



**Crazy race**  
Round Salt Spring report PAGE 20

**Families get active**  
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Salt Spring Elementary School  
PAGE 15



Live **5210** Playbox

# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, May 24, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 21 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**YES, THEY'RE NO. 1:** A jubilant Quw'utsun team celebrate winning the coveted Challenge Cup trophy as the top men's competitive division team at the annual soccer tournament on Salt Spring. See story on Page 19.

**WILDLIFE CONFLICT**

## Cougar re-emerges with donkey attack

Beloved pet killed at Mount Maxwell farm

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A 10-year-old donkey named Farley is the latest victim of an elusive cougar that has killed numerous livestock on Salt Spring this year.

Caroline and Andy Hickman of Gander's Hatch Farm lost a beloved pet Saturday night after a veterinarian determined the animal could not recover from its injuries. A tenant of the Mount Maxwell area farm had discovered the grievously wounded animal in his pen along with his companion Maggie the mule, who was unharmed.

Farley and Maggie made headlines once before under happier circumstances, when they staged a great escape from the Salt Spring Fall Fair in 2013 and were then recovered nearby after 16 hours of freedom. Losing him now has left Caroline Hickman depressed and upset. She also feels a cougar that will attack animals of this size won't be intimidated by people.

"This cougar has been killing things all over the island. They're cats — they're the most efficient killers on the planet after humans," she said.

Hickman has narrowed the time of the attack down to around 7:30 p.m. Saturday, when there was still plenty of daylight. Judging from the bite and scratch marks the cougar left behind, it must have sprung into the pen from the top of the dammed edge of a nearby pond directly onto the donkey's back. There were bite marks between his ears, his shoulders were raked, and there were scratches on his back legs.

COUGAR continued on 2

**HOUSING CRISIS**

## Housing shortage impact studied

Delegation to encourage cottage legalization

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Community Economic Development Commission is taking on the island's affordable housing problem with new research and advocacy work.

Problems in recruiting and maintaining workers and the resulting impact on operations are being felt by all the island's major employers, from the health and school districts to the financial world and the res-

taurant industry, according to information that CEDC commissioner Laura Patrick collected over the past month.

Patrick was tasked to start a preliminary investigation into how housing might be impacting the economy at the commission's last meeting on April 20. Since then she has interviewed 18 local employers who represent over 900 permanent workers.

Speaking at a mini-forum at Thursday afternoon's economic development com-

mission meeting that involved local government officials and representatives from the finance sector, Patrick described how the research activity was positively perceived.

"They were so pleased we came and asked," Patrick said. "Employers were so passionate about the issue, and the need was so urgent, it was quite emotional."

CEDC continued on 2

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Farley the donkey, seen at the Salt Spring Fall Fair in 2015, did not survive a cougar attack near Mount Maxwell Saturday evening.

DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

## Conservation office complaints drop off

### COUGAR

continued from 1

"The only thing I don't know is what the mule did to scare it off. You don't see, you can only guess," Hickman said.

The B.C. Conservation Officer Service had planned to capture the cougar after a number of livestock kills were reported through February and March, but tracking efforts were not successful. Responding to a Driftwood request for an update on the situation on May 12, conservation officer Mark Kissinger said they had not had any new complaints for some time.

The Hickman farm actually experienced a possible attack last week, when a lamb was pulled over the fence by its head — but they weren't sure at the time what animal was involved. Hickman said the wounds and damage that Farley incurred left no doubt, however.

Ted Akerman, who grew up tracking cougars with hounds, confirmed the source and also helped put Farley down after it was known he couldn't be saved.

Sadly, Farley should have had many years left to live as donkeys can reach 30 years of age.

"He was young and he was healthy. We'd just done his feet and he was off in the fresh fields," Hickman said. "We do everything we can to make their lives happy and I feel I let him down."

No one from the conservation office was available for a response as of Driftwood press time on Tuesday.

## Legalizing suites suggested to ease housing burden

### CEDC continued from 1

In analyzing the data with help from her daughter Gwen, a commerce student at Queen's University, Patrick found that local employers are definitely feeling the strain. Of those reporting in so far, 53 per cent said that housing had a significant impact on their ability to recruit and retain workers and 41 per cent found there was a moderate impact.

In addition, 47 per cent found their operations were directly affected by employees' housing needs. Employers have had to spend more on the recruiting process, close business days early or suspend services because of not having the necessary staff, and seen negative effects to their long-term planning abilities. Some employers that would be better served by seasonal help are finding ways to make jobs year-round and therefore more attractive.

Some employers are even investing in housing themselves in order to recruit and keep staff. Country Grocer and Gulf Islands Brewery have expansion plans in development that include rental units for employees, while Moby's has already purchased a home for that purpose.

Islands Trust trustee Peter Grove applauded this initiative as one way of meeting the need, but CEDC commissioner Randy Cun-

ningham pointed out that many islanders don't have the space or extra resources required.

"I think it's unrealistic for employers to come up with appropriate housing," Cunningham said.

Island Savings branch manager Jeff Knutson, who attended the meeting as a guest speaker, said in his field the housing crunch has made it difficult to find staff who have the right skills and education for the job. The credit union has a good training program, but it means extra time is required to develop employee strengths.

The effect is not restricted to low-income workers like baristas. The housing shortage impacts the ability to retain healthcare professionals like nurses and care-aides, and more experienced RCMP officers. Salt Spring's CRD director Wayne McIntyre reported housing was a major topic of concern during his annual meeting with the local RCMP detachment's commanding officer, who said established members with families aren't willing to apply.

Housing — both rental and entry-level purchase — has been consistently identified as a primary need in island surveys. Based on anecdotal information from real estate agents, Patrick said reasons for the new increased urgency may be related to too-hot housing markets in Victoria and Vancouver. A 2015 Salt Spring Housing Council study found 45 per cent of its 188

respondents were living in rental accommodations, but available stock may be decreasing.

"People are selling their homes and they're making a lot of money, and they're not leaving the area. They're coming out here," Patrick said.

**"Having 'workers' housing' may be a trend — but having a good range of available housing is a healthier model."**

Laura Patrick  
Community Economic  
Development Commission

"A lot of people that were holding onto homes as investments are now selling them, because the market is exciting, and they're living here. And that's what's causing some of the people who've had the same rental of six, seven, eight years [to be] out."

Changing demographics also relate to retirement-age people choosing the island's favourable climate and community.

"We have a growing population of people with grey hair," commissioner Curt Firestone observed. "With their lifetime savings they

can afford to live here, especially those that have been successful professionally. But the workers — we've not made any accommodation for them."

Participants at the meeting warned against creating a special class of "worker housing" to warehouse specific types of employees, however. They spoke about needing a more diverse offering to meet a full spectrum of needs.

"There's a worry that we're creating a have and have-not island, and an elitist island," said commissioner Francine Carlin, adding this would only increase the problem by reducing economic diversity.

"Having 'workers' housing' may be a trend — but having a good range of available housing is a healthier model," Patrick agreed.

Grove said the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee is aware of the housing problem and would like to help solve it. Without having the ability to own land or act as a developer, its role must be limited to helping worthy projects succeed.

Several are now in the application process that could considerably increase the number and types of affordable housing units available in Ganges, with both rental and purchase options planned. These include the Salt Spring Commons project by Salt Spring Community Services, a CRD affordable housing development and the private Dragonfly

Commons micro-homes, all located on or near Drake Road. IWAV's approved expansion project at Croftonbrook will open affordable housing to seniors and the hard to house.

Grove suggested a Salt Spring Local Trust Committee project to legalize all suites and cottages for long-term rental accommodation will go a long way toward opening up available units. A pilot project that allowed secondary suites within specific areas and with specific conditions started in 2013.

"The low-hanging fruit is cottages. We have way too many empty cottages on the island," Grove said.

The LTC put the expansion project on its list of top priorities in July 2016 and then removed it again this spring, though Grove said he suspected that was a temporary situation and it would be moved back soon.

CEDC commissioners voted to bring a delegation to the LTC to encourage the local government body both to pursue legalization of secondary suites and cottages, and to reduce the three-acre minimum lot size on which cottages are permitted.

Other steps the commission plans to take are to continue collecting data, to find ways to open the dialogue on worker housing in the community, and to expand the information under the Live and Work section of its website opportunity.ca.

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# NEWSBEAT

**Heads up!**  
**Invasive Species Drop-off Day:**  
 Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Rainbow Road Pool parking lot

## BIKE TO WORK WEEK

# Embracing a challenge: Bike commuting on Salt Spring

Hills part of daily life

BY DAWN HAGE  
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR +  
 GAIL SJUBERG  
 DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

With a daily commute that includes both Ganges Hill and Cranberry Road, one might assume Salt Spring Centre School teacher Mariko Ihara would require a car to handle those hills.

But this committed bike enthusiast spurns a motorized ride and embraces the challenge, finding adventure, inspiration and multiple health benefits as she bikes to work every day.

Ihara has been biking and using public transit for over 16 years. Her passion began out of convenience, where biking and busing in a city made more sense than investing in a car.

"After awhile, I got so into it, I couldn't see any reason to switch," she explained. "I think there are enough cars on the road. It's a physical life and an awesome challenge."

Her commute is 7.8 kilometres, which takes her around 35 minutes, given the hill factors.

"I'm a slow and steady rider," said Ihara. "But the hills have gotten flatter over the months."

She avoided Cranberry at first as adding a second steep hill was too much after the intense Fulford-Ganges Road hill, but, over time, she incorporated the shortcut to Blackburn Road via Cranberry and experienced the more natural qualities of a quieter side road.

"I have daily wildlife sightings," she

said. "Deer, eagles, owls, it's a great perk, being on the bike, breathing fresh air, feeling in tune with my surroundings."

Other benefits to a bike commute include cardio exercise that is part of a daily routine without need to schedule special time, and intimately experiencing the environment and weather. Ihara also feels energized before she begins her work day and finds the ride home gives her an opportunity to debrief and unwind.

Winter conditions add more challenges, with this past winter being especially difficult. One stormy day, Ihara found herself breaking fresh snow with her bike at the yoga centre and then discovered that she was the only one who had managed to make it to school through the snow.

Ihara has generally found drivers to be courteous but wishes more would use their indicators before making turns. Having experienced collisions with cars in the past, she makes herself highly visible with a reflective vest, bright yellow pannier covers and lights after sundown.

Road conditions can also create challenges such as a particularly treacherous section on Fulford-Ganges Road near Alders Road where the pavement has a diagonal seam that unevenly divides the lane. Cyclists are forced to either take the middle of the lane and risk fast traffic flying down the hill or take to the gravelly, uneven shoulder, neither choice being ideal. Ihara chooses the lane if traffic is calm or slows down so she can safely manage the shoulder.

One day last week she had to ride in the driving lane in that spot and

was verbally abused by the driver of a truck for doing so. But the Motor Vehicle Act stipulates that cyclists may use more of the roadway in areas where it is unsafe to cycle due to road conditions.

Ihara urges drivers to please "share the road" with cyclists.

Despite the physical demands and occasional struggles with infrastructure, Ihara believes that replacing your car with a bike, even occasionally, can be a life-changing experience.

"Where there are dramatic hills, there are also dramatic vistas," she explained. "It feels so good to be outside and experience the environment first hand."

For those that are new to cycling, Ihara recommends getting set up with a solid, sturdy, well-oiled and serviced working bike with a comfortable seat, good brakes and tires.

"Don't be afraid to start by going partway to work or riding one way and taking the bus home," she suggests.

As you adjust to the routine, you can add more distance and slowly transition from car to bike.

"It would be great to see more bike commuters on the road," said Ihara. "It's fun to wave to fellow cyclists and, after a while, you start to see the same faces and feel a sense of community."

One of the people Ihara sees most days is Devin Milner. He cycles from Fairway Drive near St. Mary Lake to his job at the Harbour Authority office at the Centennial Dock.

"I started commuting last year when my car broke down," said Milner. "I enjoyed it so much I just kept doing it after I got my car fixed."



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Mariko Ihara en route to work as a teacher at Salt Spring Centre School.

Milner also rides his bike between the docks in town to save time.

With tangible economic, environmental, health and fitness benefits and an opportunity to feel and connect with the natural world, a bike commute can be the perfect way to start and end your working day.

## Bike to Work Week

May 29-June 4 is Bike to Work Week. Register at [www.biketowork-week.ca](http://www.biketowork-week.ca).

