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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, November 11, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 45 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

ISLET STORIES: Cowichan drummers Louis Sylvester, left, and Wally Jack perform at Saturday morning's gathering of Coast Salish knowledge keepers at the Salt Spring library. The event was part of the ongoing Stories from Grace Islet exhibition. See story on page 4.

BC FERRIES

RCMP nab naked ferry jumper

Distraught man faces potential criminal charges

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Outer Gulf Islands RCMP are recommending a raft of charges against a man who launched a 100-person BC Ferries rescue craft and jumped into Active Pass Wednesday evening.

Speaking Monday morning, RCMP Sgt. Rod Pick said the 20-something's name hasn't been released as Crown counsel has yet to approve the charges of break

and enter, mischief under \$5,000 and unlawful deployment of a life raft. The man has been released from custody on a promise to appear in Victoria Provincial Court.

Passengers and staff on the Coastal Celebration headed to Swartz Bay from Tsawwassen late Wednesday were delayed for well over an hour when the man hopped overboard. The incident triggered a major search involving

nearby vessels of opportunity, Canadian Coast Guard crews and Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue volunteers from Pender Island.

Outer Islands RCMP officers were assisting the search just after 10 p.m. when they received news that a distraught man had illegally entered a nearby home.

FERRY JUMPER continued on 2

FIRE DISTRICT

Fire board positions prove popular

Voting starts Nov. 18

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring community members have come out in droves to stand for service with the Salt Spring Fire Protection District, with 10 candidates nominated for three open positions on the board of trustees.

Returning officer Thomas Moore has confirmed five candidates for a seat that will complete its term at the 2016 AGM, with Howard Baker, Howard Holzappel, Michele MacKie, Jim McClean and Doug Rajala in the running.

An additional five candidates will vie for two seats that have terms ending in 2017. They are Michael Craig, Fiona Foster, Mary Lynn Hetherington, Andy Hildebrand and A. Ross Van Winkel.

The last fire board election in April 2015 saw five candidates put their names forward for four seats.

An all-candidates meeting will take place instead of the regular fire board meeting on Monday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. and will be located at Lions Hall. Candidates will each speak briefly, with the remainder of the evening devoted to questions from community members.

Voting for the positions will take place at the Salt Spring Public Library between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1.

An advance poll will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 18 from noon to 8 p.m., also at the library.

Eligible voters must be ratepayers with the Salt Spring Fire Protection District.

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SENIORS

MLA Holman questions drivers' medical exam fees

Senior drivers face uncertain costs

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Saanich North and the Islands MLA Gary Holman wants the provincial government to show some consistency when it comes to the cost of mandated medical exams for drivers over 80 years of age.

"The concerns raised by

constituents calling our office is the arbitrary nature of the fees," Holman said.

Constituents on the Saanich Peninsula report significant price discrepancies for the medical examinations, which must be taken every two years after a driver turns 80. In some cases, seniors are paying anywhere between \$100 and \$400 for the same service, Holman said during Question Period in the B.C. Legislature last week.

"Even though the province requires the exam, there is no established fee schedule and this is a situation that isn't good," Holman said. "We're hearing some pretty disconcerting stories about fees being requested by the doctors."

Holman isn't objecting to the need for the exams or even that exams are not covered under the provincial MSP system. All he's looking for is a commitment by

the governing BC Liberals to create a level playing field for all patients.

"This is just not right, particularly for low-income seniors," he said.

In her response to Holman's question about the government's plan to address the problem, Minister of Justice Suzanne Anton dodged the topic, noting the province is committed to having the safest roads in North America by 2020.

"There is a well-established system in place that when you do reach the age of 80, you do need to be tested," she said. "That is part of our system. It is risk-managed. It's tested, it's thought about, it's considered, and all the evidence is that it is wise to request that older drivers be tested in order to continue to have a licence."

Holman called Anton's evasive response "insulting."

"The old joke about Question Period is that it's called Question Period, not Answer Period," he said.

Although MSP covers costs for medically necessary services, the plan does not pay for tests required to fulfill third-party administrative or eligibility requirements.

Holman vowed to pursue the topic until he receives a satisfactory response and action is taken.

BCF life raft recovered from Mayne Island

FERRY JUMPER

continued from 1

"Police received a second frantic call from a resident on Galiano Island that a male had just entered her residence. The male had no clothing on, was completely soaked, incoherent and not responding," according to a statement issued by Outer Islands RCMP. "The male allegedly started to throw furniture and other items around the residence, causing damage."

The homeowner fled the scene and called 9-1-1 from a neighbouring home. The distraught man is reported to have moved on to a nearby resort property.

Police contained the area until

"... It was a real challenge for the helm to keep the boat close to shore but out of harm's way."

BRIAN MORTON
Coxswain,
RCMSAR Unit 20,
Pender Island



COURTESY BC FERRIES

BC Ferries life raft involved in Nov. 4 incident is lifted from Mayne Island

further police resources arrived, including members from the Sidney RCMP detachment and a canine unit. The man was taken into custody without incident and transported to Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria for assessment.

Brian Morton, a coxswain with Pender Island's RCMSAR (Unit

20), said he and four other volunteers arrived at the scene at about 10:30 p.m. His unit searched the Galiano shoreline with lights and heat-imaging night vision equipment for any sign of the missing man.

"In describing the dangers present at this time of year, I can only say that any night rescue just

escalates the danger," he said. "On a mayday call, we are all in a race to get there to save someone's life. Active Pass presents itself with its own challenges. If you look at the water when you go through there on a ferry you will see that there are all sorts of whirlpools and currents."

"In this situation, [travelling] at maybe five knots in a shoreline search the boat was constantly being bumped around, and it was a real challenge for the helm to keep the boat close to shore but out of harm's way."

Deborah Marshall, a BC Ferries spokesperson, said two BC Ferries life boats were deployed for the search. She said costs for staff overtime, extra fuel and the damaged life raft will be significant.

"Our crews are highly trained, but every time we launch a rescue boat in the pitch black at night, there is a risk," she said.

Unable to reach the life raft after jumping from the Coastal Celebration, the man swam for the nearest shoreline near Mary Point. The life raft was recovered on Mayne Island.

Marshall said the jumper's motivation is unclear.

The Coastal Celebration was back in service on Thursday morning.

ISLANDS TRUST

New Islands Trust CAO named

Strathcona CAO replaces Adams

The Islands Trust has hired Russ Hotsenpiller as its new chief administrative officer. Hotsenpiller will replace Linda Adams, who has held the position since 2004 and will be retiring in January 2016.

"After an extensive search process, I'm delighted to announce that Russ will be joining us as our new CAO," said Peter Luckham, chair of the Islands Trust Council, in a press release issued Monday. "As the current CAO of the Strathcona Regional District, he brings very relevant experience with the island communities of Cortes, Quadra and the Discovery Islands. He also has significant experience in local government administration and land-use planning. We look forward to working with him as we implement our strategic plan and carry out our work on behalf of our island communities."

The CAO position is the most senior staff position at the Islands Trust, responsible to the Islands Trust Council for providing advice and implementing council's policies and decisions. Hotsenpiller brings more than 15 years of experience in local government administration at

the Comox Valley Regional District and the Strathcona Regional District.

Starting as a land use planner in the late 1990s, Hotsenpiller has held increasingly responsible roles as manager of planning and of community services. He has been the CAO of the Strathcona Regional District since 2013, gaining further experience in projects that included community planning, strategic advice, intergovernmental relations and First Nations engagement.

His education includes degrees in political science and environmental science from Carleton University and Royal Roads, and studies in land use economics from UBC.

"Assuming a leadership role with the Islands Trust is a tremendous opportunity and I am excited to be able to contribute to the success of one of the truly special areas in British Columbia," said Hotsenpiller. "I look forward to working with the Trust Council and an outstanding staff of professionals in realizing the vision and mandate of the Islands Trust. I have a strong belief in collaborative and team-based work and will bring that focus to this appointment."

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Salt Spring Island
2015 Incorporation Study

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES

Sunday, November 22 | Fulford Hall | 1:30 - 4:30 pm
Monday, November 23 | Meaden Hall | 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Presentation & Discussion 2:30 pm
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NEWS BEAT

Heads up!

SS Fire Board All Candidates Meeting:
Monday, NOVEMBER 16, 7 p.m.
Lions Hall

WATER RESOURCES

St. Mary water level turns expected autumn corner

More rain needed to make real difference

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Levels at St. Mary and Maxwell lakes may have begun their slow climb upwards, but staff at the North Salt Spring Waterworks District urge residents to keep conserving water.

"We're expected to get more rain within a few days, but if it's not raining, [lake levels] are going down," said Meghan McKee, a NSSWD water quality specialist.

Whereas waterworks staff had worried about drawing St. Mary Lake levels below the minimum 40 metres above sea level mark established by the provincial government, concern has shifted to ensuring the lake is fully charged in time for next year's dry season.

"Starting the year at less than 100 per cent could put the district in a difficult posi-

tion next summer," McKee said. "We're still way below."

St. Mary Lake is considered full when the surface level reaches 40.7 metres above sea level. As of the beginning of November, the lake's surface was at just under 40.2 metres.

McKee said the lake traditionally refills by the middle of December, although variable weather conditions like those observed in 2013 postponed the lake's refill date to February. Lake levels usually begin their downward trend in early April, reaching their lowest point in late September or October.

McKee said the district is "cautiously optimistic" about the state of the island's single-largest source of drinking water. To make sure St. Mary Lake refills sooner rather than later, Conservation Level 3 restrictions remain in effect.

Due in part to climate uncertainty, NSSWD staff said raising the level of a small dam near the lake out-

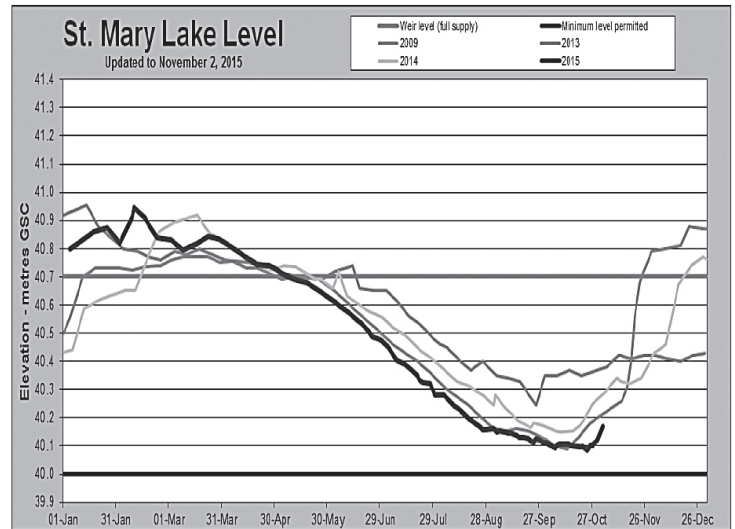
let at the head of Duck Creek is essential.

"Raising the weir is critical to the vitality of our community," reads a notice in the NSSWD's November newsletter. "Without sufficient storage capacity in our reservoirs, the district will be increasingly challenged to meet summer demand or even winter demand if rainfall becomes scarce year round."

NSSWD board members have said raising the weir is needed before any consideration can be given to lifting a district-wide moratorium on new water connections.

The district has contracted Fletcher & Company Municipal Consulting Inc. to start negotiations with shoreline residents whose properties may be partly submerged once the weir is raised. One-on-one negotiations are ongoing.

NSSWD staff want to finish upgrades to the weir by summer 2017.



The black line in a North Salt Spring Waterworks District graph of St. Mary Lake water levels indicates it reached its lowest level of the year near the end of October and has since started to rise again. NSSWD customers remain under Level 3 water conservation measures, which means washing of vehicles, boats and recreational vehicles is not permitted.

NEWS BRIEFS

Cruelty charge laid

Salt Spring resident Dana Pennington has been charged with animal cruelty after her 20-year-old cat was discovered in distress.

According to a BC SPCA press release, Pennington was charged under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act following an investigation by the agency.

A neighbour had found Pennington's cat Charlie in critical distress and apparently left to die. A veterinarian determined the cat was extremely

malnourished, dehydrated, infested with fleas and suffering from an eye infection. The cat was put down.

BC SPCA senior animal protection and outreach officer Erika Paul said the case highlights the responsibility that all pet owners have to ensure that animals have proper medical care at all stages of their lives, including medically assisted death to avoid unnecessary pain and suffering.

Pennington was due to make her first court appearance on Nov. 9 at the Ganges courthouse. The matter was moved to Duncan.

Saskatchewan speed offence in court

A traffic matter heard at Ganges Provincial Court on Monday resulted in a one-year driving prohibition and over \$1,000 in fines for Michael Stephen Paul.

Paul pled guilty to three charges stemming from a driving incident that took place March 14, 2014 on Highway 11 near Davidson, Sask. He was charged with the dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and then faced two charges for failure to appear in

court.

Crown counsel Brad Tomlin told the court police had observed Paul driving at speeds of 150 km per hour and weaving in and out of other vehicles travelling on the highway. Paul was cooperative when police pulled him over and just said he was in a hurry. Tomlin added Paul had a criminal history but only one driving infraction related to a police pursuit in 2000, for which he received a 30-day jail sentence.

Judge Lisa Mrozinski handed down the one-year mandatory driving prohibition along with

fines totaling \$850, plus additional fines of \$255 or 30 per cent for the victim impact surcharge.

Paul, who represented himself, did not dispute the matter.

Rare raptors revealed at presentation

A conservation specialist will share the inside scoop on Salt Spring's raptors at a special presentation next Friday.

Erica McClaren, who has a B.Sc. in Biology and Geography from the University of Victoria and a M.Sc. in Wildlife Biology

from Colorado State University, has worked for the Fish and Wildlife section for the Ministry of Environment for several years.

She has done research and inventory on birds such as peregrine falcons, northern goshawks, owls and great blue herons. In 2004, she became an ecosystem biologist with the Ministry of Environment, which involved trying to protect habitat for rare species in forested environments.

McClaren gives her presentation at Lions Hall on Nov. 20 at 7 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

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

ELECTION BY VOTING

Public Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that an Election by Voting is necessary to elect, **One (1) Trustee** for the balance of a three (3) year term terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2016; and **Two (2) Trustees** for the balance of a three (3) year term terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2017 commencing at the first of the Meeting of Trustees to be held after this By-Election to fill the said offices on the Board of Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District and that the persons nominated as candidates at the Election and for whom the votes will be received are listed below:

TRUSTEE – one person to be elected-balance of three year term terminating in 2016

Surname	Given Name	Residential Address
BAKER	Howard	187 Victoria Street, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 1P3
HOLZAPFEL	Howard Martin	20 Castle Cross Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2G1
MACKIE	Michele	170 Jones Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C.
McCLEAN	Jim	171 Frazier Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2B5
RAJALA	Doug	190 Dukes Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C.,

TRUSTEES-two persons to be elected-balance of three year term terminating in 2017

Surname	Given Name	Residential Address
CRAIG	Michael	150 Margaret Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C
FOSTER	Fiona	136 Arleta Place, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 1J8
HEATHERINGTON	Mary Lynn	112-115 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C
HILDEBRAND	Andy	289 Stewart Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2C4
VAN WINCKEL	A. Ross	410 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2K1

VOTING DAY for the election of Trustees will be open on **Tuesday the first (1st) day of December 2015, TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT** at:

The Main Meeting Room of the Salt Spring Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C.

