

Strangers Among Us

First in a series on human-animal conflicts
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Green up!
Stories with an ecological focus
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THE GREEN EDITION

GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 55TH YEAR — ISSUE 46 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

THEY REMEMBER: Saluting during the Remembrance Day ceremony are, from left, Nils Christensen, Betty Ball and Terry Byron. See Page 5 for more photos from Nov. 11, as well as the Driftwood's Facebook page.

FIRE DISTRICT

Money tops candidate concerns at fire meeting

Nominees outline thoughts at all-candidates session

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The feeling that "out of control" spending is the major concern that needs to be addressed by the Salt Spring Fire Protection District was the dominant theme at an all-candidates meeting held at Lions Hall Monday night in advance of a by-election for three seats on the district's board of trustees. Members of the public who attended the packed hall and nominees alike focused on ratepayer fatigue and speculated on what could be done to address it, from axing first responder service to finding a way to end the firefighters' union contract and go back to a solely paid-on call format.

Eight of the nine candidates were able to attend the meeting, with Howard Baker, Jim McClean and Doug Rajala standing for the remainder of a term that expires in April 2016. Another candidate for the seat, Howard Holzapfel, was unable to attend due to a previously scheduled medical appointment. In addition, Michael Craig, Fiona Foster, MaryLynn Hetherington, Andy Hildebrand and A. Ross Van Winckel presented their pitches for two seats that have terms ending in 2017.

Hildebrand, who moved to Salt Spring a year ago and has served on two fire district committees for the past three months, summed up what he saw as a divide in the community between people whose lives have been saved by the fire department and therefore want everything to stay the same, and those who don't.

FIRE ELECTION continued on 6

EQUESTRIAN COMMUNITY

Horse evictions strand owners

Decision prompts call for equestrian park

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Twenty-two horses face an uncertain future following a decision to close the Blue Horse Equestrian Centre.

Horse owners learned of the announcement in an email from property owner Alan Bloch on Oct. 29, according to Damian Inwood.

Inwood, who owns a horse at the facility, said he and other equestrians have until

Dec. 31 to move their animals from the indoor barns at the North End Road property. Owners of 12 horses housed in the outdoor "shed row" area have until February to relocate.

"It's a huge loss to our community," said Jacky Cooper, who coaches at the barn complex. "It's also very sad. I've been phoning people trying to find places to put the horses."

Winter is an especially bad time to move

horses, and finding private owners who will board them is a struggle, Cooper added.

"We're looking for help from other horse people on Salt Spring," she said.

Although it may be the only recourse available to horse owners, Cooper said she fears separating the animals will destroy the island's small, supportive horse community.

HORSES continued on 7

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PARC

SSPLASH defends pool plans

PARC suspends Sunday markets

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Pool Association supports the Parks and Recreation Commission's plan to build a multipurpose room at the Rainbow Road Pool.

"Sometimes there are times and circumstances when you've just got to go for it, and this is one of those moments," said Darlene Steele, speaking on behalf of SSPLASH, at Monday evening's monthly PARC meeting. "It's the right time for the pool, and it's the right time for the community because it will keep the pool vibrant."

Steele told commissioners the time has come to upgrade the pool to the next level. She said the building's popularity has created a lack of space that's forced users to hold birthday parties, first aid courses and other meetings in the crowded lobby area.

"There comes a time when you have to spend a little to get a little," she told commissioners.

SSPLASH is a nonprofit society originally established to raise

money for an indoor pool, and which now supports further expansion of the Rainbow Road Pool.

Steele attended Monday's PARC meeting to express support for the commission's decision to move ahead with the multipurpose room concept. PARC members voted in favour of the \$255,000 addition to the Rainbow Road Pool at their October meeting. Salt Spring Capital Regional District director Wayne McIntyre cast the only vote against the proposal, arguing that he needs more time to consider the plan. Funding for the project is contingent on budget approval from the CRD Board in Victoria.

The plan's proponents say multipurpose room rentals will generate more money for PARC operations.

"This could be a potential revenue generator," Steele added. "Every birthday party makes money."

SSPLASH has agreed to contribute \$25,000 to the project, though Steele suggested a larger contribution to "sweeten the pot" may be forthcoming.

Commissioner Brian Webster questioned why director McIntyre remained apprehensive about the plan since the project will be paid

for with money from PARC's reserve fund.

"I too understand that there are many priorities that have to be weighed, but when we're talking about a reserve that has a specific purpose it seems we can leave it in the reserve or spend the money on other things that are within the realm of what's eligible in Parks and Recreation," he said.

PARC's reserve fund contains approximately \$380,000.

McIntyre said he will examine the multipurpose room proposal against a long list of demands from Salt Spring's various CRD services.

"It all comes from the taxpayers," he said.

Sunday markets quashed

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission has reluctantly voted to suspend Sunday market days on summer long weekends in Centennial Park following two years of lacklustre attendance and dismal revenue.

"I'm disappointed, I really am," said commissioner Garth Hendren. "This is a piece of my community that I think is quite cool. It's a bustling market so it's too bad that, for whatever reason, the perception is that [Sunday market days] are not worth repeating."

PARC manager Dan Ovington said vendors were discouraged about participating in the Sunday market because of poor sales.

"And when you don't have the vendors, you don't have the traffic," he told commissioners. "Even after a lot of marketing dollars, we still didn't see the pick up."

A survey completed by market vendors at the close of this year's season showed 64 per cent of respondents did not plan to participate in next year's Sunday market.

"It's too bad, but if the majority doesn't want it, we shouldn't push it," said commissioner Kees Ruurs.

PARC reaps cash windfall

The Parks and Recreation Commission will receive \$200,000 thanks to a cash-in-lieu contribution from a subdivision at Maracaibo Lane.

CRD bylaws require developers who subdivide land to provide a parkland contribution or the cash equivalent to five per cent of the subject property's assessed value.

The funds will be added to PARC's land acquisition fund.

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 Monday, NOV. 23, Meaden Hall, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

HEALTH

Cancer patient crowdfunds naturopathic alternatives

Treatments cost roughly \$4,000 per month

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When doctors diagnosed Kecia Laitinen with Hodgkin's lymphoma in January, they told her chemotherapy and radiation therapy were her only chance for survival.

"They told her to do this or you will die," recounted her mother, Salt Spring's Kathy Kendall during a recent interview.

Survival rates for patients diagnosed with Stage 2 Hodgkin's lymphoma have a 90 per cent survival rate under traditional treatment methods, according to the U.S.-based National Cancer Institute. Radiation treatment is highly effective but, the organization adds, exposes patients to side effects that include a higher likelihood of fertility problems and secondary cancers.

Faced with the unappealing prospect of radiation therapy, Laitinen undertook some research of her own. She feared the consequences of conventional treatment and was encouraged when she discovered another option.

"It makes people really sick," Ken-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Former Salt Springer Kecia Laitinen has launched a fundraising campaign to pay for naturopathic treatment for her Hodgkin's lymphoma diagnosis.

dall said. "There are other things people can do.

"This should be everyone's personal choice."

By early May, Laitinen began to fight her cancer with a treatment under the guidance of a naturopathic oncologist in Victoria.

The treatment combines a raw

food diet, supplements, IV vitamin therapy, acupuncture, reiki and mistletoe therapy.

Since the 31-year-old began therapy earlier this summer, Laitinen and her family say she feels great and appears to be on a road to recovery.

"She's fit and feels absolutely fantastic," Kendall said.

Laitinen, who graduated from GISS and studied nursing, lives in Campbell River. She left work following her diagnosis and treatment program so that she can devote herself fully to healing. Because her naturopathic course of treatment isn't covered by B.C.'s Medical Services Plan, she and her husband have been saddled with a monthly bill for more than \$4,000.

Since Kendall helped set up an online crowdfunding campaign in early October, hundreds of friends, family members and well wishers have answered the call to help Laitinen continue her treatments.

"People have been so awesome and generous," Kendall said. "Anything we can get to help is appreciated."

The campaign recently surpassed the initial \$25,000 target, but Kendall said every little bit of additional money will help her daughter overcome the disease.

"As a mother I totally support that plan," Kendall added. "She's totally committed to this."

Faced with the challenge of pursuing alternative treatment methods and having to pay for it herself, Laitinen has begun a campaign to ensure others can have easier access to less risky naturopathic therapies.

Laitinen's healing journey has encouraged her to start a website and information resource for people in a similar circumstances.

Kissmycancer.ca is billed as a site to empower health and healing. The online resource has become a focal point where cancer patients can access research about naturopathic therapies, read stories from cancer survivors and share experiences in a supportive forum. She's also got plans to set up a charity to help other patients cover the costly treatments and assist those who need to take time away from work.

"I am passionate about natural health, helping people to live their best lives," Laitinen writes on her site. "I want to help people use the wake-up call for life that illness provides us as a means to make change. Change is good. Change means we are growing and developing as human beings. Cancer does not need to be a death sentence, it can be the beginning of the rest of your life. It's your choice."

More information about Laitinen's fundraising campaign is available by searching for "Please Help Kecia Kick Her Cancer" at www.gofundme.com. She can be reached at kissmycancer@gmail.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

FOR THE RECORD

Amounts raised towards a squash facility were not accurately reflected in an article in last week's paper. The squash club has approximately \$15,000 in memberships and tax-deductible donations, and approximately \$65,000 in loan commitments towards the goal of \$150,000. As well, a number of island businesses have offered in-kind contributions for services like excavating and plumbing.

Nikiforuk at library event

An award-winning journalist and author brings his latest book to Salt Spring at a special event on Thursday, Nov. 26.

For more than 20 years, Andrew Nikiforuk has written about energy, economics and the West for Canadian publications such as *The Walrus*, *Maclean's*, *Canadian Business*, *Equinox*, *Harrowsmith* and in both national newspapers. He was the first writer in residence at *The Tyee*, and has won seven national

magazine awards and top honours for investigative writing from the Association of Canadian Journalists.

His latest book, *Slick Water: Fracking and One Insider's Stand Against the World's Most Powerful Industry*, is getting high praise from other important writers, including Naomi Klein, author of *This Changes Everything*, who writes, "Andrew Nikiforuk crafts a stunning picture of fossil fuel industry and government abuse."

Elizabeth Kolbert, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sixth Extinction*,

says, "Slick Water is filled with corruption, incompetence and, ultimately courage. It is a deeply informative, disturbing and important book."

Nikiforuk's previous books include *Saboteurs: Wiebo Ludwig's War Against Big Oil*, which won the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction, and *The Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and The Future of the Continent*, which was a national bestseller and won the Rachel Carson Environment Book Award from the Society of Environmental Journalists.

Nikiforuk speaks about

his latest book next Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Salt Spring Public Library.

The event is a partnership between the library and Transition Salt Spring.

LTC meets Thursday

Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee hosts a public hearing Thursday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. to hear opinions about the Agriculture Alliance's application to rezone its abattoir property at 1449 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

Trustees will consider third reading for the appli-

cation at the meeting's afternoon session, which is set to begin at noon.

Other agenda items include presentation of a Community Stewardship Award to the Protect Grace Islet group, trustee, chair and CRD director reports, and consideration of a heritage alteration permit to cut a hedge at 111 Rainbow Rd.

The Parks and Recreation Commission will present its case to have land at 181 Brinkworthy Rd. removed from the Agricultural Land Reserve to allow construction of public sports fields.

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First of a three-part series

STRANGERS AMONG US

Human and animal conflicts in the Gulf Islands



PHOTO COPYRIGHT PARKS CANADA

Fallow deer seen on Sidney Island in 2008.

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

DEFINING THE PROBLEM

The conflict between humans and wild animals in North America is a long-waging war that has sparked flare-ups of aggression whenever settlers have moved into a new area.

Little House in the Big Woods, the first volume in Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House series, is memorable for its depiction of ancient Wisconsin forests teeming with panthers and bears—to the degree that “Pa” Ingalls couldn't step outside the fenced homestead without his shotgun and his wife and children could scarcely leave at all.

The situation must have seemed just as frightening for the settlers who arrived on British Columbia's Gulf Islands during the 1860s. Charles Kahn describes in Salt Spring: The Story of an Island how homesteaders spending their first winter here in 1861-62 were beset by wolf and cougar attacks. Yet by the close of the 19th century, wolves had been extirpated from the southern coastal region and cougars were on their way to becoming stealthy visitors that seldom caused a ripple in farming operations. Bears too were rarely seen and quickly dispatched by ranchers if they did swim across from Vancouver Island.

The loss of large-bodied predators may have helped island livestock producers, but it also had a huge impact on areas that hadn't been cleared for farmland with the proliferation of black-tailed deer.

A paper produced by UBC School of Forest Sciences researchers Tara G. Martin, Peter Arcese and Nanda Scheerder in 2010 argued that deer browsing in the Gulf Islands had critically damaged forest understory and could be expected to cause local extinctions of flowering plants and songbirds. The situation had only been noted recently because deer weren't a problem until the 1970s, when human hunting was banned on some islands and decreased dramatically on the rest.

In the coming weeks, the Driftwood will explore the problems that inevitably occur when humans move animal populations into foreign ecosystems or remove keystone species from their homes. Fallow deer highlight the conflict that arises when human and animal needs compete for limited island territory and will form the first focus of the Driftwood's three-part Strangers Among Us series researched and written by Elizabeth Nolan.

FALLOW DEER MOW THROUGH TWO ISLANDS

Skirmishes between landowners and unwanted animals are taking place all over the West Coast's favourable climate region, but the battle is really heating up on Mayne Island, where local residents are fending off invasive fallow deer.

Escapeses from a single failed ranching operation and their offspring have been browsing their way through local forests, orchards and meadows since the 1990s, and since 1996, the B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has provided special permits for local hunters to take fallow deer on an island where all other hunting is banned.

“The fallow deer are the single biggest environmental threat to Mayne Island — and there's huge potential for them to go to other islands. It's a ticking time bomb,” said Jeanine Dodds, who is a member of the Mayne Island Deer Committee and an Islands Trust trustee for Mayne.

While swelling numbers of non-invasive deer are harming island ecosystems, their appetite seems conservative when compared to fallow deer, a non-native species imported from Europe that has savaged Mayne and Sidney islands. Significant changes to both island ecologies have been observed over the past 20 to 30 years as the flowering shrubs that fallow deer prefer become more scarce, and the range of plants they are willing to eat expands.

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

HOW THEY GOT HERE

According to Coastal Conservation, a private B.C.-based company that works with government agencies to remove introduced invasive vertebrate species from islands, approximately 70 per cent of confirmed animal extinctions around the world have occurred on islands. Most of those extinctions resulted from invasive species.