A special event is set for Saturday, June 3 in Ganges, and two celebration stations have been arranged to date.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Impaired drivers caught

Salt Spring RCMP officers were kept busy over the past week, responding to over 80 calls for service.

The detachment notes islanders will likely have seen numerous road safety checks during the recent past as

they have stepped up efforts to make roadways safer. As a direct result of these check stops, two drivers received 90-day driving prohibitions over the past week and one other driver received a three-day prohibition.

Members from the local detachment have also been conducting foot patrols in community parks. Several

park-goers had their liquor disposed of this week.

As the busy summer season approaches, community members can expect to see members of the detachment out in full force in an effort to keep the community safer. Efforts will be made to reduce speed in identified park areas where the posted speed limit is 30 km/h.

### SAR teams at Erskine

Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue's rope team and search members were called out Sunday after a hiker reported finding a backpack on a steep cliff area of Mount Erskine.

Search manager Chuck

Hamilton said the hiker saw the backpack on a steep ledge and alerted police Saturday evening. A total of 16 people on rope and ground search crews who went out the following day spent between seven and eight hours ensuring there was not an injured or lost person further down or at the bottom of the cliffs.

"There was no sign of any-

one and nobody reported missing, but you've got to look," Hamilton said. "You have to see in the interest of safety and someone's potential well-being."

A photo of the backpack was posted online to see if the owner could be located. Hamilton said SAR would be giving the backpack to the RCMP detachment.

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Saturday parking solutions floated at CEDC meeting

Ambassadors idea gets mixed reaction

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Parking issues and access to downtown Ganges and the market on Saturdays have become a major issue for a local group concerned with Salt Spring's economic health.

The island's Community Economic Development Commission passed a motion Thursday to work with stakeholder groups, including the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce and other appropriate CRD commissions, to try to find a solution after discussing Saturday parking congestion.

"To me the issue of access to the market on Saturdays is an embarrassment on the island," Carlin said.

Possibilities to be examined include the leasing of buses or vans to shuttle residents, visi-

tors and workers to the market and vicinity during seasonal business hours. Commissioner Curt Firestone said his investigation into hiring school buses for the Tour des Îles festival suggested this could be done for \$600 to \$700 per day.

Parks manager Dan Ovington suggested the commission might be stepping outside its mandate with such a motion, and noted the Salt Spring Transportation Commission has a parking study budgeted for this year, for which staff are now preparing the terms of reference.

Carlin countered that the matter was not solely a transportation issue but had more to do with shopping and the island's economy.

"This is a solution that does not in any way conflict with the parking study," CEDC chair Darryl Martin affirmed.

The motion received unanimous consent.

Commissioners were less

impressed with the potential in the Parking Ambassadors Pilot Project, which had been outlined earlier in the meeting. CRD director Wayne McIntyre helped formulate the proposal after parking issues were raised by the Parks and Recreation Commission, with a model used in North Vancouver during the 2010 Olympic Games as a starting point.

Ovington explained the plan would involve having the Chamber of Commerce hire summer students for two busy Saturdays — Tour des Îles weekend on June 23 to 25 and the following Saturday for Canada Day. The "ambassadors" would talk to drivers who were attempting to park in inappropriate places and let them know about open lots further away from the waterfront such as the Rainbow Road Pool and ArtSpring overflow areas. Ambassadors would be trained by visitors centre representatives and would also

hand out maps and provide news about the Chamber's 150 Days of Fun program.

A CRD grant-in-aid of \$2,500 would be required to fund the program, which would also include installing some permanent signage.

CEDC commissioners appreciated the attempt to resolve the long-standing issue but felt other solutions would have a better result. Firestone, who is coordinating the 2017 Tour des Îles festival, said that event won't add more traffic to Ganges because people will be arriving by passenger vessel rather than car.

"I don't think Canada Day will have a big influx of visitors, especially with what's happening in Victoria," he added. "I think Canada Day will be important for us who live here."

Commissioner Janice Harkley, who owns the Salt Spring Mercantile, said in her experience it's not easy telling people they

can't park somewhere, even as the owner of private property.

"We have that problem in Fulford and tomorrow I will be the parking ambassador in my parking lot," she said.

Harkley suggested a better fix might be encouraging the people who work downtown to use the further away parking spots on Saturdays.

Carlin argued the critical issue is not that visitors unfamiliar with the island need help finding parking, but that people who live on Salt Spring don't want to go into town on market days. She also said sending people to the public pool and then not providing a means of getting downtown won't provide a solution, especially for those who need closer access because of their physical limitations.

The parking pilot idea did not require a vote at the CEDC table. Ovington said he will report their feedback to the other groups.

## IDEAS

# Economy and environment explored at next Forum event

David Suzuki Foundation CEO makes visit

BY SS FORUM

Environmentalists who oppose bitumen pipelines to the B.C. coast are often portrayed as job-killing idealists.

As Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says, "No country would find 173 billion barrels of oil in the ground and leave them there."

But can we really have a vibrant economy as well as a healthy environment?

And how do we find our way to a sustainable future?

The Salt Spring Forum is delighted to host Peter Robinson — CEO of the David Suzuki Foundation and former CEO of Mountain Equipment Co-op — on Friday, May 26 at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring to discuss these and other important questions.

Robinson's wide-ranging career has provided him with a unique perspective when it comes to environmentalism, business and leadership.

For the past nine years, Robinson

has served as CEO of the David Suzuki Foundation, one of Canada's best-known environmental organizations. He led the expansion of the foundation's activities to the national and international levels.

Before this, Robinson served as the CEO of one of Canada's favourite businesses: Mountain Equipment Co-op. Under his leadership, MEC doubled in size and increased its annual sales by roughly \$100 million, while maintaining strong ethical sourcing policies and sustainable building and business practices.

Robinson previously served as the CEO

of BC Housing, which develops and manages housing for some of the province's most vulnerable residents. He began his career working as a park ranger in wilderness areas throughout B.C. and was decorated for bravery by the Governor General of Canada.

Robinson has also done humanitarian work with the Red Cross in Rwanda and asylum seekers in B.C. Additionally, he currently serves as a director of Imagine Canada, an organization which supports charities across the country.

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## STEWARDSHIP

# Bumper crop of stewards up for Trust awards

Individual and groups nominated

The 15th Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program received a hefty number of nominations for both individuals and groups.

The awards recognize people for work that supports the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique environment and amenities.

The activities nominated include providing community support for seniors and families, volunteering for community projects, developing a natural burial cemetery, promoting arts and culture, raising awareness of land, marine and cultural heritage, promoting local food sustainability, wildlife rescue and conservation projects.

"The islands are a special place, and this year's stewardship awards nominees represent the dedication, commitment and care needed to preserve the unique communities, culture and environment of our islands," said Trust Council chair Peter Luckham. "The Islands Trust Council is grateful to the people and groups working every day to build the capacity of our communities to look after each other and our environment, today and into the future."

## Organization Nominations

- Denman Island Memorial Society for creating the Denman Island Natural Burial Cemetery.
- Gabriola Arts Council for 20 years of supporting and enhancing the artistic, cultural and social environment (two nominations).
- Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society for 38 years of providing health care services.
- Lasqueti Island Emergency Dispatch Advisory Committee for fostering community engagement.
- Mayne Island Assisted Living Society for community services to enhance islanders' quality of life.
- Mudge Island Citizens Society for establishing and operating the Mudge Island Citizens Society.
- Salt Spring Seniors Services Society for providing the Salt Spring Seniors Centre Driving Program.
- Saturna Community Club for 80 years of promoting social and environmental well-being.

## Individual Nominations

- Bob Turner of Bowen Island for raising awareness and promoting conservation of

Howe Sound.

- Bob Weeden of Salt Spring Island for 21 years of leadership in conservation and environmental stewardship.
  - Brenda Guiled of Salt Spring Island for advocating for community sustainability and active transportation.
  - Everhard van Lidth de Juede of Bowen Island for 30 years of fostering ecological sustainability.
  - Jacinthe Eastick of Gabriola Island for community involvement.
  - John Peirce of Gabriola Island for securing a cross-border conservation covenant and trail licenses.
  - Karen Ethridge of Hornby and Denman Island for 15 years providing leadership in community health care.
  - Laura Matthias of Salt Spring Island for protecting, restoring and stewarding the natural environment.
  - Liz Ciocea of Gabriola Island for 30 years of advocating for wildlife and the environment.
  - Michelle Catherine Nelson of Bowen Island for food sustainability initiatives and community involvement.
- Islands Trust Council will select the recipients during its quarterly meeting on Lasqueti Island from June 20 to 22. Visit [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/csa](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/csa) to learn more.

ENVIRONMENT

# CRD continues to explore wastewater possibilities

St. Mary Lake recharge rejected

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Capital Regional District is continuing to explore how to best make use of the high-quality treated wastewater that currently gets piped out to Ganges Harbour, but staff have determined that water won't be filling up the St. Mary Lake reservoir anytime soon.

Local area director Wayne McIntyre asked senior CRD staff in Victoria to report on the possibility of putting treated wastewater from Ganges sewer into the lake, which has reached or is near the limit at which water can be drawn down in recent drought years.

While an environmental impact study would be required to confirm the probable effect on aquatic life and human health, based on preliminary analysis staff have recommended to discontinue the project before incurring the \$40,000 to \$50,000 costs of such a study. The results are likely to be unfavourable, they say.

McIntyre admitted the idea may have been far-fetched, but said the report has at least provided more data on the wastewater composition in comparison to other sources.

"It was sort of just grasping at straws and finding out what's possible," McIntyre said. "And now we know what's possible and we can move forward."

**"Indirect potable reuse typically requires secondary treatment and a number of tertiary treatment steps."**

CRD STAFF REPORT

The staff report notes two previous water reclamation studies in 2004 and 2009 identified Ganges Harbour Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent as being suitable for irrigation and other potential non-potable reuses. At this point there is no infrastructure

for delivery or storage of the treated water, but McIntyre said talks are in progress with School District 64 about possibly irrigating playing fields with the water. Fields had to be completely reseeded following drought watering restrictions last year.

In addition, CRD staff are currently investigating the potential to reuse effluent as wash water at the Burgoyne Bay waste disposal facility and the Malivue Estates water treatment plant. An application for these reuse options is currently in preparation.

Staff recommended ending the investigation into using effluent to fill St. Mary Lake because although Ganges Harbour effluent is of relatively high quality, it has never been formally assessed with respect to indirect potable reuse.

"Indirect potable reuse typically requires secondary treatment and a number of tertiary treatment steps, depending on the environmental sensitivity of the receiving waterbody, followed by disinfection," the report explains.

Water quality issues at St. Mary Lake, such

as seasonal algal blooms driven by nutrient loading, are another concern, as the "Integrated Watershed Management Plan for St. Mary Lake recommends that external nutrient sources into the lake be reduced and that internal nutrient sources either be reduced or managed in some manner."

Phosphorus and other nutrient concentrations in the treatment plant effluent are from one to three times higher than those in St. Mary Lake. As well, sewage treatment does not completely eliminate wastewater contaminants, so there is a risk of introducing new elements into the sensitive lake environment.

Staff found the cost of adding treatment to remove these concerns would be too high to explore further.

McIntyre said Friday he is still committed to finding ways that wastewater can be used more efficiently. Some districts, for example, are recharging groundwater aquifers, and non-potable functions for Salt Spring are still being explored. Further reports are expected.

BC FERRIES

# Exemptions considered for unpopular 'below decks' policy

Announcement expected in June

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BC Ferries may offer some passengers relief to its plan to ban passengers from closed vehicle decks.

The company announced in December that new rules would be coming as BC Ferries aims to meet Transport Canada regulations. As well as a proposed complete ban on smoking, the company said Transport Canada regulations that prohibit passengers from remaining on enclosed car decks would be implemented in the coming year. The regulations were established in 2001 after international ferry disasters involving both fire and flooding.

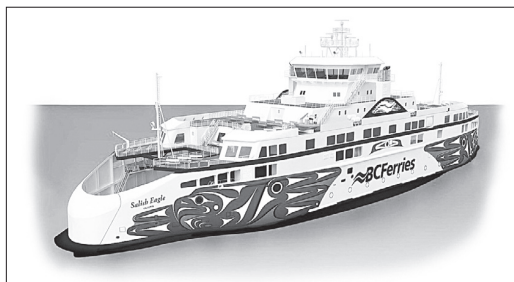


IMAGE COURTESY BC FERRIES

An artist's rendering of the Salish Eagle. Transport Canada regulations against passengers staying on lower decks will apply on the new Gulf Islands vessels.

