



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 19 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

ISLANDS TRUST

Vacation rentals role on list

Local Trust Committee prompts an examination with housing crunch in mind

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee has agreed the time has come to examine the role of short-term vacation rentals in the community.

A new project will potentially look at the situation as it relates to the conflicting needs of affordable housing and the tourism-based economy.

Islands Trust bylaw enforcement head Miles Drew gave a report on STVRs at the LTC's request Thursday afternoon. Salt Spring trustee Peter Grove had suggested an update was needed.

"It's a matter that has been raised by a number of people in the community and I needed to understand what the issues were better . . . I was looking for what is the situation now, what's working and what isn't, and what can be done to improve the situation, whatever that may be," Grove explained.

Drew said internet searches suggest there are 140 illegal vacation rentals active on the island, including Airbnb units. The enforcement team currently has files open on 11 sites, as a 2007 resolution instructs them to act only if written complaints have been made, or if unlawful STVR activity is related to another complaint regarding the property.

STVRs continued on 5



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

FEATHERED FRIEND: Salt Spring 4-H club member Emily Surbey enjoys Ruckle Heritage Farm Day with Cuddly on Sunday. For more photos from the event, see page 13.

GANGES VILLAGE

Tree House conflict resolved for 2017

Boulder moves part of Manson Road solution

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Tree House Café is looking forward to offering live music outdoors every night of the busy season ahead after curtailing operations during 2016.

Café owners Mark and Terena LeCorre will restart the Music Under the Stars program on Monday, May 15. That should be music to the ears of the community members who protested a leasing dispute that reduced outdoor seating and caused the LeCorres to stay closed for several nights last summer.

Mark LeCorre said last week he is still working out how to make alcohol available outside, with Liquor Control & Licensing Branch inspectors also confused about the regulations. It appears a special events licence for long weekends might be the best move forward for this season.

"At least I know I can have seating there this year, which is huge," LeCorre said.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure granted a licence of occupation for part of the outdoor area, which is located within the undeveloped Manson Road, to the Capital Regional District last year. A leasing agreement is being worked out for his business for their section.

TREE HOUSE continued on 2

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RCMP

Alexa's Team keeps on growing

Salt Spring RCMP officer part of province-wide initiative

Salt Spring RCMP Const. Alex Upshall was recently honoured along with fellow police officers in the region for his participation in the Alexa's Team program. "The detachment is proud to have a member on Alexa's Team," said Salt Spring detachment com-

mander Sgt. Ryan Netzer. "Const. Upshall has put forward considerable effort in the area of road safety and there is no doubt that he has played a large part in reducing the number of significant crashes and fatalities on Salt Spring Island." In 2016, Upshall was responsible for removing 29 impaired drivers from roads on Salt Spring Island. Since its inception in 2008, Alexa's Team has grown from 26 to over 2,000 RCMP and municipal police officers from all regions

of British Columbia. In 2016, the number of team members grew provincially by 268. According to an RCMP press release, Alexa's Team is a program that recognizes dedicated police officers throughout B.C. who diligently work to reduce the number of drivers on the road affected by alcohol or drugs. The team is named for Alexa Middelaer, who was killed by an alcohol-impaired driver in 2008, while feeding a horse with her aunt in Delta, B.C.

Long-term area plan not finalized

TREE HOUSE continued from 1

The Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island, which leases a section of fill leading to the boardwalk and Kanaka Wharf from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, has meanwhile extended its agreement with the Tree House through the summer of 2018. The harbour authority is also working with a landscaper to move some of the decorative boulders in the laneway to allow for tables along the side edge, while keeping pedestrian access to the wharf-head clear. HASSI chair Kathy Scarfo said her organization was waiting for a meeting with the CRD to work out

a process to govern long-term plans for the area. Since that meeting has yet to take place, the landscaping plan will hopefully provide some relief for this season. "We're looking at how we could make the best use of what we've got without doing anything major at this point. It should make the area more user-friendly without disturbing the ambiance of the area," Scarfo said. "It is temporary — it's just an adjustment — and it's just until we get a commitment from the CRD to a process for development of a long-term plan." Music Under the Stars kicks off Monday with performer Richard Cross.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

EVERY VOTE COUNTS: GISS student Rivers Zenonian puts her ballot in the box during Monday's Student Vote, a project of Elections BC and CIVIX, which mirrors the provincial vote and is designed to get young people engaged in the political process before they are legally entitled to vote.

ISLANDS TRUST

Deck or dock controversy embroils home

Scott Point Road resident to consider options

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The owner of a waterfront home on Scott Point Road will have to decide whether to pursue rezoning or to alter a contested structure in order to bring the residence into compliance. The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee asked staff to work with the homeowner to find a solution Thursday after failing to issue a development variance permit to bring a multi-level cliffside structure connecting the home's main floor to the water into compliance. A staff report stated that under the Local Government Act, the LTC did not have the authority to allow a deck using a DVP. Local bylaws state no structures can be located within 15 metres of the natural boundary of any water body, except a fence, pumphouse or boathouse.

Planner Rob Milne outlined an "egregious" history of noncompliance at the house, dating back to a stop-work order on the deck issued by the Capital Regional District in 1986, and another issued in 2005 for setback violations. The LTC's file includes attempts to contact the previous and current owners and a bylaw enforcement notice issued in 2014. Speaking on behalf of homeowner Julie Young, lawyer Ian Clement argued the structure was not used for relaxing purposes but supplied a connection to the boat launch platform, and was therefore permitted as an integral part of the dock. "The insistence that this part of the dock is now a deck is of relatively recent origin," Clement said. Staff argued in return that such a claim failed on a number of counts, including the structure's width and appearance. A disclosure statement included in the staff report shows the previous owner marked "yes" to a question

asking, "Are you aware of any additions or alterations made without a required permit and final inspection?" The LTC was sympathetic, however, to the applicant's claim that she was unaware of any problems since her husband at the time took care of the purchase details. Trustee George Grams recognized Young's good intentions in moving to finally bring the home into compliance, and rejected staff's worries that allowing the deck to remain would cement a belief that "it's better to beg for forgiveness" than to follow regulations. "We are not setting a precedent here," Grams said, adding that if a similar situation arises again the LTC will not wait 22 years to take action. Following staff's recommendation, the committee will not consider the DVP application further until the deck's lower portion is modified or removed. Alternatively, the owner can apply to rezone to allow for the presence of a deck.

Advertising Deadlines Change

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Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood** office will be **closed on Monday, May 22 - Victoria Day** and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, May 23.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday May 24 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline:
Thurs., May 18, 12 noon

Classified Display Deadline:
Fri., May 19, 3pm

Classified Word Deadline:
Tues., May 23, 9am

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Copper Kettle ramps up search for social housing spot

Partnership with Farmland Trust explored

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Copper Kettle's dreams of providing affordable housing with a strong community-living aspect are moving forward with an active search for land on Salt Spring.

The charitable program anchored by Cherie Geauvreau and Jewel Eldstrom has been traditionally small in membership but extremely active in receiving and redistributing donations to islanders in need. Many people have benefitted from help big and small, whether a warm winter coat and a pair of boots to having a hydro bill covered for the month.

The Copper Kettle Community Partnership folks have long wanted to add a safe and healthy place to live to the list of items they can offer, and the recent registration of their Wagon Wheel Society may help make those plans achievable at last.

"It's heart-breaking to hear people's stories and not be able to say there's hope," Geauvreau said at a recent society meeting.

The Wagon Wheel Society was formed with a specific housing model in mind, meant to accommodate some of the people who might find community living difficult. It's based on a central shared kitchen and living space hub, with individual sleeping cabins arranged around an outer ring.

While Geauvreau and Eldstrom have advocated such an approach to local government and other orga-

nizations for many years, they were galvanized into action by the court-ordered sale of a promising location at 181 Brinkworthy Rd. When plans by the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission to turn the agricultural property into playing fields were quashed by the Agricultural Land Commission, they saw an opportunity to jump in.

The idea brought many new potential partners to the table, both individual professionals willing to contribute their services and alliances with other island organizations. Key to the project's potential to proceed was buy-in from the Salt Spring Farmland Trust, which has a mandate to purchase land for farming use, and the ability to issue tax receipts for donations.

The new Wagon Wheel Society has an enthusiastic membership who now meet about twice a month. They quickly adapted the hub and ring idea to one that would be permitted on Agricultural Land Reserve land, designing a rectangle complex of sleeping suites with a central courtyard and a communal dining room.

"We just turned the wagon wheel square," quipped society member Shelley Mahoney. People housed there would be required to participate in farming the land, which would have both market gardens and community garden space.

Farmland Trust president Patricia Reichert said while many details would have to be worked out and had yet to be discussed by her organization, the board approved of the plan in principle and was willing to help.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Cherie Geauvreau of Copper Kettle and the Wagon Wheel Society is looking to grow community capacity by building affordable housing.

"It's a really lovely vision for that property. To use it for food production, to feed more people with healthy local food, is the vision; how we accomplish that vision, I'm thinking, is going to take some hard work," Reichert said.

"My sense is many groups would have to be willing to help out. It would have to be a sort of community effort, as with most of these things."

The Wagon Wheel Society has the

same thought. Receiving an Island Savings Canada 150 award for volunteerism last week (see page 19 story in this paper) was a double-thrill for Geauvreau, as it gave her chance to share the group's housing plans with the credit union's branch manager.

They have already enlisted help from Marsha Goldberg of Eagleridge Seeds, who was set to become the property's farm manager and educator. They also received pro-bono

work from local realtors and lawyers, and were expecting to work with housing consultant Janis Gauthier later this month.

For financial help, the society has made a case to the Salt Spring Foundation that a land purchase deserves to be fully covered by a large bequest from the foundation's Shaw family fund. The fund, which Mahoney said was supposed to help as many islanders as possible, was earmarked for a proposed Shared Space centre after community polling and consultations in 2012. That project never came to fruition.

"It's not about money. It's about livelihood — it's about hopes and dreams, and people who want to stay and raise their kids here," Geauvreau said.

Unfortunately, Geauvreau learned this week that someone else made a successful offer on the Brinkworthy property. That hasn't slowed down her momentum, though — she'd already made plans to look at several other locations and is excited by the possibilities.

The opportunities for different types of housing are less restricted on non-ALR land, while a partnership with the Farmland Trust could still be in the cards.

"Housing is always the main concern for us, but we love the idea of farming. One of the properties we're looking at has two flat arable acres," Geauvreau reported.

For more information about how to help the Wagon Wheel Society's plans for affordable housing, contact Copper Kettle at 250-537-5863 or copperkettle.ssi@gmail.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Local authors recognized

Deborah Campbell keeps adding to the list of awards received for her book *A Disappearance in Damascus: A Story of Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War*.

Most recently she has taken home the 2017 Hubert

Evans Non-Fiction Prize. The award was announced at the BC Book Awards gala on April 29.

Campbell previously won the 2017 Freedom to Read Award, decided by the Writers' Union of Canada, and the 2016 Hilary Weston Writer's Trust prize for her story of Ahlam, an Iraqi refugee and fixer to foreign

journalists in Syria.

In other writing news, Salt Spring author Phyllis Smallman has been chosen as a finalist in the 2017 Next Generation Indie Book Awards in the Thriller category for her book *Beach Kill*, a Singer Brown mystery.

The award reception will be held at the Harvard Club in New York City on May 31.

Creswick awarded Loran funds

Gulf Islands Secondary School student Catelyn Creswick is the recipient of one of two Victoria Foundation Loran Provincial Scholarship awards of \$2,000.

According to the foundation, "Loran scholars are exceptional Canadians who demonstrate character, service and leadership. These students show personal integrity and character, and have a breadth of academic and extracurricular interests and strongly developed inner-direction."

Creswick has trained as a

fire cadet, facilitated activities with seniors at a community centre, and now volunteers in the extended care unit at Lady Minto Hospital. She has been a Best Buddy to a student with disabilities for over three years. She also rows and stage-manages school theatre performances.

Creswick was selected from a pool of 4,438 applicants.

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ENVIRONMENT

Harbour authorities investigate mysterious fuel spill

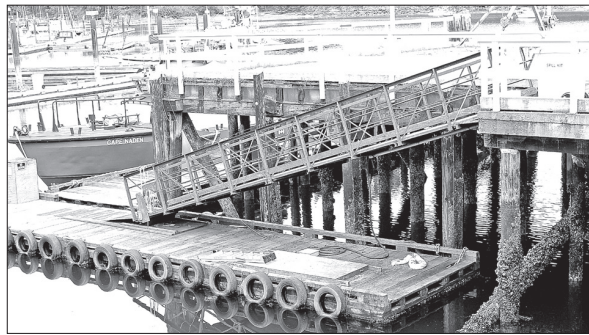


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

The Canadian Coast Guard dock at Ganges Harbour, one of the places where a fuel slick was visible Monday morning.