Fallow deer have a long history of being moved around for human pleasure. The Romans spread them from western Eurasia throughout their empire, while the Normans are thought to have brought the animals to England to stock the royal forests. In similar fashion, fallow deer were brought from England to the Gulf Islands in 1902 to stock James Island, which was then owned by a private hunting club. Escapees and further intervention from hunters created a lasting colony on Sidney Island from the 1960s or '70s onward that almost devastated the local ecosystem.

Nov. 1, 2015 marked the start of 10th year that Parks Canada has closed Sidney Spit Marine Park over the winter to give First Nations hunters access to fallow deer as part of its management plan. Having eaten through the understory, the deer were in poor health.

Kurt Irwin, a hunter who lives on Salt Spring Island, received one of the last batch of public licences before the hunt was turned over to local First Nations in 2005.

“I shot my fallow deer because I felt so sorry for it,” Irwin recalled. “They were starving and pathetic. It was just terrible.”

A fallow deer management program has also been in operation on the privately owned portion of the island since 2008, where the Sallas Forest Strata has coordinated with Parks Canada, B.C. Ministry of Environment and the Islands Trust Fund to drastically reduce the population.

At the time it started, it is estimated there were 2,000 fallow deer, or three animals per hectare. Three culls involving live capture and a mobile abattoir through 2008-09 succeeded in removing 1,280 deer from Sidney Island. The number has been further reduced through an annual cull. The population is now thought to be holding steady at around 600, although sampling challenges make it difficult to be sure.

ERADICATION AIMS

Coastal Conservation founder Chris Gill prepared a report comparing control versus eradication of fallow deer on Sidney Island for Parks Canada in 2012, with both options still on the table as conservation officers monitor the situation.

“Controlling fallow deer populations through recreational or even professional hunting is a losing battle; as soon as you stop or reduce the control activities, the population quickly rebounds,” Gill said. “Eradication is really the only option. However, this can be politically and technically complicated as well as very expensive.”

In addition to consulting on the Sidney Island fallow deer problem, Gill more recently sat in on a discussion between the Mayne Island Deer Committee and B.C. wildlife officer Sean Pendergast to discuss possible options for Mayne. Although he concedes total community buy-in for any idea is difficult — and anything related to animals is an especially tough sell — in his view eradication is the best long-term solution.

“I view eradication as a tool with a specific outcome to achieve, which is ecosystem restoration. And for me, native species and native ecosystems are at a higher priority than intro-

duced invasive species,” Gill said.

That's where having a professional team comes into play. Gill said such teams do considerable planning to achieve the goal at hand, “which is to target 100 per cent of the animal population [in question] and to do it in a humane manner.”

GAME ACT TO BLAME

The source of Mayne's fallow deer problem came about as a product of B.C.'s Game Farm Act, which was introduced in the early '80s to encourage a new stream of agricultural revenue. Dodds first contacted the Ministry of Agriculture with her concerns about the farm's inadequate grazing material and fencing in 1994. The farm continued to operate until it was abandoned in 2006.

“Before they finally gave us permits to hunt, we had 25 deer living in my orchard,” Dodds said. “When they gave us the permits 15 years ago and my husband shot all the deer, we had no idea there would be even more of them.”

There are now anywhere from 500 to 1,000 fallow deer on Mayne, although that number could have been more like 4,000 without management, as one doe can produce 50 deer within the span of 10 years.

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

A concerted effort to deal with the problem has been in action since 2013, when the B.C. Fish and Wildlife Branch proposed reopening general hunting on the island. The Mayne Island Conservancy and the Mayne Island Ratepayers' Association got together to conduct community outreach, and the committee was formed.

“In the end there was a 99.9 per cent majority for eliminating the fallow deer, once we got past the Bambi-ism,” Dodds said.

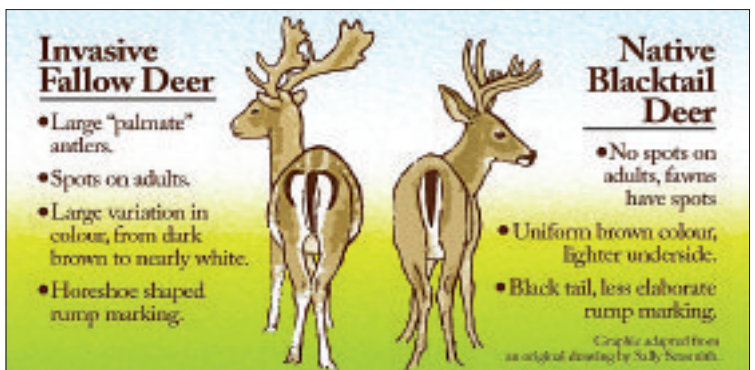
The use of local hunters to reduce the population is the preferred approach, but the cost has been almost entirely borne by volunteers. This spring the committee finally got some help via a grant-in-aid from the Capital Regional District, but only enough to cover some of the hunters' fuel and ammunition costs.

The Mayne Island Deer Committee has collected some 500 pages of documents through the Freedom of Information Act related to Ministry of Agriculture dealings with the game farm responsible for bringing fallow deer to the island, and as their members see it, a government-caused problem requires an equitable government solution.

“We're really looking for provincial funding and a conservation officer. We're not trained professionals. We're community volunteers that are taking on this issue,” Dodds said.



CHRIS GILL



Source: Mayne Island Deer Education Committee



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

Clockwise from top left, Rowan and Tanis Frame add their poppies to the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron wreath that young Rowan carried to the Cenotaph; Search and Rescue volunteers Zeke Blazecka and Wendy Webb carry a wreath from their group; past and present servicemen participate in the ceremony and parade.

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CLIMATE JUSTICE

Activists speak at Lions Hall

Two of Canada's leading activists and academics, Lynne Quarmby and Tamara Lorincz, will speak at Lions Hall next Wednesday, Nov. 25.

"Quarmby is perhaps best known for her arrest on Burnaby Mountain, resisting the Kinder Morgan pipeline, but she had been arrested before, resisting coal trains," states a press release. "As an award-winning biochemist at SFU, and the Green party's science

critic, she has a thorough understanding of why humanity must shift to a low carbon economy."

Lorincz is one of Canada's foremost peace activists and researchers. She is a Rotary International Peace Fellow and Voice of Women for Peace board member whose research links climate justice, peace and feminism.

The event, which begins at 7 p.m., is sponsored by Salt Spring's VOW group.

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BUSINESS

Harbour Air invests in island airline

Deal promises to increase routes and capacity

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The world's largest floatplane company is set to get a little bigger following news that Harbour Air Seaplanes has bought a stake in Salt Spring Air.

Philip Reece, a part-owner of Salt Spring Air, declined to reveal what percentage of the airline has been sold or release a dollar figure associated with the deal, but said island residents can expect to see expanded service as a result of the transaction.

Reece said the "strategic investment" by Harbour Air will enable Salt Spring Air to increase capacity by using larger aircraft between Salt Spring, Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. Reece said added flexibility will be especially noticeable during peak travel months when passengers often need to reserve well ahead of their flights.

"We'll hopefully have a lot more access to a lot more aircraft," Reece said Tuesday morning.

Salt Spring Air will continue to operate under its current name and keep its office at Grace Point Square. Reece said the partnership is a natural continuation of an existing relationship that already sees Harbour Air Seaplanes undertake maintenance of Salt Spring Air's fleet.

"It's called a strategic investment because it covers so many different avenues."

PHILIP REECE
Part-owner, Salt Spring Air

"It's called a strategic investment because it covers so many different avenues," Reece said.

Richmond-based Harbour Air Sea-

planes was established 33 years ago and employs more than 400 people. Salt Spring Air, founded in 2003 by part owner and former Harbour Air pilot St. Clair McColl, employs 14 Salt Spring residents and operates four de Havilland Beaver aircraft.

When asked about the announcement on Tuesday morning, McColl said he was surprised.

"I started Salt Spring Air in June of 2003, partly as a way to fulfill a lifelong dream of starting my own air service," he wrote in a letter to the Driftwood on Tuesday. "I had the experience, knowledge and passion to provide more than just a ride in a floatplane. More than anything I wanted to work where I lived and loved."

McColl's letter has been printed in its entirety as this week's Viewpoint column on page 8.

McColl said his stake in the company ends on Nov. 30. The partnership between Salt Spring Air and Harbour Air Seaplanes takes effect Dec. 1.

Returning officer clarifies voting question

FIRE ELECTION

continued from 1

"We've got the big change people and the people who want no change, so it's going to be interesting to see how it plays out," he said.

All candidates agreed some amount of change is needed going forward, although various degrees of moderation were suggested throughout the evening. Rajala, for example, was the lone candidate to say he did not support a new fire hall. He also said going to a fully volunteer service, including the fire chief, might be the only option if significant concessions could not be found through the next union contract negotiations.

Craig said the community has tough choices ahead, such as how much it is willing to spend on the fire budget and then deciding which services can be provided for that money. He also cited U.S. Republican hopeful Donald Trump to suggest there are people out there willing to shoulder the work.

Foster, Hildebrand, Hetherington and Van Winckel all had some experience with the fire service and/or other union contracts, while Hetherington and Van Winckel had additional concerns with first responder protocols and schedule allocations. Most leaned toward finding a better

outcome in the next round of union negotiations.

"I'm sure there are some areas where there can be some broad negotiating and some areas where there can't be," Foster said.

All candidates agreed that the next contract needs help from a professional team representing the district, rather than relying on a trustee like the previous time.

"I think the firefighters put out a Christmas list and our negotiator was Santa Claus," Baker said.

McClellan favoured a comparison with similar communities to see how much they are paying for a similar service and called for an immediate termination of the contract if that were possible.

District ratepayers will officially go to the polls Tuesday, Dec. 1. An advance voting day is set for today (Wednesday, Nov. 18). Both dates run at the public library's program room, with polls open from noon to 8 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Dec. 1.

Legal advice obtained by the board of trustees should help clarify who is able to vote, with a press release issued by the district on Thursday meant to clear up the matter. Confusion has especially centred around people who own mobile homes but are not landowners and reside at parks like Brinkworthy Estates or Cedar View Park on Horel Road. Returning officer Tom Moore has confirmed that as long as they meet the other eligibility requirements, these mobile home owners can vote.

Moore has not agreed with a second legal interpretation put out by the district that would prevent individuals from casting a vote as a ratepayer and also acting as the representative of a corporation or an estate where power of attorney has been granted.

Moore's Salt Spring deputy Tony Kennedy explains: "Based on his legal training, substantial experience and his authority, [Moore] has concluded that the concept 'one person, one vote' distinguishes the company as having the same right to vote as a person who is an individual landowner... An individual designated to cast a vote in the name of a registered land-owning corporation is not voting in their personal capacity. He/she is therefore entitled to cast a separate, additional ballot in their personal capacity should that person fulfill the normal requirements for voting."

According to the improvement district's letters patent, the returning officer has the authority to determine who is entitled to vote.

Editor's note: Information in the form of a Q&A with most fire board candidates can be accessed on the Driftwood website at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

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DONATIONS

Teachers lend support to food banks

Wild salmon donated through Protein for People

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association helped fill some shelves at local food banks last week with the donation of 70 flats of tinned sockeye salmon through a partnership with Protein for People.

GITA president Deborah Nostdal helped oversee delivery of the donation to five local food banks, which exist on all of the southern Gulf Islands except Saturna. Each flat has 24 tins, with 40 flats donated to Salt Spring, 12 to Pender, 10 to Galiano and eight to Mayne.

"The goal is to support communities but also to raise awareness of the need for working families to have a living wage," Nostdal said. "Gulf Islands food banks are heavily used, and families with two working adults are using them. A lot of people feel food banks aren't the answer and we should pressure government to create appropriate policy, but you can't ignore real need."

Protein for People is a non-profit society started in 2006 by B.C. unions and the United Way. Working directly with B.C.'s salmon canneries, the society helps families in need access much needed nutrients by purchasing tinned fish at cost. Union groups can then purchase salmon for donation in their home communities, or donate funds to support the organization.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Gulf Islands Teachers' Association president Deborah Nostdal loads tins of salmon onto The Scholarship before heading to Mayne Island for a school board meeting and food bank delivery on Nov. 10, while trustee John Wakefield gets ready to board.

Children make up over 45 per cent of people relying on B.C. food banks. As Protein for People observes, protein is critical to a healthy diet and crucial for mental and physical development. Its lack can make it even harder for vulnerable people to improve their lives.

"Families have been hit hard by the recession and job losses and shrinking pay cheques are having an impact as vulnerable people struggle to make ends meet," the society's website observes.

An ongoing partnership between GITA and Protein for People could

involve the society's education and advocacy arm. One of its activities is to sponsor workers' barbecues with games, snacks and music. Their point is to bring home the idea that food bank usage can only be ended through access to good jobs. Nostdal is considering whether such an event could take place on Salt Spring next spring.

In addition to her union connection, Nostdal said she was happy to support a program that makes use of locally sourced fish and local canneries, as part of a commercial fishing family that has lived off the proceeds of wild salmon for 30 years.

Non-profit group to spearhead effort

HORSES

continued from 1

She said the move emphasizes the need on Salt Spring to find a suitable property for a full-fledged horse park.

"Almost every Vancouver Island community has its own horse park where people have access to a ring and where they can hold equestrian activities," she said.

Cooper wants to establish a non-profit society to serve as an umbrella organization to support therapeutic riding initiatives, the island's Pony Club, 4-H and other equestrian disciplines.

About a dozen owners attended a meeting last week to discuss setting up the society. Cooper said she's prepared to begin speaking with government organizations and other island non-profits to find a solution.

"We're going to go ahead and start to form a group," she said. "We're going to create a big catalogue and see what's available."

The Bloch family bought the property, formerly called Blennerhassett Equestrian Centre, in August 2014. The 80-acre property includes an indoor riding ring, an outdoor ring, stable barns, paddocks and the shed row.

A spokesperson from the equestrian centre could not be reached in time for the Driftwood's Tuesday afternoon deadline.

In an Oct. 29 email from Rebecca Bloch, Alan's daughter, horse owners were told the equestrian facility is no longer financially viable.

"After one and a quarter fiscal cycles, there is absolutely no way we, in our capacity, can run the centre incurring a break even, let alone profit over a yearly cycle," reads part of the email. "We have spent over



JACKY COOPER

\$150,000 on the horse facility alone, and with the current and projected income there is no way to amortize that cost or put money away for future upgrades and repairs."

