



Spooky times!
Halloween events round-up **PAGE 13**

Byron honoured
Rural Woman of the Year
PAGE 15

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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 43



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

WINNING LOOKS: Ian Thomas and Susan Huber share excitement after Thomas, a Salt Spring National Art Prize juror, announced that Huber had won the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists' Award at the SSNAP gala at Mahon Hall on Saturday night. See story on page 10.

BC FERRIES

Schedule change creates waves

Consultation with commuters set for this Thursday

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BC Ferries staff say they're committed to minimizing passenger inconvenience when a new sailing schedule takes effect on the busy Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay route next month.

"We knew there would be a challenge in the southern Gulf Islands during this five-month period," said Capt. Lewis MacKay, a marine superintendent who sits on the Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee. "We don't

have a lot of ferries kicking around."

The topic became the focus of Friday afternoon's SSIFAC meeting at the Harbour House Hotel. Committee chair Harold Swierenga said the schedule change has elicited many opinions.

Commuters who travel to Victoria and the Saanich Peninsula have been the most vocal critics of the company's plan to implement changes between Nov. 20 and March 31.

Scheduled servicing of the Queen of Cumber-

land has forced the company to redeploy its vessels in the region. Changes mean passengers on the Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay run can expect to see the smaller 65-car Bowen Queen on most weekday morning and evening sailings. The familiar Skeena Queen ferry returns to the Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay route from the outer islands for three midday runs to accommodate a crew change.

FERRIES continued on 2

RCMP

Specific info sought for Bernie case

Early October observations and missing belongings

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The RCMP's Vancouver Island Integrated Major Crime Unit is reaching out to the public for information on how Joseph Patrick Bernie spent his last days, in hopes of aiding their ongoing murder investigation.

Bernie's body was discovered in the waters of Fulford Creek on Oct. 10. Based on the findings of the BC Coroners Service and VIIMCU, investigators determined that foul play was the likely reason for the 45-year-old's death.

Investigators are currently trying to establish where Bernie was and what he was doing between Sunday, Oct. 4 and Tuesday, Oct. 6. They also hope to gather additional information relating to any activity or people the public may have observed around the abandoned white house located near the old Fulford Inn site between Oct. 5 and 7.

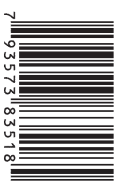
Two personal items belonging to Bernie also remain unaccounted for. Officers are looking for information about a guitar and a Samsung brand tablet.

Bernie has been described as a free spirit and an artist who was uncompromising in his desire to live his life his own way. Part of his self-care regime involving living outside, which he did in the woods near Fulford before his death.

He leaves behind a large family, including his mother, four brothers and a sister and their children.

Anyone with information on Bernie's movements and/or his missing belongings is asked to contact the Salt Spring RCMP at 250-537-5555, or to speak anonymously through Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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FIRE DISTRICT

Fire board passes conservative budget for 2016 year

Legal expenses still to be determined

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District has approved a budget of \$2,525,000 for 2016, coming in \$4,000 under the current year's number despite escalating employee costs

associated with the union contract. "Given that the wages budget has increased by 16 per cent, to hold the tax rate flat is quite an accomplishment," finance committee chair Norbert Schlenker commented after the board passed the bylaw at its Monday night business meeting. The final figures actually include a smaller increase in employee wages than projected, due to fewer paid-

on-call hours needed. Total wages and related expenses went from \$1,805,700 budgeted in 2015 to \$1,958,396.09, for an increase of 8.5 per cent. Wages alone increased from \$1,200,000 in 2015 to \$1,300,000, or by 8.3 per cent.

The 2016 budget does not include upcoming legal expenses, with that line item left at zero for the time being. Schlenker noted Monday night that this year's surplus will more than cover whatever the costs might be.

"It looks like this year's surplus might be roughly \$100,000, though we're not making firm predictions with more than two months left to go," Schlenker said after the meeting. There is additional surplus from 2014.

Significant changes in the budget include an increase in consulting fees from \$10,000 to \$60,000 and a \$15,000 decrease to the training budget.

In other fire board news, the board



Norbert Schlenker

formally introduced Arjuna George as the acting fire chief and also welcomed Sarah Shugar as the district's new recording officer.

"It's an honour to be up here," said George, the district's former deputy chief, of his position at the table. "I look forward to serving the community, Salt Spring Fire-Rescue and you all."

Trustees approved two propos-

als for upcoming training courses that George requested for paid-on-call firefighters. Fire department management was directed to suspend its regular training program earlier this year and to seek board approval on a case-by-case basis until the 2016 budgeting process was concluded.

Ten members will attend a pumps and pumping course taught by assistant chief Jamie Holmes, while Chantelle Pohl will attend a week-long first-aid teacher training course. The board waived approving a driving course as a date has yet to be set.

Trustees voiced their support for continuing the Training in Paradise weekend that brings firefighters to the island every July. Figures provided by Holmes show the cost of running the program is \$28,000 but that Salt Spring firefighters access \$46,000 worth of training in return, in addition to non-quantifiable benefits such as boosts to recruiting and retention.

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Throughfares, schedules on agenda

FERRIES

continued from 1

Gone are the route's familiar odd- and even-hour sailings, replaced with a selection of difficult-to-remember departure times.

"It completely screws up the Fulford schedule in terms of times," said Ellie Thorburn, a bed and breakfast owner who sits on the SSIFAC's scheduling committee, during Friday's meeting.

Another audience member questioned how he was expected to adapt to the confusing new schedule after years of familiarity with the route's standard times.

"That schedule is in my head," he said.

Most commuters are upset with the new schedule's evening sailings out of Swartz Bay, which they say are too early to catch after work and too late to make it home in time for dinner or to spend time with their families.

The standard 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. sailings will be replaced by sailings at 2:25 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6:05 p.m. 7:55 p.m. and 9:25 p.m.

"That one [5 p.m.] ferry that just, as you say, falls through the cracks, happens to be the most important," said Bob Patterson, a resident of Salt Spring whose partner commutes to Vancouver Island regularly. "In the evening you're totally leaving us stranded."

FAC members plan to ride the 5 p.m. sailing

between Swartz Bay and Salt Spring on Thursday, Oct. 29 to get a better idea of who will be affected and hear concerns of ferry users and whether some minor tweaking of the new evening schedule can resolve some of the problems.

"We are trying to make the best of a lousy situation," Swierenga said.

The route's Saturday and Sunday sailing times are unaffected by the new schedule.

SGI schedule gets a rethink

BC Ferries staff promise a new round of surveys and public consultation to review the latest incarnation of proposed sailing changes for routes serving Salt Spring and the southern Gulf Islands. Community opposition heightened in communities like Saturna and Mayne during the first round of open-house meetings held this summer.

"We've received a lot of lively feedback," said Mark Collins, the ferry corporation's director of strategic planning and community engagement.

Many of the more than 200 people who turned out for the Aug. 17 ferries meeting on Saturna told BC Ferries representative they fear the new schedule will make it harder to make casual trips to Vancouver Island and stifle local businesses.

Collins said the new schedule "incorporates a number of changes," including a relook at the

company's controversial pairing concept.

"Based on the feedback, we're trying to fix the problems and preserve the wins," he said.

Ferry users will have a chance to look at the revised schedule within the next few weeks. An online survey is anticipated to go live in November, and BC Ferries staff plan to schedule public meetings in early 2016 once comments have been analyzed.

"There's a lot of work done, and a lot more to be done," he said.

Throughfare review on horizon

Salt Spring drivers in the habit of travelling to Tsawwassen by way of Swartz Bay are all too familiar with rushed departures, anxious crossings and missed connections. BC Ferries will try to ease some of that uncertainty as part of a review to optimize the Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay-Tsawwassen throughfare experience.

"Our goal is to make [the throughfare connection] equally attractive to Route 9," said Mark Collins, director of strategic planning and community engagement.

Tight connection times mean drivers who travel in either direction must participate in a rally-car-like dash out of the terminal area, cross the overpass at Land's End Road, and return to the terminal's entrance.

BC Ferries staff speaking at Friday afternoon's

SSIFAC meeting said they hope to create a seamless transition.

"We are committed to improving the throughfare process for everyone," said Monique Turgeon, BC Ferries' south coast operations superintendent. "We are going to be doing a lot of blue-sky thinking, and nothing is off the table."

Almost nothing. Turgeon said safety concerns mean the company has no plan to reopen the shortcut turnaround near the Swartz Bay vehicle line-up area.

Free rides in jeopardy

Anyone who rides a BC Ferries vessel to leave Salt Spring or any other southern Gulf Island may have to get used to the idea of paying for a ticket.

Collins told FAC members the company's plan to drive more traffic to lesser-used sailings with airline-style flex fares, variable pricing and a broader reservation system could mean islanders and visitors to the Gulf Islands could have to pay before the board a ferry, regardless of which way they travel.

BC Ferries is studying the effectiveness of discounted rates for under-utilized sailings throughout the fall. Vehicle fares for all routes south of Port Hardy on northern Vancouver Island will be discounted by 50 per cent for select sailings Mondays through Thursdays and Saturdays between Nov. 16 and Dec. 19.

Advertising Deadline Change

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office will not be open on Wednesday, Nov. 11 Remembrance Day.**
The paper will be available on **Tuesday Nov. 10.**

Advertising deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Nov. 11th edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising Deadline:
Thursday, Nov. 5, 3pm

Classified Display Deadline:
Friday, Nov. 6, 3pm

Classified Word Deadline:
Monday, Nov. 9, 9am



NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Fall Back One Hour on Saturday Night

Pacific Standard Time returns on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 2 a.m. Set your clock before you go to bed.

TRANSPORTATION

Major parking lot expansion proposed for Mouat Park

Speed limits back under consideration

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

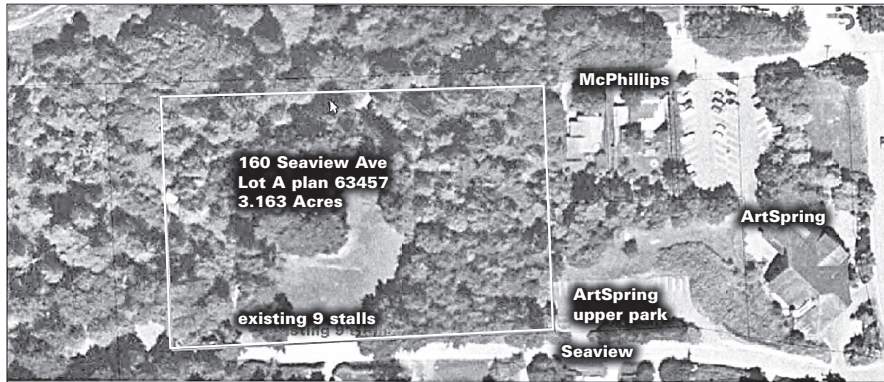
A potential solution to Ganges village parking woes came to light Monday afternoon with a presentation from Scott Simmons of the Salt Spring Transportation Commission.

Speaking at the commission's regular business meeting, Simmons laid out a proposal for a parking lot with room for 350 to 500 cars to be located between the McPhillips Avenue and Seaview Avenue access points to Mouat Park. The property includes the existing parking area near the disc golf course, an open field and some forest.

Simmons said the property's attributes include the fact that it is a separate lot from the rest of Mouat Park, it is already owned by the Capital Regional District and it is not part of the Agricultural Land Reserve.

Leasing parking spaces to village businesses would cover construction costs and maintenance in perpetuity, Simmons said. In addition to freeing up regular parking downtown, it would create space for touring buses and trucks with boat trailers, and allow some existing spots to be converted for handicapped use. He noted many of these are inaccessible.

"Hardly any of them are up to standard. A few of them are dangerous," Simmons said.



Map of the lot in Mouat's Park which has been proposed as the location of a new parking lot capable of serving 350 to 500 vehicles.

"The thing is, the more parking you provide, the more it will be used."

ROSS SIMPSON
SSITC commissioner

CRD director Wayne McIntyre congratulated Simmons on his presentation, but pointed out cities like Vancouver are trying to get away from cars and parking downtown and are instead encouraging public transit use.

"We have that opportunity,

too," he said.

Commissioner Ross Simpson suggested more could be done to encourage tourists to use existing parking that is not far from the village centre, such as at the high school and public pool.

"The thing is, the more parking you provide, the more it will be used," he added.

Transportation chair Robin Williams suggested accepting the report for information and then seeking more input.

"It's a little presumptuous for the transportation commission to build a parking lot in a park, so I think we have to at least talk to the Parks and Recreation Commission and let them know," Williams said.

In other transportation busi-

ness, commissioners reviewed a report on island speed limits compiled by former member Kees Visser in 2012, and considered whether to forward his recommendations to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Visser had suggested lowering village speed limits to 30 km/hr, changing roads currently at 60 to 50 km/hr, and highways from 80 to 70 km/hr.

Commissioners at Monday's meeting echoed earlier concerns about taking a blanket approach to the ministry, and noted changing the rules without supporting enforcement would be ineffective. They agreed to ask Salt Spring RCMP to speak to the commission about their views on local speeding. Traffic calming in Ganges vil-

lage and requests for site-specific speed reductions were also suggested.

- Plans to install a new bus shelter starting with the pull-out across from Country Grocer will involve cost-sharing with BC Transit, rather than attempting another contest such as the one that resulted in the unique moon snail design in that same area. Williams noted that shelter came in at \$19,500 and was completed with the help of countless volunteer hours. He invited anyone with ideas about bus shelters to register a delegation at the next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 24.

- BC Transit planners Myrna Moore and Elicia Elliot reported on the pilot bus route from Fulford village to Ruckle Park, which ran from the end of June through the end of September. The pilot was deemed a success with nearly 900 riders using the service over the three-month span. Elliot pointed out that with just two runs per day, the route had outperformed several others in the Salt Spring transit system.

- Williams reported in brief on the commission's goal of taking a licence of occupation over the contested area beside the Tree House Cafe, which is registered as Manson Road. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has indicated opposition has been heard from the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island, which wants full vehicle access to Kanaka Dock.