AND SUCH VOTING PLACE SHALL BE OPEN BETWEEN THE HOURS of **Eight (8:00) A.M. and Eight (8:00) P.M.**

ADVANCE VOTING for election of Trustees shall be open on **Wednesday the Eighteenth (18th) of November 2015 TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SALTSRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT between the hours of twelve Noon and eight (8:00) P.M. at the Main Meeting Room of the Salt Spring Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C.**

Given under my hand at Ganges, B.C. this tenth (10th) day of November 2015.

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

You are qualified as an Elector if you are:

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

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

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

GRACE ISLET

Speakers reflect on Grace Islet

Heritage Conservation Act needs new look

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The campaign to preserve an ancient First Nations cemetery on Grace Islet has created a new opportunity to reform the way traditional sites are treated across British Columbia, according to a panel of heritage experts who spoke Saturday afternoon at the latest event in the ongoing Stories of Grace Islet program.

"I'd like to think we've changed things, that we've made a difference and changed people's minds," said Eric McClay, an archaeologist and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Victoria. "Reform of the legislation is not going to happen soon; it's a long-term project, but we're succeeding to change the way people view heritage sites."

Following its decision to support the acquisition of Grace Islet in January, the provincial government vowed to assess legislation to protect recognized heritage sites. Nearly one year after that promise, archaeologists like McClay contin-

ue to wait.

McClay has no problem with the Heritage Conservation Act. In fact, he considers it one of the strongest laws in North America when it comes to talk about the protection of historical sites.

"If you want to talk about reconciliation, this is where it begins."

ROBERT MORALES

"On paper it's great," he said. "It's a very proactive law, but there are problems."

McClay said the provincial archaeology branch is chronically underfunded, has a limited mandate and lacks enforcement capacity. With more than 44,000 catalogued First Nations heritage sites in the province — up from 36,000 in 2005 — staff at the archaeology branch find themselves, despite their best intentions, in what McClay calls a "culture of permissiveness."

"If you want a [heritage alteration] permit, apply and you'll probably get it," he said.

McClay wants to see the BC Ombudsmen undertake a full-scale review of the Heritage Conservation Act and uphold the provincial government's commitment to improve the existing situation and burial protection.

"We need to ask if the Heritage Conservation Act is fair for property owners, First Nations, the public and heritage," McClay said.

Part of the process to create a stronger Heritage Conservation Act involves developing a clearer picture of the roles and responsibilities of property owners throughout the process. Given that approximately 85 per cent of the 1,000 documented heritage sites on Salt Spring sit on private land, McClay said cases like Grace Islet are in no way exceptional.

"We really need to treat property owners as partners," McClay said.

Robert Morales, a lawyer and negotiator for the Cowichan region's Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, said the muddy issue of heritage sites requires sifting through complex layers of cultural differences, private property rights and ownership of heritage artifacts.

He said the Heritage

Conservation Act's great flaw is its emphasis on the scientific value of heritage artifacts and sites without accommodating First Nations values and laws.

The archaeology branch requires more funding, a better inventory of sites and a stronger role for First Nations if it is to become effective and relevant, he added.

"I see this as one of the biggest concerns that we have. There's this constant battle that's being waged," Morales said. "This is a fairly significant social issue. It cuts to the heart of the relationship. If you want to talk about reconciliation, this is where it begins."

Upcoming events in November's Stories from Grace Islet program include Grace Islet Ecology by Tara Martin on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 1 p.m. followed by Cenecintel: Restoration and Conservation with Tsawout elder Belinda Claxton and Salt Spring ecologist Briony Penn at 2:30 p.m.

Events are held in the Salt Spring Public Library's program room, which features a concurrent exhibit of artwork, images and text that record the campaign to protect Grace Islet in Ganges Harbour.

Admission is free.

INCORPORATION REPORT

Strong debate relies on public help

Committee brings report to the people

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Following months of research, members of the Salt Spring Incorporation Study Committee are ready to offer their preliminary findings to the scrutiny of island residents.

"People aren't shy about giving opinions," said Wayne McIntyre, Salt Spring's Capital Regional District director. "So far, people have expressed an interest. Most of the comments I've received from people are positive, and they want more time to digest the report."

McIntyre sits as a nonvoting member on the 11-member committee. Having been elected four years ago (and again in 2014) on a platform to offer islanders the chance to vote in an incorporation referendum, McIntyre speaks of the new report with a sense of relief that his campaign promise is within reach.

"I think this offers a good benchmark," he said of the document, which was released on Oct. 30.

McIntyre presented an update on the commission's work during a meeting last week with the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. Though largely a formality, the meeting is important because any decision to hold a referendum will ultimately come from Minister Peter Fassbender's office. Likewise, it is this office which will decide the scale and scope of any transition funding Salt Springers will receive if voters decide to incorporate.

"The Salt Spring Island delegation found the meeting agreeable and purposeful and the minister's response extremely positive," McIntyre said.

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee members George Grams and Peter Grove and SSISC chair Mark Aston joined McIntyre in Victoria for the event.

In an email late last week, Grams said he was confident about the community's ability to move ahead with the vitally important public consultation stage.

"The committee and consultant have worked hard on the preliminary report, which seems to satisfy all aspects of the ministry-approved terms of reference," he

wrote. "The report also seems to provide all relevant information necessary for the launch of the public consultation process."

The Salt Spring Incorporation Study Preliminary Report can be downloaded from www.ssiincorporationstudy.com, or hard copies can be checked out from or viewed at the Salt Spring Public Library. Black and white copies can also be purchased at Apple Photo.

The commission seeks written comments through a pair of open house events scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 22 between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. at Fulford Hall and at Meaden Hall on Monday, Nov. 23 between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Presentations will take place at 2:30 p.m. at both events.

The website also features an online survey through which people can suggest ways to refine the preliminary report.

Committee members look to the public for information and direction about what additional information is needed for an informed decision about incorporation. That information will be included in the group's final report, which is anticipated to be released in early 2016.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Darker days prompt traffic alert for drivers and walkers

November marks annual traffic incident spike

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Early sunsets and darker roads mean the fall and winter months are especially dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. "My greatest concern is the situation of pedestrians walking up Ganges Hill with their backs to the traffic and wearing dark clothing," said Robin Williams, chair of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission. "On a cloudy night they are almost invisible."

Ganges Hill is a noteworthy example of the kind of challenges pedestrians and drivers face on Salt Spring and elsewhere in B.C. every fall. Provincial statistics compiled by ICBC show a dramatic spike in the number of crashes between vehicles and pedestrians in November as weather changes and daylight hours decrease.

Despite the trend, Williams said he's always pleasantly surprised at how few traffic incidents occur between pedestrians, bicycles and traffic on the island.

"I have noticed more pedestrians carrying small LED flashlights or blinkers similar to those on bikes," Williams said. "This is highly recommended and possibly something we could assist in providing."

Margaretha Nordine, past president of Island Pathways, believes many of the dark-clothing-clad folks dodging headlights at the side of the road these days are

people in the wrong place at the wrong time. As the sun continues to drop below the horizon at little earlier with each passing day, Nordine suspects many pedestrians and cyclists are surprised by the rapid onset of darkness.

"I have a feeling that some people get caught," she said. "They should be prepared because, by 5:30 p.m., it's already dark."

As part of her volunteer work with Island Pathways, Nordine devotes much of her time to teaching elementary school students about cycling and pedestrian safety. She said it's important to wear a highly visible traffic safety vest, carry a light and always walk facing traffic. She's also a big fan of locally available, little yellow fluorescent bands that can be used as ankle or wrist straps.

When I go into the schools I always talk about being visible as having something that can be seen."

MARGARETHA NORDINE
Island Pathways

"When I go into the schools I always talk about being visible as having something that can be seen," she said.

She also recommends pedestrians stick to the growing network of Island Pathways trails in and around Ganges as a safe way to navigate the streets. Elsewhere on

the island, Nordine said she hopes road crews will be back on the island to finish line painting on major roads.

"There are so many roads here that have no white fog lines along the side of the road," she said. "I like the fog lines, because it shows the safe zone for drivers and pedestrians."

According to ICBC, the number of speed-related crashes in B.C. that result in serious injury or death increases by more than 50 per cent between November and January. The most common cause of these incidents are drivers who choose to travel too fast for road conditions, according to a special ICBC driving advisory issued on Nov. 5.

"That's why ICBC and police are appealing to Vancouver Island drivers to adjust their driving for the road conditions they encounter," reads the announcement. "In poor weather, slow down, increase your following distance, and allow extra travel time."

ICBC and regional policing agencies recommend that drivers use their headlights whenever weather is poor and visibility is reduced, ensure windshield wipers are functional and in good condition, use defrosters to keep windows clear and be aware of slippery road conditions.


"Keeping our roads safe is a shared effort between government, enforcement, and most importantly, drivers," said Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. "Especially during these months of challenging and rapidly changing driving conditions, it is paramount that drivers remember that speed

limits are set for ideal driving conditions."

Seven out of 10 speed-related crashes are related to driving too fast for the road conditions, according to police data gathered between 2009 and 2013.

Here on Salt Spring, Williams said the transportation commission plans to discuss island speed limits at its Nov. 24 meeting, which will include a Salt Spring RCMP delegation.

"Perhaps we can extend that into pedestrian safety issues," he said.



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Fatmeh, Lebanon

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EARTHQUAKES

Earth-shaking info shared

Forum hosts earthquake expert Garry Rogers

BY JULIAN PAQUETTE
SALT SPRING FORUM

Have you ever wondered what actually causes an earthquake or tsunami? Are the media reports that we are overdue for an earthquake, in fact, true? Have you ever wondered about what to do in an earthquake? Now's your chance to find out.

Join the Salt Spring Forum and Garry Rogers, a senior research scientist at the Geological Survey of Canada who specializes in earthquake and tsunami studies, for an important and interesting evening on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring about the science of earthquakes and tsunamis, and about what to do to when they happen.

The event will begin with a presentation by Rogers and then will be followed by a forum-style discussion between the guest speaker and the audience. Attendees are encouraged to bring the

questions they've always wanted to ask.

During the past five years, there have been major earthquakes in every quadrant of the Pacific "Rim of Fire," including an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 that occurred on the evening of Oct. 28, 2012 causing strong shaking and a large tsunami on the uninhabited west coast of Haida Gwaii.

These earthquakes have provided opportunities for scientists to examine such events in detail. Understanding these events is constantly improving, but what is really known today?

We are at located in a zone where great earthquakes are known to occur, but how much at risk are we? Do scientists know what could potentially occur in terms of intensity and duration? With Vancouver Island in the way, what is the risk of a tsunami? Has warning technology improved and can we provide our own warning system?

Dr. Garry Rogers will address many of these questions and more at the upcoming Salt Spring

Forum event.

In addition to his work at the Geological Survey of Canada, Rogers is also an adjunct professor at the University of Victoria where he is principal investigator for establishing an offshore seismograph network with Ocean Networks Canada, a University of Victoria initiative.

Last year he concluded a 15-year tenure as a member of the Standing Committee for Earthquake Design, which is responsible for earthquake resistant provisions in the National Building Code of Canada, and for the past decade he has been Canada's representative on the UNESCO Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning System.

Salt Spring residents may recognize Rogers from the media as he does between many interviews per year as an earthquake expert for Canada.

Salt Spring Emergency Services will also have an information booth set up in the ArtSpring lobby.

Tickets are available at ArtSpring or at Salt Spring Books.

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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

Be seen and safe

Salt Spring drivers are familiar with feelings of terror when they're navigating island roads.

It often happens when they glimpse, at the most critical possible moment, a human form walking on the roadside who seems completely oblivious to the potential danger of approaching cars.

At this time of year, when the daylight fades at 4:30 p.m. and cloudy days make us wonder if the sun ever rose at all, motorists have plenty of reason for caution.

According to ICBC, the number of collisions in British Columbia more than doubles between November and January. The majority of these are speed related, though anyone in the habit of staying out after 5 p.m. will know decreased visibility is a major contributor to the vehicular mayhem.

THE ISSUE:
Traffic safety

WE SAY:
Stay seen to stay alive

In spite of the creeping nights, many islanders appear to feel immune to the potential dangers of oncoming cars, cyclists and pedestrians. Our complacency stems from our routines. We are so familiar with our island's roads that

we know every corner, bottleneck and blind spot. We're so comfortable with our commutes we joke about being able to drive blindfolded. Unfortunately, as darkness falls ever earlier, that's exactly what many of us are doing.

The Salt Spring Transportation Commission is considering a move to reduce some of the speed limits on the island. There's no telling when, where or if this will happen, but it's pretty certain no changes will take effect in time for the darkest days of this year.

In the interim, Salt Spring drivers, pedestrians and cyclists must develop an entirely new level of defensive driving. Drivers need to slow down and check that headlights are working properly. Cyclists ought to have ample high-visibility gear and additional flashing safety lights. Pedestrians should wear brighter clothes, have a flashlight or headlamp and adequate reflective strips before heading out of the house.

All it takes is a few simple steps, an easy shift in perspective and a marginal personal expense to be seen and stay safe so that no one becomes part of those dismal winter driving statistics.



Lest We Forget

Parker

VIEWPOINT by Jan Slakov

Peace requires other perspectives

Margaret MacMillan concluded her 2015 CBC Massey lectures on "History's People" reminding us that studying history can give us a powerful tool for cross-cultural understanding.

I suppose the same thing can be said for understanding oneself. When I look for the roots of my activism, I go back to World War II. I was not alive then, but I grew up in a home with books about the Holocaust. For some reason, instead of identifying with my Jewish relatives who were killed, I knew, instinctively, that humanity is one, that within any society one can find people who could have, under different circumstances, become Nazi criminals, or victims, or members of the resistance.

So the question I wanted to ask was: How could the Germans have gone along with the Nazis? Soon enough it became apparent that we all do things we know are wrong and any of us can be taken in by the lies that inevitably accompany war.

I remember organizing a peace vigil back in 1991, as we were sending our soldiers to Iraq, in that Gulf War. Someone challenged me, saying "they" obviously can only understand brute force. Look at how the Iraqi soldiers looted incubators from that hospital in Kuwait, leaving the babies there to die.

What could I say? So maybe you can imagine the betrayal I felt when I learned a few months later that the incubator story was a big lie. The PR firm Hill and Knowlton had been involved in getting the the Kuwaiti ambassador's daughter, Nayirah, before Congress where she tearfully recounted the lie. Even Amnesty International had been taken in by this lie. Perhaps even more tellingly, the then senior vice president at Hill and Knowlton, Lauri Fitz-Pegado, who spent two and a half hours with Nayirah before her testimony, went on to be involved with

what the Guardian newspaper calls "a modern American war myth," the Jessica Lynch story, of 2003.