Small amount deemed unrecoverable

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Canadian Coast Guard and Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island staff investigating a fuel spill in Ganges Harbour Monday determined the slick was not a major incident.

Passersby were alarmed to see an

odourless rainbow sheen that stretched alongside the infilled portion of the harbour and boardwalk from the dinghy dock to the floatplane dock.

Kathy Scarfo, chair of the harbour authority board, said staff had advised her of the situation but did not have much information.

"They've checked the boats at our facilities but were unable to find a source. Given the wind and tide, it most likely came

from the inner basin," Scarfo said Monday.

The small amount of fuel dispersed over the water meant it was not recoverable. Scarfo said harbour manager Jim Heath would continue to monitor the situation and was communicating with Coast Guard personnel.

A fuel spill contact at the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Victoria said Coast Guard members were also unable to find a source on the water,

but thought it could possibly have come into the harbour via a storm drain or outfall runoff.

Further investigation suggested the slick may have stemmed from as little as one cup of diesel, which could have spilled if someone was filling their boat's fuel tank from a jerry can.

Harbour authority staff thanked the community for their interest and help in reporting the situation.

SSNAP

Creativity panel announced for national art prize roster

Meaghan Ogilvie, Art McDonald and Atom Egoyan on bill

photographer Meaghan Ogilvie are the panellists who will explore the nature of creativity, its essential elements, and where the creative spark comes from.

Panel organizer Janet Halliwell, an executive member of the Salt Spring National Art Prize committee, says the worlds of arts and sciences coming together will offer an extraordinary evening in the event called The Creativity Panel - Where Science

and Art Converge.

"By inviting these distinguished guests to explore the creative mind, our intention is to explore the connections between the creative process and the human experience," said Halliwell. "We anticipate an enlightened dialogue featuring two distinct disciplines and an inspired conversation with revelations from respected artists and an academic from the world

of science."

Egoyan is one of the most celebrated contemporary filmmakers on the international scene.

McDonald is professor emeritus at Queen's University, director of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory Scientific Collaboration and 2015 Physics Nobel Laureate.

Ogilvie is an award-winning Toronto photographer known for her evocative underwater photo-

graphs that have been included in exhibitions and ocean conservation projects around the world.

The Oct. 14 event takes place at ArtSpring at 7:30 p.m.

It's part of SSNAP events anchored by a Sept. 22 to Oct. 22 exhibition of Canadian artwork at Mahon Hall.

See www.saltspringartprize.ca to keep up to date with SSNAP announcements.

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For the complete details, penalties and exemptions view Bylaw 274 on our website in the Documents section.
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FRAUD

Gift card payments latest scam

Island woman, RCMP sound warning to others

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A Salt Spring woman hopes to prevent her fellow islanders from becoming scam victims by sharing a disturbing experience she had last week.

Kathy Dryden said a male telephone caller claimed to represent the Canada Revenue Agency, advising that she owed the agency \$3,000 as a result of an audit of her income tax records from 2011 to 2014. If she did not immediately pay the amount owed, he said, her bank accounts would be frozen and she would face court action.

At first, she was taken in. "He had me," she said. "He was a good talker."

"I was just really rattled by it."

KATHY DRYDEN
Salt Spring resident

But when it came to getting instructions on how to make the payment, Dryden became suspicious.

Bizarrely, she was told to go to Pharmasave or Country Grocer in order to purchase iTunes gift cards totalling the amount owed, and "to be quiet about it." When she stated that Pharmasave would soon be closed that day, the caller suggested she drive to the Chemainus Pharmasave, since "it's only eight miles away."

Dryden protested that it would be ridiculous to take a ferry to Chemainus to make any kind of purchase. The caller said he would stay on the phone with her until she got back home with the gift cards and would then walk her through the payment steps.

"When he said all that . . . I hung up. They tried to call me again and I didn't answer."

Dryden then talked to a local RCMP officer, who advised her to contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. Dryden gave the centre the caller's phone number, circumstances and the names provided by the two different men she talked to: "Mark Jumbo and Ryan Smith."

"I was just really rattled by it," said Dryden of the whole experience.

Salt Spring RCMP confirmed their office has had numerous reports from island residents who have received phone calls from people alleging to represent Revenue Canada and demanding payments.

"We'd like to remind the public that Revenue Canada does not conduct their business in this manner," said the RCMP in a press release. "Any calls of this type are a scam, and should be ended. Hang up your phone and do not provide any personal information whatsoever."

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre can be reached at 1-888-495-8501 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. More information about types of Revenue Canada scams, and other forms of fraud, is included on the centre's website at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

Bylaw officer recommends 'managed discussion'

STVRS
continued from 1

As Drew noted, Salt Spring's land-use bylaw allows bed and breakfasts but not vacation accommodations that include self-catering kitchens. The bylaw as it stands currently also prohibits the long-term residential rental of suites and cottages in most parts of the island, but one of the complaints about STVRS is that homeowners

are removing rental housing to focus on the more lucrative vacation market.

"It is a very restrictive bylaw, and I just strongly feel that if we start to enforce it in any kind of proactive way, that we run against these two seemingly contradictory arguments immediately," Drew said.

Drew suggested it may be time for the LTC to look at the issues of affordable housing and STVRS again. The only reason STVRS have not been flagged as a bigger

problem is the non-enforcement order put in place by the LTC, he added.

"My role as the chief is to sort of point out to the LTC when there's an opportunity to get ahead of the storm. I also think it's better for it to be a managed discussion than one where you're having to quell discontent," Drew said.

"I agree with the bylaw enforcement officer," said trustee George Grams. "I believe it's time the community looked at the issues of STVRS in a com-

prehensive way, looked at the impact on affordable housing and the volume of it, if it does cannibalize affordable housing or not, and how important it is as an economic generator for people who, in many respects, probably really need the money."

Grams said that various island organizations had approached him about the potential for adjusting Salt Spring's list+ of permitted accommodations.

"I think it's timely. Other communities have done it," Grams

added, noting Mayne and Pender Islands had both legalized STVRS in limited ways.

Drew finalized his report by noting the strong link between STVRS and housing issues, in his experience.

The Salt Spring LTC has had a draft bylaw to approve secondary suites and cottages for residential use on the table since 2013. The committee returned the project to its list of five top priorities in July 2016 and then demoted it again on March 23.

ISLANDS TRUST

Marina expansion delayed

First Nations concerns observed

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A long-running application to expand the Fulford Landing marina has hit another delay as Islands Trust planners grapple with concerns raised by local First Nations.

The Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development wants those issues resolved before the matter proceeds any further.

Third reading of bylaws to amend zoning and official community plan language was rescinded at the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting Thursday as committee members George Grams, Peter Grove and Peter Luckham considered the implications of new information received post-public hearing.

Trust planner Jason Youmans explained a second round of consultation with First Nations, including site visits, had taken place in November at the ministry's advice. As a result, Cowichan Tribes, Halalt First Nation and Lyackson First Nation responded with letters outlining specific concerns. A Tsawout First Nation representative had also registered reservations about marine development in Fulford Harbour during the site visit.

"Upon review of these First Nations responses, the ministry has indicated to planning staff that MCSCD would be unlikely to advance Bylaw 474 to the minister for signature until such time as demonstrable efforts were made to address the concerns raised in the First Nations referral responses," the staff report states.

Concerns include vegetation removal on the sloping shoreline, impacts on marine biology and a desire to protect archeological sites, especially on the crumbling foreshore. While staff believe the first two issues are dealt with in a development permit issued to the marina, an archeological impact assessment and a geotechnical report have also been suggested.

Contractor David McKerrell and marina owner Kelly Keen spoke against having to provide these assessments.

"As we are proposing to develop the seabed and not the upland, I would encourage the LTC to accept First Nations' concern for the upland as valid, but not particularly relevant, to the development we propose," McKerrell said. "I don't believe my client should be required to be responsible for any archeological studies for land he does not propose to develop. Nor should he be responsible for a geotechnical study of the stability of the bank unless he elects to put something on the bank that may impact the bank."

The applicants also spoke against the long delay of the application, as they were previously asked to meet concerns of the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island.

"You have been exposed to a nightmare," trustee Grove agreed.

While Grams and Grove were sympathetic

to the delay caused to the applicant, they recognized their legal responsibility to restart the process according to the Local Government Act, as well as the Trust's commitment to reconciliation and working with First Nations.

Chair Luckham observed the ministry could have actually rejected the application instead of providing the opportunity to meet First Nations concerns.

"At the end of the day you'd end up at the very same place. We would then have to start again and determine how to go," Luckham said.

The LTC directed staff to continue to work with First Nations and attempt to find a middle path, with recommendations to come back at the first opportunity.

Brewery expansion

Planning staff will get started on draft bylaws to allow expansion of Gulf Islands Brewing operations on Furness Road, after a successful introduction of the application at Thursday's meeting. Rezoning will create a rural zone variant that brings the business into compliance with the microbrewery as a principle use rather than being a home-based business.

The plans include a much bigger and more accessible tasting room, a caretaker cottage and fourplex residence, and upgraded brewery operations.

Managing partner Matthew Clayton explained the brewery currently sends product off-island for storage. As well, it has trouble attracting staff with the right expertise because of the island's housing shortage. Expanded operations are needed to make the business financially sustainable.

"Our banks won't even work with us until we have correct zoning. It's a problem," he said.

LTC members followed staff recommendations to require several reports supporting the application, including a vegetation screening plan, a report on potential sustainable building practices related to water and energy use, and potable water reports for each proposed water supply source.

Park Drive downzoning moves forward

In other LTC business Thursday, committee members gave third reading to a bylaw rezoning a Park Drive property from commercial accommodation to residential and voted to send it to the Islands Trust executive committee for approval.

Applicant Les Brown, owner and operator of the adjacent Wisteria Guest House Bed and Breakfast, plans to construct a new single-family dwelling on the subject property, which will also contain a meeting room to be used as a home-based business.

Planning manager Stefan Cermak noted the referral process had netted zero responses. A public hearing held Thursday morning also had no participants.

Jim Pattison Subaru victoria

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Islands Trust

Rezoning for Expansion & Redevelopment of Port Browning Marina Resort
Bylaws 206, 207, 208, 209 & 210

PUBLIC HEARING
NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

Have Your Say

Thursday, May 25th 3:30 p.m.

Pender Island Community Hall, 4418 Bedwell Harbour Road

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws

Enquires?
Phil Testemale, A/Planner 2
ptestemale@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5170

What are the bylaw changes about?
To change the Official Community Plan Land Use Map and Zoning of the water lease areas and properties shown in the sketch map below to:

- Expand the area of marina use and allow for a sewage pump out
- Allow for a new floating breakwater (attenuator)
- Expand the area for commercial tourist accommodation
- Increase lot coverage for buildings
- Reduce the number of accommodation units (density)
- Increase the maximum floor area for any unit, while reducing overall floor area on site
- Allow relocation of sewer infrastructure for the resort and marina

How do I get more information?
Copies of the bylaws and other information is available at the Islands Trust office at #200 - 1627 Fort Street between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays from May 10 to 23, 2017. Or: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/npender/applications

Written submissions?
Send by 4:30 p.m., May 23, 2017 to:
Islands Trust, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, or
Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, or
In person at the Public Hearing

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 Islands)
Bronze - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)

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



EDITORIAL

Scam season

With the income tax payment deadline having just passed, the Canada Revenue Agency is naturally on people's minds.

Perhaps that's why there's been a proliferation of reported scam calls from people purporting to represent Canada's income tax collecting agency. The intimidating callers advise their victims that big bucks are owed to the CRA due to an audit of past years' income tax returns. They threaten that bank accounts will be frozen, police will be called and court action will result if immediate payment is not made.

As convincing as these scam artists can be, people must always remember that government agencies do not call people up out of the blue and demand instant action of any kind. When it comes to citizen notifications, the CRA deals in slow and steady snail mail. Its personnel will not request personal information via text or email, or ask for people to click on a website link. Another scam taking place these days involves emails suggesting a CRA refund is forthcoming. It instructs recipients to click on a link in the email and

THE ISSUE:

CRA fraud

WE SAY:

Knowledge is power

provide personal information in order to receive the funds.

Government agencies like the CRA will also not request payments via iTunes gift cards. The lack of logic contained in a gift card payment request is what convinced islander Kathy Dryden that she was being manipulated by a scammer last week. And even though Dryden is a "scam aware" individual, the timing and initial execution of the phone call caught her off guard. She was advised by local RCMP to contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, which is the only avenue one can take to report incidents like these that originate beyond local RCMP jurisdiction.