Cooper asks anyone who can provide assistance to horse owners to contact her at jacoop@telus.net.

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OPINION



2015 CCNA Awards
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Silver - Editorial (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)



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

EDITORIAL

Question period

Islanders can be forgiven for neglecting to make it through all 153 pages of the newly released Salt Spring Island Incorporation Study Preliminary Report, but there's no excuse for politically astute residents to skip a pair of public forums to discuss the report's implications.

Meetings of the Salt Spring Incorporation Study Committee have been open to the public since the group was established in April, and a handful of civic-minded community members have taken the time to watch commissioners undertake the meat and potatoes of local governance planning.

THE ISSUE:

Incorporation Q&A

WE SAY:

Get questions ready

Upcoming sessions at Fulford and Meaden halls, however, represent an opportunity for people to attend a session designed for public participation. Given that committee members on hand to answer questions will ultimately make a recommendation about whether to host an incorporation referendum in 2016, the Nov. 22 event in Fulford and Nov. 23 meeting in Ganges give islanders a real chance to play a role in the process.

Visitors can get an idea of what would change and what would stay the same under a municipal form of government, and learn how local elements like fire fighting, water district services, roads, policing, environmental protection and economic growth would be specifically affected.

Staff from Urban Systems, the company tasked to create the report, will also be available to hear the public's suggestions about how the report can be clarified and expanded.

Both events begin at 1:30 p.m. with one hour for audience members to mingle and take in a variety of display boards. A formal presentation starts at 2:30 with questions and answers to follow.

Salt Spring residents could be faced with an opportunity to choose the direction of the island's political future within the year. The journey to an informed vote if referendum day ever arrives begins this weekend, and there are no more excuses.



Parker

VIEWPOINT by St. Clair McColl

'Saint' reflects on island's airline

Regarding the sale of Salt Spring Air assets to Harbour Air, I started Salt Spring Air in June of 2003, partly as a way to fulfill a lifelong dream of starting my own air service.

I had the experience, knowledge and passion to provide more than just a ride in a floatplane. More than anything I wanted to work where I lived, and loved — Salt Spring!

I knew I could provide a service to the islanders, for the islanders, by the islanders, that was island based. To that end I achieved everything I set out to do and more and I was rewarded many, many times over with the support of the community of Salt Spring Island.

I followed my mission of "If it's not safe we're not doing it, if it's not fun we're not interested." Intrinsicly I knew I was taking the right path, and we were further rewarded by the overwhelming support of the community and the staff.

None of this could have been achieved without the never-ending support of my wife and family. From the very start they witnessed and supported all the blood, sweat and tears that was poured into the company. As a family we were all so proud and thankful.

In 2007 I took on partners that had expressed a sincere interest in Salt Spring Air. I rewarded their interest with selling them shares in the company. They too gave it their all, and this little company would not have continued as long as it did if not for their support. I further rationalized that it was in the best interest of the company and its succession if I

relinquished control.

The last couple of years were challenging in my relationship with the partners. We had a difference in the vision of where we wanted to take the airline. In the end it was disappointing how it worked out.

I must mention the devotion and hard work of the employees who devoted their lives to helping me achieve my goal, for without them none of this could have been achieved. I loved coming to work each day with you, and I will miss you terribly. We laughed and loved our way through every hour . . . we were all so proud. We rocked it!

I also want to thank all the families of the staff that supported, worked and gave up some of their time so that we could provide the best little floatplane service this world had seen.

I had so many well-loved experiences with the people I worked with and the people I dealt with as passengers. I was the luckiest guy on the planet. Salt Spring embraced our company wholeheartedly. I will never forget this and I am forever indebted to all the staff of Salt Spring Air, the passengers, and the island. I wish you the very best.

I hope Harbour Air will continue to service the islands in a way that Salt Spring Air had taken pride in doing and I wish everyone continued happiness in their lives.

The writer was the founder of Salt Spring Air.

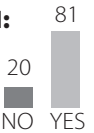
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should Canada suspend aerial bombing over Syria? 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:

Do you support Trudeau's cabinet choices?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I think the firefighters put out a Christmas list and our negotiator was Santa Claus."

HOWARD BAKER, SS FIRE BOARD CANDIDATE

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Do any wild animals cause problems where you live?



MARGITTA SANDL
Yes. Raccoons transmit diseases to our pets.



RICK WILSON
Lots of raccoons, and lots of deer. You have to be real careful driving at night.



MATTHEW BURROWS
Deer. It's almost like people have to live in jail to have a nice garden.



MAX HAFFNER
We get deer and my mom's a real gardener so we have a fence.



HAMISH MACGREGOR
Deer — most definitely!

Letters to the editor

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

Making the case for Fiona

All of us should be pleased that so many islanders have put their names forward as candidates in the next fire board election.

The time demands are significant, there are no easy solutions to increasingly complex problems, and those elected as trustees will serve as unpaid volunteers. But how does one choose among so many well-intentioned individuals? Obviously, what you know, or can learn, about each candidate should be the deciding factor.

The candidate I am supporting, and hope you will as well, is Fiona Foster. Fiona would, if elected, bring to the board her strong personality, her "street smart" common sense and her past service (2001 to 2011) as a volunteer firefighter.

Yes, Fiona would bring with

her all she has learned from 10 years of firefighting on Salt Spring. But she also knows, because she still walks that walk herself, what it means to have to work two jobs (in her case winery sales person and barber/hair dresser) with no extra money to pay for unnecessary tax increases.

Fiona will follow a middle path, unwilling to spend taxpayer money on fire protection "nice to haves," but at the same time committed to providing our fire department with what it really needs to protect our homes and even our lives.

And you can count on Fiona doing what she says. Her determination really is legendary. She twice finished first in her age category in an interdepartmental competition that involved running up the 48 floors of Vancouver's Wall Centre in full fire fighting gear!

Fiona is still running, but this time to complete one of

the two terms that will end in 2017. Please join me in voting for her, either at the Wednesday, Nov. 18 advance poll at the library (noon to 8 p.m.) or on the regular voting day, Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., also at the library.

STAN SHAPIRO,
SALT SPRING

Rainbow blight

Last week's back page "There's no place like home" ad from Community Services asks for help for the homeless — yes indeed.

So why, in the name of all that is good, reasonable, efficient and responsible, are six houses still sitting empty in the 500 block of Rainbow Road?

At least four of those houses have been there six years or more. Eight or nine families could be housed, but no, the potential homes sit empty, growing more derelict by the

month. There is no water, no sewage hook-ups.

So instead of a Band-aid solution of a temporary bed for a night, why not finish those houses, thus providing permanent shelter for many?

It is a disgrace and a blot on our collective philanthropic efforts that those donated houses are left there to rot.

J. HORSBURGH,
SALT SPRING

Support for food bank

On Monday, Nov. 23, Barney Bentall brings his stellar showcase of performers to the Salt Spring Folk Club's presentation at the Fulford Hall.

The Cariboo Express cast includes some of Canada's finest roots and country musicians: Ridley Bent, Dustin Bentall, Wendy Bird, Matt Masters and the Gold Rush Allstars, and special

guest Daniel Lapp.

The show is all about laughter, storytelling and the timeless sound of contemporary songwriters with great respect for tradition. Not only that but the mandate of the Cariboo Express on this night is to raise funds for the Salt Spring Food Bank and funds raised will be matched by the Bentall family's Hawthorne Foundation. Donations can be made to the Salt Spring Community Services Society for the food bank now and at the concert and will be acknowledged with a tax receipt.

The Cariboo Express has been raising money for food banks for the past 10 years and has become a sought-after event across western Canada for both its fundraising model and highly engaging show. What better way to spend a Monday night in November than at an incredibly enjoyable concert that contributes to the communi-

ty's Christmas food hamper program? Tickets are available at Salt Spring Books and Stuff & Nonsense.

TRISH NOBILE,
COMMUNITY SERVICES &
SS FOLK CLUB

No surprise

Regarding last week's "minister updated" letter from Wayne McIntyre, George Grams and Peter Grove describing the warm welcome they received from Minister Peter Fassbender: For those of us who have a historical perspective, it is a reality that the Liberal/Social Credit government has despised the Islands Trust for over 40 years.

Of course they can hardly wait for Salt Spring Island to incorporate and off-load millions in taxes and responsibilities.

RICK LAING,
WILKIE WAY

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

How would a desalination plant impact islands?

BY PETER STEAGER

A human being can rarely survive for more than four days without drinking water.

Liquid water is an absolute necessity for life and yet over 700 million of us live where drinkable water is in chronic short supply. Only three per cent of the earth's water is fresh. The remainder, in the oceans, is too salty to drink.

Fortunately, for many millions of people, there is a technology available that can remove the salt from sea water and do it on a truly massive scale. It is called reverse osmosis and is currently being used in over 150 countries to supply potable water to over 300 million people. Under very high pressure, ocean water is pumped through membranes which allow water to pass through freely but impede the passage of salt. The result is fresh water on the outgoing side and concentrated salt brine on the other.

The process can produce fresh water in enormous quantities; for example, 627 thousand cubic metres per day from a single facility in Israel, but the process requires prodigious inputs of energy, generally hydroelectric power. It is an expensive way to obtain drinkable water, but in the places where it is being used, expense is not the primary issue. Reverse

osmosis on a large scale is a last-resort measure to what is already a full-blown emergency.

We live here on a small island where fresh water is unquestionably a limited resource. The sea around us, however, is effectively unlimited and a desalination plant certainly could supply all of our water needs regardless of what climate change might send our way. True, reverse osmosis is an energy hog and an expensive way to produce drinkable water, but fresh water security might well be worth the additional dollars per litre, at least if it were not for its environmental costs, especially in this region of many small islands scattered close together in a shallow and ecologically fragile sea.

Sea water contains around 130 grams per gallon (34g/L) of dissolved salt. To render it drinkable, this number must be reduced to two grams. This means that for each litre of fresh water produced, what is left behind as a waste product is 32 grams of dissolved salt; a concentrated salt brine which is then pumped back into the nearby ocean where it soon mixes with normal salt water and disappears.

However, the mixing does not take place at

INDEPTH

once. The brine, heavier than sea water, sinks rapidly to the shallow ocean floor where it creates ecological havoc.

Marine organisms cannot survive even short periods in such high salt concentrations. Concentrated salt brine is a serious environmental pollutant, invisible because salt is a normal component of sea water (think atmospheric carbon dioxide). In the shallow waters around the Gulf Islands where the sea floor has already been heavily impacted by human activity and rising ocean acidity, it is difficult to imagine tolerating anything so ecologically destructive.

The waters of the Salish Sea are teeming with an exuberant profusion of life; hundreds of species of fish, jellyfish, shrimp, tiny free-swimming larvae of thousands of species of molluscs, echinoderms, crustaceans and worms, and uncountable numbers of microscopic phytoplankton. The microscopic membrane pores through which the sea water must be pumped to desalinate it would clog at once if it was not first filtered to remove the majority of its organic content.

It is not just the sea floor that would suffer from reverse osmosis desalination.

Fresh water is limited on any small island and with it, the population that that island can sustain, at least on a permanent basis. We are blessed here with an extended rainy season, the luxury of surface water in the form of small fresh-water lakes, a moderate climate and a small population. The surrounding waters are among the most productive on earth. There is no need for an expensive and environmentally destructive last-resort solution to a problem that does not exist.

Using our native intelligence and a willingness to work together as an island-wide community, we are surely capable of dealing much better than we have in the past with the growing suspicion that fresh-water shortages, already a localized problem at the end of a long dry summer, will probably expand to become a problem for all of us who live here.

I am inclined to believe we already know the broad outlines of what we have to do and can safely put aside the pipe dream of a desalination plant pumping out unlimited quantities of fresh water.

The writer is a director on the board of the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society.



**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	187Victoria 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
HETHERINGTON	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:

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

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

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

Standout time in social prison



Hayden Rabson

TEENAGE ANGST

Friendship, or any form of a relationship, has never been an easy thing for me.

Difficulty and loss have surrounded this topic time and time again. Throughout middle school there was bullying, fights, lots of anger and frustration. I was the bully and the frustration and anger were the names of my fists.

Overall it wasn't a pleasant time for me.

I can willingly say now that the friendships I've been able to achieve in these past few years have been incredible, most recently with my "Mayne Boys." The idea for the name was based on our

constant trips to Mayne Island, while only one of us actually lives there. It's a group of boys that make high school a blast. We like to continue the classic traditions of most teenage boys: Reading ghost stories till 8, going to sleep at 9 and then finally crying about our loved ones till 11. We are also quite a

diverse little group. There's five comedians, a musician, a wannabe rock star, a proud and true Canadian, and an actor in a world already filled with them.

I can see us even competing with the legendary friend groups that are the "Stand By Me" boys and of course "The Goonies."

It's quite a standout part of my time in the social prison called high school. I have quality friends who support every decision I make unquestionably, even when there's no real reason for it. It's really a likeminded friend group.

I've always felt, in my high school, that it's never been a case of cliques or specific social groups casting out others. There are certain people I enjoy socializing with, while for others it just wouldn't make sense for us to be friends.

I personally cannot become friends with everybody, although I believe that in this community there is a chance for any one of us to build friendships with each other due to the outstanding people that live on this island.

The writer is a Grade 12 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 9

Applause for Jacky

Thank you to Jacky Cooper for her valiant efforts to protect my home, and that of my 20 stablemates at Blue Horse Equestrian Centre.

Although your proposals fell on deaf ears, we applaud you!

And much appreciation to Salt Spring Island's horse community for rallying together to help us relocate at such short notice.

**MURPHY BROWN,
VIA MARIANNE HOBBS,
CEDAR LANE**

Remembrance Day kudos

It is readily argued that Remembrance Day is the most significant date on the Canadian calendar.

Nov. 11 is a secular and apolitical day on which we should and do join Canadian communities worldwide to pay homage to those who have served at home and abroad, in war and peace, to observe a moment of silence, to mark the sacrifice of so many who gave their tomorrows for our todays, to reflect and remember.

Remembrance Day events are the purview of the Royal Canadian Legion. Although there is a small committee that produces the occasion, there are scores of contributors — too many to name specifically

here — that have significant involvement in the success of Remembrance Day.

Whether by commercial or personal monetary donation, in a uniformed group, as individual or "tune-ful" performers, Legion members and other volunteers, or simply one of hundreds of solemn faces in the crowd at the Cenotaph, they are all deserving of gratitude.

