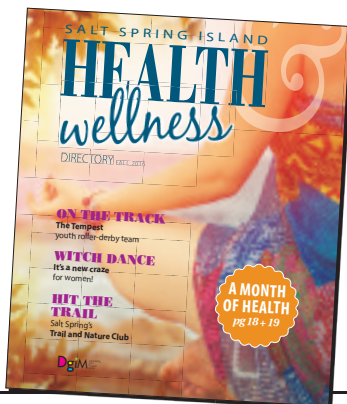




Stepping Stones
Birth of a poignant refugee story
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Lots of tips for fall!
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GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, October 5, 2016 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 56TH YEAR — ISSUE 40 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Island gets economic accelerator funds

UBCM also supports rural status for electoral areas

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island has been successful in its bid to access BC Rural Dividend funding, with a grant of \$72,080 to help accelerate homegrown business talent announced Friday.

The funding will allow the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission to launch a program over three four-month terms in 2017, which will provide mentoring, training courses and toolkits to local business owners. The goal is to retain and grow existing island enterprises in order to boost the local economy and build year-round employment opportunities.

"This was a good team effort by staff and our CEDC members Darryl Martin, Francine Carlin and Holly MacDonald," reported Salt Spring's CRD director Wayne McIntyre.

"We're hoping that it's going to be highly successful and help some of our businesses to be more visible on the island and to be more successful."

Starting this fall, the BC Rural Dividend will supply \$25 million a year over three years to assist rural communities with a population of 25,000 or less to reinvigorate and diversify their local economies. It was developed "to recognize both the contribution rural communities have made to B.C.'s economy,

DIVIDEND continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

THE REALLY BIG APPLE: Noah Bromley pretends to take a bite from a huge Mutsu apple, part of the Apple Festival display at Fulford Hall on Sunday. See the Driftwood's Facebook page for more festival photos.

FIRE

Campfire spreads off Ganges trail

Stump fire illustrates how ground still dry

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

About six firefighters began the week with a call to extinguish a stubborn stump fire off a public trail near Ganges.

A crew arrived on the scene near Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic Church in the 100 block of Drake Road soon after 9 a.m. on Monday.

The stump was located about 25 metres off the Bishops Walk Trail, which runs between Drake and Dean roads.

Acting fire chief AJ George said the fire, which appears to have been set under a cedar tree by campers on Sunday, spread through the roots and natural debris along the forest floor. The fire ultimately reached a stump that was supporting a large cedar tree.

The crew used foam, pulaskis and a chainsaw to expose the root system and eliminate potential hotspots.

Firefighters discovered a used wooden pallet and other items left by illegal campers near the site of the fire.

Recent rain on the island has yet to penetrate deeply into the ground, meaning many areas, especially those that are sheltered by a thick tree canopy, are still quite dry and pose a significant fire hazard.

FIRE continued on 5

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INSERTS

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- Ganges Pharmasave
- Staples
- Thrifty Foods
- Natural Retail Mktg.

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HEALTH CARE

Greenwoods AGM heralds fresh era for care society

Board glad to move beyond troubles

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A year following concerns expressed about operations at Greenwoods facilities, board members say the situation appears to be on the mend.

"This has been quite a year," said board chair Barb Aust at the society's Sept. 28 AGM. "There were all kinds of issues that were raised, issues that we had to deal with and have spent a lot of time deal-

ing with."

To that end, the organization's key strategic goals looking ahead to 2019 include finding a solution to the organization's "ongoing financial situation," shifting from an institutional setting to a more home-like environment, becoming recognized by Accreditation Canada and creating seamless senior services that range from independent living to palliative care.

Aust said some of the improvements accomplished in the past year include reor-

ganizing the facility's management structure, further training for staff and volunteers, and the hiring of Paul Oliphant as the organization's executive director.

"We want to go beyond being seen as a nursing facility, that's an important part of what we do, but we want to focus on the emotional and spiritual well-being of our residents as well.

"That really requires a transformation and in many ways requires a transformation from the people who are providing the care, and I think

that's what they want to do, and I think it's up to us to support them in doing so."

Greenwoods Eldercare Society is a not-for-profit organization that owns and manages residential care facilities, including Braehaven and Greenwoods.

The society recorded a 2015 operating deficit of nearly \$200,000. The "ongoing financial situation" appears to be headed in a more promising direction, according to budget figures released for 2016, which show a surplus of nearly \$100,000.

The rebound appears largely due to increased funding by Island Health and BC Housing.

"I'm not sure we've turned the corner, but it's positive," said auditor Chris Fyfe.

Fyfe noted continued concerns with the organization's ongoing operating fund and working capital deficiency.

Greenwoods kicks off annual appeal

The society's president, Rick Alexander, was unable to attend the event but pro-

vided a written submission in which he acknowledged and thanked the work of volunteers and community donors.

He said the "Small Things Matter" theme introduced in the past year has resulted in minor fixes with significant impacts. These include replacement of dining room windows, upgrades to the Greenwoods garden gazebo, new outdoor safety gates, a new piano for music and entertainment programming and a renovated lobby area.

The 2016 appeal began on Oct. 1.

VIDEO THIS WEEK »



GANGES STUMP FIRE
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RCMP

Stolen items turn up in school grounds

Erratic driver flees crash scene

Drivers are being reminded to lock their vehicle doors and to remove valuables and items containing personal information following the theft of several items from a car parked on Kanaka Road.

A Salt Spring RCMP report states a resident awoke on Sept. 28 to find that someone had gone through his unlocked vehicle. Some of the stolen items were located later in the week on the grounds of a local school.

Also during the past week, Salt Spring RCMP responded to a single-vehicle collision on Fulford-Ganges Road. When police arrived on scene they discovered that the driver of the vehicle had failed to remain there. Witnesses said the vehicle had been driven in a reckless and dangerous manner. The matter is still

under investigation.

Police continue to receive weekly complaints regarding the motoring public failing to stop for a school bus. Section 149 of the Motor Vehicle Act states that drivers who meet a stopped school bus on which a sign or signal is displayed indicating the school bus is receiving or unloading school children must stop before reaching the bus and not proceed until the bus resumes motion or the driver of the bus signals to other drivers that it is safe to proceed.

"School District 64, in partnership with the Salt Spring RCMP, are committed to the safety of the students on Salt Spring Island and will investigate all complaints relating to failing to stop for a school bus," a report from the local detachment states.

RCMP will issue violation tickets to offending drivers if sufficient evidence is available, or to the registered owner of the vehicle when the driver's identity is unknown.

Directors celebrate rural status movement

DIVIDEND

continued from 1

and the unique challenges they face to diversify beyond natural resources." It is funded through the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

McIntyre and Mike Hicks, CRD director for the Juan de Fuca area, attended the Electoral Area Directors Forum at the Union of BC Municipalities convention last week with an aim to advocate for their communities' inclusion in rural status. Their two electoral areas and the Southern Gulf Islands have not been eligible for some rural funding programs such

as Community Futures BC because they are part of the Capital Regional District.

The directors were relieved to hear from Claudia Trudeau, manager of strategic policy for the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, that an exception would be made in the case of the rural dividend.

McIntyre and Hicks were also successful in their bid to have the UBCM delegates endorse a resolution calling on the governments of Canada and British Columbia to recognize the rural nature of the three CRD electoral areas and include them in all future government programs and grants

offered to electoral areas in B.C.

The UBCM Resolutions Committee had initially recommended the convention not endorse the resolution and instead send it to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities as a regional matter. The resolution was consigned to the block of issues that cannot be debated on the convention floor.

Hicks requested that the matter be moved onto the main agenda, which required a two-thirds majority vote.

"He had a chance to very briefly articulate what he felt were some of the inequalities," said McIntyre, who followed up on Hicks' presentation with

an explanation of the Islands Trust Act's legal requirements that Salt Spring and the Southern Gulf Islands maintain their rural island character.

The vote to move the matter onto the agenda and the subsequent vote to endorse the resolution were both passed with almost unanimous approval.

"I almost fell off my chair with the support," McIntyre said.

He added he feels the provincial government must heed the voice of so many municipalities and electoral areas.

"Hopefully it will carry heavy weight to have [the resolution] formalized. It was a major step," McIntyre said.

Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on **Monday, Oct. 10 - Thanksgiving** and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, Oct. 11.



Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Oct. 12 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline: **Thursday, Oct. 6, 3pm**

Classified Display Deadline: **Friday, Oct. 7, 3pm**

Classified Word Deadline: **Tuesday, Oct. 11, 9am**

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NEWS BEAT

Heads up!

SSI Ceramic Awards

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HORTICULTURE

Tropical tree expert mourns downtown Ganges loss

Grace Point eucalyptus on chopping block

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

"Banana Joe" Clemente is well known as a man who loves his tropical plants.

Whether it's kiwis, palms or the fruit from which he derived his nickname, he admires their lush beauty and their ability to thrive in the warmer locations of the West Coast rain forest.

Clemente has many plants to tend to in his work with Salt Spring's parks maintenance crew, but one tree outside his current zone of influence has recently earned most of his attention: a tall Eucalyptus dalrympleana located at the edge of the Grace Point strata complex grounds that has been tagged for removal.

"I could never think of cutting that tree down. It's amazing," Clemente said during a visit to the area on his lunch break last week.

A couple of decades back, Clemente was working for Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply. He consulted on the planning for the subtropical garden, which has since become a prominent part of the Grace Point environs. Two Eucalyptus dalrympleana trees used to straddle the

private footpath entrance near the boardwalk; one of these was cut down recently because a root was lifting the concrete paving stones.

The fast-growing species naturally occurs in southeastern Australia states of Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, and can grow up to 50 metres high in good conditions. Clemente believes the Grace Point tree's ancestors must have come from the mountains, given that it has survived extended cold spells that killed off similar trees planted in Vancouver.

"I'm guessing the seed for the tree probably came from the highest elevation of the range where they grow in Tasmania," Clemente said.

Roger Smith, a resident of Grace Point since 1995 and the current strata president, said the residents are aware that other community members appreciate the gardens and might oppose any trees coming down. However, many of the trees on site were planted when the strata was built around 1990 and some are no longer sound, are too large, or turned out to be awkwardly placed.

"Gardening and groundskeeping is the largest item on the strata budget, so we put a lot of pride into how everyone sees it, because we're right downtown," Smith said.

The particular eucalyptus in

question was identified as a problem during a survey done last week to look for potentially dangerous specimens. While structural problems can make some trees an issue in terms of safety and strata liability, in this case the major concern is the tree was planted right beside the access to an underground utility services box.

"It's a terrible position for this tree. The problem, which is fully established, is only going to get worse," Smith said. "Eucalyptus are beautiful, but they're very fast growing. If it doesn't get damaged it will continue to grow."

It's already impossible to get the access panel lid off, and BC Hydro crews are scheduled to come and take a look, he added.

The eucalyptus will most likely come down next month and then a new variety will replace it, in a better location. Smith said he's not sure how choices were made for the original landscaping plan, but there will be many considerations for new additions, including how to suit the island's recent droughts.

For some the loss of the stately eucalyptus will remain a hard one, though.

"They're not super common here, and they only grow in certain areas, so for that reason they should be cherished," Clemente said.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

"Banana Joe" Clemente stands near a cherished eucalyptus tree, to the left in the photo, that has been slated for removal from the Grace Point strata grounds.

NEWS BRIEFS

Table set for community feast

Thanksgiving is a time for sharing, but since many people are without family on the holiday, Jane Patterson thought it would be fun to get together with a few folks with nowhere else to celebrate.

"I tend to spend the holidays alone, and I know many people feel sad this

time of year," Patterson said.

The idea for a centrally located community dinner took off immediately, and Harbour House Hotel management stepped up to offer its commercial kitchen, dining room and probably a turkey or two.

"Our dining room is not currently being used except for guest breakfasts, so this will be a nice thing to do here," said Rob Scheres, manager of the Harbour House Hotel.

The dinner will be held on Monday, Oct. 10, from 5 to 7 p.m. Doors open at 3 p.m. Everyone is invited, and small potluck contributions are also welcome. Other food and cash donations (to buy other food items) will be gratefully received. Volunteer help for clean-up would be appreciated.

Call Marilyn Guille at 250-931-1312 with offers of help or Jane Patterson at 250-800-0532 for further information and to let her know if you plan to attend.

Business award nominations needed

Salt Spring Island's 11th annual Small Business Week is coming up from Oct. 18 to 20, and nominations for local business awards are due this Friday, Oct. 7.

Presented by Island Savings, the Driftwood and the Salt Spring Chamber of Com-

merce, the awards ceremony will be held at ArtSpring on Thursday, Oct. 20. Awards will be presented for best business (15+ employees), small business, new business, non-profit association, tourism business, agriculture/farm business, green business, trades and construction business and outstanding customer service.

Nominators must explain why a business should win an award with as many details as possible. Participants and nominators do not need to

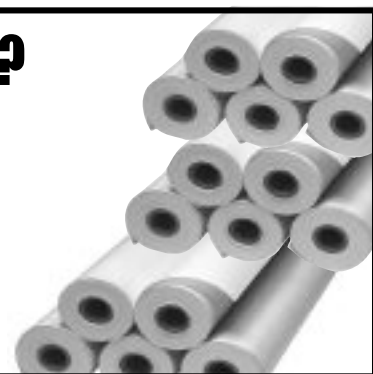
be chamber members.

Nomination forms can be found at the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce office and Island Savings and must be turned in by end of day Friday, or completed online at www.saltspringchamber.com.