Debbie Magnusson, another island resident, describes her experience with a phishing scam in the Driftwood's letters to the editor section this week. It also involved a demand for payment with iTunes gift cards.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre is a useful resource for gleaning information about the latest form of scams — and they are always evolving and becoming more sophisticated in one way or another. The centre also stresses that it is important to share attempted fraud experiences with others, even if it feels embarrassing to do so, and to take protective action afterwards.

personnel will not request personal information via text or email, or ask for people to click on a website link. Another scam taking place these days involves emails suggesting a CRA refund is forthcoming. It instructs recipients to click on a link in the email and



VIEWPOINT by Ron Hawkins

Water management warranted

Perhaps the largest attended AGM in North Salt Spring Waterworks District history occurred on April 25, filling Community Gospel Chapel with 165 people. Of these, 95 ratepayers were eligible to vote and 70 were non-ratepayers.

It was a dramatic increase over the norm in historical AGM attendance. Yet 95 ratepayers means only six to seven per cent of the total electorate attended, and 11 of these 95 who were eligible to vote did not vote, it seems. Such unusual behaviour, and also a very indifferent total electorate where 96-97 per cent didn't vote at all.

Most of the public concern expressed at the meeting flowed from issues around Brinkworthy, public process, decision-making processes, Fraser Thimble Farms, incorporation and, to a lesser extent, water-management concerns as we move into this world-wide epoch of water supply and demand limits. There can be no disagreement that limits of supply determine limits of demand.

For example, low lake levels driven by climate and demand have required moratoria on new demand in the past two years. Still, demand for water stacks up, while island-wide demand thresholds are at least two years from being created as the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority and Salt Spring Islands Trust work diligently in supplementing new technical knowledge, study and monitoring.

NSSWD has carried an extraordinary workload in terms of planning, infrastructure and capital costs for future development. Gone are the days of the "low-hanging fruit" approach to water management and planning. Total long-term NSSWD projected capital costs are estimated at \$28 million.

Yet as we clamour to catch up in management, capital, technical and other information needs, real-time water shortages have been

experienced and conservation measures are mandatory. Individual and group interests have already emerged, e.g. Channel Ridge Properties, Fraser Thimble Farms, Brinkworthy, developers and subdivision interests in waiting and endlessly coming. Yet the limits of supply are fixed. Our total freshwater supply is limited by what falls from the sky, which is a variable annual unknowable. We can estimate with varying confidence but never certainty.

Storage is a major challenge. Be it surface, ground or rainwater, storage to meet growing demand is expensive, particularly during the period May to October in the Southern Gulf Islands where rainfall during these months has been negligible. At the same time, evaporation, certainly at surface, exceeds total consumption, meaning only a fraction of any water body is actually available. Also at the same time, visitors, family, friends, tourists, whose numbers remain unknown, are reckoned to double or triple the summer-time population precisely when agriculture and gardening irrigation demands coincide with the supply trough.

Projections: Water, a life-essential commodity for all living organisms, will become more significant, reflecting its preciousness and always taken for granted; water management will become an increasingly political issue as demand and supply struggle with human thinking in relation to economy, climate, immigration and wildfire; stronger recognition of a Joe Public/government common good ethic; governments will develop water-allocation plans after careful study and extensive public dialogue, aimed at determining the size of the piece of pie each sector is allotted within the sustainable supply limit. "Sustainable" will depend on ever-improving yet never perfect scientific and other information variables regarding water supply and demand.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you happy with the B.C. election results?

Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support the same B.C. party you did in the 2013 election?



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

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

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Funded by the Government of Canada



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

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



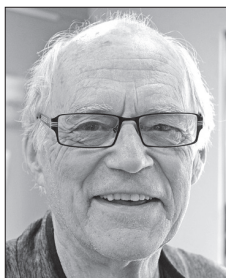
ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "You have been exposed to a nightmare."

SSILTC MEMBER PETER GROVE, TO FULFORD LANDING MARINA APPLICANTS

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What valuable lesson did your mother teach you?



PAUL MINVIELLE
She taught me never to be mean to anybody else — she was the gentlest person I've known.



JANE DUNLOP
If she hadn't sewn my head on, I'd probably forget it somewhere.



MARINA ROLAND
Just be kind.



CHERIE GEAUVREAU
Always keep your B.S. meter on, and follow your heart.



ROBIN WILLIAMS
Live long and prosper.

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

Cold comfort

On empire-building, Emperor Hadrian commented thus: "The more the State increases in size and power, extending its strict, cold links from man to man, the more does human faith aspire to exalt the image of a human protector at the end of this mighty chain."

Although the landscape of 2nd-century Rome little resembles 21st-century Salt Spring, Hadrian's aphorism bears some consideration as we regard the Sept. 9 incorporation referendum.

Becoming municipal provides cold comfort to 400+ isles of others and its "if only we had..." narrative applies a balm of mayoralty to save Salt Springers from themselves.

If the job of governance is establishing predictable entry and exit points then "preserve and protect" are reasonable guideposts themselves beholden to human

measures of give and take.

I am not taxed directly for maintenance of local roads, though am taxed for maintenance of local water. Accepting this bargain as a condition of residency, I daily receive gifts of mobility and, monthly, bills of utility.

Simply put, I will be voting to retain an imperfect system. The Islands Trust benefits all British Columbians and its primary accountabilities are not to us but to the biosphere.

JOHN ROWLANDSON,
FULFORD HARBOUR

Post-phishing advice

I was hooked by a phishing scam while trying to get iPad support. It was an awful experience filled with anger and confusion, ultimately turning to frustration and humiliation.

Here's what I want to pass along to other low-tech peo-

ple to help them learn from my mistake:

- Make sure the website you are reading is an official site. The one I used had the correct key words, but I did not speak to the "real" service providers.

- Never use iTunes cards as a method of payment.

- If you are unsure of what is being said or asked of you, and see "red flags waving," trust your instinct. Find help from a person who knows more than you and who can discern legitimacy of service.

- Contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre to report a scam and pass the information along to the company who is being fraudulently represented.

- Yell. Cry. Get hugs from people who love you. Share the experience to alert others.

- Be aware and take care. I wouldn't wish this on anyone!

DEBBIE MAGNUSSON,
EAGLE RIDGE DRIVE

Shameful tactics

This past November, the provincial Agricultural Land Commission rejected the application to develop playing fields at 181 Brinkworthy Rd.

The ALC cited "considerable negative correspondence" and "an apparent lack of support from the community." I believe our community is in overwhelming support of additional open green space; the ALC got that wrong. The "negative correspondence" came from small, well-coordinated groups and is not representative of the overall wishes of the community.

The objections of a few Brinkworthy residents are understandable, but ill-advised and short-sighted. NIMBY is a powerful motivator for people with the time and skills to exert geo-

political pressure. I wonder how these same residents will feel when someone opens a turkey farm at 181 Brinkworthy Rd.

The objections of the ALR-supporting groups are harder to understand. Creating open green space at 181 Brinkworthy would have created arable farm land. Isn't that one of the primary objectives of the ALR? If we do have the global disaster of biblical proportions that the ALC is preparing for, couldn't we grow potatoes and carrots on the playing fields?

While we are waiting for the bomb to drop we could grow fine young people of character who exhibit teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play; attributes which will service our community well for generations to come.

The objections and slick tactics of the single-interest enviro-terrorist groups

are clearly unconscionable. Their mission to stall, study, table, obfuscate and otherwise block change of any kind, regardless of merit, is dogmatic. To these groups I say, "Shame on you."

I admire the drive and passion of the people that oppose the development of open green space. I just think that in this case their efforts are grossly misguided.

When it comes time to commission another study, let's study the net benefit to our community of relieving some of the pressure on our existing open green space. I'm sure the results will show an improvement in the quality of life here on Salt Spring, and that over the course of a single generation will save millions of precious tax dollars.

DON NEMETH,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Hyper-monitoring Fitbits do have their uses

A few days ago, I got an indignant email from my toothbrush.

It pointed out that I was expected to spend two minutes brushing, morning and evening, but I had been negligent. Consequently, the few teeth I have left are in peril, it said, and I could look forward to a diet of soup and sops unless I did what I was told.

And before you reach for the phone to call whoever it is you call when a local transcends the usual level of Salt Spring dotiness, I am telling the absolute truth. My toothbrush, for reasons I can no longer recall, but must have seemed worth the extra 100 bucks a year ago, has a Bluetooth connection to my iPad and monitors my oral hygiene. As a consequence, I am being nagged by a very small brush.

And to make matters worse — and even more surreal — while my toothbrush is fretting over my gums and molars, I have a Fitbit that is fixating on other bits of my body. This is actually my third Fitbit, or Fatbutts as I've (rather humorously, I think) dubbed them. The first was a gift from one of my sons who was concerned about my health, which was gratifying since he

stands to inherit when I'm gone. I accidentally dropped that one down the toilet and, driven by guilt and the fear that my very-considerate son would think I'd flushed it deliberately, replaced it with a second Fitbit — which I also accidentally dropped down the toilet. And if this third one doesn't start minding its own business, it will soon find itself accidentally joining the others.

Like my toothbrush, the Fitbit also connects to the internet and has recently taken to sending me regular email updates. "Well done, Paul, for walking six kilometres on Tuesday!" "Oh dear, you seem to have gained a kilogram since last month." "Did you really need that second cheeseburger, you chubby loser?"

There are days when I feel so monitored, it's like living in North Korea (but in a good and caring way because this is Salt Spring). My toothbrush means well, and since it has little else to do in life beyond teeth cleaning it's entitled to obsess, I suppose. The Fitbit, on the other hand, usually only has a piece



Paul McElroy

AND ANOTHER THING

of my health picture since I mostly forget to clip it on. I've tried emailing back.

"Yes, but I actually walked to the mailbox, but you were on the bedroom floor at the time," but I never got an answer. Like most fitness fanatics, it's not interested in the piling excuses of someone whose body is not so

much a temple as a house of ill-repute.

Thankfully, my Fitbit is a lesser model, a tiny, low-level idiot member of a family that goes all the way up to clever-dick spy with a medical degree. Strap one of these smart-aleck gizmos to your wrist and you can kiss self-determination goodbye. Not content with looking over your shoulder to see how far you've walked in a day, these uber-Fitbits sneakily monitor just about everything — and have an unnatural preoccupation with your internal workings.

Heartbeat, for instance. As long as it's still beating I never mustered much interest in mine. I do have a pacemaker, which as far as I'm concerned is like having a tiny

turbocharger in your chest and takes the unnecessary waste of energy out of generating a heartbeat. (Yeah, I know the medical science is probably unsound, but it's my way of dealing with it.)

I've also always wondered why they can manufacture a pacemaker battery that lasts 10 years, while my cell phone is good for about two-and-a-half minutes, but I suppose I should be grateful I don't have to plug myself in overnight.

Meanwhile, the top-of-the-range, more-money-than-sense Fitbit will set you back over 300 bucks which, if the price doesn't give you a coronary, its constant nagging probably will. But this Fitbit, when it isn't preoccupied with making sure you're getting enough sleep, that you are taking your vitamins and not leaving your curly kale on the side of the plate where it belongs, actually tells the time. Imagine that, a timepiece small enough to fit on your wrist!

If it could also order a pizza and let you eat a slice without making you feel as if you'd just eaten a kitten, it would be almost perfect . . .

Site C project can bring clean, reliable energy online

BY ANDREW OKULITCH

In his April 26 "Site C dam should be election issue" Viewpoint, my good friend Richard Kerr has cogently and perceptively summarized the opposition to Site C by numerous highly respected individuals and organizations.

I share that respect, but all their conclusions suffer from one serious flaw: they are narrow in their understanding of how electrical energy systems work and they fail to look far enough into the future.

I would make an analogy with a human being. In its first few years, it pollutes, exhausts the resources of its parents and gives little back to society. Yet, we don't stop having babies, because the contributions he or she will certainly make over a 50- to 100-year lifespan outweigh the "start-up" costs. That span is similar to that of a large hydro dam and all criticisms of Site C have concentrated on those few initial very messy and expensive years and ignored the decades

of relatively green, clean and, most importantly, storable, energy that it will provide.

But what about supposedly greener, smaller-scale alternate sources such as wind, solar and geothermal? Certainly, no clean, alternate source should be ignored, but firstly, it is necessary to factor in all stages of their manufacture, maintenance and connections to the energy grid. Once the mining, refining, running of factories, transportation of components, assembly, construction of roads to remote sites, cutting of transmission line corridors, etc. are included, no alternatives turn out to be really green. There is no free lunch in any complex energy-producing system. The primary difference between these sources and hydro is storage. Storage is essential to deal with surges in demand and the fluctuating supply from alternate sources.

For example, last year in Germany, which now has the capacity to generate over 80 per cent of its electrical

IN RESPONSE

needs through wind and solar, thermal generating plants burning very dirty brown coal idled at 40 per cent capacity all year to provide the necessary backup. Evolving battery technology is cited as the solution to this, but again, batteries, which have a relatively short life, have to be made from mined and refined resources. A lot of them would be needed to equal the storage capacity of a reservoir, which, once built, contributes only low levels of greenhouse gases and these die away over time.