Vocal opposition from truck drivers and other users brought about a delay as the company looked at its options, which will now include offering an exemption in some individual cases.

Speaking at a meeting between BC Ferries and the Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee on May 11, president and CEO Mark Collins said the rules will apply on the new Salish-class vessels coming to the Gulf Islands,

as well as the Spirit-class serving Tsawwassen-Swartz Bay. However, he said there will be encouragement and education rather than "hard enforcement," as passengers are responsible for following safety guidelines themselves.

"If they refuse to go, passengers will have to realize there are consequences if they don't comply," Collins said.

"We will be vigorously urging people to comply because this is a matter of their personal safety."

Collins said it will be possible for passengers to apply to the ship's captain for an exemption to the rules if their circumstances make it difficult, for example due to health reasons or if they are travelling with an animal that can't be left alone. The corporation is currently in the pro-

cess of defining what the permitted circumstances might be.

Collins added that Transport Canada had previously accepted an "alternative compliance regime" in which ferry crew regularly checked the lower decks, but said this is no longer the case.

A formal announcement of the new policy is expected in June, with full roll-out in the fall. Vehicle passengers can still remain in their cars on open-sided decks.

Designated pet areas will be relocated to open decks to meet the regulations.

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GANGES

# Another Tree House puzzle piece gets put into place

PARC to grant licence of occupation

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission has approved a licence of occupation with the Tree House Café for the small undeveloped portion of Manson Road that the CRD has acquired from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

While the Salt Spring Transportation Commission has been more directly involved in negotiations, PARC is one of the few commissions able to own land and therefore the lease came its way, CRD staff engineer Keith Wahlstrom explained.

The one-year agreement permits café

owners Mark and Terena LeCorre to lease 150 square feet for outdoor seating at a cost of \$23 per square foot, or \$287 per month, from May through September this year.

Under the agreement, the café will be required to keep a pedestrian corridor open with access to the boardwalk and Purvis Lane. Liquor sales will be permitted subject to attaining a special occasion licence and meeting other conditions, including insurance coverage.

The Tree House has a separate agreement for outdoor seating with the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island, which leases the infilled portion of the area through Fisheries and Oceans Canada for its small craft harbour operations at Kanaka Wharf.

**Jim Pattison**  
**Subaru** victoria

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# OPINION



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

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



## EDITORIAL

# Sharing the road

**W**ith Bike to Work Week hitting the streets next week, it's a perfect time to give bicycle commuting a whirl on Salt Spring Island.

It's assumed that only crazy people would commit to regularly travelling from home to a workplace by bicycle on this island. Our roads have few dedicated bike lanes or even wide shoulders but many hills, blind corners and surfaces in a poor state of repair. It's hardly the kind of infrastructure that invites regular cycling.

Despite the obstacles to cycling on Salt Spring Island, an increasing number of people are doing it and loving it. They benefit their own health, arrive at work in top mental form, save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions while they're at it.

### THE ISSUE:

Bicycle commuting

### WE SAY:

Drivers should share roads

Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands have a dedicated page on the [www.biketowork.ca](http://www.biketowork.ca) website, where people can sign up even if they're only planning to ride a bike on one day of the week. Every kilometre counts.

Last year 66 individuals on 25 teams participated in Bike to Work Week on Salt Spring, covering a collective 2,333 kilometres and burning an estimated 69,979 calories. Some 506 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions were saved.

Province-wide last year almost 37,000 people in 52 regions or communities took the challenge.

Three "celebration stations" will take place during the week: May 30 at the Islands Trust office, June 1 at the Driftwood office, both at 8 a.m., and June 3 outside of the Ganges fire hall from 10 am. to 2 p.m.

Assuming more cyclists will be on the road next week, Salt Spring drivers are urged to be more vigilant and considerate, sharing the road as the Motor Vehicle Act requires them to do. Cyclists must travel as far to the right of a paved road as possible, but can use more of it when poor pavement or shoulder conditions dictate they must do so.

With a bit of heightened awareness and courtesy, we can make bicycle commuting less of an oddity and share the benefits of fewer cars, cleaner air and healthier islanders all-around.



VIEWPOINT by Bob Mackie

# Bike to Work Week is back for 2017

Bike to Work Week is back but it almost wasn't.

In 2016 the previous BTWW coordinator had to step in again, despite not really wanting to, because no new coordinator was found.

That was still the case by the time of the 2017 Island Pathways annual general meeting in February. As the chair of Island Pathways' Bicycle Working Group, I was going to drop BTWW to concentrate on the Salish Sea Trail Network project and having a safe bikeway for locals and cycling tourists through Salt Spring. It was announced at the Island Pathways AGM that there would be no BTWW this year. However, there was a desire expressed by the membership at that meeting to continue with BTWW, which runs from May 29 to June 4. Despite the deadline having passed, Island Pathways fortunately was able to register "Salt Spring and Other Gulf Islands" on [www.biketowork.ca](http://www.biketowork.ca) for 2017.

If you cycle, would like to cycle or are just interested in safer active transportation on Salt Spring; this year's Bike to Work Week special event is for you. It will be held on June 3 just across from the Saturday market near the Ganges fire hall. There will be some interesting booths on the Salish Sea Trail, Ganges pedestrianization and other information. There will be representatives from Bikemaps.org, local bike shops and there will be some electric bikes.

During Bike to Work Week there will be "celebration stations" with refreshments and treats for cyclists at the Islands Trust office (500 Lower Ganges Road) on Tuesday, May 30 at 8 a.m. and at the Driftwood office (328 Lower Ganges Road) on Thursday, June 1 at 8 a.m.

I think we should bear in mind that Island Pathways actually evolved from a safety path committee. On July 21, 1982, Pauline Rimmer of Vancouver was killed while cycling on Galiano. According to an article in the Nov. 17, 1982 Driftwood, "Coroner Hugh Ross of Ganges recommended that the department of highways and the provincial government's tourism department consider constructing bicycle paths, particularly along the roads leading to ferry terminals."

The government departments may have considered it and decided not to.

That was 35 years ago.

In 1992, Art Charbonneau responded to 400 letters from Salt Spring Island residents requesting a road design that includes safe bicycle and pedestrian pathways. He said their bicycling policy "will include road construction standards to accommodate cyclists."

That was 25 years ago.

There have been many studies, petitions, surveys, task forces and all manner of citizen initiatives and government responses in the intervening years. On April 3, 2017 a cyclist was badly hurt coming down Fulford-Ganges Road into Ganges village. He is getting better but it will be a long recuperation.

That was last month.

Something needs to be done. It is important not only for the individuals involved but for our community. Let's get a proper safe bikeway through this island.

*The writer chairs Island Pathways' Bicycle Working Group and is coordinating Salt Spring's Bike to Work Week in 2017.*

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

## Would you consider commuting by bicycle?

Yes  No

Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://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:

## Should SSI vacation rental rules be considered?



# Driftwood

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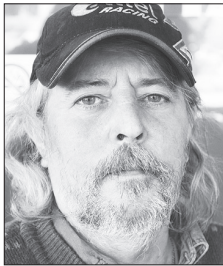
# ISLAND VOICES

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "To me the issue of access to the market on Saturdays is an embarrassment on the island."**

FRANCINE CARLIN, COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

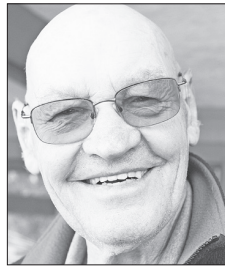
## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked: What would help solve the parking congestion downtown on Saturdays?**



**JIM WHEATLEY**

*We need an underground parking lot under the park.*



**PHILIP LAKE**

*Build an outer road and have more parking around it? The bypass around Mouat Park is an old idea but it never went anywhere.*



**ISABEL ASHALL**

*I do agree it's a very serious problem, but I really don't have a solution.*



**JOEL SHAVER**

*I like the idea of a shuttle. It would probably be well used.*



**MARIE BARCLAY**

*I've always thought maybe the park beside Thrifty's should have been used for more parking, or people could park farther away.*

## 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

### In the wrong direction

In the May 10 Driftwood, an article by Andrew Okulitch promotes the Site C dam because of the many advantages major hydro projects have over other sources of electric generation, and I do not dispute what he says in that regard.

However, most projects have both positive and negative considerations which should be taken into account. He is inclined to dismiss the article by Richard Kerr in an earlier Viewpoint

published April 26, suggesting it is flawed by too narrow an understanding of how electrical systems work and by failing to look far enough into the future.

We need to remember that Site C was forced to go ahead by our province's premier, who surely has no better understanding of how electrical systems work than those Okulitch criticizes. Not only that, it was done with the extraordinary exclusion of review by the BC Utilities Commission, the very body whose legislated function is to bring expert capability and procedures —

through public hearings and staff analysis — to determine whether or not a proposed project is required for "public convenience and necessity."

The commission would have carefully examined both the positive and negative consequences — of which there are many — of Site C being constructed, and we all could have been better informed.

As to looking far into the future, we must learn to change from our prodigal consumption of energy, both individually and by world overpopulation, if humanity is to survive. To concentrate on bringing

our stream ever-enlarging sources of energy is going in the wrong direction.

**HAROLD PAGE,**  
SALT SPRING

### Successful 15th ride

The Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association held its 15th Annual Ride-Walk-a-thon on May 14, raising \$3,500 to support the local program.

This year's ride marked 15 years of the ride-walk-a-thon, along with Canada turning 150. Seven riders, 23 walkers and eight attendees helped raise pledges from family, friends, teachers,

hairdressers, co-workers, neighbours and whomever else they could think of.

Special thanks to Country Grocer for donating a gift card for food served at the event, Laughing Daughters for the delicious gluten-free cookies, Embe Bakery for donating a beautiful carrot cake, Wes for the barbecuing and set up, Sarah, Elsa and Rory for setting up, chopping and cleaning, April for helping create a 15th-anniversary logo and taking pictures, and everyone who sponsored.

Thank you for helping make this event a success.

**ERIKA PONSFORD,**  
SALT SPRING THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION

### World-class jazz music

Kudos to Hannah Brown, John Moore and the Salt Spring Jazz and Blues Society. The Larry Fuller piano jazz concert at the Salt Spring United Church this past Saturday was outstanding.

You could not hear finer music anywhere in the world. Just amazing. Larry Fuller is truly "world class." John Lee on bass and Kelby MacNayr on drums also had the audience enthralled.

We hope the society brings more high-quality jazz and blues to the island.

What a perfect evening.  
**CURT FIRESTONE,**  
SALT SPRING

# Water should be managed as a single resource

BY FRANTS ATTORP

Islanders who enjoy an abundant supply of water may be tempted to water their lawns or wash their cars during the dry season. But what effect might such actions have on neighbours? There is growing evidence that one man's green lawn could result in another's dry well.

Dr. Diana Allen, an SFU hydrogeologist who has studied aquifers on the Gulf Islands for the past 20 years, has concluded that the best way to understand each island's fresh water supply is to regard it as one large hydrologic system.

"It's not surface water and not groundwater, but just water," she asserts. "We can't examine individual bodies of water in isolation. Water has to be managed as a single resource."

A unique feature of the islands is that their aquifers are not recharged by water from far-off places in the same way some mainland areas are fed by streams originating in distant mountains. "All the water on each island comes exclusively from the precipitation that falls on that piece of terrain," she says. "It's a closed basin and that limiting factor must always be considered."

It is also important to note that the Gulf Islands, because of their geological composition, have a water holding capacity far less than many other areas. Water on the islands, which can be 2,000 or more years old, is stored largely in cracks and fissures in rock, while that in the Fraser Valley, for

example, is stored in sand and gravel. This means there is vastly more groundwater in parts of the Lower Mainland than on any Gulf Island.

According to Allen, the geology of the islands varies greatly, ranging from mudstone and sandstone to granite in some areas. "The average permeabilities of these rocks are very similar, so we don't focus too much on the geological complexity at an island scale, as all the islands behave in pretty much the same way," she says. "Precipitation falls on land and then flows from higher elevations towards the sea. There is a transition zone at the coast where fresh water meets salt water."

Locally, however, there can be a lot of variability in water availability and quality. "Underground fractures are so heterogeneous it is not unusual to find one very high-producing well in close proximity to another that produces very little," she notes.

She emphasizes that, because of the irregular and unpredictable nature of fractures, it is almost impossible to estimate the amount of water that is stored in the rock. "To obtain detailed information even for a single neighbourhood would require a massive study," she explains. "It's just not practical."