Other events for 2016 include a Small Business Showcase at Meaden Hall on Tuesday, Oct. 18, and a workshop on small business marketing and "Biz Tools" on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

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FOOD BANK

Junior buskers fundraise for Salt Spring food bank

Docherty brothers say goodbye on high note

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
STAFF WRITER

A band of busking brothers who've made a name for themselves on Salt Spring has bid farewell to the island with a final act of generosity.

Nearly a year after brothers Liam and Ewan Docherty strummed up more than \$1,200 for the island's emergency shelter, they've hit street corners and stages once again to raise money for another worthy cause, and this time they brought along their three-year-old brother Connor.

According to The Full Cupboard website, \$365 is all that food banks require to give a child three nutritious meals every day for a year. The website notes that approximately 30 per cent of the people who rely on food banks in British Columbia are kids, and that includes children in the boys' hometown.

Island Savings launched The Full Cupboard campaign as part of an effort to provide the equivalent



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left, Connor, Ewan and Liam Docherty trade smiles and tunes for donations to the food bank during one of their busking stunts in Ganges.

of 650,000 meals to residents of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, a target that requires fundraising nearly \$75,000 per year.

"I heard they needed dona-

tions, and I watched the video by Island Savings about children needing food on Salt Spring," said Liam, 9. "I thought I could help them."

The boys' mother, Natalie Docherty, said the \$365 figure offered an attainable goal the buskers could work toward, and it wasn't long before they hit the streets playing popular classics for pedestrians in and around Ganges. During the summer, the boys played in Victoria and attended open-mic nights throughout the region.

Liam, who learned his first guitar chords when he was four, said he likes Space Oddity by David Bowie. Ewan, 7, has a penchant for The Beatles' Help and Yellow Submarine as well as Thriller by Michael Jackson. At only three years of age, Connor is still leaving his options open before settling on a favourite.

After three summers spent in front of the crowds, Liam's advice to anyone who gets nervous in front of an audience is to just go out and do it.

"Sometimes I feel nervous before, but once I'm on stage I feel calm and confident," he said.

The boys held several busking sessions in and around Ganges to meet their target, but the main event was about two weeks ago,

when they set up on an improvised stage between the bakery department and produce section at Country Grocer.

The boys earned their way into the hearts and wallets of shoppers, who donated funds to help the boys exceed their fundraising goal by \$13.

"They covered the hits. It was well organized and a great spot with a constant flow of people," Natalie said. "People were very generous and the boys soon began to receive \$10 and \$20 bills."

Ewan said it feels great to have met the campaign target and Liam said he really appreciates the effort by everyone who donated.

The boys and their family have just completed a move to Qualicum Beach, where they look forward to finding a new community cause to support.

Islanders who missed the opportunity to donate can still make a contribution to The Full Cupboard campaign at www.islandsavings.ca/Personal/Community/FullCupboard/. All donations are spent locally.

WATERWORKS

Water board considers new parcel tax

NSSWD offers to grandfather pre-moratorium suites

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District is in the final stages of approving what trustees considers a more equitable taxation requirement for more than 5,000 islanders and organizations.

Under the NSSWD's current rate structure, owners of single-family dwellings pay the same parcel tax fee and surcharges as the owners of multi-unit commercial complexes, hotels, apartment blocks and mobile home parks.

The new system, which board members aim to implement before the end of the year, would base the district's fixed taxation rates on the number of units on any given property.

"We're trying to bring some fairness to the system," said Marshall Heinekey. "So many things on the island have changed, yet we haven't had a major change in our rate structure since God knows when."

The district anticipates the proposed changes will affect about 12 per cent of ratepayers. According to minutes from the NSSWD board's Aug. 28 meeting, the broader parcel tax base will allow charges for the district's new treatment plant on St. Mary Lake to be spread among a greater number of users. He said this should

reduce the surcharge cost for ratepayers.

Heinekey said the district plans to meet with affected ratepayers over the coming weeks to discuss the change. A notice outlining the proposal's potential consequences will be circulated.

"We don't want to hammer businesses," Heinekey said.

The changes will be phased in over a two- to three-year period.

Secondary suites get some slack

Trustees voted last week to grandfather registered secondary suites built and occupied before the NSSWD board enacted its moratorium on new water connections as a conservation measure on Oct. 1, 2014.

Heinekey doesn't know how many homeowners will register their rental suites, but he said the decision arose from requests by homeowners who wish to convert their illegal suites into legal accommodation units that comply with building code standards.

Since water use by tenants of the illegal suites is already part of the district's water reserves, legalizing specific suites isn't anticipated to increase demand on limited reserves.

"The logic behind it is we've been serving those suites all along," he said.

Board members agreed that

registration of the suites is in the public's interest since many illegal accommodations fail to meet building code requirements. Ensuring the units comply with building codes will remain the responsibility of Islands Trust and Capital Regional District bylaw personnel.

"Owners have got to bring the suites up to code and address any safety issues, which we're in favour of, but those are not our issues," Heinekey said. "We're not on a witch hunt. That job resides with the bylaw enforcement office."

All owners who seek to register a secondary suite will need to provide proof that the suite existed prior to the Oct. 1, 2014 moratorium decision.

Level 4 conservation still in effect

Wetter September weather hasn't been enough to lift water conservation measures implemented by the NSSWD early in the summer.

"We're not out of the woods yet," reads a statement from the NSSWD. "Until further notice (preceded by a great deal of rain), the district remains at Level 4 Conservation."

Water levels in Maxwell and St. Mary lakes continue to decline, according to NSSWD data published on Sept. 28. Based on data collected over the past four years, water levels

generally begin to rise with the onset of sustained winter rains in October or November.

Although rainfall within the St. Mary Lake watershed between January and September was 100 mm greater than during the same period last year, much of that moisture fell during the winter, when excess water levels flowed over the St. Mary Lake weir and toward the ocean via Duck Creek.

According to the district, rainfall during the crucial months of April, May, June and July was less than normal. August saw precipitation levels drop to 24 per cent of normal.

"So the slightly greater than normal rainfall in September has not been enough to compensate for the dry summer," according to the district.

Under Water Conservation Level 4, all outdoor watering is prohibited, including newly seeded or sodded lawns, orchards and pastures. Watering of established gardens is restricted to no more than one hour between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The washing of vehicles, RVs and boats is banned, as is the washing of driveways, sidewalks, parking lots and exterior building surfaces. Watering of public parks, open space and sports fields is also banned.

Complete details, exemptions and penalties of the NSSWD's Bylaw 274 are available at www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca. Conditions apply to residents who live within the NSSWD's jurisdiction.

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TRANSPORTATION

Active travel to be promoted at Gulf Islands schools

Transportation commission debates program merits

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Capital Regional District is bringing its Active and Safe Routes to School project to Gulf Islands Secondary School as part of a region-wide effort to encourage students and families to use more active transportation.

According to the CRD, the ASRTS project is a community-based initiative to address infrastructure, behaviour, enforcement and education needs on school grounds and in surrounding neighbourhoods. As the appropriate CRD body on the island, the Salt Spring

Island Transportation Commission has been asked to supply a member to sit on the GISS project advisory committee.

The program brought mixed views in a discussion at SSITC's Sept. 26 meeting, with commissioners voting to defer naming a volunteer until the next session. Scott Simmons said he is opposed to the initiative and doesn't see the value of implementing it on Salt Spring, where school buses are heavily used and biking can be dangerous.

"Right off the bat I'm totally against this program. I think it's a total waste of time. I just don't see how it's going to make anything better for anybody on Salt Spring," Simmons said, adding teachers would not have time to add another task to their schedule.

Seth Wright countered that he wholeheartedly endorses the program, which includes ideas such as bike training and creating tune-up stations where kids can access tools for bicycles and skateboards. He also noted that population density is being encouraged in Ganges, and building active transportation in the area would support that growing community.

ASRTS is one of more than a dozen initiatives under the CRD's People Power Program to increase the use of human-powered transportation in the region. All four school districts in the CRD are represented in the program, with 20 schools participating in the comprehensive school travel planning process and eight more in special events and data collection. GISS and Galiano Community School

are the two communities representing School District 64.

"Each school is supported by a travel planning facilitator throughout the 15-month school travel planning process which engages students, teachers, parents, school boards, municipal transportation planners and engineers, public health and local law enforcement agencies to address traffic and transportation challenges," CRD program information explains. "Outcomes include mapping the best routes, identifying issues and developing action plans and school-based encouragement activities such as park- and-walk stations, bike skills courses, skate-board repair workshops and walk-to-school days. The goal is to raise awareness of the issues and establish practical solutions to make

travel in and around schools more efficient, safe and welcoming for all modes of travel."

SSITC is actually ahead of the game when it comes to identifying infrastructure needs, as it is currently constructing a safe pathway on Rainbow Road from GISS to the intersection with Lower Ganges Road. The commission will also be asked to review the school travel profile that families will create this fall, and contribute to the development of a school action plan.

An Islands Trust planner is also expected to be attached to the project. The committee's work is to be finalized by Oct. 30.

The project has been funded by the Real Estate Foundation of B.C., the Victoria Foundation and the CRD Traffic Safety Commission.

Public help appreciated in reporting fires

FIRE

continued from 1

A neighbourhood resident who watched as firefighters staged their response along Drake Road said he's observed many illegal campers living in the forest near the trail in recent months. At the peak of the summer, he said, as many as 50 campers were spread

throughout the woods. He expressed his concern about the threat posed to nearby houses by unattended or poorly extinguished campfires.

The Bishops Walk Trail is maintained by the Capital Regional District. CRD staff were on site to assess the damage as fire crews extinguished the blaze.

Dan Ovington, manager of the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission,

said the incident is a good reminder for people to report park regulations by calling 250-537-4448 or ssparc@crd.bc.ca.

"PARC staff regularly patrol community parks and trails looking for campers and other potential safety issues," he said. "Despite our best effort, we still rely heavily on the general public to notify us should they see potential hazards or people violating CRD park bylaws."

HEALTH CARE

Youth mental health series begins

Understanding Anxiety and Adolescence

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island parents will have access to a series of free events on topics related to their children's mental health and substance use starting this month.

The program, which continues into spring 2017, is an initiative of the Salt Spring Island Local Action Team of the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative. Funding is through a partnership of Doctors of BC and the B.C. government.

SSILAT project lead Justine Thomson explained the local action team is a multi-disciplinary group that includes families with lived experience of mental health or substance use, teachers, school counsellors, physicians, nurse practitioners and clinical counsellors.

"It's one of 64 teams operating in B.C. right now that is really looking to address gaps in mental health for children and youth across the province," Thomson said.

The current funding program has helped the Salt Spring group, which has been meeting for around eight years, to address some of their key objectives by offering education and support to families in free public education events.

"Participants of LAT are really interested in having sustainable change," Thomson said. "Even after

this program ends at the end of March, that work will continue, but the funding right now allows us to reach out and target our goals in a really meaningful way."

The first of the series, called Understanding Anxiety and Adolescence, will take place Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Fernwood Elementary School. The event features Tamara Strijack of the Neufeld Institute (and daughter of renowned developmental psychologist Gordon Neufeld) in a two-hour conversation with participants.

The Neufeld Institute is a Vancouver-based not-for-profit, whose mission is to use developmental science to help adults better understand the children they are caring for.

"A lot of local families have shared meaningfully with the local action team."

JUSTINE THOMSON
Project lead,
SSI Local Action Team

"Anxiety is of huge concern to the local action team. Increased anxiety in adolescents is something we're seeing across B.C.," Thomson said, noting it was the top issue identified by local team members as a service gap needing to be addressed.

"A lot of local families have shared meaningfully with the local action

team. It's been moving and valuable to hear their challenges and what's worked," she added.

The Neufeld Institute workshop will discuss topics such as what teen angst is and when caregivers should be concerned about anxiety. It will help parents recognize signs and provide resources and strategies to pass on to their children.

A second high-priority issue is around suicide and crisis response. SSILAT has facilitated a professional development day for the Gulf Islands School District on Oct. 21, during which teachers and staff, plus any other professionals who wish to join in, can talk with members of a High Risk Services Team and an Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team from Island Health.

The public event connected to this issue is a workshop called Challenging Conversations with Teens, which is scheduled for Nov. 9 at the Salt Spring Public Library. Participants can include any parent, caregiver or concerned member of the community, not just those with family experience of crisis.

Event topics slated for early 2017 are related to substance use and self-injury.

Pre-registration is required for all events, and free child minding will be available. Interested participants are invited to register under Eventbrite.com. Search for Understanding Anxiety in Adolescence with Tamara Strijack and Challenging Conversations with Teens for the first two sessions.

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OPINION



2016 CCNA Awards
Gold - Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Gold - Environmental Writing (Elizabeth Nolan)
Gold - Special Section (Best of Salt Spring Island) | Silver - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)
Bronze - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)

2016 BCYCNA Awards
Silver - Environmental Initiative (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - General Excellence



EDITORIAL

Carbon quandary

Reaction to the federal government's plan for a carbon tax within the next two years has been swift and furious.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall said he felt betrayed by the federal government's move to implement a \$10 per tonne charge on carbon. Ed Fast, the Conservative energy critic, accused Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of taking a sledgehammer to federal-provincial relations.

Environment ministers from Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador walked out of the meeting where the announcement was made.

Critics say pricing carbon will strangle economies and hurt the bottom line for businesses and families, but they're really only worried about sacrificing business as usual in exchange for developing solutions to mitigate climate change.

