



Driftwood

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 14 \$1.25 (incl GST)

COLLISION

Car strikes Fulford-Ganges Road cyclist

Road closed for five hours while scene investigated

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A cyclist was severely injured in a collision with a car on Fulford-Ganges Road on Monday afternoon.

According to Salt Spring RCMP Cpl. Darren Lagan, the cyclist, a 65-year-old Salt Spring Island resident, was travelling toward Ganges in the northbound lane just after 4 p.m. when the driver of a southbound '80s-model Toyota Camry made a left turn into the path of the cyclist. The Camry was driven by a 55-year-old Salt Spring woman.

Lagan said the cyclist sustained serious injuries as a result of the impact. He was transported to Lady Minto Hospital by BC Ambulance Service and then later airlifted to a Victoria-area hospital for treatment. The driver of the Camry and her two passengers were not injured.

Because the cyclist's injuries were at the time considered to be potentially life-threatening, a thorough crash scene investigation was conducted. That resulted in Fulford-Ganges Road being closed between Charlesworth Road and Cranberry Road for several hours — until approximately 9 p.m. A detour via Beddis Road was available to motorists.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Emergency crews attend to a cyclist hit by a vehicle in the 400 block of Fulford-Ganges Road on Monday afternoon.

COLLISION continued on 5

RECREATION

Bader's Beach shoreline damage needs fix

Resident alerts authorities to shrinking parking area

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Winter storms that caused havoc to Salt Spring's outdoor recreation areas proved especially rough at Bader's Beach, where more than a metre of infilled shoreline has dropped into the sea.

Concerned resident Dale Thorson brought the matter to the attention of the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation and its Trails Advisory Committee with a delegation to the latter group's meeting Monday afternoon. Thorson said high waves have undermined the area used for vehicle and boat trailer parking.

"The sea is washing it away. There's been a couple of instances this winter where three or four feet have disappeared in one shot. I think it's a matter of some urgency if we want to protect this," Thorson said.

The parking area is part of a Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure right-of-way at the end of Collins Road. The boat ramp is one of the only places the public can enter the water with kayaks or pleasure boats on the northwest side of the island and is adjacent to Capital Regional District parkland. A BC Hydro pole located close to the new edge could also be a potential danger.

BADER'S BEACH continued on 2

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INSERTS

- Buckerfield's
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WILDLIFE

Wire panel set-up secures farm's sheep from cougar

Redwing Farm gets proactive about protection

BY PAT BURKETTE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Protection of livestock from Salt Spring's recent cougar invasion is current job one at Rollie Cook's 20-acre Redwing Farm on Robinson Road.

On Monday morning, Cook and helper Reid Richard were busy installing stucco wire panels in openings in the farm's sheep barn so that the flock of 40 sheep can be kept inside at night. Although a cougar has not killed any of his livestock, Cook said that district agriculturalist Derek Masselink advised that until the cougar is caught, the only thing a farmer can do is to secure their sheep.

"A cougar is up to 200 pounds, with sharp teeth," said Cook, noting his sheep are no match for the cat.

Cook devised his wire

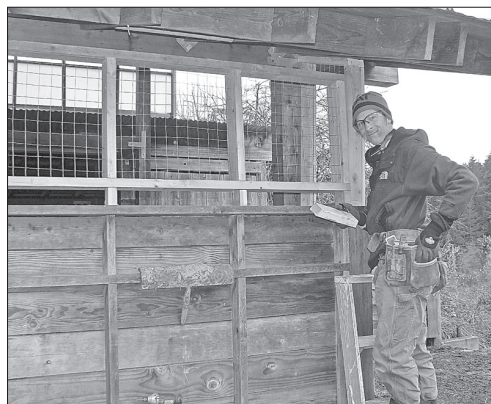


PHOTO BY PAT BURKETTE

Reid Richard installs wire panels at Redwing Farm's sheep barn to prevent nighttime cougar raids.

panels because "One of the things you want for sheep is lots of air going through. We've left the barn open, yet covered."

Cook estimates his wire panels will cost \$1,500 to provide protection for his 35 by 15 foot barn.

"Another idea," said Cook, "is to get a llama or donkey

to protect your livestock."

But Cook and his partner Doug Paterson are in their 60s and 70s. "A donkey lives up to 40 years, so we couldn't make that commitment," he said.

Cook said there have been cougar sightings at Ruckle, on Baker Road and Epron Road. Other reports have

come from the southern-mid section of the island such as the Ford Lake area and Shepherd Hills Road. Cook said that Mark Hughes at Ford Lake has been particularly hard hit, losing around a dozen sheep and goats over several weeks.

"He has a mountain behind him where the cougar can take cover," said Cook.

Cook said that one theory put forth is that there are actually two cougars, a mom and a one-year-old cub that has not learned to hunt deer. He said that, as well, "They seem not to kill and consume."

Cook said that traps have been set with no success and that normally a dog will be able to tree a cougar, but conservation officers have not been able to do that this time.

"A well-meaning islander prevented conservation officers from crossing their property while they were recently in pursuit with their dogs," said Cook.

Veterinarian Malcolm Bond said he had just had to put down two animals, a sheep and a calf, which had cougar-caused spinal injuries at a Fulford-Ganges Road location. Damage from cougar teeth, and resulting infection, was evident.

"They were basically quadriplegics," said Bond.

Of the possibility of two cougars killing livestock here, Bond said, "It would have to be a pretty well-grown cub, and cougars don't normally come in pairs. Historically, it would be one."

Bond recalled a big cougar kill in the 1960s.

"The Akermans had 700 ewes in corrals up on the Musgrave mountains. They lost 200 to one cougar."

Bond said that for a cougar, sheep are easier to kill than deer.

"Cougars are not long-distance runners. They're sprinters."

When advised of Cook's statement that a property owner would not allow con-

servation officers to pursue the cougar, Bond cautioned, "A lot of people don't realize that a cougar will kill a child."

Cook said that most farmers here are unprepared for cougar attacks.

"We have this charmed existence. We live in paradise. So my approach is an ounce of prevention. There's no compensation for farmers. So if a cougar takes down a sheep, you're on your own."

Conservation officers say no new reports have been received in the past week. They hope the reason is that more islanders are taking heed of their advice and taking steps to protect their farm animals at night.

"We don't want to kill an animal, it's as simple as that. Whether it's a cougar or a bear, the community has the responsibility to protect their livestock, put away garbage and any other potential food sources," said Scott Norris of the BC Conservation Office. "We want cougars to stay wild and eating deer, not livestock."

Trail groups look at new areas

BADER'S BEACH

continued from 1

Thorson said one side area of the parking area has not eroded, seemingly because large rocks have been piled there as a kind of barrier. Adding rocks and fill to the unprotected portion could be a simple fix, he suggested.

Trails committee member Philip Grange said he had spoken to the MoTI area manager about the problem and attempted to follow up but had not received a response. The committee agreed that parks manager Dan Ovington should contact the ministry to add an official voice of concern and that Thorson should continue to be the citizen's voice, both with MoTI and BC Hydro.

If that strategy doesn't work, Ovington said, the committee could add the project to their to-do list and then look at allocating funds, but he also pointed out such a project could prove expensive. Archeological reports required for work at Beddis Beach helped bring the price of a new retaining wall up to \$20,000.

"There's just so many sensitivities when you're dealing with the beach," Ovington said.

Recent projects that will add to the island's trail network include an extension of the network at Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park, with a trail along the south side of the bay nearly completed by Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club volunteers and new signage expected soon, committee chair Gary Quiring reported. There is good potential for new trails in the Croftonbrook/Harbour

House area, with local property owners Jack Woodward and Island Women Against Violence voicing enthusiasm for the idea.

A rezoning plan at Baker Ridge should provide the opportunity for new pathways in that area, and the trails committee recently received a licence of occupation for a stretch of Harrison Road. The unofficial trail located there can now be added to the map and inventory.

The trails group continues to work on how to accomplish its long list of project goals, with 31 items they wish to complete but few resources to accomplish them. A prioritization tool that was developed during two public sessions with a consultant last fall did not have the desired effect of making the process easier, according to two committee members who gave it a trial run.

"Right now we're just so stumped we can't say whether we like or not," said Kees Ruurs, who said he and Grange had not been able to figure how the tool was supposed to work.

Ovington agreed the point of the exercise was supposed to make it easier to rank new project proposals, not to make it more difficult. He will arrange a meeting with the consultant to help explain the tool and possibly update it.

Ovington said that PARC's upcoming strategic planning session will also help provide an overview of the community's overall recreation needs and where trail development fits. The updated strategic plan will ideally list priorities with funding and staff resources attached. Otherwise, items will remain a "wish list," he said.



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The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee seeks the advice and expertise of residents and community leaders through its volunteer Advisory Planning Commissions.

ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

Purpose: Provides recommendations to the Local Trust Committee on matters referred to it concerning land use, community planning, or proposed bylaws and permits.

Term: 1-2 years. Meets on average less than once per month.

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Purpose: Provides recommendations to the Local Trust Committee on matters referred to it concerning land use, community planning or proposed bylaws and permits specifically related to Agriculture.

Term: 1-2 years. Meets on average less than once per month.

If you are interested in an **Advisory Commission appointment**, please contact us for an application form or provide a statement of interest, relevant experience and qualifications by **Friday, April 21, 2017**.

Applications should be addressed to the:

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!
GISS Sr. Improv Team Fundraising Show
 Monday, APRIL 10, 7 p.m.
 ArtSpring theatre

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Croftonbrook project builds on IWAV service goals

Housing recognized as key to health and wellbeing

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Funding approval toward a major capital project at Salt Spring's Croftonbrook residence will go a long way toward housing some islanders who need shelter the most, with more than 50 new units to benefit several people whose living situation is precarious.

Island Women Against Violence was one of two proponents in the Capital Regional District to receive joint funding under the Regional Housing First Program, according to the March 28 announcement.

"Island Women Against Violence is delighted to be partnering with BC Housing, CRD and Island Health on this much-needed affordable housing project. We particularly appreciate that it will allow us to provide safe and secure housing for some of Salt Spring's more vulnerable residents," states a press release from the community organization.

The \$4.5-million award will provide capital funding for an estimated 52 units of affordable housing at Croftonbrook. Currently, there are 20 units of affordable housing at the complex for independent seniors and people with disabilities. IWAV took over the con-

tract for managing the facility in the spring of 2015 and then made plans to expand in order to help other groups as well.

The group publicly turned its focus to housing as a key determinant of health and wellbeing last fall, after completing an affordable housing needs report with the Salt Spring Island Housing Council in a project commissioned by the Salt Spring Foundation.

"The housing crisis in our community is profound. Everyone in our community is aware of it or has been affected in one way or another," said IWAV's executive director Dana Peace. "Too many of our community members are living in poverty, are homeless, living in precarious situations and at risk of becoming homeless, which includes seniors, single parents, women experiencing violence and the underemployed.

"There is great momentum here to take a community response approach to this crisis; our expanded housing at Croftonbrook will provide an important step forward. Housing has been top of mind for IWAV for many years, so this is great news to be part of the community's strategy to end homelessness."

The new units will be mixed-model housing and will serve people experiencing homelessness, seniors, family and workforce housing, with a variety of unit sizes to accommodate a range of incomes,



PHOTO COURTESY IWAV

IWAV's housing development team, from left, Dana Peace, Janis Gauthier and Kisa Petersen stand outside the Croftonbrook residents' lounge. New funding will add 52 more units of affordable housing to the property.

ages and family structures. Eligibility will be based on low to moderate household income as determined by BC Housing.

"Aside from the client groups we serve, we also hear consistently how

difficult it is for the work force in our community to find affordable housing. The need is clear across the retail and service industries as well as health and social sectors," Peace said. "Many businesses and

organizations are having difficulty in providing their services or products due to housing challenges. We know that when we can house individuals in one area, that opens up the available housing elsewhere – relieving the pressure points. IWAV wants to be a part of the solution in also creating some stable and affordable workforce housing options in our community."

While challenges to several other affordable housing proposals on the island have come through water connection issues, IWAV said it is proud to be breaking new ground with plans for licensed groundwater and rainwater harvesting. The organization believes the set-up will ensure there are no negative impacts on neighbours' water supplies, and could potentially prove to be a sustainable model for other projects, both locally and in other water-stressed communities throughout the province.

IWAV said next steps for the project will include consulting with Croftonbrook's current residents, its neighbours and the wider community, and beginning work with an architect and design team. As well, IWAV staff will be creating a partnership with Island Health and co-creating the referral and criteria processes for the units set at income assistance shelter rates.

To stay informed of developments, go to www.iwav.org and click on Become an IWAV Supporter.

NEWS BRIEFS

Place names shared

The Salt Spring Historical Society explores indigenous place names at its next event set for Wednesday, April 12 at Central Hall.

"Salt Spring Island, Ganges, Fulford Harbour,

Mount Maxwell . . . these are familiar names to anyone who lives here," explains a SSHS press release. "But there are other names, older names, rooted in ancient history that designate these same places. These names were given by indigenous people to describe crucial fea-

tures of the land and how it is shaped, the resources on the land, or the history, stories and legends connected to that place. Such stories were very significant, since embedded in them were teachings that conveyed important cultural values, and essential lessons about how to

behave in the world. From the names, we can gain a deeper understanding about the culture of the people who lived here for thousands of years."

Island historian Christopher Arnett, Ph.D., will lead next Wednesday's program, which begins at 2 p.m.

Arnett has lived on Salt Spring with his family for almost 30 years. He is the author of a number of books, including *The Terror of the Coast*, *Two Houses Half-Buried in Sand*, *They Write Their Dreams on Rock Forever*, and *4000 Years: A History of the Rainforest on the South-*


west Coast of Vancouver Island. His dissertation is on the Rock Art of the Nlaka'pamux.

He has been working with Frank Neumann of the Salt Spring Island Archives to develop a new map which will illustrate the location of the place names he will discuss.



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GRANTS

Salt Spring Foundation awards Canada 150 grants

Funds boost local celebrations

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is pleased to announce its local Canada 150 grants.

This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between

the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast.

Matching grants have been made to support projects connected to Canada's sesquicentennial that will encourage participation in community events to mark Canada's 150th, inspire a deeper understand-

ing about the people, places and events that shape our communities and our country, and foster a greater sense of belonging, inclusion and reconciliation in our community.

Capital Regional District and Chamber of Commerce

For 150 Days of Fun on Salt Spring Island, which will showcase the many amazing community events and programs that are taking place on Salt Spring for the 75 days before and after Canada Day, the peak of the celebration of Canada's 150th birthday.

Gulf Islands Families Together Society (GIFTS)

For Salt Spring Stories, a 12-day exhibit of photographs and accompanying written stories. Oral histories will also be shared. The project speaks to the relationship between past and present through the social and historical realities that made the island what it is today. It will prominently feature First Nations, black and Japanese history and aim to provide both residents and visitors with a deeper understanding of the island. Members of the disability community will be employed as sitters of the show. GIFTS will be collaborating with the Salt Spring Island Historical Society, the Salt Spring Arts Council and the library.

Island Pathways

For a new cycling map that will include the Salish Sea Cycle Circuit, which will be completed in 2017, in time for Canada's 150th birthday.

Island Women Against Violence (IWAV)

For the Sharing Our Songs project, which will bring together two First Nations song circles with a Salt Spring-based non-indigenous women's choir to learn and share songs from both cultural traditions and build bridges of understanding and respect through a cultural exchange. Two community song circles will take place, one in Victoria and one at Burgoyne Bay/Xwaaqw'um on Salt Spring on National Aboriginal Day on June 21.

Salt Spring Forum

For Canadian Stories: 150 Years & Counting, a community celebration featuring a major Canadian author, who will lead a special Canada 150 dialogue about the stories of Canada. The event will emphasize community engagement and explore the question: Who are we? It will be recorded to share nationally.