Nor is determining the recharge rate of aquifers an exact science. When trying to measure the recharge, scientists have to consider precipitation, not just for the cur-

## GUEST COLUMN

rent year but also previous years. A great deal of precipitation is lost to evaporation, runoff and vegetation, while the rest trickles down

to the water table. Water balance calculations are particularly difficult, necessitating the use of a range of approaches.

Dr. Allen and her graduate students, among others, have made various attempts over the years to estimate recharge to the Gulf Islands. Estimates have ranged from one per cent to 63 per cent of precipitation. New research using a sophisticated recharge model for Gabriola Island suggests the average annual recharge is roughly 20 per cent of precipitation.

Further complicating the matter is the fact that there are no data on how much groundwater is currently being extracted by the human population. Private wells are not metered so it's basically a free-for-all in terms of water use. "With limited understanding about aquifer capacity and essentially no information on how much people are extracting we can't come up with a number as to what is sustainable," says Allen. "We're still at the same place we were 20 years ago."

Despite the many unknowns, Allen estimates that humans can skim off "a small amount" of the 20 per cent that is recharged each year and still remain sustainable. She points out that humans cannot take all of the recharge as some goes into streams and

helps maintain aquatic ecosystems that depend on fresh water outflow. She adds that taking too much water can lead to a host of problems, the most common being salt water intrusion.

And what of climate change? Allen agrees with predictions that summers are likely to be drier and winters wetter, but is not sure how exactly recharge may be impacted. "More winter precipitation may simply lead to more runoff," she says. "Although on an annual time scale, I would not expect recharge to change too much."

Asked what resources Islands Trust planners and decision makers can use when considering new development proposals, Allen indicates maps are available showing which areas are highly, moderately or minimally vulnerable to salt water intrusion. She points out, however, that the maps are based on limited pumping information.

"They could be used for regional planning," she says, adding that they could be enhanced if consumption data were available.

Looking to the future, she says that monitoring will be essential for long-term planning. "Establishing rigorous monitoring of lakes, streams, springs, private wells and observation wells will be necessary for adaptively managing the water resources of the islands."

Frants Attorp is a writer living on Salt Spring.

# Current governance can't address real island crises

BY ERIC BOOTH

This is written in response to "Island could be doubly impoverished by incorporation," by David Rapport and Luisa Maffi, published in the May 17 Driftwood.

Balderdash, sir and madam. It is unbelievable that, as an economist, David Rapport should suggest Salt Spring Island property values will be negatively impacted by incorporation.

Luisa Maffi, in spite of her doctorate, evidently has little or no experience/expertise when it comes to what drives basic real estate values in a geographical area that is arguably one of the best (economically, socially, politically, environmentally and climate-wise) on the planet: the law of supply and demand.

The Islands Trust Act, through its limited development mandate, enshrined the course by limiting the supply of land in an extremely high-demand area — the triangle in between Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo.

As sure as the sun will rise high in the sky tomorrow, real estate values are destined to rise high here as well. What is

not however destined is whether our service industry providers (including RCMP, nurses, doctors, clerks, teachers, servers, landscapers, etc.) will have anywhere affordable to live.

Our current system of governance is a complete, utter and abject failure and disgrace. Look no further than the still unfinished Ganges boardwalk. Look no further than the expelling of Salt Spring Coffee Company from the island.

Look no further than the affordable housing crisis which has had countless studies in the Islands Trust area in the past 25 years, each of which concludes we have . . . wait for it . . . a housing crisis.

Look no further than the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's removal of the beavers in 2006 from St. Mary Lake, which has led to 80 to 100 million gallons less water in the middle of summer and is the real reason for the manmade "drought" fears we have been inundated with for the past few years.

Look no further than the concerns over gold-plated union deals made behind closed doors.

Look no further than an

## IN RESPONSE

incredibly inefficient land-use planning authority which I have estimated spends, at last count, about \$18,000 on each and every application, when application fees range between \$500 and \$5,000.

Look no further than the Islands Trust Council, which, in some assbackwards thinking, has refused to lobby the province for reasonable compensation to the taxpayers in the Islands Trust Area for limiting our tax base through the imposition of the Islands Trust Act in 1974.

I wrote an article titled Salt Spring Island Governance in a Nutshell a few years ago. It tells the story of the Mayor of Smartville, a small town in Ontario, who spends a couple of weeks on Salt Spring, learns about our "unique" governance, and then goes back to his town to try and convince his fellow councilors to shatter their municipality into separate departments for fire, water, parks, land use, building inspection, police, etc., each with their own elected board of directors.

I challenge anyone interested to Google it, read it, and then ask yourself, who in their right mind would ever adopt our "unique" way of governing?

**What will "impoverish" us will be if we bury our collective heads in the sand for another 15 years in the hope that things will get substantially better if we do nothing.**

If you have an open mind, the obvious answer to that question will be "no one."

Maffi and Rapport's fear mongering completely misses how screwed up our decision

making, or lack of, is on Salt Spring.

Will taxes go up if we incorporate? Hell yes, just as they have last year, and the year before that, and the decades before that. "Uniqueness" hasn't stopped our taxes from rising, nor will it.

So if, like me, you're sick and tired of inaction, inefficiency and indecision in the face of real crises that affect real families, then please, for the love of Salt Spring, consider voting yes for incorporation and focused leadership.

What will "impoverish" us will be if we bury our collective heads in the sand for another 15 years in the hope that things will get substantially better if we do nothing. If the recent past is any indication of the future, they won't, unless, as a community, we grow up and take responsibility for our future . . . you know, like pretty much every other community of 10,000 people in Canada, the U.S. or the rest of the world.

*The writer is a born and raised Salt Spring Islander, was an islands trustee from 2002 to 2005, and is also a realtor on the island.*

## Healthier community sought through restorative justice

BY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SALT SPRING GROUP

Restorative Justice Salt Spring Island is hosting its first community circle on Saturday, June 3.

The circle is intended to provide a welcoming forum for people with diverse perspectives to reflect on how citizens can work to foster good community relationships. At a time when it seems communities all around the world are facing divisiveness and sometimes violent conflict, it's useful to be thankful for the caring community we are part of and to do what we can to strengthen it.

The community circle runs from 1 to 3 p.m. at Lions Hall.

Restorative justice groups exist primarily to help those connected to offences, those responsible for harmful actions, and those affected by those actions, to find ways to "put things right," to reach agreements that help all those involved to contribute to their communities and to feel safe and valued.

Why would a restor-

ative justice group get involved in addressing issues related to healthy community connections?

**In cases of conflict, the aim is to find resolutions that serve every member of the circle and the process is based on an assumption of equal worth and dignity for all participants.**

One obvious reason is that the skills involved in bringing victims and offenders together to reach agreements that meet the needs of all participants are much the same as those needed to

build capacity for community cohesiveness.

Restorative Justice Salt Spring hosted a training workshop in circle processes given by internationally renowned trainer and author Kay Pranis. The circle process tool can be used by a wide variety of groups, including families, workplaces and community groups to face even difficult or painful issues in a way that leads to deeper relationships. In cases of conflict, the aim is to find resolutions that serve every member of the circle and the process is based on an assumption of equal worth and dignity for all participants.

There is no cost for participants but people who would like to participate in the June 3 circle or in future circles are asked to email David Baukol at deb6288@gmail.com or call Darlene Gage at 778-402-6626.

Ideally, circles are large enough to include a real diversity of perspectives, and small enough so that everyone is able to participate fully.



**110 years!**  
Thank You  
*Salt Spring*

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On Saturday, May 27th  
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# arts&entertainment

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 Sunday Brunch served until 2pm  
 "Where Islanders & friends start their day"

**CONCERTS**

## Orchestra breathes new life into 18th-century music



PHOTO BY JAN GATES

Victoria Baroque Players, an 18-member orchestra that plays on the instruments of the 18th century, will perform an afternoon program at ArtSpring this Sunday, May 28.

### Victoria Baroque Players at ArtSpring May 28

The heavenly sounds of violins, violas, cellos, violone, flutes, oboes, bassoon, horns and harpsichord will be heard in Ganges this Sunday afternoon when the Victoria Baroque Players group takes the stage for an ArtSpring Presents concert.

According to information provided by ArtSpring marketing manager Jessica Beck, audience members can expect "an orchestral program embracing the dance-driven

rhythmic vitality from the baroque and classical periods. Playing on the instruments of the 18th century, the historically-informed ensemble brings audiences closer to the sound world of the period."

The program will feature a grand mixture of winds, brass and strings. Works include two of Bach's dazzling Brandenburg Concertos, nos. 1 and 5, plus Telemann, Handel and more, all directed from the harpsichord by British virtuoso Steven Devine.

"Victoria Baroque Players was formed with the mission of bringing high-quality performances of Baroque music to the Victoria, B.C.

audience, using the abundance of local skill and talent," Beck said.

"VBP has since played two full seasons at the Church of St. John the Divine, Victoria, as well as been a guest ensemble for the Early Music Society of the Islands, Early Music Vancouver, Eine Kleine Summer Music series, Victoria Conservatory of Music Vocal Children's Choir's Classical Christmas Concert."

The group's core members are Vancouver Island residents and early music specialists with extensive performance experience in

Canada and abroad. For larger orchestral projects, the ensemble expands and is joined by musicians from mainland B.C. and Seattle.

VBP explains "Bach was the first composer to use harpsichord as a solo instrument in orchestral music, and the concerto is a true celebration of the possibilities of the instrument. Guest director Devine comes to Victoria with musical insights gained from having just recently performed all Bach's Brandenburg Concertos with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in London, UK."

The concert takes place Sunday, May 28 at 2:30 p.m.

**MUSIC**

## Palu's composition wins corporate hearts

### Song earns digital storage privileges

Salt Spring musician Paul Beckman, who is more readily recognized as Palu Rainbow Song, has produced one of his biggest hits to date with a song created especially for the Zoolz Cloud Archive.

Zoolz offers an archive for computers, external and network drives using cold storage technology — a service Palu was hoping to get for free to hold the countless number of songs he's written. To convince the London-based company, he wrote a special composition just for them.

"The response I got was they loved my song," Palu told the Driftwood. "They gave me an offer of free lifetime storage in return."

An email from Zoolz representative Robin Scott confirms the hit.

"Please allow us to express our deep gratitude for the song you've written for us. It is amazing, and we've been playing it in our offices all day," Scott wrote, before extending an offer for a free Zoolz archive account.

Palu has previously impressed count-



FILE PHOTO BY ELEHNA DE SOUSA

Paul Beckman wins another fan while demonstrating his solar meditation bow at the Saturday market.

less visitors to the Saturday market and around Ganges with his "solar meditation bow." A pitch he made to market the

product on the CBC television program Dragons' Den in 2013 reportedly attracted record viewers.

★ ★ ★ *free!!* ★ ★ ★

**FAMILY MATINEE**  
 On Saturday June 3rd  
 the Salt Spring Centre School will be hosting family movie afternoon for all ages!  
 WE WILL BE SHOWING THE MOVIE SING.

**SING**

It will be at the  
**SALT SPRING LIBRARY.**  
 Doors open at 2pm, movie at 2:30pm.  
 Entry is free.

The leadership class of grade 4, 5 and 6 students are doing the RAOK Challenge (Random Acts of Kindness). Snacks and drinks are included, also free.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



PHOTOS BY JEN MACLELLAN

**TREASURES TO BEHOLD:** Artworks available at the SSNAP fundraising auction over the weekend included pieces by, from top, Karen Reiss, Robert Moss and Charles Breth.

## QUEEN MARGARET'S SCHOOL

CANADA'S UNIVERSITY-PREPARATORY  
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



**INFORMATION EVENING**  
May 31, 2017  
4:30pm-6:15pm  
Salt Spring Island Public Library

Duncan, British Columbia  
T 250 746-4185 | admissions@qms.bc.ca



www.qms.bc.ca

### ART REVIEW

# Nature in focus at print show

York and friends at  
Duthie Gallery

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Duthie Gallery opened its now annual tradition of the spring Imprints show earlier this month, with handmade printing techniques once again taking pride of place.