These critics miss the point. Prices will only affect us if we sustain the fossil fuel-consuming habits that are contributing to the global climate catastrophe. Yet, as many observers point out, carbon taxes aim to change habits. Instead of driving off the lot with a new gas guzzler, we consider more fuel-efficient vehicles, or we ditch investments in coal and liquified natural gas in favour of hydro electricity and other renewables. By reducing emissions, we avoid the tax. Revenue from the tax can be used to stimulate development of more efficient industries to boost job growth and the economy.

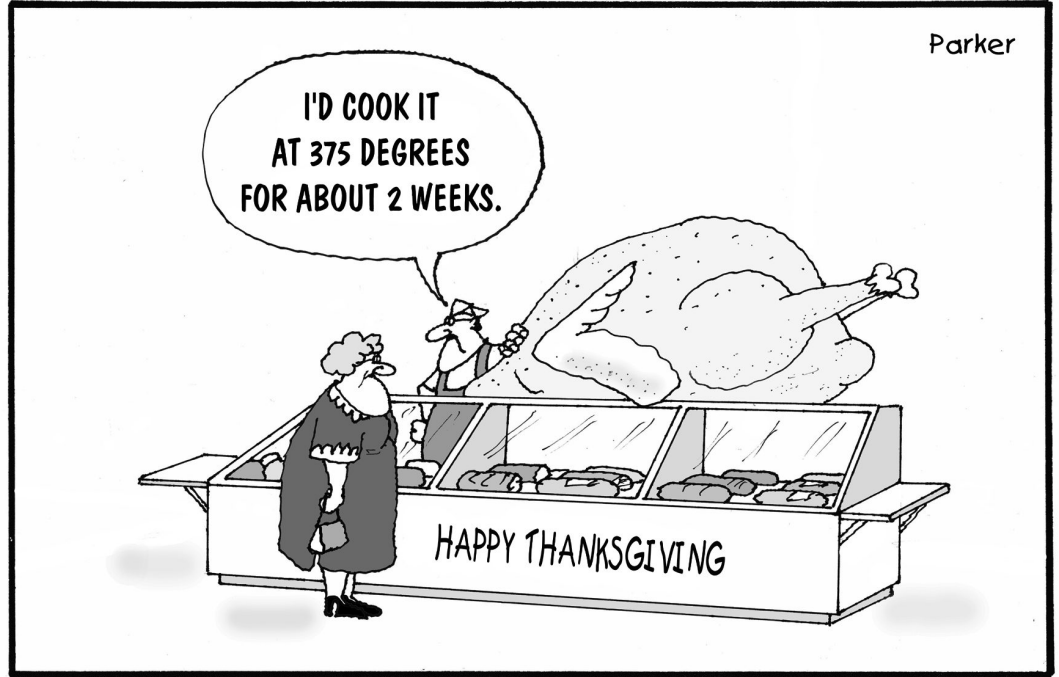
Nearly a year ago, president Barack Obama called climate change the greatest threat of our time. Jose Angel Gurría, Secretary General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, called climate change a major threat to economic recovery. "Global emissions of greenhouse gases must peak within the next 10 to 15 years, and then start to decline," he wrote back in 2009. "Every nation must play its part."

B.C. introduced a \$30 per tonne carbon tax in 2008. Quebec followed suit with a cap-and-trade system in 2013, and Ontario is set to launch a similar plan. Alberta is on the brink of introducing a tax of its own. These provinces deserve credit for pioneering a global effort to address a formidable challenge. Climate laggards like the governments of Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador have chosen to pursue short-sighted decisions motivated by political gain rather than science, and this fails to inspire hope for our future or confidence about the leadership in those regions.

B.C.'s Seniors Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie, raised the alarm this July over the fact that senior families saw their annual median income fall 5.7 per cent and single seniors by 6.3 per cent (over 2013).

Then there's the side of the ledger that hasn't stalled: living expenses. In April 2010, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation reported that the average rent for a one bedroom apartment in B.C. was \$876 and \$983 for a two bedroom.

In 2015, the respective rents were \$973 and \$1,136, an increase of 11 and 15.6 per cent respectively. The cumulative increase in the consumer price index (CPI) was nine per cent.



VIEWPOINT by Dermot Travis

Stats paint gloomy payroll picture

It was National Payroll Week a few weeks ago. Regrettably, celebrations did not include an extra paycheque. British Columbians may even be wondering what there is to celebrate at all.

According to a Canadian Payroll Association's survey of employed Canadians released in September, 53 per cent of British Columbians reported that "it would be difficult to meet their financial obligations if their pay cheque was delayed by even a single week."

Alec Milne of research firm Framework Partners noted that "the data suggests that household income growth has stalled and real incomes have actually declined when inflation is taken into account."

In 2014, according to the latest numbers from Statistics Canada, the median income for an individual in B.C. was \$31,610, compared to the national median of \$32,790.

The percentage of British Columbians earning below \$25,000 was 41.6 per cent. Add in those earning up to \$49,999 and 69.2 per cent earned below \$50,000.

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Now try finding one. The vacancy rate over the same period fell from 3.1 to 1.8 per cent, despite an increase of 4,229 units across B.C. In 2011, B.C.'s Provincial Health Services Authority reported that the cost of a standard "nutritious food basket for a family of four (was) \$869 per month."

By 2015, it had risen 12.1 per cent to \$974 per month (cumulative CPI 6.1 per cent).

Then there are those "just a few dollars a month more" regressive tax hikes the B.C. government likes so much. They add up.

MSP premiums are up 31.6 per cent (2010 to 2016) to \$900 for an individual and \$1,800 for a family (cumulative CPI 10.4).

For an average B.C. Hydro ratepayer using 1,000 kWh per month, their annual bill has risen by 32 per cent (2010 to 2015) to \$1,235 per year (cumulative CPI 9.0).

FortisBC customers learned this week that the utility company wants to hike the cost of natural gas by a whopping 80 per cent.

Back to one last stat from the Payroll Association's survey: 27 per cent of employees in B.C. said "they probably couldn't come up with \$2,000 if an emergency arose within the next month," making them among "the most cash-strapped in the nation."

The government may like touting the fact that B.C. is on track to have the highest provincial job growth rate in the land this year, but it would do well to remember that the growth is in some of Canada's lowest paying jobs and in some of the country's priciest communities.

The writer is the executive director of Integrity B.C.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support a federally mandated carbon tax?

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:

Are you interested in the incorporation study?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We're not on a witch hunt. That job resides with the bylaw enforcement office."

MARSHALL HEINEKEY, NSSWD BOARD CHAIR

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What's your fall wellness strategy?



BOB ROGERS
Split your firewood yourself.



RALPH BISCHOFF
Rake the leaves and get the yard in order.



JUDY HENDERSON
If I was staying on here during the winter I would make sure to go to the gym every morning and Aquafit three times a week.



ANDREW CROSSLEY
Move to Salt Spring Island.



EMILIE SIPOS
Fall colour coordination.

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](mailto:Send.your.letters.to.news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

Young doctor gratitude

When I get home from a third-year clerkship shift, I ring my Japanese bell three times to centre myself after a long day.

Ring: "Thank you to the people who trust and share their lives with me." Ding: "Thank you to the teachers who challenge and inspire me." Dong: "Thank you (to me) for being present and open to each new teacher."

I have created this habit as it lets me reflect on my day. I use it to acknowledge the people I have interacted with and release some of the pain I have observed.

Third year is like a flash. Within no time, I have seen new life enter the world and old and young lives leave. What has touched me the most is love and the human connection. This love is what makes me thankful for being a part of each person's story as they enter the hospital or family clinic office. I am indebted to you as you've decided to welcome a learner into your story.

When I am asked to see a patient, I go and introduce myself. "Hello my name is Tika Okuda. I'm a student doctor working with Dr. X. Would it be okay to see me before he/she comes in?"

Your answer has more power than you know. For

those that say "Yes," you take the risk of being seen by a learner. By doing so you allow me to get to know you, but you also allow the stories in my textbooks to have faces, smiles, jokes and tears. You are the people I remember. Your stories paint the pictures to my textbooks and make me remember how a medical condition can affect a life and a family, what to watch out for and when to bring in extra help.

Yes, I will make mistakes, but I will learn from them, and the Canadian teaching model has checks and balances to ensure your safety. Your trust will help me become a better doctor.

As a GISS graduate, and a

UBC third-year medical student, I want to thank the Dr. Buchan Charitable Trust, his family and the community for your continued support of my education.

TIKA OKUDA,
GALIANO ISLAND

Beddis issue

I can see the possibility of confusion arising from the Sept. 28 Driftwood article headlined "Restructure amounts revealed."

A Sept. 20 letter regarding committed restructuring assistance from Peter Fassbender, the minister of community, sport and cultural development, states: "Provide financial assistance to the new municipality to resolve the

outstanding road tenure issue of Beddis Road, should this issue not be resolved prior to incorporation."

The Driftwood's report stating "MoTI has also promised to cover any costs incurred to resolve ownership questions over a stretch of the 900 block of Beddis Road, where a property owner installed a series of speed humps in August" is not incorrect, but it did leave out the "prior to incorporation" bit.

Ryan Evanoff, the MoTI area manager, has maintained that the ministry is committed to solving the road tenure situation with or without incorporation.

BEV BOLTON,
MILES AVENUE

Kudos

As we are winding down from what has been one of the better summers for tourists for a while, it is time to thank the good people at the visitors centre who do a wonderful job, always with a smile, and to the bus drivers who we often hear from our guests are always friendly and will drop people off almost at our door!

A number of our guests over the past couple of years have taken to leaving their cars at home and relying on our wonderful public transportation system.

Thank you one and all.
NICHOLAS HUNT,
DUTHIE GALLERY & B&B

Maliview surface part of infrastructure woes

BY PETER VINCENT

In early June of this year, the Mainroad South Island Contracting trucks rumbled up Maliview Drive and, to the initial delight of all the residents, began resurfacing.

Maliview Drive services the highest density of Salt Springers on the island, from young families to ancient pensioners. Buses, bikes, cars, baby strollers, dogs, horses, wheelchairs, joggers — you name it — you will see it on Maliview.

A resurfacing was way past due. For years, this road has been an amalgam of potholes, missing asphalt and patches on top of patches on top of patches.

Needless to say, we were all quite giddy to see Mainroad laying down a very smelly, sticky bitumen (think tar sands) followed by loads of gravel, followed by a giant roller crushing the gravel into the oil. We all closed our windows and put up with the mess, anticipating that this was the initial base, to be followed by asphalt. We waited. And waited. And waited.

It soon became clear that this was it. In their wisdom, Mainroad had replaced the existing asphalt road with a gravel road. And here we are, four months later, stuck with a gravel road on one of the most travelled sections on Salt Spring. There are no more strollers (have you tried to push a stroller through gravel?) and the slightest trickle of cyclists. The first time I took my road bike on the road, I immediately got a flat.

It's tough to jog on gravel and nearly impossible to traverse with a wheelchair. Even dog

walkers are looking for alternatives. Cars, trucks and busses drive up and down, creating plumes of dust and noise. Parked cars and house windows are filthy.

I had the distinct impression from the cheery flag person that this was going to be "awesome" and we should be grateful. We're not all that grateful. I surmised that Mainroad may have factored in the middle/lower income demographics when deciding to apply this Dollar Store version of road maintenance to Maliview, but no . . . they did the same thing in front of the gated palaces along Sunset Drive.

And now, the St. Mary Loop (as it is known to cyclists), one of the most popular bike routes on Salt Spring, is only used by bikes equipped with big, fat off-road tires — the only way to safely negotiate this Third-World paving alternative.

So my question is: who are the deciders? Who decides what roads get blessed with "maintenance" every summer, and who decides on the sort of treatment the lucky few receive? I have found it near impossible to unravel this bureaucratic Gordian knot. I am pretty sure that no one who actually drives on our roads has any input. There is no committee like the PARC or the transportation commission or the ferry advisory committee — boards embedded with actual islanders — who can speak with some expertise. No, from what I can tell, decisions are made from a desk located in Victoria or Nanaimo — most

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likely by an accountant that has rarely set foot on our island.

I have lived on Salt Spring for three decades. In that time, I have witnessed pensioners on their hands and knees in the middle of the road with a bucket of yellow paint, repainting what was left of the faded middle lines. Soon after this was brought to public attention in the Driftwood, road crews magically showed up and lines were painted.

A couple of months ago the Driftwood published a picture of a pair of pants sticking straight up out of the sinkhole at the bottom of Ganges Hill. Again, magically, 10 days later, a crew showed up and fixed this chronic, ongoing fountain in the middle of the road. It seems embarrassment and ridicule are effective methods to jolt highways maintenance.

Or tragedy. Several years ago a young lady lost control of her vehicle and slid into St. Mary Lake. She lost her life. A short time later, concrete barriers were installed along the S-curves of North End Road — at least as far as the accident location. This summer, a driver again slid off the St. Mary section just past the barriers, stopping inches short of the lake and inches short of another tragedy. Why weren't the concrete barriers installed along the entire lakeside?

Last week it was announced that through wheedling and cajoling, our local Trust and CRD representatives squeezed \$100,000 out of the Ministry of Transportation to patch up those half dozen spots along Walker's Hook Road that are sliding into the sea. This, after

our local public transit buses were ready to abandon their Walker's Hook route because of the deplorable condition of the road — a road that has been "fixed" for the past three years by tossing orange sand bags onto the offending sinkholes.

