff Members.
These Commissions advise and make recommendations regarding the supply, treatment, storage and distribution of water and or sewer within the service area.
The current vacant positions are open to a resident or property owner within the Service Area. The term for the current positions, runs from January 2016 to December 31, 2017, with the potential of a further two-year term.
Please submit your letter of interest and background information no later than October 31, 2015 to:
CRD Salt Spring Electoral Area
145 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K3
Phone 537-4448 for more information or email saltspring@crd.bc.ca

PERSONAL SERVICES

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CONCRETE & PLACING

LARGE FUND Borrowers Wanted
Start saving hundreds of dollars today! We can easily approve you by phone. 1st, 2nd or 3rd mortgage money is available right now. Rates start at Prime. Equity counts. We don't rely on credit, age or income.
Call Anytime
1-800-639-2274 or 604-430-1498. Apply online www.capitaldirect.ca

LARGE FUND Borrowers Wanted
Start saving hundreds of dollars today! We can easily approve you by phone. 1st, 2nd or 3rd mortgage money is available right now. Rates start at Prime. Equity counts. We don't rely on credit, age or income.
Call Anytime
1-800-639-2274 or 604-430-1498. Apply online www.capitaldirect.ca

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

COMPUTER SERVICES

CALL BOB'S Computer Service for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 250-537-2827 or cell 250-538-7017. Please back-up your important data now!

GULF COAST MATERIALS
Serving the Gulf Islands
• Concrete
• Concrete Pumps
• Sand/Rock
• Rebar
• Bagged Cement
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Small Load Pick Ups Available at Yard
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LET'S GET STARTED
Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design for approval your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.
HELSET DESIGN
250.537.1037
Ask for Jim

classified@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

HOSPITALITY

Food Services Opportunity
The Salt Spring Golf and Country Club is seeking a Restaurant Operator/Special Events Caterer.
This is an ideal opportunity for a professional restaurateur. The Club provides a ready market of golf members and the dining public.
For more details please contact Steve Marleau GM at the Golf Pro Shop, 250-537-2121 golf@saltspring.com
Deadline for submitting proposals is October 21, 2015.

INFORMATION

INFORMATION

CRD
Making a difference...together
INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??
Volunteers wanted to serve as members of various Commissions
Terms are for two years, starting January 1 each year.
Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission - includes 8 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The PARC Commission serves in an advisory role to the CRD and is responsible for the establishment, ongoing operation and maintenance of facilities, community parks, trails and recreation services.
Salt Spring Transportation Commission - includes 8 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The Commission serves in an advisory role to the CRD and to BC Transit on matters related to the transit service and to transportation related community needs and projects. On transit matters, the Commission advises on bus service funding, schedules, routes and other details of the service.
Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission - includes 7-9 members of the public, plus the CRD Director for Salt Spring. The Commission works cooperatively with adjacent local governments on economic development projects.
Please submit your letter of interest and background information no later than October 31, 2015 to:
CRD Salt Spring Electoral Area
145 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K3
Phone 537-4448 for more information or email saltspring@crd.bc.ca

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

RENTALS

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

FULL SERVICE plumbing from Parker Dean. Fast, reliable, 24/7 service. Take \$50 off your next job if you present this ad. Vancouver area. 1-800-573-2928.

PETS

PETS

GORGEOUS CKC ylw Lab pups top quality. Family raised pets, \$1200. (250)897-6275.

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

FREE ITEMS

BASE CABINET with Counter Top for kitchen or workshop. 250-538-5508.

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Cut, Split & delivered Cedar Fence Rails
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Replacement Foam for Pill, Boats, Sofas, Chairs, Window Seats, etc.
We also sew new custom covers Large Fabric Selection
25+ years serving you
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1-250-746-0792

AUTO FINANCING

MICHELIN X-ICE 225-60-R16 98T on black wheels \$400. Continental ContiProcontact 225-60-R17-98T \$500. Less than 2000 miles. Call 778-353-2901

NEW LEXMARK Toner
Cartridges:
C5220KS - Black x2
C5220MS - Magenta
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C5220SX - Cyan
Half price O.B.O.
Call 250-537-9933

STEEL BUILDINGS. "Summer madness sale!" All buildings, all models. You'll think we've gone mad deals. Call now and get your deal. Pioneer Steel 1-800-668-5422 www.pioneersteel.ca

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REVENUE PROPERTY

1 WINSTANLEY ROAD \$775,000 5 Bed/4Bath. 2 minute drive or short walk from ferry terminal. Currently generates \$2,250/mth in revenue (without the B&B). Custom post & beam WEST COAST STYLE 5 bedroom open concept, huge country kitchen, boasting commercial gas stove. Self contained 2 bed suite below + 2 separate self contained cabins. Call Chloe 604-833-6932 Royal LePage Sussex

RENTALS

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

1,068 SF for lease, Merchant Mews nr. Ganges. Skylights, baydoor, upstps office, bthrm. Richard, 250-380-1669 (Vic.)

