

**BC FERRIES**

# Salish Eagle assumes Gulf Islands duties

New schedule challenged by Queen of Nanaimo propeller problem

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The newest member of the BC Ferries fleet launched service last Wednesday, winning positive reviews from crew and passengers alike during the Salish Eagle's first cruise through Active Pass and the Southern Gulf Islands.

"I'm really happy with the all-round visibility and the way the ship handles — it handles like a dream," Captain Derek Sweet said from the bridge during the vessel's first-ever passenger run out of Long Harbour.

The first of two dual-fuel-capacity ships to join service on the route, Salish Eagle was meant to complement the Queen of Nanaimo this summer in place of the smaller Bowen Queen. Ironically, the Nanaimo had a major mechanical issue Thursday that took it completely out of service for at least a week, just one day after the Eagle came on and one day into the summer schedule.

Passengers have been getting even more opportunity to see the new ship than expected as a result, with the Eagle having added round-trip sailings Tuesday through Thursday this week.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

The first car unloads at Long Harbour from the inaugural trip of the Salish Eagle from Tsawwassen on June 21.

**SALISH EAGLE** continued on 2

**TRANSPORTATION**

# SSITC seeks funds for Ganges Hill safety fix

Transportation plan extension possible for Embe stretch of road

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Transportation Commission is looking to extend improvements under the North Ganges Transportation Plan to include the contested stretch of Fulford-Ganges Road that passes by Embe Bakery.

The commission voted Monday to pursue the idea of tacking on an extra contract with engineering consultants JE Anderson to improve the bus stop/pull-put and pedestrian area by going after \$26,500 that's currently sitting in the Capital Regional District's regional parks reserve fund.

Commission chair Robin Williams will make a request to the CRD's board of directors that the funds — which were left over from \$50,000 allocated to a 2012 study of Ganges Hill — be turned over to facilitate the work.

Action was prompted by Salt Spring RCMP and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure plans to stop vehicles from picking up hitchhikers outside Embe Bakery, which local police have determined is a particularly unsafe location.

The proposal to install a barrier and enforce a hitchhiking ban with ticketing provoked a large community protest on June 5.

**SSITC** continued on 4

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# Efficiencies expected as crew gets handle on new ship

**SALISH EAGLE** The Nanaimo's retirement from BC Ferries this fall will be well deserved after more than 50 years in service, and many islanders have a fondness for the older ferry. Several of the senior crew aboard the Eagle have especially strong connections. Senior master Sweet, chief engineer Ian Williamson and chief steward Kitty Byron — all of whom graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School — have each spent their entire careers aboard the Nanaimo until now. For Sweet that means 30 years with the vessel.

The new Salish class ships have come with more complex systems, but exciting new capabilities and improvements. And senior crew like Sweet and Williamson have actually been part of the design process, meaning their sense of ownership and understanding of the new vessels is high.

Each of the three ships has unique artwork by a different First Nations artist on its outer hull, but inside they have been built to be identical and therefore interchangeable if need be. The first vessel that came on line was the Orca, which began serving the Comox-Powell River route in May. The Raven is the third and final ship. It arrived in Victoria on June 7 and will be commissioned this fall.

As seen on the Eagle, the bridge is a beautiful and airy loft at the top of the ship with windows on all sides and ergonomic chair controls that Sweet helped design. The ship's master also helmed the Eagle on its journey from the Remontowa shipbuilding yard in Poland on the leg to Panama and was impressed by the way it handled while crossing the Atlantic.

"It really gives you confidence in the ship," he said.

Noting some people were worried the open deck design would cause water to wash over the bow on the local routes, Sweet said he was a little surprised this didn't



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

A car disappears 'down the hatch' to the lower car deck on the Salish Eagle, which can hold 145 vehicles on two deck levels.

happen on the open ocean.

"We did have some flying fish coming in, actually," Sweet said, adding, "I thought it was really quite nice how it handled the open sea. I think it will be no problem in the Strait of Georgia."

Williamson was involved with the ships' building and development at the shipyard, and also completed the trip across the Atlantic. He's equally pleased with the operating systems, including the electrical grid and dual fuel system.

"I'm really happy with it from a propulsion standpoint," he said.

The Salish class features two car decks, with a Transform-

ers-like hatch that opens up on the main deck to allow vehicles to load or unload to the lower level. The lower deck is surprisingly large and appears more roomy than the Nanaimo's main car deck. Large portholes give a view outside but can be closed if need be.

The ship appears tall because it is — the bridge is actually two feet higher than on the Spirit class serving Tsawwassen-Swartz Bay. There is only one deck of passenger seating, but an extra deck above has crew accommodations in case the vessel is ever stationed somewhere away from a home port.

Unlike other ferries, the control room is located just

below the bridge instead of on the engine level. Williamson explained there are several reasons for this. One is that since all the monitoring is now done by computer screen, there's no reason to be next to the engine equipment. And there are good reasons not to be: In the event of fire or fuel leak, engineers would normally be situated right in the midst of the action.

The engine room is also hot and noisy, so the move is better for general health and safety reasons.

Ferries CEO and president Mark Collins said he likes the fact that it allows easier communication between the captain and the engineers. And because they now have a room with windows, these technicians get a much better idea of where the ship is sailing on its route and under what conditions.

The double-ended configuration also means the ferry can now go straight out of a terminal, instead of having to turn around at each port.

Sweet noted the Nanaimo's multi-port loading, combined with the direction of travel, required a certain type of "mental gymnastics" from crew. They are now working out a different equation.

"Once we get used to it, I think it will really improve our efficiency," Sweet said.

Perhaps the biggest change

between the old ships and the Salish class vessels is the switch from marine diesel to running mainly on liquefied natural gas.

For the engineers, switching from diesel to LNG is as simple as clicking a button on a screen. Lower emissions mean a benefit to the company's carbon footprint — an estimated reduction of 9,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, and improved health and safety for crew.

Collins reports BC Ferries is the first company in the world to do on-deck fuelling, with special trucks provided by Fortis BC for that purpose. This allowed the corporation to save \$100 million or more by not constructing a special pier in Victoria, and also introduced a technology that other companies around the world are interested in replicating.

"We're really proud of that. It's a made in B.C. solution," Collins said.

Collins also likes the fact that LNG comes in at half the price of diesel and is sourced in British Columbia, with reserves that are estimated to have a 300-year supply. BC Ferries' diesel fuel bill for 2016 amounted to \$118 million.

BC Ferries has contracted the Remontowa yard to convert its two Spirit-class vessels to have LNG capability during mid-life upgrades from 2017 to 2019.

## BC FERRIES

# Propeller failure docks Queen of Nanaimo

Select sailings added for Salish Eagle

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BC Ferries has cancelled all scheduled sailings on the Queen of Nanaimo due to mechanical difficulties with the vessel's controllable pitch propeller, with service not expected to resume before Friday, June 30 at the earliest.

The breakdown occurred on Thursday, June 22. A BC Ferries press release issued Monday stated "specialized technicians are making significant progress and have been working to determine the exact cause of the mechanical issue."

BC Ferries public affairs manager Darin Guenette added the corporation hoped to have the Nanaimo back

in service as soon as possible, but there was no way to say if that would be accomplished by Friday or not.

The timing is unfortunate since the breakdown occurred just one day after the start of the summer schedule, which usually sees added capacity to Salt Spring via direct sailings between Long Harbour and Tsawwassen on the Bowen Queen. With the Bowen doing replacement service on the Port McNeill/Alert Bay/Sointula Bay route until July 3, the Salish Eagle, which was just introduced to service last Wednesday, was left as the sole vessel serving the Tsawwassen-Southern Gulf Islands.

High traffic over the weekend produced delays as long as 90 minutes for some sailings. Guenette said there were lineups Sunday on Mayne Island, where the annual Campbell Bay Music Festival was taking place. Operations

ran smoothly on the water, though, despite crews getting used to a brand new vessel with the Salish Eagle.

"It took a long time to process traffic and get cars loaded at some of the ports, but they were certainly glitch-free in the first five days of service," Guenette said.

"It will be a challenge in the next few days with the extra sailings, but the crews have been trained on the Salish class, first on the Orca and now on the Eagle, so there shouldn't be too many unfamiliarities."