Salt Spring Island Conservancy

For the Art and Nature Festival for Children, which will provide a unique experience of the connection of art and nature. The project will bring together children aged 3 to 12 and their parents to have fun and learn about conservation with hands-on activities such as species identification, nature studies, arts and crafts, nature songs and poetry writing, with a special focus on species at risk and other topics directly related to the conservancy's work at Blackburn Lake.

Salt Spring Public Library

For the Canada 150 Collaborative Art Display, which will make art supplies publicly accessible for community members to create drawings that focus on Canadian culture and identity. An art station will be set up all summer and will include high-quality paper and pencil crayons, as well as weekly prompts that encourage participants to think creatively and critically about what it means to be Canadian. Participants' drawings will be displayed in the library.

Salt Spring Singers Choral Society

For Canada Sings 150, which will bring together 150 Salt Spring youth on Canada Day to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial through song. The event will feature a new song by Valdy, which will be recorded by choral youth from GISS. It is hoped that the message of the children's song for the future will inspire and foster a deeper commitment to Canada's environment.

Volunteer and Community Resources Salt Spring Society

For Build and Inspire Volunteerism 150, a project that aims to inspire residents to volunteer, encourage and build awareness of volunteerism on Salt Spring, and sustain volunteer commitment. Project highlights include a month-long exhibit at the library of 150 Volunteers, 150 Organizations stories, and recognition of volunteers reaching 150 hours on Canada Day.

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MARKETING

CBC radio's Terry O'Reilly at forum

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How do marketing and other forms of persuasion shape our lives, society, and world? Has marketing "eaten our culture," as the subtitle of Terry O'Reilly's 2009 book *The Age of Persuasion* suggests?

O'Reilly, Canada's most famous ad-man and the host of CBC Radio's wildly popular *Under The Influence*, joins the Salt Spring Forum to discuss these questions and more at 1 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

As the leader of an award-winning advertising production company for over three decades, O'Reilly has become the voice of authority on marketing.

Since 2005, he has appeared on CBC Radio as the host of *O'Reilly on Advertising, The Age of Persuasion* and most recently *Under the Influence*. As host, O'Reilly helps listeners understand advertising in new and fascinating ways.

Even those who despise advertising love his show.

O'Reilly has the gift of giving history a place beside modern media and current creative campaigns to help people comprehend how things are the way they are today.

For example, last summer *Under the Influence* explored how marketing created rituals, with O'Reilly explaining that rituals like taking a coffee break or having bacon and eggs for breakfast were actually invented by marketing companies to sell more product.

O'Reilly's newest book *This I Know: Marketing Lessons From Under The Influence* (Knopf Canada, 2017), which will be sold by Salt Spring Books at the event, is full of insights from his time on radio along with observations from his more than 35 years in the advertising business.

Although O'Reilly wrote this book for businesses that lack big marketing budgets, the lessons apply to everyone. Given that he's directed thousands of commercials in his career, O'Reilly has many fascinating and funny stories to tell and a lot of expertise to share.

Make sure to seize this rare opportunity to join Canada's most trusted voice in the ad game, in an exciting Salt Spring Forum discussion.

Tickets are available only at Salt Spring Books in advance, and at the door if quantities last.

Traffic detoured following crash

COLLISION

continued from 1

Lagan said an investigator from the Integrated Collision Analyst Reconstructionist Section was called to the island to ensure that a thorough scene examination was completed.

“Given the involved nature of serious injury collisions, expertise from an off-island investigator was required, which ultimately led to a prolonged road closure,” he said. “We only get one chance to investigate a crash scene, and we have a responsibility to those directly affected to do it properly, despite the interruptions to local traffic.”

“The patience of motorists impacted by the detour was appreciated,” he added.

Wolfgang Lachmund was one resident who felt some traffic control or more direction should have been provided to drivers. People travelling north on Fulford-Ganges Road had no indication about the road closure until they arrived at the Cranberry Road intersection. As well, some north-bound drivers would not necessarily know that an alternate route existed by connecting with Beddis Road via Arnell Way (off Fulford-Ganges Road).

“There should have been someone there, an officer or someone, at least an hour or two after the accident,” said Lachmund.

At approximately 7:45 p.m., Lachmund did encounter an individual directing traffic, but not on earlier trips through the area.

Drugs and alcohol have been ruled out as factors in the crash.

The driver of the Camry is facing a charge for failing to yield on a left turn under the B.C. Motor Vehicle Act.

Anyone who witnessed this crash and has not yet spoken to police is asked to call the Salt Spring Island RCMP at 250-537-5555.



Initial line-up of traffic heading north-bound on Fulford-Ganges Road following a vehicle and cyclist collision on Monday at about 4:15 p.m. PHOTO BY CAROLYN WALKNER

ROADS

Isabella Road safety questioned

Ministry repairs planned for next week

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Safety precautions keeping drivers from the site of a cliffside washout on Isabella Point Road feel insufficient to some of the islanders who regularly pass by them.

Dan Dickmeyer lives on Roland Road and is forced to pass the slide zone whenever he wishes to leave his immediate neighbourhood. He has sent more than one email to Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure personnel registering concern with their management strategy.

Writing on Sunday, Dickmeyer acknowledged signage had been put up warning northbound drivers to yield to oncoming traffic. He questioned the efficacy of barricades that don't extend past the entire slide area, however, and wondered what the point was of having small orange bags only partially filled with earth placed on the side of the road.

“What is the purpose of this?” Dickmeyer asked. “Not to hold down the barricades or saw horses.”

Noting that only one flashing light has been placed at the site and that at least one pylon had been moved by accident or vandalism, Dickmeyer recommended the ministry add more



Safety barriers at the site of a major washout on Isabella Point Road. PHOTO BY DAN DICKMEYER

and sturdier barricades, more flashers and a line of fully filled orange bags.

The high bank cliffside slid into the ocean on Feb. 16, taking earth and trees all the way from the edge of the asphalt down an estimated 15 to 18 metres (50 to 60 feet) to the water.

Ministry staff who conducted the initial assessment said the slide was probably caused by erosion forces at the ocean's edge, compounded by the high volume of water that cascaded over road during the winter storms.

Speaking at an event hosted by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce last week, Transportation

Minister Todd Stone said he was aware of the issue and promised a long-term solution was coming soon. His department confirmed Monday that repair plans are in place, and said that safety measures will suffice in the meantime.

“Ministry staff feel that the roadside barriers, warning flags on the ground, signs and flashing lights provide sufficient safety precautions for travellers on Isabella Point Road,” a ministry email to the Driftwood states. “Staff are working to finalize the remediation plan this week, and the maintenance contractor is ready to begin the repair work as early as next week, weather permitting.”

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



EDITORIAL

Opening doors

Is anyone on Salt Spring Island unhappy about Croftonbrook adding 52 affordable housing units to its current 20-suite property in north Ganges? Not likely.

Last week the province announced that \$4.5-million in joint provincial government and Capital Regional District funding would be allotted for Croftonbrook, which is operated for BC Housing by the local Island Women Against Violence society. News was released as part of a tsunami of pre-election funding announcements hitting all parts of the province. It's easy to be cynical about the timing of the big basket of disbursed gifts, but it's silly to not be grateful.

With only 152 units of subsidized social housing currently available on the island, or about 250 if various seniors beds and women's transition accommodation are counted, an additional 52 units represents a huge increase. The new Croftonbrook units will serve islanders of low to moderate incomes, as well as some who are homeless.

THE ISSUE:

Affordable housing

WE SAY:

Community must keep working on it

Caution is always in order when it comes to celebrating major project funding announcements, of course. A Salt Spring Island Community Services 20-unit project on former Catholic Diocese lands was being seriously discussed and worked on more than 20 years ago. While it is now progressing in a different form from the original vision, it has consumed major staff and board energy from the non-profit agency for many years.

Similarly, what started as a School District 64 project for 80 units on Drake Road and has since been transferred to the CRD received first reading of a rezoning bylaw two years ago, and is effectively stalled. Concerns about the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's ability to provide water to those developments have been one significant roadblock. An alternate water feasibility study is now being pursued by the CRD.

With water supply issues always at the forefront of new developments, it's heartening to see that IWAV has plans to use licensed groundwater and harvested rainwater to meet residents' potable water needs.

One thing to be learned from the SSICS and CRD/SD64 projects is that proponents must keep working, despite daunting obstacles, to build homes for Salt Spring Islanders. Affordable housing supply is too important an issue for the community to shut the door on it now.



VIEWPOINT by George Grams, Peter Grove and Wayne McIntyre

Water supply questions answered

In his March 29 opinion piece titled "Water supply and incorporation: are they compatible?", Hugh Greenwood poses two questions. The first — whether a municipality would have the powers to regulate potable water on Salt Spring Island — can be satisfied by examining the facts assembled by the Incorporation Study Committee. As the committee was dissolved at the conclusion of its report to the minister, it falls on the elected officials to answer questions that relate to the work of the committee and its consultants, Urban Systems.

Hugh Greenwood's second question — whether a mayor and council would have the "will" to regulate water — is conjectural and applies equally to both our current governance structure and a municipal one. In answering this and future queries from island electors we will confine our answers to factual matters.

Under a municipal structure a mayor and council would inherit the powers to regulate and legislate on water related issues that currently attach to our local government agencies.

Those agencies comprise the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee and the several water improvement districts (of which North Salt Spring Waterworks District is by far the largest) that treat and deliver potable water through piped distribution systems. In addition, responsibility for the water commissions currently operated by CRD would transfer to a Salt Spring municipality.

Some further benefits would attach to a municipality that are currently unavailable, or have obstacles to their introduction, as a result of the configuration of our existing service agencies.

For example, improvement districts, including our water improvement districts and our fire improvement district, are ineligible for infrastructure grants. Accordingly, the upgrade works comprising

new treatment plants on St. Mary and Maxwell lakes, and the raising of the weir on St Mary Lake, must be funded entirely by NSSWD subscribers.

Under an incorporated form of governance those improvement districts would be managed by the municipality, which would be eligible for infrastructure grants. Those grants can be significant. In the case of Bowen Island, for example, the municipality was recently awarded grants of over \$3.89 million towards water treatment plant improvements costing \$5 million, saving Bowen taxpayers nearly 80 per cent of the cost of the upgrades.

When the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee sought in 2012 to form a committee of the several agencies that have a responsibility to legislate and regulate on issues related to fresh water and watersheds, it was required to obtain the consent of Islands Trust Council to levy the tax requisition that funded the coordinated management of those agencies. That consent requires to be renewed each year. A municipality would have the power to protect its watersheds through convening and funding such a committee without seeking off-island consent.

Similarly, an incorporated Salt Spring Island mayor and council would have the power to introduce special measures of environmental protection and management for our water resources such as those that the township of Gibsons has introduced through its eco-asset strategy. Under our current governance structure an eco-asset strategy might be possible but only with the consent of the majority of the CRD board comprising 24 directors, 22 of whom are elected to represent constituencies on Vancouver Island.

The writers are Salt Spring's three locally elected officials.

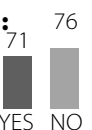
THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you favour the 0 Canada wording change? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you approve of a Sept. 9 referendum date?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "The housing crisis in our community is profound. Everyone in our community is aware of it or has been affected in one way or another"

DANA PEACE, IWAV EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Is it a problem that Salt Spring's incorporation vote falls on the same day as the Pride parade?



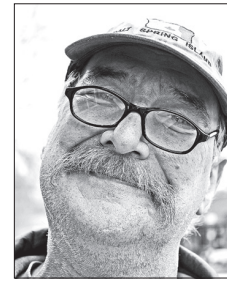
JENNY MCCLEAN
I think it's really bad and they should have changed it to later in the fall.



CHERYL HUSEBY
While it would be nice if it could be changed, we're probably creative enough here to find solutions.



KATE NASH
The more the merrier — if you draw a crowd, you've got more voters right there.



SERGE STONE
I think they did it on purpose just to draw people away. It will benefit the powers that be.



CORRIE HOPE FURST
It's going to be crazy busy in town that day and I think it's going to keep a lot of people from voting.

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

Resident voices

I appreciated Tony Maude's March 22 "Local is better" letter to the editor regarding our current governance model.

What I got from his letter, and I am now paraphrasing, is that Salt Spring Island is currently governed by the Islands Trust and the CRD. The Trust has 26 trustees at its table and the CRD has 24 directors at its table. Out of a total of 50 voices making laws and regulations for Salt Spring we have only three representatives — two trustees and one director.

Unfortunately, this leaves 47 non-residents, with no real understanding of our specific needs and without having to live with the implications of their decisions making the

rules by which Salt Spring must live and govern itself.

It would not be inappropriate to characterize this current governance model as the "Victoria Government of Salt Spring Island." If you think this sounds suspiciously similar to the "colonial governments" that we read about in our history texts years ago you'd be right. History is awash with battles of countries, regions and villages attempting to take back local control from distant decision-makers. There are very few colonial governments today — for good reason.

To my mind, seven resident voices on a local municipal council will always be more preferable than 47 non-resident voices of a modern-day colonial government.

KEVIN BELL,
VESUVIUS

Kiss of death

Talk about a political kiss of death. The Driftwood has betrayed its prejudice against local Liberal party candidate Stephen P. Roberts by front-paging a paparazzi-style photo of said candidate with Liberal Transportation Minister Todd Stone in front of one of our lovely Salt Spring buses (Driftwood, March 29). A better advertisement for the Green and NDP campaigns in the upcoming provincial election can scarcely be imagined.

Election bribes and Mr. Roberts' honourable personality notwithstanding, the ferry-fare fleeced populace of our provincial riding has not forgotten Minister Stone's role in its fleeing. Nor will we now be able

to disassociate Stephen P. Robert's name from that sorry record and its underlying (neo-) Liberal ideology.

In fairness, the Driftwood does appear to have demonstrated a modicum of journalistic restraint and balance in not having the photo taken with the Skeena Queen as backdrop.

MARTIN ADAM,
SALT SPRING

Say cheese

Please help me! I'm confused. The front page of last week's Driftwood: full colour and a large headline, "Minister announces new funding."

I can understand what Transportation Minister Todd Stone is doing standing in front of our Salt Spring local transit bus.

He's the big cheese.

But what is the other guy doing there? Does he run the Salt Spring Transit system? He must be a very busy guy to be publicly involved in so many events.

Where is the contractor who actually runs this system? Why isn't she front and centre with the minister of transportation?

The minister is quoted as saying, "I can't say enough about just how well run the transit system [on Salt Spring] is," praising traffic volume and customer service satisfaction.

Why isn't Ineke de Jong mentioned in this article? It is because of her hard work and dedication to this endeavour, along with a fine team working with

her, that this system is so successful.

Does anyone know what it takes to keep buses on schedule, including ferry traffic from three terminals, scheduling drivers and maintenance times and routes, budgets and payroll, and interfacing with BC Transit on our behalf?

This is one very hard-working, conscientious and brilliant person behind all this. She is the main player in this game, not Roberts.

What kind of journalism covers a story and doesn't acknowledge the real players?

Geez!
MICHAEL ARONOFF,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

AGING with GRACE: Is this the new normal?

BY HELEN HINCHLIFF



HELEN HINCHLIFF

"When do we start making lemonade?" I asked the assembled group.

Twenty-one of us were sitting in a circle at the back of Salt Spring Island United Church a few weeks ago joining our minister, the Reverend Clark Saunders, to confront the question, "Is This the New Normal?"

More of us than usual had gathered for a Thursday afternoon discussion and one of us guessed why. "We're mostly pushing 80," he announced. Some objected, so he revised his estimate: "Well, we're either pressing on it from below or we're on top pushing down as hard as we can."

Poor 80! What had it done to be the brunt of so much abuse?

We were eager to start rounding up all the usual suspects of a possibly new normal: aches and pains never felt before; a newfound inability to recall the names of persons, places or things we've known for a lifetime; or, and this one is my current bug-a-boo, an amaz-

ing lack of energy. I used to put in 12 or 14-hour days, tapping away at my keyboard long into the evening. Now, I often find myself waking up in the middle of my favourite TV programs only to discover I've missed 15 or 20 minutes' worth of clarifying action.