1,127 SF at Merchant Mews near Ganges. Elegant office unit, mezz., conf. rm. (250) 380-1669 Richard (Victoria)

UPPER GANGES CENTRE 2nd Floor - 1 prof. office, Chair Lift, ample parking. Call Mary Lou: 250-537-5528

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ONLY \$20.00!
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Driftwood
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com
GARAGE SALES
195 ELIZABETH DRIVE, Saturday, Oct 3 - 9am-1pm. Furniture, households, tools & more. No Early Birds. 1
209 FRAZIER RD., Sat., Oct. 3, 8am - 2pm, Household, garden, plants, pots & lots of free 2
2611 Fulford Ganges Rd., Sat. Oct 3, 10am-2pm. Music, clothing, household & more. 3

550 SF office/studio for lease, Merchant Mews. Was radio station. Lots of light, wood paneling, bthrm. Richard (in Victoria): 250-380-1669.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
Modern space in the Lancer Building, 4 Offices plus Reception Area, Bathroom and Sun Deck. Approximately 550 sq. ft. Short or Long Term Lease at \$9.75 per sq. ft. plus Triple Net

STORAGE SPACE FOR RENT
Approximately 1,800 sq. ft. Lights and Hydro (no hood). Comed Roof, Short or Long Term Lease, \$850 per month.

ISLAND EXPLORER
Property Management Ltd.
250.537.4722

HOMES FOR RENT

2BDRM OCEANVIEW, North Island, spacious, well maintained, 1-1/2 baths. Wood stove & FP lg. yard, Gardener incl., NS, NP, \$1,500/mo Call: Bryan at 250 537-6750

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STORAGE

STORAGE
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• 9 foot height
• 24 hours access
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2008 SMART PASSION (top of the line) 89K. Dealer maintained at Mercedes Benz Victoria. Perfect condition, like new at 1/3 the price. AM, FM, CD, AC and sunroof. Drive as an automatic or use the paddle shifters for a sporty drive. A beautiful little car! \$6000 Call in the evening or leave a message. 250 537-9866.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 19

FAITH

St. Francis evoked with special events

Animal blessing and liturgy, plus new Sanctuary sessions

Two special events will mark St. Francis Fest at All Saints By-the-Sea in Ganges this week-end.

"Christians of many kinds love and revere il poverello (the little poor man), St. Francis of Assisi," explains a press release from the Anglican Parish.

To recognize St. Francis' respect and care for animals, everyone is invited to the Blessing of Animal Companions on Saturday, Oct. 3 at 2 p.m.

"We gather on the front lawn and in the lower hall for this short, joyful service. Any well-behaved pet is very welcome to accompany its human companion and receive a blessing," said Reverend Richard Stetson.

Then at 10 a.m. on Sunday, the liturgy will evoke the spirit and ethos of St. Francis in song, prayer and appreciation.

Everyone is also welcome to enjoy a new opportunity for prayer, song and communion in a contemplative atmosphere called Sanctuary. This will be offered on Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in the upper hall at All Saints, creating "an atmosphere that engages all the senses with candlelight, simple chant and prayer, a chance to speak together of the reading from the Bible, greet one another in peace, a fragrance of incense and the taste of Holy Communion."

Sanctuary will be offered on the first Sunday of each month at 7 p.m.

Contact the parish office at 250-537-2171 or e-mail ssanglican@shaw.ca for further information.

Attention New Salt Springers!