What to do in the face of this reality, that especially when it comes to war, it becomes nearly impossible to separate fact from fiction? Some people give up on checking out stories, choosing instead not ask too many questions, to follow their gut instincts. But by now we know that this path can too easily lead us to believe and spread falsehoods.

Maybe the deeper truth is this: hatred is based on a lie, the conviction that others are fundamentally different from ourselves. If we feel hatred, it's time to go listen to people with other perspectives, to clean our mind.

So, on Remembrance Day, I remember the soldiers who fought and died, but not generally as "heroes." Some were indeed heroic in the way they acted, but many didn't know there were other ways to defend democracy and peace. To learn more about such "other ways", join professor Lynne Quarmy, who has been arrested as part of her work to prevent the unthinkable, and Tamara Lorincz, feminist peace activist and researcher, on Nov. 25 at the Lions Hall for their 7pm talk.

Meanwhile, let's not forget the people who have used the power of nonviolence to uphold fundamental values, often with great courage. Albert Camus was one such person. After World War II he wrote a beautiful essay, "Neither Victims nor Executioners," inviting us, "in the midst of a murderous world, [...] to reflect on murder and to make a choice."

The writer is a Salt Spring-based activist.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support Trudeau's cabinet choices? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will you read the incorporation report?

NO	YES
25	43

Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
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Email: inquiries@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
Subscription Rates: In the Gulf Islands \$52.50
Elsewhere in Canada \$88.20* Foreign: \$235.00*
Digital Edition: \$39.85 anywhere | Prices include GST
Digital Edition with Print Edition subscription additional 1yr \$12.60 | 2 yr \$18.90

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837
International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "If it's not raining, [lake levels] are going down."

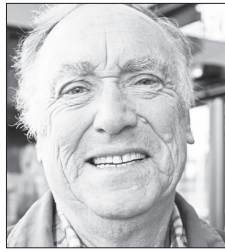
MEGHAN MCKEE, NSSWD WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What do you like or not like about what the new federal government is doing so far?



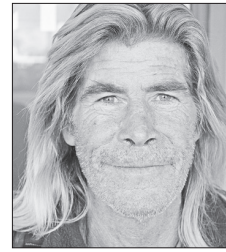
BRIAN WESTBY
The long-term census — they've approved that, which is good.



ROGER FLOWERS
I think they've responded very well to the refugee problem, and I think they're doing the right thing.



MARCIA JANSEN
I like that it's so diverse. It resembles Canada, I think, more than the old one did.



RICK PAGE
I'd like legalizing marijuana, if they do it, and increasing the tax on the higher income bracket.



TOM HOOPER
The climate conference — obviously they're more engaged than the Conservatives were. I'm staying positive. It's nice to have young people involved.

Letters to the editor

Listen to experts

With reference to expressions of concern about the appointment of inexperienced federal cabinet ministers, which appears to be a major concern of the media, I'd suggest you review the historic purpose of cabinet.

Before our leaders became quite so paranoid, there was a civil service that did not change with each election. Each department employed a staff of experienced and specialized staff available to provide facts and advice as needed and/or research on pertinent subjects within their domain.

The democratic system elected members from which pool a minis-

ter would be chosen who would become the contact person for the prime minister.

Each minister was assigned a deputy minister who acted as his direct link to the department. This was an important and high-ranking civil service position, not an elected position. Frequently the DM continued for years despite the rotation of cabinet ministers or governments. He was non-partisan and respected in his role and was expected to "speak truth to power."

Deputy ministers were expected to be alert to international and interprovincial concerns relating to their department. They knew where to quickly access the experts who would prepare papers or responses to the questions that come before

the cabinet minister.

Continuity meant that inexperienced ministers were professionally advised.

The prime minister through his minister had access to informed, current and non-partisan information. He/she could then make informed (and perhaps partisan) decisions.

I worked as secretary to a senior MP during the Diefenbaker era and this method proved effective.

This all started to go sideways during the senior Trudeau's reign and the formation of the Privy Council.

The dangers in this isolationist move became desperately clear under Stephen Harper when cabinet ministers were relegated to "white noise" and the Privy Council no longer made use of experts in the field, responding instead

to headlines and talk show concerns.

Perhaps our new prime minister will (as indicated in the televised debate) take steps to access informed sources on which to make balanced decisions.

PATRICIA FRASER,
SALT SPRING

Clear the fog

The elephant in the fire hall has apparently been ignored for another week by the current fire board trustees. The transparency of this board is beginning to look like Ganges Harbour at daybreak this time of the year. A fog bank has rolled in and I can't see anything.

I was sitting at a dinner table in Ganges recently and the topic of conversation rolled around to local politics. One of the people at the table suggested that

Tom Bremner must have done something terrible to get tossed from his job as the fire chief. My blood pressure probably clipped 170/125 as I jumped in to defend the reputation of this civic-minded community leader. His honesty or moral fibre will not be questioned in my presence.

A retrospective of the dinner conversation today had me realizing that if this kind of talk was taking place at my dinner table then it just might be taking place at many others on the island as well. That there has been no clarification made to the public by this fire board is unacceptable to me.

I sure hope that this issue is not going to end up being resolved through legal channels.

I noted from the Oct. 28 Driftwood that the finance

committee chair, Norbert Schlenker, has decided not to include any legal expenses in the 2016 budget for the fire protection district: an interesting way to ensure that the budget looks like the board of trustees is trying hard to cut expenses. However, if the strategy of the fire board is to continue to ignore the aforementioned elephant, then they might want to rethink the legal expenses portion of the 2016 budget.

I for one am not interested in funding the legal expenses of failure to communicate.

Fire board trustees, please show us some transparency.

GREGORY AST,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

AGING with GRACE: The Business of Aging

"Donald needs to update his will," I said to Jim Pasuta, the lawyer who had helped us with our powers of attorney.

I felt proud of myself for being proactive in getting my husband's affairs in order, but it seemed strange to Jim that I was the one making this particular phone call. I had to explain.

In the early 1980s, my late husband built his dream house in Fulford Harbour. He decided to own it jointly with his daughters so they could inherit it after he died. When Donald and I married in 1985, he was reluctant to change this arrangement, so he composed a new will leaving everything else to me.

By 1998, the property had become too much like work, so we bought a Ganges townhouse. Then, acting with powers of attorney from his daughters, both of whom were living abroad, Donald sold the house. Less than a year later, he experienced a massive stroke and, while he was in a nine-day coma, I took the opportunity to look at

his will. To my horror, I realized that by selling his house and not updating his will once again, he had disinherited his daughters.

"Can Donald account for and describe his property and other financial holdings?" Jim asked after I'd recounted this saga. I had to admit that the stroke had left him unable to say much of anything.

"Then he can't update his will," Jim replied.

We'd been so busy trying to downsize we hadn't taken the time to consider the implications of an outdated will. In fact, we'd forgotten about it.

Donald's stroke was severe. Nevertheless, I chose to bring him home contrary to professional advice. I bought a one-level house in Ganges and had it renovated for wheelchair accessibility. I also had aids installed to help me lift him. Then I sold the townhouse (he made a squiggle because he could no longer sign his name), and I set aside the proceeds for my stepdaughters. When the new house was ready, I asked his doctor if there was any



By **HELEN HINCHLIFF**

reason why I couldn't bring him home the following day.

"Well, there's no medical reason . . ." he said, his voice trailing off. I didn't bother to ask what reasons might make it a bad idea.

When it comes to the vicissitudes of aging, we need help! Fortunately, it's available.

The Greenwoods Eldercare Society is sponsoring a panel called The Business of Aging to be held next Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Lions Hall at 103 Bonnet Ave. All are welcome and it's free of charge.

The program has been designed to provide you with an opportunity to learn some basic facts, hear some sound advice, and also to ask any burning

questions you may have. You can expect the following:

- Lawyer Jim Pasuta will discuss the importance of and difference between representation agreements, powers of attorney, and advance directives;

- Brandy-Lee Borley, Greenwoods family liaison, will provide information on the adult day care and community bathing programs, and about Braehaven, the assisted-living facility operated by the Greenwoods Eldercare Society;

- Accountant Sarah Carty will discuss the role of income in fees charged for these services, tax implications when a spouse is in care, as well as retirement and estate planning; and

- Catherine Bennett, Meals on Wheels coordinator, will tell you about meals that can be brought to your home.

Also coming are a community care nurse to discuss the process by which one is assessed for eligibility for these programs and/or for assisted living and long-term care; a social worker will address

solutions for some of the problems that come with aging in place in challenging environments; and a physician will address how the doctor's role changes once you or a loved one has been placed in long-term care.

Over the years, I've learned I'm not the only one who could benefit from more information about aging successfully. More than a few husbands have died in recent years with bank accounts or even the family car registered in their names only; there have been caregivers so stressed out by the demands of providing 24-hour care that they've had strokes or heart attacks. Others have simply given up, dropping their loved ones off at Emergency, saying, "I can't do it anymore."

Salt Spring has a burgeoning population of seniors and there is a huge, increasing need for an eldercare plan that ensures we have the support we need as we grow older. Let's know what services are available now and learn how to take whatever steps we can to make the best of them.

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RANTS and Roses

Roses

Roses or perhaps dogwood flowers to all the Salt Springers who saw our favourite leash in the off-leash dog park by the pool and left it there for us to pick up days later. Anyone could have taken it but no one did. It is a small thing but indicative. Thanks.

SSIFR would like to thank the generous folks at Country Grocer for their annual donation of hot dogs and cocoa served after the Halloween fireworks! SSIFR would also like to thank the SS Chamber of Commerce, SS Rotary Club and the SS Harbour Authority for their contributions to our Halloween fireworks show.

A pool full of red and white roses to all that made our annual swim meet a success. Rainbow Road Pool staff, PARC, BC Hydro, Salt Spring Fire Association, Shaver family, Rithaler family, Auntie Pesto's Cafe, Salt Spring Elementary, Rental Stop, Dave Vollrath, Akerman Electric, Patrick Akerman Re/Max Realty, Chris and Darlene Hobbs of Sotheby's Realty, Country Grocer, Thrifty Foods, Salt Spring Fruitsicles, Slegg Building Materials, Glad's, Harlan's Chocolate & Gelato, Salt Spring Chocolates, Fishery Seafoods, Pharmasave, Jana's Bake Shop, Salt Spring Sea Salt, Island Savings Credit Union, Embe Bakery, Monster Lab, The Bread Lady, West of the Moon, Salt Spring Water, Salt Spring

Eyecare, Ganges Stationery, Mouat's Home Hardware, Salt Spring Sprouts, TJ Beans, Salt Spring Apple Company, The Heritage Society, Apple Photo, Hummingbird Hollow Guest House, X-eau Swimwear. From the Salt Spring Stingrays and their families.

Spooky black roses to Country Grocer, Thrifty's, Pharmasave Uptown, Pharmasave Downtown and TJ Beans for making the Spook House so sweet this year. Also, many thanks to the "Ghosts of Improv Past" and the many volunteers who made this the most successful Spook House yet. From the GISS Improv teams

A bridge table covered with roses to all the players who

came out on a rainy Friday to help Kenyan school girls. Further roses to Country Grocer for their continuing support. Additional plaudits to those who supported the silent auction: Mistaken Identity Winery, Harlan's Chocolates, Golden Island Restaurant, Embe Bakery, Josh Lawrence, SOLID, Jana's Bakery, Anne May RMT, Salt Spring Soapworks, Fernwood Cafe. Friends of Kenya

Roses to Thrifty Foods for supplying Smile Cards for the top scores at the bridge tournament to raise money for hygiene kits for Kenyan school girls. Additional roses to Mollie C., head chef, and her assistants Marilyn and Doreen, Ruth the fabulous sales lady and Lynda. Friends of Kenya

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Minister updated

On Wednesday, Nov. 4, your three elected officials, Wayne McIntyre, George Grams and Peter Grove, together with the chair of the Salt Spring Incorporation Study Committee, Mark Aston, met with the Hon. Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, in his office in Victoria.

The purpose of the meeting was to allow the three stewards to provide the minister and his staff with a briefing on the incorporation study process and for the committee chair to inform him of the committee's progress.

The Salt Spring Island delegation was warmly received and the minister most receptive to the community's needs and concerns. The minister was provided with hard copies of the recently published consultant's preliminary report and some aspects of its contents were discussed.

Further dialogue between ministry staff and the incorporation study committee will be conducted during the preparation of the final report, which will include details of the ministry's restructuring offer to the community. The Salt Spring Island delegation found the meeting agreeable and purposeful and the minister's response very positive.

WAYNE MCINTYRE,
SALT SPRING CRD DIRECTOR
GEORGE GRAMS AND PETER GROVE,
SALT SPRING TRUSTEES

Life sentence

The following letter was sent to Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May and the Driftwood newspaper.

I am writing you today to express my concern on the Sammy Yatim murder case. If you do not know about this case, let me shed some light for you.

Sammy Yatim was an 18-year-old boy on a streetcar in Ontario. He showed his genitals to a young woman on the bus and pulled out a knife.

The street car pulled over, and all the passengers got off. Yatim yelled at them to get off. He didn't want them

there, proving he had no intent to hurt anyone. The bus driver remained on the bus until everyone was off, and had a brief conversation with Yatim. Yatim asked him for a phone. He said he wanted to call his dad because something was going on and he didn't know what it was. He needed to call his dad. The bus driver remained calm the entire time with Yatim. Yatim told him to leave as he did not want any hostages. The bus driver exited the bus.

Now to any person with half a brain, it is evident that this young man is having some sort of breakdown. He verbally expressed that he needed his dad and that he didn't know what was happening. By that logic, it would prove correct to say that Const. James Forcillo does not have half a brain. Const. Forcillo murdered Yatim within 50 seconds of arriving on scene.

That is preposterous! The definition of preposterous is: Contrary to reason or common sense; utterly absurd or ridiculous. My concern is that Forcillo will not be convicted of a life sentence, which he truly deserves. Anything less would be disrespect for the dead. "Only the good die young."

Thank you for reading.

ROXIE DAILLY,
SALT SPRING

Support for centre

I was reading a newspaper this weekend and came across a feature on Ian Black, general manager of Uber Canada, an innovative and thriving business.

The opening line was that Ian was a person who didn't like following other people's rules, and the article went on to suggest that he had accomplished what he had because, "To him, it's simply about changing rules that don't make sense to him . . ."

I immediately thought of Greg Clayton and the article in last week's Driftwood about the CRD threatening to shut down the Salt Spring Wellness Centre in Ganges.

I don't pretend to have enough knowledge or experience with the building code in our province to know the rationale for all the rules but, intuitively, it makes sense to me that building regulations set out for a dense urban centre may not be equally applicable on a

sparingly populated island. "A round peg in a square hole," as Greg put it.

What I do know first-hand, however, is what it felt like to walk up to what was then the Living Strong Studio on May 20, 2014 to use the gym, and found myself facing an announcement that the business was closed until further notice. The building was empty and desolate, just another business in the community disappearing, along with my prepaid membership dues.