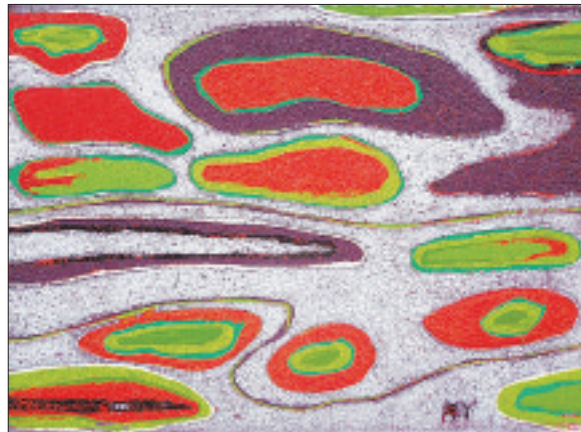
As discussed in past Imprints reviews, regular contributors to the show like Vancouver artist Arnold Shives demonstrate a clear cultural inheritance from Canadian artists such as Lawren Harris. Shives has made a career of expressing the essence of the sublime in nature in his depictions of the mountains he knows intimately through climbing. This time around the show features some of his darker terrain, with three impressive works based on the complex intersection of white space and black ink. In *Spire Dance*, for example, nature's stark components are abstracted to a dizzying pattern that backs the bare remnants of bark or trees thrusting up from the immediate foreground.

Salt Spring artist Richard York, who is the main artist featured at the show, offers a taste of his upcoming exhibition at Toronto's Mira Godard Gallery opening May 27. Inspiration from specific natural environments informed his woodcut prints at the two previous Imprints shows. This year the addition of a few older works helps create a cohesive narrative that transcendentalism on its own can't supply: the results of ignoring or actively harming the natural environment.

*Cityscape*, a piece from 2014, is appealing in its abstract formalism of lines and geometry. The cross section of office towers as seen from a mid-point allows for no surrounding environment at all: it's a manmade canyon wall that pushes right up to the viewer's plane. The palette of plum, orange and periwinkle nicely reinforces the unnatural formation.

In *Crofton Mill*, a print from 2013, the billowing white pillars that mix into the blue sky and take up most of the frame are not cumulus clouds but the chemical-laced vapour rising from the tiny factory works below. *Clearcut*, which shows the extreme contrast of bare earth and intact forest across a sharp dividing line, is an obvious but effective criticism of a scene hidden to most members of the public.

Seen in context with these other pieces, York's recent work is a celebration of sorts, but more so appears to be saying, "Let's put the focus where it belongs before it's too late." Different takes on *Spotted Lake* reveal the weirdly wonderful results of naturally occurring chemical oddities. Forest, a small study where cedar's rich ruddy brown is the dominant



IMAGES COURTESY DUTHIE GALLERY

Richard York woodblock prints *Spotted Lake I*, top, and *Spotted Lake III* are some of the works in this year's Imprints show at Duthie Gallery.

colour, is immediately evocative of the cathedral with its pillars and arches.

By its title, *Sleepwalkers* is a direct rebuke, but it is subtle in execution. Using painting techniques of layering ink onto a transparent medium, York places an indistinct crowd of people across the foreground. They are muddled and seemingly unaware of the mountains behind their backs. As a strip across the middle ground, Vancouver's city towers are likewise hinted at rather than made solid, perhaps underlining the impermanent nature of both humans and their creations as compared to geological time.

Nora Layard continues to impress with her printmaking skills and has a number of pieces in the show that find the sublime in nature. The *Black Tusk* and *Above Lac d'Ourec* are two works that beautifully express the mountain's appeal. The first captures the drama of rock and snow using just a few subtle variations in palette, while the second contrasts lush vegetation found at a slightly lower elevation from the rocky crag just behind.

The *Fraser*, a new piece Layard created in a weekend class, also shows her strong sense of composition with the tight hills taking up most of the frame, and a slip of pale yellow river curving just into the right foreground.

Thea Chapman's *Childhood*

*Revisited* is another lovely piece from the class, with an abstracted wagon and tricycle in brick red seen in a foreshortened view, and a mossy brown field providing good colour contrast. Deep shadows give the scene depth.

Delaine Faulkner also produced strong workshop results with *Walnut*. The bare tree takes central space against a backdrop of pale sky and blue-green hillside. Both sky and hillside, as well as the tree's strong trunk and limbs, are given plenty of texture through multiple chisel marks.

Accomplished artists Gillian McConnell and Catherine Tam are also featured in the exhibition. McConnell's *Double Cross* is a diptych of two panels using the chine collé technique, which contrast in how much ink has been left on the plate. Deep rich carmine serves to emphasize the texture of the underlying objects in different ways, as thicker application magnifies but also obscures.

Tam has a collection of tiny works shown together, with repeated pressings of the series in different soft tones producing a sense of the artist's process — every print has the same basic form and remains part of a greater continuum, yet even small differences create individuality.

Imprints continues at Duthie Gallery until June 27. Gallery hours are Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ART REVIEW

# Ripple Effect supports reverence for ocean and orcas

Multiple artists show work for the Salish Sea

BY PAT BURKETTE  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Seeing could be called “sealing” for the Ripple Effect exhibition at the Salt Spring Gallery in downtown Ganges until June 25.

Ripple Effect, a collection of paintings, ceramics, glass, sculpture, textiles, jewelry and photography by 27 Salt Spring artists, explores our relationship to local waters.

Honouring an underlying theme of Making Art Work for the Salish Sea, the show’s artists will donate at least 25 per cent of an artwork sale to the Raincoast Conservation Foundation’s efforts on behalf of the southern resident orca whales. A second and different show, Ripple Effect 2, will run from June 29 to July 30.

Salt Spring Gallery board president Lisa Lipsett said Ripple Effect arose from converging themes: artistic exploration of our connection to the water, and the Orca Soundings art project, which uses wooden whale sculptures to animate the last 78 southern resident orcas and urge action in their support. On May 28, Orca Soundings will join the Walk 4 the Salish Sea in Vancouver.

Each Ripple Effect artist has used their medium imaginatively to depict life in the Salish Sea.

Heidi Van Imp’s collage By Moonlight is a piece that is small in size but big in reach. A silvery disc of moon, glittering orcas and multi-layered gold and black waves beneath a starry blue sky evoke Asian prints that span centuries. It’s a joyful scene.

Rachel Vadeboncoeur’s stunning glass sculpture titled Bull Orca is a sheet of clear glass etched with an orca dorsal fin, underwater life and seaweed. Water cascades over the sheet into a base of glass balls suspended in a curved glass basin formed like gelatinous seaweed.

Janice Parker uses marvellous watercolours and ink on rag paper to create her Jellyfish series of nine pieces, evoking a dance of the sea — freedom of movement far away from the grid. Likewise, Julia Synve’s impressive metal and leather sculpture called Love or War depicts two eagles battling in the air above the sea.

But as I move around the room on my gravity-dependent legs, I start to feel a sea change.

Arluq, which is Inuktitut for “orca,” portrays orcas leaping from the ocean around a smiling First Nations woman. It’s a playful image, with swirls of stylized bubbles and a mottled purple sky. But what’s that off to the right, that yellow globe? Big sun rising, overheating our thinning atmosphere.

Sonja Barnard’s three relief pieces in clay — Fragile Depths, Sparkling Seas and Oil Age, and Marina — are spot-on in portraying colour tones evident in underwater denizens. The olive green of kelp splayed over a mermaid, muddy blues and purples, the browns, greys and bisques of skin and scale, and golden tones of sea stars, are enlivened by bursts of red, orange lips and glittering eyes on fish. Or is enlivened the wrong word considering the Sparkling Seas



PHOTO BY PAT BURKETTE

Salt Spring Gallery’s Lisa Lipsett with some of the wooden whale sculptures made by Paul Burke used in the Orca Soundings project, which aims to protect the remaining 78 southern resident killer whales. The gallery’s Ripple Effect exhibit supports the Raincoast Conservation Foundation’s efforts to protect the whales.

and Oil Age title of one piece?

And then there’s Susan Haigh’s acrylic on canvas piece called No Worries. To use newspaper speak, you’d say Haigh’s painting is the nutgraf (the key explanatory paragraph of a feature news story) of the show. Haigh has painted a picture of a cruise ship barreling down on a boat made from newspaper. Inside the little boat are three monkeys — hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil. Cruising through the bold dark blue sea, the ship and its human cargo travel under a dark cloud.

I’ll give Lipsett the last words in the Ripple Effect story.

“Part of our relationship to nature is pinning it down, giving it some notation,” she said. Her own paintings, Sea Dream I, II and III, depict human preoccupation with count-

ing and naming things. Textured waves and layers of complex life within the sea contrast with alchemical symbols and skies on fire.

“The alchemists,” she explained, “felt the dramatic life force, and they had to control it.”

Ripple Effect is about the dramatic life force of the Salish Sea and the need to let it flow.

The Orca Soundings art project is looking for a Salt Spring “Keeper of the Whales” who will take charge of the whale sculptures and co-ordinate their appearance at events. Interested islanders can contact Jessie Toynbee by emailing jktoynbee@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY PAT BURKETTE

Sonja Barnard’s Fragile Depths.

ArtSpring presents

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# what's on this week



## Wed. May 24

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Racket.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Pitchfork Social: Richard Thompson.**  
SOLD OUT.

### ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt House Museum.**  
Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday through June 30. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Advanced Care Plan Workshop.

The Advanced Care Plan Workshop, Part 1 will assist in starting the conversation with family and friends about what your wishes are if you were ill and couldn't speak for yourself. Salt Spring Legion. 2 to 4 p.m.

**Salt Spring Garden Club.**  
Peony expert Malcolm Ho-You gives a presentation to the club at Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30.

### End of the Reel Film Series: The Gifts of Grief

Film by Nancee Sobonya presented by Salt Spring Hospice Society and sponsored by and held in the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

**Songjam.**  
Pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.



## Thur. May 25

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Gene Grooms.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt House Museum. Library Book Club.**  
See Wednesday's listing.

This month's pick is The Gift of Rain by Tan Twan Eng. Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

**Bird Multimedia Show: 2105 - It Was a Very Big Year.**  
Birder extraordinaire Ann Nightingale presents a special show for the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club, with everyone welcome. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

**Green Drinks at Penny's.**  
Monthly social mixer for Transition Salt Spring that's open to everyone. Penny's Pantry on the Green at Golf Course. 5 to 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 26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Jack Sprat Detective Agency.** Salt Spring Centre School presents annual whole school play at Mahon Hall. Show starts at 6 p.m. Pizza sale this day only at 5 p.m.

## Fri. May 26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Barefoot Thieves.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**The County Line.**  
Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt House Museum.**  
See Wednesday's listing.

**Rotary Club BBQ.**  
Famous Rotary hamburgers and hot dogs are back on Fridays at the Country Grocer parking lot in partnership with community groups. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Salt Spring Forum: Peter Robinson.**  
David Suzuki Foundation CEO and humanitarian speaks on environment and economy. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

## Sat. May 27

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Jack Sprat Detective Agency.**  
See Friday's listing, except show time is 4 p.m.

**Family Concert With Jim Raddysh.**  
Come and celebrate family literacy with a fun, music-filled event. Library Program Room. 1 to 2 p.m.

**The Costners.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**The County Line.**  
Live at the Legion. 8 p.m.

**Lover's Touch.**  
Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

## Sat. May 27

### ACTIVITIES

**Saturday Market in the Park.**  
Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at market in Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Invasive Plant Drop-off Days.**  
Bring broom, gorse, English ivy, English holly and spurge laurel to spot behind Rainbow Road Pool. Co-sponsored by the fire department and Salt Spring Island Conservancy. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Toddler Time at the Library.**  
Stories, songs, rhymes and games best suited to kids aged 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 at Centennial Park. Parental supervision required. 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.

**Pulse with Tank Gyal.**  
StageCoach Theatre School fundraiser at Fulford Hall with reggae/dancehall DJ Tank Gyal. Doors open at 7 p.m.; The Church of Reggae Yoga at 7:30 p.m., Dancehall Workshop at 8:30 p.m. and then dancing until 1 a.m.



**Transition Fair.**  
Transition Salt Spring hosts info event with committees including EV Group, the Rainbow Road Park Allotment Garden and Climate Action Group, plus allied organizations including the Agricultural Alliance. SS Public Library Program Room. 3 to 5 p.m. Followed by the Transition Salt Spring AGM at 5 p.m.

## Sun. May 28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Jack Sprat Detective Agency.** See Friday's listing, except show time is 2 p.m.

**Victoria Baroque Players.**  
Playing on the instruments of the 18th century, the historically informed ensemble brings audiences closer to the sound of the period in concertos by Bach and his contemporaries. With director and harpsichord player Steven Devine. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m.

**Open Stage Old Timey Cafe.**  
Open stage with good music and munchies. Alcohol-free and everyone welcome. On the last Sunday of every month in the OAPO annex at Fulford Hall. 7 to 11 p.m.