Welcome Wagon
A Canadian Tradition
Since 1930

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



This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com
1.250.352.2936

TIP OF THE WEEK:

I was recently asked if prophesy has anything to do with Astrology. The simplest answer is yes, but not necessarily. The 'not necessarily' part is based on the fact that sometimes the prophet simply has visions based on some level of psychic ability. Some might refer to such a person as a 'seer' versus a psychic, however. The basic difference is that the seer can be described as visionary regarding much larger numbers of people and with a wider scope of time and often suggestive of extraordinary people and/or of powerful and pivotal events. In so doing, the seer becomes a prophet. Still, not all who deem themselves a seer is also a prophet. Often the future visions are achieved by some form of altered state. Whether it is induced by spiritual practices such as meditation, prayer, bouts of celibacy fasting or by a more shamanic tradition which often includes psychotropic plants and other hallucinogens, or by some other means of receiving revelations, the seer, prophet, visionary, shaman perhaps enters some form of trance, transcending usual empirical perceptions and interpretations. Usually these people are directly or indirectly connected to a religious or spiritual tradition. Where Astrology tends to enter the picture is where the seer or prophet follows a religious tradition that is closely aligned with it. Judaism is one such tradition and subsequently Christianity and Islam and many other religions too. In Judaism, the Holy Days are not fixed on dates but upon events, such as solar and lunar eclipses and other natural, rhythmic events. Numerology is woven into this system as well, especially in terms of specifically numbered cycles of time, such as 7 year cycles for example. Because prophets make predictions, Astrology again serves as a very helpful tool because the alignment of planets which synchronize with outer events can be deciphered literally millennia in advance.

READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Relationship exchanges are keeping you busy now. Significant others are asking that you speak your truth rather than say what is popular or politically correct. This can prove quite challenging. Not everyone can handle another's truth or be able to respect let alone like it. Perhaps you are one of the lucky ones and your expressions of love are happily received and accepted.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

Establishing a whole new state of balance in your life has begun. This process includes creating beauty in your home. Hardly in a superficial mood, your goal is to go deep. This can include a deep cleaning and clearing process. Health is a key word and is linked to daily rhythms and habits. Traditional approaches and prior beliefs may not suffice.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

An exciting and playful cycle has begun. This includes the dawn of new commitments. Your confidence levels should be on a steady rise. Yet you also feel moved, even compelled to get to the bottom of things. Financial considerations are implied. Inheritances, taxes, investments, insurance policies and the like are examples. Weaving work with play is the perk in your day.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Home and family is a central focus for you and it is being activated now. Over the past month or so the pace has really begun to accelerate. You have more to do, yet you may also feel like you lack the skills or knowledge in some regards. Fortunately, your energy levels are running high and you are in the mood to get to work. Investment is a key word and focus now.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

Slowly but surely you are beginning to reach out. Your ambitions are steadily on the rise and you need the support of others to support your goals. You remain in a wait and see mood so making final commitments may be delayed, but not for much longer, if at all. Although you are determined to increase your exposure and income, you remain cautious about which steps to take.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22) Your focus is narrowing and this could actually prove to be a good thing. If you have something specific to concentrate upon, do it or at least begin now. Mars recently entered your sign joining forces with Jupiter which should serve to support an expansive drive. Change on relationship fronts is also featured and any endings will likely occur peacefully.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

The Sun in your sign suggests an impulse to take new leads. This is often more fully true after your birthday. The lead-up days, especially one week prior is a great time to reflect, dream and plan. It is also an excellent time for retreats and getaways even upwards to a month prior. This year the focus is largely inward to confront doubt demons and lay claim to deeper reserves of faith and optimism.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21) Diving deep, working hard, breaking through... these are the phrases that emerge in your horoscope. Gathering new tools and talents is also implied. At best, your imagination is ignited. Returns for past efforts amount to feeling more independent. You may not yet feel quite as free as you like. Meanwhile, the game of love is keeping you entertained, or occupied.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21) Accessing a fuller spectrum of your sense of individuality continues. Floating thoughts and a kaleidoscope of ideas conspire to weave into a dream worthy of your time and energy. A steady expansion in your public sphere is gaining momentum. This includes training and skill development. Although determined, you are happy advance steadily.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19) Getting the attention you want and feel you have earned and deserved is a focus for you now. You may not feel quite as confident as you like, but this is probably due to the retrograde electrical disturbances. Yet your ambitions are strong, almost as much as your desires. Gaining the love, appreciation and approval of others feels extra important.

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19) Due to a series of unexpected turns you may be feeling just a little lost. Your ambitions however are guiding your focus. As well, supportive and harmonious relationships are also a big help. Returns are coming in and you have reason to feel confident. Yet, you may for some reason be dealing with low and inexplicable anxieties. If so, bring you focus back to what is clear and certain.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20) In order to expand you must reduce. Call it clearing the way. The energy of stuff gets old and tired. Yet one person's junk is another's treasure. So, give it away and trust in the law of returns. A garage sale might suffice. At deeper levels perhaps certain relationships no longer inspire and may even inhibit. As gratefully as you can, say farewell to these. Within your own core, surrender to 'being here now'.