All their efforts are appreciated by Branch #92 and especially by veterans.

Rest We Forget.

**MICHAEL J. WINTER,
CHAIRMAN,
REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMITTEE
2015, ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH #92**

MORE LETTERS continued on 11



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RANTS and Roses

Roses

Roses and bright fireworks in the sky! Salt Spring Island Firefighters' Association would like to thank the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, Salt Spring Rotary Club and the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island for their generous contributions to our Halloween fireworks show. A big thank-you to Country Grocer for their annual general donation of hot dogs and cocoa, and to the fire trustees, family members and friends who helped served the treats. Thank you!

A dozen quilted roses to Tracey in the deli at Thrifty Foods. On Saturday, when a problem was discovered with an online prepared tray order, she immediately took action to rectify the situation in a cheerful and pleasant manner. With many thanks from the quilters of the Stitch Dimension Quilt Guild.

A huge bouquet of red poppies to the young lady (I forgot her name, I think Lisa?) who read the "In Flanders Field" poem at the Remembrance Day service. It was clearly spoken, slow and loud enough for all to hear every word. For the first time in many years, I felt the

true significance of what it meant. Thank you so much for that. Elaine

Bright orange roses to Thrifty Foods for the donation of pumpkins. We hauled them in wagons, played hide and seek with them, carved them and ate them. Thank you. Early Learning Centre

A bouquet of roses for the Community Gospel Chapel for opening your doors again for the recent flu clinic. Your accommodation and generous hospitality was heart-warming from the start to the closing of the clinic for our community, the nursing staff and volunteers. With grateful thanks, the Salt Spring Island Health Unit

A beautiful rose and one boutonniere to each of our volunteers at the Salt Spring Flu Clinic. Thank you so much for all your time, work and your smiles. You are all greatly appreciated for your Salt Spring spirit of helping. With much gratitude, the Salt Spring Island Health Unit

Recycled roses to the Blackburn Transfer Station for the donation of useful art supplies. Thank you. Early Learning Centre.

Paris attacks: what's the terrorist strategy?

BY GWYNNE DYER

As always after a major terrorist attack on the West, the right question to ask after the slaughter in Paris is: what were the strategic aims behind the attack?

This requires getting your head around the concept that terrorists have rational strategies, but once you have done that the motives behind the attacks are easy to figure out. It also becomes clear that the motives have changed.

The 9/11 attacks on the United States in 2001 followed the classical terrorist strategy of trying to trick the target government into over-reacting in ways that ultimately serve the terrorists' interests. Al-Qaeda's goal was to suck the United States into invading Muslim countries.

Al-Qaeda was a revolutionary organization whose purpose was to overthrow existing Arab governments and take power in the Arab countries, which it would then reshape in accord with its extreme Islamist ideology. The trouble was that Islamist movements were not doing very well in building mass support in the Arab world, and you need mass support if you want to make a revolution.

Osama bin Laden's innovation was to switch the terrorist attacks from Arab governments to Western ones, in the hope of luring them into invasions that would radicalize large numbers of Arabs and drive them into the arms of the Islamists. His hopes were fulfilled by the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Once the Western troops went in, there was a steep decline in terrorist attacks on Western countries. Al-Qaeda wanted Western troops to stay in the Middle East and radicalize the local populations, so it made no sense to wage a terrorist campaign that might make Western countries pull their troops out again.

The resistance in Iraq grew

quickly and attracted Islamist fighters from many other Arab countries. The organization originally known as "Al-Qaeda in Iraq" underwent several name changes, to "Islamic State in Iraq" in 2006; then to "Islamic State in Iraq and Syria" — ISIS for short — in 2013, and finally to simply "Islamic State" in 2014. But the key personnel and the long-term goals remained the same throughout.

The man who now calls himself the "caliph" of Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Bahdadi, first joined "Al-Qaeda in Iraq" and started fighting the U.S. occupation forces in Iraq in 2004. But along the way the strategy changed, for ISIS eventually grew so strong that it conquered the extensive territories in Syria and Iraq that now make up Islamic State. Popular revolutions were no longer needed. The core strategy now is simply conquest.

In that case, why are Islamic State and Al-Qaeda still attacking Western targets? One reason is because the jihadi world is now split between two rival jihadi fran-

Western countries with smaller and better integrated Muslim communities are less vulnerable than France, but they are targets too.

chises that are competing for supporters.

The split happened in 2013, when ISIS, having launched a very successful branch operation in Syria known as the Nusra Front, tried to bring it back under the control of the parent organization.

The Syrian branch resisted and appealed to Al-Qaeda, the

franchise manager of both jihadi groups, for support. Al-Qaeda backed the Syrians, whereupon ISIS broke its links with Al-Qaeda and set up as a direct competitor.

ISIS and the Nusra Front then fought a three-month war in early 2014 that killed several thousand militants and left the latter in control of most of eastern Syria. Soon afterwards ISIS overran most of western Iraq and renamed itself Islamic State.

Islamic State and Al-Qaeda's local franchise, the Nusra Front, are currently observing a ceasefire in Syria, but the two brands are still in a bitter struggle for the loyalty of jihadi groups elsewhere in the Muslim world.

Spectacular terrorist operations against Western targets appeal to both franchises because they are a powerful recruiting tool in jihadi circles. But Islamic State has a further motive: it actually wants Western attacks on it to cease.

It's a real state now, with borders and an army and a more or less functional economy. It doesn't want Western forces interfering with its efforts to consolidate and expand that state, and it hopes that terrorist attacks on the West may force them to pull out.

France is a prime target because French aircraft are part of the Western-led coalition bombing Islamic State, and because it's relatively easy to recruit terrorists from France's large, impoverished and alienated Muslim minority. Russia has also become a priority target since its aircraft started bombing jihadi troops in Syria, and the recent crash of a Russian airliner in Sinai may be due to a bomb planted by Islamic State.

So the outlook is for more terrorist attacks wherever Islamic State (and, to a lesser extent, Al-Qaeda) can find willing volunteers. Western countries with smaller and better integrated Muslim communi-

ties are less vulnerable than France, but they are targets too.

Putting foreign ground troops into Syria would only make matters worse, so the least bad option for all the countries concerned is to ride the terrorist campaign out. Horrendous though the attacks are, they pose a very small risk to the average citizen of these countries. Statistically speaking, it's still more dangerous to cross the street, let alone climb a ladder.

P.S. Who takes their passport along on a suicide mission? There is a strong possibility that the Syrian refugee's passport found at the scene of the Paris attacks was taken there to cause a huge backlash against Syrian refugees entering Europe, and thus further alienate European Muslims from their own governments.

Gwynne Dyer is an independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

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THOUGHTS & NEWS

from Dr. Richard Hayden

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Dr Richard Hayden Island Dental Centre

MORE LETTERS

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Santa's Workshop gearing up

It is that time once again to start thinking of our island families in need at Christmas. Santa's Workshop is a volunteer group who receives requests from families and tries to fill these requests with the help of our ever-generous community.

The Salt Spring Toy Run motorcycle group has once again given us large cash and in-kind donations, which is the cornerstone of our funding. However, we call on other Salt Springers to help us in this endeavour by donating gently used or new unwrapped gifts to our collection boxes located at Pharmasave Uptown, Country Grocer, West of the Moon and Moutas or to the CIBC Angel Tree before Dec. 11. The gifts will be distributed with the Christmas food hampers through Salt Spring Community Services the weekend before

Christmas.

Families in need are invited to pick up application forms for Santa's Workshop at Salt Spring Community Services at 268 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Deadline for receipt of these applications is Dec 1. Late applications will not be accepted.

We are especially in need of gift certificates, personal hygiene items, books and art supplies for our large teenage contingent. We no longer need stuffed animals this year.

Contact me at 250-537-2658 or Community Services (250-537-9971) for more information on the program. Also contact me if you are willing to help with this program.

WENDY EGGERTSON,
HEAD ELF,
SANTA'S WORKSHOP

What gives?

My driveway has been washed out twice in the last two weeks!

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CONCERT PREVIEW

Energy flies at Spark! concert

Theme makes for exciting night

The Salt Spring Concert Band lights up ArtSpring on Friday, Nov. 27 with a dynamic program called Spark!

With "spark" being interpreted as energy, a fiery particle, inspiration or a flash of light, music director Dawn Hage chose pieces to musically illustrate these qualities, through complex rhythmic play, bright melodic themes, sizzling orchestration, or sparkling music that inspired her through theme or composition.

"The program is quite complex: everything from a portrait of Leonardo Da Vinci — inspiration — to a trilogy that takes the listener through all phases of a thunderstorm," explained Hage. "It was really fun to research the music and look for the many possibilities around the theme of 'spark'."

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. with Festivo, a classic overture by Vaclav Nelhybel, chosen for its driving rhythmic energy and bright, sparkling unison melodies. Inspiration continues with Larry Clark's Da Vincian Visions, and Lux Aurumque by Eric Whitacre, a tone poem exploring the themes of "light and gold."

Convergence by Roland Barrett celebrates "the power, energy and boundless spirit created by convergence of cultures, beliefs and ideals" and They Shall Run and Be Free by Brant Karrick portrays a daring and perilous slave escape through changing meter and dissonance, and includes a beautiful setting of the spiritual Oh Freedom.

The second half of the concert opens with an unusual piece titled Stardance by Michael Sweeney. Musicians will be placed throughout the hall to immerse the audi-



COURTESY SSCB

Sparks jump from the baton of Salt Spring Concert Band director Dawn Hage.

ence in an otherworldly "stardance" of sounds and mood. "There is an element of theatre with Stardance that you rarely see in a wind ensemble concert," said Hage. "The percussion remains on stage and there is a conversation between them and the winds that continues as the energy builds and the musicians return to the stage. It's really incredible."

The drama of a thunderstorm is also heard in the second half through Into The Storm by Robert Smith, Thunderscape and Sunburst by Erik Morales.

Salt Spring Concert Band numbers have swelled this year, with both students and new adults joining the ranks to create a big, rich sound.

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Singer-songwriter and keyboard player Elizabeth Shepherd.

BY GAIL SJUBERG
 DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Elizabeth Shepherd's jazz singing, keyboard playing and compositions were immediately recognized when she hit the Canadian music scene almost a decade ago.

Her first two albums of mostly original music, Start to Move and Parkdale, were nominated for Juno awards in 2007 and 2008. Another, Heavy Falls the Night, was longlisted for the 2010 Polaris Prize, which is more of a Canadian pop-music award.

An album of jazz covers (Rewind, 2012) and the funk-soul-blues-samba-infused Besides (2007) have also turned heads and ears.

Like most young songwriters, personal experiences were the dominant theme when she began to compose, but her songwriting focus has shifted in recent years.

"As soon as I became a mom [in 2012], I realized the big world out there is infinitely more interesting," she told the Driftwood in a telephone interview from Montreal. "Ultimately it's a place where we all connect. Shared care

and responsibility for other people and the world is a universal thing.

"It's moved far beyond me, and ironically I feel in doing so it has allowed me to connect more deeply with other people."

She says her songs can border on the political but without being heavy-handed.

So when Shepherd performs at ArtSpring next Wednesday, Nov. 25, at 7:30 p.m., the audience will hear songs from her latest album, Signal, that touch on topics like the public servant religious clothing controversy in Québec, gun violence and racial profiling, and cotton farmers selling their soul through insecticide use.

Shepherd is bringing four excellent musicians with her for the Salt Spring show, ensuring an evening that's as

rich and diverse as possible.

There's her long-time bass player Scott Kemp from Toronto; good friend and renowned guitarist Michael Occhipinti, also from Toronto; trumpet player John Day from Calgary; and drummer Tony Ferraro, who lives in Trail. All four also sing.

"The beauty of having a five piece is you can take people off the stage; then have three performers, or just have one," she said.

"I try to get as many colours and textures and cover the whole palette. I want to take people on a journey in the night . . . Partly what I wanted [with Signal] is for people to lean in and give the music attention."

Shepherd said she also likes to tell stories about the songs, and promises a fun, lively evening.

THE GREEN EDITION



Galiano Learning Centre inspires

Permaculture food forest latest focus project

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In an age of increasingly depressing statistics around climate change, species loss and other environmental crises, it's always refreshing to get some good news.

It's quite a relief, then, to realize the Galiano Conservancy seems to have found the ability to produce inspiring success after success, much of which could arguably assuage the troubles taking place all around it.

Formed in 1989, the Galiano Conservancy primarily exists "to preserve, protect and enhance the quality of the human and natural environment" on its home island. Its programs have focused on land and marine conservation, stewardship and restoration, and environmental education and public awareness. All of its goals are happily united in its Galiano Learning Centre property, a 188-acre lot purchased in 2012.

The property includes two acres of undisturbed waterfront as well as two streams, a working farm, wetlands and over 80 acres of mature forest. Just three weeks ago, a permaculture food forest was added to the mix. An on-site native plant nursery and a foraging forest that will supply food and medicinal plants are in the works.

I was lucky enough to tag along with a field group from the University of Victoria's Environmental Studies program when they toured the learning centre grounds last week. The students were on day four of a five-day trip viewing ecological initiatives all around the Canadian part of the Salish Sea. Despite having already seen some amazing projects, they were clearly

impressed by Galiano Conservancy's ambition — and its accomplishments.

"It's really inspiring," as several of the students confided to Eric Jacobsen, the conservancy's school programs coordinator.

Though he's only been with the organization since 2014, Jacobsen felt a deep loss when conservancy founder Ken Millard passed away suddenly on Sept. 28, taking a large part of the organizational knowledge and some of its spark with him. But while they're still dealing with the emotional loss, the staff and volunteers are committed to ensuring the program stays on track.

"The only thing we can do is take his vision and run with it," Jacobsen said.

Conservation coordinator Keith Erickson demonstrated many of the ways the conservancy has done this, and will continue to build on in the coming years, during a whirlwind tour. Starting at the tiny cove which is the only possible landing point on the high bank site, the UVic group headed up a new trail built by local students to the food forest project, which had been planted just two weeks previously. The planning component took the better part of a year, however, including a debate about whether to locate it in a sunnier part of the property. Since that would involve cutting down a significant cedar tree, the other location was fixed on.

Although growing food and planting non-native species don't seem like traditional conservation activities, the 700-square-metre plot fits in with the conservancy's mandate by enhancing the human environment (building local food security) while interfacing with the rest of the property in a beneficial way.

The food forest is part of approximately 25 per cent of the property dedicated to "integrated uses," such as sustainable forestry. Sixty-six per cent is in conservation.