NEWS BRIEFS

Geotech work underway at Long Harbour

BC Ferries is undertaking a geotechnical investigation at the Long Harbour ferry terminal this week.

Work was scheduled to

run from Tuesday, Oct. 27 through Thursday, Oct. 29.

"The work will involve a water-based crane advancing pipe piles using both vibration and impact hammers," states a BC Ferries press release. "Work will be limited to daytime hours and all

efforts will be made to minimize the duration of any noise generating activities."

There will be no impact to scheduled operations; however, a water-based crane will be working between sailings and moored overnight adjacent to the terminal.

Off-roading permits required

Owners of dirt bikes, quads and snowmobiles across the province will require a licence to hit the back country as of Nov. 1. British Columbia's Min-

istry of Forests, Lands and Resources announced the registration and licensing system in 2014 to combat reckless driving and unqualified riders.

Off-road vehicle drivers caught driving without a licence risk getting a \$5,000 fine and having their vehicle impounded.

People who use their vehicles exclusively on private land are exempt from the regulations.

The cost to register, plate and insure a vehicle is approximately \$100.

More information about the registration process is available at www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/orv.

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PHOTO BY CHARLIE + LINDA CHANDLER

CRASH: Burgoyne Bay Road is blocked by a fir tree that fell across it at about 2 p.m. last Thursday. Charlie and Linda Chandler, visitors from Hawaii who took the photo, said they were just returning from hiking around the bay when they heard the tree fall. They saw an area resident call 911 and also noticed power lines down and smoke rising from the road side of the tree. Fire crews arrived within 15 minutes and BC Hydro removed the tree by 4 p.m.



ISLANDS TRUST GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee will hold a community information meeting and public hearing within a Regular Local Trust Committee Business Meeting on the following proposed bylaw:

- Proposed Bylaw No. 242 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 1, 2013”;
- Proposed Bylaw No. 243 – cited as “Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999, Amendment No. 2, 2013”;
- Proposed Bylaw No. 253 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 2, 2015”;
- Proposed Bylaw No. 254 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 3, 2015”;
- Proposed Bylaw No. 255 – cited as “Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999, Amendment No. 3, 2015”.

for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at 12:30 p.m., **Monday, November 2, 2015, at the Galiano South Community Hall, 141 Sturdies Bay Road, Galiano Island, BC.**

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

Proposed Bylaw No. 242 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 1, 2013”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 242 is to amend the Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995 to clarify the term ‘cottage’.

Proposed Bylaw No. 243 – cited as “Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999, Amendment No. 2, 2013”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 243 is to amend the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999 to permit a larger floor area and greater height for cottages.

Proposed Bylaw No. 253 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 2, 2015”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 253 is to amend the Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995 to permit home-based contractor yards by issuance of a Temporary Use Permit (TUP). The intent is to amend the TUP section of the Galiano OCP in order to include specific TUP guidelines and conditions for home-based contractor yards.

Proposed Bylaw No. 254 – cited as “Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995, Amendment No. 3, 2015”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 254 is to amend the Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995 to outline policies that would allow secondary suites to provide housing options on Galiano Island by permitting secondary suites, and to permit the use of Short Term Vacation Rentals (STVR) in secondary suites.

Proposed Bylaw No. 255 – cited as “Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999, Amendment No. 3, 2015”

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 255 is to amend the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999 to permit and regulate secondary suites in residential zones and to permit home occupations, such as STVRs, in secondary suites.

A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing October 21, 2015 and up to and including October 30, 2015.**

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2) (e) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Galiano Island, B.C., commencing **October 21, 2015.** The proposed bylaw can also be viewed on the internet at www.islandstrust.bc.ca and by selecting the Galiano Island LTC Projects & Initiatives webpage: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/galiano/projects-initiatives.aspx>

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. The office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, by Fax (250) 405-5155 prior to **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2015**
2. By email to vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca.
3. After **4:30 p.m., October 30, 2015**, to the Local Trust Committee at the Community Information Meeting & Public Hearing at **12:30 pm, Monday, November 2, 2015.**

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

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

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaws may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Kim Farris, Planner, at (250) 405-5194 or, for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver (604) 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

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

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario, Deputy Secretary

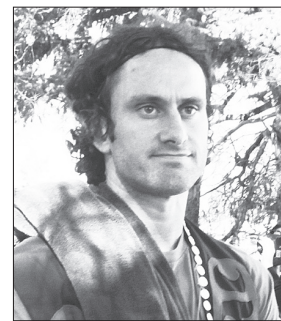
GRACE ISLET

Stories share lessons

Library exhibit coincides with public events

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Fewer than two weeks after workers removed the last batch of concrete and fill from an abandoned building site on Grace Islet, islanders have the opportunity to reflect, reminisce and contemplate ongoing conflict between development and traditional First Nations sites across British Columbia.



Joe Akerman

“This is an opportunity to invite not only Salt Springers who have supported the initiative directly but also everyone who has been intrigued with the dispute,” said Joe Akerman, a Salt Spring resident who played an important part in the campaign to reclaim Grace Islet. “This is also an opportunity to learn more about our local First Nations not only for the many struggles they continue to face but to understand more about their ways of life both past and present.”

A collection of images taken on and around Grace Islet in 2014 will be displayed in the Salt Spring Public Library’s program room beginning Nov. 4. An opening night event features talks and songs by Akerman and others who participated in the 2014 campaign. The event begins at 7 p.m.

The month-long exhibition coincides with talks, workshops and concerts designed to promote understanding about First Nations archaeological sites and strengthen cross-cultural understanding.

Events continue on Saturday, Nov. 7 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. with a day filled with Coast Salish storytelling and discussion about heritage conservation with archae-

ologist Eric McLay and Robert Morales, chief negotiator for the Hul’qumi’num treaty group. The event opens with First Nations singers and drummers.

“We’re expecting people to talk about the Heritage Conservation Act and revisions to the act,” said Maureen Milburn, a Grace Islet campaigner who helped assemble the Stories of Grace Islet show. “That’s really the key to moving ahead. The focus is to move on and revise the act so this doesn’t happen again.”

Bill Henderson joins Alan Moberg, Wesley Hardisty, Phil Vernon and other musicians for a multimedia Peace to the Spirits concert on Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.

An art exhibition entitled Witness runs concurrently at the Salt Spring Gallery on McPhillips Avenue. Local artist Pravin Pillay presents a series of photographs featuring the eyes of individuals engaged in last year’s resistance to the desecration of the burial ground at Grace Islet. The show opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4, and continues to Nov. 18.

“This is an opportunity to invite not only Salt Springers who have supported the initiative directly but also everyone who has been intrigued by the dispute.”

JOE AKERMAN
Speaker, Stories of Grace Islet

A complete schedule of events is available at the library or saltspring.bc.libraries.coop.

The campaign to prevent construction of a private home on a First Nations burial site on Grace Islet sparked widespread opposition and national media attention between June 21, 2014 and Jan. 18, 2015. Months of meetings, rallies and protests led the provincial government to buy the property for \$5.45 million. The Nature Conservancy of Canada holds title on the property and continues to work with First Nations and community groups to restore the islet to its predevelopment state.

PARKS & REC

PARC budget questioned

Commissioners defend plan for multipurpose room

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Capital Regional District director has let it be known he's uncomfortable with the Parks and Recreation Commission's proposed 2016/2017 budget and five-year capital plan.

"From my perspective, I need to take a breath," Wayne McIntyre told PARC members at their meeting last week.

McIntyre singled out a proposed \$255,000 expense to build a multipurpose room addition at the Rainbow Road Pool before casting his vote against the proposed budget.

Citing a need to exercise greater restraint during times of continued financial uncertainty, McIntyre suggested PARC commissioners consider making do with other facilities on the island. These include the CRD portable at Portlock Park, a room which is undergoing an overhaul estimated to cost up to \$25,000.

The 2016 budget is approximately \$2.2 million.

Commissioners anticipate a 1.5 per cent tax requisition increase. The five-year projection calls for annual requisition increases of two per cent between 2017 and 2020.

Dan Ovington, PARC manager, rose to the multipurpose room's defence, noting the facility is anticipated to generate revenue over the long term. He said the Portlock Park portable only offers room for limited activities.

"The idea of a centrally located space will help create a more efficient system," said Sonja Collombin, a PARC commissioner. "I think it's a really good starting point."

PARC members voted to accept the proposed budget, though final approval from the CRD board in Victoria is required.

PARC supports RCMP 'no-go' designations

Open liquor, littering, vandalism and the illegal sale of drugs and alcohol in Salt Spring's public spaces are behind PARC's support for further court-ordered park bans.

"Bylaw enforcement is costly and has proven to be an ineffective form of dealing with the transient population as ticket fines

can only be enforced when a person renews their driver's licence," reads part of a PARC letter to the provincial Crown counsel office.

The letter follows a September incident in which 11 people were arrested after an altercation with police at Centennial Park in Ganges. Vandalism and drug use have continued unabated in spite of efforts by CRD staff to improve sight lines by trimming vegetation and limiting washroom hours.

"The guys are having to clean up things that nobody should have to clean up," said Ovington.

PARC members said they hope the no-go request will encourage Crown to consider the use of further park bans when individuals face sentencing for park-related crimes.

"As [RCMP officers] are charging people with drinking or other infractions in the park, they're trying to give them no-goes in those parks," Ovington said. "When somebody has been given a no-go the police essentially have more power when moving forward with pressing charges [for repeat offences]."



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

HISTORY STOP: Partners Creating Pathways' Jean Gelwicks addresses participants at Saturday's grand unveiling of the new solar-lit shoreline kiosk with natural and human history interpretive panels that overlooks Ganges Harbour from Upper Ganges Road.

ISLANDS TRUST

Retaining wall plan opposed

Trustees reject application

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Long Harbour-area resident's plan to build an 81-centimetre (32-inch) shoreline retaining wall sent ripples of discontent through Thursday afternoon's meeting of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

LTC members sided with a staff recommendation to reject the proposal based on the wall's proximity to the ocean and questionable ability to prevent erosion.

The structure's alleged ineffectiveness to handle storm surges, a lack of attention to First Nations archeological interests and questions about the boathouse the wall is meant to protect are among reasons staff suggested the application be rejected.

"I'm hoping you can come back to us with a better plan," said Peter Luckham, chair of Salt Spring's LTC.

He said completion of an archaeological report is essential to make sure any construction along the shoreline doesn't disturb possible catalogued heritage sites.

"We need to be certain that we don't impact our First Nations neighbours," Luckham said. "We've seen the mistake that happened on Grace Islet, and we don't need a repeat of that."

The request follows construction of a nearby boathouse in 2002, which went ahead after the

property owner obtained a variance to build closer to the shoreline. Wave action along the inlet has since eroded the shoreline and placed the building at risk.

"This activity poses a very serious threat to its long-term survival," applicant David Carter told trustees. "We disagree strongly with all the reasons the Trust planner has put forward for declining this application."

Trustee George Grams suggested the two-storey boathouse's poor foundation may be contributing to the erosion problem.

The application elicited response from two speakers at the meeting's town hall session.

Reg Jefferd, owner of a nearby property who frequently walks along the shoreline with his dogs, told trustees he sees no problems with building a short retaining wall at the site.

"I'm probably the person who is on that beach more than anyone else for whatever that's worth," he said. "There are no seats, and there are no benches. I think it will enhance the beach itself. I think it's a win-win situation."

Speaking as a concerned community member, Maxine Leichter questioned the process through which the property owner was allowed to build the boathouse more than 10 years ago, arguing that he should have anticipated the possibility of erosion.

"When you put up a seawall, it has negative effects on neighbouring properties and the shoreline," she said.

WATER

SSIWPA reveals St. Mary plan

Watershed document challenges assumptions

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A new plan that examines threats to Salt Spring's largest drinking water source offers greater depth and clarity to current challenges and possible solutions, according to members of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority.

"The St. Mary Lake Integrated Watershed management Plan is a result of years of involvement and participation of residents, stakeholders and community organizations, as well as the several agencies that constitute SSIWPA and who care about the long-term health of our precious watershed," said George Grams, chair of SSIWPA, in an announcement that accompanied the report's Oct. 23 release. "The plan gives us the blueprint for future action, including regulations, legislation, strategies and actions to help us meet our primary objective of improving raw lake water quality."

The persistence of potentially toxic algal blooms on St. Mary Lake, which supplies water to more than 5,700 customers, stirred government agencies and community organizations to create SSIWPA in 2012 and precipitated work on the watershed management plan.

The plan's authors said many long-held preconceptions about St. Mary Lake were challenged as research was carried out.

Researchers have ruled out construction of a central sewage system around the

lake given the minimal levels of phosphorus observed entering the lake from septic systems on shoreline properties. Fear of "unintended negative consequences" has ruled out bioengineering techniques sought to reduce algal blooms by adding or removing specific species to the lake.

Forty years of lake water records reveal no long-term trend of increased phosphorus levels, though phosphorus travelling to the lake in stormwater runoff may be higher than originally thought.

The report attributes the occurrence of algal blooms to rainfall and erosion within the watershed rather than phosphorus transfer from lakebed sediment or septic systems.

It recommends decreasing erosion by revegetating bare soils and building ponds to trap runoff along the shoreline and elsewhere in the watershed. Authors also encourage St. Mary Lake watershed residents to eliminate invasive species and make sure septic tanks are properly maintained.

"The successful implementation of the plan depends on ongoing coordinated stewardship, awareness and action," according to Shannon Cowan, SSIWPA coordinator.

The full plan is available at ssiwatersheds.ca. Cowan said public comments and questions are encouraged.

SSIWPA already has funding in place to continue stormwater and septic system monitoring through the fall. The group plans to continue educating islanders about water quality through field trips and other public events.

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OPINION



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

EDITORIAL

Fire power

Democracy proved active last week as the highest turnout in a federal election since 1997 ushered in a new era in government.

With Saanich-Gulf Islands boasting the fifth-highest voting rate in the nation, now is the perfect time to keep those democratic muscles flexed and turn our attention to the home front and a seeming crisis at the Salt Spring Fire Protection District.