In last week's Driftwood, it was reported that the provincial government is willing to contribute almost \$20 million over the next five years for road maintenance and improvement should Salt Spring Island deem it time to incorporate. That \$20 million includes millions to permanently renovate Walker's Hook Road and Ganges Hill — the first time the Ministry of Transportation has ponied up cash for any road since 1996.

If incorporation does finally happen and we deem ourselves capable of steering our own political ship, I pray that there will be a home-grown committee deciding which roads get serviced and with what, and that Salt Springers will decide which firm will be awarded the lucrative contract through a bidding process.

In the meantime, residents along Maliview Drive will just have to put up with the dust, the gravel and the noise of the newly minted gravel roads that are already showing potholes. Add that to the bad St. Mary Lake water coming out of our taps and the "pioneer" sewage plant, and you have the perfect trifecta. And three great reasons why we should vote for incorporation, should we get the opportunity.

The writer is a long-time Maliview Drive resident.

Studies promote a safer and healthier future for coast

BY RICHARD STEVENSON

We are seeing an increasing number of Kinder Morgan TransMountain ads on TV and in our newspapers.

The Sept. 28 edition of the Driftwood featured a large ad. What these ads have in common are images of smiling professionals, upstanding members of a community, who explain the standards, care, consultation and attention to detail that they guarantee will be given by Kinder Morgan and TransMountain. The intent is to give us a sense of comfort and acceptance for the pipeline and tanker loading expansions these companies are planning to do. The ads imply that these are “the people behind the pipeline,” and that we can trust them.

However, the truth is, while I may respect these individuals, it does not mean that I can necessarily trust and respect Kinder Morgan and TransMountain nor support their expansion agenda. Why? One reason is the real people behind the pipeline are, according to a report called *Assessing the Risks of Kinder Morgan's Proposed New Trans Mountain Pipeline by the Conversations for Responsible Economic Development (CRED)* group, former Enron executives Richard Kinder and William Morgan. Enron, now defunct, was a U.S. energy-trading and utilities company that perpetuated one of the biggest accounting frauds in history.

INDEPTH

The Driftwood ad claims expansions will create new jobs for 100 people. It does not clarify whether these are in fact long-term jobs. It also does not tell you that an oil spill would put at risk industries that together employ over 200,000 people locally, including tourism, film and TV, real estate, high tech, agriculture and coastal industries.

It also hides the fact that the proposed expansion is not for local energy needs and is designed to export oil products to foreign markets benefitting foreign corporations. The truth is pipeline dangers and increased tanker risks do not have to be faced to meet our domestic energy needs. It also does not tell you that these expansions would not make a significant contribution to provincial tax revenues. (From page 3 of the CRED report.)

How safe are these transport technologies, really?

The Driftwood ad states that “We (Kinder Morgan) have been committed to safety for over 60 years — and we intend to keep it that way.” At face value, this seems like a responsible and reasonable thing for a company with a good track record to state.

However, the truth of the Kinder Morgan safety track record is abysmal. If they intend to “keep it that way” it’s going to be downright scary for all of us. The number of spills since 1952 totals 78. Recent examples include: in 2004 in Abbotsford, 210,000 litres from a ruptured pipeline spilled into Kilgard Creek. In 2007 in Burnaby, 250,000 litres of crude oil drained into Burrard Inlet. Eleven houses were sprayed with crude oil and 250 residents voluntarily left their homes.

In 2012 in Sumas Mountain, 110,000 litres leaked from a holding tank. In the case of the Sumas spill, the National Energy Board’s investigation found that “the leak was detected later than it should have been,” the company’s management of procedures was “inadequate” and that the operator “failed to recognize the leak situation on two occasions.”

Further, a sobering fact is that “Canada does not currently have the ability to respond effectively to a major spill in our waters. In the case of a major spill, taxpayers would likely be responsible for the burden of costs, as a company’s liability is limited to \$1.4 billion and a major spill could easily cost 10 times this amount.” (Also from the CRED report.) In 2002 the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill costs had exceeded \$3 billion. It’s still not cleaned up.

Why do these ads get me so fired up?

Besides the fact that these ads perpetuate an image of these “expansions” as being as safe as possible, providing jobs, and being a public benefit, they obscure the full story of the many risks involved, the actual safety record and, most importantly, they do not include the fact that expansions of this type of “dirty” energy need not even have a place in our future.

None of the proposed pipeline and tanker expansions make any sense within the carbon reduced future that is necessary for all of us to embrace to offset the negative impacts of climate change. Simply, we don’t need these expansions. They do not benefit us. Instead we need to embrace technologies that will help in creating a greener energy future.

Here on Salt Spring I am very proud of the things many of us are doing, including growing our own food, using electric bikes and vehicles, using solar to power our schools and homes, just to name a few. We are doing some great and amazing things. I would love it if the Driftwood would ask companies who provide green energy technologies to run and pay for ads in their weekly editions. Our television stations and regional and city newspapers could take such a stand as well.

On a recent trip to the United Kingdom and Scotland I saw acres

of solar collectors and large wind generator farms in operation. While in Scotland we learned that enough coal plants and nuclear power stations have been closed so that the country’s 2020 emission reduction goals have already been met. I read an Aug. 10, 2016 article on the Independent.co.uk website that stated “the entire power needs for the country of Scotland were provided by the production of wind-generated power alone.” Must have been a “wee blow.”

It is hard to come back home to Canada and realize that fracking, Site C dam, and Kinder Morgan pipeline and tanker expansions are ongoing or still being considered. While changing to a new means of earning our incomes, powering our homes and vehicles may seem daunting at first, we can see this is being accomplished in other places around the world. Let’s figure out how to do it too.

“A recent survey found that 50 per cent of B.C. residents oppose the Kinder Morgan proposal and 22 per cent support it. Amongst those very familiar with the proposal’s details, 70.9 per cent are opposed.” I would urge everyone to find out more by reading the CRED report at credbc.ca/assessing-the-risks/.

The writer is a retired landscape architect now gardening full time on Salt Spring Island wholly committed to repairing the world for future generations.

Road cost article comments demand elaboration

BY PETER LAMB

I am responding to the “Restructure amounts revealed” article on the front page of last week’s paper. In it I am wrongly described as “speaking in defence of the status quo,” when I was simply reflecting the feedback I have recently provided to the Salt Spring Island Incorporation Study Committee.

For the record, let me summarize my comments to the committee.

Restructure Assistance Offer

On the face of it, the offer of restructuring assistance appears generous, including an unprecedented allowance of \$6 million for capital road works on Fulford-Ganges and Walker’s Hook Roads. But to put this into perspective, it is worth noting that a 2013 engineering estimate by JE Anderson & Associates to restructure just one kilometre on Ganges Hill with bike lanes and a sidewalk was up to \$3 million in current dollars.

In this context, the provincial offer is not nearly enough to address the considerable burden of assuming full responsibility for the road network on Salt Spring under incorporation and the offer is only temporary relief for up to five years. It can also be seen as another indication of how eager the province is to transfer long-term responsibility and liability for roads and policing to a new municipality.

I expressed my hope that the committee’s final report will fully address public concerns in a projected future budget for

IN RESPONSE

incorporation and the resulting property tax impact and not delegate them to the planned appendix to the report.

Road Condition Assessment

While this assessment was necessary, it is, in my view, not sufficient to fully inform voters of the financial impact of taking on full responsibility and the associated liability of our large road network. The consultant’s report was a “snapshot of the road condition based on a visual assessment” and was limited in scope, including absence of any comments on “vehicular, bicycle and/or pedestrian safety or geotechnical slope stability.” The report recommends “additional works to identify the details and extent of any road improvements” to be paid by the ministry or a Salt Spring Island municipality if incorporated.

This raises four important concerns for Salt Spring voters.

Projected capital costs of \$33 million are based on average regional estimates, not detailed assessments of specific road improvement projects on Salt Spring which may well be much higher as illustrated in the above Anderson 2013 estimate.

The report estimates a potential \$29 million for road widening to meet agreed road standards but then states that “roads with sub-standard widths may be ade-

quate for existing and future demands.” But where public safety is concerned, surely widening of many roads should not be left to the discretion of the ministry (or a municipal council if incorporated), perhaps waiting for the inevitable serious accident to happen to trigger action.

Vesuvius Bay Road is designated a main road and a busy route to the ferry terminal with virtually no shoulders for safe use by pedestrians and cyclists along the entire route.

It is worth noting that the repair to the slide on North Beach Road last year was said to cost about half a million dollars and may have been only a temporary fix with rip-rap to shore up the bank.

The allowance for road maintenance of \$5,000/km uses the average maintenance budget for the past five years. Is this to be the standard for “good maintenance” when it is clear that this has not been sufficient to achieve the road standards that were agreed upon? Which is why it will cost at least \$33 million now to bring them up to standard. Much more needs to be budgeted for effective annual maintenance.

The science is irrefutable that we are

facing a change in traditional weather patterns around the globe. Yet there is no mention at all in the report of the potentially serious impact of climate change on the Salt Spring road network for either maintenance or capital work, especially for shoreline roads like North Beach, Walker’s Hook and Isabella Point roads that would continue to be vulnerable to flooding from rising sea levels and storm surges.

It is worth noting that the repair to the slide on North Beach Road last year was said to cost about half a million dollars and may have been only a temporary fix with rip-rap to shore up the bank.

To conclude, while I appreciate the work that has been done to get a better handle on the Salt Spring road network, it is very clearly a complex subject with uncertain but considerable long-term future expenditures and risks associated with taking on the whole 272-km road network under incorporation.

I expressed the hope that the committee’s final report will clearly note the limited scope of this road assessment and the uncertain but potentially major financial consequences and public liability associated with incorporation.

I also asked that the final report make allowance in a projected municipal budget for continued deterioration of all assets assumed under incorporation, but especially the road network, through an appropriate amount for annual amortization.

The writer was a Salt Spring Local Trust Committee member from 2005-2008 and author of The Islands Trust Story.

Ministry provides Trust impact feedback response

INCORPORATION STUDY CORNER

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ISLAND INCORPORATION STUDY COMMITTEE

During the public consultation process the Incorporation Study Committee (ISC) undertook last winter, considerable interest was expressed in how a Salt Spring incorporation would impact the Islands Trust.

The terms of reference of the ISC preclude its investigating this topic. That being so, the ISC forwarded its written feedback on this topic to the provincial Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development (MCSCD) for its information and comment. Excerpts from that ministry's response are presented below.

"The study terms of reference are clear that the ISC is not responsible for assessing the impact municipal incorporation of Salt Spring Island would have on the Islands Trust. That condition in no way diminishes the importance of the Islands Trust; instead it recognizes two facts. First, the baseline information and analysis about the impact of Salt Spring Island incorporation on the Islands Trust has already been articulated in the consultant-prepared, provincial-funded Final Report: Islands Trust Impact Analysis (March 31, 2015)," available on the Islands Trust website.

"Second, the Islands Trust is responsible for determining how it would adapt and remain fiscally stable should Salt Spring Island electors wish to incorporate.

"Trust Council invited ministry representatives to two Trust Council meetings to discuss the adaptation strategy and transition plan, and in December 2015 approved in principle an adaptation strategy. For further information on the adaptation strategy individuals can contact the Islands Trust administration."

Oversight Role of Trust

"The Islands Trust and ministry entered into a protocol agreement 20 years ago where the ministry and the Trust acknowledge that the residents of an island are entitled to make a decision on incorporation on the basis of objective information and with a clear understanding of the implications of municipal status in relation to the mandate of the Trust. The agreement sets out the obligations of the province and the Trust and describes the policy relationship between Trust Council and an island municipality.

"The oversight role of the Islands Trust is set out in both the agreement and Islands Trust Act, including:

- As part of its "preserve and protect" mandate, the Islands Trust has an ongoing oversight role in relation to planning and land use services of island municipalities;
- The council of an island municipality must have regard to the object of the Trust in adopting a bylaw, or issuing a permit or licence;
- Salt Spring Island would remain a member of the Islands Trust, the same way they would remain a member of the Capital Regional District.

"A Salt Spring Island municipality would participate in, and financially contribute to, the following:

- Operations of Trust Council;

- Operations of the Executive Committee, except the operations of the Executive Committee as a local trust committee; and
- Administrative operations of the Trust Fund Board."

Approval Requirement for Municipal Bylaws

"Section 38 of the Islands Trust Act clarifies and sets out the oversight role of the Islands Trust regarding island municipality bylaws. The council of an island municipality, must, before adoption, submit to the secretary for approval by the executive committee:

- All bylaws adopting official community plans that apply to land in the Trust area;
- All bylaws under Part 14 – Planning and Land Use Management – of the Local Government Act that apply to land in the Trust area to which no official community plan applies.

"Such Island municipality bylaws have no effect until approved by the Executive Committee, Trust Council or the minister.

Islands Trust Adaptation to SSI Incorporation

"As mentioned above, Trust Council approved, in principle, an adaptation strategy in December 2015. Should Salt Spring Island electors approve incorporation, it is anticipated that Trust Council would prepare a transition plan. (This strategy has recently been completed and will be released publicly by the Islands Trust shortly — ISC)

Protocol Agreement between Trust Council and the Ministry

"In February 1996, the Islands Trust and ministry entered into an agreement that sets out the framework for incorporating municipalities within the Islands Trust area. The principles of that agreement still apply and provide certainty and security for the Islands Trust, in that a three-year transition period for the Islands Trust is provided upon incorporation of island municipalities. This is achieved where Islands Trust staff would provide local planning services to a new island municipality by contract for a three-year period following incorporation.