We weren't shy about describing our feelings about our various losses. A few expressed gratitude for abilities that remain after finding ways to control symptoms or after having recovered from serious, life-threatening illnesses. But many more of us revealed negative feelings ranging from dismay to shock or from anger to a sense of having been betrayed. Some of us were even willing to blame our own bodies, as if these formerly reliable and loyal partners were now guilty of having fallen down on the job or perhaps had turned into an enemy when we'd been looking the other way.

It didn't take us long to recognize that we were experiencing

one or more of the five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Elizabeth Kübler-Ross was the first to set forth these stages of grief in her seminal book *On Death and Dying*, published in 1969. They don't necessarily flow in an orderly manner from denial to acceptance. We can leapfrog back and forth among them during our individual journeys. So when I wanted to start making lemonade was I in denial because I wanted to avoid the subject? Or was I in acceptance, wanting to make the best of my faults and frailties?

Almost 18 years ago, a few months after my late husband Donald experienced a massive stroke, I attended a grief workshop. My memory of one exercise remains vivid. The leader handed each of us a piece of paper.

"Tear it in half," she said. "Now take one piece, scrunch it up, and throw it on the floor." It seemed silly, but we did it.

"How do you feel?" she asked.

Aside from guilt at tearing up and throwing away half of a perfectly good piece of paper, I didn't feel much. Then she instructed us to tear apart the remaining piece of paper.

"A few minutes ago you lost your partner," she said. "Now you've lost the privilege of driving your car." With each new loss, our pieces of paper grew smaller and smaller. "That's what it can feel like to grow old," she told us. "But we don't have to feel bad. It all depends on our ability to accept a new normal."

A few in our United Church group believed we should reject that kind of idea, opting to keep marching into our futures no matter what. They couldn't see much difference between acceptance and resignation, otherwise known as just giving up. But one among us suggested that the serenity prayer is a helpful guide: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things I can; and

the wisdom to know the difference.

One wise woman in our group volunteered her experience with the loss of driving privileges. Her vision is poor and steadily worsening, so it seemed best to stop driving. She could be housebound, but instead she is making friends with neighbours she never knew before and is grateful that they're happy to drive her to church or on errands.

Last week, a friend lent me John Izzo's *The Five Thieves of Happiness*, a book whose central theme is that happiness is our natural state, and that when we try to create happiness it will elude us. That's tough because I'm a control freak, striving for some elusive goal of perfection. Izzo advises accepting the present moment, an ever-evolving new normal. If some lemons are in the fridge, maybe I'll make that lemonade.

Man of action

Wow! Does \$4.8 million ever make a difference! Salt Spring Island has come into focus for this BC Liberal government, and all because of our local BC Liberal candidate, Stephen P Roberts.

This money didn't just flow our way because of happenstance. We received this funding because Stephen advocated for our community—sussing out needs and project readiness and then presenting this feedback to the government. This process is not magic, it just requires someone who is persistent and willing to advocate for our community and forge connections in government. With the effective advocacy Stephen has already provided for Salt Spring Island, I'm excited to see the potential for our community with him as our MLA.

It has been too long since we have had a representative at the table. Real decision making does not occur in opposition nor on the fringes; it only occurs when you are part of the party in power. No money or real decisions flow out of the opposition and it does not matter how nice you are or how well intended; it is still "no cigar."

So who is this man of influence? Stephen Roberts grew up here and has lived on Salt Spring since 2011. He intends to have a constituency office here, which means real access to your MLA. But more importantly, this man knows how to listen, he sits, looks you in the eye and hears you out; with no "yes buts" and shilly shallying. That's worth a lot.

He is currently the chair of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation board and the Salt Spring Hospice Society; he is also on the Advisory Planning Commission. This indicates deep roots in the community and a willingness to serve. He is a shy man, quite self effacing, which for a politician is rare and somewhat charming. Even before being elected he has facilitated change in our community.

So let's keep the progress flowing. There are many more projects our community needs to facilitate and it seems that Stephen is our man to make this happen. He is a man of action!

DARLENE STEELE,
SALT SPRING

Wrong politician in photo

The image of the Liberal candidate Stephen Roberts standing beside the Minister of Transportation on the front page of the Driftwood last week confirms my suspicion that the Liberal party is opening the goodie bag and promising the earth.

Their track record of announcing funds for worthy projects (and then re-announcing them again and again for years) is an age-old trick to get media attention as close to election time as possible.

And, let's give credit where credit is due. It was not the Liberal candidate who worked tirelessly to get the bus system in the first place or affordable housing dollars for us. Gary Holman has been the one behind the scenes, first as CRD director and then as our hard-working MLA, who put the pieces together and pushed a recalcitrant Liberal government into action. It is his picture that should have been on the front page!

NORA LAYARD,
STARKS ROAD

Transit deserves support

I object to that photo you used on the front page of your last edition with the Minister of Transportation and the B.C. Liberal candidate standing beside one of our local buses.

Why was the local Liberal candidate in that photo? Free advertising for the BC Liberals, or were you given a donation from them too?

MORE LETTERS

If any politician should have been in that photo it was our MLA Gary Holman, who was the instrumental agent in getting our bus system happening along with years of volunteer citizen work.

The Chamber of Commerce hosted the lunch with the minister and there again at the head table was Mr. Roberts. Looked like partisan politics on their part too.

Indeed, at the luncheon, Transportation Minister Todd Stone was quick to extol the great virtues of MLA Holman.

Someone else you could have chosen for that photo would have been Ineke de Jong, who diligently keeps the buses happening here daily.

At the luncheon I held up a report, the only extensive one in existence published through Transport Canada on the total costs of transportation in Canada done in 2005. I asked him to read it because few MPs and MLAs have. The report shows the huge support given to auto companies by our governments to allow them to have their way with us. For B.C. alone that year the cost was over \$30 billion between operational and social costs paid out by our government.

Surely drivers would be dismayed at these costs if they considered them. A very small percentage of these tax dollars go toward public transit.

I also requested that the minister look into co-ordinating ferry and bus times. We do well here with our buses but it is still pathetic for Tsawwassen foot passengers and over at Crofton too. Conscious of ferry costs and climate-change actions, more and more people are choosing the foot-passenger path.

My final plea to the minister was asking the government to create senior zones with signs and

reduced speed limits in high-density senior areas such as we have here on Lower Ganges Road where drivers whiz through crosswalks and up and down that road.

In the end, kudos to the Chamber of Commerce for setting up this meeting. Maybe some of you will take the bus next time.

MYNA LEE JOHNSTONE,
LOWER GANGES ROAD

Lack of respect shown

I am disappointed that the Liberal government has set the date for the incorporation referendum on the same day as the Pride parade and festivities, even after it was pointed out to them that street closures and lack of parking will make it difficult for people to reach a downtown voting location.

It also shows lack of respect for the importance of this event to our community. Perhaps on May 9 we will elect the NDP to govern our province and they will reverse this unfortunate decision.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
MOUNT BELCHER HEIGHTS

Too many consultants

Salt Spring's three elected officials — "3-EOs" — announced that they had asked the province to finance debates on the incorporation referendum subject matter, if a referendum was to be held.

In anticipation, they took it upon themselves to search for a debate moderator, found one and secured him to do the honour, they said. But they did not name their find — they only stated triumphantly that they had secured "an authoritative, impartial, well-respected former politician to moderate the debates."

After keeping us wondering for some 10 months, on March 8 they unveiled their mystery moderator as being George Abbott, former BC Liberal cabinet minister.

But he proved not universally acceptable as the 3-EOs expected. Expressing the concerns of many, Hannah Brown wrote in the March 29 Driftwood a well-thought-out letter about Abbott ("Discuss the panel"), as well as for the way the 3-EOs ferreted him out.

But there is more to it that remain to be scrutinized. As it happened, Abbott has set himself up in the governance consultancy business. It is likely that he has been hired at a fat fee to "moderate" us. This raises concerns about his "independence," at least. Moreover, I would guess the 3-EOs did not select Abbott entirely independently from the B.C. government, as they would like us to believe they did. Anyway, let's not forget the adage: "He who pays the piper calls the tune," in this instance it being the 3-EOs and the government, not necessarily in that order.

Everything converges into a concerted attempt to tightly control the "free debates." Note that the word "consultant" comprises "con" and "sultan," neither of which causes euphoria. The scheme, as the 3-EOs informed us, is to pair "Circle Square Solutions" with "Urban Systems" and put them in charge of the debates. The former is Abbott's consultancy, the latter being the business which has been driving the incorporation "enlightenment" of our society from the start of the incorporation saga.

Have we not already had enough of "mind-make-up" pelted at us by the consulting industry? Could they not leave us alone to decide our future by ourselves?

TOM VARZELIOTIS,
BOOTH CANAL

Spotlighting changemakers

I write to recognize and thank the Driftwood for spotlighting the 14 women who were nominated by members of this community for their contributions to our common life.

These women were honoured as "changemakers" at this year's International Women's Day Celebration hosted by SWOVA, in collaboration with Volunteer and Community Resources. The Driftwood dedicated two full pages, over two weeks, to the announcement of the honourees and their accomplishments. This year's changemakers were recognized for the positive change they have created while serving in a volunteer capacity.

In an illuminating and inspiring editorial published on March 8, (International Women's Day) the Driftwood said it best: "Acknowledging women's contributions and celebrating role models is one way to encourage further positive change." Indeed! If readers missed the editorial titled "More work to do for equality," it can be viewed in the Opinion section at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

SARAH BELKNAP,
BOARD CHAIR,
SWOVA

PADERNO

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Isolationism not helpful for Salt Spring water issues

BY DAVID J. RAPPORT AND LUISA MAFFI

Hugh Greenwood's March 29 Driftwood contribution ("Water supply and incorporation: Are they compatible?") invites readers to address a question that, as we see it, cannot be answered.

Hugh is concerned about the security of our water supply, as we all should be, particularly with the prospect of ever-drier weather in summer, the very season when the population of our island swells up with tourists. But then Hugh ties his question to his vote on incorporation. If we were to incorporate, he asks, would the new mayor and council have "the power and authority, in addition to the will, to draw up and enforce regulations and laws to safeguard our water supply?" He adds that, if the answer is "no," he would be compelled to vote against incorporation.

The fact is that only a clairvoyant could know, at the time of voting in the referendum, who the key actors might be in a hypothetical municipal government — let alone whether or not those actors would have the "will" to address Hugh's concerns. And when it comes to having the "power and authority," that too is not knowable ahead of time, as it depends on what kinds of "regulations and laws" such a municipality might bring into effect once it were elected. It would presumably have the power to enact regulations and laws within its jurisdiction, provided such laws and regulations do not conflict with those of provincial or federal jurisdictions.

Does all this mean that Hugh should stay home on referendum day? Not necessarily! There is a much broader issue

at stake than water or any other single issue at hand: namely, whether Salt Spring Islanders wish to "go it alone," breaking away from our neighbours in the Salish Sea — the bioregion of which we are part — or recognize that our ecological, economic and social wellbeing is intimately tied to that of our neighbours on other islands.

All of the 12 major Gulf Islands, spanning from Denman Island in the north to Salt Spring, Saturna and South Pender in the south to Gambier and Bowen in the east, and the dozens of associated islands and islets attached to many of these, are embedded in the same bioregion. It's an area that has become seriously impacted by human activities, and that most likely would be even more heavily impacted if it were not for the "preserve and protect" mandate of the Trust. All 12 local Trust areas face the same challenges: climate change; dwindling water supplies during the dry months; deforestation; increasing air pollution; ever more polluted local marine environment; threats to the marine environment from growing freighter and tanker traffic and proposed oil pipelines and LNG plants; ever higher costs of living, unaffordable housing, higher ferry rates, and not enough jobs to keep the younger population "on island."

The primary question one must address

IN RESPONSE

is: In dealing with these very real and major issues, with very real and major consequences for our quality of life, are we better off with Salt Spring fending for itself, or as part of a united front?

Those who favour incorporation often deny the fact that the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee includes someone from another island, with authority to vote on issues that impact our island. That objection only has validity if one thinks of Salt Spring's wellbeing as independent of the conditions that apply within our bioregion. That is clearly not the case: none of the major issues we mentioned, and many more, stop at Salt Spring's coastline. The so-called "outsider" on the LTC really is not an "outsider" at all but rather a voice that reflects a bioregional focus — one that extends the notion of "community" to all of the islands under the Trust.

Isolationism and protectionism are visibly on the rise in North America and throughout the world. In our view, however, although rooted in very real social and economic unease, such attitudes are ultimately self-defeating. We Salt Spring Islanders are not a closed-off local community. We are inextricably also a regional and a global community. What we need is a governance structure that, while looking after the immediate interests of the local level, takes into full account the issues at the regional and global levels. To "act

locally and think globally" is best served by locating ourselves within our bioregion and by working together with neighbouring communities to address the challenges cooperatively rather than selfishly and self-defeatingly, pitting ourselves against others.

David J. Rapport is an economist and ecologist who spearheaded the notion of ecosystem health — the thriving of ecosystems upon which our lives and well-being depend. Luisa Maffi is an anthropologist and linguist who co-founded Terralingua, a non-profit that works to sustain biocultural diversity — the diversity of life in both nature and culture.

Capital Regional District **CRD**

Notice of Annual Water Main Flushing Salt Spring Island Water Systems: Beddis

Water main flushing is planned as follows:
 • Beddis system
 April 11, 2017 9:00am - 4:00 pm
 During the flushing, you may experience low water pressure and/or periods of discoloured water at your tap. Although unpleasant, the water remains safe. It is recommended to run your tap until the water clears. For inquiries, please contact the CRD at 250.883.5602.

Health-care needs can be met

BY STEPHEN P. ROBERTS

Thanks to B.C.'s strong economy and the B.C. Liberal government's solid plan, we are seeing unprecedented investments in health care throughout the province.

And given the aging of our population, meeting the health-care needs of Salt Spring Islanders over the next few years is going to require some significant investments here at home.

Our hospital — Lady Minto — was built in the late 1960s, when my mother started work there as a nurse. Much has changed since then and the building itself would seem to be approaching the end of its lifespan. The condition of the emergency room, with its cramped quarters and lack of privacy, is well known to islanders. Designed originally as an acute care facility, the hospital now houses a significant long-term care population. While the care provided by the medical team and staff is excellent, it is clear we need to be looking at a major upgrade or replacement of the facility.

In addition to being important to the island as a medical facility, Lady Minto is a critical economic driver too. It provides employment, but it is also a key factor that goes into the mix for anyone contemplating moving their family or retiring to Salt Spring. Think of how many island services and businesses are affected by that decision.

Meanwhile, Greenwoods Eldercare Society is contracted by Island Health to provide residential care services but struggles to meet operating costs or to retire debt and build reserves for replacement, again despite the valiant efforts of staff and board. The government's recent investment in increasing daily care hours is a very positive development on the operating side, but here again, we need to plan towards capital investments as well.

In addition to Greenwoods, Braehaven and Meadowbrook also offer options for seniors, but with our aging population, additional supply will be needed.

As well, despite the best efforts of govern-

ment and Island Health, we still face a challenge when it comes to attracting physicians to meet our primary health-care needs and keep our hospital viable.

In 2016, seven new mental health professionals were assigned to Salt Spring, but further resources will be needed along with a long-term location from which to provide that care.


In December 2016, the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation announced that it would be studying the need for, issues surrounding, and feasibility of a primary care centre on Salt Spring in conjunction with various island stakeholders. That process is now underway and islanders can expect an opportunity to contribute to the dialogue in the next month or so.

The LMHF also is working with Island Health on a solution for the ER at Lady Minto, and is close to signing a memorandum of understanding that would see a plan created for a new ER. How much progress is made and how far we get with some of these initiatives will depend on many factors.

The LMHF is preparing to commit significant financial resources to the ER project. The Capital Regional District, through its hospital board, has indicated a willingness to participate as well. Island Health is as usual prioritizing the interests of its many communities. And the province has announced plans for \$2.7 billion worth of health-care capital investment in B.C. over the next three years.