A Driftwood editorial in February of 2014 suggested that people opposed to the way the fire board was then operating should take it upon themselves to serve. That call was answered in spades when a group of four candidates advocating for change ran and won their seats in April 2015, creating a solid majority that went to serious work at its very first meeting.

Many residents applaud the new board's cost-cutting zeal, but no government body enjoys unanimous support. In some way or another, their actions have resulted in the departure of four people involved with the district's administration: three trustees and most recently Tom Bremner, who had served as fire chief since 2009.

THE ISSUE:

Fire board election

WE SAY:

Candidates needed

that comes up, as it stands there is little chance of opposition.

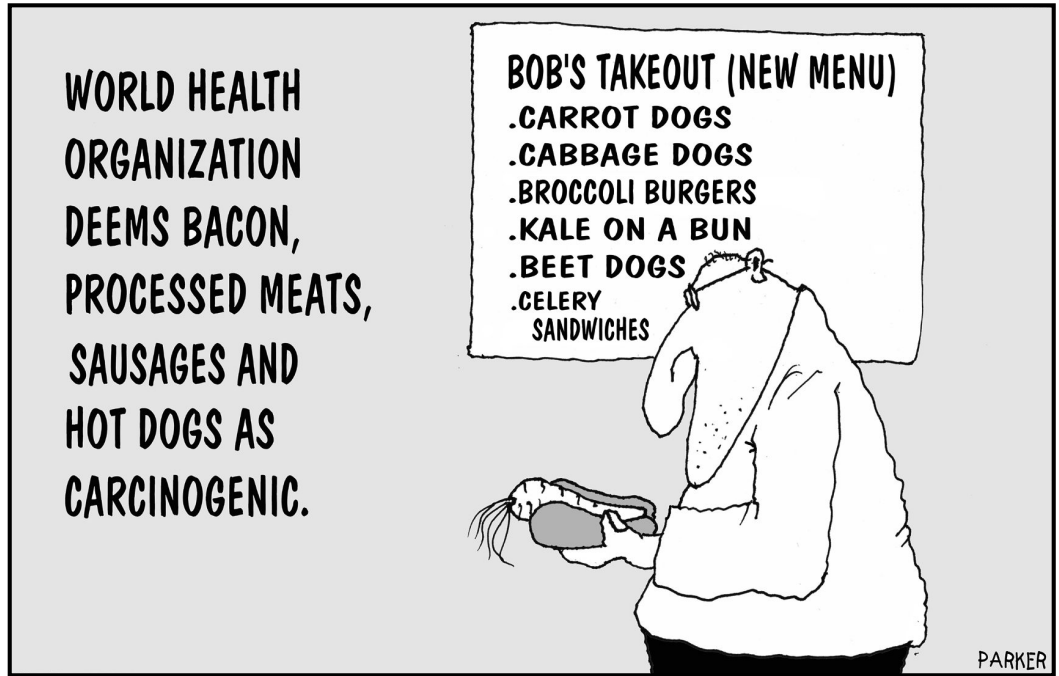
Given the frustrating inability to effect change and a huge volunteer workload, it would be surprising if anyone not in line with current board policy wanted to mire themselves in doing the grunt work.

Diverse opinions are to be valued, however, and are deeply important to democracy. If Elizabeth May has taught us anything, it's that a strong voice can have impact even if it brings little opportunity for action. Saanich-Gulf Islands constituents made history by electing May as the country's first Green MP in 2011 and then cheered as she made climate change part of the national conversation. Her work is said to have influenced our new prime minister's position on the topic, something that may have helped turn the tide from blue to red on Oct. 19.

Nominations for three seats on the board opened Tuesday and close on Friday, Nov. 6. Finding another May on Salt Spring — and one who is willing to serve in considerably less rewarding circumstances — may be a pipe dream. But those who are willing to put the work in could help shape the future of fire service on this island in ways yet to be foreseen.

and most recently Tom Bremner, who had served as fire chief since 2009.

The board has stated it seeks diverse viewpoints, but with the voting power to ignore any adverse viewpoint



VIEWPOINT by Bob MacKie

Fair Vote Canada chapter desired

I was pleased as the co-chair with Tom Mitchell of the Salt Spring committee to re-elect Elizabeth May that she was re-elected as our member of Parliament, but most displeased with our electoral system that once again managed to unfairly twist the votes of all Canadians so that what we experienced in 2011 we have repeated in 2015. Canadians got a majority government once again despite the voters' wishes.

One of the definitions of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. In 2011, 40 per cent of Canadians elected a Conservative majority government. In 2015, 40 per cent elected a Liberal majority. Is 40 per cent a majority? No! Fifty per cent +1 is a majority.

This continues because we have an old voting system. Most political parties in Canada recognize this. In B.C., 10 years ago, 58 per cent of us voted provincially to replace this voting system with a proportional one where 40 per cent of the vote gives you 40 per cent of the seats, not 54 per cent.

Fair Vote Canada is a grassroots multi-partisan citizens' campaign for voting system reform to promote the introduction of an element of proportional representation into elections for all levels of government and throughout civil society. We should form a chapter of Fair Vote Canada here on Salt Spring. We could learn more about the various forms of proportional representation used by the majority of

countries all over the world such as Mixed Member Proportional and Single Transferable Vote, about Duverger's law in political science, about open (voter set) and closed (party set) lists; but most importantly what the benefits and disadvantages are of the different systems.

We need to inform ourselves. The Liberals have promised legislation in this area within 18 months, but did you know that one of the considerations is for an "alternative vote," which is not proportional. Only about half of Liberals voted for a proportional representation bill in Parliament in 2014.

Salt Spring is a politically active place. I hope many of you will contact me and we can form a chapter of Fair Vote Canada on Salt Spring to inform ourselves. As a past director of Fair Vote Canada and current vice president of Fair Voting BC, I believe that I can put us in contact with some good sources of information.

As a Green party member I want you to know that this is not only a Green issue. This is about democracy. In the last election, Canadians wanted to elect more Greens, more NDP members and more Conservatives.

Please email me at RobertBMacKie@gmail.com if you are interested in forming a local Chapter and staying informed on this issue.

See www.fairvote.ca for more information.

The writer is vice president of Fair Voting BC, a Green party member and a Salt Spring resident.

In B.C., 10 years ago, 58 per cent of us voted to replace this voting system with a proportional one.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

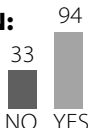
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Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you happy with the election outcome?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "The guys are having to clean up things that nobody should have to clean up."

DAN OVINGTON, PARC MANAGER, ON PARK MAINTENANCE

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
What's your favourite Halloween treat?



ALEX GUIRY
Butterfingers.



OPAL CLOSE
Skitles and Reese's.



MARINA CHILD
Kit Kat.



JORDYNN LEE
My mom used to love to make roasted pumpkin seeds with salt. It's the best thing ever.



TAELORE ANDERSON
Maltballs.

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

Ferry change welcomed

After reading last week's "Commuters lose big with change" letter to the editor about the changing ferry schedule, I was all set to get hot under the collar about the insensitivity of BC Ferries in changing the schedule to suit them rather than the users.

Then I went online and checked out the schedule that comes into force on Nov. 21. At first I thought I was having a senior moment and had forgotten how to count, but no, I checked it several times, reaching for a stronger pair of reading glasses just to make sure I

wasn't seeing double.

The new Monday to Friday schedule, even though no one will be able to remember it because the times are not on the hour or 10 to the hour, has actually restored to us at least some of those ferries we lost in years gone by. Instead of eight ferries a day, we now have nine ferries going from Fulford, and 10 coming from Swartz Bay. The weekend schedule remains the same as it is now. How is this a bad thing?

The first ferry from Fulford will leave at 6 a.m. instead of 6:15, giving us at least a fighting chance of catching the 7 a.m. sailing to Vancouver. Of course we still have to drive half way to Victoria in order

to get back into the ferry terminal, but that's a letter for another day.

The last ferry from Swartz Bay now leaves at 9:25 instead of 9 p.m., giving us another 25 minutes in town. We always feel like children being sent to bed early when we have to leave family gatherings at 8 p.m. in order to catch the last ferry home.

An additional bonus is that many of the sailings now utilize one of the smaller ferries. All supposing this doesn't result in overloads, we will now be able to go upstairs and socialize in the lounge, instead of sitting in our cars gazing blankly at the car in front, while the Skeena Queen, aka the Landing Craft, rattles its way between

Fulford and Swartz Bay.

So in this instance, I'd say "Bravo BC Ferries!" We now have more choices and a pleasanter journey to look forward to after Nov. 21.

AMANDA SPOTTISWOODE,
MEADOW DRIVE

One in a million

I am certain that I shall not be the first resident to protest the mystery surrounding the departure of fire chief Tom Bremner from Salt Spring's support system.

When I arrived on Salt Spring Island, one of the first people who greeted me was Tom Bremner. He took the time to get to know me and my family and to help

involve me in the workings of the entire island. I came away with a very positive feeling knowing that he was in charge of, arguably, the most important emergency service we rely on.

I came from an environment where the fire chief was a very important position in a small community. That position often extended well beyond the black and white of a job description and delved into the multifaceted core of a community's values. The fire chiefs I knew acted as community leaders with their involvement with service clubs and youth development programs.

Chief Bremner convinced me that he had those priceless qualities.

The current board of the fire district swept into power on the promise of transparency of operations and yet here we are being stonewalled with regards to details of Tom Bremner's departure from his leadership position in our community. So why is he gone and who is responsible?

If Tom Bremner is still on the island and reads this letter, I want to take this opportunity to publicly and wholeheartedly thank him for his community leadership.

You, sir, are one in a million.

GREGORY AST,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Salt Spring bubbles up at Shirley Delicious

There's an old saying about Salt Spring that states that you can leave the island but you can never leave it completely behind. There's always a piece of it that sticks to you, whether you want it to or not, and you will carry that fragment with you no matter how far away you travel.

This point was pounded home a few weeks ago when my wife and I ventured over to East Sooke on Vancouver Island to visit some good friends. Another couple who lived in the area had also been invited for dinner, and as we chit-chatted across the table, they discovered that we made our home on Salt Spring Island.

This fact immediately led one of them to ask if we knew the people who had opened a great new café up the coast in the hamlet of Shirley. Apparently, they were from Salt Spring and the name of one of the owners was Phil. I had to admit that not only could I not pin the name "Phil" to the accompanying description, but I had never even heard of a place called Shirley.

As we were planning to drive our camper up towards Jordan River the next day with a stop to take a look at the wild Pacific at French Beach Provincial Park, (while maybe catching a glimpse of a pod of humpback whales or two), we decided to make a point of finding Shirley to see if we indeed knew these people from our home island.

The following morning we loaded up the van and pointed it north along Highway 14. We were told that Shirley was a tiny com-

munity between Sooke and Jordan River and it would be easy to miss it if we blinked at the wrong moment. It was supposed to be just a few minutes out of Sooke and we kept expecting it to pop up around every new bend in the road, but all we could see as we drove were some heavily logged areas and a number of vehicles loaded up with surfboards on their roof racks. Finally, just as we were admitting defeat and accepting that the Shirley Café experience was not to be, (and isn't this always the way it goes), there it was!

Off to our left, peeking out over a foreground of garden shrubbery like something out of a fairy tale, stood a steep-roofed brown A-frame with large white letters spelling out "Shirley Delicious" above a brightly painted and inviting red door. What an incredible name for the café! Even though the building and its grounds seemed to be standing out in the middle of nowhere, the parking lot was filled with vehicles. As we pulled in, we felt as if we were desert Bedouins being drawn to a fertile oasis set in the midst of a vast expanse of culinary wasteland.

Once inside, our senses were accosted from every direction. The alluring smell of freshly brewed coffee competed with the sweet aroma wafting up from freshly baked tartes and pies inside a glass display case. Artwork



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

"funka-deli."

As we stood there checking out the daily menu and in complete awe of our surroundings, the sound of manic laughter came charging at us from the direction of the kitchen. A moment later, bellowing the words "Hey, Salt Spring Island," out stormed Phil. He hugged us like we were long-lost family and made us feel as if the entire café had been put there just for our arrival.

It took a milli-second, but I suddenly knew where I had seen Phil before. There, right in front of us, stood Phillip Du Preez, past owner and founder of RUPHI Fabrics and Ceramics on Salt Spring. Although the location of his storefront on Salt Spring had moved around a couple of times, I remember it best when it sat on the main road just above Ganges Harbour (in the building now housing Jack and Candace's Island Escapades). RUPHI had always struck me as having been the most brash and colourful business in Ganges and there was a certain feeling of sad loss when it disappeared one day.

featuring bold and colourful brushstrokes adorned the walls and intensified the visual experience. The music streaming down from the speakers was an eclectic blend of folk/rock/punk with a pinch of rave/trance mixed in. This was no ordinary café; we were in a

As it turned out, Phil and his business partner, Sheena Mercer, a former manager of the Harbour House Hotel, turned their collective entrepreneurial gazes westward and the outcome is the Shirley Delicious Café (ranked #1 of 41 restaurants in and around Sooke by TripAdvisor).

On this particular day, Sheena was off somewhere, so Phil, along with a number of super friendly, alternative-looking staff members, was running the entire show. The man was everywhere: greeting customers, serving, bussing tables, cooking in the kitchen, preparing London Fogs, and generally dealing his exuberant persona to anyone and everyone fortunate enough to be part of the Shirley Delicious scene that day.

In a nutshell, everything was perfect. The meal was sumptuous, the ambience infectious and the overall experience delightful. And there were lots of gluten-free options! As we parted ways, we swore that we would be back sooner than later.

Nobody asked me, but as I stated earlier, sometimes people leave Salt Spring, but you can't peel Salt Spring completely out of their systems. What Phil and Sheena have accomplished with Shirley Delicious is a case in point. They have taken the best of what we know as our wild island spirit and transplanted it in a new locale, where it appears to be flourishing with aplomb! Yes, surely, you owe yourselves a ride out to the west coast to experience it firsthand. And say hi to Phil for me!

here's my card

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Look to animal world for budget aids

BY REUBEN KAUFMAN

Things have been really heating up in the fire trustee world these past weeks over budgetting.