BC Ferries added some sailings to Southern Gulf Islands ports other than Long Harbour Tuesday through Thursday. Check the service notices on the online schedule for details and updates.

Passengers are recommended to take through-fare routes via Swartz Bay to access the Lower Mainland if possible.

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# NEWSBEAT

## Heads up!

**2nd Annual Rotary Salt Spring Crabfest:**  
Sunday, JULY 2  
Rotary Park next to Thrifty's, 4 to 9 p.m.

### ISLAND HISTORY

## Recovered Temmel mural to be re-covered at hotel

Original painting from 1972 beer parlour wing

BY SEAN HITREC  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Renovations at the Harbour House Hotel in Ganges have revealed a 45-year-old mural painted by Alfred Temmel.

As a team of construction workers tore down drywall in the old beer parlour area of the hotel, a mural began to appear. The mural now sits open with pieces missing and glue stuck across the oil paint in big Xes.

"It just about brought tears to my eyes," said Janet Cliffe, a local artist and muralist who has restored other uncovered works from Temmel. "Those murals always stayed buried in the walls."

Cliffe said given the opportunity she would like to restore the recently uncovered scenes.

"I just want to preserve them before they get covered again," she said.

However, the room-length, floor-to-ceiling mural cannot be restored without considerable investment, according to Harbour House general manager Erin Williams, so it will be covered back up.

"There is asbestos behind the mural . . . and we can't really



PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

Liam Roscoe of Hans Hazenboom Construction stands next to the 45-year-old mural uncovered during a renovation at the Harbour House Hotel. The mural cannot be easily removed so will be covered back up.

retouch [the existing mural] and try to recreate it there because it's part of the fire escape route."

The space will become a lounge bistro, opening sometime in the fall, said Williams.

The mural was originally painted as part of a new beer-parlour wing of the hotel in 1972 and depicted some history of Salt Spring Island. Usha Rautenbach, a Salt Spring Archives volunteer, said the mural

is based on a book titled Salt Spring Island by Bea Hamilton, published in 1969. Though Rautenbach said the accuracy of the book is questionable, the paintings do have historical significance.

"[The book was as] non-historical as you can get. As told in legend without regard for the truth," Rautenbach said, even if many people included in the paintings were real.

Six scenes are represented, each with their own poem. Temmel used a doggerel style of poetry, a 14th-century English poetry irregular in rhythm and rhyme. The first section of the painting depicts John Craven Jones, one of the first black settlers of the island, who taught school for at least 10 years without pay, she said.

"The reason why I love the mural is because of the first one by the door which is of John C. Jones teaching the children," Rautenbach said. "Jones was a black man who came with the first black pioneers . . . He came specifically to teach the children on the island."

Other sections include a man "pit-lighting," or hunting with a lamp attached to his head to shoot at the glaring, reflected eyes of what is hopefully a deer (two dead horses lay next to the man), a party scene, a marriage proposal, a horse-drawn carriage and a cougar next to a baby carriage.

Pieces of other island history murals by Temmel can be seen at the Bittancourt House Museum on the Farmers' Institute grounds.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Log jam mars Burgoyne dock

The Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island and its Small Craft Harbours partner Fisheries and Oceans Canada are working to come up with a repair plan after the Burgoyne Bay dock sustained minor damage on Saturday.

Harbour manager Jim Heath reported a dead-head log got jammed under

the floats in the centre of the dock on Saturday, and at low tide it pushed the floats out of the water. This caused some of the flotation billets to escape. The dock settled back in the water after the log slipped out.

"We have removed the log and recovered two of the flotation billets and are working with DFO on a plan to resolve the problem," Heath reported Monday. "The dock is still secure in place but sits lower in the

water at the centre due to the absence of some of the flotation."

No one was injured in the incident and the dock appears serviceable for the time being, Heath added.

### Red tide alert

Fisheries and Oceans Canada's most recent update issued Friday states most areas of the Gulf Islands have been closed to all shellfish harvesting due to elevated

marine bio-toxin levels, or "red tide."

Sub-Area 17.2 — which includes Trincomali Channel beaches along north-east Salt Spring from Southey Point to just south of Walker Hook — is open to manila clams, little-neck clams, oysters and mussels only, and closed to all other bivalve shellfish. Shellfish harvesting in other areas around Salt Spring is closed.

The DFO warns that when an area is official-

ly "closed" it is both illegal and unsafe to harvest shellfish from that area. Eating contaminated shellfish can make people very sick and can even be life threatening. Cooking shellfish does not destroy all biotoxins.

Marine biotoxins may reflect paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP, red tide), domoic acid poisoning (also known as amnesic shellfish poisoning), or diarrhetic shellfish poisoning.

## FOR THE RECORD

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District has seven, not eight, members of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4467. The eighth career firefighter in the department is Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George, who is not in the firefighters union.

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# Residual study funds eyed for immediate needs

## SSITC

continued from 1

Protest organizer Hannah Brown followed up with a delegation to the transportation commission's meeting Monday. She was supported by the Raging Grannies, a large crowd of local residents and Island Pathways members who happened to be in attendance.

"Our protest had a turn-out of 200 supporters who were able to come that day and at that time. That is a small proportion of the number of supporters of this issue of equity . . . of the belief that hitchhiking is one of the ways that we address necessity or poverty or disability or bad luck on the island, preventing people from being unable

to work, unable to get their food," Brown said. "We are not prepared to allow our neighbours, our poor, disabled, elderly or students to fall between the cracks and this is one of the many ways we ensure this. We have had no problems with people being killed over hitchhiking."

Brown said her attempts to work with the RCMP to find a solution were not successful so she was asking the commission to come up with a plan to help drivers and hitchhikers act safely. While the position of local detachment head Sgt. Ryan Netzer is that hitchhiking is illegal, Brown said her legal advice suggests otherwise.

"What you as a transportation [commission] need to remember is that this is a simple case of trying to solve a problem that does not exist. We have not heard that hitchhiking on our lovely island has caused terrible accidents or abductions. I have heard no data around this because there is none," Brown said.

Speaking to the item later on the agenda, the commission agreed to explore having a professional design completed for the short stretch of road in order to meet ministry safety requirements.

"The issue is not really about hitchhiking. The issue is about road safety on Ganges Hill," Williams said, reminding commissioners that a major project for the area is envisioned for the next local election cycle.

While the larger project to create a multipurpose pathway up the hill would be funded through taxpayer referendum, Williams said there is an opportunity to extend JE Anderson's contract to include a design for the shorter stretch of road, which then could be tendered for construction at the same time as a project on Lower Ganges and Rainbow roads.

Some funds from a 2014 referendum should be available for the project, along with a transfer from the commission's transit reserve and



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring's Raging Grannies group sings in support of keeping hitchhiking viable on the island as a social justice issue during Monday's meeting of the Salt Spring Transportation Commission.

possibly the left-over Ganges Hill study funds, Williams said.

**"The issue is not really about hitchhiking. The issue is about road safety on Ganges Hill."**

ROBIN WILLIAMS  
Chair, Salt Spring Transportation Commission

Salt Spring CRD manager Karla Campbell told the commission the CRD Board is unlikely to release the \$26,500 because all member communities contribute to the regional parks pot and any money left over from projects is returned to the

reserve for future needs.

"The CRD Board gave us this money in the first place, and if we ask the board, or the regional parks board, then they can formally say no and they can justify it," Williams said. "But you know as the Bible says, 'You don't have it if you don't ask,' and I'd like to ask."

The commission did not pursue Williams' second suggestion, which was to apply for funding through the Ministry of Transportation's Transit Minor Betterments Program. Eligible projects must meet one of the goals of the Provincial Transit Plan, and can improve transit safety, accessibility and ridership, among other goals.

Commissioners decided against applying as the group already has a request in to build a new bus pullout on Fulford-Ganges Road across from Arnell Way and will now be asking for the CRD park funds.

## Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the  
**Gulf Islands Driftwood office**  
will be closed on  
**Monday July 3 - Canada Day**  
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**Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood  
Wednesday July 5 edition will be as follows:**

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**Friday June 30, 2pm**

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## TRANSPORTATION

# Isabella Point repair delayed

Local materials tested for environmental impact

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Residents of the Isabella Point area will be forced to drive with extra caution for another month or so, since repairs to a dramatic wash-out aren't projected to be complete until August.