Critics of BC Hydro have also concentrated on its debt and cash flow. It is important to remember that a good portion of that debt was caused by successive governments siphoning profits from it to balance their budgets. And, as Richard noted, it was government policy that mandated BC Hydro to buy expensive power

from "independent power producers." If such alternate sources are supposed to be the wave of the future, and cheaper than hydro, why are they so expensive now? And why are those producers whining that if Site C comes online they will be driven out of business because they can't generate power as cheaply?

It has been frequently stated that we have a surplus of power and that the projects that Site C was initially supposed to support (mining, LNG, etc.) may never — should never — be advanced, so Site C is not needed. That remains debatable (e.g. the mining might be needed for the raw materials for windmills and geothermal plants), but even if true, the needs of the future must somehow be considered.

Present studies all talk about "not needed now" and "for years." Predictions over the lifetime of Site C are, of course, not possible, but instead of trying to predict the future, perhaps we should try to manage it. What if

we set the goal to eventually achieve a totally green, hydrocarbon-free society and try to estimate how much energy we would need not only to run it, but to make the conversion to it? Among the things to consider would be the whole chain of processes of remaking all our vehicles, replacing all heating systems in homes, offices and factories that currently use oil or gas and replacing all industrial machinery that isn't electrical. And don't forget all those things that I described in the chain that makes those windmills and solar panels.

The energy needs will be huge and the time long, but the sooner we can bring large, reliable and clean sources like Site C online, the sooner we can begin the process of replacement and the cleaner our society will become. That will ultimately benefit all citizens.

The writer is scientist emeritus with the Geological Survey of Canada who lives on Salt Spring.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Watch for motorcyclists

How many people are aware that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month? How many people care?

Each year the government spends mil-

lions on bicycle paths, bicycle lanes, bicycle awareness, which is all good. They also spend hundreds of thousands on pedestrian safety and awareness. Again, this is good. They spend nothing on motorcycle safety or awareness. This is not good. Each year the media has extensive coverage of bicycle and pedestrian awareness and safety. This is good. They have zero about motorcycle safety or awareness. Not so good.

The only intensive study into motorcycle accidents was conducted by Dr. Hurt. I know, an ironic name. In this study it was found that most police reports on motorcycle accidents were wrong and that 70 per cent of the accidents were caused by automobile drivers.

I can attest to the wrong reports. I was returning from Nanaimo on a Friday afternoon in bumper-to-bumper traffic when a piece of plywood loaded with metal shards came out from under the car in front of me. It tore the front tire apart and I went down.

The first officers on the scene accused me of speeding (in bumper-to-bumper traffic?), careless driving (how?) and cornering too fast (on a dead straight road!). It wasn't until a younger officer arrived that I was able to make a factual report. It is a knee-jerk reaction on the part of government, media and police to blame the motorcyclist in any incident. Unfortunately, motorcyclists tend to be an independent breed and they have no loud and coordinated lobby to push their agenda and so they get ignored.

This summer do your part . . . watch for motorcyclists. There are a lot of them out there. You just don't see them.

Here are some interesting statistics on average deaths per year over a five-year span in B.C.: People in motor vehicles, 258; pedestrians, 59; motorcyclists, 32; bicyclists, 10.

KERRY BUTLER,
FAIRWAY DRIVE

GLOSSI becomes DAISSI

After an extensive consultation process spanning the last year and a half, members of the organization formerly known as GLOSSI — Gays & Lesbians of Salt Spring Island Society — voted by a wide margin at our AGM on April 30 to change the society's name to DAISSI: Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island Society.

We announce this name change with profound honour and appreciation for our organization's rich and important history under the GLOSSI name, and with heart-filled celebration of this new name that boldly encompasses the vast diversity of the community we represent.

Our thanks to all who participated in the consultation process, at the town hall meeting and the vote at the AGM.

Most of all, our deepest gratitude to all those who have worked over the years to make GLOSSI the thriving and welcoming organization it has become. We look forward to the many opportunities for us all to build on that proud legacy as we shape what DAISSI is and does in our community.

As always, we combine our hearts and voices to support one another, to work and celebrate together, and to live with pride in who we are.

ANNA WÄRJE,
OUTGOING GLOSSI PRESIDENT

Laundry and showers definitely needed

As a recent resident to Salt Spring Island and purchaser of property I am perplexed that there are three liquor stores in Ganges but no central laundry/shower facility.

Salt Spring is a tourist destination and one would expect a laundromat/shower for boaters, campers, hikers etc.

A progressive, compassionate community provides laundry/shower facilities for residents to encourage healthy hygiene and personal dignity. Possession of automatic washers and dryers is clearly a luxury to many.

Congratulations to Copper Kettle for addressing this community issue.

LINDA WARDROPER,
SALT SPRING

Wheelbarrow washing

Regarding Peter Vincent's article last week about the need for a laundromat on the island, I have washed my clothes outdoors in a wheelbarrow.

An affordable laundromat in town would be greatly appreciated after this long hiatus.

ELLEN FJETLAND,
STARK'S ROAD

Treasures

I've had more than 30 goldfinches in my garden lately as they migrate, and yesterday I saw the endangered azure blue butterfly at St. Mary Lake.

These are treasures for us to protect and save.

NANCY WIGEN,
FERNWOOD

Notice to the Public

Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2017

2:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Lions Club Hall - 103 Bonnet Avenue

Meetings are open to the public.

For more information, please contact:

Harold Swierenga, Chair
Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee
Phone: 250-653-4950

or

Darin Guenette, Public Affairs Manager
BC Ferries
1-877-978-2385 (toll free) or
darin.guenette@bcferries.com

 **BC Ferries**

Extra bureaucratic request prompts sarcastic response

BY ANDRIA SCANLAN

Prior to completing the purchase of our two-acre parcel of bare land on Channel Ridge last spring we confirmed with North Salt Spring Waterworks District that we would indeed be able to access water through a hook-up to the existing water line at the side of the road marked for the lot.

Not a problem, no moratorium, a thousand dollars later water on their side of our meter was flowing. We could indeed proceed with the purchase of the lot and make plans to build a new 1800-square-foot family home immediately.

The plans for Channel Ridge, including shared driveways and water and power utilities, were drawn in 1986. In this case, four properties would share a common driveway, which then split off at the closest point to access each lot. A shared "utility easement"

strip along the side of the road, up the shared driveway and then splitting for each building site was also shown on the map. We concluded that regardless of the most direct route we would need to bring our utilities up the "shared driveway" at a much higher cost.

Little did we know that it would take several months and thousands of our hard-earned dollars in order to get permission from the Islands Trust to hand dig a trench from the meter box, along the side of the road, and then dig a trench up the shared driveway. We knew that a potential riparian zone existed on our property but we had no intention of touching it.

As it turned out, we were required to proceed with a development permit application, which included reports completed by surveyors and hydrologists, before

being studied and reviewed by Trust planners who make a recommendation.

The trustees then reviewed, read and discussed the issue at one of their monthly meetings before making a final decision. Eventually we got our building permit and permission to hook up to our side of the meter.

We thought that was the end of the matter until I received another request. My response to this request made by Trish Hooker of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations in Nanaimo is below.

Dear Ms. Hooker:
Thank you for your inquiry regarding access to our property on Salt Spring Island, B.C. in order to conduct a random audit of our successful 2016 Development Permit and Riparian Area Regulation Assessment Reports.

GUEST COLUMN

We may be able to help you and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations with this endeavour. The ministry will require a Random Audit Assessment Report Permit in order to "conduct the audit to assess the work of our qualified professionals." The permit application cost is \$1,020 and takes approximately eight to 10 weeks to process. As you are seeking approval for one or more of your auditors to access our property, an Auditor Access Fee will be necessary for each auditor at a cost of \$400 per person. Proof of appropriate professional qualifications for survey and hydrology auditing will be required. Qualification review will take approximately four to six weeks and will require a fee of \$400 per professional auditor.

As the purpose of the audit is to assess the "adequacy of streams and other measurements, we have divided our 2.25 acres into 75 equal survey units with a draw tag for each unit. Application fees to assess the current state of each unit are only \$8 per unit.

If you are successful in the monthly draw, you will be notified two weeks in advance so you can make necessary plans and purchase your Report Assessment Audit stamp (\$150 resident / \$250 non-resident).

You will also need to obtain a Permit and Regulation Assessment Report Auditing parking permit (\$10 per vehicle). You will also need an Invasive Species stamp (\$15 for the first vehicle and \$5 for each additional vehicle).

You will need to register at the check station to have your vehicle inspected for non-native plant life prior to entering our property. There is also

a day use fee of \$5 per vehicle.

Survey units open between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. but you cannot commence the survey until 9 a.m. and must cease all survey activity by 1 p.m.

Auditors should wear garments made of 100 per cent organic cotton and ensure that shoes, boots or flip-flops are made of BPA-free plastics. All auditor pockets will be subject for inspection before entering the site.

As you have requested the landowners to be on site while the audit is conducted you will require an Owners Loss of Fees and Wages Permit. Cost is \$500 per landowner per day.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance to you.

Sincerely,
Andria Scanlan

The writer has had a recent experience with local government bureaucracy.

Radical change needed to free ourselves from banksters

BY JAN SLAKOV

What strikes me, as the provincial election comes to an end, is how ardently people defend their points of view, and yet we gloss over some crucial issues generally neglected by our media.

I just started reading award-winning journalist and author Joyce Nelson's excellent book called *Beyond Banksters*, and it confirms something a few people have been saying for quite some time: our financial system is rigged so that wealth and control flow from most people on earth into the hands of a tiny minority. Getting our provincial government to bring in spending limits for political campaigns and an end to big money financing of parties is just scratching the surface.

How so? Canadians are "paying \$30 to \$40 billion a year in useless interest. Since 1974, more than a trillion to fraudsters," explains Rocco Galati, a heroic lawyer who has won cases that uphold our democratic rights. He is representing the Committee on Monetary and Economic Reform in a lawsuit that aims "to do nothing less than force the Bank of Canada to reorient its activities on behalf of Canadians." Galati says this is "by far the most serious and important case I've ever done." (Toronto Star, March 23, 2015)

Nelson points out in *Beyond Banksters* that Canada's reputation for having "sound monetary policy (which) allowed it to emerge from the global financial crisis barely scathed" is not really justified. Economist David Macdonald revealed in 2012 that there had been "secret bank bailouts" of Canada's top six banks amounting to at least \$108 billion between September 2008 and July 2010. Nelson cites the example of TD Bank receiving \$26 billion in public money while then CEO Ed Clark had his overall compensation raised from \$11.1 million to \$15.2 million per year.

We know, from the *Confessions of an Economic Hitman* book, that

consultants like author John Perkins were sent to convince Third World leaders to take on huge debts through the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutions overseen by the Bank of International Settlements. The money went directly to big engineering, construction and consulting companies, leaving the citizens of the nation scrambling to sell whatever they could to pay off the debts. Nelson sums up the situation: "Perkins admits that he and other economic hit men cheated countries around the globe out of trillions of dollars in order to enrich U.S. corporations."

Apparently it was the BIS that insisted Canada and other more developed countries switch from using publicly owned banks to private banks for government borrowing. This was less draconian, says Nelson, but it "fit the pattern: removing monetary sovereignty, imposing a debt burden [...] limiting government power." Apparently there was no parliamentary debate about this switch; then governor of the Bank of Canada, Gerald K. Bouey, simply brought in the

new policy in 1974, without even announcing what the implications would be for public borrowing and debt.

Financial advisor Jerry Ackerman has mailed copies of *Beyond Banksters* to every MP and senator. Arguably, elected officials are unable to act without prodding and support from citizens. So we need to read the book too, and work to free ourselves from an unfair system that leaves people around the world virtually powerless to bring about the changes we need to make this world a happier, healthier place.

Divided, we are being conquered. It's fine to have differenc-

es of opinion, but we can't let that stop us from working together for the kinds of radical change that we need now. I love the way Quebec poet Gilles Vigneault expressed this idea, decades ago: "The poet must be the one saying to the earth's people: 'Let go of hatred; love one another, for the future is coming to meet you.' The poet [...] listens to the voice of solitude, a knowledge like some sixth sense, knowledge which is death to hate."

The writer is a longtime activist who says she finds hope in working with others to overcome the forces of greed, hate and violence.

INDEPTH

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arts&entertainment

SALT SPRING INN
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News Updates
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PHOTOGRAPHY

Shell photo-images reflect mixed emotions

Sam Lightman show on at ArtSpring

A new exhibition of photo-montage art is on display in the ArtSpring lobby throughout the month of May.