Before retirement from the University of Alberta, one of the courses I taught included a module on "water balance in desert animals." I think there's a lesson there that might help any group that is concerned with responsible budgetting.

During a hot day in the desert a human being can lose as much as three gallons of water (and die). The camel can survive a week under similar conditions, without drinking water. The routes of water loss for any animal are urinary, faecal and evaporation, most of the latter being sweat. The camel has developed physiological mechanisms to significantly reduce the degree of water loss from all those routes compared to most mammals.

But two African antelopes (the oryx and the eland) can do even better: They can live indefinitely without access to free drinking water. They accomplish this amazing feat by reducing water loss even more than the camel; how do they do it? Of the three routes mentioned above, evaporation is the major component on the negative side of their "water budget." Moreover, for various physiological reasons, they can't reduce urinary and faecal losses more than the camel does. There are several ways an animal can reduce sweating in the face of gaining so much heat from the environment; here I have space to describe only one.

INDEPTH

They allow their body temperature to rise to about 45C and so don't need to evaporate as much water to keep cool. But isn't such a high temperature fatal? Yes, because for all mammals, it's the brain that is particularly sensitive to high temperature. So they have a means for allowing their core body temperature to rise, while keeping their brain temperature significantly cooler. (For any science-minded folks reading this, it is a countercurrent heat exchange mechanism between the arteries bringing hotter blood from the heart and the veins bringing back cooler blood from the brain.)

OK, so what's the relevance to economics? When a large institution has to reduce expenses, so often there's a tendency to cut back in all budget areas, from minor to major. The problem is that the minor areas often have much less flexibility for cutting back than the major ones.

For example, when I lived in St. Albert (adjacent to Edmonton), I remember the St. Albert Taxpayers Association promoting themselves as guardians of the public purse. They would publish things like: "in order to maintain what's necessary, we should sacrifice that which is only 'nice to have.' Why do we need a performance hall or an art gallery, [or even a library, believe it or not]; Edmonton has those." But arts and heritage facilities demand a small percentage of the total budget

of any municipality and yet provide so much of value to the community. Moreover, it's rare for there not to be at least some fat in the major budget items. Cutting those major budgets by a relatively small percentage can result in significant savings without compromising the essential function.

I don't pretend to know which specifics of the fire service budget are "essential" and which are "nice to have" or even unnecessary. However, the board's adoption of a zero-based budgetting philosophy is a wise step toward uncovering sustainable cuts. For example, I'm told that it costs the fire service about \$2,000 per year to provide free coffee to the firefighters. Although that is clearly not a necessary expense, cutting it won't save the taxpayer much and it is a significant gesture toward staff appreciation. For sure, a bunch of small items can add up, so don't ignore them! But make sure that there is some good philosophical reason to cut any given item.

I conclude on a positive note. Current board members have emphasized that all they want is to provide the best service for the right price. Their unenviable task is to determine how to do that faced with some constraints that are beyond their control. But maybe the same philosophical approach an oryx or eland uses for their water budget can help them get there!

The writer is a retired university professor who lives on Salt Spring Island.

Why was fire chief let go?

There's a saying we like. It goes something like this: You own a dog, so why are you doing the barking?

When Tom Bremner was being looked at for fire chief, were our trustees not careful to check his credentials and his impressive track record? Were they not positive that he was the right man for the job — the one who would be our dog? They were, yet how often was he allowed to "speak" without his every bark being questioned? (The word "muzzle" comes to mind.)

Was he, perhaps, a victim of "the bottom line?" Did bottom line outweigh expertise in our dealings with a good man?

We felt safe with chief Bremner at the helm — didn't you? Really — isn't that what it's all about — feeling safe?

When we experienced a house fire several years ago, and when then chief Les Wagg and his crew arrived to risk their lives to save what they could of our house, the last thing on our minds was whether or not the chief was watching every penny being spent on our behalf. We were just terribly thankful that he knew what he was doing and that he had trained his people accordingly.

As for the public relations role people expect their fire chief to play, we know

MORE LETTERS

that this community has been made a better place because of Mr. Bremner's consistent willingness to work on any and all projects in need of a volunteer. (You've no doubt seen him serving up burgers in the Rotary tent on Saturdays.)

We're angry and we're sad, and we question how it could possibly have been necessary to let Mr. Bremner go!

JIM AND CAROL HELSET,
SALT SPRING

This makes it hard for the media, as much as they might wish to help the police and inform the public.

Despite the fact that Mr. Bernie was not rich or famous, Ms. Nolan took the time and effort to introduce us to him, warts and all.

I hope this prompts us to care and to think about him and perhaps for someone who knows something to come forward.

GREGORY MIDDLETON,
SALT SPRING

Election praise

Now that one of the longest and nastiest election campaigns in Canadian history has ended, much praise is in order.

The good people of Salt Spring Island should be congratulated for turning out in droves at the polls on Oct. 19. Wow, such political engagement is truly an anomaly in what has largely become a sea of apathy and indifference!

The Driftwood also deserves kudos for allowing so much open discussion of the issues on its pages and not trying to control the message. Despite controversies and heated emotions, the fearless editor repeatedly demonstrated a commitment to err on the side of democracy and freedom of speech. She also published material that never would have surfaced in mainstream, corporate media,

which is commendable as it shows the paper has not been bought and strives to reflect the island community in all its quirky glory.

As my wife and I cast our ballots at Fulford Hall, I noticed a number of young people lined up to vote. One young man of humble attire had diligently brought along a whole envelope of bills and receipts in an attempt to comply with the new election rules. I made a point of thanking them all for taking the time to vote. When the one with the envelope blurted out "I gotta!", I felt deeply moved as I recognized in those two words, and the passionate way they were spoken, all the hopes and dreams of a new generation.

Whether or not the change in government will make a difference remains to be seen, but we have at least taken action within the confines of our nominal democracy.

We will of course have to continue to hold politicians to account, but should also focus on our little island home. Let's protect our own environment, develop our own economy and build a society that is true to the history, culture and traditions of the Gulf Islands. We don't need others to show us the way.

FRANTS ATTORP,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 9

Grooveyard finale an emotional event

BY ARTHUR GOODLUCK

On the eighth night of October tucked away down Holmes Road in the south end of the island the Grooveyard hosted its final show, leaving a hundred or so Salt Springers and a host of visitors both enraptured from the marvellous evening of entertainment and saddened by the closure of one of the island's most successful enterprises.

Every so often amidst our maze of committees and other assorted group-athons a person comes along who goes it alone, hatches an idea and gets on with it. Someone who forgoes the usual ruminations, insecurities and politics for the love of making something happen and thrive. "Rare as rocking-horse droppings" (or words to that effect) my uncle Stan used to say, a self-made man of great style and extraordinary enthusiasm.

David Youngson and Nadia Bizzotto are two such spin-offs who with a driving passion for music and creative community engagement have invested their expertise and energy over the last four years into the Southend Grooveyard.

They provided a veritable smorgasbord of fabulous musical entertainment, fine food and social cohesion.

From the very onset of the Grooveyard we knew we had stumbled onto something different: the welcoming ramble up the driveway, the garage/concert space and its many tasteful internal manifestations, the catering and of course the diversity of the performers that has taken the "house concert" concept to another level. So much so that according to many of the guest musicians the Grooveyard was acknowledged as one of the premier house concert venues and receptive crowds across North America.

Some of the vast array of Americana musicians, a most elastic genre, who have graced the Grooveyard included greats such as Greg Brown, Cowboy Junkies, Kelly Joe Phelps, Mary Gauthier, Gregory Alan Isakov, Ruth Moody, Sam Baker, Pete Anderson, Rose Cousins, Stray Birds and Mandolin Orange, all performing to sellout crowds of enthusiasts. The highlight for me was the stellar performance from Michele Gazich on

violin accompanying Mary Gauthier. Gazich, a national living treasure in his home country of Italy, truly elevated proceedings beyond anything that this old music hound had ever witnessed before.

For many other Grooveyard regulars, momentous memories also prevailed and will remain the provenance of this very special enterprise. Most importantly, what David and Nadia and their band of dedicated volunteers have provided for Salt Spring through this exceptional social and cultural program is a revitalization of our faded past, of recreating a special place and special community that chooses to be different, supportive and innovative.

And the best thing, dangling out there on the wintered grapevine, is that the Grooveyard may not yet be finished, just relocated. Word has it that Mr. Youngson is in negotiation with several other would-be impresarios interested in carrying on the Grooveyard tune. We wait with bated breath.

The writer has been a Southend Grooveyard fan since day one.

RANTS and Roses

Roses

A large bouquet of burgundy roses to the people who donated at the entrance to the seventh annual Salt Spring Vineyards Harvest Grape Stomp on Oct. 17. Just over \$400 was raised for charity. Well done!

An oversize trug of bright orange cosmos to Bon Acres Farm for the generous gift from their pumpkin patch to decorate the scary Halloween grotto at Brinkworthy Park on All Hallows Eve.

A true present! Thank you to the kind and meaningful volunteer work accomplished by the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary. As a visitor to your island I had to be admitted to the hospital overnight. I was most grateful for your gift of toothpaste and toothbrush. Connie Johnson, Ottawa

A great big bunch of roses to MOTI and Lafrentz for painting the new lines on our roads. Thanks to all of you. Island Pathways

A restaurant full of beautiful roses to thank a wonderful young man who came to my rescue at the Salt Spring Inn last Wednesday evening after a very frightening medical incident. He was very calm and took complete charge. He assisted us to our car, then paid us a visit in the hospital to make sure everything was being taken care of. We also wish to thank our lovely young waitress who was so kind and calm. It took a day, but the owner of the restaurant was able to find out who our "knight in shining armour" was. Thank you Jason Watkin. Bev and Ron

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

A polio-free world

I would like to bring to your attention a major recent development in global public health.

In September, the World Health Organization declared Nigeria polio-free. Nigeria was the last country in Africa with endemic poliovirus, leaving now only two countries in the world — Pakistan and Afghanistan — where polio has to be eliminated. If we can root out the virus from these two last strongholds, polio will be the second human disease ever eradicated, after smallpox.

Many in our country and community do not remember just how devastating

and terrifying this disease was in Canada before it was eradicated decades ago. We do not realize how many of our older neighbours are polio survivors and just how many Canadian children were condemned to live in an "iron lung" for the rest of their lives.

Rotary, a humanitarian service organization with nearly 34,000 clubs globally, including the Rotary Club of Salt Spring Island, made polio eradication its top priority in 1985. At that time more than 350,000 people a year were stricken with polio. Now, numbers have been dramatically reduced with less than 50 recorded cases so far in 2015.

World Polio Day was Oct. 24 and on Oct. 23 at 3:30 p.m. our time, Rotary and UNICEF hosted an event in New York City. It streamed live online, providing a

status update on the efforts to eradicate polio, which will include appearances from health experts, concerned celebrities and many more involved in this massive immunization drive.

It takes less than a dollar to protect a child from polio. Your readers can support the fight to protect children worldwide by visiting endpolio.org to donate and learn more.

All donations to Rotary's efforts to end polio will be tripled by a 2:1 matching donation from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Please join us now. We are so close to the complete eradication of this crippling disease.

JIM HELSET,
PRESIDENT,
ROTARY CLUB OF SALT SPRING ISLAND

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SSNAP

Community celebrates SSNAP success at awards gala

Winnipeg's Corrie Peters nabs top prize

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The inaugural Salt Spring National Art Prize rolled to a quiet close Monday afternoon after hosting an exciting gala awards presentation that saw Winnipeg's Corrie Peters walk away with the grand prize Saturday night.

Peters was not actually able to attend away only figuratively, but one can imagine the \$10,000 cash prize and \$5,000 residency provided by Joan McConnell will add spring to her step for some time to come.

"I feel very honoured to be awarded this. It seems like a very important thing in the Canadian art scene," Peters said Monday during a phone interview from Winnipeg.

She received the prize for a sculptural work comprising textile art, laser printing and found objects called 'Building (All the rooming houses on my street have had their front door removed)'.

The awards event attracted another packed house at Mahon Hall, with around 15 of the national finalists in attendance along with hundreds of interested members of the public, artists and volunteers.

Emcee duties were provided by gallery owner Matt Steffich, although



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

From left, gala emcee Matt Steffich, and SSNAP steering committee members Margaret Day and Ron Crawford try to decipher the handwriting of a draw prize winner at Saturday's gala event.



People's Choice Award winner Nicola Wheston.

juror Ian Thomas gave him a run at the title of funny man for the night.

"This has been exhausting to me. I have enjoyed it — but I'm going to be glad to go home soon," Thomas said before announcing his juror's choice award, which went to Vancouver artist M.E. Sparks for her painting We'd Like To Help.

As for Thomas' fellow jurors, Vicky Chainey Gagnon gave her award to Annie Baillargeon of Québec City for 'Les cannibals,' a photographic multimedia piece, and Holger Kalberg recognized Vancouver artist Jessie McNeil for her collage Lunch Break in Les Tuileries.

Susan Huber received the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists prize of \$1,000 for best local artist with her photo Wild Horse Wind Farm.

"Her images are always full of the magic and mystery of a particular moment in a particular landscape," Thomas said.

Salt Spring's Nicola Wheston received the top honour among three Rosemarie Behncke People's Choice Awards for her Tailgate Party painting, which is part of her Stuff series. She was also humorous during her acceptance speech, relating a story about her garbage men "dancing around" to let her know how much they liked her work.

Wheston added on her Facebook page: "I want to thank my community, peers, friends, family and garbage men for your support and for voting for me . . . Winning people's choice means a lot to me; it shows I have succeeded in reaching a very large audience. It has always been my aim to try to reach a wide range of people."

Second place went to Patricia Slighte of Yellowknife for her minimalist collagraph print Changes, a subtle work that nonetheless captivated a large audience. Eric Button of Vancouver received third place for his epic drawing The Death of Mr.



Attendees give a cheer for everyone involved in SSNAP.