In July, that all changed, thanks to Greg Clayton. Here was a dynamic individual, new to our community, who had the courage and moral conviction to make things right. He re-opened the gym, honouring all existing memberships without the benefit of any records to prove whether you were entitled or not, and set about to create something of value for the community.

Since then, as a result of Greg's ongoing and considerable investment of time and money, I have seen a "wellness centre" emerge out of the ashes to become a vibrant, growing community-oriented business in the blink of an eye. Membership is growing, services are expanding, wellness therapies are being made affordable for the local population, a community garden and farm stand appeared over a weekend, and a raft of people are employed.

I have the utmost respect for Greg Clayton and what he has achieved and can only hope that we can find a collaborative solution to this untenable situation. The community will lose something very special if the "made in Victoria" rule book causes this business to close down.

KAREN WRIGHT,
SALT SPRING

Remember Cold War veterans too

As Remembrance Day 2015 draws near, I would like to say something in the Driftwood about all the airmen that gave their lives during the Cold War.

Of the thousands that served, some 260 of them are buried in Choloy Military Cemetery in France: casualties from operations and training to keep a Cold War from turning hot.

WILLIAM C. WESTON,
COLONEL (RET'D)

Fleeting fame: Alexander von who?

Who do you reckon was our greatest explorer? We've got lots of candidates — Magellan, Drake, Marco Polo, Cook and Columbus to name a handful. Canada throws up some solid contenders — Champlain, Cabot, Mackenzie. For endurance you'd have to give Polar adventurer Roald Amundsen a shot. In terms of distance, Neil Armstrong is tough to beat.

But my money's on a chap named Humboldt. Alexander von Humboldt — the greatest scientific explorer you've never heard of.

It's not because his name's not out there. More than a hundred animals have "Humboldt" in their scientific classifications, as do some 300 plants. We have a Humboldt glacier, a Humboldt Current, a Humboldt squid and a Humboldt Hog-Nosed Skunk. There's a rocky chunk of galactic debris called the Humboldt Asteroid winging its way around our sun. On the moon there's an area known as Mare Humboldtianum.

So who was this guy anyway?

One observer called him "the greatest scientific explorer who ever lived" — and that observer was Charles Darwin.

Indeed without Humboldt, there might never have been a Darwin — at least not the one we associate with the groundbreaking, mind-bending voyages that changed science forever.



Arthur Black

WIT & WHIMSY

to volunteer as naturalist in her Majesty's ship *Beagle*."

All of this from a sickly temperamental Prussian who's primary geographical experience came from a journey to the New World, most notably South America, commenced in 1799.

But what a journey.

It began in Venezuela where Humboldt took to a canoe and plunged into the rain forest, paddling up the Orinoco and mapping its union with an Amazon tributary. Next, a nine-month, 1,600-kilometre trek along the northern Andes, including a scramble up the ice-capped Chimborazo volcano, more than 5,000 metres above sea level. Humboldt scaled every peak he could see with a singular obsession that bordered on mania. When his hiking boots shredded and fell apart he continued barefoot.

He was a tad manic. He ate sporadically and slept hardly at all. He wrote more than 50,000 letters (longhand, mind) trying vainly to keep up with his leaping brain. When he ran out of

Darwin credited Humboldt's writing as the inspiration that urged him "to travel in distant countries, and led me to

paper he continued right off the page, carving his thoughts into the wooden desk-top.

And he was fearless. He bathed in crocodile-infested waters, performed near-fatal experiments with electric eels, survived a hurricane at sea and an earthquake on land, during which he assembled instruments to document the event while everyone else covered in terror.

Darwin wasn't his only notable fan. He dined with U.S. President Thomas Jefferson and convinced him that Texas was worth fighting for, for which Jefferson thanked him profusely. "We have little knowledge of the Spanish colonies," said Jefferson, "but through you."

He hobnobbed with Goethe and Wordsworth, Coleridge and Flaubert. Pillars as various as Rachel Carson, Aldous Huxley and Ezra Pound absorbed his writings and sang his praises. Two hundred years ago he was one of the most famous men on the planet; today if you asked 10 people what the name Humboldt means to them, you'd get 10 "Huhs?"

What happened?

Francis Bacon wrote: "Fame is like a river, that beareth up things light and swollen, and drowns things weighty and solid."

Perhaps that explains why we forgot Alexander von Humboldt.

It certainly explains Donald Trump.

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Already looking forward to SSNAP 2017

I am not a visual artist. Your average four-year-old could put my stick-man efforts to shame.

I am also not educated in the fine arts, except for some Canadian art history sprinkled into my undergraduate studies a few decades ago.

Despite those two sad facts, one of my favourite things to do locally and beyond is to see fresh new work by talented artists and craftspeople.

That's why I was a Salt Spring National Art Prize supporter from day one. And when the steering committee revealed its bright pink SSNAP logo and professional promotional materials, I was already in two-thumbs-up mode.

I will never forget the complete manic excitement and body crush of the gala opening evening on Sept. 25, and being instantly aware that this exhibit was a different beast entirely from group exhibits we are accustomed to.

The jury had not assembled "the best" (however that might be defined!) pieces from 1,367 to choose from submitted by more than 800 artists. Instead they had created an exhibit that showed us the state of the fine arts in Canada today: What are artists in various media creating, expressing, documenting? The answer was boldly there in every corner of Mahon Hall.



Gail Sjuberg

OTHER WISE

Another thing I noticed immediately was that work by so many younger artists had been chosen through the blind juried process. It was thrilling to see them attending the SSNAP events and rightly recognized for the execution of their chosen passions.

I'm sure there was ample behind-the-scenes grumbling about SSNAP as it unfolded. That's an inevitable part of any large-scale undertaking, especially on the first go-round (and always on Salt Spring Island).

But the public face of SSNAP is all about the art, the artists and the role of the visual arts in contemporary society.

I enjoyed so many conversations about specific pieces, read the catalogue from cover to cover, looked up certain artists' websites to find out more about them, and felt my appetite for more visual arts acutely piqued. I felt sad when I realized the show was over and I wouldn't be able to see it again.

I could easily have chosen a dozen pieces as a "favou-



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Part of Holly de Moissac's Undiminished piece in the SSNAP Finalists' Exhibition, along with gloves for viewers to wear while they turn the pages of the book.

rite." But rather than agonizing too much about the choice I gave my ballot to Holly de Moissac's Undiminished book after checking out her website.

"I believe that in the act of embracing both transience and decay there is an inherent honesty about what it means to be human" is one of the things she has written. I liked that and other words and images on her site, and as a word person her SSNAP piece called to me.

It's never easy to determine why something touches one more than something else, and over-intellectualization can mar the bliss of the raw feeling, but I want to mention one other piece in the show.

I was moved to tears by Jeff Wilson's acrylic painting of a homeless person with his

bicycle called Moving Along, and had to keep looking away from it in order to maintain my composure. It seemed as if everything useful to know about compassion could be gleaned from that painting.

As Wilson explains in his artist's statement, he wanted to create a positive image to illustrate "the resiliency of marginalized people in the face of adversity." I think he succeeded brilliantly.

I want to give the warmest of thanks to the Salt Spring Arts Council, SSNAP steering committee and jurors Ian Thomas, Vicky Chainey Gagnon and Holger Kalberg for the no-doubt-insane amount of time devoted to this venture. It was a priceless gift to our community and to the rest of the country.

I can't wait to see SSNAP 2017.

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Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee would like to invite you to attend a public hearing beginning at **9:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2015** at the **Hart Bradley Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island** to hear your views regarding Proposed Bylaw No. 483.

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.

Prior to the Public Hearing Planner Jason Youmans will be available at the Hart Bradley Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. to provide information about the bylaw and to answer any questions.

WHAT IS THE BYLAW ABOUT?

In general terms, the purpose of **Proposed Bylaw No. 483** is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 by adding a new Industrial 2 Zone Variation (b) – In2(b) that permits an abattoir as a permanent use on the land illustrated below and by adding a definition for an “abattoir” in the definitions section of the Land Use Bylaw.



Proposed Bylaw No. 483 is cited as “Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 1, 2015” and concerns 1447 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island - Application SS-RZ-2014.2.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the proposed bylaw and other relevant background documents may be inspected at the Islands Trust Salt Spring Office at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, from **November 3, 2015 to November 18, 2015**.

A copy of Proposed Bylaw No. 483 may also be viewed on the Islands Trust website (www.islandstrust.bc.ca) under “Islands”, “Local Trust Areas”, “Salt Spring”, “Bylaws”, “Bylaw 355” under “Bylaw Amendments” or scan here...



Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to Planner Jason Youmans at 250-537-9144. For toll free access, request a transfer via Service BC: in Vancouver 604-660-2421, in Victoria 250-387-6121, and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

HOW DO I PROVIDE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION?

Mail or in person to: Islands Trust, 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8
Fax: (250) 537-9116
Email: ssiphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca

On November 19, 2015:

At the Lion's Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island
From 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the information session
Commencing at 9:30 a.m. at the **Public Hearing**

Written submissions received in response to this notice will be available for public review.

NO WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS OR ORAL REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Claire Olivier
Deputy Secretary

Incorporation open houses set

SSI INCORPORATION STUDY
COMMITTEE

There has been a lot of talk in recent years about Salt Spring's possible incorporation. What would change in the way the island would be governed? What would remain the same? How would a Salt Spring incorporation affect the Islands Trust? Would incorporation mean higher property taxes? If so, how much higher?

A 2013 governance study collected a great deal of useful information both as regards what Salt Springers liked and didn't like about the present form of governance. Current community interests, concerns and priorities were also identified. And though some islanders indicated they were satisfied with the existing governance system, a significant majority were in favour of a “follow up” formal incorporation study, one that would provide specifics as regards changes in governance and any expected cost impact.

As many Salt Springers already know, that second study is now being conducted. It is being directed by a 10-person Salt Spring Island Incorporation Study Committee whose members were chosen by the island's CRD director and its two representatives to the Islands Trust. This group is neither “pro” nor “con” to a possible incorporation. Rather, it is charged with presenting Salt Springers with the facts as regards what would change, and what wouldn't, if a vote on incorporation were held and a majority of islanders were to choose that option.

Urban Systems, the same firm that had conducted the 2013 governance study, was chosen by this committee to conduct a follow-up examination that would provide these specifics. This firm has just submitted a preliminary version of its report, now available both online at www.ssiincorporationstudy.com and, in a

INCORPORATION
STUDY CORNER

printed version, at the Salt Spring Public Library.

All concerned Salt Springers are being urged by the study committee to examine this necessarily detailed report. In addition, island residents should plan on attending one of the two incorporation study open houses. These will not be forums to discuss either the desirability or the shortcomings of incorporation. Rather their objectives are 1) to highlight what the report has revealed as regards the operational and financial impact of incorporation, and 2) to find out if there is any additional factual information islanders feel they would need to make an informed decision on incorporation.

There will be a formal presentation allowing for a question and answer period at each open house. This will be both preceded and followed by an opportunity for those especially interested in particular topics such as road maintenance, water adequacy, economic development, environmental protection, etc., to explore these subjects at dedicated discussion centres.

The first of these open houses will take place at Fulford Hall on Sunday, Nov. 22 between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. with the formal presentation scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The second will be held on Monday, Nov. 23, also between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. with a 2:30 p.m. presentation, at the Legion's Meaden Hall.

These are meetings islanders are certain to find useful and informative. The incorporation study committee, in turn, looks forward to learning what additional information those present feel they would need before they could make an informed decision on this important topic. It will then do its best to see that this information appears in the incorporation study's final report.

Water conservation support needed

BY JOHN BORST

The rainy season has arrived, to islanders' relief. The long dry drought of 2015 ended at the beginning of September, but even though the remains of a typhoon from Hawaii swept through B.C., Salt Spring didn't get a lot of rain. And in fact, the amount of rain so far this fall has been low.

So we are not out of the woods. We were lucky that the first few rains were not intense since a heavy rain on dry ground can create serious runoff and erosion. Just look at the flash floods in California and Utah. We can see what happens in our own kitchen by taking a very dried out sponge and running water on it. The water doesn't penetrate right away and runs off. After the sponge gets wet, it will absorb and hold water. This is where we are now. The ground dried out and the rains so far have begun to wet the ground. The deeper the wetness penetrates into the ground, the more water the ground can hold.

There is another process that slows down the water penetration into the ground. During the long dry summer, the trees dried out and shut down. Without water to carry nutrients up the trunk to the leaves, the tree can not carry out photosynthesis (carbon dioxide and water are the main ingredients needed for photosynthesis). The leaves close their pores and the tree tries to hold on to the water left in its trunk and leaves. When the rains begin, the tree re-hydrates, taking up tens of kilograms of water. A forest soaks up thousands of kilograms of water.

After the trees re-hydrate, the rains can replenish the water in the ground. When the ground gets wet

INDEPTH

enough, streams begin to flow and water flows through the ground into our lakes. This ground re-hydration process requires a lot of rain. The dryer the summer and the deeper the dryness goes into the ground, the more rain is required to rewet the deeper layers of the ground. This is the reason we have seen very little change in the levels of our lakes. We will need a really wet winter to replenish the ground water and the lake levels.

If the rainfall is not heavy, the island may begin the summer with water levels too low to get us through another long hot summer.

The water dynamics described above are also important for well owners. Well replenishment occurs when the rain water penetrates deeply enough for the rock and its fractures the well resides in fill with water. The rain water needs to re-hydrate the trees and soak deeply enough for the rocks to re-hydrate. Both the deeper the well and the more water taken out of it during this past summer influence the level of recharge. And the more rain we have, the more pressure generated by the water above the well forcing the water into those fractures and fissures and so the faster the recharge.

So we all need to hope for a very rainy winter.

There are, however, two ways to reduce our dependence on lakes and wells. These are the installation of rainwater harvesting and used water recycling systems. Rainwater harvesting is simple. Catch roof water and store it for next summer. To implement a rainwater catch-

ment system requires a storage tank, a pump, a water collection system and water purification sufficient for its intended use. Gardens require little purification but household use requires a complex, expensive water treatment system.

Grey water reuse can cut household water use in half during the winter. Presently our building codes do not allow water recycling but there are many places in the world where grey water re-use has become the norm. California, Arizona and Australia are three places that have implemented grey water usage and have websites showing the home owner how to install these systems with all the health precautions needed.

It is the hope of the Salt Spring Water Council that the provincial government, and in particular the Ministry of Health, has seen the warning signs provided by the summer of 2015 and moves to make both of these measures easier for the home owner to install and monitor. (For more information, read the water conservation forum final report on the water council website www.ssiwatercouncil.com.)

With climate change, we islanders need to be prepared for longer hotter summers. Rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling are two methods for stretching our limited water resources. The water council hopes the province, the Capital Regional District and the Local Trust Committee will find ways to encourage installation of these systems across the island.