Given the needs ahead, and the complexities of our modern health-care system, it is clear that Salt Spring needs a strong advocate to work with senior levels of government to ensure that our needs are recognized and that our island receives the investments that will keep our community strong and thriving.

The writer is the chair of the LMHF; the Salt Spring Hospice Society and the Vancouver Hospice Society. He is also the BC Liberal candidate for Saanich North and the Islands in the 2017 provincial election.



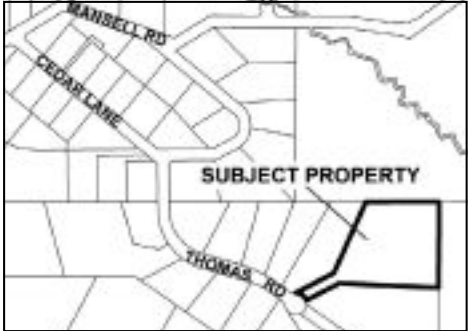
Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

TEMPORARY USE PERMIT NOTIFICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a Resolution to issue a Temporary Use Permit pursuant to Section 493 of the *Local Government Act* for Lot 6, Section 5, Range 4 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 31794 – PID 001-128-833 (Application SS-TUP-2017.2, 180 Thomas Road, Salt Spring Island).

The purpose of the permit is to allow a commercial use consisting of a *light industrial home-based business* that may occupy a maximum floor area of 400 square metres and allow limited exterior storage of materials.

The location of the property subject to the proposed permit is shown on the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Salt Spring Island office at 1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, continuing up to Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Please note that the office will be closed for off-site meetings on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider the proposed permit at a meeting on **Thursday, April 13, 2017** beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Club), 103 Bonnet Avenue, Ganges. Please refer to the posted agenda available on the Islands Trust website at the beginning of that week for an indication of where this application is to be placed on the agenda.

Please direct your comments to Planner Jason Youmans at 250-537-9144, or by email to: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca.

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Claire Olivier,
Legislative Clerk/Deputy Secretary



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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

READY TO RUN: Saanich North and the Islands incumbent NDP MLA Gary Holman, centre, meets with supporters Michael Wall, left, and Mort Ransen during an open house at Holman's election campaign office above the Downtown Pharmasave on Saturday. Green party candidate Adam Olsen's Salt Spring campaign office is upstairs in Upper Ganges Centre and Liberal candidate Stephen P. Roberts has an office in the Country Grocer complex. The provincial election writ will be officially dropped on April 11. Individuals have until April 18 to submit nomination papers, so local voters could see more names on the ballot by the May 9 election.

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MORE LETTERS
continued from 8

Microcell authority

I appreciate the Driftwood reporting on my March 23 Islands Trust presentation on small cells ("Islanders call for LTC to get proactive on microcells," March 29 issue). Given that I was not interviewed for the article, I have a few points to clarify.

Current regulations allow small cells to be installed right by our homes, possibly right next to our beds, without our consent. Although ample data supports concerns that small cells pose biological harm, my presentation was not a debate on health and EMF. It was an invitation to the Islands Trust to join other local governments in lobbying for the right to oversee and regulate the placement of small cells on our streets.

Points to clarify:

1. Forest geneticist Jean Brouard was at the meeting because of a zoning issue. His off-the-cuff remarks were based on opinion, not current data, and using his title of scientist to frame them was misleading.

2. Of the 17 Health Canada-funded EMF studies you refer to, not one has proven that installing small cells by our homes is safe.

3. Forest geneticist Sally John did her report on cell towers for the Islands Trust in 2001. Lots has changed in the past 16 years in terms of science on the subject and the amount of EMF in our environment. Yes, proximity increases risk, but so does continual exposure.

4. Salt Spring's antenna siting policy is highly precautionary, with emission level guidelines that are 22,000 per cent lower than those deemed safe by Canada's Safety Code 6.

The installation of small cells threatens privacy, food security, species at risk like bees, our civil liberties and contributes to climate change.

Municipal governments in Ohio, California, Grand Forks and more are rallying for the right to have a say in where small cells are placed. Their concerns include: decreased property values, worsened cell service due to interference, the strip-

ping away of local authority over public property, the aesthetic and environmental impacts of small cells, the placement of local land-use authority into the hands of private interests and denying public input on something that can affect our daily quality of life.

OONA MCOUAT,
SALT SPRING

Ganges enhanced

I want to congratulate Martin Ogilvie and Welbury Bay Construction on the near completion of their new project on Rainbow Road.

They have taken what was one of many eyesores in Ganges and put together a sensible and attractive small-scale development. The new building will provide much-needed retail space and is already fully subscribed. I am glad to see this developer understands how to preserve, protect and enhance our local economy.

Well done, Martin.
ROBIN WILLIAMS,
SALT SPRING

Strategic

The upcoming election is motivating more and more negative campaigning. While it is essential to stay informed about inappropriate tax-funded ads by the Liberals and questionable party fundraising by both dominant parties, identifying what is the most important issue for you, as a voter, is vital.

If, as it is with me, climate change and a strong economy through more earth-friendly energy development than the Site C dam and liquefied natural gas is the primary issue, I would urge you to look at the newly released Green energy plan on the www.bcgreens.ca website.

Voting on May 9 should be about voting for what you feel is the most important for both our area and the province. While canvassing for Adam Olsen I heard from a voter that they wanted to vote Green but must still consider voting "strategically." Remember that even if few Green MLAs are elected, an increase in percentage of popular vote means that provincial Green party policies and positions of integrity

will be taken seriously in the legislature by whoever "wins" the election, so you are voting strategically.

Also remember that Adam Olsen lost by only 379 votes in the last election so votes of conviction rather than "strategy" could easily put our Green candidate in the legislature. Until we have a proportional representation system of voting it is the best we can do.

MARIAN HARGROVE,
SALT SPRING

Please change vote date

The following letter was sent to Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Peter Fassbender and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

I'm writing to share the concerns expressed by the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee and many members of the community regarding the date chosen to vote on Salt Spring Island incorporation.

The day falls on a very important community day, our local Pride weekend. This weekend is important for a number of reasons, but first and foremost, for the individuals of our LGBTQ+ community, their families, friends and supporters, who spend the whole year planning an incredible community celebration, the third largest in B.C.

The Pride celebration also shuts down major roads on the island for the parade portion of events. Traffic becomes quite congested, along with parking, before, during and after the parade. I have serious concerns regarding the accessibility of voting locations in Ganges during this time.

Please consider changing the date of the referendum vote. I see no disadvantage to delaying the vote for one week to Sept. 16. You can count on my support, and that of Salt Spring's locally elected officials, in choosing a date that works better for this community.

I urge you to reconsider your decision as a matter of courtesy and respect for this event and all that it stands for.

GARY HOLMAN,
M.L.A., SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS

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NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given that at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, TWO trustees are to be elected. One to serve for a period of three years and one to serve for a period of two years.

Nomination of candidates for these positions must be made in writing, duly signed, seconded, with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the District Office at or before 12:00 noon, Monday, April 10, 2017.

NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR

To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, and entitled to be registered as a voter under the Elections Act. Visit the "Who We Are" and "Becoming a Trustee" pages on our website for more information about the role of a Trustee.

Nomination forms are available at the District Office and online in the Documents/Forms section of our website.

Anne Williams
Office Manager

www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca
761 Upper Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1
(250) 537-9902



As spring blossoms multiply through April, so do arts, entertainment and community activities on Salt Spring Island.



WEDNESDAY, APR 5

2:10 p.m. - Free Tea a Tempo concert with Bread and Roses duo at All Saints By-the-Sea. Followed by optional tea and treats.

THURSDAY, APR 6

1 p.m. - Song Circle at Sally Sunshine Art Exhibit. ArtSpring Gallery.

7 p.m. - Poetry Open Mic at Salt Spring Library Program Room. Rhonda Ganz is the featured poet.

7:30 p.m. - SS Community Theatre production of Lend Me a Tenor. Mahon Hall.

FRIDAY, APR 7

1 p.m. - Talking Circle at Sally Sunshine Art Exhibit. ArtSpring Gallery.

1 p.m. - SS Forum presents Terry O'Reilly of Under the Influence. GISS. 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, APR 7 cont.

7:15 p.m. - Mixology Competition. SS Legion.

7:30 p.m. - Lend Me a Tenor. Mahon Hall.

9 p.m. - Soul Shakedown at Moby's Pub.

SATURDAY, APR 8

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Saturday Market in the Park.

1 p.m. - Lisa Maxx performs excerpts from "Letters to Sally" at Sally Sunshine Art Exhibit. ArtSpring Gallery.

5 to 8 p.m. - Opening Reception for Stefanie Denz' Hypnotic Charisma Exhibit at Fault Line Projects gallery space.

7:15 p.m. - Karaoke at the Legion.

7:30 p.m. - Lend Me a Tenor. Mahon Hall.

SATURDAY, APR 8 cont.

7:30 p.m. - The World of Small Viva Chorale concert. ArtSpring.

SUNDAY, APR 9

1 p.m. - Susan Cogan sings at Sally Sunshine Art Exhibit. ArtSpring Gallery. Last day for exhibit.

2 p.m. - The World of Small Viva Chorale concert. ArtSpring.

MONDAY APRIL 10

7 p.m. - GISS Senior Improv Team fundraising-for-nationals show. ArtSpring.

TUESDAY, APR 11

5 p.m. - Book Launch for An Irish Country Cookbook by Patrick Taylor and Dorothy Tinman. SS Library Program Room.

7:30 p.m. - Falling Awake live theatre at ArtSpring.

WEDNESDAY, APR 12

7:30 p.m. - Falling Awake live theatre at ArtSpring.



GARY HOLMAN WORKS FOR US

ON MAY 9, RE-ELECT GARY HOLMAN FOR SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS

Here are some of the special events taking place. For more details, see the Driftwood's calendar at www.driftwood.ca

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THURSDAY, APRIL 13

7:30 p.m. - God is a Scottish Drag Queen play at ArtSpring.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

2 p.m. - Some Bunny Loves You puppet show with

Jesse Thom. Salt Spring Wellness Centre.

5 to 8 p.m. - Gallery 8's 8th Anniversary Celebration Exhibit Opening Event.

5 to 8 p.m. - Opening Reception for Paul Robert Bryans' Nature in Motion exhibit at Salt Spring Gallery.

6 to 9 p.m. - Opening Reception for Easter Art Tour Body of Work Exhibition. Mahon Hall.

6:30 to 9 p.m. - Rap Guide to Climate Chaos with Baba Brinkman. A Pull Together fundraiser. ArtSpring.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Saturday Market in the Park.

1 p.m. and 4 p.m. - Raffi 40th Anniversary Concert. ArtSpring.

3 p.m. - Poets, and Friends: Mona Fertig and Penn Kemp. SS Library Program Room.

9 p.m. - Aidan Miller at Moby's Pub.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Easter at the Cheese Farm.

12 p.m. - Dancing to Art Workshop with Kirsten Lewis. Mahon Hall.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

12 p.m. - Noon Hour Artist Talk. Mahon Hall.

7 p.m. - Moving Bodies, Moving Pictures. Mahon Hall.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

7:30 p.m. - Songjam at Moby's Pub.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

9 p.m. - Ange Hehr at Moby's Pub.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Saturday Market in the Park.

10 a.m. - Met Opera: Eugene Onegin. ArtSpring.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - 7th Annual Blossom Picnic at Peace Park.

7 p.m. - Youth Movie Night: Ghostbusters (1984), ages 10+. SS Library Program Room.

7:30 p.m. - Tribute to Leonard Cohen. Mahon Hall.

9 p.m. - Never Never Band at Moby's Pub.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 23

- 12 to 5 p.m. - Earth Day activities at Centennial Park.
- 7:30 p.m. - Wanda Nowicki Jazz at Moby's Pub.

MONDAY, APRIL 24

- 1 to 4 p.m. - Volunteer and Community Resources National Volunteer Week Open House at the SS Library Program Room. 1 to 4 p.m.
- 7 p.m. - Book Launch: Terry Fallis of One Brother Shy. SS Library Program Room.
- 7 p.m. - Gumboot Gala. Salt Spring Folk Club at Fulford Hall.
- 7:30 p.m. - Elmer Isler Singers. ArtSpring.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

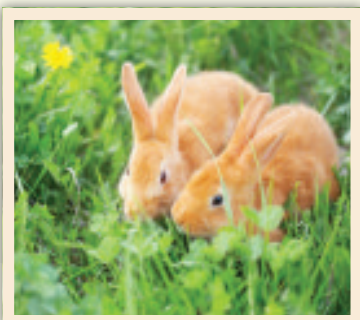
- 7 p.m. - Stagecoach Theatre presents Jungle Book. ArtSpring.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

- 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Saturday Market in the Park.
- 2 p.m. - Death Cafe. ArtSpring.
- 7 p.m. - Stagecoach Theatre presents Jungle Book. ArtSpring.
- 9 p.m. - Compassion Gorilla at Moby's Pub.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

- 2 p.m. - Stagecoach Theatre presents Jungle Book. ArtSpring.
- 7 p.m. - Open Stage Old Timey Cafe. Fulford Hall.



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arts&entertainment



IMPROV THEATRE

GISS team plays last shows before battle at nationals

Final fundraising push at ArtSpring

BY DAWN HAGE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

A group of six talented GISS teens and their inspiring coach are joining 19 other improv teams from across Canada to compete at the national finals of the Canadian Improv Games in Ottawa.

The GISS Senior Improv Team achieved this honour after winning the Vancouver Island regional improv competition. Although the team has travelled to Ottawa on the wild card slot twice, it has been 10 years since they last hoisted the trophy at Vancouver Island finals and they faced stiff competition with well-established programs.

"It's a rich and competitive region with consistently talented teams," said teacher Jason Donaldson.

For the kids, it's all about working with their friends and sharing well-earned moments on the stage.

"Every time we compete in the improv games, it's not really about winning, it's about getting the chance to play again," explained team member Fiona Pirie. "Performing at the national tournament means we got to play almost every chance possible and we are so excited to represent the Gulf Islands in Ottawa."

"We've worked with some of the teams for years," added team member Melanie Gregory-Worsell. "It's all very friendly competition. We really love and care for each other."

The theme of love and care comes up frequently in all



GISS Senior Improv Team members celebrate Canadian themes in preparation for their trip to the national competition in Ottawa.

PHOTO BY JOHN CAMERON/SD64

conversations with the kids and Donaldson. This is a team that has melded both on and off the stage and its members feel deeply connected with each other in ways that highlight their ability to improvise and create as one.

"One of our strengths is how we relate and talk to each other about everything, including our personal challenges," said team member Peter Hoskins. "When we go on to the stage together it's a blank slate without tiffs or issues and we can completely focus on the improv."

"We have a set of strong and contrasting personalities, skills and tools," added Pirie. "We are a small team and that allows us to really understand each and every person so that we can best support and be supported at any point in our scenes. Most importantly,

all of us as individuals blend together to make a family. It's all about love!"

Participating in improv colours other aspects of the students lives as they conquer stage fright, build confidence, learn to think on their feet and feel the joy when they make a room of people laugh.

The team has six members, with Hoskins, Gregory-Worsell and Shayee Steele in Grade 12, Pirie and Kane O'Scalleigh in Grade 11 and Amelia McCluskey in Grade 9.

It's the first time a Grade 9 student has joined the senior team and she has brought much talent, energy and joy to the group, according to her teammates.

"It has been amazing to have Amelia show us her chops," enthused Gregory-Worsell. "She's the muse of the team. She holds us together and she has great ideas."

Having a team of kids from the tiny islands of Mayne, Pender and Salt Spring qualify to compete against the best of Montreal, Toronto and other large cities across Canada is a David and Goliath success story.

"When we first won the regionals, it was considered a 'once in a lifetime opportunity,'" said Donaldson. "But now that we are going for the fifth time in a decade, it speaks to the strength and traditions of the school and the program."