Wolf, which referenced the famous Benjamin West painting of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham as well as our modern junk society, Canadiana and contemporary art practice.

"I'm hoping to do something a bit socially engaged. I don't have anything concrete yet, but I'm very excited."

CORRIE PETERS
Winnipeg artist and SSNAP residency winner

Peters was the sole artist to win her prize for a sculptural work. In a "post-technique" show that was very much about contemporary ideas and explorations, Peters' sculpture was nonetheless appealing on esthetic grounds, marrying a delicate web knitted from sewing thread to its reverse image, which was laser cut into a scroll of velum. Separating the two panels was a heavy wooden post which turned out to be the actual doorframe from the Prairie farmhouse Peters lived in as a child.

Significantly, Peters demonstrated

the ability to translate her concept into creative expression in a satisfying way.

"We were all immediately unanimous on accepting Corrie Peters, and we did it because it was such a multilayered piece," Thomas said for the jurors after the event.

"At one level it was just a beautiful arrangement of forms, in which light and shadow played all their parts. But as you began to spend more time with it and enter into it, there were so many ways to relate to it, and questions the viewers and we the jurors were being asked."

As Peters explained after the show, she started the work just after having her first child. Knitting fragments of the webbing during the spare moments she could snatch took seven months to complete. As she knitted, she worked through ideas based on real social issues. These focussed on people like her neighbours living in poverty, and the lessons she's learned working in social advocacy.

Both the knitted portion and its reverse panel represent Peters' attempt to rebuild symbolic doors, and hence restore dignity, to those for whom it has been removed.

"It's been over a year of bringing this piece to completion, and there



Joan McConnell, the Salt Spring resident who provided funds for the main SSNAP prize.

was a lot of thought that went into it. I'm glad to hear some of that communicated," Peters said.

Part of Peters' prize is the opportunity for an artist's residency on Salt Spring. She is starting to swirl around some ideas of what she'll do once she's here. Most likely it will involve a way to stir up conversation while referencing the local context.

"I'm hoping to do something a bit socially engaged. I don't have anything concrete yet, but I'm very excited," she said.

Realization of the first ever SSNAP prize and exhibition is certainly to the credit of the Salt Spring Arts Council, which brought McConnell's seed idea to such a successful outcome.

As McConnell said during the grand prize announcement, "I can only say 'OMG.' I had no idea what was going to happen. I had no idea the people on Salt Spring would be so wonderful to bring it all about."

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LITERARY EVENTS

Poetry excitement palpable at open mic evenings

Peter Levitt featured poet on Nov. 5



STASIA GARRAWAY PHOTO

Peter Levitt

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

If anyone doubts the popularity of poetry these days, they should pop in to the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room on the first Thursday evening of each month.

An average of 10 people sign up to read an original poem at Open Mic Poetry Night, before turning their

ears and eyes with other audience members to a featured poet.

"It's about creating a space for people to have a voice," explains Chris Smart, an award-winning local poet who coordinates the series.

"People of all stripes" gather for poetry nights, said Smart, and poets of all ages are welcomed. The room can fill up nicely with listeners, especially if the featured writers have a following.

That should be the case next Thursday, Nov. 5, when Peter Levitt, author of 10

books of poetry, including *Within Within*, *One Hundred Butterflies* and *Bright Root*, *Dark Root*, is on the bill. A winner of the prestigious Lannan Foundation Award in Poetry, Levitt is known worldwide for his Zen Buddhism writings, translations and teachings, and he is also the Salt Spring Zen Circle's founder and teacher.

Any donations received next Thursday will be contributed to Island Women Against Violence, which is

also the beneficiary of a fundraiser titled *Imagine Salt Spring: A Culture of Peace* at Stowel Lake Farm on Friday, Nov. 6. (See Transitions Thrift Store for more information and tickets.)

Smart observes that Levitt is a great inspiration as both a Zen teacher and poet.

"With Zen and poetry you are speaking from the same place — your own true nature."

For the open mic portion, performance poetry

is an accepted genre at the evenings but prose is not. A one-poem-per-person limit is also in place. Open mic sign-up begins at 6:45 p.m., the readings are at 7 p.m. They generally run for half an hour, with the featured poet then taking the podium. Time is also allotted for a question-and-answer session.

On Dec. 3, the featured poet is Shirley Graham.

Poetry night will then take a break in January before resuming on Feb. 4, 2016.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Music and readings mark annual day

Remembrance program

This year's Remembrance Music and Munch program falls on Wednesday, Nov. 4 and follows the tradition of presenting music and readings that invite the audience to reflect on Remembrance Day.

There will be opportunities to consider not only the pain of loss and the joy of homecoming but also to express our deepest longing for peace.

The All Saints' choir, under the direction of David Storm, will lead the audience in

several well-known songs and will also offer two choral pieces: the poignant *Close Now Thine Eyes* by Daniel Gawthrop and the well-known poem by John McCrae, *In Flanders Fields*, set to music by Eleanor Daley.

David Storm will provide accompaniment for soloists Jean McClure, Betty Rothwell, Alan Robertson and Paul McManus, who will sing familiar songs that stir the heart, including *Danny Boy*, once claimed to be the most beautiful tune ever written, and Dvorak's stirring *Going Home*.

Soprano Connie Holmes and alto Anke

Smele, who perform regularly as a duo, will present two deeply moving pieces, one of which is from Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*.

The free event begins at All Saints By-the-Sea at 12:10 p.m. and is followed by a delicious light lunch, for which tickets must be purchased before the event.

All donations received help run the Music & Munch series and the annual contribution made by Music Makers to the Royal Canadian Legion, Salt Spring Island branch.

BOOK LAUNCH

Literary history fêted in book

Mother Tongue double launch

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Mother Tongue Publishing company has done much in recent years to direct public attention to those who have had an important impact on B.C.'s modern cultural riches.

The *Unheralded Artists* of B.C. series has restored names that would perhaps have otherwise been lost to posterity, such as Mildred Valley Thornton, Jack Akroyd and Frank Molnar. The company's highly successful Great BC Novel Contest has meanwhile delivered two celebrated works by previously unknown authors, spring-boarding Gurjinder Basran and Kathryn Para to not just regional but national stages. The much-anticipated shortlist for the third edition will be announced in January.

Providing the support for west coast voices to be heard has long been the mission of Mother Tongue's founder Mona Fertig, who entered Vancouver's divisive writing scene as a teenager in the early 1970s. Her work in that city to build a resource centre/performance space/library/hang-out for writers called the Literary Storefront is the sub-

ject of a new book by Trevor Carolan. It will be launched along with another Mother Tongue publication, a novella by award-winning author Theresa Kishkan, at the Lions Hall on Saturday, Nov. 7.

Fertig's innovation in creating the Literary Storefront was first of all to establish B.C.'s writing community as a serious concern that was independent of the east coast's more established credentials. Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, she put her youthful enthusiasm and energy into promoting a space where all writers — unknown, emerging and on top of their careers — were equally welcome.

To paint a verbal picture of the times and show why Fertig's vision was so necessary, Carolan interviewed numerous writers who were there at the time, as well as accessing the fulsome archival record now owned by the University of British Columbia.

The author also has his own memories to serve the project. When the Literary Storefront opened its doors he was an emerging journalist; he ventured to read his poetry in public for the first time at one of the venue's Sunday open mic sessions. The combination of first-hand source materials makes for an

engaging immersion into an era when the legends of the past were mingling with the innovators of the future.

In addition to fostering new writers, the Literary Storefront's workshops and readings included some of Canada's biggest names, including Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje, Earle Birney and Jane Rule.

The book is peppered with references to participating writers and organizations, some of which have connection to modern-day Salt Spring, which is fun for local readers. Brian Brett's name is frequently seen on the list of poetry readings, and Duthie Books is mentioned several times for its central role.

Carolan will be on hand for the Nov. 7 launch, as will Kishkan, who will introduce her novella *Patrin*. A past nominee for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Award and other prizes, Kishkan travels to 1970s Victoria and Europe for this story of a woman exploring her Roma roots. An ancient family heirloom in the form of a quilt emerges as the coded map to migration through central Europe, and to *Patrin's* understanding of her own cultural identity.

Doors open at 7:30 for the Nov. 7 book launch, which starts at 8 p.m.



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what's on this week



Wed. Oct 28

ACTIVITIES

Women Writing Memoir. First of six weekly sessions led by Wendy Judith Cutler begins today. SS Public Library. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Info/register: 250-653-4286; winnie@saltspring.com

Talk About Glaciers. Multimedia presentation with David Denning features climbing North America's highest peak, Denali. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

SS Garden Club Meeting. Guest speaker is Louise Boutin, landscape architect from Vancouver Island. At Meaden Hall. 7 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. Tonight's event has a Halloween theme. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

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@driftwoodgimediamedia.com

Thur. Oct 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Dancers of Damelahamid Workshop. West Coast First Nations dance company invites participants to engage in shared experience including song and dance. ArtSpring. 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Fri. Oct 30

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Marianne Grittani. Live music at The Local Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

Dancers of Damelahamid: Spirit of Transforming. West Coast First Nations dance company performs signature work. ArtSpring. Salt Spring Vineyards wine tasting at 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7:30.

Salt. Live music and costume party. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Family Pumpkin Carving Party. Bring your little ones and get into the Halloween spirit with activities, snacks and pumpkin carving. Salt Spring Cooperative Preschool. 10 a.m. to noon.

Fri. Oct 30

ACTIVITIES

Unitarian Coffee Meeting. Amanda Tarling invites islanders to informal conversation on topic of grace. Rock Salt Cafe. 11:40 a.m.

SS Centre School Pumpkin Walk. Walk the trail and vote for favourite jack-o-lanterns. Costumes encouraged. Bring a mug for free cider. Salt Spring Centre School. 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Meat Draw. Every Friday at the Legion. 6 p.m.

Sat. Oct 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

Halloween Dance with Voyager. Salt Spring Legion. 8 p.m. Costume prizes.

Moby's Halloween Bash. Costume prizes, dancing and live music with Ange Hehr. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market. Last official date of the season. Centennial Park. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sat. Oct 31

ACTIVITIES

Met Opera Broadcast: Tannhauser. James Levine conducts Wagner's early masterpiece in its first return to the Met stage in more than a decade. ArtSpring. 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Death Cafe. Join Salt Spring Hospice facilitators for open, honest and genuine dialogue about death. Free. Refreshments by donation. ArtSpring Lobby. 2 to 4 p.m.

ArtSpring Youth Art Reception. Come in costume for the opening reception of youth art pieces exploring the work of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera and the Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). Part of the ArtSpring Youth Art Enrichment Program, facilitated by local artist Tracy Harrison. ArtSpring. 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Spook House. Trick-or-treat indoors with frightful installations for all ages. Admission price goes to student improv teams. Mahon Hall. Opens 6 p.m. Closed during fireworks display.

Meat Draw. Every Saturday at the Legion. 6 p.m.

Halloween Fireworks. Display at Ganges Harbour at 7:30 p.m., followed by free hot dogs and hot chocolate at Ganges fire hall.

Sun. Nov 1

ACTIVITIES

in Yoga & Sound Bath w/ Ashleigh Burns and Craig Paterson. Join Ashleigh and Craig for a morning of nourishing embodiment through yin yoga and mystical live soundscapes. Salt Spring Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m.

Rollerblading. Every Sunday at Fulford Hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

Unitarian Fellowship. Amanda Tarling speaks about acknowledging wonder in our lives. At the SS Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m.

Trivia Nights. Every second Sunday. Snacks welcome. Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 7 p.m.

Mon. Nov 2

ACTIVITIES

Women's Basketball. Every Monday. All ages & levels of play. Wear clean non-marking shoes. SIMS gym. 5:30 to 7:10 p.m.

Tue. Nov 3

ACTIVITIES

Briony Penn Book Launch. Launch of Briony Penn's newest book, *The Real Thing: The Natural History of Ian McTaggart Cowan*. The subject is known as the "father of Canadian ecology." ArtSpring Gallery. 7 p.m.

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

Wed. Nov 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music & Munch Remembrance Program. Annual program of music and readings related to themes of war and peace. All Saints By-the-Sea. 12:10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Witness - Pravin Pillay Art Opening. Photographs featuring the eyes of indigenous people and their allies who collaborated in actions of protest and protection in Canada during the summer of 2014. Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.

Stories of Grace Islet Exhibit Opening. An exhibit of artwork, images and text recording the protection of a sacred burial ground in Ganges Harbour opens with a talk by Joe Akerman, other speakers and songs. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

Poker Night at the Local. See last Wednesday's listing.

SongJam. See last Wednesday's listing.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 18

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Leonardo Da Vinci: Painter at the Court in Milan Thursday November 5 4pm matinee and 7pm.
Nov. 11th two shows only 3pm matinee and 7pm. Advance tickets at Outspokin' Bike Shop.

Sun. Nov 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Bourbon Street Jazz. With Kelby MacNayr, Derrick Milton, Peter Taschuk and Ian Van Wyck. Moby's Pub. 7 to 10 p.m.

Purple City. Live at the Salt Spring Inn. 6 to 9 p.m.

CINEMA

- The Martian** — When astronauts blast off from Mars, they leave behind Mark Watney (Matt Damon), presumed dead after a fierce storm. With meager supplies, he must use his wits to survive as NASA works to bring him home.
- Hotel Transylvania 2** — Drac enlists his friends to help put his grandson through a "monster-in-training" boot camp. But things really get batty when Drac's cantankerous, old-school dad (Mel Brooks) pays an unexpected visit. Free tix for best costumes on Saturday!
- Leonardo Live: Leonardo Da Vinci: Painter at the Court of Milan** — Thurs., Nov. 5 only, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Advance tickets at Salt Spring Books.
- Marinoni: Fire in the Frame** — Wed., Nov. 11 only, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Advance tickets at Outspokin' Bike Shop.

EXHIBITIONS

- Youth Art Enrichment Program** exhibit with a Day of the Dead theme and inspiration from the lives and work of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera runs at ArtSpring from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 with an opening reception on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and the show continuing on Sunday, Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Monday, Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Catherine Sutherland** shows jewellery and paintings at Salt Spring Gallery through Oct. 29.
- 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. 31. Fall gallery hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.