A section of high bank slumped into the ocean on Feb. 16 after heavy storms. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure reported at the end of that month that slope and road stability had been assessed and that repairs would take place once the weather improved. On April 3, ministry staff stated that repairs could begin imminently.

But a ministry update provided last week says construction is now expected to go ahead in mid-July with a finish "by early August, weather permitting." Delays were incurred because of the wish to source materials at a local quarry.

"Because the boulders and drainage rocks need to be placed in an environmentally sensitive location, ministry staff arranged to have testing performed on the rock that we intend

to use from the local quarry. The ministry has completed the testing and is now prepared to excavate the rock from the quarry and then use it to repair the road," communications staff wrote in an email to the Driftwood.

Salt Spring resident Frants Atorp received a more detailed response to a list of questions he sent to Ryan Evanoff, MoTI's operations manager for southern Vancouver Island.

According to Evanoff, initial tests on the locally sourced material "concluded that the rock had a high probability of acid/metal leaching, so we chose to cancel that order and looked for alternatives.

"A second section of the same quarry was identified that lacked the acid/metal vein and the area was tested. These tests came back excellent and we're able to proceed, but the delay lost our place in line at the quarry. We're next in line though for the rock removal," Evanoff wrote.

He said ministry staff decided to stay with the same local quarry and do another test because of the high cost associated with barging material over from somewhere else.

Evanoff said in his email that a final cost estimate for the project was not yet available. The project is being completed under the ministry's emergency works program.

FIRE DISTRICT

# Mitch Forest resigns as fire board chair and trustee

GVRLA transition happy accomplishment

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The last member of the slate of four trustees elected together to the Salt Spring Fire Protection District on a platform of promoting change has now left the organization, with Mitch Forest tendering his resignation as of June 20.

"On behalf of the district I wish to acknowledge the enormous contribution made by trustee Forest and thank him for his service to the district and our community," SSIFPD corporate administrative officer Andrew Peat said in a news state-

ment announcing the resignation on Thursday.

Forest was elected to the board in April 2015 along with Derek Hill, Linda Lee and Norbert Schlenker. Forest stayed on and became chair after his running mates all resigned last October.

"It has come to the point that my family life will be keeping me away from being able to fulfill my responsibilities as chair, as well as trustee," Forest wrote in his resignation letter. "Having five children on three continents will be keeping us busy and off island quite a bit."

"I wish the board the best," he added.

Speaking to the Driftwood on Thursday, Forest noted the former

board had put in many work hours to clear up old business and make some of the changes they promised after they were elected in 2015. Now with another new board in which five of the six remaining trustees began serving just this year, the magnitude of work required has greatly increased once again.

"I certainly put in a fair amount of time, and having been from a firefighter background, obviously I have a lot of sympathy with the people," Forest said. "My biggest regret for no longer being there is leaving behind a lot of people I respect — firefighters, our CAO and staff — but at this point I need to take care of myself."

One accomplishment Forest is happy to have had behind him

before he left is the district's acceptance into the Greater Victoria Labour Relations Association. He was part of the application process and participated in the board's vote to accept the terms the night before he resigned.

Forest feels there are many reasons why it is healthier for the district to take the union contract negotiations out of the board of trustees venue.

"I think it will be very simple . . . there will be no hard feelings between the firefighters and the trustees," he said. "Once you sign onto the GVRLA and they accept you, you basically hand them your heart. You tell them what you would like to accomplish and you give

them a shopping list, but after that it's pretty much hands off."

On the topic of whether or not the fire board should take a position on the island's incorporation, Forest said he believes trustees should supply the relevant information to ratepayers about what the financial impact will be in either scenario, so they can make up their minds on a more informed basis.

Forest said he will miss the process but in the end feels he is leaving the district in good hands.

"I do think the people that are there now mean well, will work hard and will produce a good product," he said.

A new board chair will be elected at the trustees' July 5 meeting.

COMMUNITY

# Galiano school wins new playground

BCAA finds extra funds for worthy project

BY SEAN HITREC  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Galiano Island has won a new school playground after coming in fourth place in competition against far larger communities in B.C.

After a hard campaign that included garnering votes through trips to other islands and on BC Ferries sailings, Galiano finished fourth out of 10 finalists in the Play Here Competition with BCAA. Although BCAA's intention with the competition was to give a new \$100,000 playground to the top three communities via an online voting system, Galiano was awarded another full \$100,000 prize for a new playground on Friday.

"All of the islands just really got behind it," said Kate Emmings, co-organizer of the Galiano Playground Committee. "We're all really, really happy and grateful to all the people who showed support for Galiano."

Emmings added that people were tirelessly looking for support throughout the campaigning process.

The end result was a finish that was almost too close to call.

"It looked like we were just shy of 3,000 votes from coming in third," Emmings said. "We got close to 80,000 votes. The next group down was less than half that."

Galiano was originally in the running with hundreds of other communities. BCAA then chose 10 finalists.

Bouchie Lake Elementary School in Quesnel and McKay Street Park in Prince Rupert earned the most votes. Throughout the voting period, Galiano battled for third spot with Marion Schilling Elementary School in Kamloops, which has a population of over 90,000. Galiano's year-round population in the 2016 census was only 1,044.

Shawn Pettipas, senior manager of community impact for BCAA, said giving four winners up to \$100,000 for their "dream playground" was the right thing to do.

"Out of 425,000 [total] votes . . . there were four very clear front-runners," he said.

BCAA will be involved in creating the playgrounds with the winning

communities.

"Were going to project manage this with the communities from the beginning to the end," Pettipas said. "It's going to be a true partnership between us and the communities to build those play spaces."

Galiano Community School principal Shannon Johnston said it's important to replace the playground.

"The original structure is over 30 years old," Johnston said. "There are parts that have fallen out and others are rusted."

In addition, Johnston said today's style of playgrounds compared to 30 years ago allows children much more freedom and creativity with equipment.

"[Contemporary playgrounds have] more open-ended structures that invite kids to not be limited to just sliding down. They open up the creativity," she said.

The committee is meeting with BCAA this Thursday about what to include in their new playground.

"We talked about spinners, climbers, different heights," Johnston said. The goal for the user is "to take safe risks and challenge yourself."

AWARDS

# Stewardship awards named

Salt Spring's Bob Weeden among those honoured

Islands Trust Council announced the recipients of the 15th Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards at its June 22 meeting on Lasqueti Island.

Trust Council recognized four individuals and four groups from among 18 nominees for their support for the Islands Trust's mandate to protect and preserve the Trust Area and its unique environment and amenities. Activities recognized this year include community services, developing a natural burial cemetery, promoting arts and culture, wildlife rescue and conservation projects.

Winners were announced in three different categories.

**Individual Category**

• Bob Turner of Bowen Island for promoting conservation of Howe Sound.

• Liz Giocea of Gabriola Island for 30 years of advocating for wildlife and the environment.

**Organization Category**

• 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).

**Enduring Achievement**

• Bob Weeden of Salt Spring Island for 21 years of leadership in conservation and environmental stewardship.

• Everhard van Lidth de Jeude of Bowen Island for 30 years of fostering ecological sustainability.

• Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society for 38 years of providing health care services.

• Saturna Community Club for 80 years of promoting social and environmental well-being.



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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

# Eagle's debut

It's not every day that a new ferry comes into service, so it's no surprise that the feeling aboard the Salish Eagle's inaugural sailing day on June 21 was celebratory.

Free coffee and cookies were even offered to all customers, a rare happening in the world of BC Ferries.

The Eagle is a more appropriate size for the route it serves and will more easily move between ports as a double-ended vessel. It's more fuel efficient and technologically advanced, and the eagle artwork design by Stz'uminous First Nation artist John Marston is striking. Most noticeably for passengers is a quiet and smooth ride.

The Salish Eagle is one of two sister ships to be serving the corporation's Route 9 in the Southern Gulf Islands during summer months, with the second one, the Salish Raven, not quite ready for service. A third Salish-class ship, the Orca, is already serving the Comox-Powell River route.