"There is a real diversity and variety of interests and talents this year, which has crystallized into a really strong team," he added. "And the coming together as a team by living through the highs and lows of a trip of this magnitude will be formative and life changing."

Apart from their own performances, the students will also take part in workshops with some of the best trainers on the continent, visit national galleries, museums and Parliament Hill.

The team leaves the island on Sunday, April 16 so they can fly out "at an ungodly hour" on Monday morning. Choosing a "milk run" flight saved them considerable funds. They arrive Monday night and are slated to compete on the last day of semi-final rounds, Friday, April 21.

Finals will take place on Saturday, April 22. The competition will be live streamed so fans can watch from home computers.

Funds for the trip are considerable and the team is raising money in the way it knows best: putting on hilarious, thought-provoking and unpredictable improv shows on Mayne and Pender islands as well as the finale at ArtSpring on Monday, April 10.

They will offer a 'What's in the Box?' raffle at the Mayne and Pender shows and a silent auction and larger raffle at the ArtSpring performance. In addition, funds can be donated through fundrazor.com/gissimprov.

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Sunday, April 9, 2PM

ARTSPRING 2017

EXHIBITIONS

Easter art show looks at human form

Work by 20 artists at Mahon Hall

BY ANTHONY MATTHEWS
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

This year marks the Salt Spring Arts Council's 11th annual Easter Art Show. Things sure have changed over that time, with the event itself and with the island. As we enter the second decade, I wanted to reflect on some of those changes.

It started out as a weekend-long self-guided fine art studio tour accompanying an art exhibit at historic Mahon Hall. Little else was happening then in the arts that early in the year, so Easter seemed the perfect time for the council to launch a new program. The artists who could be were still in Mexico or elsewhere, slowly returning while the Saturday market artisans were dusting off their bins and tables and hoping for a dry day to end their long winter hibernation. All were anticipating that much-needed first sale.

Over time, the Easter Art Tour developed into what would become the unofficial launch of the art season on Salt Spring. The galleries and studios threw open their doors, hoping to get a jumpstart on the vital tourist season. If this year is any indication, that may have changed as there will have already been four gallery openings by Easter.

The annual Mahon Hall exhibit has featured a

range of artist duos and triplets, quads and quintets, group shows and single artist retrospectives that have examined various genres and themes in painting, sculpture and photography.

This year's exhibit is a show of figurative art titled Body of Work. Twenty artists will come together, presenting work focused on the human figure. There will be both established "blue chip" artists as well as several little-known and emerging artists.

Today, the tour aspect is gone, replaced with a whole range of events during the now nine-day show. Last year, we introduced a series of lunch-hour artist talks and workshops to enhance the exhibition, and in an effort to outdo ourselves, this year we are expanding our program of events. There will be artist talks and dialogues, film screenings, dance performances and workshops, drop-in life drawing sessions and a poetry/spoken word/music event celebrating Leonard Cohen. All the events will reflect on the show theme, with the exhibition as the backdrop.

The opening reception is on Good Friday, April 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. and the show runs until Sunday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Visit the website for more info at www.saltspingeeasterarttour.com.

The author curates the annual Easter Art Show exhibition at Mahon Hall.

EXHIBITION

Susan Benson captures community life in portraits

Series pays tribute to island personalities

BY PAT BURKETTE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

A huge crowd filled the Duthie Gallery for Saturday's opening of painter Susan Benson's exhibition of landscapes, and Portrait of an Island project sneak peak, with 82 portraits of a projected 160 islanders' likenesses on display.

Benson's landscapes, collectively titled Distant Glimpses, are pastel views of a drive across Canada from Ontario to B.C., and Salt Spring Island scenes. The landscapes are presented in an unusual format — a banner approach using both positive and negative space to depict a scene.

Picture a white canvas. Now envision a 12-centimetre band of landscape positioned horizontally about two fifths of the way down, with white space above and below. A couple of paintings actually have two bands of landscape, again with white space above and below each.

The landscapes are all about the limitations and strengths of how we see in today's world.

In her artist statement, Benson noted that we look at things through windshields, computer screens, selfies and cell phones, and rarely examine the whole vista. We frame a screen with our eyes, instead of a big picture, and that visual process can tend to lift the screens' content out of context.

Benson wanted to paint landscapes within today's viewing esthetic rather than the more traditional whole-picture presentation.

"I wanted to do the landscapes in a way that you would look at them differently," she explained.

Certainly, her landscape format may not be typical of Western art but it shares characteristics of Asian art, which often features panels depicting various views of a scene, or even a micro of a scene.

"I've always been interested in the simplicity of Asian art," she said.

There is simplicity in Benson's composition, but there is depth in execution, with complex colour layering and brush strokes. In Salt Spring Coast and Coast, strong vertical strokes evoke drama in a muted blue sky, cerulean ocean, dark green forest and the whites and greys of rock.



PHOTO BY PAT BURKETTE

Susan Benson with some of her pastel portraits now on exhibit at Duthie Gallery. The series on Salt Spring residents will eventually include 160 faces.

Benson said that she has always loved Degas' vertical stroke technique in his pastels.

"They creative cohesiveness, and intensity."

Mountain Roads reveals two visions of a trip through the mountains in one painting. In the first landscape, a highway is flanked by scrub forest, with purplish mountains rising in the distance. In the second, below an intervening band of white, the forest flattens, the mountains are alongside us, in darker purple and blue, and the road begins to curve. How we extend and distort what we see around us is one of Benson's key themes in this painting and in Distant Glimpses.

Farm Roads Ontario is another double landscape featuring what we might see while travelling in a vehicle. These landscapes, painted in blues and yellows, were interesting to an Alberta girl like me because of the open spaces they depicted. A flat road, glorious wide-open fields, and yet, further down the road, a windbreak of trees and farm buildings await, providing human scale in big country.

For Manya Sadouski, who purchased this painting at the opening, "It's a beautiful evocation of place, reminding me of so many drives in Ontario."

When complete, Benson's Portrait of an Island project will be

displayed at Mahon Hall during February/March 2018. You'll recognize some well-known island folks when you gaze at the wall of vibrant and engaging oil paintings, like Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply's Chris and Marilyn Schmah, Alex Lyons of Al's Falafel fame, and photographer David Borrowman.

Benson hails from the south of England where she graduated from Bristol's West of England College of Art. But she and her lighting designer husband Michael Whitfield lived in Stratford, Ont. for years. She has had a long career as a costume and set designer, standing her in good stead while painting portraits.

"As a theatre designer, you are constantly observing people," she said.

Elected to the Royal Academy of Arts in 1986, her paintings and designs are featured in the Portrait Gallery of Canada, National Arts Centre and Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Benson and her husband moved to Salt Spring six years ago, loving the place and its supporting fellow artists. Now she's concentrating on painting.

"I miss the collaboration of the theatre, but I love painting," she said.

You can see Benson's art at Duthie Gallery until May 7.

LIVE THEATRE

Physical theatre talents collaborate in surrealist love story

Graffiti Theatre presents
Falling Awake

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An international theatre company with strong island and West Coast roots visits Salt Spring this week with their award-winning surrealist love story *Falling Awake*.

Graffiti Theatre presents Ragmop Theatre for two shows at ArtSpring on April 11 and 12, in a physical comedy about a woman and her deceased lover meeting in dreams. The creators and stars — Nayana Fielkov and Matthew "Poki" McCorkle — have built on the strengths and anxieties produced by their actual long-distance relationship to create a theatre experience that is both heartfelt and hilarious.

Fielkov is a Salt Spring native and was a child actress in countless GISS and community productions (her parents are Sid Fielkov and Sharada Fielkov) before moving to Vancouver for further training in classical theatre, musicals, clowning and dance improvisation. She is co-founder, director and player of the touring theatrical musical ensemble The Myrtle Family Band and The Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret collective. She last appeared on-island as a member of the latter group's Jesse award-nominated *Hard Times Hit Parade*.

McCorkle is a mime and object manipulator specializing in physical illusions based at the Lookout Arts Quarry in Bellingham, where he is the



PHOTO COURTESY RAGMOP THEATRE

Matthew McCorkle and Nayana Fielkov in *Falling Awake*.

artist in residency coordinator. His performance work has brought him around the world, as has his volunteer commitment to Clowns Without Borders.

Speaking from McCorkle's home in Washington, the pair said *Falling Awake* began during a residency in Nuremberg and continued in Bellingham, with the theme of absence pushed to its most extreme limits.

"We had some time together and a lot of time apart. We were thinking a lot about what it meant to be together and it came into the show," Fielkov said. "The question is how we're connected when we're not in the same space — and goes beyond that to not even being

in the same world, and the musings on that."

Love that is strong enough to withstand death can reliably tug on the heartstrings, but it doesn't suggest laughs quite so readily. But the Ragmop team has won sold-out houses, standing ovations and festival award nominations all across the nation with the show, including one for Best English Comedy at Just for Laughs in Montreal.

"I always thought if I could make a show where people laugh and cry, I would feel so good," Fielkov said. "And people have the full range of emotions in their responses — there's a lot of release when people can laugh in the face of adversity."

Fielkov and McCorkle put a lot of effort into the visual component of the piece, which is where much of the humour is based. A review in the Vancouver Observer describes "juggling tricks, table-top can-cans, hoop dances and a wildly erotic son et lumière under the sheets of a vertical bedstead" among the slapstick elements ornamenting an intensely poignant relationship.

The creators' two worlds centre on related but different traditions of clowning and mime. As McCorkle explains, his is not the type of mime where someone in a beret tries to break out of an imaginary box but is more about movement and using the body to tell a story.

"We use mime and magic to create dreamlike illusions that exist in our landscape," McCorkle said. "We're bringing

things to life that seem interesting or impossible, and we play with that."

During recent years the local theatre audience has had the opportunity to build a good understanding of modern clowning, physical theatre and improvisation, for example in Graffiti-sponsored shows from *Hard Times Hit Parade* alumni James & Jamesy, and the ongoing work of the Salt Spring Festival of Fools under Bob Twaites.

"I think the audience of Salt Spring

is probably more attuned to a style of what we call clowning," Fielkov said, adding she's happy to come home with a show that's met with so much success across Canada.

"I'm still really excited to show this work. Bringing it to a place where I know a lot of people is of course exciting," she said.

The show runs at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday nights, with tickets available at ArtSpring.



SSNAP The Salt Spring National Art Prize

Call for Artist Submissions

Deadline: May 31, 2017

Juried exhibition on Salt Spring Island
September 22 - October 22, 2017

Winners presented at
Gala Awards Night: **October 21, 2017**

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- open to Canadians + permanent residents
- \$30,000 in prize money

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Details and entry form on website
www.saltspringartprize.ca

what's on this week



Wed. Apr 5	Thur. Apr 6	Fri. Apr 7	Sat. Apr 8	Sun. Apr 9	Mon. Apr 10	Tue. Apr 11
<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Tea à Tempo: Bread and Roses. Recital features the vocal duo Bread and Roses, better known as Kevin Wilkie and Barbara Slater. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m. followed by tea and treats.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wed., Thurs. and Friday from April 5 through June 30. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Spring Soccer League. Weekly five-a-side soccer games for youth of various ages begins at Portlock Park today, sponsored by Windsor Plywood. Sessions start at 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Successful Communications. An informative and inspiring workshop on building communication skills with the potential of transforming your life and the world around you begins today. Library Program Room. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>Fire Trustees All Candidates Meeting. Three candidates for two trustee seats outline their positions and answer questions. Lions Hall. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Songjam. Pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Lend Me a Tenor. Salt Spring Community Theatre presents riotous comedy set in the 1930s, with the Grand Opera Company's future depending on world-famous tenor Tito Morelli. Not suitable for children. Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m. Cash bar opens 45 minutes before the show.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.</p> <p>Life-writing Group for Older Adults. New group for older adults to record their stories, memories and experiences. Every Thursday at SS Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m. Info: sweinert@saltspringliteracy.org.</p> <p>Sally Sunshine Art Show Special Event. Song Circle takes place as part of Sally Sunshine art show at ArtSpring. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Rhonda Ganz. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 7 p.m. Reader sign-up at 6:45.</p> <p>Intro to Squash. Free sessions at the new squash court. Bring some non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing. Salt Spring Island Golf Club property. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Classic Rock Bingo. Thursdays at Moby's. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>The Thinking Garden. Film screened at The Fritz. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Lend Me a Tenor. See Thursday's listing.</p> <p>Soul Shakedown. Live rock/funk/dance at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.</p> <p>Sally Sunshine Art Show Special Event. Talking circle held at Sally Sunshine exhibit in the ArtSpring Gallery. 1 p.m.</p> <p>SS Forum Presents Terry O'Reilly. Canada's most famous ad-man and the host of CBC Radio's wildly popular Under the Influence joins the Salt Spring Forum for a special discussion. Gulf Islands Secondary School. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Writing Workshop. Group for youth ages 9-14 meets for third session. Topic is "setting." Salt Spring Public Library. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Games Night. Board games every Friday in the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>Mixology Competition. Legion Lounge. 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>The World of Small - Viva Chorale! Concert. Celebrating Canada's 150 years, Salt Spring choir directed by Caroni Young and accompanied by Diana English performs a tribute to the life and art of Emily Carr. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Saturday Market in the Park. Salt Spring's famous market, with all locally produced crafts, food and goods. Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Boundaries & Communication Workshop with Allison Rees. Parenting workshop sponsored by SS Centre School and SS Cooperative Preschool. Childminding available. Public entry by donation. GISS. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>StoryTime in the Park. Library event moves outside to the gazebo in Centennial Park. All ages welcome, best for ages 3 to 6. Parent supervision required. 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.</p> <p>Sally Sunshine Art Show Special Event. Lisa Maxx performs excerpts from "letters to sally" as part of Sally Sunshine art show at ArtSpring. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Karaoke. At the Legion Lounge. 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>The World of Small - Viva Chorale! Concert. See Saturday's listing, except the time is at 2 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Unitarian Fellowship. Guest speaker is Dan Jason: Thirty Seedy Years on Salt Spring. SS Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Sally Sunshine Art Show Special Event. Susan Cogan sings from her upcoming CD called Nine Goddess Tales as part of Sally Sunshine art show at ArtSpring. 1 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>GISS Improv Fundraiser. Six improvisors from Mayne, Pender and Salt Spring islands gear up for the Canadian Improv Games with their final event before the national finals in Ottawa. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Advance Care Plan Workshop. Presented by Salt Spring Hospice at All Saints By-the-Sea. 1 to 3 p.m. Register/info: 250-537-2770.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Book Launch: An Irish Country Cookbook. Patrick Taylor and Dorothy Tinman explore Ireland's rich culture through its delicious dishes and stories of its charming people. Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 5 p.m.</p> <p>Floor Hockey. Every Tuesday at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Wed. Apr 12</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Graffiti Theatre Presents: Falling Awake. See Tuesday's listing.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Salt Spring Historical Society. Chris Arnett presents If There Is a Place, the People Have a Name for It. Central Community Hall. 2 p.m.</p> <p>How to Support Your Child's Reading. Presentation of helpful strategies for parents to encourage children's reading development, with Janet Hoag of SD64 and Stella Weinert of SS Literacy. SS Library Program Room. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.</p> <p>Songjam. See last Wednesday's listing.</p>						
<p>Tue. Apr 11</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Graffiti Theatre Presents: Falling Awake. Ragmop Theatre's multi-award winning surrealist physical comedy about a woman and her deceased lover meeting beyond the veil. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Giant Book Sale + Jewels For Literacy Donation Drop-off Day. Good quality donations accepted for the annual Giant Book Sale and Jewels for Literacy event. Country Grocer Parking Lot. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>Intro to Squash. See Thursday's listing, except 1:30 p.m.</p>						



Sally Sunshine.

Rollerblading.
Every Sunday at Fulford Hall from 1 to 3 p.m.

Central Community Hall Society AGM.
Public welcome. Central Community Hall. 1 p.m.

Intro to Squash.
See Thursday's listing, except 1:30 p.m.