"Provisions in the agreement also ensure there is no conflict between island municipal bylaws and the Trust policy statement and object.

"A review of the protocol agreement was undertaken by the ministry and Islands Trust. Once that work has been finalized, it will be shared with the ISC."

The ministry's response contains additional background information about the Islands Trust and links to where people can find further information. The upcoming ISC open house events will also allow for discussion on the role of the Islands Trust should Salt Spring incorporate. Islands Trust has been invited to be present to answer questions from the public.

The open houses are scheduled for Nov. 7 (4:30 to 9 p.m. at Salt Spring Island Middle School); Nov. 8 (1 to 4:30 p.m. at Fulford Hall) and Nov. 20 (1 to 4:30 p.m. at the middle school).

More information about these events, as well as the full text of the ministry's response regarding the Islands Trust, can be found on the ISC website at www.ssiincorporation-study.com.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

ELECTION READY: From left, B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education Andrew Wilkinson, BC Liberals Women's Network president Janet Smukowich, network vice-president Lorna Pawluk and Saanich-North and the Islands Liberal candidate Stephen Roberts smile at a gathering of party supporters at Mistaken Identity Vineyards on Friday. Wilkinson shared government accomplishments related to his portfolio and other news, and both he and the Women's Network reps expressed excitement about Roberts' candidacy in the 2017 election.

RANTS and Roses

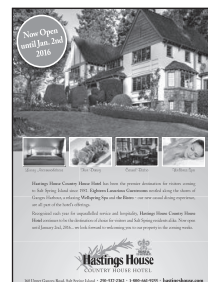
Roses

A cart full of big red roses to the driver of a shuttle cart at the Fall Fair on the Saturday afternoon for his truly extraordinary kindness, firstly, in waiting for me to get my wrist band at the gate before going in to charge up his cart and so dropping me off near the sheepdog exhibition, and secondly, appearing like magic near our tent at 5 p.m. as my duties ended and shuttling me back out the gate to a loading school bus. That was very special indeed! Thank you to the shuttle cart and school bus drivers who make attending the fair both possible and pleasant for so many people, especially us oldies. Cara Joy

Buckets of Royale Roses to all the staff at Thrifty Foods for their kindness and patience during the washroom renovations at Mouat's Home Hardware. We and our customers appreciated the temporary use of your facility. Many thanks to all that were affected.

Endless sunshine and bumper crops to the many members of the Vesuvius Beach Inolent Society who leapt into action during my recent medical emergency. Special thanks to the dedicated paramedics, flight crew and hospital staff on Salt Spring and Victoria who provided assistance. Ann Alexander, Vesuvius

Have your business featured in our upcoming Salt Spring Island Business Magazine



SALT SPRING ISLAND

Business magazine

OCTOBER 21, 2015

GOODS & SERVICES
See the range offered to islanders

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Put faces to the names

BUSINESS BACKGROUND
Hear the stories behind the enterprises

DgiM

Contact your account manager to make sure your business is highlighted in this popular magazine.

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arts&entertainment



SALT SPRING PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS AN AFTERNOON EVENT WITH PATRICK TAYLOR

AN IRISH COUNTRY LOVE STORY

AN IRISH COUNTRY NOVEL


By bestselling local author PATRICK TAYLOR

Please join us on Wed. Oct. 12 at 5 PM for refreshments, a reading & book signing by Patrick Taylor, author of the bestselling Irish Country Novels series.

For more information, contact: SALT SPRING ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY (250) 537-4666 www.saltspring.bc.libraries.coop.

SSI Conservancy Fundraiser & Silent Auction

Perspectives on a Planet



an afternoon with **Bob MacDonald** of CBC's Quirks and Quarks

Sunday Oct 23, 2016
1:30 pm at ArtSpring Tickets \$25
Tickets at our office at 265 Blackburn Rd or ArtSpring

OPERA

Met Opera season opens Saturday

Tristan und Isolde first up

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

What do Salt Spring Island and New York City have in common? Arbutus beaches? Skyscrapers? No.

How about the Metropolitan Opera? That's right. For eight weeks between now and April, Met Operas will be live broadcast on ArtSpring's stage. Salt Springers and New Yorkers will see the action, majesty and music unfurl at exactly the same time.

The first opera of the season is Wagner's Tristan und Isolde, appearing on screen on ArtSpring's stage this Saturday, Oct. 8 at 9 a.m. (or noon in New York).

Tristan und Isolde is based on a Celtic legend that many believe pre-dates Arthurian myth and indeed may have inspired the legendary love triangle of Arthur, Guinevere and



COURTESY ARTSPRING

Nina Stemme is Isolde in a scene from the Metropolitan Opera's Tristan und Isolde.

Lancelot. The legends of Tristan and Isolde vary but agree on the basic plot: Tristan, a knight and the nephew of King Marke of Cornwall, has an ongoing affair with Isolde, King Marke's war bride.

As with Arthurian legend, Tristan, Marke and Isolde all

love each other, with Marke regarding Tristan as his son. In most versions of the story, Tristan and Isolde's romance is fuelled by a love potion they ingest before Isolde's marriage to the king, a strange element by modern sensibilities and one that was tactfully omitted from

the 2006 Hollywood movie version starring James Franco and Sophia Myles.

What sets Tristan und Isolde apart? For opera singers, Tristan und Isolde is known as one of the most demanding vocal performances, with Isolde often considered the mother of all soprano roles.

On Oct. 8, Nina Stemme plays Isolde and Stuart Skelton plays Tristan, with Sir Simon Rattle conducting.

Rather than medieval England, director Mariusz Treliński has set his four-hour epic in World War II times. In addition to the downward-spiralling love triangle, Tristan and Isolde is overshadowed by rumours of renewed war between Cornwall and Ireland, a theme made more pronounced by the stark military costumes and the military warship on which the first act of the opera takes place.

There will be an intermission with refreshments half-way through the performance.

Join us!

We want to help your business grow and prosper. No matter what sector or the size of your business, Small Business Week events will inspire you and your team to greater heights!

11th Annual Small Business Week

October 18-20, 2016

Presenting sponsor: **Island Savings** A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST CREDIT UNION

Media sponsor: **Driftwood** YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS PAPER SINCE 1980

Produced by: **Salt Spring Island chamber of commerce**

Supported by Country Grocer, Mouat's Trading, Shaw Communications & Thrifty Foods along with the members of the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce.

Nominate your favourite business for the Annual Salt Spring Business Awards. Deadline for nominations is Friday, Oct 7th, 2016.

For nomination forms go to: **saltspringchamber.com**

Click on small business week and you will find the link to the nomination form.

Tuesday, Oct 18th SMALL BUSINESS SHOWCASE from 5:30 to 7:30 at Meaden Hall (below the Legion)
Here is a great chance to display and share your product or service with potential new customers. "Show and Tell" who you are and what you do with a 3 minute presentation available to all who attend. Admission is free. Book a display table for \$20 (limited tables available). Cash bar reception and starting at 5:30pm.

Wednesday, Oct 19th SMALL BUSINESS SHOWCASE from 5:30 to 7:30 at Meaden Hall (below the Legion)
Special Guest Speaker followed by a Panel Discussion on "Success in your Business". Learn about future workshops and mentoring by panel speakers. \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. Cash bar reception starting at 5:30pm.

Thursday, Oct 20th BUSINESS AWARDS EVENT from 5:30 to 8:30 at ArtSpring (Jackson Ave)
Special Reception including appetizers and live music along with Awards Ceremonies. Mingle with Salt Spring's best at a "star studded" night that inspires everyone! Nominations for the Business Awards are open until October 7th. Entry forms are at Island Savings, the Chamber office and on-line at www.saltspringchamber.com. \$20 per ticket. Cash bar reception starting at 5:30 pm.

For more information - www.saltspringchamber.com



WWW.THEBILLS.CA

THE BILLS ARE BACK: The Bills, an acclaimed folk/roots/rock band, performs at ArtSpring next Wednesday, Oct. 12, sharing songs from their new Trail of Tales album and more. The show is the first in ArtSpring's new season of visiting world-class performers.

POETRY

Literary locavorism in Reiss book

Launch event next Thursday

Island poet Murray Reiss hosts the Salt Spring launch of his second book of poetry, Cemetery Compost, on Thursday, Oct. 13 at the library.

"By turns garrulous and gnomic, playful and foreboding, raucous and tender, these are poems that plumb our daily contradictions and divided natures," states a press release from the author. "Treading a taut line between bemusement and despair, they tiptoe through the unexploded ordnance of time. Like the compost pile invoked by the title, this book throws off the heat of transformation: a shoplifter's onion tumbles through the Spanish Civil War only to surface in a California chicken farm; a cream-coloured Persian kitten provokes a reckoning with

Viagra; a café menu in Phnom Penh redeems the inventor of the AK-47. These poems dissolve the distinctions between heartbreak and humour, politics and pets, mortality and the taste of a single strawberry, revealing our inner and outer worlds as — thrillingly, delightfully — the same."

Reiss was so taken with the cover of his new book that he had a Salt Spring company do a limited run of Cemetery Compost T-shirts. "For those who want to step out in the latest literary fashion," he said, he will sign the shirts, along with copies of his new book.

The event in the program room begins at 7:30 p.m.

Reiss' first book, The Survival Rate of Butterflies in the Wild, won the 2013 Gerald Lampert Award for the best first book of poetry published that year.

COMMUNITY ART

Forgotten downtown space transformed by artwork

Artist proposes island-wide project

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An eye-catching black-and-white graphic design that materialized on a wall behind Ganges Stationery last week is providing the downtown core with surprising fresh appeal.

Located around a forgotten back corner of the building, the mural by 21-year-old artist Tai Dunkley-Whelon transforms a cement brick wall edged by parking into a small pocket of beauty. Hopefully this won't be a one-off experience: the artist has started a proposal with the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce that could transform the entire island into a virtual outdoor gallery.

"I think it will be exciting to see what happens and as a community where it can go. We have lots of buildings, lots of wall space and lots of talented artists," Dunkley-Whelon said.

While it took less than four days for Dunkley-Whelon to complete his first mural, from gaining permission to creating and painting the design, he said the desire to do it has been ramping up for a long time. The building previously hosted some ancient and amateurish graffiti tags, and after looking at it for months he finally

approached shop-owner Yvonne Crute and her dad, building owner Stan Lam, to ask about doing a mural. It happened to be Dunkley-Whelon's lunch break and all he had to use to convince them was his sketchbook.

"After a few comments it was a go-ahead from both of them. It was nice to have that trust without them seeing any design at all," he said.

"I think it will be exciting to see what happens and as a community where it can go."

TAI DUNKLEY-WHELOM
Mural artist

Dunkley-Whelon wanted to start with something neutral and graphic based rather than a narrative pictorial piece, although he has plenty of ideas about where storytelling murals can go in Ganges. The final mural design unfolds from a central yin-yang, with a pattern that mirrors and inverts across the 'S' line and extends to opposite corners from the starting point.

Dunkley-Whelon first started getting interested in art at Gulf Islands Secondary School, and began by learn-

ing PhotoShop and producing stencils for spray-paint. He never put them on walls, though, sticking to pieces of cardboard in his backyard. He then explored various other media during an advanced placement class, and on the strength of that portfolio earned a space in the two-year visual arts program at Camosun College. While there he worked in the studio until 10:30 or 11 p.m. every night, an experience he calls "awesome" and "just about the most fun I can imagine."

Dunkley-Whelon is now back home on Salt Spring and working for the winter while he decides whether to continue his formal arts education or pursue a more self-directed path. The wind-down of the busy season is giving him time to work on his plan for a large-scale mural project that could potentially involve business sponsors, mentor artists and student training. Chamber of commerce manager Janet Clouston has been enthusiastic about the idea and has encouraged the young artist to submit a full proposal.

Some of Dunkley-Whelon's inspiration comes from old-time graffiti artists he got to know at a weekly drawing group in Victoria that includes people of all ages and walks of life. For a small community like Salt Spring,

he feels permission-based painting is the right step, but some of the energy and creativity of street art can still be incorporated into the mural project.

"My dream for this specific project is to take initiative on a lot of planning, but I'd like to find professional painters in the community to be mentors," he explained, suggesting high school students could apply to work under these mentors. (A similar training opportunity in Victoria gave Dunkley-Whelon his first experience with painting murals, along with three other students who were accepted into the program.)

As well as sorting out logistics and fundraising, meetings with Salt Spring Archives members and other people familiar with the island's stories are planned so that local history from all perspectives can be captured in the murals. Once more art begins appearing on empty walls, community excitement could carry the project forward in new and unexpected ways.

"As that happens, a real kind of conversation starts, I think.

"If murals really start to blow up, if people are inspired to do their own or are just excited to see them, it will be exciting to see where it goes," Dunkley-Whelon said.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Tai Dunkley-Whelon puts some finishing touches onto a mural behind Ganges Stationery on Friday. The artist hopes the piece will inspire a community-wide project.

LITERARY EVENTS

Taylor returns to Irish village

Launch event at the library

The latest saga in Patrick Taylor's Irish country fiction series was released this week, and his Salt Spring fans and friends will be among the first to help him launch the book.

Taylor will host a literary event for *An Irish Country Love Story* in the Salt Spring Library Program on Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 5 p.m.