### THE ISSUE:

New ferry

### WE SAY:

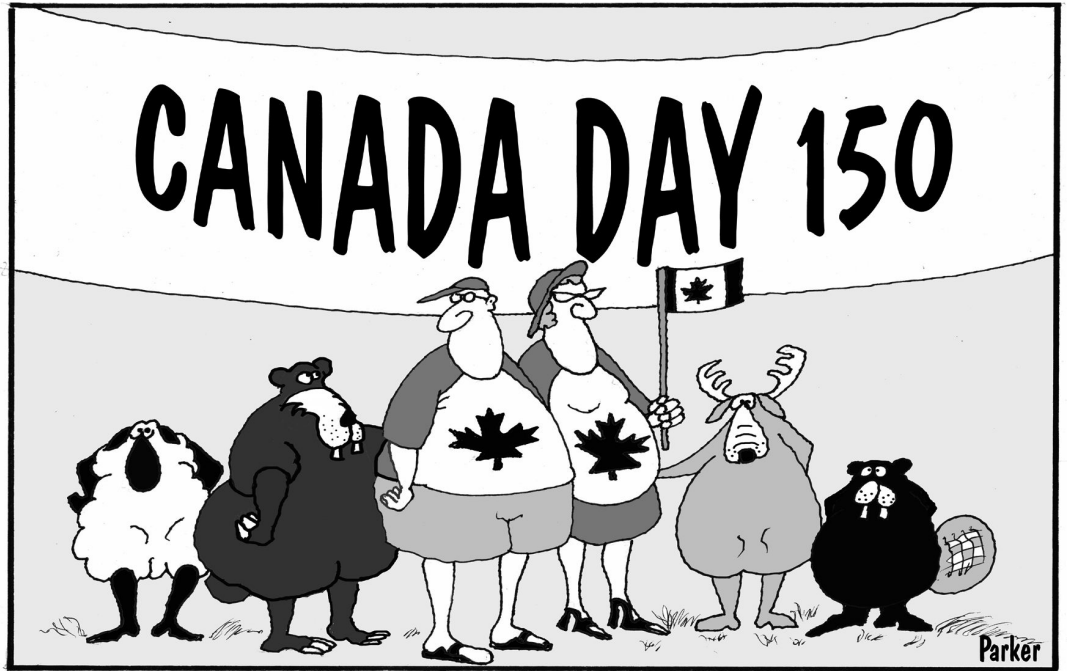
She can't do it all by herself

Considering the mayhem that resulted after the Queen of Nanaimo experienced a mechanical issue and was taken out of service on June 22, commissioning of the Raven cannot happen soon enough. Delays of up to 90 minutes occurred on Sunday, for example, as Campbell Bay Music Festival attendees on Mayne Island tried to leave the island but had one less boat at their disposal. Other people who hoped to get on the Queen of Nanaimo were left scrambling to find another way on or off Salt Spring and the other islands.

When the Salish-class vessels were being planned, it was envisioned that the 2017 summer schedule would be served by two new vessels. While receiving and commissioning of all three vessels was not too far off the planned track, the Raven, at least, has been just late enough to throw a wrench in the works with the Nanaimo's reliability apparently in question. It won't be ready until the fall.

BC Ferries could be chastized for not having a backup ship available to fill in for the Nanaimo this week, although it did add a few extra sailings for Galiano and Mayne islands to alleviate some pressure.

Islanders should be happy to have a brand new and reliable ship in its ports and waters, but the Eagle clearly cannot serve the route alone, especially on busy long weekends like the one coming up.



VIEWPOINT by SHARON MCCOLLOUGH

# Tax break a possible housing solution

Our housing problems are far from unique. Years ago, our suites and guest cottages and funky cabins (some legal, some not, no one cared) were occupied by local working folks.

Then came the tourism boom and very quickly there were instances where Granny was literally turfed out. This phenomena is not a result of governance decisions, it is market driven! Because Salt Spring is a desirable place to live, properties are expensive, which makes seeking income from the use of these properties attractive and sometimes necessary.

Would a property owner rather have \$800 a month for a 12-month residential rental or \$800 a week for the six-month tourist season plus \$800 a month for the six months off-season rental? Do the math. The long-term residential rental income would be \$9,600 annually whereas the six months commercial plus six months residential income would be \$25,600, or over two and a half times more income.

The vacation rental phenomena has burgeoned and some houses were purchased as commercial investments. If one googles Vacation Rentals by Owner you can at times find 421 listings on Salt Spring and Home To Go lists 489 rentals on Salt Spring. Very few of those are commercial accommodations and some of the listings are cross registered with Air BnB, Expedia, Trivago, etc. The vacation rentals range from a suite in a home or a guest cottage to two, three, four and five-bedroom luxury homes. Quite a few are owned by non-residents.

Whether on- or off-island owned, these VRs would provide "affordable" housing to nurses, servers, tradesmen, teachers, etc., but this housing pool is going to tourists and being pulled out of the residential rental market. Additionally, the commercial activity of these rentals sometimes negatively impacts residential neighbourhoods. Further, there is the disruptive effect of dislocating renters for half a year that damages the social fabric of our community.

Another housing phenomena affecting our local economy is that of non-resident ownership. While non-resident owners pay property taxes and provide some employment for local property managers, security services and gardeners, they do not contribute to the economy on a daily basis. For three quarters of the year, these property owners do not get haircuts or massages, nor buy gas, clothes, hardware or groceries. They don't buy medications, toiletries, burgers or bagels. They do not volunteer for the SPCA, service clubs, thrift shops, etc. Non resident ownership erodes authentic community.

Putting the water availability issue aside for the moment, if the Trust or a city council were to support the creation of 100 more "secondary suites" or guest cottages, odds are that 98 of those would become commercial tourist accommodations. (The economic incentive being a yield of more than two and a half times the long-term residential rental income.) That may be what the community desires but it does not address the residential housing problem at all. Repeat: it's market driven!

Housing problems are affecting big and little cities around the world. With the rise of the internet tourism marketing agencies, it is a global phenomena. The VR surge is even more impactful in locations that are especially attractive to tourists such as the Southern Gulf Islands.

Discussions with realtors and contractors have clarified that building duplexes or apartment buildings is just not sufficiently profitable. One pragmatic means of addressing the housing problem would be for the provincial government to grant a property tax break to property owners who opt to rent their accommodations residentially.

The writer is a long-time Salt Spring resident and resort owner.

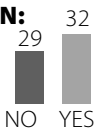
### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is Canada a better place now than when you were born? 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:

Do you like the new SGI ferry schedules?



## Driftwood

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# ISLAND VOICES

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We have had no problems with people being killed over hitchhiking."**

HANNAH BROWN, PROTEST ORGANIZER TO SSITC MEETING

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** What is your favourite thing about Canada?



**GYORGY HEXNER**  
*The scenery, the wildlife, the wilderness.*



**AIKI ALABERT**  
*At the end of the day, it is the people [who] make it unique.*



**COLLEEN BOWEN**  
*I love the friendly people. Coming from Africa, not everybody is friendly, so to me people always seem gentle and friendly here.*



**CURTIS SHAW**  
*The freedom... We are freer than the United States... and we don't have Donald Trump, so that's a good thing.*



**CATHY OLLECH**  
*Freedom... We're able to speak our minds, we're able to live our lives without persecution. Freedom of religion, freedom of choice. I think it's the best place on earth.*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Better person because of hitchhiking

If I hadn't hitchhiked myself and given people rides... I wouldn't have heard the story of 75-year-old Jean telling me how her eight-year-old brother saved her life when she was swimming at the lake.

I wouldn't have found a great mechanic, plumber, yoga teacher, herbalist, to name a few.

I wouldn't have found

a classical pianist to talk crazily about music and composers we love.

I wouldn't have seen all the beauty one can't take in when you're driving.

I wouldn't have heard rich island stories from people that were born here.

I wouldn't have had the joy of all four hitchhikers singing rounds with me of sacred songs.

I wouldn't have been connected to the generation that's coming forth.

I wouldn't have been able to give the guys who don't cook but want to

a three-ingredient recipe for a sauce that will impress their girlfriend.

I wouldn't have found so many natural remedies from our knowledgeable community.

I wouldn't have been able to talk of my Scottish heritage and perhaps contribute some historical facts.

I wouldn't have developed as much tolerance, patience, humility and compassion.

I am a better person because of it.  
**JOHN ASHLIE,**  
SALT SPRING

### Pragmatic position

Thirteen people signed a letter to the editor in the last edition of the Driftwood, taking the North Salt Spring Waterworks District to task for "straying into political territory."