"We want to use the land but we also want to manage heavily for the eco-health of the surrounding areas," Erickson noted.

Consultation for the project came from permaculture experts Javan Kerby Bernakevitch and Richard Walker. Using hugelkultur beds, which are raised beds built on high piles of logs, the permaculture system cycles nutrients through the soil in the same way the forest does naturally.

"The food forest is kind of the pinnacle of ecological food production. It's not just organic gardening," Jacobsen observed.

Smaller plants get critical sunshine

in the spring and protective shade when fruit and nut trees leaf out in early summer. The beds contain plants that help retain moisture and fix nitrogen in the soil. It's expected the project will supply food well into the next century.

"That's the timeline we're looking at for managing the garden into the future, which is the same timeline I'm used to working with for restoration projects," Erickson said.

The next stop on the tour was actually one of the first projects to get going on the property, which had been most recently owned by someone who did logging and milling on site. Just next to the entrance gate the conservancy has fenced a restoration area in an attempt to bring a severely compacted parking lot, milling space and storage area into a more natural state. The project included digging up the ground to de-compact it, and inoculating the soil with a layer of forest floor that was salvaged from a building site before construction began. This imported the necessary microbes, bacteria and other organisms to kickstart the significant regrowth that is already visible.

GALIANO continued on 14



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- Use a bucket to capture and reuse shower, bath and dishwasher in your garden.
- Inform guests from the mainland about our islands' limited water supply, and ask them to please be aware of keeping consumption down.

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DRIVING

Local EV show clears the air

Numbers tell the tale from summer event

BY JIM STANDEN
TRANSITION SALT SPRING

I, on behalf of Transition Salt Spring and with the support of many local businesses and the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, had the good fortune to coordinate an electric vehicle (EV) show on July 24-25, 2015.

It was held to celebrate our new public Level II EV chargers that are located at Country Grocer, Island Savings and Moby's. Educational automotive events were held at those locations as well as The Fritz Cinema.

The park across from the Mid Island Co-op gas station featured electric bikes, trailers and drones, and at the high school, information was provided on the solar scholarship array. Other events were held at Mistaken Identity Winery and the library. To support the distributed events, I was fortunate to assemble a crew of 24 wonderful and energetic volunteers.

A primary mission of the show was to provide education and raise the awareness of the variety and availability of electric automobiles and electric bikes on the market, available subsidies and to raise awareness of the new driving experience that these new technology vehicles deliver. So quiet, so quick, so fun.

Success can be measured in many ways. Crowds, smiles, activities, volunteer support, feedback, off-island participation, etc.

All those happened in spades, but also 10 "verified" electric automobile sales occurred that were a direct result of the show, totalling an estimated \$215,000. I should say "so far," as sales are still being generated as a direct result of the show.

Perhaps more importantly, the event was held over two days and generated over \$8,000 in business activity into our local island economy. We made a special effort to ensure as many local vendors



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN
Nissan Leaf cars at July's EV show.

were featured as possible.

There are many event metrics available to analyze, but my favourite is that because of this single event, our local fully electric automotive fleet expanded by over 20 per cent (to a total of 59). This has raised the estimated reduction of our annual greenhouse gas emissions from 125 to 148 tonnes, providing us with cleaner air for ourselves and our global neighbours. This has also reduced our dependency on oil, a core mission of Transition Salt Spring. I am so proud of those particular results.

Another educational event of this nature is being considered for 2016. The vision for this event includes more education on a wider variety of energy-efficiency topics, appeal to all members of the family and involvement of our sister Gulf Islands.

University students welcomed

GALIANO
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Many of the learning centre activities can now find a base in the off-grid classroom, which was donated by an eco-forestry foundation in Salmo, B.C., disassembled and then brought to Galiano by flatbed truck. The hall is outfitted with solar panels for electrical needs, while water is recycled through the nearby spring. A kitchen inside uses propane stoves, while a fire pit constructed with help from visiting Penelakut elders allows for outdoor cooking.

As the host of weeklong university field courses and other educational programs, the centre has an existing tenting site. Cabins may be an option in the future and will be a help to older participants. For



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
Shovels used in permaculture work at the ecological centre.

example, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren has visited in the past.

The conservancy has extended its ability to offer innovative outdoor education through a number of grants and funding part-

nerships. One recent venture saw Mountain Equipment Co-op donate all the camping equipment necessary for school teachers to take small groups on the Back Country Experience. Another pilot program funded by Telus resulted in the Navigation and Geo-Cache Adventure Camp. The idea of this project is to get kids comfortable with nature — and near their treasure goal — using GPS devices at first. Clues relating to plant knowledge get them through the final stretch.

What all of the programs have in common is they foster a greater understanding of the local ecology, which leads in turn to looking for ways to ensure it continues and thrives. Perhaps the Galiano Conservancy's greatest work is creating renewed interest in that project.

FOOD SECURITY

People's Roots grow deep



PHOTOS COURTESY SSSC

Above, from left, Derick Schmidt, Martin Mongard and Simone Cazabon of the People's Roots farm program at the Burgoyne Valley Community Farm property. Below, from left, Tai Dunkley-Whelon and Derick Schmidt do some planting.



Community Services farm program and people thrive

People's Roots is the Salt Spring Community Services farm program based on an acre of land in the Burgoyne Valley belonging to the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust that preserves land for the use of agricultural practices.

With support from Chorus Frog Farm and Bullock Lake Farm, 2015 has proven a bountiful year for the program. It marks the fourth year People's Roots has been growing organic produce for Community Services programs such as Family Place, the Core Inn, the food bank, In from the Cold emergency shelter and the Yellow Sub — the daily mental health program.

"We believe that with farmers and counsellors working together with the individual, there can be true progress."

SIMONE CAZABON
People's Roots program coordinator

People's Roots works closely with the mental health program to help integrate people back into a working position through a vocational rehabilitation that meets individuals at their level and helps to match or create a position for them. It aims to teach people how to grow organically, cook, preserve and develop entrepreneurial skills to facilitate independence.

"There is a population on this island

that deals with serious mental and physical disabilities creating real barriers, but that doesn't mean that some can't be overcome," said Simone Cazabon, the People's Roots program and farm coordinator. "We believe that with farmers and counsellors working together with the individual, there can be true progress."

Working along with farmhand Tai Dunkley-Whelon and counsellor Martin Mongard, Derick Schmidt provides an example of the positive results the program can facilitate. After learning a variety of new skills from lawn maintenance, landscaping, harvesting crops and cooking, he has begun taking on his own clients and building a new source of personal income.

People's Roots also administers the Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program, funded by the Berman Foundation and the provincial government. It distributes coupons to eligible families and seniors on the island to be redeemed at the Tuesday Farmers' Market, bolstering local farms and decreasing the demand on the food bank.

This year saw a significant expansion of the farm with an added half acre and the construction of a 50-foot-long greenhouse.

"We'll be able to offer an even broader range of local, organic produce that is central to many of our Community Services programs," said Cazabon. "It not only decreases the need for external funding, but it builds training opportunities and feeds hungry people with the healthiest choices possible."

For more information on People's Roots, see www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca.

Article contributed by Salt Spring Community Services.



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what's on this week



Wed. Nov 18

ACTIVITIES

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. SS Elementary School. 2 p.m.

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.

The Business of Aging. Free panel with guest speakers on all aspects of elder care. Lions Hall. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Drop-in Pickleball. At the Fernwood Elementary School gym on Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m.

Poker Night at the Local. Hosted by Albert every Wednesday at The Local. Sign up by 6:30 p.m., start at 7 p.m.

Film Screening: This Changes Everything. SS Film Festival screens Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything*. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

SongJam. A pub-style sing-along to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Thur. Nov 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with Ross & Dave. Every Thursday at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Public Hearing + Business Meeting. Information session about Proposed Bylaw 483 to rezone the Salt Spring Abattoir site to a new Industrial 2 Zone Variation begins at Lions Hall at 9 a.m., followed by the public hearing at 9:30 a.m. Regular SSILTC business meeting follows. Community Stewardship Award will be presented to the Protect Grace Islet group at 12 noon, followed by the town hall session and more business items.

Giant Book Sale Preview Event. Become a Salt Spring Literacy Society member and attend the members-only preview event for the Giant Book Sale. Enjoy MC C.C. Humphreys, guest author Ronald Wright, wine, apps, a chance to peruse the books and to purchase your two favourites. SS Farmers' Institute. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Introduction to HTML. Two-hour hands-on session with Myles to create your own simple one- to two-page website with HTML, a great beginner's programming language. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 to 9 p.m.

Thur. Nov 19

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Forum Presents Garry Rogers, Earthquake and Tsunami Specialist. Garry Rogers, a senior research scientist at the Geological Survey of Canada who specializes in earthquake and tsunami studies, joins the Salt Spring Forum at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Nov 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Gene Grooms. Live music plus free apps made by Dagwoods at The Local bar. 5 to 8 p.m.

The Barra MacNeils Christmas Concert. Cape Breton Island group presents a highly entertaining blend of traditional seasonal fare mixed with entertaining stories and new musical twists. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

The Coalition. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Giant Book Sale + Jewels for Literacy. Salt Spring Literacy's 9th annual Giant Book Sale plus new Jewels for Literacy sale runs at the Farmers' Institute from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Rare Raptors Revealed. Conservation specialist Erica McClaren gives a SS Conservancy presentation on raptors of Salt Spring at Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

Fri. Nov 20

ACTIVITIES

Transgender Day of Remembrance Sharing Circle. GLOSSI hosts a sharing circle where trans people and those who love trans people are invited to speak openly about their experiences, followed by a candlelit vigil with a moment of silence. Salt Spring Coffee. 7 p.m.

Sat. Nov 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

Aidan Miller. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Giant Book Sale + Jewels for Literacy. See Friday's listing.

Anglican Parish Christmas Bazaar and Lunch. Crafts, baked goods, lunch and more. All Saints By-the-Sea. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Met Opera Broadcast: Lulu. Acclaimed artist and director William Kentridge applies his unique theatrical vision to Berg's notorious femme fatale who shatters lives, including her own. ArtSpring. 9:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Drop-in Pickleball. Every Saturday at SS Elementary School gym from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Coast Salish Burial Traditions. With archaeologist Darcy Mathews and Kathleen Johnnie, lands & resources coordinator for the Lyackson First Nation. Part of November's Stories of Grace Islet events. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m.

CPR/AED Course. Presented by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation's AED program in the meeting room behind Lady Minto Hospital. 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Register: karen.mouat@viha.ca

Whisky Tasting and Special Prize Draw for Copper Kettle. The Wee Rock Whisky Club presents Scotch whiskies from Macallan and Highland Park. Profits support the Copper Kettle. ArtSpring. 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Sat. Nov 21

ACTIVITIES

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

Gifting Salt Spring. An evening of fun and fundraising for the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association. SSI Hair Studio. 7 to 9 p.m. Advance tickets only.

Sun. Nov 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Giant Book Sale + Jewels for Literacy. See Friday's listing.

Incorporation Study Open House. The SSI Incorporation Study Committee discusses the Preliminary Incorporation Study Report with the community. Fulford Hall. Open house runs from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. with a presentation at 2:30 p.m.

Sing-Along Messiah All-Community Rehearsal. First rehearsal for anyone wanting to participate in the fifth annual Sing-Along Messiah concert on Dec. 13. Must have ticket to the concert (available at Mondo Trading Company) in order to participate in rehearsals. Salt Spring Island United Church. 2:15 to 5 p.m.

Mon. Nov 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Barney Bental & the Cariboo Express. Salt Spring Folk Club concert with Barney Bental, Ridley Bent, Dustin Bental, Wendy Bird, Matt Masters and the Gold Rush Allstars plus special guests raises money for the Salt Spring Food Bank. Fulford Hall Doors open at 6 p.m. for season's pass holders; 6:15 p.m. general admission; music starts at 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Drop-in Pickleball. Every Monday at Fulford Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Incorporation Study Open House. The SSI Incorporation Study Committee discusses the Preliminary Incorporation Study Report with the community. Meaden Hall. Open house runs from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. with a presentation at 2:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball. Every Monday/Monday's at SIMS gym. 5:30 to 7:10 p.m.

Tues. Nov 24

ACTIVITIES

The Archaeology of Shiya'hw't (Ganges). With Chris Arnett, archaeologist and PhD candidate (UBC). Part of November's Stories of Grace Islet events. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

Wed. Nov 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Elizabeth Shepherd. Montreal-based soul-jazz innovator and her band perform at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Frontline Struggles for a Better World. Lynne Quarmby (SFU professor, climate activist, Green party science critic) & Tamara Lorincz (Rotary Peace Fellow with a Masters in Business and Law) presentation and discussion. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.

Drop-in Pickleball. See last Wednesday's listing.

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

SongJam. See last Wednesday's listing.

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FINAL SHOWS

Wednesday, Nov. 18th 7pm and Thursday, Nov. 19th 7pm

THE HUNGER GAMES MOCKINGJAY PART 2

2hrs 16mins Rating: PG

Friday, Nov. 20th to Thursday, Nov. 26th 7pm Sunday 3 matinee and 7pm.

- **James Bond: Spectre** — Final two shows. A cryptic message from Bond's past sends him on a trail to uncover a sinister organization. While M battles to keep the secret service alive, Bond peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind Spectre.
- **The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2** — Katniss teams up with her closest friends for the ultimate mission. They leave District 13 to liberate war-torn Panem and assassinate President Snow, who's obsessed with destroying Katniss. Traps, dangerous enemies and moral choices will ultimately determine the future of millions.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Fred Ascott** shows paintings in the first We've Got Talent exhibition at Greenwoods, open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through December.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18 is the last day to see **Pravin Pillay's** show Witness at the Salt Spring Gallery.

EXHIBITIONS

- **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.
- 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 Threlfall's** evocative watercolour Ocean's Edge series. Open most days (except Thursdays) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment at 250-537-4535.

SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 26

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EXHIBITIONS

Ascott debuts We've Got Talent show

Paintings on view at Greenwoods in Ganges

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Artistic appreciation is in the air at Greenwoods Complex Care Facility, where a new exhibition wall will feature works by different residents on a two-month rotation schedule.

Dubbed We've Got Talent, the exhibition was put together by the program's volunteer coordinator Kathy Dryden. It kicks off with a show of paintings by Fred Ascott, an 87-year-old resident whose scenes of barns, horses and dogs have won many prizes at the Salt Spring Fall Fair.