The writer chairs the Salt Spring Island Water Council.

arts&entertainment

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THEATRE REVIEW

Cast of Simon's Rumors play keeps plot twists spinning



PHOTO BY MEGAN MANNING

A cast-filled scene from Salt Spring Community Theatre's production of Rumors, which has three more shows at Mahon Hall this week.

SSCT production returns for three shows

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If an evening of laughter is what the doctor is ordering to liven up these dreary November days, look no further than Mahon Hall, where the Neil Simon comedy Rumors is being served up by Salt Spring Community Theatre.

The complex plot-line — driven by a simple incident that rapidly spirals out of control — provides suitably ridiculous circumstances, but what gives Rumors its edge is Simon's razor-crisp dialogue. Featuring a good-sized cast of characters with numerous foibles, it all adds up to a combination that's just right for the community stage.

Rumors was actually the playwright's first attempt at farce, which he wrote after his acclaimed autobiographical trilogy that started with Brighton Beach Memoirs.

"The simplest aspect of farce is you need a lot of doors. And you need people to go running in and out of them, just missing each other. Generally speaking, in a farce people are trying to withhold information from other people. I've hardly seen a farce in which that didn't happen," Simon told the New York Times when Rumors opened in 1988.

Indeed, David Holt, who has been building SSCT's sets for around 17 years, said Rumors required the most complex design yet. Mahon Hall's small stage has been made

to accommodate an upscale living room complete with five doors on two levels, from which the characters are frequently popping in and out.

It takes a lively cast to keep that kind of action flowing, and some community theatre regulars in key roles help anchor the pacing. Scott Merrick and Therin Gower are well cast as the first couple to arrive at the scene of a party where some kind of disaster has beset the hosts. As such, they are required to set the tone of the entire play and to hold the stage for quite a long time. Ann Stewart also puts her experience to good effect with a role that demands some of the most physical comedy in the play and provides some hilariously absurd moments.

Congratulations should go to director Suzanna Laine for her casting choices and her sensitive work guiding the cast. One of the great things about SSCT in recent years is its diversity and inclusion of young people. In this case, the two youngest members of the cast are the stand-out stars of the production. Shyla-Rae Lloyd-Walters revealed her incredible vocal talent during this summer's musical Peter on the Brink. In Rumors, she unveils an equal power with the acting chops. Her delivery is entirely natural and her comedic timing is spot-on. Some of the best zingers (and therefore biggest laughs) of the night come via her character.

Chris Perrins has been gracing various local stages ever since his days with Stagecoach Theatre School, but Rumors is by far his most adult role to date. As Lloyd-Walters'

on-stage partner he is entirely believable as the acerbic man of the town and even seems comfortable spouting numerous curse words. (Warning to gentle ears: Rumors contains probably the most foul language Mahon Hall has ever heard.) And Perrins pulls off a surprising transformation in superb fashion.

Credit is also due the less experienced cast members, with Larry Woods and St. Clair McColl in key supporting roles. Simone Cazon has wowed the SSCT audience before and this time appears to fully channel the New Jersey social climber with more looks than brains. A senseless fight with hubby McColl is one of the play's funnier bits. Dave French

deserves much praise for his restrained take on a city cop, when overacting that part would be only too easy to do, while musician Dave Milutinovic makes a credible entry in his supporting role.

As always with SSCT, costuming, hair and make-up are top notch, creating all the glamour one would expect for a party hosted by New York's deputy mayor.

If the full house on Saturday night is any indicator, audiences who wish to catch either of the final three shows should arrive early to get a good seat. The play runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., with Mahon Hall's doors opening at 7.

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VOLUNTEERISM

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Connecting Generations seeks local volunteers for school program

Through our local school district program, Connecting Generations and Science World, British Columbia, there is an opportunity for any scientist or engineer, either working, retired or studying science to participate in the Scientists and Innovators in the Schools (SIS) program.

Scientists and Innovators in the Schools (SIS) is a volunteer-based program that helps address British Columbia's need for more scientists, engineers, technologists and technicians to promote students' interest in these areas. The goal is to inspire students with exciting, in-school presentations by real scientists. The program is offered to Grades K to 12 everywhere in B.C.

Last year 219 scientists and

engineers were able to visit more than 80 different communities in British Columbia, including remote schools in Yeekoche, Edgewood, Canoe Creek and Kyuquot.

Who can be a SIS volunteer?

Scientists and Innovators in the Schools endeavours to promote science throughout the whole province:

"We seek dedicated volunteers from the various scientific fields to bring the world of science into the classroom. A volunteer's aim is to use his or her expertise and knowledge to stimulate interest in the sciences in an exciting and fun way.

"Visiting scientists increase students' interest in science by providing them with the kind of role model that is hard to find elsewhere.

"The program is always looking for more enthusiastic people to become involved. SIS provides training and support, and will

reimburse all costs incurred during school visits, including travel, accommodation and presentation materials (within certain guidelines).

A Science World facilitated Communicative Science training workshop will be held on Salt Spring on Wednesday, Dec. 2 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Gulf Islands Secondary School. If you are interested in attending, please contact the coordinator for Connecting Generations, Sarah Hook-Nilsson, at shooknilsson@sd64.bc.ca or leave a message at the high school: 250-537-9944.

For more information about the Scientists and Innovators in the Schools program, please visit the Science World website at: www.scienceworld.ca/sis.

For more information about the Connecting Generations program please visit www.connectinggenerations.net/.



PHOTO BY SEAN MCINTYRE

FIRED UP: Enjoying Fire Chief for a Day honours are, from left, students Nolan Brainerd, Theo Marill, Jacob Tamboline and Kiel Johnson, along with Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George and mascot Sparky. Fire truck rides, fire hall tour, lunch, games, swag and customized business cards are all included. The program is another example of community learning in School District 64.



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FOCUS on EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

Loan repayment plans ease after-grad debt crunch

Aeroplan scheme may be coming to B.C.

ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The rewards of pursuing higher education may last a lifetime, but the student loans many of us rely on to access university programs can often feel like a burden that will outlast any benefits.

According to statistical data collected by the Canada Student Loans Program, the average debt for students from all provinces and territories upon completion of programs in 2012-13 was \$12,314. Those attending university had a higher debt load for an average of \$15,548, and those who went all the way to the doctorate level owed an average of \$27,502.

Perhaps not surprisingly, graduates who are faced with debt and low-paying entry-level jobs have been quick to take advantage of the federal government's Repay-

ment Assistance Program (RAP). In British Columbia, 33,476 people went through the program in 2012-13, the highest number in any jurisdiction outside of Ontario (which saw a whopping 126,464 access it).

According to government material, RAP makes it easier to manage student loan debt by reducing the monthly payment for eligible parties. Those who reside in Canada and graduated or left school at least six months ago can apply.

Depending on the applicant's financial situation, monthly stu-

Anyone who is getting ready to complete a degree and enter the "real world" should definitely get a handle on how the repayment process can be eased.

dent loan payments could be reduced or even waived under Stage 1. The federal and provincial governments partner to pay the interest owing that the revised payment does not cover. This may last for up to 10 six-month periods or 60 months during the 10-year period after the student has left school.

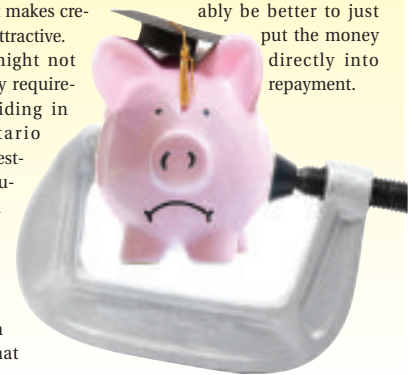
Stage 2 starts once a borrower has completed Stage 1, has been repaying the loan for 10 years after leaving school or has been approved for the Repayment Assistance Plan for Borrowers with a Permanent Disability. In Stage 2, government will continue to cover the interest owing that the revised payment does not cover and will start to cover a portion of the principal amount owing. The balance of the loan is gradually paid off so the applicant won't have any student loan debt 15 years after leaving school (or 10 years for qualified borrowers with a permanent disability).

Anyone who is getting ready to complete a degree and enter the "real world" should definitely get a handle on how the repayment process can be eased. The National Post reported in February that the federal government had written off at least \$837 million over the past three years to cover more than 200,000 unpaid Canada Student Loans. Although unpaid debts account for just 13 per cent of students loans, the actual dollar amount makes creative solutions look attractive.

For those who might not meet RAP's eligibility requirements, people residing in Alberta and Ontario recently got the interesting option to repay student loans through spending. Starting in February, Employment and Social Development Canada forged a deal with Higher Ed Points that

allows students to put Aeroplan reward points towards tuition and loan payments. Negotiations are apparently underway to offer the program in all jurisdictions.

However, many have questioned how practical the Aeroplan idea really is. The program allows members with an Aeroplan credit card to redeem 35,000 points — or approximately \$35,000 in spending — in return for a \$250 loan credit. At that rate it would probably be better to just put the money directly into repayment.



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EXHIBITIONS

Bateman Centre premieres intriguing oneTree exhibit

Artists transform old-growth maple tree

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Bateman Centre in Victoria will introduce an exciting new concept in its exhibition rooms this week, with the opening of the oneTree exhibit in its gallery space.

OneTree is a collaborative project

involving Live Edge Design, a craft furniture company based on Vancouver Island that specializes in salvaged wood, and 45 wood artisans from across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Meant to share the history, beauty and natural story of the tree across multiple platforms, the exhibit includes sculpture, furniture, wall art and even a musical instrument.

Included in the ranks of artists

is Salt Spring's John Bateman, who also happens to chair the board of the Bateman Foundation. His interest in the upcoming exhibition covers both perspectives.

"I just think it's such a solid concept for a show," Bateman said. "As the son of Robert Bateman it's kind of exciting to have a piece in the gallery, but even more so to be in a show with so many excellent artists. Being in a peer group of

that calibre is really exciting, and maybe a bit humbling."

According to promotional material, the oneTree exhibit project "will promote the fascinating interrelationship between art and nature by celebrating the past, present and future of one particular big leaf maple tree by salvaging its wood, making functional art from it and recording the creative process."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

John Bateman

The tree from which all of the artwork was created rose from the Cowichan Valley for nearly a century. It needed to come down in October 2014 for health and safety reasons, prompting the innovative idea for the show.

Bateman said the fact that all the material came from a single source adds an unusual cohesion to the exhibit, despite the variety in uses.

"For me, just being able to walk around the show and see the similarities in the grain and match them up across pieces is really interesting and engaging," Bateman said, noting how visually important grain can be to an individual piece, never mind the patterns from one tree running through an entire exhibition.

His own contribution involves the deconstruction and reassembly of the tree form in a sculpture of wooden frames that rise up from the base to invoke the source tree's former grandeur. Salt Spring's Luke Hart-Weller also has a piece in the show.

Speaking as chair of the Robert Bateman Foundation, Bateman feels the exhibition is the sort of idea that should continue, both as an annual oneTree show and in other nature-inspired collections. OneTree is a milestone of sorts for the Bateman Centre, which opened in Victoria Harbour's historic Steamship Terminal in 2013. Shorter-term exhibits that have run alongside the Bateman collection of wildlife art have related to the artist and his family, most recently with the Rover Boys show.

"This is our first real foray into third-party work and it's something we want to do more of in the future to create a dynamic experience for people coming in to the centre," John Bateman said.

The Bateman Foundation is custodian of the largest and most representative body of Robert Bateman's work in the world. In addition to caring for the art works, the non-profit body exists to ensure Bateman's legacy as an artist, educator and environmentalist continues. Donations to the foundation go entirely toward keeping the centre open to the public and maintaining its collections, research, exhibits and programming. These are meant to encourage experiential learning, observation and dialogue, and inspire people of all ages to find their place in nature.

The show opens Saturday, Nov. 14 with some of the artists in attendance, and runs to Jan. 15, 2016.

More information on the Bateman Foundation, the Robert Bateman Centre and its programs is available at batemancentre.org.



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EXHIBITIONS

Grace Islet saga documented at show

Musical evening on Tuesday, Nov. 10

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The story of how a group of Salt Spring Island residents came out to support First Nations to protect a sacred burial ground on Grace Islet — and won — is something worth remembering.

With our busy lives, the events of a former year can sometimes feel like a lifetime ago, and the significance of even the most important moments can fade to present concerns. Stories of Grace Islet, an exhibition taking place at the library program room this month, is therefore a valuable community resource that catalogues relationship building between cultures and the surprising success of public spirit in the face of bureaucratic opposition.

The exhibition is both a way to show the artistic expression that was inspired by six months of protest action against construction of a private home on land where known burial cairns were located, and a documentation of how those events unfolded. With financial support from Protect Grace Islet and the Salt Spring Public Library, the show was diligently curated by two people at the heart of the action: Phil Vernon and Maureen Milburn.

Vernon's work in curatorial and interpretive design spans many years, from exhibits at the Gulf of Georgia National Historic Site in Steveston to exhibitions on Peacebuilding After Genocide in Rwanda. More recently he completed a series of panels for Mouat Park on the Japanese charcoal pit kilns built there early in the last century by the Tasaka family.

Milburn is a specialist in Northwest Coast art and ethnography. She has curated exhibits at Emily Carr University and the University of British Columbia, and provided catalog articles for the University Museum at the University of Pennsylvania and the Sackler Foundation.

The show includes photographs of Grace Islet by artists such as Michael Levy, Michael Wall and Tara Martin as well as both curators, and art works by Andrea Palframan and Clarity Denise Johnson. These larger images are surrounded by a large number of photographs of the action. Mainly shot by Gary McNutt, Christopher Roy and some other contributors, the images start with the June 2014 rally at Centennial Park on National Aboriginal Day and end with the Jan. 18,



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Stories of Grace Islet co-curator Phil Vernon with some images in the show.

2015 circumnavigation of the islet in celebration of the B.C. government's purchase.

For those who weren't there or who couldn't make all the events, the photos give an excellent visual of the action, and the emotion felt by those taking part. From colourful kayak convoys to dramatic scenes such as police confrontation and the posting of a stop work order, the sense of commitment and responsibility is clearly transmitted.

"There's a weightiness in the images," Vernon agreed. "That's what we were trying to do."

Some of the most moving images are those of the First Nations groups and individuals involved, representing elders and children. Vernon observes they almost uniformly have a serious expression on their faces, demonstrating the true significance of the struggle.

"They deal with this type of desecration all the time, and this was one time they said, 'We're going to try to win this one,'" Vernon said.

Many local community members joined the First Nations representatives from the region who came to protect the site. Some of their longer memories and stories have been collected in a scrapbook as well as additional photos of the construction site. Shorter passages have been printed on some of the photos for a nice added touch.

Vernon also created a map that shows who the local First Nations communities are and describes their traditional territories to help viewers gain a deeper under-

standing of the complex picture. There is even a video loop of footage that Bill Warriner shot and edited to really put viewers in the scene.

The centrepiece of the show requires no commentary, though, and is left to speak for itself. This is a custom-made photo banner that Vernon produced that fits into the program room's windows in six panels and seamlessly melds together some of the most moving images from the six-month period.