THE FRITZ CINEMA
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Claude Monet

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CINEMA

- The Founder** — The Founder features Michael Keaton's magnetic performance about a struggling salesman who met Mac and Dick McDonald, and maneuvered himself into pulling the company away from them.
- The Thinking Garden** — An inspiring story of South African women sowing the seeds of change. Followed by an opportunity to buy the farm's cookbook and a Q & A session with the filmmakers, UVic professor Elizabeth Vibert and Salt Spring's Christine Welsh. One show only on Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. A fundraiser for the Grandmothers Campaign of The Stephen Lewis Foundation.
- Exhibition on Screen: I, Claude Monet** — Shot on location throughout Europe at the very spots he painted, I, Claude Monet is a fresh and intimate cinematic exploration of some of the most loved and iconic scenes in western art. One day only on Thursday, April 13. 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets.

EXHIBITIONS

- Stefanie Denz** shows Hypnotic Charisma, a solo exhibition of new works, at Fault Line Projects in Grace Point Square, beginning with an opening event on Saturday, April 8, 5 to 8 p.m., and running until May 3 on Wednesday afternoons, plus Thursdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m..
- Sally Sunshine** art exhibit runs at the ArtSpring gallery daily through April 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with special events at 1 p.m. most days.
- The Point Gallery** on South Ridge Drive shows What is Hidden, linocuts by Maura Byrne in the lower gallery, and Stay Still, drawings by Karen Andrews in the upper gallery. Open Thursday through Monday, 1 to 5 p.m. until April 30, or by appointment at 250-653-0089 or pointgallery@telus.net. Anna Gustafson's Snow Fence labyrinth is open any time, any day until dark.
- Distant Glimpses**, new pastels by Susan Benson, is at the Duthie Gallery on Churchill Road until May 7. Hours are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment at 250-537-9606.

EXHIBITIONS

- Patricia Brown** shows paintings in the Salt Spring Library Program Room through April.
- Looking Up**, a joint display of art by Suzanne Prendergast and photography by Bill Underwood, is in the ArtSpring lobby from April 1 to 29.
- Will Millar** shows paintings at Gallery 8 daily through April 7.
- Judy McPhee** shows photographs with a theme of automobiles at Embe's sandwich shop through April.
- An **exhibit** of oil paintings by **Sibylle Leimbigger** is on display through March in the Salt Spring Library Program Room.
- M.C. Benmore** shows photographs in her Salt Spring Goddesses series in the hallway at Salt Spring Coffee Co.
- Renee Sanden** shows Before the Wolf in the window of ArtSpace Gallery at Merchant Mews until April 17.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/

THEATRE REVIEW

Tenor comedy delights audience

SS Community Theatre play has final run beginning Thursday

BY DAWN HAGE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Tony Award-winning play *Lend Me A Tenor* by Ken Ludwig is a lighthearted farcical romp that had Saturday night's sold out audience chuckling, gasping, laughing out loud and finally rising for a standing ovation to cast and crew.

Directed by Damian Inwood, this Salt Spring Community Theatre production boasts confident and polished comic performances from a cast of both veterans and actors new to the stage.

Lend Me A Tenor was first presented on Broadway in 1989 and revived in 2010, winning Ludwig Tony Awards on both occasions. The Washington Post called it "one of the classic comedies of the 20th century," and he has gone on to a multi-award winning career, writing 22 plays and musicals, including *Crazy For You*, which won both a Tony and Olivier Award for best musical.

The play takes place in 1934 in a hotel room in Cleveland and the set design by Inwood is brilliant. Constructed by David Holt, it features a two-room suite with sitting room in bright yellow and bedroom in vivid orange both connected by a selection of doors leading to hidden closets, bathrooms, kitchens and exits. The decor team added perfect touches with period art, curtains, rugs, gramophone, couch and a bed, which are central to the story line as the action progresses.

The fun begins as Maggie (Michelle Bauer) dances to an operatic aria, swooning in ecstasy over the tenor's romantic interpretation and masterful voice. In the meantime, Max (Daniel Squizzato) reminds her that he has proposed and is waiting for her acceptance. But Maggie wants a fling first and is afraid that Max may not be the lover that causes bells to ring when they kiss.

In the meantime, Saunders (St. Clair McColl), who is both Maggie's dad and Max's boss, is frantic as his Grand Opera Company is counting on world-famous tenor Tito Merelli to perform at their 10th-anniversary gala fundraiser performance of *Othello* and he is late for rehearsal.

Merelli is not feeling well, putting the concert and fundraiser in jeopardy and this sets the stage for comic chaos, love, sex, betrayal, mayhem, and a plot that somehow makes sense when set in the dramatic world of opera.

The cast includes Vera Algoet as a bell-



PHOTO BY CHARLEY MILLER

St. Clair McColl as Grand Opera Company owner Saunders, left, and actor Daniel Squizzato, who plays Saunders' daughter's boyfriend Max.

hop smitten with Merelli and Rosanne Leonoff as Diana, the operatic soprano who lusts after her more famous stage partner. These two experienced stage and musical theatre veterans provide comic relief and laughs as they participate in the general confusion and shared adulation of the Italian tenor.

Merrick gives a standout performance as the larger than life Merelli. As well as delivering his lines with perfect timing and nuance, he is a master of physical comedy and can have the audience in stitches with a simple raised eyebrow or sardonic glance.

McColl is very funny as the somewhat hysterical Saunders, with much shouting and apoplectic fretting over the ever-changing situation.

Wendy Beatty, who has 14 years of community theatre experience both on and offstage is well cast as Julia, the chairwoman of the Cleveland Opera Society

who is both starry eyed and steely when it comes to getting what she wants from Merelli.

It was surprising to learn that Bauer and Squizzato were taking the stage as actors for the first time. They were wonderful, with great chemistry, good comic timing and likable stage presence. Another first timer, although very experienced in dance and dance theatre, is Rosita Larrain, who plays Merelli's wife Maria with real flair and intensity.

Director Inwood took a cast with lots of talents and a wide variety of experiences and molded them into a tight band of performers that bring this very witty and complicated comic play to life.

Performances take place at Mahon Hall on April 6, 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at ArtSpring and the door, if available. A cash bar is open 30 minutes before the show.

The play is not suitable for children.

FUNDRAISER

Brinkman raps on climate chaos

Performance next Friday at ArtSpring

Even people who aren't the slightest fan of rap music won't want to miss the April 14 ArtSpring multi-media performance of Baba Brinkman's Rap Guide to Climate Chaos.

The performance is part of an innovative fundraiser sponsored by the Community Energy Group, Transition Salt Spring and Salt

Spring Forum to raise money and awareness for the Pull-Together Campaign.

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. in the ArtSpring lobby with a social, home-made goodies, refreshments and a silent auction with art, services and other fundraising surprises.

Baba Brinkman is the world's only "peer-reviewed science rap artist." Through poignant visuals, rap, music and spoken-word poetry, Brinkman leads a smart,

funny and compelling mash-up of climate change research, pop culture and call-to-arms. The show content was actually vetted by the climate science adviser to former president Obama, and Bill Nye says that "It rocks!"

Called "an artist at the top of his game," Brinkman has wowed crowds from New York City to Edinburgh. His performance at the 2015 Paris Climate Conference was widely acknowledged

as a milestone in science communications. His shows appeal to a wide spectrum of audiences and have been described as "raucous rap entertainment, for those who may not like rap."

All profits from the event will be donated to the Raven-Trust campaign in support of First Nations legal challenges to the Kinder Morgan pipeline and tanker expansion projects.

Tickets for the Friday, April 14 event are at ArtSpring.

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This Week's
Noroscope
by Michael O'Connor
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Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): You are on a momentous if somewhat unpredictable roll. As though descending a steep hill, the momentum will build yet and all week long. The peak will come late in the week so be aware and ready to apply the brakes as necessary. Despite this pace and spring advancing, the time to really open things up is a few weeks away.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20): Imagine a nuclear submarine. It is big and pushes a lot of water but it can also move very quickly. The metaphor serves to describe some of the energy patterns at play for you now. A metamorphosis process is underway all the while. It features identifying what makes you special and morphing to adapt.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Who are you now and what do you want? Perhaps you want answers, direction, inspiration, purpose or all of the above. If your answer is none of the above you are probably very in-tune. At best you are enjoying a peaceful, meditative time. In the deeper end, a soul-searching journey is underway. New alliances beckon.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): A process of exploring new territory continues. This is especially true in your public and professional spheres. Pushing through barriers and limitations requires your steady resolve. This theme will remain true all spring and will increase yet. A game of wait and see before you make deeper commitments is on.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): The call to adventure has been sounded. Yet, Venus retrograde may be the source of some delay. Mercury joins in on May 9th when it joins in. Your confidence levels may waver a bit for a few weeks so slow down and listen more. This window is perfect for spring cleaning. Dig into the closets and corners to be productive.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): You are deep in a process of change. It includes seeing a bigger picture and self-assertion to establish a new momentum. Spring stands to be a bit stormy perhaps especially on relationship fronts. Business could be affected as well. If you find yourself feeling a little lost and dismayed, know that this too will pass soon.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22): A process of shifting and sorting continues, especially on relationship fronts. The challenge is to balance giving more while attending to your own health and welfare, simultaneously. Invariably, the scales must swing so alternate your focus as rhythmically as you can. This trend will continue pretty much all month.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Taking new initiatives in your overall lifestyle is likely now. The more challenging end includes whether significant others can or will adapt. The politics could prove complex for a few weeks anyway. Appeasing others without betraying what is true for you is an important challenge to recognize and overcome.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As inviting as is the playful and adventurous presence of the Sun in Aries, it may feel like a lot of work. Some games are tougher than others and sometimes it is the season or both. Either way, a strategic and determined approach is implied. Fortunately, the celestial winds appear to be blowing in your favor.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your warrior spirit has been activated. Then again, it could be interpreted as the spiritual warrior within. The former exudes high energy, drive, discipline and brass resolve to overcome any and all external obstacles and foes. The latter directs the focus inward to clean the projector to achieve a better reflection. Your call which.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Many new thoughts are tumbling in your mind. This includes digging deep to make some key moves and changes. Mercury retrograde could prove restrictive to forward movement for a while. Focus where you can on keeping things flowing and like your Leo friends dig deep to clear the past inside and out.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): The pace and momentum continue to build. This includes making efforts to be seen and heard. Yet accolade is not quite enough, you yearn for measurable returns. Fortunately, things are shifting and stand to swing your way, despite an awkward and unpredictable pattern. Stay productive and anticipate new opportunities.

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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 Pattison 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: doudie48@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.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT FULFORD HALL. Focus is on the Boomer demographic, covering all aspects of fitness with a mindful approach, offering a safe and injury-free environment for all fitness levels. 9 to 10 a.m. Trisha Moroz-Barstead, CPT. Contact: trisha.synergify@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 or emailing coordinator@saltspringliteracy.org.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 p.m. (for 1 p.m. start)
HOT HATHA yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
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.
PEPPER WALK WITH MOVEMENT INTELLIGENCE CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. This innovative movement class features the work of John Pepper and is suitable for people with neurological conditions that are highly motivated to learn solutions for movement difficulties. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Info: Anna Haltrecht, 250-537-5681, anna@bonesforever.com
PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance.
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.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
YOGA - Mixed levels with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
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

BINGO at Meaden Hall, hosted by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary on the first and third Thursdays of each month. 7 p.m.
BOOK CLUB meets on the second Thursday at Salt Spring Seniors in the lounge at 1:30 p.m.
CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m. Info: Claire at 778-353-0029 or clairebeariona@yahoo.com.
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.
BADMINTON - Friendly games for adults and high-school players run at the GISS gym from 8 to 10 p.m. Bring own racquets and non-marking gym shoes. Info: Gail, 250-653-4613.
DANCE TEMPLE 55+ at SSI Wellness Centre. 3 to 4:30 p.m.
DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall. 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.
LIFE-WRITING GROUP for older adults. No writing experience necessary. Sharing is voluntary. SS Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m. Info: sweinert@saltspringliteracy.org
LUNCH at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 12 to 1 p.m.
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, movingtoealive@gmail.com.
PICKLEBALL at Fernwood Elementary School gym. 6 to 9 p.m. No experience necessary.
PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Thursday of each month at Meaden Hall at 10 p.m. with special guest speakers each time. Info: probus.ssi@gmail.com
SALT SPRING WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILD meets at ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m. See www.saltspringweaversandspinners.com for program details.
SALTY WHEELS SQUARE DANCE CLUB meets at 734 Upper Ganges Road. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Marilynne, 250-537-5356.
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.
TAI CHI EVENING BEGINNERS' CLASS at Cedar Lane Studio. 6 to 8 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12 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.
ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE. All are welcome to join the tango group. Por el Amor del Tango, at weekly practicas. Core Inn, 3rd floor. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: ssi.tango@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.
DRUM CIRCLE meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 3 p.m.
ELEMENTARY BRIDGE COACHING. Beginning bridge lessons (but also with more advanced coaching available) at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
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 Haltrecht 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.
FRIDAY ADVENTURE CAMP for ages 6 to 12 years runs every Friday that school is not in session. SS Elementary School gym. Info/registration through PARC: 250-537-4448.
GAMES NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. Facilitator Bryan Dubien brings his vast collection of board games, or you can bring your own. 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.

EVERY SATURDAY

ALL LEVELS Vinyasa yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
BRIDGE at the Legion. 1 p.m.
DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.
LIFE DRAWING at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Info: Martin, 250-537-8493.
MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.
PICKLEBALL at SS Elementary School gymnasium. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with beginners training from 9 to 10 a.m.
STORYTIME IN THE PARK. Stories, songs, games and more. Best for ages 3 to 6 with caregivers. Centennial Park Gazebo. 12 to 12:45 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
TODDLER TIME for children aged one to three and their caregivers. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 a.m.
ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund at the Wellness Centre from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

SUNDAY

OPEN STAGE OLD TIMEY CAFE. On the last Sunday of every month at Fulford Hall OAP annex. 7 to 11 p.m. Everyone welcome to alcohol-free event with good music and munchies. Info: 250-653-9856

EVERY SUNDAY

BADMINTON - Friendly games for adults and high-school players run at the GISS gym from 7 to 9 p.m. Bring own racquets and non-marking gym shoes. Info: Gail, 250-653-4613.
KUNDALINI YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SS Wellness Centre. 10 to 11:15 a.m.
PICKLEBALL at SS Elementary School gymnasium. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
ROLLERBLADING at Fulford Hall. 1 to 3 p.m. For all ages. Equipment available.
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 usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the SS United Church Hall at 7 p.m.
SSI PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the Portlock Park Portable. 5 to 7 p.m. Public welcome. Confirm meeting date at 250-537-4448.
SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Portlock Park Portable. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Public welcome.

EVERY MONDAY

ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2:30 to 4 p.m.
BOOMERFIT BEAVER POINT HALL. Focus is on the Boomer demographic, covering all aspects of fitness with a mindful approach, offering a safe and injury-free environment for all fitness levels. 9 to 10 a.m. Trisha Moroz-Barstead, CPT. Contact: trisha.synergify@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.
CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
CRIBBAGE at the Legion. 1 p.m.
DARTS at the Legion. 5:30 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, alice@saltspring.com.
KUNDALINI YOGA at North End Fitness. 7 to 8:15 a.m.
MIXED BASKETBALL at the GISS gym. 8 p.m.
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). 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.
VINYASA FOUNDATIONS at The Nest Hot Yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
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 4 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.
YENGAER YOGA with Jayne Lloyd-Jones at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
LOST CHORDS seniors choir practices at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m.
MEN'S GROUP - Speak openly about inmost subjects. 138 Castle Cross Road from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Tristan, 604-200-7333, reinless@mender.ca or meetup.com/reinless/
MOKSHA INSPIRED Level-2 Yoga class at The Nest Hot Yoga. 5:30 to 7 p.m.
NIA at Salt Spring United Church Hall. 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. The expressive fun of dance, the power of martial arts, the mindfulness of yoga and a most welcoming community of women. Discover the joy, and healing benefits of moving "your body's way." No dance experience necessary. Info/register: Arleen, movingtoealive@gmail.com.
NIA runs at Antler Ridge Studio from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Info/register: Arleen, movingtoealive@gmail.com.
PICKLEBALL at Fulford Hall. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and at Fernwood Elementary from 7 to 9 p.m.
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.shawwebpage.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.