Called See Shells, the new images are the latest work by Sam Lightman, whose art has graced the ArtSpring lobby and other venues on Salt Spring and elsewhere over the last several years.

The exhibition presents 25 images of shells in various depictions, some light-hearted and whimsical, others murky and dark.

"The work reflects my mixed emotions about shells and their living environment," said Lightman. "The shells themselves present tremendous variety, stunning beauty and incredible design, but the deteriorating state of the environment they

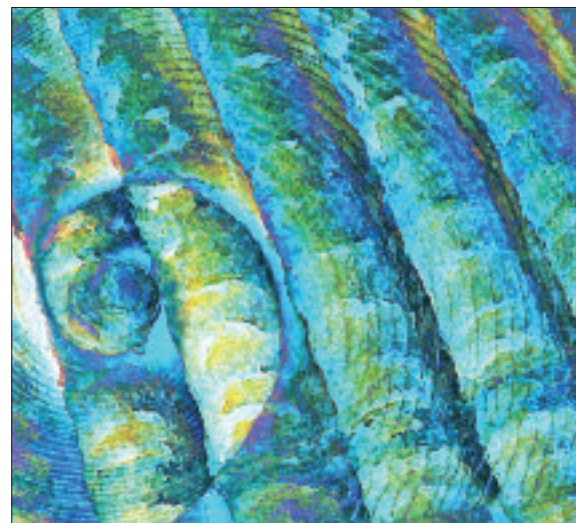
come from sometimes calls for another, less optimistic, approach to their presentation."

Eschewing the coffee-table-book approach to shell photography, Lightman has managed to cast the shells he presents in a wide variety of unusual and thought-provoking meditations.


A description of Lightman's process is included on his Photosynthesis page.

"Where previously digital imaging techniques were applied primarily in the service of commercial messaging, the technology also opened up an infinite horizon of artistic possibilities that are only now becoming widely visible. Sam Lightman's work attempts to explore the synergistic application of digital manipulation to photographic observation in the service of artistic expression."

Lightman is a member of the Photosynthesis group, which holds an exhibit each summer.



One of Sam Lightman's sea shell photomontage images on display in the ArtSpring lobby this month. COURTESY SAM LIGHTMAN

IMPRINTS 2017
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CIRCUS PERFORMANCE

Tsunami Circus presents year-end show

Beyond the Forest of Paradise at SIMS

BY TIFFANY WIGHTMAN
 CIRCUS RINGLEADER

Islanders of all ages are invited to Salt Spring Island Middle School this weekend for a fabulous new performance by Tsunami Circus called Beyond the Forest of Paradise.

Shows are on Saturday, May 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. and a Sunday Mother's Day matinee from 2 to 4 p.m.

The show has a total of 33 students performing, plus additional students in supporting roles. Individual acts are structured around a storyline this year, which is set in a forest with animals from either of two sides: The Land of Tyranny and The Land of Paradise. The Land of Tyranny believes love and compassion show weakness and vulnerability, and in the Land of Paradise feelings of anger and sadness are forbidden. As no one can possibly live by the rules of their forest land, secret meetings occur at the River of Hope, which separates the two sides of the forest.

The story follows the impossibility of living the way each side is ruled, and how the animals sort out how to get along. There are all kinds of animals who help to bring peace to the forest, including mystical creatures, self-created birds and familiar animals.



Members of Salt Spring Middle School's Tsunami Circus program rehearse for this weekend's shows. PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

dynamic performance to their audiences.

Parents and community members have been instrumental in putting together an elaborate set and costumes, as well as helping with all other aspects of this program. It is a true Salt Spring community production.

The Centre for Child Honouring and Saunders Family Subaru have donated money to support us in purchasing much-needed mats. Jekka Krayenhoff and Christina Penhale of exitStageLeft, Dave Vollrath, Tom McKeachie and Pierre Rouger have all been generous with their equipment and expertise. Worthy of particular mention for their dedicated, enthusiastic and efficient support are Carmen Collieran, James Cowan, Ben Velthuizen, Jenny Redpath, Wendy Faith, Brenda Bartrim, Eve Green, Kristin Balinski, SIMS PAC, Greg Bellavance and Karina Strong. Thank you to our principal Keiko Taylor and vice-principal Jude Shugar for supporting the process.

There will be a raffle, baked goods, circus merchandise and prizes for best animal costumes at the shows. Bringing a pillow to sit on is recommended as the bleachers are not designed with comfort in mind.

Tickets can be purchased at SIMS, at West of the Moon or at the door.

All the students have come up with their animals, helped design their costumes and made biographies of their characters to aid the storyline development. They had to decide which land they live in, and create a background story for the piece they are in.

There are 21 acts and an

intermission. The acts this year include aerial silks, hammocks, lyra hoop, double trapeze, cube, acro dance, unicycling, juggling, LED hoop and poi, and magic. Students have put their eight months of training into this show and together with their costumes, talent and enthusiasm will bring a

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ART REVIEW

Salt Spring Gallery welcomes painter Susan Haigh



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
Susan Haigh painting Fir Flowers, left, and detail from Oh to Be an Apple, part of the Enchantment show at Salt Spring Gallery this week.

Enchantment show on to May 14

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Gallery has welcomed Susan Haigh to the art cooperative's membership, bringing in an experienced painter with a distinctive visual voice.

Haigh has long delighted local viewers with her acrylic paintings of flowers; blossoms of all kinds are more the subjects than objects of her works, which are portrait-like in their intimacy. Running on this theme, she often favours the close-up view in which the flower head fills almost the entire canvas.

Haigh paints in a realist style, without visible brushstrokes, which can be unforgiving if the balance between contrasts and apparent planes isn't quite right.

In the Enchantment show at Salt Spring Gallery she demonstrates a fine sense of this balance and the corresponding appearance of three-dimensional space.

Composition-wise, Haigh helps provide depth of field by showcasing her main subjects in front of darker backdrops. The lush Fir Flowers piece contrasts light-bathed feathery pink brush-tips, orange buds and individual fir needles as if seen up close against a denser canopy. The main thrust of the branch feels like it is coming out toward the viewer.

A slightly longer view has blossom-tipped branches in Apple Blossom Special taking up most of a vertically oriented frame. In addition to capturing the way light hits the apple leaves and flowers, Haigh creates a nice sense of space with her background of fir trees. These fill the upper space but are loosely

packed, allowing light to filter through individual branches rather than a wall of green.

Haigh has quite a few examples of flower-based landscapes this time, including a series of narrow, jewel-like works. On the larger scale is the magnificent coastal landscape West Coast Fireweed. Sprays of deep pink flowers in the immediate foreground cover a driftwood pile on a smooth beach. The joyful riot up front is backed by a lovely peaceful scene in cool tones, with a strip of forested hillside between pale sky and water.

Paintbrush Coast is another view that casts lush vegetation against the harder bones of landscape to good effect. Here the base palette is green and sandstone brown, with the deep orange paintbrush stalks moving across the canvas in a slight diagonal that mimics the thrust of the beachscape beyond.

Complementary colours are also key in a trio of paintings of succulents, where deep reds set off dusty pale greens to great effect.

Oh to Be an Apple is meanwhile classic Haigh. The large canvas is filled with a small cluster of pink blossoms, with very little background except a hint of deep green leaves. Haigh achieves an almost fleshy tangibility to the pale pink petals as they curl and curve around their tiny stigma bulbs. The light hits the central, upper blossom the fullest, but comes through as if dappled through other branches. The painting shows the artist's masterful observation and is beautifully rendered on the canvas for a purely satisfying effect.

Salt Spring Gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enchantment runs in the rear feature room through Sunday, May 14.

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LITERARY EVENTS

Book launches fill library calendar

Karen Connelly, Emilie Wapnick and Susan Marie Conrad share with readers mid-May

Salt Spring Public Library hosts three exciting book launch events next week.

On Tuesday, May 16 at 7 p.m., Toronto author Karen Connelly launches her new book called The Change Room.

Described in a library press release as a "daring new novel" from award-winning writer Connelly, The Change Room takes "a whole-hearted and unabashed look at marriage, motherhood and sexuality."

Connelly is the author of 10 previous books of best-selling non-fiction, fiction and poetry, the most recent being Burmese Lessons, a love story and a memoir about her experiences in Burma and on the Thai-Burma border. She has won the Pat Lowther Award for her poetry, the Governor General's Award for her non-fiction, and Britain's Orange Broadband Prize for New Writers for her first novel, The Lizard Cage. Published in 2005, The Lizard Cage was compared in the New York Times Book Review to the works of Orwell, Solzhenitsyn and Mandela, and hailed in The Globe and Mail as "one of the best modern Canadian

novels." Burmese Lessons was nominated for a Governor General's Award for Non-fiction and the British Columbia National Award for Canadian Non-fiction in 2009.

On Thursday, May 18 at 7 p.m., new Salt Spring resident Emilie Wapnick launches How to Be Everything: A Guide for Those Who (Still) Don't Know What They Want to Be When They Grow Up. Wapnick, a Canadian speaker, career coach, blogger and community leader, will read from her modern, practical guide based on her popular TED talk titled Why Some of Us Don't Have One True Calling.

"How to Be Everything helps multi-potentialites channel their diverse passions and skills to work for them by flipping the script on conventional career advice," states the library media release. "Instead of suggesting that people specialize, choose a niche or accumulate 10,000 hours of practice in a single area, Wapnick provides a practical framework for building a sustainable life around all of their passions."

On Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m., Susan Marie Conrad launches Inside: One Woman's Journey Through the Inside Passage. Conrad, an author and adventurer from Oso, Wash., will share stories and images from her solo sea kayak journey up the Inside Passage. Her presentation includes snippets about her time spent on Salt Spring.

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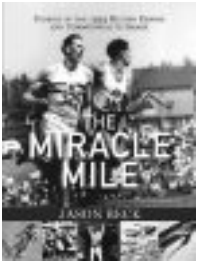
What's on this week



Wed. May 10

ACTIVITIES

Health Day StoryWalk. A special StoryWalk as part of Move for Health Day events, featuring The Yoga Game in the Garden picture book. Walk from the library through Moutat Park to Rainbow Road Pool. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday through June 30. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SS Historical Society: The 1954 British Empire & Commonwealth Games. Jason Beck, curator and faculty director of the BC Sports Hall of Fame, gives multimedia presentation. Central Hall. 2 p.m.



End of the Reel Film Screening. Salt Spring Hospice Society presents Advance Care Planning: My Voice. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.



Thur. May 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Swingin' Into Spring. Salt Spring Singers, with Swing Shift and special guest Bill Henderson. Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.
Probus Club Monthly Meeting. Guest speakers are Bill McElroy, Constable Jennifer Gibb and Mia Golden, members of the Capital Region Action Team. They are dedicated to combatting the problem of youth trading and selling sex for survival. Meaden Hall. 10 a.m.
Charis Cotter presents Newfoundland Ghost Stories. Celebrate TD Canadian Children's Book Week. For grades 4-6, home learners welcome. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.
SSI Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting. Meeting with BC Ferries executives, open to the public. Lions Hall. 2:15 to 4:45 p.m.
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.
Intro to Squash. Free sessions continue for the month of May. Bring non-marking shoes and appropriate clothing. Salt Spring Island Golf Club. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Fri. May 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

DJ Paul. At the Legion. 7 p.m.
Leeroy Stagger. Folk-rock at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.
Swingin' Into Spring. See Thursday's listing.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Thursday's listing.
Sea To Seed Tour. SOLD OUT. Salt Spring events at Stowel Lake Farm.

Sat. May 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tsunami Circus: Beyond the Forest of Paradise. In the Salt Spring Island Middle School gymnasium. Bring a small pillow to sit on. 7 p.m.
Happy Daze. 1960s rock band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.
Swingin' Into Spring. See Thursday's listing.

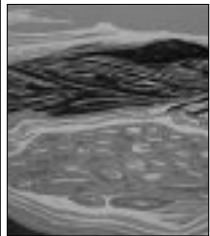
ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at famous event in Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Intro to Tennis. Portlock Park tennis courts. Three different age categories: kids aged six to 11 from 9 to 10 a.m., 12 through 17 from 10 to 11 a.m., and people aged 18 through adult from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Participants should bring a racquet if they have one, but racquets will also be on hand for people to use. Email baseline tennis@telus.net to reserve a spot.

Sat. May 13

ACTIVITIES

Toddler Time at the Library. Stories, songs, rhymes and games best suited to kids ages 3 and under. Saturdays at the Salt Spring Public Library in the children's corner. 10:30 a.m.
Family StoryTime in the Park. Join Salt Spring Public Library program for ages 3 to 6. Parental supervision required. Centennial Park gazebo. 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.
Book Launch: Salt Spring Island Memento By Michael Levy. Launch of new in-depth look at island life, through the lens of Levy, island photographer for over 20 years. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 to 5 p.m.
Art Show Opening: Imprints 2017. Opening reception for exhibit of work by Richard York, Nora Layard, Gillian McConnell, Catherine Tam and Arnold Shives at Duthie Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.