Something that visitors won't find occupies much wall space is the construction project itself. There is just one photo on display that takes the site as its main subject, and this thoroughly captures the ugliness of raw wood and plastic fencing pushed right up to the tiny islet's shoreline.

"We made a decision as curators not to put images of the actual desecration of the island on the walls," Vernon explained. "We were very aware that we've invited elders to come and speak in the room, and we thought about how we'd feel [if the situation were reversed]."

Those who are interested in how Grace Islet inspired other forms of expression should be sure to attend a special event taking place tonight (Tuesday, Nov. 10) at the library featuring music by Bill Henderson, Alan Moberg, Wesley Hardisty, Phil Vernon and others, and videos by Warriner and McNutt.

The exhibit can be viewed at the program room throughout November when it is not booked for other purposes.

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Salt Spring Community Theatre presents

Rumors
a farce by Neil Simon
Directed by Suzanna Laine

Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7 at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7 pm. Sunday matinee, November 8 at 2:00 pm. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday November 12, 13, and 14 at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7 pm.

Performances at Mahon Hall. Enter through the front door. Tickets are \$18, on sale at ArtSpring or at the door at Mahon Hall. Some coarse language.

BOOKS

Urban homesteading in focus

Ethical eating options explored in Nelson book

Michelle Catherine Nelson, author of The Urban Homesteading Cookbook, believes that no matter where you live, ethical eating is only a few steps away.

She will be on Salt Spring giving demonstrations and signing books at the Salt Spring Public Library at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12.

"In The Urban Homesteading Cookbook, Nelson shares the things she has learned about earthwise consumption from her family history of backyard food production, her Ph.D. in conservation biology and sustainable agriculture, and a whole lot of trial and error," explains a press release. "With over 80 recipes and gor-

geous photos by Alison Page, this book offers an alternative to industrialized agriculture and is sure to inspire people to consume in a way that is better for individual health, and for the animals and ecosystems that provide our food."

In addition to delectable recipes, The Urban Homesteading Cookbook contains information on preserving food, foraging in urban areas, keeping microlivestock (including rabbits, quail, honeybees and crickets) and growing both plants and freshwater seafood in small spaces. Nelson makes the back-to-the-land movement possible, regardless of where people live.

This free event is co-sponsored by the library, Island Natural Growers and Transition Salt Spring.

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what's on this week



Tues. Nov 10 **Wed. Nov 11** **Thur. Nov 12** **Sat. Nov 14** **Sun. Nov 15** **Wed. Nov 18** **Wed. Nov 18**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Dance Performance - Bouge De La: Bedtime!
Choreographer Helene Langevin explores four slices of life drawn from childhood where babies, children and adolescents transform their beds into a territory of multiple possibilities. For all ages four years and up. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Peace to the Spirits: Grace Islet in Song and Video.
With musicians Bill Henderson, Alan Moberg, Wesley Hardisty, Phil Vernon and others, and featuring the work of videographers Bill Warriner and Gary McNutt. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 22

ACTIVITIES

Remembrance Day Ceremonies.
Ceremony at Centennial Park and parade beginning from Ganges Post Office area at 10:45 a.m. (Parade musters at 10:30.) Open house at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 afterwards for all members of the public.

Marinoni: The Fire in the Frame.
Two screenings with filmmaker Tony Girardin in attendance, with Q&A to follow. Film follows Italian cycling champion Giuseppe Marinoni from his early life in Italy to his retirement outside of Montreal, building and selling high-end bicycles. The Fritz Movie Theatre. 3 and 7 p.m.
SongJam.
Special Remembrance Day event. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Probus Salt Spring Island.
Dr. Rennie Warburton talks on the many faces of racism and why it is so difficult to eradicate. Meaden Hall. 10 a.m. to noon.
Michelle Nelson Book Launch.
Bowen Island author reads from her new book, *The Urban Homesteading Cookbook: Forage, Farm, Ferment and Feast Your Way to a Better World.* Co-sponsored with Transition SS and Island Natural Growers. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 p.m.
Introduction to WordPress.
Two-hour hands-on session with Myles English about using WordPress. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 to 9 p.m.

Fri. Nov 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SS Community Theatre Presents Rumours.
See Thursday's listing.
Duck Creak.
Live music plus free appies made by Dagwoods at The Local bar. 5 to 8 p.m.
Ange Hehr.
Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SS Community Theatre Presents Rumours.
See Thursday's listing.
The Barley Bros.
Live music at The Local Pub. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Home and the Heart.
Viva Chorale! choir is excited to present their first concert with Caroni Young as their new musical director and Diana English as accompanist. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.
Swing Shift Presents Remember the Music.
Salt Spring's community big band along with Salt Spring's own Andrews Sisters and Bing Crosby will bring the music of 1939-1945 to life. Meaden Hall. 7:30 p.m.
Soul Shakedown.
Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

ArtSpring AGM.
POSTPONED to Nov. 27th.
Fabulous Flea Market.
A fundraiser for Fulford Hall, with delicious food available. Fulford Hall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Drop-in Pickleball.
Every Saturday at SS Elementary School gym from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Ecology of Grace Island + South SSI Restoration and Conservation.
Two presentations: The Ecology of Grace Islet with Tara Martin, and CENEINTEL (Helping Each Other): Restoration and Conservation on South Salt Spring with Belinda Claxton (Tsawout Elder) and Briony Penn. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 1 p.m.
Meat Draw.
Every Saturday at the Legion. 6 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Home and the Heart.
See Saturday's listing, except the concert start time is 2 p.m.
Sweet Water Revolver.
Live at the Salt Spring Inn. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Unitarian Fellowship.
Monthly singing service with Barb Slater: songs, chants and rounds to revive the spirit. SS Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m.
Rollerblading.
Every Sunday at Fulford Hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

Mon. Nov 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Arthur Rowe Piano Concert.
Canadian pianist and Steinway artist plays program that includes Schubert's Sonata in A Major, and Liszt's Benediction and Sonata in B minor. ArtSpring. Garry Oaks Winery tasting at 6:30 p.m. Show starts at 7:30.

ACTIVITIES

Drop-in Pickleball.
Every Monday at Fulford Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Women's Basketball.
Every Monday Monday's at SIMS gym. 5:30 to 7:10 p.m.
SSIFPD - All Candidates Meeting.
Candidates for fire board trustee will speak, with time afterward for questions. Lions Club. 7 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SSIFPD - Advance Poll.
Advance voting for three seats on the Salt Spring Fire Protection District's board of trustees. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 12 noon to 8 p.m.
SS Historical Society.
Celebrate 75 years of education with Salt Spring Elementary School. Former students and staff will meet with current students. Central Hall. 2 p.m.
The Business of Aging.
Free panel with guest speakers on all aspects of elder care. Lions Hall. 4:30 to 6 p.m.
Film Screening: This Changes Everything.
SS Film Festival screens Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything*. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SSI Grand(others) to Grandmothers Meeting.
Organizing the Christmas readings fundraiser. At the Sea Breeze Inn. 3 p.m. New members warmly welcomed. Info: Jo Ann, 250-931-6830.
SongJam.
A pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.
Drop-in Pickleball.
See last Wednesday's listing.
Poker Night at the Local.
See last Wednesday's listing.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR, EMAIL:

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Wed. Nov 11

ACTIVITIES

Breakfast at the Legion.
All welcome to by-donation breakfast in Meaden Hall for Remembrance Day. 8:30 to 10 a.m. Bus transportation to Centennial Park from the Legion begins at 10 a.m.

Thur. Nov 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SS Community Theatre Presents Rumours.
Local cast performs Neil Simon comedy. Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m.
Open Mic with Ross & Dave.
Every Thursday at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

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- **Marinoni: Fire in the Frame** — Retired Italian cycling champion Giuseppe Marinoni builds high-end bicycles, and trains as a cyclist, to beat the record for the most laps in one hour in the 75 and over age category. With a Q and A session with writer/director Tony Girardin. Wednesday, Nov. 11 only, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Advance tickets at Outspokin' Bike Shop.

EXHIBITIONS

- Wednesday, Nov. 11 is the last day to see **Pieces of Her Story**, an exhibit of artwork work by nine women who have completed the Centre for Loving Inquiry Year to Love creativity program plus contributions from program leader Ahava Shira. ArtSpring gallery. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Pravin Pillay's** show *Witness* run at the **Salt Spring Gallery** through Nov. 18.
- **Stories of Grace Islet:** A collection of images taken on and around Grace Islet in 2014 will be displayed in the **Salt Spring Public Library's program room** through November and is accessible whenever the program room is not in use.
- **Jen Holmes** shows photos at **Gulf Islands Picture Framing** until Nov. 13.
- Paintings by **Sandra Didrikson Locke** are shown at **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** in November. Gallery open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.-ish Thursdays through Sundays.
- **Ken Ketchum** and **Lloyd Nicholson** present a retrospective of their work in the lobby of **ArtSpring** through November.
- **Beulah Gordon** shows mixed-media and glass work at **Island Savings**.
- **Serendipity Studio** at 112 Robinson Rd. features **Margaret Threfall'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.s.

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people&community

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

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



FUNDRAISER

Giant Book Sale gets ready for ninth annual edition

Jewels for Literacy added to 2015 event at the Farmers' Institute

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring Literacy's Giant Book Sale is more than a critical fundraiser for the local non-profit organization.

It's a fun community event where people stock up on winter reading material, have animated discussions about favourite books and cool finds, and do some early Christmas shopping because so many of the books are in as-new condition.

The ninth annual sale runs as usual at the spacious Farmers' Institute building, with all three areas filled with an estimated 20,000 books neatly laid out in 40-plus categories. Sale volunteers keep the sale areas stocked and tidy throughout the three-day event from Friday, Nov. 20 through Sunday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Head sorter Jill McIvor, who once owned a bookstore in Edmonton, has once again ensured the included books are top-notch.

Among categories added to the mix this year is "Oldies and Oddities," making it easier for people to find unique treasures.

Also new for 2015 is the Jewels for Literacy sale, which will see pre-loved jewellery displayed and available for purchase. A separate committee looked after this new fundraiser and had lots of fun sorting, cleaning and pricing the jewels.

"There is something for everyone," promises Pat Campbell, the SSL board



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left, Giant Book Sale volunteers Jill McIvor and Ed Walkner at the sorting and storage space used for sale preparations by Salt Spring Literacy.

member who initiated the idea. "We have Haida silver earrings, Murano glass necklaces from Italy, seed pearl bracelets and lots of costume jewellery: bangles, chains, earrings and bracelets galore. Some items will be featured in a silent auction."

Salt Spring Literacy Society members also have access to a special Preview Event on Thursday, Nov. 19, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with literary guests C.C. Humphreys

(the emcee) and Ron Wright, wine, apps and the chance to peruse the books and purchase two favourites. Society memberships cost \$10 and can be acquired at the door.

Salt Spring Literacy provides free resources and tutoring services for adults and ESL learners, an elementary school reading program, various family literacy programs, a Friendly Readers service

for seniors, various workshops, drop-in computer help and operates the Elma Rubright Learning Centre on Hereford Avenue.

See www.saltspringliteracy.org for more information.



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AGRICULTURE

Abattoir marks three years with party

Fundraising event set for Nov. 14

To make a local abattoir work, it takes an island.

The Salt Spring Island abattoir is celebrating its third year with a birthday bash at the Farmers' Institute on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m.

When the B.C. government introduced meat regulations in September 2004 there were protests across the province as the new regulations were going to make it difficult for small-scale livestock farmers to stay in business, as livestock could no longer be slaughtered locally, only in a licensed facility.

This was the case on Salt Spring, where by 2009 Brian Brett, a member of the abattoir board, was writing in Trauma Farm that for each sheep he raised he lost \$25.

Enter the not-for-profit Salt Spring abattoir, part of a coordinated plan to

increase local food production, and developed with the help of a provincial government grant to assist adaptation to the new inspection regime. Built with volunteer time, grants and community funds, the abattoir is now celebrating its third year.

And as would be expected with any small business start-up, it has taken until this year for operations to break even and generate a small surplus. Plans for 2016 include an upgrade for processing beef and pork, which will make the abattoir even more viable financially.

The abattoir has been growing its business — the number of chickens processed has increased 56 per cent between 2014 and this year.

Having a local abattoir means a lot of things. Livestock can be slaughtered locally and humanely without having to go to Vancouver Island or beyond. The knock-on effect will be an increase

in the production of local livestock and less imported food, which is good for everyone as 40 per cent of Salt Spring climate change emissions are food related. All this proves that we can have an alternative model of food production to factory farms and build community at the same time.

"Join us to celebrate the work of our great staff, Salt Spring's livestock producers and the increasing demand for local food."

DAVID ASTILL
President,
SS Abattoir Society

"We are not only producing livestock to support local farming in a sustainable fashion but also

providing local employment," said David Astill, president of the Salt Spring Abattoir Society. "Join us to celebrate the work of our great staff, Salt Spring's livestock producers and the increasing demand for local food."

At the birthday bash local lamb and heritage turkey will be served along with local produce and Salt Spring wine, beer and cider. The emcee is Arthur Black and music will be provided by Duck Creek.

"There will also be the famous birthday bash silent auction where you can stock up on local produce, find a tradesperson to finish that job or treat yourself to something special," said Tony Beck of the SSI Agricultural Alliance.

Tickets for Saturday's event are available at Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply and Salt Spring Books or online at www.plantofarm.org.

Article submitted by the SS Abattoir Society.

MEET AUTHOR & CONSERVATION BIOLOGIST
MICHELLE CATHERINE NELSON

THURSDAY, NOV. 12TH, 4:00PM

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NOVEMBER 26TH, THURSDAY: Ladysmith Light Up
NOVEMBER 27TH, FRIDAY: Wintercraft at Mahon Hall
DECEMBER 2ND, WEDNESDAY: Music and Munch
DECEMBER 4TH, FRIDAY: Fulford Hall Craft Show

DECEMBER 5TH, SATURDAY: Beaver Point Hall Craft Show
DECEMBER 9TH, WEDNESDAY: Pub Day – Crow and Gate, Yellow Point Nanaimo
DECEMBER 16TH, WEDNESDAY: Butterfly World Victoria or Coombs –To be determined
DECEMBER 17TH, THURSDAY: Shopping in Sidney
DECEMBER 19TH, SATURDAY: Last Chance Community Christmas Craft Fair Artspring

Caregivers get support on dementia journey

Asking for help is never easy for most people. But for the increasing number of Salt Spring residents caring for a family member with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia, it's essential.

"You really can't support your family member by yourself," says Meriel Randerson, regional education & support coordinator for the non-profit Alzheimer Society of B.C. for Salt Spring and Greater Victoria.

The society makes it easier for caregivers who need help by running a free local support and information group. Participants meet monthly to share practical tips and strategies for living with dementia.

"They create support and friendship with others whose lives are affected by dementia," says Randerson.

Participants receive much-needed emotional support. "It's a safe environment where you can learn, laugh, and help each other through mutual understanding."