**Susan Cogan.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Get Out and Golf Day.**  
Special event to encourage golfing at the Salt Spring Golf Course. All day.

## Mon. May 29

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Terry Warbey.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Bike to Work Week.** People encouraged to ride their bikes or walk to work from May 29-June 4. Info: www.biketowork.ca

**SSI Transportation Commission.** Monthly business meeting at Portlock Portable. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Truth About Cancer Video Series.** Presenting Heal Cancer With Clean Electricity, Unique Water, Natural Sunlight & Combining Superfoods. One of a series of nine videos produced by Ty Bollinger on improved understanding of the causes of cancer, and alternative methods of treatment from around the world. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

## Tue. May 30

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Mic with David Jaquest.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Intro to Squash.**  
See Thursday's listing, except time is 9 to 10:30 a.m.



**Bike to Work Week Celebration Station.**  
Cyclists get rewarded with treats outside the Islands Trust office. 8 a.m.

**Big Bike Ride.**  
The Heart & Stroke Foundation's big bike event takes place based from Centennial Park between 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**Healthy Feed Choices for Poultry.**  
Salt Spring Poultry Club event with guest speaker Paul Goertzen. At Foxglove Farm and Garden in the glass conservatory. 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: neiththiving@gmail.com.

## Wed. May 31

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Buck Dodgers.**  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**GISS Dance.**  
The youth of GISS Dance present a collection of thought-provoking and innovative artworks in "Becoming," with new choreography about expression and self-discovery. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.



### ACTIVITIES

**Supportive Cancer Care Workshop.**  
Join Dr. Lori McFarlane MD, CCFP from InspireHealth, for a program providing tools and information to take charge of your health. Open to anyone with a current or previous cancer diagnosis and their support persons at no cost. Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration: 250-595-7125.

**Queen Margaret's School Information Evening.**  
Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 4:30 to 6:15 p.m.

**Bittancourt House Museum.**  
See last Wednesday's listing.

**Songjam.**  
See last Wednesday's listing.

## THE FRITZ CINEMA

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- National Theatre Live: Twelfth Night** — Tamsin Greig is Malvolio in a new twist on Shakespeare's classic comedy of mistaken identity and unrequited love. One day only: Thursday, June 1, 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve seats.

**EXHIBITIONS**

- Ripple Effect 1** - Making Art Work for the Salish Sea is an exhibit of work by 27 artists at Salt Spring Gallery running until June 25.
- 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 through June 27.

- Christopher Brayshaw** shows his exhibit titled Maybe Tomorrow at **Fault Lines Projects** through May.
- Elaine Potter's** acrylic and gouache paintings are at **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** through May.
- The Point Gallery** shows drawings by **Margaret Day** in the lower gallery, and **Karen Andrews' Stay Still** in the upper gallery. Open Friday through Monday, 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment at 250-653-0089.
- 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 **Salt Spring 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.

## GISS Dance

Year-end Show at ArtSpring

May 31st and June 1st

7:30 pm

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

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**CANADA 150**

## Islander heads to Wawa as special Canada 150 guest

Ken Lee central to monumental goose history

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Ken Lee will miss out on Canada Day celebrations at home this year so that he can take a guest-of-honour seat at Canada 150 events in Wawa, Ont.

The community that has become legendary for stranding cross-country hitchhikers is equally known as a must-see attraction on the Trans-Canada Highway. The reason — an 8.5-metre-high sculpture of a Canada goose — is there largely thanks to Lee's work on municipal council in the Township of Michipicoten in 1962 and '63. Wawa is now part of the township.

The Wawa Goose as we know it takes pride of place alongside Northern Ontario icons such as giant nickel, moose and walleye monuments. Lee knew an earlier version when he was posted to his first teaching position in math and science to the Wawa area in the early 1960s, and he was instrumental in having it replaced. The upcoming Canada Day celebrations will involve the unveiling of its replica.

Though Lee has retained fond memories of Wawa and its outsized goose, he never fathomed he would be returning to the small town for Canada's 150th birthday.

"I didn't think I'd be alive, to be quite honest. I'm 83 now," he told the Driftwood.

The name Wawa is Ojibwe for "Canada goose." The first monument was created for Al Turcott, an enterprising local businessman, in 1960. Perhaps inspired by Max the Moose down the road in Dryden, his plan was to attract tourists after discovering the new Highway 17 would bypass the downtown core.

While well received, the first goose collapsed within a couple years.

"It was made with chicken wire and plaster and for some reason it disintegrated. One day the people of Wawa woke up and it was all in the road," Lee recalled.

In an interesting coincidence, Lee was interviewed by fellow islander Arthur Black for his CBC radio program Basic Black in the 1980s, around 20 years after the second goose was unveiled. At that point Lee was a high school principal in St. Catharines; the interview was recorded in two separate CBC studios and the two men wouldn't meet until they both moved to Salt Spring years later.

Pondering the small community's will to replace the statue, Black said: "I suspect if a goose fell down in Thunder Bay we'd probably just walk around it, and it would be outlawed from the start in Toronto because of its goose problem, but in Wawa there just pretty well has to be a goose, doesn't there?"

One of Lee's main accomplishments on town council was to arrive at the idea (with help from his wife Sigrid) to have a contest for the new goose's design and construction. Advertisements went out to regional papers stating the town council would consider models and/or plans at a February 1963 meeting. The prize was \$50.

"I'd just been newly elected, and I found some of the council meetings kind of boring. There was just talk about culverts and road grading and easements, and I didn't understand any of that," Lee said in his Basic Black interview. "But I was interested in how the town looked — you know, there were car wrecks in the gardens — there was a lot of work to be done to make it look pretty."

The plan was to come up with a design that would be fitting for the big concrete plinth the highways department had already erected.

"We had a beautiful spot overlooking the Algoma countryside and overlooking Highway 17 on a large



IMAGES COURTESY KEN LEE

A painting of the Wawa Goose overlooking Highway 17 by mining engineer Michael Cleary. Salt Spring's Ken Lee, right, was instrumental in having the attraction made and will be a special guest when its replica replaces it on July 1.

bluff just outside the town, and it was kind of embarrassing to have nothing on it," Lee said.

Some of the models that were brought in to be considered actually started to melt, going from subzero temperatures in the car trunks they'd been transported into the over-warm council chambers. Another problem, Lee said, was the goose had to be standing rather than flying to work on the plinth, and many designers failed to find a good pose.

"Most of them started to lean back on their tail, and if you propped them up it didn't look too good at all," he told Black.

It was a model made made by a Dutch ironworker from Sault Ste. Marie named Dick van der Cliff that won over the council members. When Black asked Lee how the current sleek design dif-

fered from the original, he said the first had been "fat, floppy and saggy," with its neck at a right angle.

"It wasn't right at all. In fact, it kind of upset me . . . I was kind of glad when it fell down," Lee said.

Van der Cliff had guaranteed he could make the massive sculpture for \$5,000. Materials were donated by Algoma Steel, but funds ran short before it was finished. Council refused to go beyond the original contract, however.

"So I felt very badly for Dick, but on the other hand he's now very famous, because the goose has been seen and enjoyed by millions of Canadians and visitors to Canada," Lee told Black.

Though much improved on the chickenwire-plaster construction, the second Wawa Goose ultimately rusted

and lost structural integrity in turn. The latest version is a replica of the one that Lee helped bring about, with an estimated \$300,000 replacement cost. This time the structure is made of a stainless-steel internal armature and bronze plate, with a projected lifespan of 50 to 100 years.

"When I heard the cost it nearly blew my mind. We never would have been able to afford that it 1963," Lee said.

The unveiling of the new Wawa Goose will take place at noon on Canada Day, and is part of special Canada 150 events running from June 30 to July 2. Lee and his daughter Jennifer will fly to Thunder Bay and then drive the rest of the way to Wawa for the celebration. She was born in 1963, the same year the giant goose was installed.



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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**UNITED FOR LIFE:** Members of the Salt Spring Lions Club and the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission gather around a new life ring installed at St. Mary Lake. The Lions covered the \$6,000 cost of four life rings, mounting posts and installation for rings at St. Mary, Blackburn, Cusheon and Stowel lakes. PARC will pay for inspections and maintenance of the rings. A life ring was also put in place at Weston Lake thanks to the efforts of Bryan Young and others, following the drowning deaths of two young men visiting the island in that lake last summer.

**BOATING**

# Power and Sail Squadron group promotes safe boating

Course graduates encouraged to join the bridge

BY STEVE WEST  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

As a graduate of the Power and Sail Squadron courses in navigation and radio, I feel justified in being out there flying solo in this unique set of marine challenges.

We have one of everything

here in the Georgia Basin, from hidden hazards to rarely seen aids to navigation. Without the Power and Sail Squadron course, a mariner is asking all other boaters and nature herself to forgive and accommodate the unprepared — and nature won't listen.

This course teaches but also scares the appropriate level of respect into the student. An untrained trip through Porlier Pass or Dodd Narrows is all one needs to humbly seek out training.

Further learning in addition to navigation and on various topics are all delivered by expert volunteers who personalize your experience and send you off ready. I am now taking grandchildren on the boat and feel I have done what I can to ensure their safety. They will make better boaters because I became one first.

Please sign up for the courses and, even better, graduates, please volunteer to join the bridge and keep this resource going strong.

**Top Ten Reasons to join the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron**

May 20-26 is National Safe Boating Week.

1. Boating skills = confidence = greater boating enjoyment
2. An opportunity to contribute to our community
3. Help to promote safe boating in our community
4. Connections to others with knowledge of boating equipment
5. Opportunities to learn from others with boating experience
6. Free subscription to Canadian Yachting Magazine
7. On-island courses save time and travel costs
8. 10-15 per cent discount on CPS courses
9. 10-15 per cent discount on boating insurance
10. Discounts on boat maintenance products

To register online, visit [www.cps-ecp.ca](http://www.cps-ecp.ca), or contact Laura Dafoe at 250-537-8804.

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**Fitness Expert**

**Leg Recovery**

Here are some tips to help keep your legs fresh and strong.

**NUTRITION:** Refuel after every workout. A protein shake right after a workout to help muscles start to rebuild themselves as quickly as possible. Then within 2 hours have a healthy meal that includes healthy carbs, fats and of course protein. The 2 hour window is crucial if you want to get stronger.

**Massage:** Massage all the muscles in your legs, which will help remove the metabolic waste that built up in your muscles due to your workout.

**Stretching:** After a workout your body muscles are shortened and tight. You need to lengthen and loosen them up. Tight muscle groups typically lead to injury down the road. Stretching is so important, after class take the time and stretch.

**EPSOM SALTS BATH:** It will help to neutralize the lactic acid that is built up in your muscles.

For good leg recovery and better fitness, try some of these options to see what works for you.



BRENDA AKERMAN

**Mechanic**

**How do I get my vehicle ready for summer holidays?**

If you are planning a trip of any length, or just several shorter jaunts locally, your vehicle needs to be ready to handle a wide range of conditions.

Hot dry weather puts extra strain on the engine cooling system, air conditioning, brakes and tires. Cooling system components and drive belts need to be thoroughly checked. Your antifreeze has an anti-boil component as well, and must be at the proper concentration to be effective. Try your air conditioning through its full range on a hot day and have it inspected for leaks and serviced if it's not performing properly.

Rain after an extended dry spell will make for a slippery road surface that worn or under-inflated tires will not grip safely. Have tires replaced as required. New windshield wipers and properly operating washers can make a huge difference to safe visibility.

As always, a complete vehicle inspection while changing oil and filter will spot problems you may not have noticed yet. This will give you and your technician an opportunity to repair worn brakes, steering, and suspension and bring other vehicle systems back normal before leaving on a trip.



GYLE KEATING

**Real Estate**

**Buyers: How to compare prices and value?**

Comparing homes with similar attributes can provide valuable insights. Consider the age of the: roof, decks, septic field, appliances and "deferred maintenance". How dated are the bathrooms and kitchen and flooring? Would you want to replace them? The cost of replacing each of these items could be considerable. Make up a comparison chart accounting for these differences.

When planning a second viewing, ASK FOR AN INFO PACKAGE & PERMISSION TO TAKE PHOTOS. Take notes. Identify chattels that you may wish to have included such as: window coverings, appliances and their brand name, built in vacuum and/or hot tub accessories, shelving, firewood on hand, riding lawn mower, water filters, garden sheds, building plans, etc. Note what items are excluded on the feature sheet to assist you in making plans for replacing. Then you will likely conclude that...