Taylor has long charmed readers with his lively, witty and touching tales of a colourful Irish village and its memorable residents.

Irish Country Love Story is set in the village of Ballybucklebo during the winter of 1967, with love warming hearts all over the county: Not just the love between a man and woman, as with young doctor Barry Laverty and his fiancée Sue Nolan, who are making plans to

start a new life together, but also the love of an ailing pensioner for a faithful dog that's gone missing, the love of the local gentry for the great estate they are on the verge of losing, or Doctor Fingal Flahertie O'Reilly's deep and abiding love for his long-time home and practice.

Taylor, a Salt Spring resident, will give a reading and sign books at next week's event. Refreshments will also be served.

SPIRITUALITY

Yasmeen Olya performs on harp

Spirit tapped in unique genre

Salt Spring Island is in for a beautiful experience of culture, sound and melody, with Celtic harp and vocalist Yasmeen Olya performing at the Salt Spring Wellness Centre next Saturday, Oct. 15.

An internationally acclaimed young harpist, singer and composer, Olya's work is unique. She sings using glossolalia, or speaking in tongues, a fluid expression of consonants and vowels, a cappella, accompanied by her often improvised Celtic harp compositions.

"Against a backdrop of controversial media

as concerns faith today, Olya is a gentle revolutionary, using her music to bridge differences in many lives, speaking to the oneness of us all," states press material.

Her fans write, "It is as though I have been immersed in the sound of angels," and "I can't imagine the beauty of the world and the peacefulness of it without Yasmeen's healing voice and songs. Truly beautiful, magical."

Olya has been recording her new album on Salt Spring Island. Excerpts may be found at www.yasmeensong.com.

For info, email theblueraven@shaw.ca or visit the wellness centre.

Farm to Table Dinners

HARVEST DINNER
OCTOBER 8

Join us for an autumn feast prepared by Chef Marcel Kauer. This five course dinner will feature the freshest locally grown ingredients, to be paired with carefully selected Okanagan wines.

Autumn dinner \$100.00 per person.

Dinner pairings \$150.00 per person.

6:00pm seating, limited space.

Call now to reserve.

THANKSGIVING DINNER
OCTOBER 9

Three course turkey dinner,
with fresh locally grown ingredients.

\$75.00 per person.

6:00pm seating.

TAXES AND GRATUITY
NOT INCLUDED


Hastings House
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS
250-537-2362 • 1-800-661-9255
160 Upper Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island
hastingshouse.com

ARTISTS' CALL

Dress/Address/Redress exhibition seeks applicants

Oct. 30 deadline set

ArtCraft is inviting applications from artists to participate in a unique addition to its Showcase series for the summer of 2017.

Celebrating Canada 150, artists are being asked to contribute new works to an exhibition that includes both indoor and outdoor installations. Through a theme of "Dress/

Address/Redress," it is hoped that artists will be inspired to respond to the present, future and past of what Canada means to them.

"It is a wide-open concept inviting commentary and critique on Canada's 150 years of history, culture, politics, conflicts, issues and lifestyles," explains ArtCraft in a press release.

"Dress can mean literally dress or dresses, fashion, adornment, self

concept, status, dressing up, dressing down, covering, concealing, formal dress, fancy dress.

"Address can suggest paying attention to, examining, considering, a location, both physical and cyber, directions for delivery, to speak to, examine, give attention to and courtship.

"Redress can mean putting your clothes back on, an act to right a wrong, change the balance of

power, relief from distress, retribution, correction or seeking a remedy."

The exhibition will run throughout the summer at Mahon Hall, from June 9 through Sept. 17 for the outdoor exhibits and on the stage inside the building from June 9 to July 5.

ArtCraft and the Salt Spring Arts Council hope to receive many applications from recognized and

unrecognized artists. The exhibition will be juried, with successful applicants notified in December.

The deadline for application is Sunday, Oct. 30.

Forms and information are available on the Salt Spring Arts Council website under "calls for entry."

Any questions can be addressed to ArtCraft manager Richard Steel at 250-537-5367.

NEW BOOKS

Refugee story comes alive with stones

Salt Spring author shares new book tale

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring's Margriet Ruurs has written a few dozen children's picture books — many of them award winners — and can probably give you the "birth story" for all of them.

But it would be hard to top the tale surrounding the seeds for her latest book, *Stepping Stones — A Refugee Family's Journey*.

She will happily share its origins at a book launch event at the Salt Spring Library Program Room on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 1 p.m. It will also include a slide show, tea and treats. Syrian and Iraqi refugees now living on Salt Spring Island have been invited to attend as special guests.

About a year ago Ruurs was on Facebook when she saw an arresting image of a mother carrying a baby, followed by a man, his head bent over from the weight of carrying their belongings on his back. It took her a moment to realize that the scene was made solely from the arrangement of stones.

"As a writer of picture books I usually have nothing to do with the illustrations, but a couple of my latest books were done in paper collage and one was in 3D collage ... so I am always looking for unique art."

The image was signed by "Nizar Ali Badr." Ruurs found his Facebook page easily enough and could see several examples of his artwork. Many were of refugees leaving Syria, where he lives. Ruurs was immediately inspired to write a book about the refugee experience and to have it illustrated by these remarkable stone images.

But connecting with the Syrian artist would prove challenging.

Ruurs sent a few messages to him via Facebook before suspecting he might not read English. She then asked an Arabic-speaking friend in Australia to translate her message and she sent it again. There was still no response, even though he was still posting on Facebook, so was obviously alive and in the same place.

Then the son of another Arabic-speaking friend in Pakistan helped determine that Badr had the maximum number of Facebook friends his account could accommodate, so he was not receiving messages in any language from people outside that roster.

But the friend did connect with Badr, who advised Ruurs to email a friend who speaks English. Saji Qorqmaz responded right away and arranged for the three of them to have tea over Facebook.

Ruurs learned that Badr lives near the beach in Latakia, and comes from a strong background of artists and carvers. He said



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Author Margriet Ruurs with her new book called *Stepping Stones - A Refugee Family's Journey*. At top, one of the illustrations made from stones by Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr.

he would very much like to provide the artwork for her book. She stressed how he needed to protect the images from being used by other people.

"Now I had to find a publisher quickly," said Ruurs.

She knew that would also be a challenge, as the terms "book publishing" and "quickly" do not normally go together.

As well, she wanted the publisher to donate some of the book sale profits to refugee causes, so the company needed to be inclined towards charitable projects. (Ruurs is donating all royalties from sales of the book.)

She thought of Bob Tyrrell, founder and president of Orca Book Publishers in Victoria, whom she had met at a conference.

"I phoned him up and I said, 'I have this amazing artist. I have photos of his

artwork and written a story to go with them.' I emailed him a photo while we were on the phone and he said 'yes' right away."

Stepping Stones recounts the experience of a Syrian family whose life in their village is happy and peaceful until war comes to their country. "Life in our village changed. Nothing was as it had been."

Written through the eyes of a young girl, it describes how her family joins the "river of people in search of peace," with the story beautifully illustrated by Badr's stone pictures.

One way Orca is helping is by offering the book to schools as a fundraiser. They can purchase copies of *Stepping Stones* for half price and then sell them with the profit to be donated to refugee causes of the students' choice.

Well-known author Eric Walters used the book in a Sept. 17 Welcome Neighbours event he organized in Guelph, Ont., where he was joined by that city's refugee families, other authors such as Robert Munsch, and government officials.

Book reviews have been terrific so far, notes Ruurs.

"But my biggest review came when [Syrian Salt Spring resident] Sam Khaldi read it and he got all teary-eyed and said, 'This is exactly how it was.'"

Badr provided valuable feedback, including a request that Arabic text be included on the same pages. He will also be holding his own book launch event at an art museum.

Ruurs said she undertook the project to bring awareness to the refugee cause and to Badr's artwork and to help young people understand the refugee situation.

"I wanted to explain to my grandchildren what is happening and how people can help each other."

She notes that her book concludes with "hope and happiness," which she looks forward to sharing at the library on Saturday afternoon.

ArtSpring presents **Met Opera**
LIVE ON SCREEN

Tristan und Isolde | OCT 8
Wagner | 9 am

250.537.2102 | artspring.ca \$21.95 | \$18.95 | \$12.95

ArtSpring presents **THE BILLS**
WED OCT 12 | 7:30PM (BAR OPENS AT 6:30)

Generously sponsored by the estate of Dan Davies

250.537.2102 | artspring.ca Adults: \$23 Youth: \$5

Salt Spring FOLK CLUB
www.saltspringfolkclub.com

Monday
October 17
Fulford Hall
Door opens 6:15
Show starts 7:00

16/17 Season Lineup

Oct. 17	Los Texmaniacs
Nov. 21	Barney Bentall and the Cariboo Express
Jan. 23	TBA
Feb. 20	Rick Fines
Mar 20	Shred Kelly
Apr. 24	GuMBoOT GaLA

16/17 SSFC Season Passes
can be purchased for \$125
at Fulford Hall on October 17
info: festival@saltspring.com

Best sound on the Island

getnoticed board

The free place to list your regular group activities of any kind.

Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office. Published in the first Driftwood of each month! Brought to you by Saunders Subaru.

WEDNESDAY

SALT SPRING GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Mormon church. Info: cloude48@gmail.com
SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Harbour House Hotel Crofton Room.
SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.

STITCH DIMENSION QUILT GUILD meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church, around the back.

TEEN BOOK CLUB for teenagers aged 13 and up meets at the Salt Spring Public Library on the third Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Fall books are *An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir, *This Dark Endeavour* by Kenneth Oppel, and *Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell.

YOUTH CREATIVE WRITING GROUP for ages 9-13 runs at the Salt Spring Library led by Nikky from 4-6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT at Fulford Hall. All aspects of fitness are covered (strength, balance, flexibility, etc.) based on functional movement. Coed classes led by certified personal trainer. 9 to 10 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.

COMPUTER HELP — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone problems at Salt Spring Literacy. By appointment at the literacy centre at 126 Hereford Ave. or by calling 250-537-9717.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 p.m. (for 1 p.m. start)

KIRTAN at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 7:30 p.m.

MEDITATION GROUP suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333

MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Teachings offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.

PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com

SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SENIORS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
SWING DANCE at SS Elementary School gym. East-Coast, West-Coast, and Lindy Hop. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Larry Nelson or Wendy Hartnett at 250-537-4118.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

YOGA with Dorothy Price. Hatha flow at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m.

ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7 p.m. Call 250-653-2411 for details. Newcomers always welcome.

ZUMBA TONING with Lee Sigmund at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

BOOK CLUB meets on the second Thursday at Salt Spring Seniors in the lounge at 1:30 p.m.

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB open to all meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the library. 1 to 3 p.m.

OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room on the first Thursday of the month. Sign-up at 6:45 p.m.; one poem per reader; event begins at 7 p.m. Guest poets read at 7:30.

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION — Group meditations for all who have learned TM. Last Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. Call 778-353-3014 for address and more information. Free introductory lectures by appointment.

EVERY THURSDAY

AL-ANON for friends and families of alcoholics meets at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 noon.

DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT™ CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

MEN'S YOGA with Ken Katz at SS Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

NIA at Antler Ridge Dance Studio, 211 Horel Rd. 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. See Tuesday NIA description. Info/register: Arleen, 250-653-9235.

PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Thursday of each month at Meaden Hall at 10 a.m. with special guest speakers each time. Info: probus.ssi@gmail.com

SALTY WHEELS SQUARE DANCE CLUB meets at 734 Upper Ganges Road. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Marilynne, 250-537-5356.

SENIORS SPEAKER SERIES features seniors-specific discussions at SS Seniors. 4 to 5:30 p.m. See www.saltspringseiorscentre.ca for details.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB beginners class at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with beginners until noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

YOGA WITH JIM DICKINSON at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

AIKIDO for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids 5 to 6 p.m.; adults 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.

BRIDGE GAMES run at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:30 p.m.

COFFEE TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT™ CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m.

Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com.

GAMES NIGHT at the Salt Spring library. An evening of board games and other interactive games facilitated by Bryan Dubien. 6 to 9 p.m.

MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:15 p.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

STORYTIME — Ideal for kids aged 3 to 6 and their families. SS Library. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

EVERY SATURDAY

DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TECH TUTORING WITH JOHN at the Salt Spring library on Saturdays on the hour from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. All topics, including Macs. Please sign up at the library for the appropriate date and time, complete with contact information and tutoring topic.

SUNDAY

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP meets on the first three Sundays of every month at Salt Spring Seniors. For weekly program, visit www.saltspringunitarians.com.

EVERY SUNDAY

DRUM CIRCLE at SSI Wellness Centre. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

KUNDALINI YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SS Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

POKER at the Legion. 1 p.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — All styles at 210 Cedar Lane. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

SUNDAY SATSANG at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC on the last Monday of each month at SS Seniors. 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT trustees hold their business meetings on the third Monday of each month at the SSI United Church, lower hall. 7 p.m. Public welcome.

SSI PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the SS Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome. Confirm meeting date at 250-537-4448.

SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the SS Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome.

EVERY MONDAY

ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2:30 to 4 p.m.

BOOMERFIT at Beaver Point Hall. All aspects of fitness are covered (strength, balance, flexibility, etc.) based on functional movement. Coed classes led by certified personal trainer. 9 to 10 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT™ CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds Rd., 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

KUNDALINI YOGA FOR BEGINNERS and others at North End Fitness. 1 to 2:10 p.m.