The group serves people who want current information that will help improve quality of life for themselves and their family member.

In addition to joining the support and information group, she says, caregivers can think about some of these strategies to take care of themselves too:

* Staying fit: Activity is key for physical and mental health. Walking or any other exercise helps. So does healthy eating.

* Making time for yourself: Take some time regularly for activities that you enjoy. You'll likely have to arrange for someone else to be with your family member, so plan ahead.

* Creating a sanctuary: Since the demands of caregiving sometimes make it difficult to leave your home, designate a room in the house as your quiet space. Spend a few minutes there each day, away from the demands of your life.

* Accepting help: This can be as difficult as asking for help. But it's important. Whenever family and friends offer you assistance, take them up on it.

For more information on the local group contact Marg Munro at 250-537-5004 or Meriel Randerson at 250-382-2052 or email mranderson@alzheimerbc.org.

More free resources are available at www.alzheimerbc.org.

Nearly 747,000 Canadians — including many on Salt Spring — are affected by dementia, and that number is forecast to double within the next 25 years.

All I want for Christmas

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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

No complaints made about error in devilish details

Bridge players take missteps in stride

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

On Oct. 26 our federal election was over and it's fair to say the five full tables of bridge players were happy about who won.

Probably not all five tables were equally happy about who won at bridge that evening, though. Nevertheless, Flo Laundry and Jeff Bell were undoubtedly most pleased about coming first past

the post, and Liz and Oleh Mycyn were highly satisfied in second place. Blanche Poborska and Terry Clement must have been gratified at their third place finish, while Gisela Welsh and Gillian Mouat weren't complaining about coming fourth. The rest would never consider themselves to be losers because they know they have

other chances at victory in future contests. Nov. 2 saw those chances messed with for everybody, though. The games were progressing merrily but then it appeared that there had been a mix-up when that devil in the details made an appearance. It seems someone mistook a 3 for a 5 on the Howell sheets and ended up

playing at a wrong table with the wrong hands. This caused none of the results to be valid, so there were no winners or losers. Maybe all were really winners, though, because bridge continued but with a more relaxed and happy-go-lucky attitude than usual, when none of it mattered a whit.

NATURE

Natural history of 'us' explored

A primate primer

BY BOB WEEDEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Natural history tells us how a plant or animal gets along in the world. We get along, too, mostly. What's our story?

The human tale involves two big themes. Though they happen simultaneously, and affect each other, I have to tell them in sequence. Here I talk about people as animals: body and brain and 250,000 years of history. Next month, our amazing culture, long overshadowed by biological evolution but now 8,000 years into full flower.

Our bodies are mammalian. We have hair and mothers produce milk to keep babies healthy. A few other mammals walk on their hind legs, but we are by far the best two-leggeds. Our variously shaped teeth can shear, tear, or grind just about anything we can fit in our mouth, which pretty well describes our diet.

That's all simple stuff, but when you chase down some of the consequences of the obvious facts, it gets interesting. Take walking on two legs, for instance. When we are in shape we're excellent walkers and distance runners. But to get the best angle between pelvis and legs for walking the opening where newborns say howdy had to be narrowed. That means giving birth to small babies, which forces us to take care of them for years until they reach independence. Long parental care involves more than mom, who often begins another pregnancy before an earlier child is toddling. Or mom might have an accident so someone else — wet nurse, dad, or any other willing adult — has to help rear the precious child. That's a big reason why we are such social creatures.

There is always tension between group and indi-



Conservation In Action
NATURE'S CALENDAR

vidual welfare, some of which is inevitable in a biological sense, some of it magnified or lessened by upbringing. How do we keep social bonds strong, day-by-day? Other big primates we are distantly related to, the chimpanzees, bonobos and gorillas, do it by touching often. Watch chimpanzees in a spacious enclosure. They aren't often more than an arm's reach from each other, and while they are close there's lots of fingering, hugging, and grooming. Don't let anybody tell you they are just looking for lice to eat (yum!). That's just incidental. Among social animals warm body contact feels good and makes for close communities.

However, grooming takes time, and the bigger the group the more time each member has to spend grooming others. Available time affects maximum group size, which in chimps is about 50 to 55 individuals. After that, grooming cuts into hunting and other vital activities. Among humans, talking is a short cut to social bonding, but chimpanzees, who get simple messages across with squeals and chatter, don't have the brain capacity for language.

Scientists, projecting the relation between neocortex size and group size in chimps, compared to our own neocortex mass, guessed that with a bit of touching and a good deal of talking, a person might keep reasonably strong relations with as many as 150 other folks. This, it turns out, is about the maximum size of communities of hunter/

gatherers both modern and prehistorical, except when abundant and dependable food supplies allowed bigger communities (500 to 1000). In the big villages, class or caste subdivisions effectively bring group size down to about 100 to 150 people.

Curiously, 150 is about the number of people city residents call friends or acquaintances. It is also the size of a military company, the smallest self-sufficient military unit. And guess how many friends most Facebook members keep up? Yup!

Take a minute to watch people walk through shopping malls or on community sidewalks. We shake hands a lot and hug sometimes, but most of our grooming is with gestures and words. "Hi! How are you?" (We are surprised and not always pleased if our buddy actually stops to tell us.) "Have a nice day." Or simply, "Hello!" These are ways to acknowledge community membership.

Bigger groups can be a problem. Did you notice how political candidates move through a crowd on the way to an airplane or stage? Their handlers coached them: "You've got 20 seconds. You should touch ten people, smile at 20 others, and wave to both sides of the crowd twice in that time." On the stage they have only smile and words — lots of words — to groom live audiences of hundreds and virtual audiences of millions. Biology meets technology!

All that, just from standing on your two hind feet? But that isn't all. The two limbs left dangling didn't stay idle long, but slowly became sure-handed and flexible over the millennia. Our famous opposable thumbs and the nearby digits now seem to be capable of about anything we can imagine. That's the story of our culture, coming soon to a newspaper column near you.

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CULTURE

Onigiri's perfect for potlucks and as 'comfort food'



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE BARSZCZ

From left, Aiden, Mike, Keegan and Rie Papp, who moved to Salt Spring Island in 2010. The family had owned and operated a restaurant in Georgetown, Ont.

You'd be surprised by how many different nationalities live on Salt Spring Island — and each one of them has their own comfort food. Marcia Jansen's Comfort Food column and a recipe will be seen in Aqua magazine beginning with our issue published this week. Here's a taste of what's to come.

BY MARCIA JANSEN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's been 20 years since Rie Papp left Japan. After all these years of being away from her home country and family, she doesn't feel homesick anymore.

"Only when the New Year comes I wish I was with my family in Fukuyama, where I grew up. We don't celebrate Christmas in Japan, but New Year is a big thing. Even on Salt Spring Island I go full on Japanese at the end of the year. Women in Japan still live in the kitchen. They cook for two days and then they're supposed to rest for three days. And that's how I do it as well."

Rie (pronounced Ree-ay or Lee-ay), who lives with her husband Mike and their sons Aiden and Keegan in the south end, left Japan when she was 20 years old.

"My mom had an English antique shop and once a year she went on a shopping trip to England to buy antiques. But it was always a struggle for her because she didn't speak English. When I was 17, she asked me to come with her. My English wasn't great either, so I decided that I wanted to come back to London and learn the language."

Her mother agreed that she could go for a year.

"I studied English for one year, but after that I didn't want to go back to Japan. I talked to my mom and she agreed that I could go to 'finishing school.' I liked cooking, so it seemed a good choice to me. I learned all types of things there, from how to make flower arrangements to cook traditional British food. So I sure know how to make a pie."

Afterwards, Rie wanted to take her cooking skills to a higher level and got accepted to Le Cordon Bleu Culinary School. That's where she met her future husband Mike, who attended Le Cordon Bleu in Ottawa and followed some classes in London.

The couple worked in restaurants in London, until Rie — who didn't have a work permit — had enough of her underpaid job and went back to Japan. Rie and Mike kept in touch by phone and by writing old-fashioned letters. When Mike finally went back to Canada, Rie joined him. They married in 1997 and opened their own restaurant in Georgetown, Ont.: the Simple Blue Bistro.

"It was an international fusion restaurant, with French and Asian influences. Mike did the cooking and I did everything else like bookkeeping and acquisition. We were open six days a week and it was hard work, especially when our sons were born. We got help from my mother-in-law, but in the end it was too much and we decided to sell the restaurant."

Rie and Mike went looking for a more relaxed environment to raise their sons and ended up on the West Coast.

"We looked for property on Vancouver Island and then we heard about Salt Spring Island. We came over, found a great place, but we couldn't sell our restaurant in time. So we decided to rent out the restaurant and the home we were living in, and went to Japan to live off our rental incomes."

They came to Salt Spring in 2010, where Mike built their house.

"This is our forever home. We love it here. Life is slower, more back to basics. We have a big garden with chickens, sheep and lots of vegetables. I still love to cook, but not for a living anymore. Although Mike and I have plans to get back at it, but in a different way."

At home Rie likes to cook Japanese food.

"For potlucks I always make a large stack of Onigiri, Japanese rice balls. They are easy to make and go well in lunch boxes. Sushi is my favourite comfort food. But when I make it, it never tastes the way it did at home. I lived in Hiroshima prefecture in a region called Setouchi, and every region has its own twists. In Hiroshima we use small fish like anchovy, sea eel and sea bream for sushi and other dishes. And I love Mochi soup, a traditional New Year's dish. It brings back good memories."

Rie's Onigiri (Japanese rice balls)



Ingredients

2 ½ c. uncooked sushi rice
½ tsp. vegetable oil (sunflower or olive oil)
1 ½ tsp. salt
4 nori sheets (optional)
Pecan nuts, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds (or any other kind of nuts and seeds you like).

Method

Cook the rice, mix with the oil, salt and seeds and mold into balls or triangular shape. Cover with nori sheets (dried seaweed). Eat the same day and don't put them in the fridge, because that will make the rice hard.

Marcia Jansen is a Dutch journalist who has lived on Salt Spring Island since 2012.

Capital Regional District

CRD

Notice of Committee of the Whole – 2016 Budget Review

A meeting of the Capital Regional District Committee of the Whole including budget discussion for 2016 is scheduled for:

November 18, 2015 at 1:30 PM

Will be held at: Capital Regional District Offices Board Room – 6th Floor

Located at: 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

POD Activities

- ✓ Neighbourhood Parties ✓ Disaster Movie Nights
- ✓ Invasive special removal work parties
- ✓ Workshops on Preparedness and Disaster First Aid
- ✓ POD-ween (dress up as your favourite disaster movie character or favourite first responder)
- ✓ POD-ings (POD leader crowns one of the Neighbourhood Leaders as Leader of the Year for their contribution)

These are many of the different ways that you as a POD Leader could connect with the Neighbourhood Leaders in your area or you as a Neighbourhood Leader could connect with the residents in your neighbourhood.

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.



Driftwood
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CLIMATE CHANGE

Fest brings in Naomi Klein film

Ideas change with the climate in new documentary

BY ROBERT MCTAVISH
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The overwhelming confusion and gloom surrounding the issues around global warming can cause even the best-intentioned among us to despair or look away. Yet as the oceans and pollution continue to rise, Canadian Naomi Klein optimistically wades into the fray. Her wide-ranging documentary journey now comes to ArtSpring, and her vision frames a new perspective: "What if the real problem is a story we've been telling ourselves for 400 years?"

The flawed story she refers to is the one that says humans are in control of nature, and thus can do what we please in service of short-sighted economic ends. And Klein should know. The award-winning author of No Logo and The Shock Doctrine has taken capitalism

smartly to task before, and now with director/partner Avi Lewis she has adapted her acclaimed 2014 book This Changes Everything – Capitalism vs. the Climate into a gorgeous and unsettling film. The result is an epic documentary that turns what seems to be the accepted logic on its head and tries to identify just what is to be done.

It's no small change Klein is after. Over four years and five continents, This Changes Everything charts individuals and communities on the brink of questionable economic boom and simultaneous ecological disaster. Alberta's tar sands headline this world tour of looming apocalypse as Klein examines several vital locales under siege to climate crisis, economic austerity measures, population displacement and the outright destruction of invaluable ecosystems.

Yet it is in the intimate stories of the struggles of the people involved that the film holds its focus: a young Beaver Lake Cree woman seeks answers to toxic questions in Alberta, a Montana

ranching couple up to their knees in spilled pipeline oil, a Greek housewife turned activist battles a mighty gold mining firm, a matriarch in India defends the wetlands against the imposition of a coal-fired power plant. Klein's narrative is clear and clever, but the big picture connections between the peoples and the issues shine through their circumstances.

This, of course, is what the filmmaker is after — to be useful — and the documentary is in many ways a call to action as Klein asks "what if global warming is not a crisis, but the best chance we will ever get to build a better world?" An experience guaranteed to provoke conversation, This Changes Everything invites viewers to stay positive, look deeper, and just maybe change the story. Everything is riding on it.

This Changes Everything will be screened by the Salt Spring Film Festival at ArtSpring on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available now from the ArtSpring ticket centre.

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CECIL O. D. BRANSON Q.C.
April 18, 1935 - October 22, 2015

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Cecil after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. He is survived by his loving wife, June, son Dennis, daughter Leslie, three grandsons, one granddaughter, two great grandchildren. Also missing him is his constant canine companion "Connie."
Cecil was born in Victoria. Educated at University School, Victoria College, and in 1962 received his law degree at UBC. He was called to the bar at the Victoria Courthouse in 1963. He practised as a well-known and respected barrister for most of his working life, first with Sullivan, Smith & Bigelow, then with Jones, Branson Emery and Carfra. In 1977 the lure of the Vancouver legal scene took him to that city, and he joined Edwards Kenny and Bray as senior litigating partner. Cecil thrived practising law, and over the years in addition to his busy practice he lectured at three BC universities. He was a legal scholar whose home library was extensive. In 1984 he received his QC. An interest and knowledge in the growing field of arbitration led to a position as Executive Director of the B C International Arbitration Centre. In 1995 Cecil decided to move his office to a cottage on the grounds of his Salt Spring residence and arbitrate cases. He then travelled widely arbitrating international commercial cases and using the internet to adjudicate domain name disputes and other issues relating to intellectual property.
As an elected Bencher of the Law Society of BC, Cecil served on numerous committees and was appointed a Life Bencher. As an international arbitrator he served on working committees for UNCITRAL and NAFTA both dealing with drafting regulation with regard to international trade laws.
As a talented athlete, Cecil's busy life was balanced on another court. On the tennis court his competitive nature flourished. Cecil was a long time member of the Salt Spring Tennis Association where he and his wife, June, made many friends.
Cecil wished to be cremated. There will be no funeral. A family gathering will be held at a later date for a celebration of Cecil's life.
The family wish to thank the staff of Lady Minto Hospital, especially those in the Palliative Care Suite, the Hospice volunteers, and Dr. J. White. The care and compassion that Cecil and the family received was greatly appreciated.