- Fuel - Charcoal Pit Art** by GISS art students and five island artists is exhibited in the library program room through October.
- Pravin Pillay's** show *Witness* opens Wednesday, Nov. 4 at the Salt Spring Gallery. His photo images feature the eyes of indigenous people and their newcomer allies who found themselves collaborating in actions of protest and protection in Canada during the summer of 2014. A reception takes place Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. and the show runs to Nov. 18 in association with the Stories of Grace Islet exhibition and cultural program at the library.
- Stories of Grace Islet:** A collection of images taken on and around Grace Islet in 2015 will be displayed in the Salt Spring Public Library's program room beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4. Opening night event with talks and songs by Joe Akerman and others who participated in the 2014 campaign.
- Karen Riess** shows new works, paintings and interpretations of Murray Riess' poetry at Kizmit Galeria through October. Hours are Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.-ish.
- Serendipity Studio** at 112 Robinson Rd. features Margaret Threlfall's evocative watercolour Ocean's Edge series. Open most days (except Thursdays) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment at 250-537-4535.
- Jungle: Tangling with Complexity** is the name of Mary Laucks' latest exhibit of abstract and non-representational paintings in the ArtSpring lobby exhibiting through October.
- Doug Wahlsten** displays photographs of the fairy village and monuments of Chris Hatfield Trail at TJ Beans for the month of October.
- Dulcy Wilson** shows oil paintings at the Country Grocer Cafe for the month of October.
- Beulah Gordon** shows mixed-media and glass work at Island Savings.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/events/

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HALLOWEEN

Spook House offers village-central Halloween fun

Plenty of events planned for Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Anyone looking for the magical combination of events on Halloween night that would allow the kids to get candy, have fun and stay warm and dry while being just seconds away from prime fireworks viewing should look no further than the Spook House at Mahon Hall.

The annual event that was first created by StageCoach Theatre School has carried on over the past five years through the supremely scary and theatrical talents of Bob Twaites, who directs proceeds from the small admission fee to local theatre projects. This year it is the travelling student improv teams that will benefit. In turn, improv artists will be putting their skills into creating the scariest installation yet.

"Mahon Hall is the perfect venue for a spook house because it's such a nice old building," Twaites observed.

A list of characters needed by the assembly team leading up to the Oct. 31 event included: "lots of zombies, scary clowns, dead dolls, corpse in coffin (coffin provided), several ghouls, and three witches." Additional places for those who wanted to do their own thing were also possible.

"Improvise from past years are coming back because they love it so much," Twaites said.



Picture subject comes alive at last year's Spook House.

FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

The crew will be hard at work building the set at the stroke of midnight on Friday and promise a completely transformed hall by the time doors open Saturday at 6 p.m.

Guests will have a couple of hours in which they could theoretically enjoy the thrills again and again before the fireworks display, which typically happens around 7:30 p.m. The spook house will close for the duration of the show and then re-open for a final haunting for 45 minutes.

This year's event will feature one especially exciting new expenditure, while the overall display always offers something different. New lower lighting effects will also make the hall look darker and scarier than ever before. As always, there will be plenty of adult volunteers on hand to ensure adequate supervision. As well, younger kids can exit the hall before they get to the final, scariest section.

Generous donations have been provided by Country Grocer, Ganges Pharmasave, TJ Beans and Thrifty Foods.

Activity Round-up

People heading out to trick or treat on Maliview Drive this Halloween should remember that donations for local households are still welcome and will be collected right up until Saturday, Oct. 31.

Volunteer organizer Theresa Klan has dropped off donation boxes at both Pharmasave locations, Thrifty Foods and Country Grocer. New this year, she will also distribute drop-offs for interested participants in the Wildwood Crescent and Park Drive neighbourhoods.

Klan has been organizing the Maliview donation for around six years and is a self-described "Halloween nut." One of her most devoted donors is Dr. Richard Hayden, who offers toothbrushes as an alternate prize. Klan claims some kids even choose a brush over candy.

Other Halloween events taking place Saturday night include the **Family Fun Fest** at Community Gospel Chapel from 5 to 7 p.m. It features candy, games, a cake walk and other safe activities.

Fireworks take place in Ganges Harbour at 7:30 p.m.

The annual display is sponsored by the Salt Spring Fire Department and the Salt Spring Rotary Club. Meet for hotdogs and hot chocolate afterwards outside the Ganges fire hall.

For the adult set, **Moby's** annual Halloween party is back, this time with live music by Ange Hehr. Cash prizes and gift cards will go to categories such as best costume, best group, most original and more. The music starts at 9 p.m. Another party with local band SALT is also set for Friday night at Moby's.

At the **Legion** on Saturday night, Voyager provides the music for a dance and there are costume prizes as well.

Those who don't really want to go out anyway should be sure to purchase a ticket to the **Mythical Halloween Party** that will not actually take place Saturday night. The fundraiser will buy uniforms for Kenyan school children. Tickets are available from the Anglican Parish office and the SOLID Exchange. A gift draw for a dinner for two plus an overnight stay at Hasting House will be held on Nov. 1.

ART EXHIBIT

Pieces of Her Story expands

Third annual multimedia art show at ArtSpring

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The first Pieces of Her Story exhibit in the fall of 2013 saw four women and their mentor Ahava Shira venture into part of the ArtSpring gallery.

When the third annual show opens next Friday, Nov. 6, it will showcase work by 10 women, including Shira, in the entire ArtSpring gallery space.

"It's exciting to have both current students and alumni and for it to be part of the art culture of Salt Spring," said Shira last week. "For it to become a tradition."

The women have all participated in a year-long creative exploration program offered by Shira at her Centre for Loving Inquiry. Five went through the Year to Love process for the first time this year and four are alumni, with photography, collage, poetry and painting among the media used. For some it's the first time their work has been exhibited.

All pieces relate to what was learned in Shira's program, with relevant text



A 2014 exhibit participant explains work in last year's Pieces of Her Story show.

added to previously created artworks in some cases.

Shira notes too that the artists' statements are more elaborate than one would usually see at an art exhibit.

Participants are Adele Storm, Linda Underwood, Selena Barwin, Helen Hinchliff, Norma Hoepfner, Sam Barlow, Charlene Wolff, Premilla Pillay and Jane MacKenzie.

The Pieces of Her Story show opens next Friday evening with a reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m. and runs daily through Nov. 11.

An added event is a Pieces of Your Story writing workshop led by Shira

at ArtSpring on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. Pre-registration is requested at ahava@lovinginquiry.com or 250-537-8767.

The workshop will give people a taste of what they can expect from Shira's programs, including the Year to Love process.

"It's a tool for reflection, and also explaining and discussing and sharing what matters to us, and expressing our relationships with ourselves and our relationships with the world," she said.

For more information, see www.lovinginquiry.com.

WFP/John El Kassaby

Read Fatmeh's story here

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SMALL BUSINESS

Business excellence awards doled out



From left, Mary Lou Bompas of award sponsor Mouat's Trading Co. gives Business of the Year (for 15-plus employees) trophy to Donna Robinson of Island Savings; animal care attendant Blythe MacDonald of the Salt Spring BC SPCA holds the non-profit of the year award while branch manager Sean Hogan speaks in the mic and chamber board member John Cade looks on.

Larry Gorrill of El Loco Taco with both People's Choice and Small Business of the Year (under 15 employees) awards.

More than 150 enjoy gala evening at ArtSpring

A great crowd of local entrepreneurs gathered at ArtSpring on Thursday as award winners in 10 categories received their trophies in front of a supportive group of fellow local business owners, non-profit groups and customers.

"Small business is the heart of our island" said Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce president Li Read. "Without you, many of the services we count on every day in our lives would not be possible. Congratulations to the local business people in this

room and keep up the great work."

The evening, sponsored by Island Savings, and supported by the Driftwood Gulf Islands Media, capped off a great year for small businesses on Salt Spring.

"With wonderful catering provided by Haidee Hart of Stowel Lake Farm and live jazz courtesy of Sky Valley, the more than 150 attendees were treated to a great evening," said chamber executive director Janet Clouston in a press release. "We also appreciate the support of sponsors Mistaken Identity Wines and Summerhill Winery who provided great local and BC wines for guests to enjoy."

Beautiful trophies were created by

Mark Lauckner of The Glass Foundry using recycled glass and Ron Ateah of Salt Spring CNC using local maple wooden bases and engraved in their own on-island facilities.

Some 86 businesses, individuals and non-profit groups were nominated for awards. From that number, those that completed the application process were included in judging done by islands trustees Peter Grove and George Grams, CRD director Wayne McIntyre, librarian Karen Hudson and school principal Carol Bremner. (See Chamber of Commerce ad on page 20 for a list of businesses in the running for awards.)

2015 AWARD WINNERS

Business Over 15 Employees: Island Savings
Small Business Under 15 Employees: El Loco Taco
Tourism Business: Thistle Dew Cottage
Green Business: Purely Salt Spring
Agriculture Business: Stowel Lake Farm
New Business: Bohemia Consignment
Non-Profit: BCSPCA Salt Spring
Outstanding Customer Service: Ann Taylor of Salt Spring Visitor Information Centre and Sean Mulligan of Outspokin' Bike Shop
Construction Trades: Island Gates and Fences
 As well, 23 businesses received nominations through the **People's Choice Award** with El Loco Taco winning by a large margin for the second year in a row. Ninety-four customers completed a form in support of the business.

LOCAL HISTORY

Blackburn Road named for early pioneer family

Blain Road leads to more questions



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF SALT SPRING

The search for the history behind Salt Spring's street names always yields plentiful results when it comes to the island's early pioneer families, and such is indeed the case when it comes to Blackburn Road.

Research listed in the Salt Spring Archives on the names found on the Centennial Park cenotaph reveals that Alan Blackburn was born on March 17, 1872, in Glasgow, Scotland. Alan and his wife Esther came to Salt Spring in 1907 and bought the large farm surrounding what is still called Blackburn Lake today. The property would have encompassed the area that has recently been protected as the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve as well as the 70-odd acres owned by the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga group.

The beautiful house that is the centre's main building was in fact constructed by Blackburn, although records show at one point he had run out of money and abandoned his

unfinished house, leaving many suppliers unpaid. Maybe he spent his cash on securing the island's first car, which he brought to the island in 1911 only to annoy neighbours with its loud motor.

Blackburn was a member of the Queens Rifles, Royal Scots Volunteers for eight years and once again gave his service during WWI. He enlisted on June 16, 1916 at the central recruiting centre in Vancouver and returned home safely after the war. He died in 1925 and was buried in St. Paul's cemetery in Fulford.

Most traffic on Blackburn Road today is likely due to the Salt Spring Conservancy's home office and nature reserve, the Salt Spring Centre and the attached school, and the

transfer station. The road has been in use since before it was gazetted, though, as records show the farm's previous owner had put one in for his use. In fact, there might not be a Blackburn Road today if it weren't for Socrates Tobias Conery, whose name didn't make it into lasting geographic memory.

Conery was born in Vermont and grew up in a mining camp in Butte, Mont. Charles Kahn pays tribute to his character in Salt Spring: The Story of an Island by quoting Leonard Tolson, who called Conery the "hardest working man I ever knew." Kahn agrees he was an exceptional dairy farmer, producing 1,000 pounds of butter from a dozen cows in 1895.

Rev. Wilson mentioned the family name in the December 1895 edition of his Salt Spring Island Parish and Home newsletter.

"There are now twelve families south of the Divide in the neighbourhood of Conner's Lake and the Cranberry Marsh, and among them are about ten children of schoolable age," he wrote, adding, "An effort will probably be made in

the near future to establish both a school and post office in the central part of the island."

Kahn says that Conery donated the land for the eventual school on what is now Blackburn Road, about one kilometre from the Fulford-Ganges Road. His daughter Rosie was an early but unwilling enrollee in order to get the official numbers required by the government. Next up on our list is Blain Road. The Salt Spring Archives' list of street names notes "Walter Blain owned a dairy farm, which he bought from the King brothers." And further information under Kings Lane states that brothers Colin and Ronald King had their dairy farm in the 1930s.

There is no mention of the Kings or Walter Blain in any of the usual sources, though. Kahn does not mention them or the dairy; nor does Bea Hamilton or Peter Murray in their island histories.

Anyone who has more information about the Blain family is therefore warmly encouraged to send a note to dwsalty@driftwoodmedia.com.

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Bev Byron granted rural woman-of-the-year honours

'Farm-to-table' pioneer awarded

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Women's Institute acknowledged a lifetime commitment to education and agriculture by giving the coveted Rural Woman of the Year Award to Salt Spring's Bev Byron.

Byron received a commemorative plaque and bouquet of flowers at a surprise lunch-hour ceremony, held in front of about 20 WI members at the Brinkworthy clubhouse on Friday afternoon.

The award is offered each October by the Associated Country Women of the World

in cooperation with the South Vancouver Island District Women's Institute. Members of the south island and Gulf Islands region have awarded the prize since 2002 as a way to celebrate the remarkable contribution of women to agriculture-related fields.

"Bev Byron is a perfect fit for the description of the recipient laid out by ACWW: to salute selected rural women for their efforts in supporting, sustaining and encouraging the activities of country women, particularly in the area of agriculture," said Sharon Hawke, secretary of Salt Spring's WI branch. "Bev Byron has been busy and active on this front for many of her adult years."

Byron was born and raised

in British Columbia's Slokan Valley. After earning her teacher's degree, Byron worked in Surrey, where she met Mike Byron. The couple returned to Byron's Salt Spring home in 1961 to raise a family, teach and farm.

"In time they welcomed three daughters," said Donna Jack, SVIWI president, during the ceremony. "They had 60 head of cattle, 100 ewes as well as chickens, turkeys, Guinea hens, geese, ducks and pigs."

"This was truly a 'farm-to-table' type of operation, as Bev and her husband helped with the butchering, cutting and wrapping of the beef and poultry they produced."