Interestingly, just one of them is a ratepayer of the NSSWD. Otherwise they would probably feel differently if they had taken the time to check out what is at stake.

Aside from current water supply problems, the NSSWD is faced with other major

expenditures within the next few years. Structured as a local improvement district, they are not eligible for receiving available provincial and federal grants. As a municipality, they would be.

Yes, the NSSWD would be eligible if they were to become a service area under the CRD. Other Salt Spring water improvement districts have done that in the past. Unfortunately, they have experienced major problems. Just ask ratepayers of the Fulford, Beddis or Cedar Lane waterworks districts, for example. Moreover, all their ratepayers continue to pay

administrative and operating costs to the CRD, regardless of performance.

Rather than taking a political position on incorporation, the NSSWD has taken a pragmatic position. It is a financial one, in the best interests of all ratepayers within the NSSWD. By extension, funding assistance for other needed community infrastructure projects and community facilities would become available if islanders vote for incorporation.

**BOB RUSH,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

# Spell checkers are a misspeller's worst friend

If you are like most people, you've never heard of "the Cupertino effect."

For your information, Cupertino is a small town in California which happens also to be the world headquarters of Apple Inc. Over 15,000 of Cupertino's population of 60,000 inhabitants are employed by Apple. This connection between Cupertino and the computer world is significant because it has placed the name "Cupertino" in the dictionary used by older spell-checker programs. Back then, the term "cooperation" was not yet an accepted form of the hyphenated "co-operation," and subsequently every time you tried to type "cooperation," the spell-checker would replace it with "Cupertino." That is the Cupertino effect.

How's that for a roundabout way of introducing this week's topic, the spell checker? Actually, it is more commonly referred to as "that damn spell checker" or "spell chucker" and is scorned and cursed at almost as much as robocalls.

Research on spell checking programs goes back to 1957 and the early days of computers, when a mainframe computer was the size of a building and was only used by university nerds. The first spell checkers for the ubiquitous personal computers were introduced for the CP/M and TRS-80 computers in 1980. These early prototypes were quite limited in what they were capable of doing. They could identify that a word was spelled incorrectly, but could not make any suggestions as to what the proper spelling should be.

It seems to me that these computer

dinosaurs are preferable to the ones we have today that suggest some whackily inappropriate word that looks vaguely like the word we have misspelled.

How does spell checker work? Many writers will argue that it works badly if at all. The theory is, however, that the spell checker creates a wordlist or dictionary of all acceptable words. It then uses a series of algorithms to match misspelled words with words in the wordlist that the user might have meant to use. The better the wordlist and the more effective the algorithms, the better the chance that the replacement word will be the intended word with the correct spelling.

That's the theory, anyway. In reality, we all know the sole purpose of the spell checker is to annoy and make us look bad. There are a number of ways the spell checker can irritate to the point of distraction. It can offer up a malapropism to replace a word you may have mistyped. For instance, you may find that "maximize your assets" has been changed to "maximize your asses." Similarly, "baked beans" can be morphed into "naked beings."

Another trick that the spell checker uses to sabotage language is the malonym, where the replacement word carries a negative connotation. For example, "categories" can suddenly become "cat orgies" and "definitely" changes to "deaf nettles."

There are certain words you can count on your spell checker to get wrong. It will



**Shilo Zylbergold**

**NOBODY ASKED ME BUT**

almost always give you the wrong form of words that are homonyms (sound alike). So, it's fundamentally a crapshoot to get the proper usage of its/it's, there/they're/their, or which/witch. If you are trying to write the sentence "It's that witch over there," your spell checker has a one in 12 chance of getting it right.

A parody of how a spell checker can obfuscate the meaning of language can be found in a poem by Mark Eckman and Jerrold H. Zar which is titled "Candidate for a Pullet Surprise." Although the poem is too long to reprint here, a verse of the poem will give you the general idea:

"A checker is a bless sing./It freeze yew lodes of thyme./It helps me right awl stiles two reed./And aides me when eye rime."

As subversive as the spell checker ever became, the one saving grace was that, in order for the suggested replacement word or phrase to be accepted, the writer had to click the appropriate icon in the dialogue box. This made it possible to eliminate most of the outlandish and inappropriate suggestions that the spell checker had offered.

Then along came auto spell check. Whenever you enable this app on your computer, you are basically allowing all havoc to break loose. You are giving your spell checker free rein to replace your text willy-nilly without having to check back

with you to make sure that this is actually what you had meant to say. This is tantamount to letting your sister's good-for-nothing ex move into the basement of your house, giving him free access to your beer fridge, and telling him all the passwords to your bank accounts.

As I write this column, we are coming up to the tenth anniversary of the iPhone. On July 27, 2016, Apple announced that it had sold its one billionth iPhone (that's billion with a "b"). The iPhone has its own spell checker which is supposed to make sure that no text message goes out into the ether with an incorrect spelling or usage. Hahaha! I can practically guarantee that any text message (or Tex message) is bound to be rife (not rifle) with a plethora of mistakes and Miss USAgEs.

It is through these texts on our phones that we discover that Harry is actually the Prince of Whales and he prefers private encounters to always being in the public eye. Even though he is part of the monarchy, he is also a human bean who does ordinary things like sit on the toilet bowl. Lately, he has shown interest in personnel fitness and has become adept in Mixed Marital Arts.

Nobody asked me, but I just ran those four words through my spell checker and they were replaced with "no bawdy assed me butt." I'm not sure if this is another example of the Cupertino effect, but you can be sure I intend to stick to my guns and reject the replacement text. After all, I've got my own Al Gore rhythms.

## Register for our Emergency Notification System (ENS)

In order to enhance communications for our POD program and our community SSI Emergency Program has obtained an Emergency Notification System.

In a major emergency or disaster getting warnings and alerts quickly to people is essential. Timing is critical. Our new Emergency Notification system will assist with this need providing individuals a system using multiple communication methods including: cell phone, home phone, texting or email.

Register today at: [www.crd.bc.ca/ens](http://www.crd.bc.ca/ens)

[www.prepareyourself.ca](http://www.prepareyourself.ca)

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# Incorporation advantages not clear

BY LUISA MAFFI

The NSSWD full-page release in the June 14 Driftwood, in which the district explains its decision to officially endorse incorporation for Salt Spring, made for an interesting read in a number of ways.

NSSWD seeks to justify its choice to take a political stance on account of having “a fiduciary responsibility to consider the overall health and financial viability” of the organization. It seems questionable, however, whether a service body such as NSSWD should feel entitled to take a political position, be it on the grounds of fiscal responsibility or any other grounds.

And it seems even more questionable when the position expressed appears to be based exclusively on what the district sees as the “advantages” of incorporation, while making no mention at all of any of the possible disadvantages — such as a likely significant increase in development, which would have clear negative consequences in terms of water demand and supply on the island. Didn't NSSWD declare a moratorium on new connections some time ago, due to its projected inability to provide adequate water supply to new developments?

Further, NSSWD identifies a policy obstacle that stands in the way of its getting certain kinds of funding (infrastructure

grants and gas tax funds); by provincial policy, improvement districts in B.C. are not entitled to funding from those programs (although they do have access to many other sources of funding).

**For all those Canadian municipalities, it seems, having had the touted benefit of “local [read municipal] decision making” has been no panacea at all.**

At the same time, Salt Spring residents fund those programs through their taxes. Undoubtedly this is a policy injustice. It would have been much more appropriate for NSSWD to put its effort into lobbying the province harder to eliminate this disparity rather than advocating for an incorporation option that, while fraught with many other problems, may actually not even help resolve the problem of adequate infrastructure funding anyway.

Indeed, incongruously, NSSWD acknowledges that the fact its needs exceed its resources “is typical within any municipi-

ality or local service provider” confronted with capital projects. They even cite an authoritative report by a McGill University academic, according to which “public infrastructure has been under-funded in all communities across Canada” to the tune of billions. So, given that most communities in Canada are incorporated and yet remain chronically under-funded, one may well wonder: when all is said and done, where is the advantage of incorporation, really, for capital projects of the kind NSSWD has in mind? For all those Canadian municipalities, it seems, having had the touted benefit of “local [read municipal] decision making” has been no panacea at all.

One last point: NSSWD professes its awareness that incorporation is a “contentious issue, with many islanders wondering what incorporation would mean to them, while others are firmly entrenched on either the ‘yes’ or ‘no’ side.”