*The most affordable home is rarely the lowest priced home!*



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FAMILY HEALTH

# Playbox program launched at SSE

Sports equipment and games encourage active lifestyle

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Families using the fields and playground equipment at Salt Spring Elementary School now have a treasure trove of play items to enhance the experience, with the launch of a Live 5-2-1-0 Playbox on site last Tuesday.

Inside the colourful wooden box, parents will find lots of different items such as balls, frisbees, bean bags and games they can use with their kids on the school grounds.

The city of Abbotsford first introduced the concept in October 2014, and since then the innovative idea for improving the health of community environments has spread widely throughout the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island. Salt Spring public health nurse Jenny Redpath, who is also a member of the Parent Advisory Council at SSE, heard about the playbox program through her work and introduced it to the parent group, which has enthusiastically signed on.

"Knowing the playground at Salt Spring Elementary is really well-used by all members of the community, we thought it would be a good location for something that could be used by all families," Redpath explained.

The Live 5-2-1-0 Playbox program initiative is supported by SCOPE: Sustainable Childhood Obesity Prevention through Community Engagement, a program started by BC Children's Hospital in partnership with local communities. SCOPE was founded in response to an alarming trend in which one in three Canadian children today is overweight or obese.

"As a result, for the first time in history, the current generation of children may live shorter lives than their parents. Up until now, treatments haven't worked. It is important that together we prevent this from happening," SCOPE's website explains.

Health professionals on the SCOPE team have simplified the often confusing nutritional and physical activity recommendations for kids into four simple guidelines. The Live 5-2-1-0 formula is based on eating at least five fruits and vegetables each day, capping screen time at two hours, having at least one hour of active play each day, and choosing snacks and drinks that don't have sugar.

Salt Spring's Live 5-2-1-0 Playbox can be accessed by entering the code "m.me/SSE Playbox" into Facebook Messenger. (The code is also posted on the box.) Sports equipment and game ideas inside are meant to get bodies moving.

"It's all with the purpose of increasing what we call physical literacy, with actions children and everyone need to be successful for physical activity — things like hopping, jumping and throwing," Redpath said.

Most of the items in the Salt Spring playbox are aimed at younger children who would be expected to use the SSE grounds, but Redpath said they can easily be enjoyed by older users.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Elementary School student Ruby Williamson picks a ball from the new Live 5-2-1-0 Playbox set up at the school during a special launch event held last Tuesday.

"I just played a great game of tag on Tuesday and I'm 35, so I think all ages could probably have fun with it," she said. "The idea is to engage young people but also to have parents play with their kids."

While equipment is meant to stay with the box after it's been used, there will also be some take-home information on games that families can play together at home. Community members are asked to help support the program by returning items to the box at the end of their visit and reporting any damage that they notice. People who want to donate equipment in good repair are welcome to contact the school.

Families can also access playboxes in other communities they may be visiting, with nearby locations in Duncan, Chemainus and Nanaimo. Check the website at live5210.ca for a map and more details.

MARINE ECOLOGY

# Two derbies enhance marine survival project

Gulf Islands residents raise money and volunteer for salmon research

With prime salt water salmon fishing coming up this spring, Gulf Islands residents can rally their fishing buddies for two charitable derbies that support important salmon research in the Strait of Georgia.

The Galiano Salmon Classic on Saturday, May 27 and the June 16-18 Moby's Fishing Derby on Salt Spring both support the citizen science program of the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

Galiano Island residents Fred and Debbie King have been volunteering their time and boat to gather important oceanographic data as part of the project's citizen science program. As citizen scientists the Kings, along with other boats and teams, monitor nine overlapping territories of the strait throughout the year. The teams go out to gather oceanographic information

on the same days so that data sets can be compared.

The Kings are collecting valuable information for the foundation's Salish Sea Marine Survival Project, which studies the causes of salmon declines in the strait since the mid 1990s. Now in its third year of field research, the five-year project is uncovering results that will hopefully lead to a recovery in the survival of juvenile salmon and overall salmon returns.

"The citizen science program that the Kings participate in is about being everywhere at once and the efforts of our citizen scientists are easily three times that undertaken by larger government ships; but more importantly it has allowed us to sample the entire strait in one day," said Brian Riddell, president and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation. "Previous methods have used large, expensive research vessels that only provide a snapshot from a specific area, taken at specific times of year. By empowering citizens with personal vessels to do the research, we are monitoring the Strait of Geor-

gia at a fraction of the cost of traditional research vessels."

Although the project has benefitted from some large donations, many small businesses and individuals have pitched in to help make the project a reality.

"The foundation needs to keep raising \$450,000 annually from donations to keep the project going at full speed," said Cory Matheson, business development manager for the foundation. "From fishing derbies to philanthropists, salmon lovers in the Gulf Islands have come together to support this work in an important way."

In 2016, the Galiano Island Salmon Classic and the Moby's Fishing Derby each raised well over \$5,000 for the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

For more information on the Galiano Salmon Classic at Montague Harbour, phone 604-518-8946 or email ryan@salishseacharters.com.

More info about the Salt Spring derby is available through 250-538-8120 or mobyspub@gmail.com.



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PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING FIRE RESCUE

**WELL-DERIVED:** Salt Spring Fire-Rescue Capt. Dale Lundy, left, presents volunteer Chris Joynson with an award for his 15 years of service to the island's fire department at the annual firefighters' appreciation dinner and awards night on Saturday. A number of other service awards were given out. The firefighters also held their annual boot drive on Saturday, with more than \$5,000 raised for the Salt Spring Food Bank.

FUNDRAISER

# Big Bike fun wheels around island

Heart & Stroke event aims to raise \$10,000

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The Big Bike fundraiser returns to Salt Spring on Tuesday, May 30, and there's still room for riders to take a spin.

According to Lea Silver, the Heart & Stroke Foundation's regional community development coordinator, six teams have registered to participate in the event. They are the Hotwheels, Country Grocer, Thrifty Foods, the Big Hearted Bankers of Island Savings, the Jocks and Jockettes from North End Fitness, and Lady Minto Hospital.

"It is our goal to raise \$10,000," said Silver.

People can support teams or riders online through the www.heartandstroke.ca website. Donations can also be made on event day, with rides taking place from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The 32-seat bike is stationed at Centennial Park, with



Lady Minto and Island Savings riders share the Big Bike for Heart & Stroke at last year's event on Salt Spring. This year the bike visits the island on Tuesday, May 30.

rides around town beginning and ending at the park.

"We would also love the community to cheer on our riders," said Silver.

The Hotwheels are riding for the 13th year, and team spokesperson Tanja Akerman said new participants are welcomed on their team. Akerman can

be reached at 250-538-8450.

If anyone would like to join one of the other teams, they can contact Silver at lea.silver@heartandstroke.ca.

EMERGENCY

# Emergency group holds workshop day

For all Salt Spring POD and neighbourhood leaders

Salt Spring's Emergency Program is holding a POD and neighbourhood leaders' meeting this Saturday, May 27.

Set for Community Gospel Chapel,

it will run from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A number of topics will be covered in short workshop formats. Those include an update to the POD team and the new POD situation report, use of Google drives for getting preparedness information, and the emergency management response system for mass notification.

Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George will give a special presentation on his experience with the catastrophic Cyclone Debbie in Australia earlier this year.

An RSVP to ssiepc@crd.bc.ca is requested. Any food restrictions should be included in the response. Breakfast is included.

LITERACY

# Reading program cheers success

Third year completed; more volunteers always welcomed

The One to One children's literacy program has completed its third year of operation on Salt Spring Island, thanks to the participation of more than 70 volunteers.

The Salt Spring Literacy Society successfully piloted a One to One program at Fulford School during the 2014/2015 school year and expanded the program to Fernwood, Salt Spring and Phoenix elementary schools the following year. All four schools have invited One to One to continue in the fall.

The first One to One reading program began in Vancouver in 1989 and has expanded to operate through local literacy societies in over 20 communities throughout B.C.

"One to One provides children with an opportunity to practise their reading in an environment where it is okay to take risks, make mistakes and learn at their own pace," explained local program coordinator Louise Shelly. "Each student selected for the program spends approximately 30 minutes two to four times a week with a volunteer tutor."

This year the Salt Spring Literacy Society provided materials, training and ongoing support for over 70 One to One tutors, who volunteered 60 to 90 minutes each week during one or both of the 12-week sessions that were offered.

"A majority of the tutors return each school year, but there is



PHOTO COURTESY SS LITERACY

Salt Spring Literacy volunteer Karen Walker listens to Andy Coles read during a One to One reading program session at Phoenix school this spring. While the spring session is now over, potential volunteers can always get more information in advance of the fall training session.

always a need for more tutors," said Shelly. "This is a great opportunity for anyone who loves to listen to children read."

Training for the 2017/2018 school year will be held in late September this year. One 12-week session will run from Oct. 9 to Jan. 18 and a second 12-week session will run from Jan. 29 to May 3.

One of this year's tutors shared her experience with the program.

"It has been a great pleasure to be a part of the One to One reading program," said Donna Cloete. "I've spent my career as a classroom teacher and I know how difficult it is to provide the kind of individualized attention these

children are getting through this program. Whether the students are struggling or gifted readers, I have worked with both in the program. They all benefit enormously from the one-on-one attention they receive. It is rewarding to witness their progress, whether it be improved expression and fluency or an enhanced ability to discuss a story. I truly enjoy their fresh perspective and their eagerness to participate."

For more information about the program and volunteering this fall, contact program coordinator Louise Shelly at lshelly@saltspringliteracy.org or phone 250-537-9717.

FARMING

# Poultry feed talk on tap

Nutritionist wisdom shared Tuesday at Foxglove conservatory

Paul Goertzen, a poultry nutritionist, will share information at a Salt Spring Poultry Club event set for this Tuesday, May 30.

The club explains that every feed store sells many different products in various forms at a variety of prices, but Goertzen can explain what poultry need at different ages and stages in life in order to stay healthy and grow at an appropriate rate.

The event will be held in Foxglove Farm and Garden's glass conservatory starting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30.

The poultry club invites all poultry keepers of any kind to attend.

The session is free to club members and by donation to non-members.

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## This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor  
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**TIP OF THE WEEK**

This Universal 1-Year continues to activate new initiatives at every level of society. All over the world, new governments have been elected and are beginning to exercise their power. This is how synchronicity works. Some call it the collective unconscious and others refer to it as the Holy Spirit. However you wish to describe it, there is a collective mind that weaves all apparently random and separate people and events into a grand unison. The main theme for 2017, therefore is the seeds of significant change that will affect us all for the entire 9-Year round that has begun. Regarding planetary energies, Saturn, Uranus, and Chiron in the backdrop are in close exchange and this is synchronizing with the realization improvement and healing at a collective level. The biggest challenge is gaining a consensus on what is needed and how it should be done. Of course, political debate and the struggle to achieve meaningful change are ever subject to dramatic processes. The North node in Leo is closely linked to this energy dynamic and suggests that many new and powerful leaders are and will enter the world stage at this time. So, the revolution is on and positive changes are occurring. Probably the most pivotal of these includes technological advances and social structural changes linked to energy sources. Replacing biofuels is the goal and it is happening. So, by 2026 we will be living in a much-changed world and there are many good indications that it will be better. Any appeals and initiatives to move back in the direction of biofuels can probably be interpreted as a clear indication that such moves are in the wrong direction, from the standpoint of the direction the collective energies appear to be leading us, all.

**Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)** Your energy levels are running high and your focus is strong; a good combination for success. Expressing yourself in original ways and possibly on more than one front is also likely. With your whole social scene steadily expanding, this is an exciting and opportune time for you. Your main task is to be open to learn new approaches.

**Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)** Your ambitions are running high and you are in the mood to dig deep. You want answers, yesterday. Dreams of possibility are dancing in the back of your mind. So, you have dreams and they are making it clear that you have work to do which has to be added to your existing load. At worst, you feel a little overwhelmed.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** You are in a pioneering mood. This includes exploring new territory and meeting new people. This may occur virtually as well as literally. Overcoming certain fears is part of the plot. You may just want to get away from it all, perhaps even run away. Yet, a playful mood is in this mix. A commitment to adventure and fun will boost your morale.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** How are you experiencing your urge for sweet retreat? If you are engaging with others you may notice that you feel a little distracted and impatient. The time is right to rest and recharge. All that may be required is less interaction and communication with others. You can still be productive. Take it slow and step back for a while.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** Your sense of individuality is strong now. It may come with an added measure of rebelliousness. If directed toward creative and inventive activity, you could really achieve some great feats. Cultural activities that touch upon alternative, metaphysical and/or spiritual interests will prove extra satisfying.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)** The focus now is on your career and/or social standing. This is a go-ahead period. It is also a good time to push for a promotion in whatever way that makes sense to your situation. You have begun to see a bigger picture and it is a source of excitement. There is work to do and this is one of those times when only you can do it.

**Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)** You are in a philosophical mood. Questioning of beliefs and philosophies and some measure of debate is likely. You are not simply in an agreeable mood. You are open yet skeptical as well. Whether the theme is tried and true or alternative and new, you want the facts. So, whoever you are interacting with will have to present a strong case.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** A time for discernment continues. Options are available yet the outcome of each is important to consider. Seeing the bigger picture and estimating the effects and outcomes of your actions are extra important. Your ambition levels are extra strong and so too are your desires. The challenge is to decipher the difference between them.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Your relationship life is getting some extra attention now. Interactions are lively, energetic and perhaps a bit provocative and punchy too. Your powers of critical analysis are running particularly high. This could work in your favor, but could also have a souring effect on relations. Aim for practicality and realism, yet keep an open mind about defining it.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Your mind is riveted to get answers. Many questions are crisscrossing and leading you to many different possible scenarios. Old relationship patterns are destined to be replaced by new ones. If you are fixed and stubborn in your attitude and interpretations and/or regarding perpetuating the status quo, things will feel heavy and difficult. Look for the openings.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** A fun, creative and exciting cycle has begun. Initially, your focus will be on the home front but will soon shift to taking new leads and strides. Fortunately, you are in a sporting mood. You are both willing and able to entertain new possibilities and some of these may even be interpreted as radical by some. Answer the call of adventure and risk.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)** Digging deep to examine your core beliefs, perspectives and interpretations are important now. It is something few people actually do because they are now aware of the importance of doing so and/or do not know how. Yet, in some respects, it is a norm for you. Even so, you are more pumped than usual to decipher what is important and what you need to do accordingly.

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## SOCCER

# Hosts give tourney guests true challenge

No shortage of excitement at Challenge Cup

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Fantastic weather, food, beer and soccer combined for a memorable Challenge Cup soccer tournament on the May long weekend.

Nineteen teams participated, including 13 from Vancouver Island, one from the Lower Mainland and five consisting mainly of Salt Spring players.

Two of the division winners tasted victory at the Challenge Cup for the first time. The Flashbacks, from Salt Spring, won the women's rec division over Chaos — another women's team from Salt Spring — by a 3-0 score in a hard-fought game.

Arse'n All won the women's comp division and first-time entrants Quw'utsun won the men's open division over the Sons of Pitches from Salt Spring by a score of 2-1, after barely squeaking by a mix-and-match team made up of Salt Spring FC and Gnome Hunters players in a shootout in the semi-finals.

"The Gnome Hunters had a pretty good showing despite throwing a team together at the last possible minute to make up numbers, and I am pleasantly surprised with how well we did," said tourney spokesperson Jordan Morrison.

"The Sons of Pitches lost in the finals for the second year in a row," he added. "I'm hoping that the third time will be a charm and they can finally bring home the trophy next year."

The Flashbacks were thrilled with their victory in the women's rec division.

"Despite never playing together before the first game against Castaways, we quickly gelled as a supportive and positive team and fought hard for our well-deserved wins," said team player/manager Kloe Holmes. "We ended



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Flashbacks team members celebrate their win in the women's rec division of the Challenge Cup soccer tournament at GISS on Sunday. See the Driftwood's Facebook page for more photos from the weekend.

the tourney playing a fun but intense game against friends and family members from the Salt Spring Island Chaos team, taking home the cup for the first time. The highlight for me would be scoring a last-minute goal to win against the Lost and Found Agains and seeing all of our effort pay off in winning the tourney."

Morrison was grateful to "all of the usual suspects" for their efforts in making the tourney a success.

"There is so much more that happens beyond the scenes — cleaning, set up, take down," he said.

"A special thank you to Fraser Hope, Karen Brown and Grandma Tweddle for all the time they put in working selling tickets. There are a few constants year after year and those three

putting in long shifts at the beer gardens are at the top of that list every year.

"The food was amazing as usual and I want to thank Andrew Walde, Carol Walde, Merv Walde and Mary-Ann McColl — and I'm sure I forgot someone in that mix — for making that happen."

Morrison gave further kudos to Tony Mason and the high school volleyball team for providing cold drinks, snacks and much-appreciated popsicles on the hot weekend. Mason also put in several hours at the scorers' table.

"He is another one of those people you know is going to be there when needed every year."

Morrison also appreciated Dean Crouse, Ray Colleran and their Thirsty Islander beer trailer for taking care of beer garden patrons.

## ROWING

# Rowers make their mark at Shawnigan

Salt Spring team impressive against tough competition

Salt Spring school-aged rowers shone in the Shawnigan Lake Regatta held on the May 12-14 weekend with high placements and personal best times.

Bonnie Reynolds and Clarewen Sladen-Dew finished first in the junior B women's novice double event.

Reynolds and Sladen-Dew joined Jessica Pearce and Catelyn Creswick with coxie Austin Bisnar to come third in the junior A women's novice quad division.

Malaya Hart-Weller, Haley Cadenhead, Stella Pingle, Celia Segura and coxie Austin Bisnar came in fourth place in the junior B women's novice quad.

Gabe Puhky finished 11th in the junior A men's singles race.

"It was an outstanding weekend for the Salt Spring Island Rowing Club's junior program with our strongest showing at the Shawnigan Lake Regatta," said coach Stacy Mitchell. "The weather was rainy and cold but the rowers were shining."

Mitchell gave a special shout-out to Oak Spindler, Stuart Hambrook, Nigel Bisnar and Obleo Demandre, who also rowed personal bests.

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# SAILING Winds abandon sailors in 44th annual round-island race

Eric Jespersen wins for second year in a row

BY PETE MCGOVERN  
ROUND S/S RACE CO-CHAIR

The waters around Salt Spring Island were decorated over the Victoria Day weekend by a paint palette of colourful spinnakers as 105 sailboats from around the region competed in the 44th Round Salt Spring race.

After the usual festivities on the Friday night, the serious business of racing commenced at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning with the first of seven division starts. Light winds were predicted for the race, but much to the relief of the race committee and the participants, a brisk northerly breeze had picked up in time for the start, allowing all boats to clear the line for an anti-clockwise excursion around the island.

The downwind start provided a colourful backdrop to the harbour and for the next two to three hours a steady breeze held as skippers sailed through Captain's Passage for an enjoyable windward leg up Trincomali Channel. This was not to last, as the very visible change in surface water at the south end of Wallace Island signalled the end of the wind. A few faster lead boats did make it around and found some wind in on the west side of the island. Lawndart, a 50-foot Santa Cruz from Nanaimo, was first boat past Vesuvius and with a handful of faster boats, managed to get through the Sansum Narrows before the tide change.

After many hours of trying, for many skippers this proved to be the end of the race as lack of wind and an adverse cur-



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Sunlight catches two of the 105 boats in the Round Salt Spring sailing race near Southey Point on Saturday. Only 10 entrants were able to finish the race by the cut-off time of 10:30 a.m. on Sunday due to lack of wind when needed.

rent around Southey Point made it impossible for them to reach Sansum Narrows before the change to a large flood tide. The rest of the boats fortunate enough to get around the top of the island made slow progress in patchy wind, most reaching Maple Bay and the entrance to the narrows too late to catch the tide. This brought on another round of retirements, leaving a much diminished fleet to fight

their way through the narrows by starlight. The lucky ones were treated to the sight of a pod of killer whales feeding in Sansum Narrows. Others had a more nerve-wracking experience, as a tugboat with log boom threaded its way through an obstacle course of barely controllable sailboats.

For the faster boats that had made it through the narrows, light winds around

Fulford slowed their progress and it wasn't until 1 a.m. that Mischief, Eric Jespersen's Melges 32, crossed the finish line. Over the next hour, three more boats finished: Westerly, the Santa Cruz 70; Straight Marine, a Farr 40; and Lawndart, the Santa Cruz 50.

At this point the race committee could well have gone to bed because the next boat didn't cross the line until eight hours later. In total only 10 boats finished by the 10:30 a.m. cut-off on Sunday morning.

Four Salt Spring boats remained in the race until the very end: Roger Kibble on Electra, Vincent Argiro on Velica, Gyle Keating on Wildfire and Douglas Woolcock on Firefly. Unfortunately, none finished in time and, for the first time on record, no Salt Spring boats finished the race.

For the second year in a row, Olympic medal winner Jespersen on his Melges 32, Mischief was the big winner, taking the Marshall Sharp Trophy as first overall on corrected time and also line honours for first to finish on elapsed time. With this latter accomplishment, Mischief became the first boat to win the newly donated Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Trophy.

The Salt Spring Island Sailing Club would like to thank all of its sponsors for their support and the Salt Spring Lions Club for providing the Sunday pancake breakfast. The club would also like to acknowledge the help of all volunteers and participants in allowing us to meet the goal of achieving "Clean Regatta" status as published by Sailors for the Sea.

Visit the Round Salt Spring website for further details, photographs and some excellent drone footage of the race: [www.saltspringsailing.ca/roundsaltspring/](http://www.saltspringsailing.ca/roundsaltspring/).

## GOLF Get Out and Golf Day part of ParticipACTION 150 Playlist

After-school junior program also open

BY MARCIA HOGAN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Golf is number 14 on the Par-

ticipACTION 150 Playlist. This Sunday, May 28 is Get Out and Golf Day. Come on out to the course and cross another activity off your list.

Or, join our free beginner lessons. They were a big hit on

### GOLFTEES

the second Monday of May when 10 new players and eight coaches began their drive, chip and putt lessons.

The time for the June 12 lessons has changed! They now run from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in consideration of beginners who want to come after work. The lessons are arranged so that you can be part of all four lessons from the start time or join just one or two of the 20-minute lessons whenever you are able to drop in.

For the youngsters, the Salt Spring Golf Club offers a free after-school golf program for juniors on Wednesday afternoons beginning last Wednesday. The first tee time is at 4 p.m. Since the program is a drop-in format, everyone should arrive by 3:30 p.m. and check in at the pro shop. Tee times will be organized while the juniors warm up. Parents are welcome to accompany a foursome.

Club pro Steve Marleau will assist with drive, chip and putt lessons throughout the season. Usually the juniors play seven holes, and then meet for

a burger or hot dog at Penny's Pantry.

The popular summer golf and tennis camps for juniors 10 to 16 years of age will run July 3-7 and July 10-14.

The men's division trophy event for the Mouat, Morris and Matson cups was held May 13. This competition has something for everyone, from the scratch golfer to the optimistic handicapper. The course played long due to damp conditions but, thanks to the efforts of our exemplary grounds crew, the greens were running fast and firm.

The Mouat Cup for Low Gross went to Zak Cutshall with an excellent round of 73, just one over par. Mike Horan shot a solid 75 for second place and John Johnston, in third place, carded an excellent 77.

Meanwhile, the low-net winner of the Morris Cup competition was John Johnston with a 64. Considering the conditions, Johnny's effort was outstanding.

Second place was taken by Larry Davies with a net 69 and third place was won by Don Nemeth with a net 70.

The third leg of this event is the season-long gross match play competition for the Mat-

son Cup. All players have now been seeded, including the consolation round for the net contingent.

The men's Sunday best league welcomes new members to play for skins, KPs, most improved back to front, low gross, low net and a season-long "best." Last week's big winner for the skins and KPs was Doug Fraser with one of each. Beginner golf coach Brian Dunbabin had a good day, winning low gross with a round of 80 and a skin.

### Charity Tournament

The 15th annual Choices/Community Initiatives day program tourney is on Saturday, June 3.

All proceeds ensure adults with special needs can participate in a variety of recreational programs during the next year.

The nine-hole Texas Scramble event is for golfers of all abilities, with first tee-off at noon.

Register at the golf club by June 1 in person, at 250-537-2121 or [golf@saltspring.com](http://golf@saltspring.com).

Everyone is welcome to take in the awards, raffle and auction part of the event after the golfing is done for the day.



## Get Out and Golf Day

Teed up for Sunday May 28

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The Canadian golf industry has partnered with ParticipACTION in designating Sunday, May 28 as Get Out and Golf Day. As part of Get Out and Golf Day, avid players and new enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in a round of golf.



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