Byron has been actively engaged with community

organizations such as the Farmers' Institute and Fulford Hall committee and has served as an elected member of the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.

Byron is an avid gardener who continues to raise sheep, turkeys and chickens.

"She is always willing to share her knowledge and has made a significant contribution to her island home in the area of agriculture," Hawke added. "It is only fitting that Bev Byron be recognized through this award."

More information about the award and further details about Women's Institute activities on Salt Spring are available at 250-653-4619 or thestinkyfarm@yahoo.ca.



Donna Jack, left, presents Bev Byron with Rural Woman of the Year award.

PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

OUTDOOR REC

Trail and nature club schedule released for November

New participants welcomed

Hikers

Nov. 3: Hike the Hope Hill trails with Carol Melton and Jean Attorp in the lead. Moderate ups and downs with good view points, if not foggy. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10 a.m.

Nov. 10: Kees Visser leads a moderate hike from Peter Arnell Park to Bryant Hill Park, with some steep sections and some road walking. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or at the top of Stewart Road, behind the concrete barrier at Peter Arnell at 10 a.m.

Nov. 17: Lynn and Al lead a hike to the Bruce Bump. This is a new route around Mount Bruce with peek-a-boo views of the Burgoyne Valley. Some of the route will be off-trail and bush-whacking. Meet to carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10 a.m.

Nov. 24: Sue and Al Lehmann lead a moderate-strenuous hike up Mount Tuam and across and

down the Garry oak meadows. Some sections will be fairly steep and may be slippery. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or from Drummond Park at 10 a.m. Park just past the No Exit sign. Drivers should be aware that Mountain Road is a single-lane winding dirt road with potholes.

Walkers

Nov. 3: Yvonne Gibbon will lead a walk through Duck Creek Park and then a walk along the road to Vesuvius Beach where we will stop for lunch. This is an easy pleasant walk through the forest alongside Duck Creek. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or at the trail entrance on Sunset Drive at 10:10 a.m.

Nov. 10: Marjie and Brian Radford will lead us on a walk of the lower level of Mount Maxwell. There are a few steep sections, but we will take it slowly. Carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the corner of Seymour Heights and Armand Way at 10:15 a.m.

Nov. 17: Lorrie Storr will lead us on an

8-km walk from Beaver Point Hall to Kings Cove. There are a few rocky bits, but they are short and we will take it slowly. Carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at Beaver Point Hall at 10:20 a.m.

Nov. 24: Fred Powell will lead a moderate walk in Channel Ridge. Carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet at the corner of Sir Echos Way and Sunset Drive at 10:15 a.m. There is a parking area that hides behind the blackberry bushes.

Ramblers

Nov. 3: Ramble with Marilyn and Bill Harding, visiting in Vesuvius with Marshall Heinekey. Meet at Portlock Park to carpool at 9:50 a.m. Lunch can be either a picnic on the beach or at the Seaside Restaurant: your choice.

Nov. 10: Ramble with Maureen and Sterling at Fernwood. Meet at Centennial Park for carpooling at 10 a.m. or at Fernwood at 10:10 a.m.

Lunch will be at the Fernwood Road Café.

Nov. 17: Harold Page will take us on a Leader's Choice Ramble. Lunch will be in town. Meet at Centennial Park for carpooling at 10 a.m.

Nov. 24: Ramble around Crofton with Marilyn and Bill Harding. Meet at Portlock Park at 9:50 a.m. to carpool to the 10:25 ferry. Lunch in the park or eat at the café by the ferry. Your choice. We will get either the 1:15 or 2:30 p.m. ferry depending on how long we walk.

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.

Participants need to bring a lunch and wear appropriate footwear and outdoor clothing.

More information can be found at our website at www.saltspringtmc.ca.

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Fitness Expert

New Lap Swimming Club Starting

BRENDA AKERMAN

Rainbow Road Pool is starting a lap swim club on Friday afternoons for swimmers seven years and up who have some experience swimming with proper strokes, example front crawl, breast stroke and back stroke. The expectation is that the swimmer can swim on going laps as we are going to be working on stroke technique and fitness as a group. It will be a drop in program with a cost of \$7.00 per swimmer for the hour instruction.

Point of interest:
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Snow tires are recommended to be installed in sets of four. When the first snow flies, the demand is often so heavy that your first choice may not be available. Get your tires now and avoid the rush.

Fall is a good time to have a thorough inspection of all your vehicle systems performed and repairs made making for safe, worry free driving.

Remember, maintenance is cheaper than breakdown repairs.

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Real Estate

Buyers: How to compare prices and value?

JAN MACPHERSON

Comparing homes with similar attributes can provide valuable insights. Consider the age of the: roof, decks, septic field, appliances and "deferred maintenance". How dated are the bathrooms and kitchen and flooring? Would you want to replace them? The cost of replacing each of these items could be considerable. Make up a comparison chart accounting for these differences.

When planning a second viewing, ASK FOR AN INFO PACKAGE & PERMISSION TO TAKE PHOTOS. Take notes. Identify chattels that you may wish to have included such as: window coverings, appliances and their brand name, built in vacuum and/or hot tub accessories, shelving, firewood on hand, riding lawn mower, water filters, garden sheds, building plans, etc. Note what items are excluded on the feature sheet to assist you in making plans for replacing. Then you will likely conclude that...

The most affordable home is rarely the lowest priced home!

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2014 (VREB)
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NATURE

Meeting the fall season full on



Poetry a perfect complement to science

BY BOB WEEDEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's weird that we try so hard to separate ourselves from nature. The Protestantism that I grew up with, for instance, teaches that a God, building something from nothing, made us special and put us in charge.

Science spawns technologies so powerful that whether or not we are part of nature, we can — most of the time — ignore it. Cities so thoroughly surround us with "stuff" and with the endless friction of crowded living that it is easy to forget nature entirely.

In spite of that, we cherish connections more than separations: connections with other people, other life, and other elements of creation. Separations sadden. Connections comfort.

When I sat down to write about October I automatically took my dusty scientist's hat from its peg — then put it back. Right now this old guy I live with needs something more than cool reason. An outlet for flights of fancy, maybe, and somebody to share my mixed-up feelings about fall, which are akin to scuffling through brilliant and aromatic leaves in a cemetery.

Poets approach nature with all they've got, so I read some poems. I wasn't disappointed. Here are two.

The first is by the late John Haines, whom I knew in Alaska. I've shortened his poem because I have to. I think the excerpts are true to the full work.

HORNS

....
I fell asleep in an old white tent.
The October moon rose,
And down a wide, frozen stream
The moose came roaring,

Hoarse with rage and desire.
...
His horns exploded in the brush
With dry trees cracking
And falling, his nostrils flared
As, swollen-necked, smelling
Of challenge, he stalked by me.
...
Then with a faint sigh of warning
Soundlessly he walked away.
I stood there in the moonlight,
And the darkness and silence
Surged back, flowing around me,
Full of a wild enchantment,
As though a god had spoken.
(From the book, "News From The Glacier")

John lived alone in Alaska's boreal forest of spruce, birch, aspen, and moose. He hunted to eat. Moose rut in October in that country, the males single-minded and fierce. Normally wary, bulls are as likely to charge a hunter as to flee. Haines is deeply moved by his encounter, "full of a wild enchantment," as though a creator had reminded him that the sameness and otherness of the wild are as braided as a glacier-fed river.

The second poem is by Salt Spring's George Sipos, written while he lived at the northern edge of farm country in B.C.

LATE SEASON

This is not how it should end —
hay mouldering unbaled,
windrows in fields subsiding
day by day —
what remains of summer
shrugging its shoulders
into fall.

It's not just the waste,
though the practical heart
may mourn even that, but
the neglect, the way hope
leaches out of things,
decay settling in till
the world remembers no reasons
but those which sink into soil.

This is not how it began —
in sunlight and wind,
a red tractor circling
a green field, a blue sky,
slender stalks of grass
lying down among crickets,
everything that could be dreamt
fragrant among all that hay.

Who can remember what came next?
Night, of course
and dawn. The sound of rain.
A pale light soaking the stubble.
It's what you get
for living in the North, where
the weather changes because
That's what weather does.

But rain explains so little:
the blunting of light, perhaps
a certain disappointment
(the fragrance of hay being
fleeting in any case)
but not
an entire season's despair, not
the mass extinction of crickets,
the tractor hanging by its neck
from the rafters of the shed.

Maybe the abandoned fields
Are letters of farewell,
but who is left to read them?
Line after line
The geese fly south,
trace the contours of
an emptying world, their wings
mowing a swath
through what's left
uncut.
(From the book, "Anything But The Moon")

Autumn is for changes. There are two here. The big one is a farm family's move away — south, we guess, or to a city — (equally evidence of failure).

The red tractor is the poet's inspired symbol of dashed hopes, first circling a green and sun blessed field, then "hanging by its neck from the rafters of the shed."

The geese fly south, too, but they did not fail in the summer sun. They survived. They and their kids will come back, if they live through winter. Will the farm folks return?

For goose and farmer, nature is the roller of dice, the bringer of weather fair or foul, ever changing "because that's what weather does."

Science puts tools in your hands and information in your head. Poetry gives vital energy and a clue about which way you are facing. Both (I don't want to overdo their differences) tell us, to use Robert Graves' words, "of the greatness, rareness, muchness, fewness of this endless precious only world in which you say you live."



PHOTO BY JANE JAMES

Students and instructors celebrate after completing the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association's first equine vaulting workshop at Bluehorse Equestrian Centre on Oct. 17. In other therapeutic riding news, SSTR's head instructor Jane James will be inducted into the North Cowichan-Duncan Sports Wall of Fame at the Cowichan Golf and Country Club next month. James is the founder of the Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association and one of the key contributors to therapeutic riding and para-equestrian sport in Canada.

AWARDS

Smallman earns honour

Martini Regrets gets Florida accolades

man told the Driftwood. "Truthfully, I'd write even if I never sold another book, but oh how lovely it is to be told that the judges liked it."

Salt Spring author Phyllis Smallman has received a prestigious Royal Palm Literary Award for her mystery Martini Regrets, the latest addition to her series featuring tough-nails bartender Sherri Travis and set in the fictional town of Jacaranda, Fla.

The Royal Palm Literary Awards are administered by the Florida Writers Association. Smallman received second-place honours in the category of Published Mystery.

"After working on a book, sometimes for years, it's wonderful to receive any kind of confirmation that the time wasn't wasted," Small-

man told the Driftwood. "Truthfully, I'd write even if I never sold another book, but oh how lovely it is to be told that the judges liked it."

Judges commented on Martini Regrets: "This is a 'before you start this book, make sure you have time to finish it in one sitting' book. The suspense is overwhelming and just when you think Sherri's situation can't get any worse, it does. Martini Regrets is a fantastic crime drama."



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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Election thins bridge table ranks

Watching vote results deemed more exciting

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Ferry schedules often change "on Holiday Mondays" and it seems bridge schedules do too.

Monday, Oct. 12 was the Thanksgiving holiday, consequently there were many probably tempted by turkey dinners so only four tables showed up for duplicate bridge. Liz and Oleh Mycyk were no turkeys and gobbled their way to first place, with George Laundry and Paul Retallack strutting into the second spot. Flo Laundry and Lynn Thorburn didn't lay any big eggs and came third.

BRIDGETRICKS

Then Monday, Oct. 19, Election Day, wasn't exactly a holiday but many decided to stay home and watch the crucial results, so there were only three and a half tables of diehards. Al Wilke and Nadene McCoy were the winners this time (along with Elizabeth May in this riding), with Blanche Poborsa and Terry Clement in second place (NDP-like around here?) and Ted Baldwinson with Catherine Gardiner coming third, a pleasant achievement rather than the political disappointment for another party.

No holiday here for the next Monday, but it was the last one before the darkness of Standard Time, so if you need any enlightenment about these games, please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
CELEBRATIONS	COMING EVENTS	COMING EVENTS	INFORMATION	PERSONALS

Happy Sweet 16 ABIGAIL WALKER

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Gusma & Opeta, Ora and
Opa, Manny & Daddie,
Danielle & Sabrina, Mickey,
April & all your fancy friends

Notice of FALL GENERAL MEETING
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Golf & Country Club
Wednesday
October 28th 2015
at 5:30pm upstairs in
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located at 805A
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On November 20, 1984 I was in an accident where I in a coma for 56 days. Due to my memory loss from the accident I am unable to remember the name of this woman.
My name is J. Scotty King. If you remember me or are this woman please contact me at 108C - 722 Hamilton Road, London, Ontario N5Z 1T7

LOST AND FOUND
FOUND: RING Vesuvius Beach, Oct. 20, 5 p.m.
Retrieve at Driftwood office.

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COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

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All voices are welcome. No audition required.

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

Salt Spring Hospice
What happens at a Death Cafe?
Come to one at ArtSpring on October 31 from 2 to 4.
250-537-2770
saltspringhospice.org

ROSACEA Educational Session Rosacea cannot be cured, but it can be controlled. Find out how! Speaker: DR. HAMILTON, Victoria Dermatologist Monday, Oct 26, 6 pm to 8 pm At the Greek Church Hall (Behind Commonwealth Pool) 4648 Elk Lake Road FREE. Everyone welcome to attend.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

DEATHS

Gerald Keith Holman
June 9, 1927 - Oct. 6, 2015

On October 6, Gerry died peacefully at Lady Minto Hospital. He was predeceased by his wife Joyce. Gerry is survived by his son Ron (Janis) of Jasper, Alberta and daughter Diane of Salt Spring, BC.

Gerry was born in St. Thomas, Ontario. He enjoyed a long career with CN Rail and never lost his love of trains. Many thanks to the compassionate and caring staff of Lady Minto Hospital. No service by request.

Online condolences can be made at:
www.haywardsfuneral.com
250-537-1022

Joseph ("Geno") Patrick Bernie

Joseph died suddenly and tragically on October 10, 2015, on Salt Spring Island, B.C., at the age of 45 years.