Sun. May 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tsunami Circus: Beyond the Forest of Paradise. See Saturday's listing, except time is 2 p.m.

Sun. May 14

ACTIVITIES

Celebrate 125th Anniversary of St. Mark's Church. The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island invites the community to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the consecration of St. Mark's at Central. Festival Eucharist at 10 a.m. at All Saints By-the-Sea, followed by a light lunch. Evensong will be sung in St. Mark's Church at 3 p.m.



Unitarian Fellowship. A service on "Forgiveness" by by Samer Khaldi, refugee from Syria. Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m.
SSTRA 15th Annual Ride-Walk-A-Thon. Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association fundraiser. Riders and walkers leave at 11 a.m. from 1860 Fulford-Ganges Road through the forest trail and continue on to Burgoyne Bay. Lunch with music to follow. Pledge and entry forms available at www.sstra.ca.
Rural Business Accelerator for Green Business. Learn how to grow your green services business on Salt Spring. Free info session for potential participants and mentors in Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission training program. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Mon. May 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Cross. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

MOPS Open House. All community moms with kids aged 0 to 5 welcome to check out group at Community Gospel Chapel. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. MOPS group will then meet on Mondays beginning May 29.
SSI PARC. Regular meeting of Parks and Recreation Commission. Portlock Park Portable. 5 p.m.

Tue. May 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic Night. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Intro to Squash. See Thursday's listing, except time is 9 a.m.
Book Launch: Karen Connelly's The Change Room. Award-winning writer takes a whole-hearted and unabashed look at marriage, motherhood and sexuality in daring new novel. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.
Trivia Tuesdays. At Moby's Pub. 7 to 10 p.m.
Way of Council. Introduction to a communication process that facilitates inclusivity, promotes compassionate connection, and creates a sense of partnership. Tuesday evenings in May at Salt Spring Wellness Centre. 7 p.m. Info: neithriving@gmail.com.

Wed. May 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Vaughn Fulford. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
GISPA: Under the Rainbow. Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts (GISPA) presents musical inspired by the classic stories known to many as The Wizard of Oz and influenced by the turmoil of Judy Garland's life. Featuring unique student-created choreography, composition and ensemble acting. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.
Salt Spring Poultry Club. With guest speaker Barbara Houston on What Makes Ducks So Special. Farmers' Institute. 1 p.m.
Salt Spring Hospice Film: Mortal. End of the Reel film series presents work by Bobby Sheehan. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Central Community Hall Board of Directors Meeting. Public welcome. Central Hall. 7 p.m.
Songjam. Pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. Spring/summer start time is 8 p.m.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTINGS

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D.W. Salty

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

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- ### CINEMA

 - Going In Style** — Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine and Alan Arkin team up as lifelong buddies who decide to risk it all on a daring bid to knock off the very bank that absconded with their pension fund.

EXHIBITIONS

 - Duthie Gallery** presents Imprints 2017, woodcuts, linocuts, etchings and mixed-media prints beginning with the opening reception for exhibit of work by **Richard York, Nora Layard, Gillian McConnell, Catherine Tam and Arnold Shives** on Saturday, May 13, 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibition continues through June 27.
 - Salt Spring Gallery** welcomes newest member **Susan Haigh** with her exhibition of new flower paintings called Enchantment, which runs until May 14.

- ### EXHIBITIONS

 - Christopher Brayshaw** shows his exhibit titled Maybe Tomorrow at **Fault Line Projects** through May.
 - Elaine Potter's** acrylic and gouache paintings are at **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** through May.
 - Sam Lightman** shows his imaginative photomontage treatments of shells in his **See Shells** exhibit in the **ArtSpring** lobby through May.
 - Wildlife wood carvings by **Jim Dearing** are in the display case in the **ArtSpring** lobby during the month of May.
 - Julia Lucich** shows paintings in the Library Program Room through May.
 - M.C. Benmore** shows photographs in her Salt Spring Goddess series in the hallway at the **Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe**.
 - Judy McPhee** shows photographs with a theme of automobiles at **Embe Bakery's** sandwich shop.

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@driftwoodgmedia.com



4-H sheep pops by for a visit with Emily Surbey and Cuddles.

At left, Zia Jacquest with Daisy.



Swiss brown cow welcomes visitors.



Participants in the sheep-herding demonstration.

RUCKLE HERITAGE FARM Day

Photos by JEN MACLELLAN

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Fitness Expert

Lets Get Moving More

Spring has arrived and with it we experience longer days and an increase in energy levels, and greater motivation to get moving. This might mean working in the garden, walking, golfing, playing tennis or riding your bike. Keep to your regular fitness program it will give you energy for your added activities. As we get busier remember to eat 3 balanced meals and not just grab something on the run. Also try to take 15-20 minutes ever day for yourself to keep yourself balanced. Drink more water as you increase your activities and with the weather getting warmer. Water detoxifies the body, it carries waste away from the cells, dissolves many vitamins and minerals and carries them to cells and regulates body temperature. It's important to drink water throughout the day, because if you feel thirsty you are already dehydrated.

The pool is a great place to workout doing a Aqua Fit class or swimming, with the weather getting warmer you will not overheat and you will feel refreshed. Or come enjoy the hot tub and relax your muscles from the extra activities you are doing.



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Mechanic

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Real Estate

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Determine Your Price Range – Speak with a mortgage broker or lender and have yourself “prequalified” so that your mortgage limit is predetermined. Establish what your down payment is (who is assisting you, or when the down payment will be “liquid” if it is locked into a term deposit or other financial instrument.)

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INTERNATIONAL AID

Salt Spring aid has exciting impact

Kenyan students and
families grateful

BY LYNDA TURNER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Mary Beckett and I recently returned from a four-week trip to Kenya. While in Kakamega, Kenya we continued with the projects that have been supported by Salt Spring for the last eight years.

Goats were once again delivered to HIV+ mothers in Shianda District, making over 360 pregnant nannies delivered to date. With births the total Salt Spring herd is now over 1,500, which provides milk, meat and fertilizers for the mothers and their families. The economic impact of the goats is readily apparent. The families are now more economically secure.

A Mythical Halloween Party held on Salt Spring last October and supported by the Outreach Committee of the Local Anglican Parish provided money for 146 uniforms for children in three schools: Shianda, Musaa and Maraka. These uniforms replaced their old ragged uniforms, thus allowing the children to continue in school.

The November Bridge Tournament sponsored by the Friends of Kenya provided 204 hygiene kits at two schools, Maraka and Handidi. Money also came from SOLID to help these girls attend school every day of the month.

The sale of special Christmas cards plus money from SOLID provided

basic school textbooks at two schools, Shianda and Maraka. While texts were provided in every subject, most were science and math texts. The schools did not have any of these texts before the delivery. Now the large classes have enough books so that students can share.

The chickens donated last year produced enough revenue for the school to buy its first billy and nanny goats.

With money provided by Audrey Wild, sleepers provided by Lisa Sayer, and toques and dollies knitted by Louise Adele and Mollie Colson, 50 layettes were provided to new mothers at Kakamega General and the Shianda Clinic. The strike by local government doctors had just ended, so the maternity wards had just been reopened and the layettes could be delivered.

Money from Ken Rootham provided a 10,000-litre tank and gutters for a rain collection system for Musaa Elementary School and its 1,100 students. The principal was so happy that he installed the system himself in two days.

Food was bought for Grace Orphan-

age in Kakamega. March to July is the famine time in the region. Crops are planted so local farmers have nothing to share with the orphanage. The donated maize and beans, the basic local diet, are enough to get the children through this difficult time. Additional foods, such as rice, cocoa, sausages and more were also provided.

Chickens and a goat were bought for Daisy Special School in Kakamega. The chickens donated last year produced enough revenue for the school to buy its first billy and nanny goats. In addition, Beckett spent a number of afternoons assisting Daisy students with their reading. It needs to be noted that the student who achieved the highest marks in all of Kenya in the Grade 8 examinations in November 2016 was a deaf young man from Daisy Special School — the school that Salt Spring provided extensive assistance to in March of 2016.

Solar lights were provided at four schools to the top boy and girl in Grade 8. Another light was provided to the student who had improved the most during the term. This was done to encourage the students to do their best in the national exams to be held in November. With no electricity in their homes, these students can now study after dark.

The people of Shianda and Kakamega were overjoyed to receive this assistance from their friends in Canada. They kept saying "asante sana" — thank you very much. Thank you, Salt Spring!

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FAITH

Anglicans celebrate St. Mark's 125 years

All welcome to
Sunday events

BY REV. RICHARD STETSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island invites the community to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the consecration of our "mother church," St. Mark's at Central.

A festival Eucharist will be held under the leadership of Bishop Logan McMenamie at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 14 at All Saints By-the-Sea in Ganges, followed by a light lunch. Then at 3 p.m., Evensong

will be sung in St. Mark's Church, which continues to hold regular services on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

On May 15, 1892, before the church was completely finished, Bishop George Hills, the first bishop of the Diocese of British Columbia, consecrated St. Mark's with the assistance of Salt Spring's first resident Anglican priest, J. Belton Haslam. Bishop Hills was ordained in England in 1859 to serve the new and far-flung diocese on Canada's west coast. He resigned in August of 1892 due to health concerns.

The establishment of St.

Mark's was one of his last major acts in the diocese. Bishop Hills had first visited Salt Spring Island in 1861, so St. Mark's was the fulfillment of a long-held hope for a church.

Central settlement was a natural choice of location at the time. Over the years, other churches were built for Anglicans on Salt Spring: St. Mary's at Fulford, St. Paul's in Ganges, which was later replaced after a fire with St. George's and St. Nicholas in Vesuvius (now a private residence).

In the mid-1990s, St. George's grew into All Saints By-the-Sea. Now the

main church of the parish, it looks out over Ganges Harbour and is a centre for the congregation that worships and serves there. A number of community groups and activities, and particularly musical events, also take place there.

Everyone is welcome to join Anglican Christians on this island in looking back over more than a century and a quarter of worship and service, ministry and mission, and in looking forward toward many bright years of continuing service to God and to others in this community and beyond.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Duck expert visits Salt Spring Poultry Club

Cobble Hill farmer shares
insights on Canadian breed
at May 17 meeting

The Salt Spring Poultry Club has invited Barbara Houston to give a talk about her experience with ducks at a meeting set for Wednesday, May 17 at the Farmers' Institute.

According to the club's information, Houston was the first person in B.C. to qualify for animal welfare approval for her Cobble Hill flock of 150 laying ducks. Her chosen breed is the Cayuga, a large dark-green feathered duck of Canadian origin.

Houston's talk titled "What's so special about ducks?" will last about an hour, followed by a question period. If there is enough interest a field trip can be

arranged at a later date to see her flock.

The event is free to poultry club members. Anyone with an interest in learning more about ducks, whether as layers, meat birds or "weeder ducks," is welcome by donation.

Poultry club membership is \$10 a calendar year. Members can join the Google discussion group for buying and selling poultry or getting their questions answered.

Your Island Volunteers

NAME: **Cathy McMahon**

Part of a series of volunteer profiles marking the Canada 150 for 150 Volunteer Challenge. See vcrsaltspring.org for more info.

MAIN ORGANIZATION YOU VOLUNTEER FOR: **Salt Spring Community Services Food Bank**

Q. What are your duties?

Packing grocery bags for our clients, sorting and stocking shelves with donations.

Q. What do you like about volunteering?

It's an opportunity to give back to the community. The friendships established with co-volunteers.

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

We all could be in a position to need the assistance of the food bank at certain times in our work careers due to lay-offs or illness.

Q. Do you volunteer or have you volunteered for other groups as well?

PTAs, canvassing for cancer research and a scrutineer.

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

We are strong team players who enjoy each other's company. At the end of our day we know we have put food on the table for the less fortunate in our community.

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

21 years.



SALT SPRING **FOCUS ON SENIORS** TO ADVERTISE IN THIS POPULAR MONTHLY FEATURE CONTACT 250-537-9933

Friendly Readers program invites participants

Salt Spring Community Services' Wellness Program and Salt Spring Literacy run a program for seniors called Friendly Readers.

Volunteers read to seniors who find reading difficult due to a variety of health issues. Seniors in the program are read to wherever they live, in private homes or seniors residences.

Reading helps seniors (as it does all of us) relax, gives them pleasure and allows them to keep up with current events or areas of

interest. But as we age it can be challenging to keep reading. Some seniors find their eyesight diminishing or suffer cognitive decline that makes reading difficult.

Research has shown that being read to can benefit all, even those with dementia, providing cognitive stimulation, social interaction and meaningful engagement.