In Appreciation
Brian & Aaron Little in East Timor working with Homes of Hope. They would like to thank Slegg Lumber on Salt Spring Island who helped by donating tools for this house building project. The village is called Bahareduk. Homes of Hope is a not-for-profit ministry that Aaron leads that helps provide shelter for those in need.

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WALTER GEORGE (WALLY) STAMBUCK
1930 - 2015

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His voice, his humor, his vibrant adventuresome spirit.....all will be greatly missed. Wally left us on Nov. 7th after facing the challenges of cancer for some time. He hardly ever complained and never lost hope for better days.
We wish to acknowledge a tremendous debt to Lady Minto Hospital; to the Doctors and to each and every wonderful nurse. We are incredibly grateful.
We will celebrate a life well-lived and invite family and friends to join us in the Crofton Room of the Harbour House Hotel on Saturday November 14th, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.
In memory of Wally, any donations to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation would be gratefully received.

AGM Special Olympics
Salt Spring Island
6:30 P.M. at Choices
November 24, 2015

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Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District By-election All Candidates Meeting
November 16, 2015, 7:00pm
Hart Bradley Hall, Salt Spring Island Lions Club
A public meeting with the candidates nominated to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District has been scheduled for November 16, 2015 at Hart Bradley Hall, Salt Spring Island Lions Club, beginning at 7:00pm. The candidates for election will speak briefly with the remainder of the meeting being given over to members of the public who will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.
For more information visit our website: www.saltspringfire.com
Board of Trustees
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FULL TIME JOURNALIST/PHOTOGRAPHER The Gazette, Lake Cowichan, BC

The Lake Cowichan Gazette, a Black Press weekly publication in beautiful Lake Cowichan, B.C. is seeking an exceptional, full-time journalist/photographer to join our editorial team.

We are seeking a candidate who will find and capture compelling stories and features and who will thrive in a deadline-driven environment to produce stories for our newspaper and online products. The successful candidate will be able to work independently to write stories, take photos and assist with online and social media responsibilities.

- Qualifications:**
- Experience with InDesign an asset;
 - Superior writing skills;
 - Ability to write on a variety of topics, including local government, arts and sports;
 - Proficiency in photography;
 - Experience in posting content to the Internet;
 - Ability to adapt to emerging trends in multimedia reporting, including social networking.

Applicants must own a reliable vehicle and have their own camera. This position will require the applicant to work some evenings and weekends. All applicants please send resume and cover letter to:

Andrea Rondeau Editor The Cowichan Valley Citizen 251 Jubilee Street, Duncan, BC V9L 1W8 Email: andrea.rondeau@cowichanvalleycitizen.com

Deadline for resumes: Friday, November 20, 2015.

Only those selected for interview will receive a response.



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

This Week's Horoscope

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) That plunge you took into the deep end a couple of weeks ago still has you immersed. Whether you describe it as a soul searching process or simply a deep investigation, it is hardly a superficial time. Your love life may be your main focus and deciphering how to create harmony there is central. As ever, the real change begins with your own attitude and interpretations. **Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21)** One way or another you are being pushed to do the work. This includes getting past your own needs and desires and recognizing those of others. Engaging in deep dialogue will prove satisfying. In fact, nothing else will suffice. You have entered a cycle of deep change. Trust that and focus to understand it better. Beyond all reason and even the glories of free will, cooperation is the way. **Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)** You are in pursuit of real answers. Among them is the realization that the so-called "truth", like beauty, usually lies in the eyes or perceptions of the beholder. We do not see reality so much as 'it is' but as we are. Perception is everything and yours is the sign of perception. So, who are you and why do you see things the way you do? This is a golden road to truth.

by Michael O'Connor 1.250.352.2936 www.sunstarastrology.com sunstarastrology@gmail.com READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) A clear and sharp focus upon the creative possibilities is the twist in your story right now. Supported by philosophical considerations, you want to produce works of beauty. These are especially directed to the home front. Beyond interior decoration and even renovation projects, your focus may include cultivating harmonious and beautiful relationship patterns. **Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23)** Your spidey senses are tingling. You can see in and through matters more clearly than usual. Hopefully some of these are your own life requirements. This deep-probe-process comes amidst an otherwise busy schedule traveling in mind at least and probably in body as well. Financial considerations are also a factor and the time has come to implement long-term changes. **Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)** You have arrived at an important juncture in your life. It is requiring a process of deep analysis. As well, it includes the need and prospect of facing your fears in order to lay claim to new levels of personal power, skills and abilities. This theme has actually been brewing all year and now it is in full force. The power of now as your visionary mind probes the unknown. **Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)** A fresh and steady flow of financial activity should be keeping you busy now and hopefully inspired as well. Learning and applying new skills and work opportunities is implied. This is the beginning of an important learning curve. Having faith in the process includes recognizing that what you are doing right now may just be a phase. However, it could also open new doors yet. **Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21)** Balancing between taking new strides and initiatives with working behind the scenes continues. More than anything you are on a roll with exciting visions of possibility. At worst, you feel a bit intimidated by their scope and magnitude. Yet, they represent rewards for prior efforts so embrace them with confidence. If investments are required, take a serious look at how to best make them. **Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21)** Stimulating new connections in both your personal and professional life in the spotlight. Also woven into the plot are unique strategies and approaches that have come to you as if by magic. These are compelling you to investigate further. Along the way you are being introduced to new philosophies that you may have not quite considered or taken seriously before. **Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19)** Rubbing elbows with people of power and influence is a current theme. Gaining exposure and, more importantly, access to key players with unique and accomplished talents is featured. Yet, you also want to obtain new skills and/or cultivate latent talents yourself. As you focus to weave your own abilities and successes with those of other the results will be exponential. **Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19)** It is your turn to enjoy the spotlight. Others are seeing you for the beauty and power that you possess. Excited by the attention, you feel determined to make the most of it. This is an important time of returns for you so be open to receive. You may even be approached with some provocative propositions that you will be challenged to resist. Say yes and trust the flow. **Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)** Seeing a bigger and perhaps deeper picture too of your life is underway. Inner shifts and itches are leading you to at least reconsider everything. More than inspired and excited, you may literally feel turned on by the prospects. How far you will let this go is up to you and the deeper reaches of your destiny. Take a philosophical approach and measure twice before you make any final cuts.

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



YOUTH SOCCER

Local girls net soccer honour

High-level players show high commitment

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Vancouver Whitecaps' management team would be well advised to keep their eye on a trio of Salt Spring girls if they harbour any hopes of ever making a serious playoff run in years to come.

The Vancouver Island Soccer League honoured three aspiring Salt Spring soccer stars earlier this month as Footballers of the Week. Taylor Akerman, Maya Boucher and Lizzy Woodley received the prize because of their integral contribution to the Vancouver Island Wave U13 girls squad, according to information on the Vancouver Island Soccer League's website.

"Taylor, Maya and Lizzy were trained by the Salt Spring United Soccer Club where they impressed



From left, Taylor Akerman, Maya Boucher and Lizzy Woodley, Footballers of the Week in the Vancouver Island Soccer League.

many coaches with their skills and ongoing desire to improve on the soccer field," reads a statement that accompanied the announcement in visl.org. "Vancouver Island Wave coach Steph Steiner is impressed with not only their soccer talent but their dedication to the sport since all three players consistently commute from Salt Spring Island."

The girls are among at least 12 islanders who play elite-level youth soccer with teams on Vancouver Island. Because they don't train and compete with Salt Spring United, the accomplishments of these youths often go unno-

ted among many parents, peers and soccer watchers on the island. Akerman, Boucher and Woodley travel to Vancouver Island at least three times a week to train and compete in Victoria.

"They are great role models on a team that is going places."

VISL WEBSITE

"They are great role models on a team that is going places," reads the information on visl.org.

On Nov. 1, the girls helped their team oust

Fraser Valley 2-1 to clinch a playoff spot, though the Wave came up short in a 1-0 loss to Fraser Valley Premier on Sunday.

The B.C. Soccer Premier League is the recognized path for players to be identified for B.C. Soccer's High Performance Program, Canadian universities, U.S. colleges and professional play with the Vancouver Whitecaps FC organization.

For more information about the Vancouver Island Wave, contact program head coach Andrew Latham or follow the team's progress at www.bcsoccer-premierleague.net.

The Footballer of the Week honour is the product of an effort between the Vancouver Island Soccer League, the Lower Island Women's Soccer Association and the LISA youth league. The program strives to recognize remarkable achievers in the soccer community of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

STAYING STRONG:

From top, Salt Spring United Over30A-division players (in white) LeeAnn Norgard and Sue-Anne Connolly battle for the ball in a 3-0 victory over Prospect Lake on Sunday. The team's next match is at Portlock Park on Nov. 15 at 12:30 p.m. against top-seeded Castaways United.

expert ADVICE

250-537-9933 OR SALES@GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM
TO BE A PART OF THIS POPULAR FEATURE!

Real Estate

Moving Checklists

BUYERS: Before removing all subject conditions measure your new home as required, for draperies, carpeting & future furniture arrangement as you will likely not be inside the house before moving day.

INSURANCE: Be sure to inform your insurance agent of the dates, especially if the house is vacant, to ensure valid coverage & arrange to have the house checked as per requirements of insurance policy.

UTILITIES: Arrange electricity, cablevision, water, sewer & private garbage collection as applicable. It is advisable to book phone/internet WELL AHEAD of moving day to avoid delays.

BANKING: It is handy to set up affiliation or transfer accounts BEFORE moving in order to arrange direct debit for mortgage & utility payments.

SELLERS: If necessary, book professional carpet & house cleaners in advance as time evaporates as the moving van rolls up! Phone me for an excellent cleaner!

Plan ahead, minimize stress & be kind to your self!

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2014 (VREB)
Call for a presentation & marketing consultation.

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JAN
MACPHERSON

Fitness Expert

Nutrition Tips

Everyone knows you need to eat right to stay healthy and fit. In order to stay active your body needs glucose. Glucose is the fuel your body needs at the beginning of exercise. Even after you have been exercising for a while and your muscles are getting energy from fat, glucose is still important. It is the gasoline for your body to keep your gas tank full. You get glucose from carbohydrates. A well balanced diet of fruit-vegetables, pasta, rice, bread and cereal.

You need water to keep the nutrients circulating in your body and to clear out the waste. You sweat off water when you exercise (even if you exercise in the water) so you need to replace it. Drink water!

Three to four hours before exercising you can eat a regular meal as you will have enough time to digest it. Lean meat, pasta or bread, plus vegetables and water, milk or juice.

Just before exercising have something light. Easy to digest ideas: Fruit and yogurt, string cheese and crackers, muffin or nuts. Drink water so you stay well hydrated.

If your legs cramp while exercising drink more water before, during and after.

After exercise keep drinking water and make sure to eat carbohydrates to keep your gas tank full.

So pay attention to how you are feeling during your workout. Try keeping a journal to track how your body reacts to what you eat before and after a workout.



BRENDA
AKERMAN

Mechanic

Are you really ready for the coming season?

With shorter days and cold wet weather your vehicle's battery and charging system are working hard to keep up with increased demands from your lights, wipers, heater fan and rear defogger. Have your belts, battery and charging system tested before they leave you stranded some cold wet night. Antifreeze, hoses and heater systems are critical to keep your windshield clear for safe visibility.

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.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Salt Spring Island has the second highest rate of homelessness in the province according to the last count in 2009.

Help to Make Sure that Everyone Has a Place

IN FROM THE COLD

Monthly donations are an easy way to contribute towards housing the homeless. \$55 per month is enough to open the shelter for a night this winter.

There are many ways to give

Find out more

saltspringcommunityservices.ca/get-involved

Contribute as a holiday present for someone and we'll send them your message on our gift card.

Donations gratefully received at
Salt Spring Island Community Services
268 Fulford-Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, V8K 2K6

a program of
SALT SPRING ISLAND
COMMUNITY SERVICES

SQUASH

SSI Squash hits high gear

Generous donor sweetens the deal

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A \$10,000 pledge to Salt Spring Squash has put a bounce in the club's fundraising efforts to pay for an indoor island facility.

"So far, there's been nothing to give us a sign that this will be derailed," said Markus Wenzel, the club's president.

The generous donor has announced plans to match all donations from the public totalling \$10,000. Tax receipts are available.

"We just have to find matching funds," he said. "On Salt Spring, that's usually a good precursor."

The club is about half way toward the \$150,000 needed to build the new court beside the indoor tennis facility at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club.

The current design features a single-court building with room for expansion that may include an additional court at some point down the line. The structure will also comprise a viewing area and a shower/washroom area.

The club is collecting funds through the sale of club memberships, donation requests and grant applications. Wenzel said 50 memberships have been already sold at \$100 each.

Donations are also steadily coming in from the Thrifty Foods Smile Card and Country Grocer Save-a-Tape programs. "Every little bit helps," Wenzel said.

He said the club has also secured at least \$30,000 in low-interest loans.

With a rezoning process underway with the Islands Trust, Wenzel suspects groundbreak-

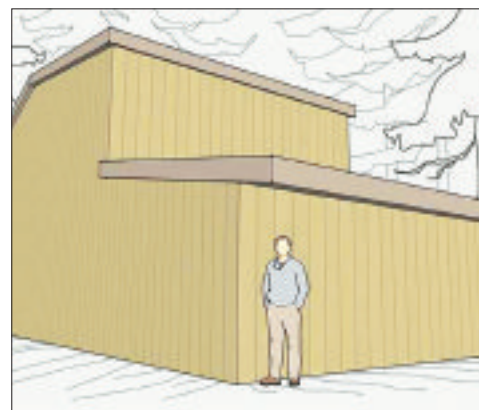


PHOTO SSI SQUASH CLUB

An artistic rendering of the design and location of a proposed new indoor squash court at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club. Fundraising for the facility is underway at www.saltspringsquash.ca.

ing could occur by the spring of 2016. He said the building could be open before the end of next year.

"We just have to find matching funds."

MARKUS WENZEL
President, Salt Spring Squash Club

"It's still going to be some months away for the final agreement," he said during an interview last week.

The courts will be open to the public on a pay-

per-use basis through an online booking system similar to the one used at the indoor tennis courts. Youth involvement will be encouraged.

Wenzel hopes for the day when students at Gulf Islands Secondary School are able to put together a team to compete against high school clubs on Vancouver Island.

"That would be kind of neat," he said.

Donations to the project can be made in person, by mail or online.

Further details are available at www.saltspringsquash.ca or by calling Wenzel at 250-653-9799.

YOUTH TENNIS

Free tennis workshop for kids

Reserve spot for Centre Court event on Nov. 21

Salt Spring kids aged six to 12 are invited to a free Sports Day in Canada tennis program next week.

Kids of all levels, including absolute beginners, are welcome to Centre Court (on the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club property) on Saturday,

Nov. 21 between 2 and 4 p.m., where coaches will be on hand to teach the fundamentals of tennis.

Juniors who already play tennis are welcome to attend and can either help others learn to rally or play half-court matches with other similar-skilled juniors.

People should email baselinetenis@telus.net to reserve their spot, since space is limited.