LIFE DRAWING every Monday at the Core Inn (third floor). 1 to 3 p.m. Info: Jose Campbell, 250-537-1121. Drop-ins welcome.

READERS' THEATRE meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB holds casual coffee mornings for its members at Penny's On the Green at 10 a.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Applications at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder.

Sessions are available every Monday at 12 and 1 p.m.



EVERY MONDAY

TOASTMASTERS is a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts meeting at the Shared Space Community Hub, Unit #1 Merchant Mews, 315 Upper Ganges Rd. every Monday (except for statutory holidays). (NOTE the new location.) 7 to 9 p.m. Guests are always welcome.

THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre (yoga studio). Mixed Levels - 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Level 1 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Mixed Levels - 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

AIKIDO MARTIAL ARTS classes for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids from 5 to 6 p.m., and adults from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.

ART GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.

CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 p.m.

FLOOR HOCKEY. Drop in at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Required: hockey stick and runners.

ITENGA YOGA with Jayne Lloyd-Jones at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

KUNDALINI MOVING MEDITATION from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and **ECKHART TOLLE PRACTISING PRESENCE** from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info: Amrita, 250-537-2799.

LOST CHORDS seniors choir practices at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m.

NIA at Salt Spring United Church Hall. NIA is the original fusion/fitness practice that offers the joy of dance, the power of the martial arts, the flexibility and mindfulness of yoga and more. 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Info/register: Arleen at 250-653-9235.

NIA at the Core Inn top floor. 5:45 to 7 p.m. Info/register: Arleen, 250-653-9235.

SS SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.

SMARTSOMATICS classes with Nelly Kosteljik at North End Fitness from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-2056 or <http://smartsomatics.shawwebspace.ca/>.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Yang Style at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — All Levels at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; and Slow Flow at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. (Note the new time.)



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people&community

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

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



FASHION

Young fashion designer debuts line at birthday party



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

From left, models Lucie Luke, Lyla Luke and Sydney Gessinger show clothes designed and sewn by Aila Gessinger, at the mic, during Sydney's birthday celebration at Lions Hall.

Youth Fashion Week planned for 2017

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With all the focus on the visual arts on Salt Spring, sometimes the wearable side of creative expression gets neglected.

That's set to change thanks to the passion and commitment embodied by 12-year-old islander Aila Gessinger, who had her public launch as a designer on Friday with a fashion show at Lions Hall. With an event planned to celebrate her younger sister Sydney's birth-

day, Gessinger created designs for and sewed 18 different outfits, which were modelled by six young friends between the ages of seven and 11 walking the catwalk.

"It's Sydney's 10th birthday, so it's a big double digit. I've been really into sewing lately, so I thought the fashion show would be something fun [to celebrate it]," Gessinger explained after the event.

Gessinger has been sewing since she was five years old. She and her sister sell fashion T-shirts they have silkscreened using their own designs under the kids2kids label at the Saturday Market (where their

mother Amy Sandidge sells handcrafted leather works).

When sewing, the young designer gets inspiration from clothes she sees on the internet and in magazines. She also sketches a lot and plans pieces for individuals based on what they like. Two of her favourite items from the show were a high-waisted denim skirt with suspenders and a floor-length evening dress in gold and silver sequins.

Gessinger spent about two months planning the show and putting it together.

"I had a way different vision at first and high expectations, and I had to kind of adapt," she

said. "It was easy getting the hall and organizing, but the sewing was the hardest thing."

With this valuable experience behind her, Gessinger already has plans for a full-scale Salt Spring Youth Fashion Week in 2017. She intends to invite other young people who sew to bring their pieces and provide their own models for a much bigger event.

Gessinger's advice to other kids who want to start making clothes is to always sketch first before sewing.

"And just try to make it happen," she added. "Even if it's really hard it always turns out good."

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VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteer Fair sets up shop in library

Community groups converge next Friday

Islanders looking for ways to spend their spare time and give to the community will have an opportunity to explore a whole breadth of possibilities at the first annual

Volunteer Fair.

The fair is a joint initiative of the Salt Spring Public Library and Volunteer and Community Resources.

"As a volunteer-run organization, we can't operate without the hard work of our many volunteers. There are always volunteer opportunities, but it is not always easy

to get the word out," said Nikky McCarvill, librarian and co-host of the event.

The fair is on Friday, Oct. 14 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in the library program room.

Members of the public are invited to drop by for refreshments and to browse booths for volunteer opportunities from many local volunteer-run organizations.

ANTIQUES

Experts bring 'road show' to gallery

Assessment event benefits local charity

Always wanted to know what that antique vase left to you by your Great Aunt Mildred is

worth? You can find out when the Antiques Road Show comes to Steffich Fine Art next week.

Antiquarian book expert Bill Matthews, John Newman of Britannia Antiques and gallery owner Matt Steffich will be on

hand from Oct. 13 through Oct. 16 to provide free assessments of people's jewellery, antiques, books and artwork.

A portion of sales will be donated to the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society.

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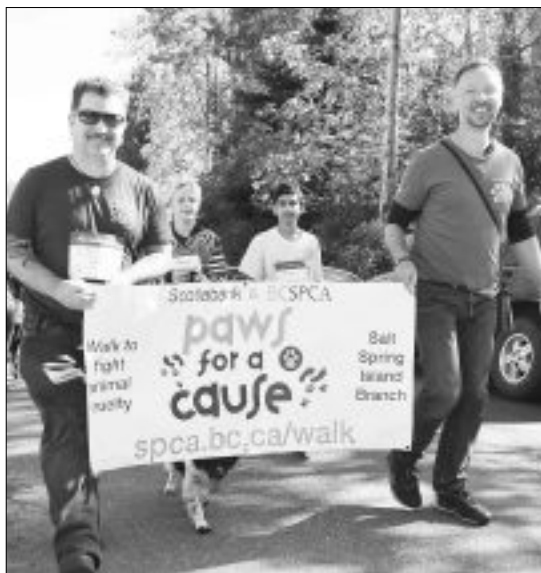
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BCSPCA paws for a cause

PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN
At left, Abigail Walkner gets set to ride Maggie, her BC SPCA rescue horse, in the Paws for a Cause event Sunday.



Salt Spring BC SPCA branch manager Sean Hogan, left, and volunteer Jerry Lewandowski hold the Paws for a Cause banner to lead the Oct. 2 fundraising walk from the Heiwa Garden Peace Park through Mouat Park.



Blythe MacDonald carries Bella on the walk.

Neighbours helping Neighbours



The ground just shook. You and your family are okay but the elderly couple across the road are standing outside their home, confused, but fine. You go over to let them know that you received a notification from the Salt Spring Island Emergency Program that the earthquake was a long distance away. This is one way the POD program supports "neighbours helping neighbours".



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

www.prepareyourself.ca

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BC SPCA volunteer Connie Wray gives a friend a treat.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Paul Large receives the first Paul Harris Community Award ever bestowed on Salt Spring at a Sept. 21 Rotary Club of Salt Spring Island luncheon meeting. The award recognizes the contributions Large and the Country Grocer location have donated to the local community. From left are Rotary district governor Joanne Croghan, Large, Salt Spring Rotary president Gill Taylor and assistant district governor Cheryl Leukfeld.

ISLAND HISTORY

Colourful Eleanor Point tales in focus

Brenda Guiled presents at Central Hall next week

People attending the Oct. 12 Salt Spring Historical Society presentation at Central Hall will learn how a small promontory on Salt Spring Island got caught up in the great tide of human interventions visited upon the Pacific Northwest.

Presented by Brenda Guiled, the focus on Eleanor Point in south-east Salt Spring will begin with the Saanich people, whose harvestings from land and sea reached an equilibrium before newcomers flooded in.

"We see ships and canoes from

far away pass by in increasing numbers," explains Guiled. "We meet Hawai'ian William Haumea, who, with his First-Nation wife and family, carved out a farm for sustenance and cash.

"We meet an American whaler and his now-famous wife, Maria Mahoi, living a long shout from the Kings, a Greek-First Nation family. We meet Englishman James Monk, who gentrified Haumea's property and expanded the farming operation, shaping the land to a state that has persisted, more or less, to the present day."

Next Wednesday's event begins at 2 p.m.

Guiled is a writer, artist, karate teacher and chair of Island Pathways. She has lived on Salt Spring for 14 years and has recently become interested in the preservation of the Monk farmhouse. Her research into the history of the Eleanor Point area arose from that project and has resulted in an extensive illustrated manuscript on the development of south-east Salt Spring.

Guiled has previously published two historical books: One on the life and work of Captain George Vancouver (On Stormy Seas: The triumphs and torments of Captain George Vancouver) and the other a work of family history.

NATURE

Islander finds new Sansum Narrows spot

Tamar Griggs acquires former kayak camp site



Tamar Griggs

TALES FROM MISTY MOUNTAIN

BY TAMAR GRIGGS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Some of you know that I am once again in Sansum Narrows, on the Vancouver Island side. I now watch the sun and moon rise over Burgoyne Bay and Mount Sullivan on Salt Spring Island.

My finding this five-acre piece was a magical combination of the universe, as it was not even listed for sale.

It is wilder than Bold Bluff, with a steep Garry oak meadow and some old growth Doug fir trees flanking either side. The most dramatic part is the imposing Stoney Hill of conglomerate rocks that rise in the back. Gigantic boulders have toppled down from this cliff, probably in an earthquake.

The property was built

as a kayak camp site, so there was great infrastructure already in place: a 100-square-foot tiny cabin on pilings over the sea, a 30-foot dock, and three cabin tents with glass windows and even a sliding glass door. It has no road access, no electricity and no drinking water. It is perfect!

Even though there is no drinking water, we collected 2,800 gallons of surface water tumbling down the stone cliffs from a waterfall this spring, so there is cooking and washing water available.

I love this magnificent

hide-away and am thrilled to be once again in Sansum Narrows. It is great to be able to escape from the energy of Ganges in the summer and to breathe deeply the serenity of life without a computer or the internet.

I go to bed when it is dark, listening to the night-hawks, and get up when it is light. I spend hours just watching the current, and soaking up who is here sharing this land with me: eagles, turkey vultures, osprey, herons, kingfishers, gulls, ravens, river otters, seals, orca, raccoons, cougar (yes!) and deer.

A raven has been screaming at his reflection in a mirror on a fir tree by the outhouse. He yanks the hand towel off the hook and tosses the bar of soap on the ground. One week he managed to wrap the towel around the faucet of the sink, and turn on the water full blast! It must have been running

for about an hour before I discovered the accident. Yikes! He drained the precious 45-gallon water tank about two feet and there was only six inches left in the tank.

To be clear, I still live in Ganges, but this is a very welcome retreat for me in the summer, fall and spring. Now I have the best of both worlds.

I hike to visit my Vancouver Island neighbours and invite them over for tea. I love sharing this place with friends. If any of you intrepid kayakers wish to brave the narrows, bring extra drinking water and pop by for a cup of tea!

Editor's note: Tamar Griggs wrote an occasional Tales From Bold Bluff column before and after she sold her long-held Salt Spring water-access-only family property on Sansum Narrows in 2012. She calls her new spot "Misty Mountain."

here's my card

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This Week's Horoscope

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TIP OF THE WEEK

Mercury joins Sun and Jupiter in Libra on October 7th to produce a stellium. Libra is the sign of balance, equality, justice, fairness and the diplomatic and political process that achieving these ideals implies. Selfish ambition and rhetorical diplomacy masking ulterior motives is ever the enemy of these lofty goals and constitute a core feature of the drama of life. It can generally be described as the winds blowing hot and cold in rapid alternation; an ally today, an enemy tomorrow, an ally again someday. How quickly our favor and appreciation can turn enmity and even violent fury, the reactions of survival instincts and the antics of ego-centered attitudes and interpretations. Venus in Scorpio (Sept. 23 – Oct. 18) reveals some of this darker side of human nature and is where it is positioned now. A common example is the projection of our own weaknesses, frustrations and failures onto others resulting in demonization, blame, and, basically, fickle attitudes toward friendship and other alliances. Due to free-will and the rich spectrum of personalities on the game board of life, not everyone will act upon such impulses, but it is in the air currently. The high side of Venus in Scorpio is a deep appreciation of human psychology and the dual nature of the personality. Since we live and evolve in duality, how could this dual principle be otherwise? An important feature of spiritual growth is activated when we acknowledge and recognize this darker and elusive side of human nature, especially our own. Venus in Scorpio will serve to bring this theme to the fore.

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

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Just when you might have thought that certain relationships might end, expansion and deepening too are underway. Yet, the increase on one end often produces a decrease on another – the inverse proportion. The dangers of jealousy and manipulation are ever present due to the politics of the balance of power. It might prove wise to advance slowly now.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21)

Creating a more balanced and healthier lifestyle rhythm continues. As wonderful as abundance usually is, excess ever lurks in the shadows. The solution is to acknowledge the shadow, which can also be described as a blind spot. Step back for a moment and ask yourself if your routine of late is producing credits or debits.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

A creative cycle continues in full force. The underside of it is that you must give more than usual. Obtaining new tools and skills and exercising your existing talents are featured. Commitment is a strong theme for you these days as well and is directed to both expressions of art and to the Piscean attributes of surrender, forgiveness and compassion.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Achieving a whole new state of harmony and balance close to home is a central theme now. Inspired creative designs in a spirit of originality and inventiveness is featured. The focus could be directed to your actual home environment but also toward yourself, an activation of your own creative abilities. Getting others to agree could be the challenge.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23)

A fresh flow of thoughts and ideas are on your mind. Creating a space to support your focus is important, as studio setting perhaps. Making deliberate efforts to direct your focus is a key to success, especially now. Investments of time and energy and possibly money too are required. Follow other's lead then assume your own.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

There are indications that our financial flow could be increasing. At least thoughts about how you can earn more are on your mind. This could well include letting go of certain rhythms and strategies and replacing them with new ones. Generally, your power potential is also building and your confidence levels too.