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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



Your Island Volunteers



NAME: **Sabine Swierenga**

MAIN ORGANIZATION YOU VOLUNTEER FOR: **ArtSpring**

Q. What are your duties?

I do one day-time shift per week at the box office and some evening box office shifts before events. The box office volunteers are the front persons who look after patrons in person and by phone.

Q. What is something you have learned through volunteering, either about yourself or in general?

I learned complicated software new to me, and that I am not as quick as I used to be! I like being useful, feeling that I am contributing to an organization I very much care about.

Q. Do you volunteer or have you volunteered for other groups as well? If so, which ones?

I also work at the library and knit garments for the Lady Minto Thrift Shop case at the hospital.

The first in a series of volunteer profiles marking the Canada 150 for 150 Volunteer Challenge. See vcrsalspring.org for more info.

Q. What do you like about volunteering?

When I sold Sabine's Bookshop in 2009 I really missed the daily interaction with the public. This gives a lot of it back. I particularly like working at ArtSpring. It has such a community volunteer history. I have watched its growth and development from the beginning. It is a fun place to work with a nice group of people. Some of the work is challenging, which I like.

Q. What would you say to encourage other people to volunteer for your organization?

If you have spare time and like contributing to our arts community, give ArtSpring a try.

Q. How long have you lived on Salt Spring Island?

Over 20 years.



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Holy Saturday April 15
· Easter Vigil Mass - 9pm

Easter Sunday April 16
· St. Paul's, Fulford Harbour - 8am
· Our Lady of Grace, Ganges - 10am

.....
Many blessings be upon you & your family this Easter Season!

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IDEAS

Farming about more than survival

Editor's note: The following is the conclusion of a two-part column by Bob Weeden that began in last week's issue.



Bob Weeden

CONNECTIONS

So far, what I've offered has to do with human survival. There is more to the human project than that. If survival were all, we could have stayed as foragers. We wouldn't be bothered with farming, science, art, religion, literature, or even hockey. We do "bother," which tells me there is something more. What that is, I can feel but can't say in words. I'll just call it "something more." Maybe I'll surmount it, the way some conversations define their core by tangents that never hit the point head-on.

Consider agriculture in England in the 500 years before 1950. Farmers held small farms, often for generations, raising stock, hay, grain, and food mainly with human and equine muscle. Woodlands yielded needed lumber, firewood, and tools. Boundary-marking hedges-row separated farms legally but linked them ecologically, as did waterways. Know-how from past generations was confirmed or extended by the everyday experiences of farmers exquisitely sensitive to soil, brook, sky and season.

Did farmers live up to their part of the social contract? English farms fed English people during those centuries, and were as productive in 1940 as they had been for generations, so I'd say yes. There were good times and bad, good stewards and bad, but corrective adaptations were enough to permit land and people to survive. Chance was important, too, because in the 18th and 19th centuries Britain imported a lot of food and timber from colonies, taking pressure off homeland farmers.

What was there, if anything, beyond survival? I'll offer this: in all those centuries city people ambled for pleasure through the farmlands, somehow comforted and made joyful by what they saw. Some were moved to express what they felt, and we are the richer even today for Wordsworth's poems, John Constable's

paintings, Thomas Hardy's novels, and Izaak Walton's impassioned teachings about the relations between worms and trout. They sensed more than pretty scenery, I think.

It was plows and sown seeds, 5,000 years ago, that pushed the human focus from nature as it is, to nature as it could be, opening the perceived rift between nature and civilization that has become a chasm in most lives today. Perhaps, by chance of history and geography, farmers of that period had partly healed that gap, which ambles sensibly.

Maybe, as well, they saw that country people, tested daily, had come toward a balance of physical, mental, sensory, and spiritual competence so rare in the urban world of specialists.

The contrast with industrial agriculture as it developed on a million square miles of the prairies of North America couldn't be starker. Native prairie builds on perennial grasses and annual and perennial flowers in rich diversity, cycling organic nutrients in place, almost immune to drought, and virtually free of wind and water erosion.

The culture that replaces it uses annual grains, legumes, sunflowers, and canola (a radish relative) in vast, machine tended monocultures. The soil is exposed to erosion. Crops are vulnerable to drought. Shipped away at season's end, they deplete the soil, whose natural organics must be replaced by chemical fertilizers. Owners of the crops need financial skills to manage debt and the contractors who plow, seed, fertilize, irrigate, apply pesticides, and harvest the crops with machines. The farmer's

skills are of the office and computer, not the land. As visionary agronomist Wes Jackson put it, there are few eyes per acre in this business.

New ideas often come from cultural and habitation edges, not from centers where you follow the crowd or get left. That's true in agriculture. Consider, for instance, a brand new food-growing venture: vest-pocket commercial gardens in cities. Michael Ableman, whose home farm is on Salt Spring Island, pioneers this new idea. His venture, Sole Foods, uses derelict lots in downtown Vancouver. One week trucks are busy hauling away surface trash; in the next rows of big tubs of soil signal the replacement of disorder by order. Passing commuters wonder. Then comes the startling robust garden where dozens of vegetables gobble sun and water in the age-old transformation of not-life to life.

Who are the enablers? They come at first to idle and watch, these wounded and struggling folks from nearby derelict neighborhoods. The most venture-some are welcomed. Some stay, slowly moving toward the first paid job they've held in months. Their fingers learn the skills of seeding, transplanting, weeding, watering, thinning, harvesting and presenting food for sale. It is a twinned miracle, the one wrought by nature, the other by belief in the possibility of human transformation from misery to respect.

To let any human endeavour be just about survival, I think, is to betray the promises of our biology and our 40,000-year cultural development. Farming wears a coat of many colours: hard-scrabble hill farms, industrial farms, community allotments, home gardens, permaculture, enduring landscape mosaics, and more.

Foolishly, perhaps, I'll venture that from calculation comes survival, and from the knowing heart comes something more. To earn and deserve a future, every farm has to have both.

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Tuesday, April 11
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Note: Textbooks, computer books, magazines, National Geographic or Reader's Digest publications, or books that are mouldy or in poor condition cannot be accepted.

Mark your calendars: Book and jewelry sale — Nov. 17, 18 & 19 at the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute.

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MARITIME ADVENTURES

Month spent at sea in damaged vessel

Editor's note: The first part of this story about Lorne and Jennifer Close's sailboat being hit by a freighter in the North Pacific Ocean on June 26, 1999 ran in last week's Driftwood. It can also be accessed on www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com in the Lifestyles section.

BY JIM DICKINSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Stopping the gush of water that the exposed bow scooped up every time a wave went by was a real problem.

The tangled mess of exposed rod and wire made it difficult to cover the outside, and the bulkhead immediately inside was taking the full pressure of each wave coming in. Sikaflex turned out to be their best friend because a bit of cloth saturated in the sealant could be stuffed in the small openings around the bulkhead. A better fix would have to wait.

The shattered tiller was an easy fix. Having logged almost 75,000 nautical miles under his keel, Lorne had learned not to throw anything out that might be handy later. Before departing from the Philippines, he had replaced a pair of wooden spreaders, but he kept the old ones. With a few sharp tools he soon fashioned a functional tiller. Now a double-reefed main could be set and they could make way again.

While Jennifer was cleaning up below she found that the radio had been soaked and would not operate.

Lorne said, "We don't need it right now, the gale has passed and we know where we are. We can deal with that later."

The next day they heated it over the stove and it came back to life.

It was obvious that the damaged bow still needed some sort of covering if they were ever to get underway without taking on more water. As Lorne tried to resolve what to do on the bow, he found their 45-pound anchor squashed flat in what was left of the anchor locker. In his log he states, "It now resides in Davy Jones Locker somewhere off Alaska."

Over the next two days, Lorne tried several ways to seal the bow. His final solution came from a wide board that he had stowed away, another item that he had been reluctant to toss. Using his hammer, Lorne beat the exposed metal as flat as he could and then carefully shaped the board to fit the jagged opening. The plank was secured in place with a criss-crossing of light chain and Dacron line. The gaps were stuffed with more Sikaflex and the bow became more or less watertight again. The trickle that found its way through the bow was easily pumped at the start of each day.

For three weeks they limped along with



PHOTO COURTESY THE CLOSE FAMILY

The 36-foot sloop Acatez safe on dry land.

their weakened vessel as more low pressure fronts moved past them bringing rain, wind and high seas. During this time they carried less sail than usual, so as to protect the fragile mast. Sometimes they have to just to be safe. Their destination was now the Queen Charlotte Islands (renamed Haida Gwaii).

On the morning of July 18, Lorne woke to beautiful blue skies and a flat sea. All through their crisis he never lost his temper. He had an amazing ability to prioritize and take action when it came to saving and repairing their boat. Now, not far from civilization, the wind died, leaving them dead in the water. This minor inconvenience was the last straw and in a fit of rage he threw one of their storage baskets into the sea. Jennifer wrote in the log that it was still a beautiful day. The solar charger topped up the batteries and it was a good day.

On July 23, they sighted land. At Kano Inlet they tied up to Salmon Seeker, a Canadian fishing vessel. Captain Mark Kennedy welcomed them onboard, where Lorne was reunited with an old friend who was one of the crew that season. They were offered hot showers, fresh provisions and fuel. The meal share on their vessel that night was like a welcome home feast.

Lorne and Jennifer took the next few weeks to work their way down the exposed side of Vancouver Island, finally dropping anchor at Port Alberni. Exhausted and low on funds, they left Acatez at a marina, returning to Edmonton where over the next year they fixed up two homes, selling them at a profit. When they returned to Port Alberni to properly repair their sailboat, they stumbled upon a remarkable coincidence. Across the bay sat a migrant ship, confiscated after her crew were

caught dropping over 500 illegal immigrants not far up island.

The reporter, Shayne Morrow, did some digging and found that the blue ship had been in the same area of the sea as Acatez, and at the same time as the collision. Also, the blue of the ship was pretty much a match to the paint scrapes along the side of their boat. There was nobody to sue for damages and exact proof still fell a bit short, but everyone agrees that probably it was the phantom freighter that did the hit and run.

Was that the end of the story? No, because Lorne and Jennifer, along with their young children Opal and baby Sean, sailed Acatez back to the Philippine Islands in 2003. After spending some time there, Lorne singlehanded back to British Columbia, while the family flew home. They eventually upgraded to a 57-foot ferro-cement ketch called Snowbird IV. It was their home until Lorne's untimely death in January 2017.

Those of us who knew him will always remember him as one of the most knowledgeable sailors, a man who could fix almost anything. His kindness and his willingness to help will be missed.

Author's note: Today Jennifer says she cannot lift a 2.5-gallon bucket of water, but that night back in 1999 she had extra strength, hoisting many buckets of sea water to drain the cabin.

Acatez was derived from Greek mythology, meaning "faithful friend."

This story is a compilation made from stories Lorne Close told me, his log book entries and memories from Jennifer Close.

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LIFE & DEATH

Advance care planning workshop on tap

Monday event at
All Saints

Salt Spring Hospice is offering a two-hour workshop on creating an advance care plan.

The event takes place on Monday, April 10 from 1 to 3 p.m. at All Saints By-the-Sea.

"Imagine, one day, without any warning, you find yourself in a hospital in a life-threatening situation, unable to communicate. Who would speak for you and make health care decisions on your behalf?" asks

a hospice press release about the event.

A March 2012 Ipsos-Reid poll indicated that most of us have not given it much thought. The poll found that 86 per cent of Canadians had not heard of "advance care planning" and less than half have had a discussion with a family member or friend about health-care treatments if they were ill and unable to communicate.

As Salt Spring Hospice explains, "Advance care planning is a process of reflection and communication; a time for

you to reflect on your values and wishes; a time for you to let others know your future health and personal care preferences in the event that you become incapable of consenting to or refusing treatment or other care.

"Advance care planning means having discussions with family and friends, especially your chosen substitute decision-maker — the person who will speak for you when you no longer are able to speak for yourself. It may also include writing down your wishes,

and may even involve talking with health-care providers and financial and legal professionals."

To register for the workshop or get more info about it, phone Salt Spring Hospice at 250-537-2770.

For more information and helpful resources on advance care planning, contact the Salt Spring Hospice Society at www.saltspringhospice.org or call 250-537-2770, or go to the Vancouver Island Health Authority website at www.viha.ca/advance_care_planning.

CREATIVE ISLANDERS

Some Bunny Loves You show hops out

Jesse Thom's music, storytelling and puppetry inspire

BY DAWN HAGE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

With his solo album *Ayr-dri*: snowdragons making Folk Radio UK's Top 10 Albums of 2016 and the launch of a book and puppet show tour, the creative stars are aligning for musician and artist Jesse Thom.

Islanders will get a chance to see and hear Thom when he performs his puppet show *Some Bunny Loves You* on Friday, April 14 at the Salt Spring Wellness Centre.

Thom and partner Marley Daemon Iredale have recently made Salt Spring their home, and the beauty, energy and artistic vibe of the community have been good for the musical couple.

"It's been non-stop writing," smiles Thom. "We wrote over 40 songs this winter. It's hard to keep up with the creative inspiration."

It's also hard to keep up with the creative output of this amazing artist who is a puppeteer, drum maker, writer, meditation teacher, professional clown, band leader and more. He exudes a joyful, positive energy as he describes the sequence of events that have led to his current performance tour and top-10 ranking album.

Thom composed snowdragons while wintering in a cabin on St. Mary Lake and the EP sparked a glowing review by David Morrison of Folk Radio UK. Morrison, a fan of Thom's original folk trio, Dirty Grace, was intrigued when Thom released *Ayr-dri*: snowdragons in the spring of 2016 and loved the album, calling it an "EP of bewitching melodies and personal ruminations."

The review opened doors and inspired a tour to the U.K. in the summer of 2016 for Thom and his current eight-piece gypsy/folk/dance band called The Honey Tongues. The top-10 list was released in January 2017 and Thom's creative output has continued with tsunami-like intensity.

Thom suffered a great loss when he was five years old; the death by leukemia of his eight-year-old brother Alex. Understanding and coping with the grief has coloured all his artistic pursuits.

"It's a source of inspiration, an impetus to explore the creative space," said Thom. "I'm always discov-



PHOTO COURTESY JESSE THOM

Jesse Thom and "some bunnies" who will present the *Some Bunny Loves You* puppet show at the Salt Spring Wellness Centre on Friday, April 14 at 2 p.m.

ering new aspects to the feelings and reclaiming the experiences I had at five, making room as an adult for the immensity of the loss."

Outlets for his creative and artistic expressions are bountiful, including puppets, clowning, improv, art, drumming, soundscapes, writing and much more. Thom recently realized that the sheer volume was becoming unmanageable.

"It was like this crazy monkey brain," he laughed. "It was clear I needed a path to find a common thread where I could house everything within one framework."

"After creating over 2,000 eyeballs for the beat creatures, I had learned a few things."

JESSE THOM
Puppeteer, musician and author

The "big click" came when he asked Marley for help in defining who he was. She described him as a "magical, whimsical, heart-based, storybook folk guy." This felt right and pieces started to fall into place, leading to *Some Bunny Loves You* and the upcoming puppet show and tour.

Some Bunny Loves You began as a song, inspired by the way Thom's five-year-old self used bunnies to cope with the death of his brother. He played it for visual artist Cristache, initially asking him to create a postcard-type image. Cristache was fascinated by the song and had so much fun

drawing multiple bunny images that the postcard grew into a book.

Thom wanted to expand the music beyond the theme song and sent the motif to different musical friends across Canada, inviting them to improvise on it. He then took the unique pieces and matched them to a character or moment in the story.