Joe is mourned by his four brothers; Don (Kim), John (Megan), Richard, and Michael (Doris), his sister, Barbara (Steven), and his mother, Phyllis. He is also survived by his nieces; Katie, Shayla, Erin, Heather, and Ariel, and nephews Clayton, Tyler, Patrick, and Martin.

Joe was an accomplished artist whose talent was obvious to those who saw it. He was uncompromising in his desire to live his life in his own way.

A private family memorial for Joe will be held at a later date.

"You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain
Though you're thinking that you're leaving there too soon".

Advertising Deadline Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will not be open on Wednesday, Nov. 11 Remembrance Day. The paper will be available on Tuesday Nov. 10.

Advertising deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Nov. 11th edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising Deadline: Thursday, Nov. 5, 3pm
Classified Display Deadline: Friday, Nov. 6, 3pm
Classified Word Deadline: Monday, Nov. 9, 9am

Driftwood gulfislandsdriftwood.com

THE FLU SEASON IS HERE IMMUNIZATION CLINIC INFO

The best way to protect yourself and your family from influenza (the flu) this season is to get immunized.

Friday November 6th, 2015, 10:30am-2:30pm
Community Gospel Church, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road

If you are not eligible please contact your family physician or local pharmacy about vaccine availability and cost.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

DOUBLE BOOK LAUNCH

Patric by **THERESA KISHKAM**
& The Literary Showcase:
The Glory Years,
by **TREVOR CAROLAN**
Saturday Nov. 7
Lions' Club
8 pm (doors open 7:30)
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FABULOUS FLEAMARKET

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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

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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

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or email saltspring@crd.bc.ca

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COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

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

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

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This Week's Horoscope by Michael O'Connor www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com 1.250.352.2936

TIP OF THE WEEK:

As I write the Sun has just entered Scorpio in the Tropical Zodiac as 10:47 am PDT. Pluto which is in Capricorn and which is the ruling 'planet' (a rose by any other name...and this one has long, sharp thorns) is at the apex point of a T-Square formed by an Opposition between Uranus in Aries and Mercury in Libra, which is exact on October 25.

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

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) The results of a prolonged invitation to deepen the scope and quality of your most intimate relationships should be pouring in by now. Over the past several months, but especially as many weeks, the returns are coming in. Some destinies are deeper than others and free will aside they have a way of producing predictable results.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21) Slowly but surely you are no longer quite the person you were a short while ago. This process will continue for many months. Yet already the signs are clear. These will bring challenges to decipher and define what makes you special.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) More than just a new chapter, the next sequence in your life has begun. It includes commitment primarily to your immediate family and friends. To this end you probably have reason to feel confident, yet you may also have to adjust to another kind of busy schedule.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Despite a fresh flow of creative inspirations and invitations to play, you remain in a busy cycle. Whether by choice or circumstance you have a lot of work to do. Fortunately, your energy levels are probably running quite high still.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23) Reaching within more deeply than you have for a while is now in focus. Your ambitions remain strong yet you may realize that you have to work within as much as without. This includes cultivating inner peace and confidence to accept and understand that there is a greater destiny at play.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) An expansive cycle continues. This may include direct action but may simply amount to seeing a bigger picture of possibility. As a steady stream of change in your lifestyle progresses, you may notice that old players have left the stage and new ones have arrived.

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Attention New Salt Springers! Don't miss your opportunity for a great welcome visit. Call Jennifer today for your greeting, gifts & useful info. 250-653-9222 WELCOME WAGON SINCE 1930 A Canadian Tradition Since 1930

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



GOLF

Judy Nurse swings provincial low-net champion's title

Net score best from eight zones

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

For Salt Spring golfer Judy Nurse, winning a provincial award is easy.

Just get some new tailor-made irons and maintain a relaxed demeanor while out on the course.

Nurse is not a competitive golfer, by any means, but she became the pride of Salt Spring's ladies groups by having the best net score from tournaments held in all eight zones in the province this summer.

The British Columbia Golf Association Zone 5 championship was held on July 16 at the Salt Spring course — it rotates in the southern Vancouver Island zone from year to year — where Nurse's low



Salt Spring golfer Judy Nurse with low-net prize platter.

PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

net score of 60 (gross of 96 with a 36 handicap) was the best on the day, with winning hardware bestowed at the time. But it wasn't until results from the seven other zones were completed that her "best in B.C." status was known.

Nurse was playing well that day, as she had in the previous week since picking up her new custom-fitted irons.

"It was like night and day," she said of her game before and after getting the clubs purchased through the Salt Spring Golf Club's pro shop.

As for how she felt on the course of the Zone 5 playoff, she said, "I was totally relaxed and had no expectations."

When she reached the 17th hole of the tournament, one of the three off-island women she was golfing with pointed out how well she was doing and speculated that she could well win the tourna-

ment. "Then I shot a nine on that hole," she recalled. "I thought I had blown it, so I was back to being relaxed on the last one."

Nurse golfed years ago when she was raising a family in Saskatchewan. But it wasn't until moving to Salt Spring and then reducing her volunteer commitments that she really had time to devote to the game.

"I'm just out to enjoy myself," she stresses.

"She hits a lovely long ball," adds Susan Russell, who is the past ladies captain of the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club.

Nurse jokes that "the fairy dust has now blown off the clubs," but she is enjoying the game as much as ever.

She and Russell say the course has never been in better shape, and more work is currently underway.

TRACK & FIELD

Ness Murby strikes silver in Doha javelin competition

World championship event results

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring athlete Ness Murby continued to gain momentum in her road to

next year's Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro by winning a silver medal at the 2015 International Paralympic Committee Athletics World Championships.

"Beyond incredible," Murby wrote, quoting the competition's slogan, on her Road to

Rio 2016 Facebook site soon after Thursday's medal-winning performance.

Murby launched the javelin 22.74 metres through the hot, dry Arabian evening air at the Suhaim Bin Hamad Stadium in Doha, Qatar. She finished fewer than three metres

behind gold medalist Huimin Zhong from China.

"It was a great evening to throw. It's brilliant being out here in Doha," Murby told Athletics Canada after the event. "I got some awesome throws out there. I'm proud to be bringing home a silver for Canada. The

honour, the pride, it's all here. Thanks to my guide Eva [Fejes] and my coaches."

Murby placed sixth in Saturday's F11 women's discus event.

The 30-year-old athlete, who lives and trains on Salt Spring, set an American record

in javelin toss with a 23.29-metre throw during the Parapan Am Games in Toronto earlier this year.

Murby's silver is among eight medals won by Canadian athletes at the competition as of Tuesday evening. It concludes on Saturday, Oct. 31.

SOCCER

Old Boys watch victory slip away

Nail-biting finish gives visitors the win

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Many in the vast crowd at the Hydro Field in Ganges were looking forward to a repeat performance by the Old Boys, which saw them defeat Zgoda 5-1 last Sunday — even if most fans were there to support the U18s against Cowichan later that afternoon.

The Old Boys had hoped Juan de Fuca players would be so bedazzled by the new bright yellow road markings from the Fulford ferry they might slip in a few early goals before the visitors found their feet.

Early pressure came from Juan de Fuca with keeper Jim Witherspoon called upon to make several saves and offer entertainment by passing directly to the opponent's player. Overcome by surprise, the unsuspecting forward failed to cash in on the gift. Completely against the run of play from a Martin Thorn corner kick, Stefan Cermak fed a perfect pass to David Toynbee for a one-

time shot that opened the scoring for the Old Boys.

A defensive mix-up, combined with a hesitant keeper, gave Juan de Fuca the opportunity to level the scores at one with a clear run onto goal.

End-to-end excitement ensued as the Old Boys' stout defence repulsed multiple waves of JDF attacks.

End-to-end excitement ensued as the Old Boys' stout defence repulsed multiple waves of JDF attacks. Juan de Fuca's keeper deflected a Mike McCormick shot and Toynbee gave the Old Boys a 2-1 lead.

As the half-time whistle approached, a long Juan de Fuca shot took advantage of the short grass and the "heavy early-morning dew" to slip between Witherspoon's gloves and legs to tie the

score. Juan de Fuca kept up the pressure to take the lead on a corner kick just before the half.

Mark Aston evened the score early in the second by connecting with a cross that he sent rising into the goal.

A defensive mix up quickly saw Juan de Fuca restore a one-goal advantage.

Super-sub Mike Davis returned to the parking lot, giving team and supporters hope for a late "red-tide" surge. A quick free kick led to a Mike Berendt breakthrough that resulted in a corner. Toynbee's last-moment shot was blocked by the Juan de Fuca keeper and scrambled clear. All this tension and no relief provided.

As the crowd streamed out of the Kanaka stand, a faint rendition of You'll Never Walk Alone could be heard, more in sympathy than defiance, although Paul Simon's Slip Sliding Away may have been more appropriate.

The Old Boys' next match is against the Athletics at Finlayson Field on Sunday, Nov. 1 at noon.

POD Program... Neighbours helping Neighbours

Do you love disaster related stories with happy endings? Do you like making big bowls of popcorn and feeding lots of people? Get to know your neighbours and share emergency/disaster stories or movies and have a PODnight.

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





PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

PROUD CONTINGENT: Salt Spring athletes attending the Jean Cozens Memorial Pickleball Tournament in the Cowichan Valley on Oct. 17 were, from left, Hafiz Bhimji, Bob Milone, Marsha Burton (winner of the ladies' competition), Lukas Wenzel (winner of the men's), Liam Wenzel, Markus Wenzel and Robin Allan (winner of the most sportsmanlike award). The tournament is held annually in honour of Jean Cozens, an avid player who started the pickleball club in Lake Cowichan after learning the game while on holidays in Mexico. Her grandson, Lukas Wenzel, holds the trophy proudly in her honour.

HIKING Cross-island Salt Spring trail effort nears completion

Fulford to Vesuvius link envisioned for island

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Backers of a trail between Vesuvius and Fulford say the 20-year trek from vision to reality is nearly over.

"We've come a long way," said Gary Quiring, an island-bred business owner, outdoor enthusiast and volunteer of the Parks and Recreation Commission's Trail Advisory Committee.

The current route winds along roughly 25 kilometres of trails, shoreline and public roadways. It takes in Booth Bay, Mount Erskine, Mount Maxwell and the scenic Burgoyne Valley. Excursion trails, which branch off the trail's main route, give hikers access to other notable viewpoints, swaths of old growth forest and hidden shoreline nooks.

"The trail is part community, part backcoun-

try and part wilderness," Quiring said. "It's a world-class mix."

Quiring has worked with the Trail Advisory Committee to formalize a cross-island trail for at least seven years. His involvement arose from a passion for hiking and trail running, and an invitation to help make the dream a reality.

"The trail is part community, part backcountry and part wilderness."

GARY QUIRING
Proponent, Salt Spring Island Trail

Having discovered a zigzagging patchwork of trails, abandoned logging paths and modern roadways that link Salt Spring's highest points — a circuit he calls Salt Spring's seven summits — Quiring became inspired to go the distance.

He said proper signage and mapping of a cross-island trail will encourage islanders to explore the island and become a major draw for visitors. Much needed signage is already progressing independently thanks to a joint venture between BC Parks and the Salt Spring Island Trail and Nature Club. Quiring envisions a time when people will be able to land on Salt Spring, grab a map and hit the trail. Along the way they can enjoy artists' studios, wineries, coffee shops, farm stands, and bed and breakfasts.

The best part, Quiring added, is that the route travels along existing public pathways and roads. Besides some signage and minimal branding efforts, everything is already here.

"No new trails are needed, and signage is in the works," he said. "The spirit is to not have a giant infrastructure."

The concept of a semi-wilderness trail follows in the footsteps of popular destination trails like the Santiago de Compostela

in Spain, Turkey's Lycian Way or Italy's Cinque Terre.

Quiring said Salt Spring stands on the cusp of tapping a growing sector of the tourism market.

Anyone who wants more information about the trail as it becomes available can check the Salt Spring Island Trail on Facebook. Property owners and community

groups who want to get involved in the project are invited to contact PARC's Trail Advisory Commission via PARC's Portlock Park office by calling 250-537-4448.

Island Savings, Gulf Islands Driftwood & Salt Spring Chamber Present:

Small Business Week

Congratulations to all short-listed nominees and award winners!

BUSINESS OVER 15 EMPLOYEES: Island Savings, Windsor Plywood, Moby's Pub and Country Grocer.

SMALL BUSINESS UNDER 15 EMPLOYEES: Thrive Lifestyle, Pemberton Holmes - Salt Spring Real Estate, Hens & Chicks Clothing, Love My Kitchen Shop, El Loco Taco, Jana's Bake Shop, Dragonfly Arts Supply, Driftwood Publishing, Gallery 8.

TOURISM BUSINESS: Thistle Dew Cottage, Western Splendour Tours, Fernwood Road Cafe and Rock Salt Cafe.

AGRICULTURE BUSINESS: McDonald Farrier Services, Singing Bird Farm, Stowel Lake Farm and Chorus Frog Farm.

NEW BUSINESS: Mondo Trading, Bohemia Consignment, Cafe Talia, Teron Wolf, The Cob Salon, Salt Spring Wild Cider, Salt Spring Wellness Centre and Salt Spring Fire Protection.

NON-PROFIT: Transitions Thrift Store, Island Women Against Violence, Salt Spring Arts Council, BCSPCA Salt Spring, Salt Spring Conservancy, Luna-Rose Prisoner Services and Salt Spring Farmers' Institute.

OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE: Carolyn Walkner of Persnickity Clothing for Kids; Dave Carlson of Celebrity Accents; Robert Prince of Salt Spring Coffee Co.; Anne Taylor of Salt Spring Visitor Information Centre; Kim Beamish of B Natural Hair Salon; Veronika of The Local bar; Sean Mulligan of Outspokin' Bike Shop; Dale Schweighardt of Moby's Pub; Martin Ebberts of Martinus Jewellery.

CONSTRUCTION TRADES: SR Design and Island Gates and Fences.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD (by community votes): El Loco Taco

GREEN BUSINESS: Bearfoot Renewable, Thrive Lifestyle and Purely Salt Spring.

For a full list of nominees, visit saltspringchamber.com

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