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They come from all walks of life, braving wind, rain, ice and snow to bring the world to your doorstep.

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October 10 is International Carrier Appreciation Day. If you have the opportunity, please take a moment to recognize your carrier, either in person or with a note of thanks.

POWER OF THE PRESS

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK | OCTOBER 4 - 10, 2015



NEWSPAPERS CANADA

sports&recreation

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

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



SOCCER

Old Boys slay Nearly Dead at Fernwood

Home team not tripped up by bumpy field

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Old Boys hosted Gordon Head Nearly Dead at a hidden gem stadium Sunday on Salt Spring's north end. Fernwood elementary pitch in all its early autumnal glory was the venue for a clash of old rivals, many of whom have faced each other over the decades.

The small turnout of local spectators may have been the result of an unfounded rumour that Fernwood was to be invaded by a group of zombies; Nearly Dead they may be but they ain't no Zombies.

Gordon Head, after requesting an engineering report on the elevations and slopes on the pitch, decided to play uphill and on a slant to conserve their energies for a second-half onslaught on the Old Boys goal.

From a defensive clearance, the ball fell kindly to Old Boy Rainer Funk, who calmly scored the first goal of the match with a rising shot.

Jim Witherspoon, recently returned from California with suntanned knees, offered one of his patent gentlemanly passes from goal directly to an opponent, who luckily

was too surprised to take advantage. Jim is back.

Despite intense pressure by the Old Boys' attack, the Gordon Head defence remained intact. Funk retired with muscle strain, Martin Thorn's shot grazed the crossbar, Antonio Alonso had a "swing and a miss," and various efforts by Mike McCormick and David Toynbee, among others, provided no further goals.

The cry for "more width" seemed to have the desired effect for the Old Boys.

The crowd swelled significantly at half-time as the Old Boys' injured reserve list, Damian Brazier, Kathy and Mike Davis, and Pipe Major Doug Fraser (on duty at the *Terry Fox Run*) added their supportive and pithy comments.

The cry for "more width" seemed to have the desired effect for the Old Boys. A move of classic beauty, a long Graham Tweddle pinpoint pass to Andrew Haigh, turned into the path of Charley Mayer, whose first-time

shot was parried out to Donny Brown, who swivelled, shooting a rising shot, which almost knocked the net cam off its mountings.

McCormick headed a knee-height cross from Dave Eadie through the Gordon Head keeper's legs for the Old Boys' third goal.

A deep, penetrating run by Brown found Stefan Cermak alone in the penalty box, but Fernwood field's uneven "bounce" thwarted a scoring chance. Brown, playing much more forward than normal, threaded the needle to Toynbee who unselfishly passed the ball to Haigh for a four-goal lead.

Cermak regained his footing with a shot that glanced off the far post to grow the Old Boys' lead to 5-0.

The final action had Toynbee playing in the back line, finding Haigh all alone on goal to score his second of the game. Much as the team tried to give Haigh his hat trick, the final whistle came too soon but not soon enough for Gordon Head, who found "no escape for the living dead," having been knocked for a 6-0 loss.

The Old Boys play Gordon Head Gunners at Lochside on Saturday, Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. The team's next home game is against Zgoda on Sunday, Oct. 18. The venue is to be determined.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

WARMING UP: Zoey Oloriz stretches before "running for Claire" in the 35th annual Terry Fox Run held this year at Rainbow Road Pool. See the Driftwood's Facebook page for more photos.

10th annual Salt Spring Island Business Excellence Awards

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Send in your Nominations

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2015

Nominations for this year's Salt Spring Island's Business Excellence Awards are now being accepted.

Forms can be downloaded from website: www.saltspringchamber.com or picked up at: The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce office, The Driftwood newspaper office or Island Savings Credit Union.

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DEADLINE FRIDAY, OCT. 16 10AM

Salt Spring's annual Business Excellence Awards are just around the corner, and this year the general public is invited to choose the winner for the "People's Choice Award."

Sponsored by the Gulf Islands Driftwood Award will be given to the business that receives the most votes for **Best Customer Service**.

How to Vote:

- email to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com;
- Post it to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood;
- Send us a tweet to @GIDriftwood;
- Drop it off on a piece of paper to the Driftwood office at 328 Lower Ganges Rd.
- Complete the nomination form at the Chamber of Commerce office or print it from the chamber website:

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Please tell us why you made your choice! **One vote only will be accepted per individual.**

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

*** AWARD ***