Volunteer readers find the practice enriches their lives as well. Jan Jang, a recent Friendly Readers program volunteer, says, "It warms my heart that as I leave I

find my hand clasped between her warm palms and she thanks me so sincerely for coming. I really feel my visit has been worthwhile."

If you would like to volunteer as a friendly reader, or if you are a senior who would like a reader (or you know someone who would be interested), or would like more information, contact Salt Spring Literacy at 250-537-9717 or email literacy outreach coordinator Stella Weinert at sweinert@saltspringliteracy.org.

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- Tips, Tricks and Tools to Protect your Joints - Make daily tasks easier.** Sunday, June 11, 2017 1-3pm
- Exercising Control over Arthritis - Motion is lotion!** Sunday, June 18, 2017 1-3pm
- Gardening with Arthritis - Creative ways to keep gardening with arthritis.** Sunday, July 9, 2017 1-3pm

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IDEAS

Terralingua helps preserve cultures

Island woman's efforts and magazine have big impact worldwide

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

In a world where doom and gloom about environmental and cultural degradation is so pervasive, Salt Spring Island's Luisa Maffi is forging a positive path instead.

With years of research and teaching experience in the fields of anthropology, linguistics and ethnobotany, Maffi certainly believes the situation is acute and that urgent action is required. But through her work with a group called Terralingua and the Langscape magazine she edits, Maffi knows people are working hard around the world to change the dire storyline.

"We feel our message is very timely," she told the Driftwood during a recent interview. "The message is that diversity is the essence of life on the planet and we need that diversity for resilience and for the vitality of the planet."

She said, "There are so many gloomy stories" about how diversity of life in all its forms — in nature and in culture — is threatened, "but in Langscape we are talking about a reality that is not talked about very much and which goes under the radar: People are doing a lot of things around the world to resist this downward slide."

Whether through stories about indigenous people who are revitalizing their traditional language or practices, or about rehabilitation of an area of environmental degradation, the focus of Langscape is positive action, energy and results.

A number of articles highlight initiatives in B.C., including First Nations language projects with the WSANEC (Saanich) and Tsilhqot'in (Chilcotin) peoples.

A sad reality is that a huge gap in traditional language knowledge resulted when First Nations children were kept in residential schools. Because they could not learn their languages at home or use them at school, they were unable to pass on the knowledge to their children. Work by Terralingua and other groups is helping to support First Nations people as they strengthen the use of traditional languages.

"The relationship with the natural world is so extensive and so vital in local communities that loss has tremendous consequences."

LUIA MAFFI, PH.D.
Terralingua co-founder and
Langscape editor

One project saw beautiful picture books of traditional stories created and illustrated by WSANEC children at their tribal school in Brentwood Bay.

As well, a collaboration with a San Francisco-based organization called The Cultural Conservancy saw Terralingua support five youth each from the WSANEC and Tsilhqot'in nations in learning documentary video techniques. The WSANEC youth used their



PHOTO BY DAVID RAPPORT

Luisa Maffi, who has worked in the fields of anthropology, ethnobotany and linguistics to encourage diversity in all forms of life on the planet.

skills to create short SENCOTEN language videos with activities that children and parents can do together at home.

The Tsilhqot'in group created a feature film that was presented at the first Cariboo Chilcotin Film Festival last August.

"They combined interviews with some of the elders with a re-enactment or snippets of the life of a Tsilhqot'in man who lived in the late 1800s, early 20th-century period. He was considered to be a model of what a good Tsilhqot'in man should be."

Maffi has greatly enjoyed working with both the Tsilhqot'in and WSANEC communities.

"I have this feeling of mutual respect and friendship that has developed over time, which is the great reward of doing this work."

Terralingua is a worldwide group co-founded in 1996 by Maffi, whose first academic studies were in linguistics, followed by anthropology and ethnobotany.

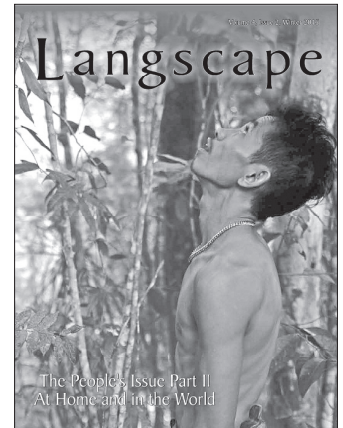
One of Terralingua's board members came up with the name "Langscape," combining the words "language" and "landscape."

The connection between environmental and language issues is not commonly made, said Maffi. But the links are clear to Maffi and her colleagues.

"How much of what you know about the world is encoded and expressed and transmitted through language," she explained, "and that includes everything you know about plants and animals, about the local ecology and how to interact as humans, and how to use and maintain and manage the environment around you. That's what indigenous people have known forever."

She first became aware of the language-environment connection in a big way while studying the Mayan people in southern Mexico. Maffi was learning about their health care, including use of medicinal plants, which led her to interview people using a local health clinic.

From one young man who had taken his sick daughter to the clinic, she discovered that while a common local



Two covers of Langscape, an 80-page magazine published twice a year and edited by Salt Spring's Luisa Maffi.

plant existed to treat his child's condition, he had lost his community's traditional knowledge of healing plants.

"He barely knew the name, didn't know how to identify it or use it anymore. As the language was fading, the knowledge of the plant was fading."

With people heading to the pharmacy or the health clinic instead, self-sufficiency was sacrificed.

"That really struck me so much; what losing knowledge of the language can do. This is just one example and it applies to everything — from agriculture to farming to finding resources in the woods to everything. The relationship with the natural world is so extensive and so vital in local communities that loss has tremendous consequences."

On the positive side, her work with another young Mayan man saw him become a teacher, write a book about his community and help establish an indigenous university.

Stories of resilience and revitalization from around the world and nearby neighbourhoods, including some on Salt Spring Island, are celebrated in Langscape, which is published twice a year with a number of local contributors.

"It covers pretty much the whole world but it is grounded in Canada."

Langscape is available at the Salt Spring Public Library and Maffi is also in the process of expanding its reach by putting single Langscape articles on the Medium platform.

For more information about Langscape and Terralingua, visit www.terralingua.org.



PHOTO COURTESY CHRISTIN BOYD

READY RACERS: Benjamin Atkinson, right, represents the Salt Spring 2nd Vesuvius Scouting group at the annual Kub Kar Rally in Duncan on April 29. Cub Scouts from the Eagle's Rest area of the Gulf Islands, Ladysmith, Chemainus, Lake Cowichan and Duncan got together to race their wooden cars at the Duncan Sportsplex. They were joined by the younger Beavers, who raced their Beaver Buggies. Salt Spring youth are now being accepted for Cubs and Scouts groups that will begin in the fall. Contact Christin at info@christinboyd.ca for Cubs information, and Angie and angie@villatuga.ca for Scouts info. Early registration fees are available until June 15.

IDEAS

Don't be disappointed by rediscoveries

Being first not so important



Bob Weeden

CONNECTIONS

History books make a fuss over folks who discover something big. But we all are explorers, making discoveries and rediscoveries from the time we are toddlers to . . . Gosh! Doesn't 80 years make any difference?

I watched a young grandson explore Kauaian shores from before he could walk. His delights and brief terrors I could read on his face, and I've wondered how he would describe them if he had words.

Boy and Sea and Buoyancy

I am brought to the brink, to the wavering, washing edge of sand and salt; to the suck-bellied, squint-eyed, dance-legged delicious danger of buoyancy; to the thrashing threshold of swimming. I hear sea voices — the roar, the hiss, the lap-and-run, and the sibilance of breeze-blown sand.

I feel the contrary chills and balms of the temperamental ocean, the yielding tug of sugary sand, the bruising, wave-packed beach between storm-up and drain-away. I hold to hands as to life and then let go into the noise and tumble that threaten abduction and settle for stranding. With strong hands under me I learn the breathing pipe and port-holed window opening to the dreaming heave of sunlit shallows. Miracle swims the ornate wrasse under me, swam the silver-gold goatfish under mother at my age, and swam the startle-spotted butterfly fish under grandmother as she led us into this fabled world.

Among sun-struck slabs of

beached coral broken and hollowed into caves, vivid creatures hide and watch me as I watch them back, seeing me big as I see them small. I go to the limit of tiptoe, to the irresistible rise and fall of waves. Where wave from sea meets wave from beach I am a feather tossed into space, beyond recall, beyond beseech.

Still at Sea

When I was a kid, schools made a big deal about Columbus Day. Discovery became a magic word. My first serious research brought me into the wild hills of Alaska, where fabulous discovery must be close! One day I sat down where water ran across alpine scree and saw a strange flower. I sent it to two senior taxonomists. One thought it was a new species, the other a Siberian saxifrage far from home. Possibly I discovered a new flower; certainly I found an argument.

A few years later, traveling on a ferry from Juneau to Haines, Alaska, I sipped coffee as I watched the rugged Coast Range scene slip by. At Haines I drove up the valley of the Chilkat River toward the Canadian border. I stopped for a call of nature, jumped a ditch, scrambled into a cottonwood grove, and, well . . . looked around. Some blue flowers intrigued me. I flattened several between pages of a paperback. Days

later I showed them to a botanist buddy. An odd look came over his face. "Exactly where did you get these?" I told him. He laughed and unbuckled a plant press on his table. He had specimens of the same flower, until then known only from the Cascades of Washington.

"Last week I came to Haines on the ferry, stopped up the road for a call of nature, and found these on a low cottonwood terrace." We owed our discoveries to the same ship-board coffee.

I realized that with seven billion other people wandering around this small planet, I wasn't likely to get famous by finding something new in the woods. If I got special training and cozied up to a lot of money, I could find new stars by the thousands or new bits of quarks by the arithmetic they screwed up.

Too late: I'm 50. So I explored the world of ideas for a while. On a Kauaian beach, for instance, I spotted an unfamiliar cone shell, creamy brown and unmarked, which I brought home as a memento. Then second thoughts assailed me. In a poem, I wrote, "Sea and sand had fashioned life/ and life replied with beauty. / Blind with want, I brought it home/ and now, condemned, we three/ measure out our dissonance:/ the sea, the shell, and me."

Maybe taking the shell was wrong, but at least I had an original idea. Decades later I encountered Ralph Waldo Emerson's poem called Each and All, written 180 years before. He coveted his shells, too. "I wiped away the weeds and foam/ I fished my sea-borne treasures home;/ But the poor, unsightly, noisome

things/ Had left their beauty on the shore/ With the sun and sand and wild uproar."

Get used to it, folks. Discoveries almost always turn out to be rediscoveries. It even happens to scientists. Astrophysicist Alan Lightman (A Sense of the Mysterious) had just finished writing up his studies of the collapse of stars when he read a paper by two Japanese scholars who saw exactly the same pattern.

"I was embarrassed," wrote Lightman. "I was humiliated." Mulling it over, he was amazed that people who had never communicated took on the same question at the same time and reached the same conclusion "within three decimal places." "Wonderful," he thought, "that there is such precision in the world. How little it matters who reveals it!"

I suppose rediscoveries are as essential as first revelations. Each almost-new thing has to find its place in the context of our own lives, in the puzzles of our own times. (A consolation that I'm sure has occurred to thousands before me.)

Robert Graves (Warning to Children) challenged us to open our eyes to the wonders surrounding us wherever we are; wonders within wonders, in fact, like a gift unwrapped that reveals another package to open, with yet another inside. "Who dares to think/ of the fewness, muchness, greatness, rareness/ of this endless only/ precious world... unties the string."

I'll take up that challenge, Mr. Graves. I cannot leave the world alone, / to the parcel forced to turn;/ I must ask how and when and why, / then touch the string, and then untie.

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BERNA ELIZABETH CHESTERS (née Wilson)
 JULY 19, 1942 - APRIL 7, 2017

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Berna, who passed away at the age of 74 following a sudden illness. She will be fondly missed by her children Patrick (Stephanie) and Alison (Andrew); grandchildren Claire, Brianna, Ryan and Charlotte; sister Pam and brother Warren (Jane). She was predeceased by her husband Arthur; parents, Lyle and Colinette, and infant brother, Robert.

Berna was born and raised in Montreal. As a young adult she moved to Vancouver where she worked and obtained her Commerce Degree. After she met her husband Art, she moved to a farm on Salt Spring Island where she raised her children. Following this, she pursued a career in healthcare after graduating from the University of Victoria with her Nursing Degree. Eventually she moved to Saanichton where she spent the last 15 years of her career working as the Cardiac Care Coordinator at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, a position she loved and excelled at. Following her recent retirement, she moved to Langley to be closer to her children and grandchildren.

A memorial service will held for Berna on Saturday, May 27 from 1 to 3 pm at the Victoria Golf Club, 1110 Beach Drive in Victoria. In lieu of flowers, please consider volunteering at or making a donation to a hospice care facility in your local community.