"I was fascinated with the idea of building an entire world that someone can inhabit," said Thom.

His bunny world now had music, art, story, sheet music for the theme song and finger puppets that can be printed and cut out. Thom and Cristache realized they had created something very special and decided to self-publish, launch it online for free and see what would happen.

The book sparked interest right away and excitement built when it received kudos from Norman Foote, a Juno award-winning children's entertainer, and Tara Brach, internationally known author and meditation teacher. Her online shares brought interest and orders from all over the world.

Thom then created large, original puppet versions of the characters. His interest in puppets was inspired by the Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret, a puppetry group from Vancouver. He had also been making "beat creatures" for years, puppet-like drums that helped hone his skills.

"After creating over 2,000 eyeballs, I had learned a few things," he smiled.

Armed with puppets and props, a flexible stage, a

beautiful story and illustrations, evocative music and entertaining and improv skills, Thom was ready to take his show on the road. His talents, creativity and "monkey brain" of ideas have come together in *Some Bunny Loves You*.

And this is just the beginning. Thom has six more books, written and illustrated, all by different artists and all uniquely beautiful, ready to go. He plans to tie them into his existing puppet show, launching a new one every year, complete with its own music and characters, populating his ever-growing imaginary world.

Some Bunny Loves You is a solo, multimedia performance and Thom encourages children in the audience to interact throughout the show.

"Many of the most awesome moments are generated spontaneously, usually by the children themselves," said Thom.

Children are excited by the puppets and special effects, mesmerized by the music and, most importantly to Thom, leave with this crucial message.

"You are loved exactly as you are. And nothing can change that."

Some Bunny Loves You takes place on April 14 at 2 p.m. at the Salt Spring Wellness Centre on Herford Avenue.

For more information about Jesse Thom and *Some Bunny Loves You*, puppet show tour dates or to buy a copy of the book, visit somebunnybook.com.

For more information about *Ayr-dri*: snowdragons, visit <https://jessethom.bandcamp.com/album/snowdragons>.

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ANN MARGARET TAYLOR
June 9 1927 - March 22 2017
"I hope I made them laugh."

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to Ann Margaret (Spencer) Taylor, who passed away Wednesday March 22 at the age of 89. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Ted in 2006. She leaves behind children Robert (Ronaye) in Portland, Paul in Castlegar, Daphne (Tom Graham) on Salt Spring, and Irish (Bruce Lovstrom) in Calgary, plus grandchildren Alieska, Mollie, Samuel and Jason (Portland), Emma and Erica Rimmer (Salt Spring), and Reid, Anya, Kyle and Calan Lovstrom (Calgary).

Ann was born and raised in Vancouver, the only child of George and Alice (Scott) Spencer. She attended University Hill School where she developed lifelong friendships and a love for both UBC and Point Grey. She received her BA at UBC in 1948, and BSC Social Work from the University of Edinburgh in 1950. During her university summers, she cycled through Europe: a feat for a young, single woman in post-war times. Mum practiced as a social worker in Scotland before returning to Vancouver where she continued her career in the downtown and East side.

Mum and Dad met in the early 50's, married and bought an unserviced lot in West Vancouver. They cleared it and built our family home at 27th and Ottawa. Mum and Dad were very active with St. Stephen's Anglican Church, joyously spiking mincecmet with rum for fun and charity. Mum was an ardent supporter of the United Way, Canadian Cancer Society and numerous other causes, as well as a member of the Junior League and Kiwassa. She developed a healthy obsession with recycling well before it was a thing. She was proud of how little actual garbage she produced. During the 70s she assisted in the English department at Hillside Secondary school. She always loved good grammar and appreciated a well written essay.

Through the late 60s and into the 70s our family spent every summer and most weekends at Rainbow Beach Resort, here on Salt Spring, and never quite left the island. Mum loved "fishing" around Booth Bay and Sansum Narrows, always with crosswords and Craven A's in the boat, but not always with bait. In the 80s Mum and Dad gave in to the inevitable and bought their house on Vesuvius Bay, and watched over the beach ever since.

Mum was extremely active on Salt Spring and had an enormous social circle. Over the years she volunteered at the Library, Salt Spring Seniors Services, and the Tourist Information Center, where she would occasionally play hooky, taking a total stranger on a personal driving tour of the Island. She was a member of the quilting group, the Canadian University Woman's Club, and the church auxiliary. She was still an active driver for Seniors Services, and had a shift at the Tourist Center the Saturday before she died.

A few years ago, Mum proudly accepted the Vesuvius Bay Indolent Society's bobble head Queen award. In 2015 she was awarded the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year, and was previously honoured by the Lieutenant Governor for her longstanding work with the United Way.

Mum cared patiently and beautifully for Dad in his final years. They loved each other deeply for more than 50 years of marriage. They were wonderful travelling companions, and exceptional parents and grandparents.

Mum talked to everyone and listened to everyone. She was trusting, fiercely independent and very kind and giving. Mum had style. She was well known for her irreverent, outlandish, conversation-stopping sense of humour -- dry, sarcastic, witty and full of terrible, terrible puns.

She loved family. She loved life. She felt very lucky, and was determined to "stay put" with her cats in her beloved Vesuvius home, watching the flag, the water and the ferry. She would have been quite pleased with herself for passing away there without too much fuss.

Thanks to Dr. Resnick and Joan and Margaret for such loving care over the years, her many other caregivers, and to the Pharmacists who kept things straight. Thanks to all her friends and neighbours, especially Sally and Elvin, for watching out for her. Thanks also to Dr. Gummeson, Jacque Byron, Chelsea and others for such compassion at the hospital.

Mum was a very special woman. She will be hugely missed by family and friends. A service will be held at All Saints-By-the-Sea in Ganges, April 29, at 2pm. Bring your love and your sense of humour.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Salt Spring Foundation, The United Way, or the BCSPCA.

Condolences can be left at: <http://www.haywardsfuneral.com/book-of-memories/2887116/Taylor-Ann/index.php>



Ready to start the conversation?
First attend our free Advance Care Planning Workshop on Monday April 10 from 1 to 3 PM at All Saints Church. Call 250-537-2770 to register.
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Celebration of Life
for
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Saturday, April 8
2 - 5 pm
116 Fairview Road
Stories & memory sharing at 3:15pm.
Please join us for some laughs and tears, some stories, refreshments and food.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

50th Grad Reunion Gladstone Secondary School Class of 1967
Date: June 24, 2017 in Burnaby B.C.
For further information contact Doreen: doreensutherland67@gmail.com or 604-437-1253

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY

Sunday
9th April, 2017
at 1.00 pm.
Public welcome.

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COMING EVENTS

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2:00 pm Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at CENTRAL HALL
Chris Arnett - First Nations place names and Salt Spring Island ALL ARE WELCOME
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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

A VOICE TO BE HEARD: Georgia Acken sings in the Saturday market during opening day on April 1, attracting an appreciative crowd.

READING

New books make spring debut

Local authors among Maggie's picks

ON THE NEWSHELVES

BY MAGGIE WARBEY
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Looking for a way to balance the budget after winter travels? Join the library and check out the books! Or, perhaps you've finished those great books Auntie gave you for Christmas? Donations are always welcome at the library. Just leave them with the front desk.

As always as spring approaches, lots of new books are now appearing at the library. For the very latest, check the yellow month label on the spine of the book.

Here's one I've been wanting to get my hands on since I picked it up at a bookstore in Canterbury: **The Illustrated Story of England** is a fulsome and entertaining examination of the highlights of English history. Charming illustrations accompany the easy to read text. This book is for the many who were forced to memorize the details but missed out on the human side of the intriguing story on which so many of our own legends and beliefs are based.

Bad Animals: a Father's Acciden-

tal Education in Autism relates the ups and downs of a young couple coming to terms with understanding and helping their son. From the high hopes and normal assumptions of pregnancy, through the undiagnosed behavioural issues, the diagnoses, acceptance, daily life and prognosis, this book is a remarkable tribute to love and life and accepting what cannot be changed. The candour and insight of the author offer examples of and hopes for a brighter future.

Late island author Richard Moses' book, **By Degrees: Around the World by Tramp Freighter**, is an engaging tale of his four-month sojourn on the MV BIBI. Based on the author's journey log and recollections, the story of four months of exceptional experiences and unusual ports of call is as compelling as it is fascinating. From revelations about what it is like to live in close quarters with

strangers for a prolonged period, to the daily and ordinary life on board, to the wonders of new and exciting places, the story is engaging and fun.

Another local author, Dan Jason, has revised his much-appreciated **Some Useful Wild Plants: a Foraging Guide to Food and Medicine from Nature**. Accompanied by clear, beautifully drawn illustrations, Dan's comprehensive advice and interesting information makes for good, informative reading. Seaweeds, trees, berries, even poisonous plants are clearly identified and noted. This book is an excellent field guide to local flora: small enough to take along and comprehensive enough to be useful.

For those who enjoy a good, cheery murder mystery, Joanne Fluke's **Wedding Cake Murder** is a must read. As always, the story is complex enough to hold readers' interest while friendly enough to make readers feel like they are visiting an old friend. Added to the mystery and intrigue are the several recipes included for the tasty sounding cookies, pies and cakes that the heroine whips up along the way. All in all, a delicious way to enjoy murder and mayhem for a few hours.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

artcraft CALL FOR NEW APPLICATIONS

ArtCraft 2017, B.C.'s longest running, juried, arts and crafts show, representing the best of the Gulf Islands runs from June 9th-Sept. 17th.

Registration deadline for returning exhibitors is May 12th, and those new and to be juried is May 8th. This year all 2 dimensional work (painting, photography etc) and Household items (candles, beauty, soap, food etc) will be juried as well as anyone not in ArtCraft 2016.

Registration and information forms are available on the "ArtCraft" page at www.sartsouncil.com/artcraft/ or please phone Richard Steel, ArtCraft manager on 250 537-0899 for more information.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Election All Candidates Meeting
April 5, 2017, 7:00pm
Hart Bradley Hall,
Salt Spring Island Lions Club

A public meeting with the candidates nominated to fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District has been scheduled for April 5, 2017 at Hart Bradley Hall, Salt Spring Island Lions Club, beginning at 7:00pm. The candidates for election will speak briefly with the remainder of the meeting being given over to members of the public who will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.

For more information visit our website:
www.saltspringfire.com
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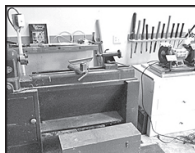
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1 PARCEL OF Recreational/Grassland - Francois Lake, BC. Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Unreserved Auction, May 2 in Prince George. 229.8 +/- title acres on two titles. Jerry Hodge: 780-706-6652. Realtor: Tom Moran (PREC) - Re/Max Dawson Creek Realty; rbauktion.com/realstate.

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D.W. Saly 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: 250-537-9533 or dwsaly@driftwoodgimmedia.com

Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Friday, April 14 - Good Friday and will reopen for usual business hours on Monday, April 17.



Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday April 19 edition will be as follows:

DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEADLINE:
Thurs. April 13, 12 noon

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY DEADLINE:
Mon. April 17, 4 pm

CLASSIFIED WORD DEADLINE:
Tues. April 18, 9:30 am

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SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 17

sports&recreation

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

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



SWIMMING

Stingrays swim club expands for younger members



PHOTO COURTESY SS STINGRAYS

Stingrays team members dry off with a team-building hike to the top of Mount Erskine. Registration for the regular program and the new Little Stingrays group is now open.

Registration now open for two programs

As warmer weather returns, between 90 and 100 island children will call Rainbow Road Pool their second home as the Salt Spring Stingrays club opens once again for registration.

The Stingrays is a competitive summer swim team for children aged six through 18. Swimmers train from May until August at the pool.

"There are so many benefits to belonging to the swim team," states a Stingrays press release. "Stingrays have the opportunity to pursue both team and individual goals, they learn how to swim all four strokes more efficiently and they work towards developing a high level of fitness through both in-pool and dry-land training.

"Our swimmers also make new friends and enjoy being part of an amazing and supportive, multi-aged team. The older swimmers have the opportunity to develop leadership skills while they mentor the younger members of the team, and all of our Stingrays have a lot

of fun while striving to achieve their personal best."

"The reward for me is seeing the happy looks on the kids' faces," said parent Dave Phillips. "I know that they have entered an activity that can carry them into their seventh decade as it has for me. Increased self-esteem, good buddies, ability to cope under stress; all these factors work towards a delightful bundle for these kids. Stingrays has worked wonders for my kid."

New this year is a program called "Little Stingrays" for kids aged five to seven years. Little Stingrays will introduce younger budding swimmers to the fun and camaraderie of a summer swim club. Swimmers must want to have fun and be able to swim at least 10 metres in the water unassisted, in any form.

Little Stingrays runs from May 15 to July 27. Families have the option of choosing the Monday/Wednesday afternoon session or the Tuesday/Thursday afternoon session.

Registration for both the regular program and Little Stingrays is now open at www.saltspingstingrays.com.

RUNNING

Thompson sets two new records

Sneakers members all reach podium

Despite the Sneakers being far from the island, last weekend was as fruitful as it was diverse for the local running club.

On Saturday and Sunday, the Sneakers were represented at the B.C. Masters Track and Field Championships in Kamloops by Sneakers co-founder Lynn Thompson.

Entering five events over two days — the 60-metre dash, 60-metre hurdles, 200 metres, long jump and triple jump — Thompson won four firsts and one second place and set two new B.C. age group event records in the 60-metre hurdles and the long jump.

On Sunday, six Sneakers travelled to Port Alberni for the Paper Chase 10K, which was recently revived after 15 years. It's the seventh of the eight winter Island Race Series events.

All participating Sneakers reached the awards podium, beginning with Pat Peron earning second place in the male 60-64 age group. Jill Thompson was the second Sneaker across the finish line, shocking herself with a first place in the female 30-34 age group. Eric van Soeren was the third Sneaker to finish, earning a third-place medal in the male 65-69 age group.

Marion Young was the fourth Sneaker to cross the finish line with a fourth-place finish in the female 55-59 age group, followed



Lynn Thompson

finisher for the Sneakers, earning a ninth-place in the female 60-64 age group. The combined team points consolidates the Sneakers' hold on sixth place out of the more than 60 teams in the winter race series.

The Cedar 12K next Sunday is the last of the eight winter Island Race Series events. At the completion of this race, not only will finishers in the race be recognized but the individual and team awards for the race series as a whole will be presented.

While the Sneakers team appears to have the sixth place in the race series sewn up, nine Sneakers are eligible for podium finishes in their respective age groups in the individual series competition.

shortly by Eric Ellis, the fifth Sneaker to finish, with a fifth-place finish in the male 70-74 age group. Julie van Soeren was the sixth

MEN'S SOCCER

Old Boys rack up win in final season game

Team nets 4-1 victory against Gordon Head

The Old Boys soccer team used the last game of the season to change its formation and move players into unfamiliar positions.

According to coach Graham Tweddle, Scott Howe, playing in the midfield in Sunday's game, had an immediate impact, sending in a perfect cross for David Toynbee to make the score 1-0. The Old Boys were enjoying their new look

with the speedy Ben Cooper a constant threat in his new attacking role.

The second goal was from an unlikely source: Tweddle with his first goal of the season, although he admits it may have been a wayward cross.

Toynbee was on hand for his second goal of the game with an unfortunate assist from David Eadie, who was playing for the opposition Gunners at the time.

"The Gordon Head team did manage to pull a goal back when Salt Spring tried to dribble the ball out of the 18-yard area," said Tweddle. "Never a good idea."

Some great individual play by Ste-

fan Cermak chasing after the Gunners defenders was rewarded with an unassisted goal, giving Salt Spring a three-goal cushion, which they held on to.

Tweddle gave "a special mention for unluckiest player of the day. Matt Johnson, looking for his first goal of the season, hit the crossbar last week and twice in today's game."

Editor's note: Coach Graham Tweddle provided this week's game info in the absence of team reporter Fraser Hope, who abandoned his duties before the season ended with a trip to Scotland.

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