Does the district mean to imply that those who have already made up their minds one way or the other have not done so by contemplating “what incorporation would mean to them?”

*The writer is an anthropologist who co-founded and directs the international non-profit Terralingua.*

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### MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

## Every resident can vote

In the Salt Spring Says section of the June 21 edition, I notice people expressing a need for information regarding incorporation and wondering who is eligible to vote.

Renters and others that live on Salt Spring but do not own property are used to being disenfranchised when it comes to voting on local issues like fire and some water services. This is not the case in the vote for incorporation or after a “yes” vote if we decide

to incorporate. The prerequisites are: 18 years of age or older; a Canadian citizen; a resident of the community for at least 30 days before the election. The money you pay in rent, the money you spend in a community you reside in should give you a say in your community. In a municipality, all will have a voice!

**SHERI HICKMAN,**  
SALT SPRING

## We all pay taxes

Richard Walker wrote to support incorporation because he is tired of paying taxes that go to support smaller neighbouring communities and the salaries of CRD staff who don't live on Salt Spring (“Voting yes to preserve and protect,” June 21).

But he has no trouble voting for incorporation so we can go cap in hand to the CRD and provincial and federal governments to build and maintain our so-called crumbling infrastructure. Where does he think that money comes from? Why, the taxes of the citizens of CRD, B.C. and Canada, who will be asked to unselfishly reach out and support a smaller, neighbouring community — us!

If those citizens had his attitudes, you can guess where they would tell us to go. One has to wonder about the quality of the advice he gave all those charities and NGOs over the years and if he was grateful to all the taxpayers who donated to them.

**ANDREW OKULITCH,**  
SALT SPRING

**expert ADVICE** 250-537-9933 OR SALES@GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM TO BE A PART OF THIS POPULAR FEATURE!

### Real Estate

#### Moving Checklists

**BUYERS:** Before removing all subject conditions measure your new home as required, for draperies, carpeting & future furniture arrangement as you will likely not be inside the house before moving day.

**INSURANCE:** Be sure to inform your insurance agent of the dates, especially if the house is vacant, to ensure valid coverage & arrange to have the house checked as per requirements of insurance policy.

**UTILITIES:** Arrange electricity, cablevision, water, sewer & private garbage collection as applicable. It is advisable to book phone/internet WELL AHEAD of moving day to avoid delays.

**BANKING:** It is handy to set up affiliation or transfer accounts BEFORE moving in order to arrange direct debit for mortgage & utility payments.

**SELLERS:** If necessary, book professional carpet & house cleaners in advance as time evaporates as the moving van rolls up! Phone me for an excellent cleaner!

*Plan ahead, minimize stress & be kind to your self!*



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### Fitness Expert

#### Happiness is in the Water

What keeps you going back to the pool? Is it the exercise? Do you laugh because you are having fun or do you stay deadly serious. If you only manage a smile during the class you most likely will create that “happiness” buzz by the end of the class and leave with a contented heart and your body full of endorphins. Endorphins are the body's natural opiates. Therefore, they relieve pain and inhibit our emotional response to pain.

Laughter is the best medicine for everyone; it's great for relaxing and letting go; it provides the best abdominal exercise. The effects of laughter are positive, but temporary. We need to laugh often!

Never think that exercise should not be taken seriously but you must allow yourself fun. Functional exercise is the key to healthy fitness and fun is the key to a healthy happiness.



BRENDA AKERMAN

Rainbow Road indoor pool

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### Mechanic

#### Stick to a regular maintenance schedule

In your owners manual there is a section on vehicle maintenance. In theory if you follow the book you should never suffer a breakdown. Of course there will still be the odd thing to cause a problem but you can limit the chances of that happening by staying on top of oil changes and all regular service work as recommended.

If your service provider makes a recommendation to have work done, do it in a timely fashion. Things will build up if left and may cause further problems making for higher than necessary repair bills.

Do a walk around your car looking for low tires, lights out, body damage, leaking fluids etc. If something shows up bring it in and let us have a look for you. A professional eye under the hood or car can often spot problems before they become critical, and usually more expensive.

Take care of your vehicle and it will take care of you.

*Drive Safe, Gyle*



GYLE KEATING

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# Cedar Lane water supply threatened

BY RALPH DOM, JANE SQUIER AND TROY NEWTON

Here are some Driftwood headlines from the past five weeks:

“Warm summer in the forecast could strain water reserves” by Elizabeth Nolan.

“Water should be managed as a single resource” by Frants Attorp.

“Water issues tank Vesuvius condo plans” by Elizabeth Nolan.

Those three articles point out the necessity of water conservation on Salt Spring.

And then, like an old festering wound being opened up, we read on June 7: “Bullock Lake resort opens.” It has the potential of playing havoc with the water supply for at least 200 full-time residences in the immediate neighbourhood and possibly more.

We live near Bullock Lake resort (now renamed “The Cottages”) in a subdivision called Cedar Lane. And we know all about water conservation.

We have our own Cedar Lane Water Service system which serves 37 family households. CLWS owns five wells, of which (for various reasons) only two are usable. This system underwent a substantial upgrade recently, financed for two thirds by a grant from the provincial and federal governments with the one third carried by the homeowners. One stipulation for receiving the grant was that the Capital Regional District had to take over management of the system which is overseen by a water commission of three members elected by and from the homeowners in the CLWS.

We always have to be extremely careful with water: don't flush the toilet every time; no washing vehicles, driveways or house siding; no swimming pools; and no irrigation of gardens whatsoever (we have a number of homeowners who have chosen to use water tanks or above-ground swimming pools to collect rainwater for irrigation).

The standard requirement for water supply, according to Salt Spring Land Use Bylaw 355: dwelling unit - 1,600 litres per day per lot; and a seasonal cottage - 680 litres/day/lot.

## INDEPTH

During the summer, CLWS used to send out email/telephone warnings to homeowners to curtail usage when we reached usage of 20,000 Imperial gallons (91,000 litres)/week. This works out to 351 litres/household/day, only half the requirement of a seasonal cottage!

In 1998 or 1999, we experienced an extremely dry year, the wells slowed to a trickle, and our storage tank was empty. Water was trucked in (which we paid for) and it did not start raining until the end of October. Extreme conservation measures were put into place and we had to do our laundry at the laundromat in Ganges. Ironically, this is a luxury we no longer have, since the laundromat has become a victim of new water restrictions and is no longer allowed to operate.

The Cottages started operating 50 cottages on June 1. Platform Properties had an engineering report done that confirmed their water supply and ours both come, as we feared, from the same source.

So, if we take the seasonal cottage supply of 680 litres/day, that will equal 34,000 litres per day. If the Bullock Lake resort complex ever comes to full completion of 123 cottages, it will use 83,640 litres/day.

And remember, the resort will be catering to city people on vacation, without any idea or care about water conservation on Salt Spring Island and in this particular neighbourhood.

The following is a brief history of Bullock Lake Resort, now called The Cottages. In 1994, Brian Hauff acquired 36 acres of land on Bullock Lake. He developed plans for 123 cottages, including a main lodge with a swimming pool, etc., which was allowed under the then current zoning. In 1996, Islands Trust decided that the current zoning was problematic and decided to downzone the property to seven five-acre single-

dwelling properties.

While this process was going on, Islands Trust asked the CRD to not issue any building permits for the property until the downzoning was completed. The CRD issued the building permits anyway and the zoning was grandfathered as non-conforming. The reason for issuing the permits has been open to a lot of hot conjecture. Subsequently, the project has suffered two bankruptcies and the largest structure fire on Salt Spring Island (at which time, many homeowners in CLWS and the surrounding neighbourhood had to personally fight spot fires on their properties or had to evacuate their premises).

Many protests have taken place about this project.

Meanwhile, Platform Properties acquired the property and they let their building permits lapse. The building permits were not renewed. Platform Properties threatened to sue Islands Trust if they weren't allowed to continue to build and Islands Trust then decided to get a legal opinion on the case. Young Anderson were of the opinion that Platform Properties had the legal right to complete all 123 cottages.

Some time ago, a columnist wrote that the neighbourhood homeowners should gracefully accept defeat, quit whining and that they should think about the greater good and all the benefits the resort would bring to the island in terms of jobs, etc. We could not disagree more. What economic benefits? Two hundred full-time residential houses losing substantial value and homeowners seeking reassessments of their properties to lessen their taxes? The neighbourhood and The Cottages running out of water in mid-season and the resort perhaps facing a third bankruptcy?