Ascott was born in 1928 in Kent, England into a family of five children, along with his twin sister Betty, who still resides in England. He developed a strong interest in painting at an early age and studied at a London art college. During WWII he was a mechanic on a Lancaster bomber with the RAF for two years and loved it.

Ascott worked in London for many years and was skilled at hand-lettering and lay-out, first at Odhams Press Ltd. and later with its competitor's magazine.

"After several years working in London he packed his suitcase, paints and brushes. He set sail for Canada," Dryden said. "Fred was drawn to Montreal and remained there for 10 years. He enjoyed the architecture



Fred Ascott with two of his paintings exhibiting at Greenwoods through December.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

and the diverse cultures Montreal had to offer. He relished the thriving art community."

"I preferred Vancouver because of the scenery and the people."

FRED ASCOTT
Salt Spring artist

A subsequent return to England saw Ascott establish a successful business as an artist of landscapes, animals

and country life, but he was soon feeling restless again and moved to Vancouver.

"I preferred Vancouver because of the scenery and the people," he said.

After five years in the city, Ascott discovered the artistic community on Salt Spring, where the rural landscape and farming life reminded him of his childhood in England. He retired to the island and purchased a trailer with a shed that became his studio.

Ascott has recently returned to his love of painting with classes at the Braehaven facility. The exhibition features some of his older works, howev-

er, including scenes both from England and Salt Spring.

"Greenwoods is honoured to present an exhibition of some of Fred's paintings for other residents and the public to view," Dryden said. "The show We've Got Talent is an opportunity for Greenwoods to share the talents of their residents with the other residents, staff and the public."

Ascott's exhibition opened on Friday and will be available to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. until the end of December. Paintings are available for purchase.

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FUNDRAISING

All Saints bazaar heralds busy Christmas season

All Saints Christmas sale and social event is first on seasonal calendar

For people whose minds are turning towards all things Christmas, a fundraising event this weekend is ready to please.

The Anglican Christmas Bazaar is at All Saints By-the-Sea this Saturday, Nov. 21.

The doors open in the upper hall from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., where people will find all manner of creative crafts, colourful quilts, baked goods, home-made chocolates, preserves, jewellery and many other treasures to entice gift-giving urges — all provided or lovingly made by members of the parish.

A delicious lunch will be available between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., or gourmet desserts may also be enjoyed while socializing with friends. Both will be freshly prepared in the All Saints kitchen by the Anglican Caterers.

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COMMUNITY MUSIC

Messiah open rehearsals set to begin

Peter Butterfield conducts

BY RICHARD MOSES
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Did you really think that Bach on the Rock musical forces were lost and gone forever?

Think again!

In fact, Nov. 22 marks the first of three Sunday afternoon rehearsals. Visiting maestro Peter Butterfield, tak-

ing a break from his Victoria Philharmonic Choir, will conduct the rehearsals which lead up to the 5th annual Sing-Along Messiah concert at Fulford Hall on Dec. 13.

But here's the real treat: Peter Butterfield has ordained that all rehearsals shall be open ones! Singers of every age and stripe who wish to purchase a concert ticket are invited to the United Church on Nov. 22 and 29 from 2:15 to 5 p.m., and Dec. 6 from 1

to 5 p.m., and to the dress rehearsal at Fulford Hall on Dec. 12 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Sheet music will be available or bring along your own favourite score. Here's a chance to work with one of our foremost choral conductors.

Tickets required in order to participate in the rehearsals are at Mondo Trading Company, which is open seven days a week.



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SEASONAL CONCERTS

Barra MacNeils request show time

Legendary family group brings Christmas present to island

BY CICELA MÅNSSON
ARTSPRING EXECUTIVE/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

A very short while ago the Barra MacNeils contacted me with a proposal. They said they were coming to the West Coast and really wanted to perform on Salt Spring. Well, you can probably imagine my delight!

This is a group that has been together for quite some time and with good reason. Over 27 years, the family ensemble has released 17 recordings, won multiple awards and headlined major festivals across the world.

Growing up in Sydney Mines, Cape Breton Island on Canada's East Coast, they were steeped in the Cape Breton traditions and their music shows their strong Celtic roots and musical artistry. This diverse and talented family group continues to wow audiences around the world with their captivating vocals, harmo-

nies and extraordinary musicianship.

The Barra MacNeils are Kyle (vocals, guitar, violin, mandolin), Lucy (vocals, bodhran, Celtic harp, fiddle, stepdancing), Sheumas (keyboards, piano, bodhran, fiddle, bouzouki, vocals), Stewart (vocals, accordion, tin whistle, flute, bouzouki, guitar, stepdancing), Boyd (mandolin, fiddle, guitar, banjo, percussion, stepdancing) and Jamie Gatti (bass).

The Barra MacNeils live concert experience brings so much more to the stage than most live acts ever can.

The Barra MacNeils live concert experience brings so much more to the stage than most live acts ever can. Multiple lead vocalists, beautiful sibling harmonies and top-drawer instru-

mental prowess on a wide variety of acoustic, stringed, percussion and wind instruments are blended with dancing, storytelling, Gaelic songs and a journey through an ancient culture. It is family entertainment at its highest level.


One of the most beloved concerts on the seasonal circuit, the Barra MacNeils Christmas shows always feature a highly entertaining brand of traditional seasonal fare mixed with entertaining stories and new musical twists; stamped with their lush harmonies and intricate instrumental stylings. Their show has been touring nationally, as well as in America, to sold-out houses for years.

Fans can look forward to classic favourites, including O Holy Night, Ave Maria, A Christmas in Killarney and Auld Lang Syne, as well as some comedy, seasonal stories, music, singing, dance and memories that will extend beyond the season and last a lifetime.

The Barra MacNeils show is on Friday, Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring.

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We also would like to thank Salt Spring Island Baptist Church for library space and practice facilities; Wendy Soares for Stage Management; and Ruth Lovejoy and her team for the concessions.

Finally, to our Music Director Caroni Young and our accompanist Diana English, welcome, and thank you for helping us bring the music to our audience.

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EXHIBITIONS

Longtime teacher returns to studio

Sandra Didrikson Locke shows at KiZmit

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Sandra Didrikson Locke, a woman who helped local high school students discover their individual artistic journeys as a Gulf Islands Secondary School art teacher for 27 years, has found some much-needed time to focus on her own creative powers in the four years since retirement.

"I finally decided it's time to quit and do my own work," Locke said during a recent visit to KiZmit Galeria and Café, where some of her new works are on display for the month of November.

Locke attended the University of Alberta's prestigious fine arts program and converted her final year into an education degree. Both in her studies and as a teacher she has explored and become comfortable with a variety of techniques, from printmaking to ceramics. Painting is something she's been drawn to, though she enjoys moving back and forth between mediums.

"One of the nice things about printmaking is you put something down and it stays there forever. My paintings usually evolve quite a bit," Locke said, describing a process in which the painting dictates the action and the artist becomes almost a medium for the work.

"I'm also very intuitive in my art.

Having taught for so many years, I know how to play around with colour. And colour is very important to me," Locke said.

Locke is known in some circles for her garden, where colour and texture inform plant choices in a sloping view down Beddis Road toward the sea. Some of that life has shown up in her recent paintings, such as the intensely expressive oil simply called Bee. Locke explained that this scene of an insect sourcing nectar from an open flower was inspired by the light of a summer's day, but somehow darkness crept in. The slightly threatening background to the happy scene suggests the deep troubles pollinator species are suffering, which is just barely starting to bridge human consciousness.

Detrimental human actions to the environment and the call to change also inspired the show's centrepiece, a large triptych of abstract/fantasy type images. These combine the imagery of an eyeball with the Earth as seen from high above in three views: Past, Present and Future. Locke's message here is clear.

"The show is about the importance of climate: what it was, what it is and what it will be if we don't smarten up," she said.

An image of a horse running into the viewer's space is called Escape, and contains a similar message that there is no hiding from reality.

"I guess that's one of the luxuries of being an artist. If you feel these



From top: Sandra Didrikson Locke's Bee painting, and Past, part of a series of three works that combine imagery of an eyeball and planet Earth. Locke's exhibit continues at KiZmit Galeria and Café, open Thursdays through Sundays, until Nov. 29.

things, maybe you can influence people to think about them."

On the flip side is what we stand to lose if the message doesn't sink in. Café visitors have been especially drawn to Locke's landscape scene of Green Lake in the Chilcotin, in which shimmering light is reflected on the lake surface under a blue sky, all glimpsed behind towering aspens in near silhouette. The scene inspires the same sense of calm that being in nature provides.

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Entry ballot for Salt Spring Island Red Letter Days Contest

Participating merchants will have a red letter appearing in their advertisements each week for five consecutive weeks. Contest participants must check the ads each week to spell out the winning phrase. The red letters will change in the ads each week.

All correct entries will be entered into a draw for 250.00 Driftwood Dollars. The Driftwood Dollars may be redeemable at any business participating in the contest (those with red letters in their ads).

Drop your entry off at the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road. All entries must be in by no later than 5pm on December 17th. Winner will be announced on Friday December 18th.

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people&community

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"Did you know BMO was the first bank on Salt Spring island, and it opened in 1946? Please come in and say hello. Mention this ad and receive a small gift!"



HISTORY

Kiln project honours Japanese settlers

Event will feature tour and stories

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Japanese Garden Society and Parks and Recreation Commission invites the public to attend the grand opening of Salt Spring's newest heritage site on Sunday, Nov. 29 between 1 and 3 p.m.

"We invite you to join us in celebrating the completion of this project, and to reflect on the Japanese-Canadian pioneers and the history of Salt Spring in the early 1900s," said Rumiko Kanesaka, president of the Japanese Garden Society.

The event comes fewer than 10 months after a group of islanders was inspired to restore a 100-year-old charcoal kiln used by early Japanese settlers.

Kanesaka said three interpretive panels — discussing the kiln's history, uses and cultural significance — have been installed next to the site, which is near the main entrance to Mouat Park in Ganges.

The kiln's restoration is a reminder of Salt Spring's Japanese-Canadian pioneers, many of whom never returned to the island following the federal government-imposed forced relocation and internment during the Second World War.

As many as 140 Japanese



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

A restored kiln in what is now Mouat Park was created by Japanese settlers to produce charcoal a century ago. The restoration project was a partnership between Salt Spring's Japanese Garden Society and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Canadians lived on Salt Spring before the war. According to Salt Spring's Rose Murakami, only a fraction ever returned

when fighting stopped in 1945. Isaburo Tasaka, who lived on Salt Spring from 1905 to 1929, built the original charcoal pit.



Rose Murakami at a recent tour of the kiln site.

It is one of two known charcoal pits in Mouat Park.

Many Japanese Canadians in the Gulf Islands produced charcoal from alder wood for salmon canneries, soap manufacturers and explosives factories along coastal British Columbia. The settlers sold charcoal to supplement their seasonal fishing incomes using traditional techniques brought to Canada from Japan's Wakayama Prefecture.

PARC staff and JGS members undertook the project earlier in 2015 with assistance from Steve Nemtin, a resident of Galiano Island who has thoroughly researched the Gulf Islands' historical charcoal pits.

Nemtin, who has restored several kilns on Galiano, will attend the Nov. 29 celebration to offer site tours and background information. The event will also feature Chuck Tasaka and other descendants of the kiln's original builder, as well as Rose Murakami.

"We invite you to join us in celebrating the completion of this project."

RUMIKO KANESAKA
President,
Japanese Garden Society

The restoration was completed in early November with support from many island residents and organizations, Kanesaka added.

More information about the historical Japanese charcoal pit kilns and other Japanese Garden Society projects is available at www.saltspring-japanesegarden.com.

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WILDLIFE

Great Bear Rainforest images in calendar

Adventure calls young ecologist

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A visit to the most pristine natural areas of Canada's West Coast is a hard-to-come-by opportunity for many, and even people living on the Gulf Islands would find it a stretch to travel as far as the Great Bear Rainforest.

Images from that stunning landscape and the wildlife that inhabits it have become more familiar in recent years thanks to the photos and books published by Ian McAllister, an environmentalist who has made spirit bears and sea wolves part of the common lexicon of B.C. wildlife. Islanders now have another way of travelling in spirit and taking in the wild coast's breathtaking beauty in a calendar produced by Jack Chapman, a young man with twin interests in adventure and conservation.

Following almost literally in McAllister's footsteps — although he has never met his mentor in person — Chapman has photographed wolves, bears and whales over three of the past four summers.

"When I was about 14, 15, I somehow saw [McAllister's book] Great Bear Rainforest," said Chapman, who hails from England. "I saw that and I thought, I've got to go there; I've got to do that; I've got to live on a sailboat."

After he turned 18 and had finished school, Chapman did just that. Though he had no experience as a sailor, in 2011 he came out to the coast, bought a sailboat in Nanaimo and learned how to sail. He spent a winter working at Mount Washington and then sailed up to his target destination and spent four months taking photos.



IMAGE COURTESY JACK CHAPMAN

Wolf photographed in Great Bear Rainforest, one of the images in Jack Chapman's calendar.

salmon in a river. He's also gotten close to bears but tried to keep a safe distance.

Needless to say, the photos that came out of these forays are amazing windows into a truly spectacular part of the planet and the animals that live there — and they will probably be the last ones that Chapman takes of that area.

"I'm kind of losing my appetite for spending time on my own. The three months I spent this year felt longer than the first trip of four months," Chapman said.

Though he does have future sailing adventures in mind sometime down the line, for now Chapman is living and working on Salt Spring. His 2016 calendar is the

first one he's produced that has been available in Canada. It can be purchased at Salt Spring Books and at WinterCraft when it opens at Mahon Hall starting on Nov. 28.

Prints of Chapman's images — one of which won a European photo award — will also be available at that venue.

"[The wolves] put up with me just kind of tagging along behind them."

JACK CHAPMAN
Photographer

Chapman's father was originally from Vancouver Island, giving his son dual citizenship. That made it easier for him to return for a three-month spell in 2013 and another one this year. In between, he was at home getting a degree in ecology from the University of Sheffield.

During his most recent visit to the rainforest, Chapman spent time on a small island where a pack of four wolves was also staying. Three of them were completely unbothered by his presence and he was able to watch them lazing around, scavenging barnacles and eating salal berries.

"They're amazingly tolerant. They put up with me just kind of tagging along behind them," he said.

Chapman even got to watch while one wolf tried to hunt mice in the tidal estuary grasses one day.

"It didn't seem much like an apex predator at that point. More like a house cat," he said.