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association

Thursday, May 18, 10am
 At Meadowbrook Lounge, 121 Atkins Rd.

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

MEETING NOTICE
 16 May beginning at 5:15pm

Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District have scheduled a special meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held May 16 2017 at the Training Room Fire Hall No. 1 beginning at 5:15pm.

The business of the meeting concerns collective agreement negotiations and will be conducted in an In-camera session.

Board of Trustees
 Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

Want to learn more about Advance Care Planning?
 Come to the Library on Wednesday May 10 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Questions? Give us a call. 250-537-2770 saltspringhospice.org

PROTECT OUR PLANET... RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY
 Wednesday 17th May, 2017 at 7.00 pm. Public welcome.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Land and Water Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land and Allocation of Water

Take notice that **Port Browning Marina Resort Ltd.** of Pender Island, BC, intends to make application to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Region for a **Licence and Lease Project - Commercial Marina and Water Licence** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Bedwell Harbour Road East, Pender Island.**

A Water Licence application has also been submitted for **Commercial Marina and Water Licence** located on **Bedwell Harbour Road** for the quantity of **35 m3/d**. The Land File Number that has been established for this application is **File 1414530, 0275026** and the Water File Number is **File 1003649**. Written comments regarding this application should be directed to the Section Head at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 or emailed to: AuthorizingAgency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until **June 2, 2017**. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit our website at <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp> for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office."

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Salt Spring Recreational Holdings Ltd.
 Wednesday June 7th - 3pm
 Unit #1 Merchant News 315 Upper Ganges Road Salt Spring Island B.C. V8K 2K4

INFORMATION

ENQUIRIES INVITED FROM VENDORS
 Interested in new Salt Spring Island Outdoor Market Wednesday - Friday middle of Ganges location 250-537-7537

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EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

HELP WANTED

salt spring arts council

The Salt Spring Arts Council is hiring an Outreach & Program Assistant. The successful candidate must be a returning full-time student aged 16-30. Position is subject to funding. This is a full-time summer position, June 5 - Sept 1.

Full posting details: <http://ssartscouncil.com/ssac-hiring-summer-student/>

Deadline for application: **Monday, May 15, 4pm.**

Email your cover letter and resume to: info@ssartscouncil.com

FULL TIME LINE COOK REQUIRED FOR BUSY PUB/RESTAURANT

Looking for qualified applicants who specialize in Canadian cuisine. High school diploma and 2 years experience in the culinary arts in restaurant settings required. Must be a team member, willing to do flexible shifts and weekends, and English speaking.

Job description (but not limited to): Food preparation and cooking full-course meals; keeping kitchen clean and adhering to Food Safe standards.

\$13.50 per hour, medical & dental.

APPLY TO: Moby's Pub Ltd.
 124 Upper Ganges Road,
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CHARITABLE CAUSES

Generosity passed on through credit union program

Nominations also welcome for community grants

Salt Spring's SWOVA group is the first island beneficiary of a new charitable program called Simple Generosity.

Initiated by Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union, Simple Generosity celebrates Canada's 150th anniversary by applauding community volunteerism and supporting local charities and non-profits.

Every week throughout 2017, an individual or team who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to community through their volunteer efforts will be selected from the regions in which First West operates. Those selected can then donate \$1,500, courtesy of First West, to the charity or non-profit organization of their choosing. There will be a total of 52 awards for the province, 15 of which will be selected from neighbourhoods throughout Vancouver Island and the Southern Gulf Islands.

Salt Spring Women Against Violence will receive the \$1,500 via Cherie Geauvreau, who was chosen as the first award recipient.

Geauvreau and Jewel Eldstrom formed Copper Kettle Community Partnership in 2002. Copper Kettle works with many other groups, associations and non-profits on



PHOTO BY DOUG WAHLSTEN

From left, Island Savings rep Travis Dorchak, branch manager Jeff Knutson, Cherie Geauvreau, SWOVA executive director Kiran Dhingra and Volunteer and Community Resources administrator Janine Fernandes-Hayden celebrate Geauvreau's win in the Simple Generosity program, which sees \$1,500 donated to SWOVA.

Salt Spring to help people who are struggling with meeting basic needs. In addition to helping with shelter issues, Copper Kettle runs a not-for-profit community garden.

As part of the Simple Generosity application, Geauvreau's nominator wrote, "Cherie is an exceptional volunteer because of her humility. She cares so passionately

and wears her heart on her sleeve, her often tear-filled eyes empathizing with the people she works so hard to care for. I witnessed a lady come up to Cherie wearing a beautiful 'new' poncho — she was radiant. As she hugged and thanked Cherie, I realized that the radiance she displayed had to do with a gift that Cherie had given her that was much greater than

the poncho itself — it was a gift of compassion."

Of her donation to SWOVA, Geauvreau said, "SWOVA was my first community work on Salt Spring Island and it changed my life. It is out of gratitude that I am happy to give the \$1,500 to SWOVA."

Volunteer and Community Resources is proud to work with

Island Savings on the program.

"As the organization that promotes volunteerism, we are pleased to support Island Savings with this initiative. We welcome all efforts by organizations to highlight individual contributions in the community," said Maryann Bird, vice-chair of the VCR board.

Island Savings has also recently launched another program — Simple Generosity Community Grant. Now through May 25, Simple Generosity is aiming to enhance our communities for children and families by giving out a \$50,000 grant to one non-profit or charitable organization to further a community-focused project, program or initiative. The grant is one of three that First West is distributing to support organizations in the regions it serves—\$150,000 distributed in support of Canada 150.

"It's moving to learn the many stories of amazing people like Cherie that make selfless giving and volunteering a part of who they are and the impact they make. I am excited about our Simple Generosity giving program and I encourage everyone to pay it forward by nominating those people or groups that make meaningful differences in our community," said Jeff Knutson, Salt Spring Island Savings branch manager.

To nominate a volunteer or organization visit the islandsavings.ca website or contact Knutson at 250-538-5003 or jknutson@islandsavings.ca.

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This Week's Horoscope
by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com 1.250.352.6871

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Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) The North Node in Leo is an invitation to identify what makes you extra special. This can activate an interest in art or performance. Any mode of creative activity that supports the expression of latent abilities and talents that you feel passionate about will begin to stir now. Tune in and catch this exciting wave early to make the most of it.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20) Hopefully, over the past year and a half, you were able to identify your creative gifts and passions and begin to develop them more fully. Now it is time to enter into the next effective phase of developing them. Outer recognition is not as important now. It is time to enter the studio, study, laboratory or cave to hone your craft.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) The time has come to more fully share your intuitions, visions, philosophies and inventions with the world. The past 18-months have been a time of refinement and cultivation of your gifts. Now it is time to share them. This could also manifest as wanderlust and journeys to new places. If you can weave both, bonus!

Cancer (June 21-July 22) The North Node in Leo will invite you to establish a more solid foundation. This may well include new ways of earning a living. It could also manifest as building a financial portfolio. Either way, this will require more deliberate focus and less wishful thinking. Seek answers, strategies and advisors and coaches.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) The Lunar North Node in your sign will activate your leadership initiative and independence. Increasing the scope and, hopefully, the quality of your influence is emphasized. You will feel inspired to take risks and will likely go big; bigger than you ever have before. Some of your choices and actions may even be radical.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22) The North Node in the 12th House is summoning you to go within. Ultimately, the goal is to achieve a deepened state of communion with yourself and life in general. This process also includes dissolving mental and emotional patterns which, for the sake of security, you developed over the years. Get ready to dive deep to dissolve subconscious blocks and barriers.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22) You are being invited to increase your awareness of and exposure to others. This can include simply acknowledging individual differences. Yet it can reach wider to new involvements with groups, clubs and friend networks. If it is your destiny, you will even feel inspired to become globally aware and determined to make a difference.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The time has come to take your place among others in positions of leadership and responsibility. At least you will feel the desire to be more fully recognized for your talents and contributions. Activating a greater sense of maturity and integrity in all your interactions is featured. Step forward to be seen and heard.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) It can seem ironic that our higher mind is located at our heart center or chakra. It refers to living our truth, or following a path with heart, or feeling deeply committed to a higher cause, principle or teaching. It can also be described as visionary or seeing a bigger picture. One of or 'all of the above' can apply.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You have entered a powerful cycle of change which will unfold over the course of the next 18-months. It could prove very positive and just what you want and need. However, if you are unaware and resistant, your life could get very complicated. This change has to do with laying full claim to your gifts and talents.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your relationship life is about to take on a whole new meaning. Get ready to get more involved and committed. Since this invariably includes communications, focus on making extra efforts and making improvements as necessary in this department. Patience, diplomacy and a willingness to merge your time, energy and focus with that of others will be required.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) The time has come to make the beautiful dream a beautiful reality. You will be required to build confidence by way of concentration and determination. Focus on bringing your inspirations into material form to serve others and to perpetuate good health. A detailed, intelligent, and refined approach towards developing practical skills to meet your material needs is highlighted.

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GYMNASTICS

Gymnast McIntyre qualifies for nationals

Gold, silver and bronze-medal performances and special award en route

Salt Spring gymnast Darby McIntyre is once again representing B.C. in national championships after a stellar season of competition.

McIntyre, 17, tied for first place all-around at one of the qualifying events, the Twisters Invitational held in Abbotsford. In addition to winning all-around gold, she also won a gold medal on the beam, silver on floor and bronze on vault, and received the Kate Richardson Award of Excellence for her performance, dedication and passion for gymnastics.

Then on April 9 she competed at the B.C. provincial championships in Port Coquitlam, which was also a qualifying event for the Canadian Gymnastics Championships. According to McIntyre's mother Kim, The competition was tight and she placed fourth all-around after a fall from the beam which deducted 0.5 points from her score.

"The gold medal was

within her reach with only 0.425 points separating her and the top-place gymnast."

McIntyre also qualified for the Western Canadian Gymnastics Championships in Brandon, Man., where she earned two bronze medals in floor and vault, and Team B.C. secured a silver medal. It was the fifth time McIntyre competed for Team B.C. at the Western Canadian Gymnastics Championships and her second year as a Level-10 gymnast, the highest level in the junior Olympic program. The Brandon event was held April 27-29.

Because she secured the top placing at the Twisters event, her coach Anna Mataganova earned the honour of coaching Team B.C. at the Western Canadian Championships. McIntyre trains with the Duncan Dynamics club.

Besides attending the Canadian Gymnastics Championships in Montreal from May 23-28, McIntyre was invited to train at a special summer camp in Woodward, Penn. in August.

She attended national championships for the first time last year in Edmonton, winning fourth on floor plus a bronze medal as a member of Team B.C.



Salt Spring Island gymnast Darby McIntyre and her coach Anna Mataganova with medals from the Western Canadian Gymnastics Championships held in Brandon on April 27-29. McIntyre competes at the national level later this month.

GOLF

Bambrick challenge kicks off men's year

Club gears up for Get Out and Golf Day

GOLFTEES

BY MARCIA HOGAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The first leg of the annual Bambrick Cup competition was held on Salt Spring on May 3.

Competitors from Pender Island and Ardmore golf clubs made the trek over to test their games on Salt Spring fairways. After the first round, Salt Spring leads the way by 129 points over Pender Island.

Also up for grabs is the Appleby Cup, an aggregate low-net competition. Salt Spring's team was 50 strokes better than second place Pender Island and Pender led Ardmore by 21 strokes.

Individuals played for the Alf Evans Trophy, which is awarded to the player with the best low-gross score. Salt Spring's own Brian Dunbabin led the way with a 79. Pender's Carl Miller carded a solid 88 and Bill Crawford from Ardmore shot a 91. The next leg of this long-running competition is at Ardmore on May 17.

Meanwhile, on the home front, men's and women's 18-hole and the ladies Thursday nine-hole leagues are underway. Thursday night tournament, Tuesday night therapeutic nine and Sunday morning variety games are all ready to launch. The Monday night ladies begin on May 15. All leagues invite newcomers to join a league of your choice.

Get Out and Golf Day, a National Golf Association/ParticipACTION initiative, has been designated as Sunday, May 28. The ParticipACTION 150 Playlist invites Canadians to participate in a round of golf (No.14 on the playlist), learn more about the sport or take part in golf-related activities at golf facilities in their community. Get Out and Golf Day is a great way to celebrate the tremendous health, social, charity and economic benefits golf delivers in communities from coast to coast.

As Canada's most played sport, nearly 5.7 million Canadians enjoy more than 60 million rounds of golf annually at 2,346 golf facilities from coast to coast. It is a life-long activity that adds five healthy years to your life. To celebrate our nation's 150th anniversary, Jeff Calderwood, CEO of National Golf Course Owners Association Canada stated, "There is no better way to develop our sense of community than hitting the links with family and friends."

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