We have lived with this nonsense now for more than 20 years, other neighbours for much longer. It is time this stopped.

The writers are Cedar Lane Water Service commissioners.

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## Send us your PET PHOTOS!

Send your favourite pet photo\* to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) by July 8th for publication in a special feature on pets! We'll choose the best ones for publication in **All About Pets coming in July.**

\*Photos must be minimum of 200 dpi



# Waterworks board's rationale misleading

BY PETER LAMB

Once again, I am compelled to respond to another North Salt Spring Waterworks District statement in the June 14 Driftwood, this time a full-page notice, no less.

Apart from my objection to spending more district ratepayers' money on a political issue, there continues to be misleading and insufficient information from the district trustees on the reason for rejecting the existing option of transferring ownership to the Capital Regional District. Limited district funds would be better spent on promoting water conservation rather than unsubstantiated, political advertisements.

It is a fact that local governments are under-funded by senior governments. In 2015, a resolution put before the Union of BC Municipalities annual meeting noted “local governments depend almost wholly on property taxation to fund municipal services and are currently facing infrastructure deficits of enormous proportions.” It is also true that the NSSWD, as an improvement district, is not eligible for federal

## INRESPONSE

infrastructure grants. However, they would certainly be available through the CRD if the NSSWD opted to join the CRD, just as they would be under a municipality. The position taken by the district trustees last year to be prepared to consider the CRD option was a reasonable one.

It is misleading for the district to reject the CRD option on the basis that “CRD decisions are made off-island and must consider the needs of the entire regional district. This would mean that NSSWD projects would have to compete for funding priority against many others attempting to address a wide range of regional needs.”

Access to some federal infrastructure grants through the Community Works Fund (gas-tax money) is currently available through a pre-determined allocation of those funds, based on a per capita formula, to the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area (currently at least \$550,000 per year). It is up to our local CRD

director to dispense the allocated amount to eligible and competing Salt Spring projects, including potable water works. If there is any “off-island” involvement by the CRD Board, it rarely opposes a local CRD director's proposal.

A Salt Spring municipal council would also face the same challenge of allocating such limited infrastructure funding among a range of competing community demands, but then it would be required to include urgent and costly road works along with water systems and other public facilities. Under the current governance system, road works continue to be a provincial responsibility. It is also worth remembering that federal infrastructure grants are usually limited to a share of a project cost and that grant applications may not always be successful.

Finally, nowhere does the district address my other concerns about imposing the financial burden of incorporation on all taxpayers simply to provide the district with access to infrastructure funds that are already available through the CRD option.

If you agree that the NSSWD trustees' campaign is inappropriate, I urge all ratepayers and taxpayers to express their concerns to them at [board@northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](mailto:board@northsaltspringwaterworks.ca).

The writer has been a NSSWD ratepayer for 28 years.

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- Art & Nature Fest,**  
Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Canada Day Show & Shine – Classic Car Show,**  
Salt Spring Ball Field on Rainbow Road, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Cake Cutting with Elizabeth May and Adam Olsen 1:15 pm**
- Diana Dean – New Landscapes,**  
Artspace Gallery Merchant Mews, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Live Music – Mike Demers,**  
Oystercatcher & Shipstones Pub, 12:00 pm - close
- Tug-of-War, Strawberry Tea and Cake Walk,**  
Meaden Hall at the Legion, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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members \$ 5 • non-members \$ 10  
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**CANADA DAY TUG-OF-WAR**

at 2pm on Saturday July 1st, at the Legion Hall  
Teams of up to 12 people (co-ed is encouraged) will face off in the knock out competition. Total team weight may not exceed 1500 lbs. Entry is free.

To enter your team, contact:  
John Binsted 250-538-1890  
Roger Webber 250-537-5348 | Jay Small 250-537-7457

# Canada Day!

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Live Music – Barley Brothers,**  
The Local Pub, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

**Grace Point Block Party,**  
Grace Point Square in Ganges, 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm

**William Shakespeare's "As You Like It",** Mouat's Park end of Seaview Avenue, Gates opens at 6:00 pm, show at 7:00 pm

**Kid's Zone and Barbeque,**  
Rotary Park next to Thrifty Foods, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

**Live Music - The Fabulous Flakes,**  
Tree House Cafe, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

**Live – Music Voyager Band,** The Legion, 8:00 pm

**Canada Turns 150 Party** with the Barefoot Thieves,  
Moby's Pub, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am

**Fireworks Show and Kids 150 Choir,**  
Ganges Harbour, Music 9:00 pm, Fireworks 10:00 pm



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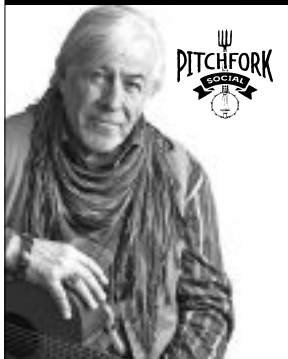
# arts&entertainment



FOR MORE SALT SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS, SEE OUR WHAT'S ON CALENDAR ON PAGE 14.

## JIM BYRNES

WITH STEVE DAWSON AND LINDA MCCRAE



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### TEA A TEMPO

## Trio shares passion with All Saints crowd

Soprano Jean McClure also on the bill

### BY MUSIC MAKERS OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH

Three of the performers featured at the upcoming Tea à Tempo recital on Wednesday, July 5 have become well known to local audiences by the title Trio Concordia Constans.

The artists have long been pleasing Salt Spring Islanders with their talents. Soprano Connie Holmes and alto Anke Smeele have sung with several of the local choirs for many years and both were founding members of the Salt Spring Vocal Quartet which formed in 1999 as part of the Salt Spring Singers spring concert that year.

The quartet went on to perform countless times at Music & Munch as well as other intimate settings in the community. Later, Holmes and Smeele formed a duet with piano accompanist David Storm, honing their vocal skills and developing a blend that works beautifully in a variety of genres.



From left, David Storm, Anke Smeele and Connie Holmes, known as Trio Concordia Constans.

ety of genres.

Storm, an accomplished pianist and organist, is currently the accom-

panist for Salt Spring Singers as well as organist for the Anglican Parish and choir director of All Saints' Choir.

The trio is taking a tour of Ganges this summer, which includes two performances for residents and friends at local care facilities as well as Tea à Tempo, where they will be sharing the program with soprano Jean McClure, who is a soloist with All Saints' Choir and member of Salt Spring Singers. McClure has charmed many an audience at the seasonal events of Music & Munch, as well as the Anglican Parish's Carols for Christmastide. Her clear, expressive voice reaches straight to the heart of the listener.

The performers are keen to showcase the new four-manual hybrid organ in All Saints, which Storm will play to accompany some of the repertoire. The trio will offer gems from their extensive songbook collection: songs about peace and nature, and life's joys and tribulations, from Purcell to Paul Simon. Included in McClure's program are favourites by Enya and the moving Bring Him Home from Les Miserables. The concert begins at 2:10 p.m.

### JAZZ

## Millerd launches CD with McGill peers

Event runs this Friday night at All Saints church

Salt Spring-raised jazz performer Simon Millerd is bringing his compatriots from back east to All Saints church for a CD release concert on Friday night.

Millerd began playing trumpet in Grade 6 at Salt Spring Middle School, just across the street from the Anglican church on Park Drive.

Performing both on the album and at the June 30 launch event, which begins at 7 p.m., are members of the acclaimed Montreal-based collective called Nomad: Mike Bjella on saxophone, Ted Crosby on bass clarinet, Jake Wiens on guitar, Ben Dwyer on

bass, and Kai Basanta on drums. Pablo Held, a gifted young musician from Germany, joins the group.

The performers are longtime friends of Millerd. As well, they are all graduates of the jazz program at McGill University and former students of Chris McCann, who Millerd credits with reorienting his playing and his life.

"Chris was my first teacher to talk at length about the importance of developing as a person, not just as a musician," said Millerd. "Music became about the expression of emotion, about truth and spirituality, to play not just for ourselves but for the benefit of others."