In a previous trip, Chapman was lucky enough to see one wolf pack training cubs and another hunting

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FUNDRAISER

Whisky tasters gather to raise funds for Copper Kettle

Charity event gets connoisseurs excited

Salt Spring Island's Wee Rock Whisky Club is hosting a taste-filled fundraiser for Copper Kettle Community Partnership

on Saturday, Nov. 21 at ArtSpring.

Whiskies available at the tasting event include the Highland Park 18 year old, the Macallan Sienna, and the Macallan Rare Cask, which the club says most people "would be stretched to purchase" but have been made

available for Saturday's event, which runs from 4 to 5:30 p.m., thanks to the generosity of the Edrington Group, a producer of Scotch whisky.

A full 100 per cent of the profits will support the Copper Kettle group in its efforts to help the homeless and needy on

Salt Spring Island.

The heels of the bottles will also be raffled or auctioned at the end of the tasting, and the first 50 tickets purchased will be entered into a prize draw for a package of items that includes a bottle of Highland Park Dark Origins.

"We hope to make a huge contribution to the Copper Kettle's mission to help those Salt Springers in need," said the club in a press release.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to try some incredible whiskies while supporting our community."

Tickets are available in advance and must be purchased by Friday, Nov. 20 by contacting Richard Lee at weerockwhisky@hotmail.com or at 250-537-4865.

Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Participants must be at least 19 years of age.



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RENEWABLES

GISS solar array exceeds estimates

BY KJELL LIEM

SOLAR SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

It's been nearly a year since completion of the solar panel installation on the gym roof of the Gulf Islands Secondary School. After a summer of glorious sunshine, it's time to check on how the system has performed compared with expectations.

While the rated output of the solar array is 21 kilowatts (kW) we had expected small losses at various stages — the panels themselves, the wiring and inverters — to reduce the maximum power into the grid to about 17 kW on very sunny days. So how has it performed?

Beyond expectations! During May, June and July we regularly saw the output above 18 kW, with some days over 19kW — a system efficiency of over 90 per cent compared to the industry norm of 80 per cent.

This is attributable to the care taken in the design and installation of the system. Of course that's not the whole story. You can read the full report at www.saltspringcommunityenergy.com.

By early October we had already surpassed our predicted annual output with a further 2800 units expected for the rest of the year. This great result means that the amount of money available for the winner of next year's solar scholarship will be more than expected.

The system has also performed well operationally. It shut down automatically as expected for safety reasons during several BC Hydro power failures. When the power came back on, so did our system.

There's still some work to do.

One area that still needs work is the monitoring system to show the school how much electricity is being produced from the sun. This work is well in hand. As well, we are still looking for a suitable electric vehicle charging station at the school. Lastly, planned educational materials to accompany the renewable energy aspect of the installation are now in preparation.

A big thanks again to all those who contributed to this successful project. With your time, talent and financial contributions, it was truly a community effort!



The Faces of Meals on Wheels

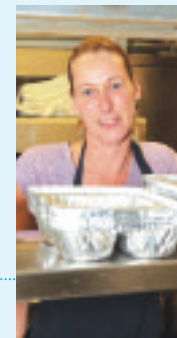
Salt Spring program a cornerstone of care

PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

Meals on Wheels drivers, from left, Ann Stewart, Lee Sollitt, Irene Currie, Nancy McCullough and Hugh McCullough.



Meals on Wheels cook Andre Gervais.



Jen Smith with prepared meals.

This year sees Meals on Wheels celebrate its 42nd anniversary of delivering hot and nutritious meals to Salt Spring Island residents.

In addition to the nutritional benefits available through the delivery of a hot meal once a day, the program, also provides social contact for seniors and people with disabilities who live alone, and the security of knowing that a friendly volunteer will check on their well-being on delivery days and respond quickly if an emergency arises.

The program helps seniors and people with disabilities retain their independence in their own homes for as long as possible and provides short-term convalescent care and on-going assistance for those who are

chronically ill.

"Meals on Wheels is a wonderful grassroots service designed to help vulnerable seniors in our community remain in their home with this little bit of assistance," says program administrator Catherine Bennett. "For some clients, having the volunteer deliver a hot meal to their home is the only form of social contact they may have. It is that contact with the volunteers that is so important. They build a relationship that is the cornerstone of care in a community like Salt Spring Island."

FROM THE DRIVERS:

"My very first delivery I couldn't get in the house and from round the back I heard a faint 'Help.' No key was available and I had to call 911. The lady had a fractured hip. So I hope clients don't mind that if I don't see them I always have a good look around in case they have fallen in the bathroom."

— ZILLAH PARKER

"I enjoy any contact I get with the clients. The program helps many people stay in their homes after they are not fully able to care for themselves. I saw this clearly when my mother used the service well into her 90s and I hope it is around if I need it someday. There is no place like home!"

— ANNE MACLEAN-NELSON



Madaleine Jordan greets Arthur Black as she receives her hot lunch from Meals on Wheels.

"Why have I been doing Meals On Wheels for the last eight years? Well, I don't join committees or sit on boards or otherwise make myself useful, so taking lunch to people who need it alleviates a lot of social guilt. Plus I get to meet a lot of characters — never a bad thing for a writer."

— ARTHUR BLACK

FROM CLIENTS:

"We have been so thankful to Meals on Wheels, wonderful quality and presentation. We are not exactly in the position of the elderly (well, yes, I suppose we are on the elderly side!) and we are lonely, but we are so encouraged that there is an organization on Salt Spring Island that is so attuned to the needs of people like us."

— ANONYMOUS COUPLE

FROM THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR:

"Drivers come to volunteer with Meals on Wheels for many reasons, but one thing is obvious to me: drivers are committed and stay volunteering with the program for many years. I have a wonderful, dedicated group! They really enjoy meeting the clients."

— CATHERINE BENNETT, MOW ADMINISTRATOR

One woman's journey from client to driver

BY ANKE SMEELE

You'd be surprised at how many of my friends return a kind of puzzled look when I mention that I am a "on-call" Meals on Wheels driver.

Turns out not everyone is aware of the ongoing support provided in the community by the Meals on Wheels Program.

Then and there I told her that once I was able to drive again I would volunteer for sure!

I guess I was not all that familiar with Meals on Wheels either until that time now nine years ago when I came home from a seven-week recuperation and rehabilitation at Victoria General Hospital.

My condition was still quite weak following a completely sudden haemorrhagic cerebellar stroke suffered eight weeks prior that

caused extreme nausea and inability to tolerate even sips of fluids for most of those weeks in care.

For three months I was not allowed to drive, able to manage at home only with the help of caring friends who brought soups, did or took me shopping and took me out for short walks as tolerated.

That is where I was introduced to the Meals on Wheels service by the homecare professionals.

To encourage me to do some cooking as I was able, they suggested I try to have a hot meal delivered at least three times a week.

Looking back on it now, this suggestion worked out very well in more ways than expected.

That first month, some days went by that I was not very keen to get myself dressed or do anything more than the essentials required to get me through if I was not expecting a visitor or a walk.

Pretty soon, I got to enjoy thinking about the driver

who would arrive soon, the car in the driveway, the knock on the door, the smile and friendly greeting with the warm dish and dessert to hand to me! It provided enough motivation that day to have my shower, decide on what to wear and take my time to be ready.

The warm meal itself was always the highlight of that day, actually . . . relieving me of the guilty thoughts other days that I should be less lazy, think of something to do, cook a meal. Nothing really interested me much, although I knew that I needed to regain my former good health and strength.

One day, one of the drivers even suggested I come along to keep her company on the route. I really enjoyed that and saw first-hand how she managed to brighten some of the homebound clients' day.

Then and there I told her that once I was able to drive again I would volunteer for sure!

All that seems long ago, but a vivid memory still. I have been a volunteer "on-call" driver ever since and I am always glad to say "yes" when the coordinator Catherine Bennett contacts me.

Now that I know some

of the recipients on an ongoing basis there is a rapport even for that short while that I come to their door and have a little chat while giving them their lunch or supper for that day.



ANKE SMEELE

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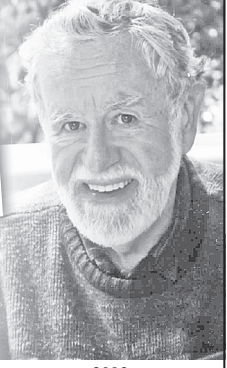
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HALLAM, Jack Charles, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

GAY PHILANTHROPIST, ATHEIST, ENVIRONMENTALIST, SOCIALIST, 1ST NATIONS AND ANIMAL RIGHTS SUPPORTER



1975



2003

Jack was conceived at his grandmother's Haliburton, Ont. cottage on the Thanksgiving weekend of 1927 the only place where his unacknowledged lesbian mother and father retired to the bedroom at the same time. Born in Toronto in June 1928 he died on Salt Spring Island, B.C. on Nov. 14, 2015. He was predeceased by both parents in 1979 and his sister in 2004.

Jack graduated from Honour Biology at U. of T. with 1st class honours in 1952, obtained his M.A. in stream studies in 1954 and his Biology Specialist teaching certificate the same year. He taught in a grammar school in London, England, in high schools in Toronto and Montreal. While a Teaching Master at the Ontario Science Centre he completed and obtained his Ph.D. in Zoology from U. of T. in 1974. He concluded his teaching career in a Community College in Lindsay, Ontario.

Reportedly "saved" at Eglinton Baptist Tabernacle in Toronto at age 14, by age 20 in university he was enlightened and became a life-long atheist. Jack was well into his 20s when he finally accepted being gay. Since his mother, his father's younger brother and two Hallam cousins were gay he was convinced of a strong genetic component in his being physically attracted to his own gender.

In Ontario he had a part-time antique business, a pet shop in Toronto, and in 1991 on Salt Spring Island he had a small art gallery, a B&B for several years then a succession of tenants.

He would like to be remembered as a caring and compassionate gay man who always felt sympathy for minorities and the disadvantaged. At university he helped organize a petition against racism. On Salt Spring Island he spent many hours working on two petitions seeking clemency for Robert Latimer, the loving father who ended the incredible suffering of his daughter Tracy. He was a supporter of Omar Khadr.

In mid 2006 he received a substantial bequest from his sister and was able to indulge his philanthropy. Later that year he gave over \$10,000 to "Positively Africa" an organization established by two islanders. That was the year he donated more than the minimum to establish a named fund at Salt Spring Island Foundation, the "Jack Hallam on behalf of GLOSSI (gays and lesbians of S.S.I.) In 2007, through the Lambda Foundation, he provided funds for two annual Human Rights awards for grade 12 students at Gulf Islands S.S. In 2008 his endowment at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay was for two entrance bursaries for needy 1st nation students. In 2009 his largest endowment \$100,000, was for graduate and undergraduate scholarships in the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at his alma mater, University College in U. of T. In September 2010 he endowed two Animal Rights awards in the Sociology Department of Brock University.

Jack was an ardent animal lover. Over his whole life he had six dogs and 17 cats. On his Salt Spring hobby farm he had a nuclear family (midwife to one) of donkeys (now at the Donkey Sanctuary of Canada south of Guelph), two pigs, one potbellied and a number of pygmy goats. Jack's last dog Blaze a Lab/great Dane cross was the "love of his life" incredibly intelligent and affectionate. She was euthanized with Snuggler, one of his part Siamese cats in Dec. 2008. Bart, Snuggler's half brother, Jack's last companion animal, was euthanized at age 19 in December 2011.

Several years after arriving in B.C. in 1990, Jack was a founding member of GLOSSI, gays and lesbians of Salt Spring Island. He was on its executive for three years, a co-grand marshall for its second Pride Parade in 2008 and again in 2009.

Jack leaves behind his cousin Rick Hallam and partner Mike Mitchener, gay activist friends Gerald Hannon and Edward Jackson, animal and human rights activist Norman Taylor all in Toronto. On S.S.I. Jack will be remembered by his many GLOSSI friends Gordon and husband George, Scott and partner Bruce, Caffyn and Melanie and James as well as dear friend Zelly Taylor.

Jack directed that his ashes, mixed with those of Blaze and three of his cats, Snoopy, Snuggler and Bart be scattered within the 19 Cusheon Creek acres that his and hundreds of other's donations to The Land Conservancy, helped save from development. Jack would like his favorite charities to be known: Amnesty International, Oxfam, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Stephen Lewis Foundation, UNHCR, UNICEF, Egalite, Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives, World Animal Protection, The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada, Zoocheck, David Suzuki Foundation and Ecojustice. In July 2011 he became a member of the Farewell Foundation for the right to Die. He was also a member of Dying With Dignity and looked forward to their possible support in providing information for his final exit. He supported a number of Salt Spring organizations. In addition to the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre, ArtSpring, S.S. Library Foundation, SWOVA, Senior Services Society, the Japanese Garden Society and the Salt Spring Forum.

Marianne Leber
July 25, 1937- October 24, 2015

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marianne Leber on October 24, 2015 at age 78 in the oncology unit of the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria. Marianne was a resident of Ganges from 1982 to 2006 working as an interior decorator and as a nurses' aide at the Lady Minto Hospital in the early 1980's. Marianne will be greatly missed by her husband Hubert, daughters Helga (Wade), Rita (Thomas), Janet (John) and son Peter (Karen); four grandchildren Kirsten, Danen, Christopher and Annie; three great grandchildren, Savana, Lukas and Ren; her brothers and their families, and many wonderful friends. All are deeply saddened and mourn her passing. Marianne's family thank all for their support during this difficult time.

Zoë Diane Woodside (nee Dockerill)
1939 - 2015

Zoë grew up in West Vancouver, and later became a long-time resident of Salt Spring Island. Predeceased by her parents, Doris and Phil, and her husband, Lynn, she is survived by her daughter Denise, grandson Garrett, sisters Avis (Frank), Sylvia (Sergey), brother Phil (Frances), and their families. An accomplished seamstress and beautiful knitter, Zoë also enjoyed pottery. She loved to be on the dance floor, and as a teenager, taught us all how to do the twist. She had a special passion for afghan dogs. She was a successful entrepreneur, and with her husband by her side, opened a popular delicatessen store on the island, where she shared her gourmet talents. A private family gathering will be held in her memory. She will be missed by her family and friends. Flowers gratefully declined. If desired, a donation to the charity of your choice would be appreciated.