Libra (Sep 22 – Oct 22)

An exciting cycle has begun for you. It will lead you into new directions and inspire your confidences to take risks. Some may even deem these out of character. A weave of ambition and desire is fueling your drive. In some respects, you are determined to get to the bottom of things. Renovations and even making major moves are featured.

Scorpio (Oct 22 – Nov 21)

You have entered a rather complex cycle. It is one that will challenge you to have faith in the face of intimidating odds. It includes a process of expanding your mind, a process that began some years ago, but has now arrived an important new turn. This will become increasing evident over the next couple of weeks.

Sagittarius (Nov 21 – Dec 21)

Truth, freedom, democracy and the politics of the above are on your mind. You want to talk about principles and you mean to be heard. Expressions of your individuality and point of view are extra important to you. Some of your drive may be linked to career advancement but you may be holding other people's interests clearly in mind as well.

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19)

Going big and not home is on your mind. This may be especially true in your career and may be for the sake of home and family. Pushing for a promotion is on your mind. This is at least a good time to plan your pitch and make those key moves to prepare the ground. A bug in the right person's ear, buying the boss a beer... Whatever it takes!

Aquarius (Jan 19 – Feb 19)

With each new day your perspective on things is expanding. Your understanding of human nature is deepening as well. These are inspiring your interests to learn more, to deepen your understanding. Meanwhile, circumstances are also pushing you to adapt and to add new skills and/or tools to your repertoire.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Your passions have been ignited. What you are excited about and who or what is getting you all excited is another question, one you must answer. Somehow, they are leading you to push through existing limitations of the status quo. In certain respects, this is a time of returns for you and the rewards could be big.



PHOTO COURTESY RCMSAR STATION 25

SAFETY ON GALIANO: Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue volunteers check out the new Kids Don't Float kiosk at the Montague Harbour Provincial Park dock on Galiano Island. From left are Randy Carr, project coordinator, Ken Morissette, Galiano coordinator, and Nic Futter, Station 25 leader. As part of their safe boating initiatives, Station 25 spearheaded the project that provides loaner PFDs to children who go out on the water. Kiosks, including two in Ganges, are funded by the Gulf Island Marine Rescue Society, the fundraising arm of RCMSAR Station 25. Galiano contractor Mike Clark built and installed the Montague kiosk.

SENIORS CENTRE

New programs at Seniors

Radio society sets up shop

SENIORS CENTRE NEWS

Welcome to a new season at the Salt Spring Seniors Centre.

We have new and ongoing programs: after lunches on Thursdays (starting Oct. 13) the afternoons will be filled with yoga (with Jim Dickinson) from 2 to 3 p.m., and a new Speaker Series from 4 to 5:30 p.m. that will feature senior-specific concerns: care-giving, advance planning, how to find your way through the health care system to access care, health tips and more. Check our website www.saltspringsejorscentre.ca for all the details. Then, make room on your calendar for a season of companionable activity.

Active Learning, in its original incarnation of Exploring the World of Art, continues

to draw curious crowds on Monday afternoons from 2:30 to 4 p.m. And a new stream of Active Learning, based on a selection of provocative CBC radio programs, has been suggested for later in the fall. Keep your ear to the ground for this!

The Salt Spring Seniors Services Society board has approved a request by the Gulf Islands Community Radio Society to allow Room 2 in the centre to be used as their permanent studio. They will sound-proof and prepare the room for use this month and be ready to go by the end of October. Seniors is hoping this new activity in the centre will open the door to lots of new ways for

seniors to participate: live radio plays, oral-history projects, maybe a golden-oldies show. Whatever form it takes, it should be fun and entertaining!

Seniors always needs volunteers: reception, driver dispatchers, help with lunch preparation and clean-up. The Lost Chords could always use more voices, basses, tenors, any voice, no auditions. And the Caregivers Support Group is always there on Wednesdays to lend a listening ear and helping hand for those who find themselves in a caregiver position.

Getting old is not for sissies, they say. At Seniors, we care about each other and welcome new members every day. Come join us at the centre, which is at 379 Lower Ganges Rd., across from Country Grocer, and open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day.

NATURE

Rare insects hop into view

Claudia Copley shares entomological expertise

endangered species.

Copley has been a collection manager at the Royal BC Museum since 2004. She is responsible for maintaining the entomology collection, which includes insects, arachnids and myriapods, and contains more than half a million specimens.

Copley's graduate degree was focused on the spider fauna of the ancient forests in the Carmanah Valley, but her interests include everything entomological. During the summer field season, Copley can be found exploring an area of British Columbia with collecting equipment in hand.

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is pleased to host the Royal BC Museum's entomology collection manager at a special event next Friday, Oct. 14.

Claudia Copley will give a presentation about some of the rare invertebrates that inhabit our region, from butterflies to bees and snails to spiders, at Lions Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

People attending can find out how to help conserve critical habitats for some of our most

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DEATHS	DEATHS	IN MEMORIAM GIFTS	COMING EVENTS	FINANCIAL SERVICES	MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE	CELEBRATIONS

Naren Kartar

Naren passed away bravely and peacefully at the Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring Island on July 2016, in his 67th year.

A West Vancouver native, Naren was: Son, Brother, Psychedelic Traveller, Whale Watcher, Peace Walker, Salmon Man, Farmer, Horticulturist, Radioman, Visionary, Bamboo Guru, Founder of "A Bambu Sea", Peace Park, and Friend of Ford Lake, Rakan Man, Father and Beloved Partner.

Neighbour's gathering, including a Music Jam will be held at Beaver Point Hall on Saturday, October 8th from 3pm to 8 pm, Potluck at 5ish.

Photos and flowers welcome. Donations can be made to the Salmon Enhancement Society.

Gratitude to all the caregivers who helped Naren in his time of need.

May all beings be happy - LIVE IN PEACE

Salt Spring Hospice

Our fall GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP begins on Oct. 13 at 2 PM. Call us soon to see if this group might be helpful to you at this time.

250-537-2770 saltspringhospice.org

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520 LOWER GANGES RD. - SS Baptist Church, Saturday, Oct. 8th, 8:30am - 2pm. In support of youth

129 CORBETT RD. Sat. Oct. 8th, & 15th 9am-4pm. Furniture, household items, kitchen stuff, gardening and a lot of other things too.

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Salt Spring Island Historical Society

REGULAR MEETING
2:00 pm Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at Central Hall

Old-Timers & Newcomers to Eleanor Point
by Brenda Guiled
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Yearly memberships to the Historical Society are now due. (\$15)

HELP PRESERVE SALT SPRING ISLAND HISTORY. Use Box 131 at Country Grocer for your grocery tapes. All are welcome.

Check our website: <http://saltspringarchives.com/historical> for more program details.

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Invite the whole neighbourhood to your garage sale with a classified ad. CALL 250-537-9933

GARAGE SALE

DR. ROB DIXON
Feb. 27, 1936 - Sept. 27, 2016

We announce with deep sadness the passing of our husband and father Dr. Rob Dixon.

Rob was born in Oulton, England. He settled in General Practice on Salt Spring Island in 1966. He was predeceased by his son Rhys. He is survived by Rowena, his loving wife of 59 years. Son, Robert (Mei), Rebecca, Rachael, Ryan/ Trevor (Leslie), Kiera, Dryden, Connor/ Sharon (Dave), Danielle, Jacquelyn, Jordan, Katelyn, Kirsty/ Myra (Chuck), Chantelle/ Rowan, Rheanna, Robbyn, Avah, Arrow/ Samantha (Luke), Travis, Andrea, Jaxun, Lucia. Two Great Grandchildren, Gemma/Lena and Donovan. Also his sister Thelma (Brian), Sam and Sarah. He will be greatly missed for his compassion, big smiles, sense of humour, and welcoming hospitality. We had twelve chairs and usually twenty or more people, consisting of family and friends enjoying the Sunday roast and the biggest box of quality Street chocolates over discussions of a variety of subjects; including Religion, Politics, and Sex! In his later years he enjoyed his scooter trips through the village to shop at his favourite stores. "Eternal rest give unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in Peace Amen". A memorial service to be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Red Cross or The Salvation Army.

If tears could build a stairway and memories a lane, I'd walk right up to Heaven and bring you Home again.

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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@driftwoodgimedia.com



GOLF

Golfers fend off Mount Brenton Ryder Cup challenge

Club events winding down

BY MARCIA HOGAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Forty members of the men's club teed off for the annual Terry Stringer TNT tournament on Sept. 24.

Pin placements were cleverly located to tempt the best putters while lush fairways and strong rough restricted shots, even from the longest hitters. Despite these challenges, Jordon Haenan was able to come away with the low gross victory with Mike Horan as runner-up.

The net side was also closely contested with Doug Wellington taking home the trophy and Mike Sawchuck coming a close second.

Thanks to Chad Little and Steve Marleau for the countless hours put into organizing the event.

Haenan was also victorious in the final match play event, taking the Matson Cup by squeezing past Zak Cutshell following 20 holes of competition.

Ryder Cup

Hazeltine wasn't the only venue for the Ryder Cup this past weekend. Salt Spring's version comprised 12 two-man teams playing against teams from Mount Brenton. Day 1 saw nine holes of best ball play and nine holes



Salt Spring Ryder Cup participants with the trophy in hand.

PHOTO COURTESY SS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

of alternate shot. Playing at Mount Brenton, through steady rain in the second nine holes, Salt Spring won 12 of the 24 points available.

Day 2 on Salt Spring had a total of 36 points up for grabs with the front nine a scramble and the back nine individual matches. The

final results had Salt Spring taking 36 points and Mount Brenton finishing with 24 points. Salt Spring retains the cup for another year.

This was the final big event for the year in the men's division. Wednesday, Oct. 5 will be the final men's day when the captain for 2017

will be elected by the men's playing membership.

Monday night ladies

Monday night ladies closed the season with their awards presentation. The 2016 low gross winner was Dora Reynolds with Janet Butler as runner up. Kelly-Ann Haslauer took low net with Jennifer Pickering in second place. Closest to the very squiggly line on Hole 9 was Marg Lowther. Closest to the pin on Hole 2 was Mary Lou Bompas, truly indicative of her achievement as most improved golfer of the year.

At home, Karen Davies shot a very low net score of 73 to win the Crier's Cup in the 18-hole ladies division. This cup is contested by those ladies who have not won a competition during the regular season.

Zone-5 event

Four ladies competed in the Zone-5 four-somes on Vancouver Island. Michele Dunkerley and Jane Hickie were up one game and winning the second when they had to concede in order to greet Sandra Palmer. Darlene Wellington and Marylou Bompas won their first two games but lost in a semi-final match at Highland Pacific on Hole 16. This alternate stroke competition concludes the Zone-5 season.

SOCCER

Old Boys scoop first win

Team shines with new diamond formation

Salt Spring's Old Boys soccer club found its winning footing Saturday in Victoria with a decisive 3-1 victory over the Saanich Fusion.

Dave Toynbee struck first in dramatic fashion by heading a spinning chip shot from Stefan Cermak into the goal.

Team spokesperson Fraser Hope said the Old Boys' new double-diamond formation, which gives midfielders a chance to provide a deep through-ball into channels that allow strikers to run toward goal for a clear shot, offered unprecedented excitement in much of the first half.

Mark Aston took full advantage of the new system and struck speedily with a low shot into the far side of the opposition's net for a 2-0 lead.

Mike McCormick gave the visitors a three-goal lead by connecting with a free kick by Graham Tweddle that floated into perfect position in front of the Fusion goal.

Hope said momentum shifted in the second half as the Old Boys rediscovered their old ways with missed passes and poor clearances. Damage was kept to a minimum, however, as the Fusion only managed a single goal in a futile comeback effort.

For the complete (and only modestly edited) Fraser Hope report, visit the sports section of www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

BC 55+ GAMES

Medal bonanza proves greater

Online hiccup minimizes success

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A glitch in the BC 55+ Games results website early last week means the final medal haul reeled in by three Salt Spring Sneakers competitors at the event was regrettably under-reported in the Driftwood's Sept 8 edition.

In four days of competition, three Sneakers athletes scooped up an impressive

10 gold, four silver and three bronze medals in a variety of track and field events.

As reported in last week's paper, Susan Gordon set a new provincial record for her category in the 1,500-metre, but she also established BC 55+ Games Meet records in the 5,000-m run (20:35.07) and 800-m race (2:39.86).

Marion Young not only picked up a silver and bronze in the 100-m and 1,500-m events for her age class, she also earned silvers in her age group for the 5,000-m (23:44.03), 400-m (1:24.94)

and 200-m (35.84) runs. Young also claimed bronze in the 800-m event (3:14.45).

In addition to the three gold medals reported in last week's article, Lynn Thompson earned gold in the 80-m hurdles (1:05.97), 300-m hurdles (1:05.97), 200-m run (35.79) and set a meet record in the 50-m race (8.77).

At the end of the competition, the Sneakers medal haul saw Gordon win three gold and four records, Young had four silver and two bronze, and Thompson claimed seven gold and one bronze.

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