Bill Rhodes
May 5, 1946 - November 8, 2015

Bill passed in his sleep early Sunday with his wife Barbara by his side in his home on Morningside Road. Bill will be remembered for his off the wall sense of humour and jokes, his kindness, generosity and his trust in all people he encountered. Bill was born in Calgary and attended The Alberta College of Art while working as a Calgary firefighter. He bought the fire hall in Fulford Harbour in 1982 and recreated it many times over. As an artist his creations took different forms, glass fusing sandblasting, custom tiles, ceramics and sculpting in paper maché for which he won countless awards and recognition. He loved his life and friends in Mexico where he could create in a tropical paradise. Bill will remain in the hearts and memories of his family and friends who loved him. A special thanks to those who made it possible for him to stay at home till the end, home care nurses, hospice, Red Cross, Beacon Community Services, and his Doctor Kalf. Celebrations of life will be held in Mexico this winter and on Salt Spring this spring.

Noreen Sylvia (Nonnie) Christian
Nov 6, 2012 - Oct. 27, 2015

Born at Edmonton, Alberta to Henry and Lilian Holland, Nov. 6th, 1912. Predeceased by her parents; and her husband, W. Gordon, son John and her siblings. Survived by daughter Maureen, 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grand children. Nonnie died at Greenwoods ElderCare Society, Salspring Island on Oct.27th, 2015. A heartfelt thank- you to the staff at Greenwoods for their thoughtful care of Noreen in her last months.

GORDON ALTON
Feb. 13, 1955 - Nov. 1, 2015

Alton, Gordon, known by many world-wide by his online moniker, "Tailgunner", passed away suddenly at the age of sixty on the first of November, 2015 at his home near Ganges, BC on Salt Spring Island. Gordy was born to parents Merle and Isabelle on Feb. 13, 1955 in Red Deer, AB where he would remain until his late thirties when he relocated to Salt Spring Island, BC. On the island, the proud father of three (now grown) children eventually found happiness working at the Mouat's Hardware store and/or Windsor Plywood, doing odd carpentry jobs as well as other work in almost any trade (this "jack-of-all-trades" was master of most!), and connecting online with many veterans of war, their family members, those currently involved in the military, and others involved in the conflicts of our past. He'd been fascinated with his dad's war stories as a child and he continued to gain as much knowledge as possible over the years. Via the internet using his alias, "Tailgunner", numerous friends were made and Gordy received many cards and messages of thanks for helping countless war vets and for the work he did encouraging thanks and remembrance for, "Those who gave so much for the lives of so many." In recent years, Gordy was blessed to be able to travel all over North America, to old battle locations in Europe, to many army bases, and to meet his online friends in person. Gordy is survived by his son, James Alton, of Victoria, BC, two daughters, Jessica Alton, of Penhold, AB, and Krista Alton who lives in Red Deer, AB with his son-in-law Robert Nonni and granddaughters, Kassandra, Jasia and Vee-Enna, his friend (and mother to his children), Susan Alton (nee Jobagy) of Penhold, AB, several extended family members including aunts, uncles, and cousins and countless friends who scatter the globe. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Gene, Terry, Dave, and Tommy Alton, his grandma, Florence Alton (with whom he was very close), and his parents, Merle and Isabelle Alton. The Tower Museum in Bassingbourn, England, where Gordy's father was stationed in WWII, is currently closed due to need for major repair. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made via the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association via the Online link: <http://www.91stbombgroup.com/> or by mail to: 3674 Sunset Lane, Oxnard, CA 93035 (checks payable to "The 91st BGMA") Special instructions should read: Donation to the Tower Museum in memory of Gordon Alton. A memorial service will be held Nov. 21, 2015 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Royal Canadian Legion located at 120 Blain Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC.

News Updates
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TUESDAY 9:30 AM

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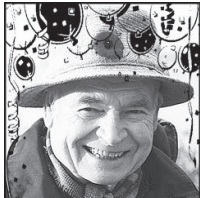


Evelyn Veitch
1955 - 2015

Our darling friend, Evelyn Veitch, passed away peacefully at the Lady Minto Hospital on November 7. We loved her free spirit and optimistic nature.

You are the stars burning brightly against the night sky. The delicate sound of angels wings as they quietly float by. Laughter captured on the breeze, joyful and heartwarming. Blossoms bursting into life on a fresh spring morning. Safe in your own piece of heaven now, out of harms way. Free to run through fields of dreams, free to dance and play.

For further info contact
Wendy Eggertson at 250-537-2658



Come join in the Celebration OF John Colam's 90th Birthday

November 21 - 2 - 4pm
Brinkworthy Clubhouse
ALL ARE WELCOME

IN MEMORIAM GIFTS



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250-537-2770
saltspringhospice.org



COMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS Vintage Retro & Collectible Show/Sale

Sunday, Nov. 22nd, 9:30am - 4:00pm, \$4 'Early Birds' @ 8:30am, \$20 Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney. Meet over 60 retro & collectible enthusiasts at this 120 table sale. Free parking; children free with adult.

Facebook: VintageRetroCollectible
Contact Josie at 250-744-1807 or josiejones@shaw.ca

COMING EVENTS

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

Salt Spring Island CONSERVANCY
Rare Raptors Revealed On & Around Salt Spring
Erica McClaren
Friday, November 20 7:00 pm • Lion's Hall
103 Bonnet Ave. 250-538-0318
www.saltspringconservancy.ca

COMING EVENTS

Pat Webber
STUDIO SHOW AND SALE
Saturday & Sunday
Nov. 28 & 29, 2015
10am - 5pm
425 Stewart Road
Guest Artist: Doreen Johnson

NOTICE OF NEW DATE FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THE ISLAND ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY (ArtSpring) will hold its AGM on
NOVEMBER 27, 2015 at 4:00 pm
ARTSPRING
100 Jackson Avenue Salt Spring Island
Financial and Annual Reports will be received and considered.
The election of several Directors of the Society will be conducted.

United Church WINTERFAIRE
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INFORMATION

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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

Anyone interested in contributing time, treasures, or ideas for Nov. 28th Syrian Refugee Crisis Fundraiser, please drop by Ganges Street Food Restaurant.

Attention New Salt Springers!



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

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TIP OF THE WEEK:
The big news now is the fact that the Lunar Nodes have entered Virgo and Pisces where they will remain for the next 18 months. This ingress occurred on November 12. Although subtle at first, the influence of this cycle becomes increasing apparent over a couple of weeks in and sometimes right away. The transit of the Moon's Nodes is a strong indicator of where and how we will each learn important lessons for our spiritual evolutionary growth. The North Node in Virgo indicates a basic theme of focusing to make the dream a reality so that it becomes manifest, tangible and realistic. That one person's or group's success or dream can prove to be another's loss or nightmare represents the eternal complexity of life. The South Node in Pisces indicates dreams and ideals which otherwise remain eternally on a wish list. But Virgo is an Earth element sign and moves us to take deliberate, measurable and concrete action. The terrorist action that occurred on November 13 in France may be cited as an example of this shift and collective turn of the karmic dial. Virgo is ruled by Mercury, Chiron and Vesta. Each of these 'planets' (Chiron is considered a minor planet or planetoid and Vesta is an asteroid) will play key roles over the next year and a half both in our Birth Charts and by transit. The Sun enters Sagittarius on Nov 22 at 7:25 am PST. I will shed more light on this ingress next week.
READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

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2nd Floor - 1 prof. office, Chair Lift, Ample parking. Call Mary Lou: 250-537-5528

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20) The transit of the lunar nodes over the next 18 months for you implies a re-assertion of your dedication to service. The sooner you can acknowledge this and adjust your attitude as necessary the better. Otherwise you could steadily slip into denial, disillusionment and deep depression. You will be progressively pushed out of any excessive orientations to yourself at the expense of giving more selflessly.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 21) An awakening of passion and joy to co-create your world according to your dreams, ideals and destiny, yet also woven with a deep sense of service, has begun. Cultivating a more defined and refined sense of leadership is implied. Rebellious attitudes or casual activities unsupported by a meaningful cause are the danger signs to watch for. Create a beautiful and balanced approach to bring your gifts to the world.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) Setting your focus to a new level of service has begun. Excessive status quo expectations will be pushed aside. The deeper needs of your soul even at the expense of social gain and profit require your attention. Directing your focus in service to others, perhaps especially to family members, to a new level is implied. Balance the drive for worldly ambition with unconditional love.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Translating your higher ideals, ethics and principles into modes of communication that can be received and understood by others is a core theme with the North Node in Virgo. Discernment regarding what is fantasy or unrealistic notions of truth, justice and proper conduct will come into focus. This is a call to 'walk the talk' of your deeper convictions and higher aspirations of civility.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 23) With the North Node in Virgo your destined task includes acknowledging what you have and can do with it. Whether it is talents, time, resources and so on... the time has come to share your gifts, opportunities and abilities with the world. You can look to others for inspiration yet it is up to you to share who you are and what you have as fully as you can and thereby realize the true meaning of abundance.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) The Moon's North Node transiting through your sign for the next year and a half marks a time period during which you are destined to become more assertive and decisive. While this will include paying attention to the details, you may have to overcome unloving and self-centered attitudes. Overcoming tendencies to lean on others or try to be all things to all people is the flip side.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22) One of your main lessons with this new lunar node cycle is to see through and beyond appearances, your own and those of others. This implies dissolving mental and emotional patterns and modes of perception which you have developed over the years for the sake of security. Cultivating your imagination and intuition to counter-balance logic and facts is featured.

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 21) The North Node in Virgo will activate a process of striking a balance between being personal and impersonal. This includes engaging with others as one among equals, neither standing above or below any other. Seeing through and beyond status and hierarchy and simply recognizing individuality in people will be a central theme. This may also manifest as rendering selfless service to higher ideals.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 - Dec 21) Learning to assume positions of authority and responsibility in new ways is a central theme for you with the North Node in Virgo. This is a summons to realize new levels of maturity. Conducting yourself with integrity and respect for the genuine needs of others constitutes an important test. As well, cultivating a deep sense of loyalty to collective causes will enter the spotlight.

Capricorn (Dec 21 - Jan 19) Making key commitments and living up to them will prove important for you with the North Node in Virgo. Devotion to higher ideals and what constitutes your higher mind is featured. You are destined to see a much bigger picture and the implications of decisions and trends made in the present spanning far into the future. Guided by solid and enduring principles and ethics will become your motto.


Aquarius (Jan 19 - Feb 19) Incorporating deep and dynamic levels of change into your life will emerge as an important theme over the coming 18 months. You could even feel the need to 'let go and let God'. Honoring the notion that change is the law and that adhering to it requires maintaining a firm point of center within your own being could prove pivotal. Focus to give and receive, nurture and be nurtured.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Seeing others more fully, recognizing their individuality and their genuine and specific needs is an important aspect of the North Node in Virgo for you. This may require extra time and effort on your part. Patience and diplomacy balanced by grace and creative leadership will emerge as keys to your success both personally and professionally.

Christmas Story Writing Contest

- Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to Christmas or the Christmas season.
- The deadline for our annual writing contest is Friday, December 11th. Win a cash prize for a story of up to 500 words about Christmas or the Christmas Season.
- All Gulf Islands students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged by retired teachers and librarians on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Send entries to the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3, email to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or fax to 250-537-2613.
- For more information, call 250-537-9933.

Teachers: Classes with the highest participation level are eligible to win a donation of \$100 made on behalf of the class to the charity of their choice!



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sports&recreation

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

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



MEN'S SOCCER

Old Boys team finds itself floating on 'Cloud Seven'

Team rebounds from 'sugar crash' to trounce Cowichan squad

Editor's note: The Driftwood's early Remembrance Day deadline prevented publication of Old Boys correspondent Fraser Hope's Nov. 8 match report. The dispatch has been reprinted in its entirety owing to the team's resounding victory. A recap of the Old Boys' far less successful "comedy of errors" against Cordova's Fighting Perch on Sunday, Nov. 15 is available at www.gulfislands-driftwood.com.

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Less than a week after losing their legs due to a Halloween sugar hangover, Old Boys faithful placed their trust in coach Graham Tweddle to rise above the idle chatter of naysayers and pessimistic punditry.

To a background of shouts of, "You're getting sacked in



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Red-shirted Old Boys encounter some chaos in a recent home match.

the morning" drifting over Finlayson Park, manager Tweddle accepted full responsibility for the loss. A vote of confidence? How many times have we heard

that. The Nov. 1 sugar crash prompted the team to call on the services of an international recognized dietician to bring

the Old Boys' training program up to a healthy standard. The expert floated several suggestions about how the team could take a load off their game.

It all seemed to work; the confident manager and new team diet contributed to an encouraging start with Michael Berendt working at 80 per cent (way above his normal level), bundling in the opening goal after connecting with a cross from Mark Aston.

The Cowichan Classics' offence replied quickly, winning the ball from Tweddle and lofting a shot high above goalkeeper Jim Witherspoon's head for the equalizer.

Then it was all one-way traffic with the Old Boys stringing several passes together (more than two) to provide a goal from David Toynbee and an own goal off a Cowichan defender to take a 3-1 lead at the match's half-way mark.

The one-way traffic continued in the second with goals from Mike McCormick, who

netted a "natural" hat-trick with support from Witherspoon's mighty kick out, Berendt's effective passing and a timely contribution from Toynbee. The lucky seventh goal was provided by Toynbee, who drilled a shot using the defenders as a screen to find the far corner of the net.

Andrew Haigh must be commended for coming home early from Hong Kong to step in for an understaffed Old Boys squad, although he looked dreadfully jet lagged, wandering about the field muttering "where's my stick?"

Special mention goes out to Dennis Shaw, who was on the field for six of the Old Boys goals and sitting out during the lone Cowichan strike — an impressive +6 efficiency.

Following this weekend's 6-0 loss to Cordova Bay, the Old Boys hope to rediscover their winning ways against the Gordon Head Nearly Dead on Sunday, Nov. 22 at Lochside Park in Victoria.



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PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Saturday,
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Please bring a non-perishable food item or a donation for the Food Bank

1:00 pm SANTA ARRIVES

Welcome Santa as he flies into Ganges Harbour with Salt Spring Air.

Children can greet Santa on the Ganges float plane dock.

1:15-3:00 pm PHOTOS WITH SANTA

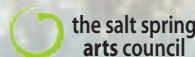
in Salt Spring Elementary Gymnasium

Santa will ride to SS Elementary in a Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue truck, where he will spend the next two hours posing for photos taken by the Driftwood.

The following week Apple Photo will have the developed pictures ready to be picked up!

“Salt Spring Arts Council”, with the help from some amazing elves, will have activities and hot chocolate set up for the kids.

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LIGHT-UP GANGES

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