Lessons and Fairytales features most of Nomad, plus Emma Frank (New York City-based singer-songwriter) and two

other German musicians, Robert Landfermann and Jonas Burgwinkel, who have been playing with Held as part of his trio for over 10 years. Millerd first met Held during a tour with the European Jazz Orchestra in 2011.

"The trio has been a major inspiration for my own musical direction. They are so free, adventurous, interactive, united, it is really a joy to listen to."

A preview of Millerd's record can be heard at [www.songlinesrecordings.com](http://www.songlinesrecordings.com).

The band will be playing a short tour of the West Coast including a concert at the Vancouver International Jazz Festival, and recording a new album at Brentwood Presbyterian Church in Burnaby.

### CHORAL MUSIC

## Cambridge choir presents Monday show

Centuries of musical tradition shared

All Saints hosts the choir of Christ's Church College from Cambridge, England on Monday, July 3 at 7:30 p.m.

According to the Anglican Parish's Rev. Richard Stetson, Christ's College is one of the constituent colleges of the University of Cambridge

and has had a chapel choir since its foundation in 1505. It is conducted by professor David Rowland, sings at services of the college chapel and occasions like college feasts, weddings and memorial services, with music from the European choral tradition from the 16th to the 20th century, both sacred and secular.

The concert at All Saints will include works by Orlando

Gibbons, W.A. Mozart, Gabriel Fauré, Anton Bruckner and Josef Rheinberger.

"As one of Cambridge's finest mixed voice ensembles they also perform concerts throughout the U.K. and undertake major international tours each summer," said Stetson.

Rowland is an award-winning organist and has been director of music at Christ's

College for 33 years. He has held other academic appointments and was director of the Welsh National Youth Choir from 2002-4.

He continues to pursue research into the performance of early piano, the relationship between music and commerce and the history of listening. He has written five books as well as other scholarly material.

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ISLAND ARTISTS

# Painter launched on world platform

Zandra Stratford in London and Vancouver this summer

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring artist Zandra Stratford is taking a big leap with her painting career this summer, with two exhibitions poised to introduce her name on the international level.

Stratford had two trips to London this spring related to the Royal Academy of Arts' Summer 2017 exhibition. Coming up next month, she will be one of seven artists from around the globe to have a one-week solo show at the South Main Gallery in Vancouver.

It marks a significant change for Stratford, who was more involved in her day job as a graphic/digital designer until the past year. The change came about through a three-month online mentoring course with Nicholas Wilton, a well-known abstract artist and teacher from California.

Stratford said the program helped put the focus on her art practice.

"The focus on taking my work seriously was huge," Stratford said. "It kind of gave me permission to do it — before it was always kind of on the back burner. And it really wasn't making me happy. I wanted it to be the reverse."

Being part of the Royal Academy of Arts' summer show is proof that the renewed sense of focus is paying off. The show is now in its 249th year, and is the largest open submission exhibition in the world, taking in 12,000 submissions in the first round before jurors whittle the list down to 1,200 final pieces.

Stratford was inspired to try a submission after she, her husband and their two kids spent last Christmas in London. She visited the Royal Academy at that time and was blown away by their show of Abstract Expressionists.

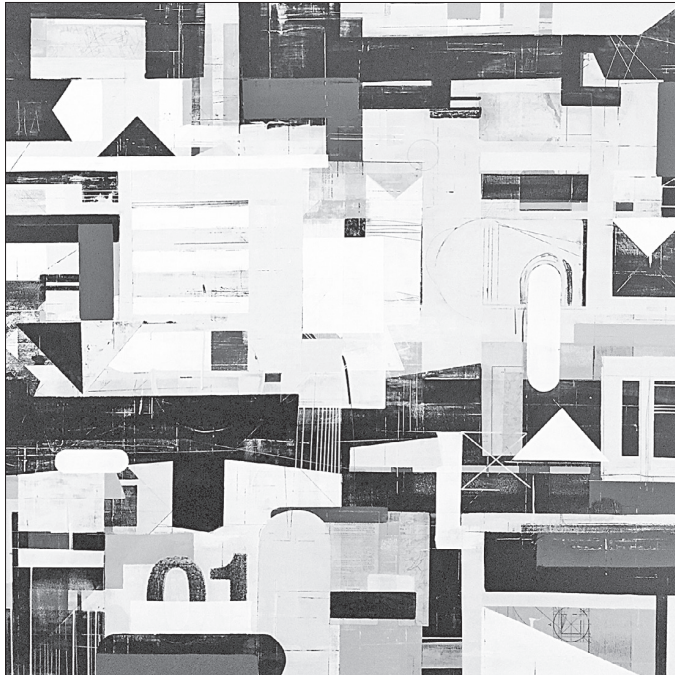
After being notified she was on the 4,000-person shortlist this spring for her painting called Gorgeous Filth 01, Stratford flew to London for the next step in jurying. She could have just sent the painting, but she was one of the artists the BBC chose to feature in its annual documentary about the show.

Her piece ended up making the final cut, so she flew back three weeks later for Varnishing Day, the opening celebration just for artists.

According to the Royal Academy's website, "Everything you'll see at the Summer Exhibition represents the art being made today." This year Royal Academician Eileen Cooper, who is Keeper of the Royal Academy, chose to explore themes of discovery and new talent. Stratford modestly proposes that her painting was selected because it met the theme, but only high-quality work could attract notice among such a huge number of submissions.

Her Gorgeous Filth series is "an exploration of urban forms and our experience with the material of cities. Each interaction, point of surface contact or scuff, whether by design or by circumstance, is at once something removed, something revealed and something left behind."

Stratford creates her abstract compositions using house paint on wooden panel, along with elements such as collaged and painted paper and image transfers from her photos. She does not work with a preconceived plan but allows her visual memories of archi-



From top, the Royal Academy of Arts Summer 2017 show in London, with Zandra Stratford's painting Gorgeous Filth 01 seen in the top left section of the right-hand wall; Gorgeous Filth 01.

ecture, maps and cityscapes to percolate through her process. Works are distressed and sanded at the end to give a similar effect to the many layers of paint, posters and grime that have been applied, revealed and partially destroyed on an urban building.

"I like to create a narrative. I think they kind of tell a story," Stratford said.

While urban decay is a strong influence, Stratford stays away from heavy industrialism by employing a palette that is light, fresh and contemporary.

Stratford's next step is getting work ready for her solo show at the South Main Gallery for their Summer Seven at SOMA program. Aside from one artist from Vancouver, the other featured artists all hail from further away locales such as Portland, Los Angeles and São Paulo.

Stratford said she's not entirely sure

how she was invited to participate, but it may have been through Instagram, as she and the gallery follow each other.

Ironically, Stratford was applying to have artist status with the Canada Council shortly before the Royal Academy show. She received a rejection letter on the very same day the BBC emailed to asked if she would agree to be featured in their documentary.

Since then Canada Council has reconsidered, but with all the recognition it's clear Stratford is reaching the next stage even without a bureaucratic tag.

"It feels like I'm just taking off," she said.

Islanders are encouraged to visit Stratford's solo show if they happen to be in Vancouver during July 21-27. Her paintings can also be seen at Cafe Talia on Salt Spring, on her website www.zandrastratford.rocks or on Instagram.

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# What's on this week



## Wed. June 28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo presents Harry Warner.** Salt Spring's Harry Warner gives a musical and poetic tour of The Emerald Isle. Music begins at 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.  
**Buck Dodgers.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**150+ Art Collaboration.** Create your own Canada-themed art, then take it home or leave for display. Salt Spring Public Library. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Martin Brokenleg Workshop.** Co-author of the book Reclaiming Youth at Risk: Our Hope for the Future and co-developer of the Circle of Courage helps participants explore the effects of adversity and consider the most effective reaction to counter trauma. Star of the Sea Centre, St. Mary's Church, Fulford. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration: 250-537-2171 or ssanglican@shaw.ca.  
**Bittancourt House Museum.** Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday through June 30. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Local Farm Dinner and Tour at Duck Creek Farm.** Fundraiser for agricultural endeavours on Salt Spring includes farm tour and multi-course vegetarian dinner with live music. Duck Creek Farm. 5:30 p.m.  
**Film Screening: RAW.** Feature-length film shot on Salt Spring Island shows at The Fritz. 6:30 p.m. Q&A with director David I. Strasser follows.

## Wed. June 28

### ACTIVITIES

**SSI Garden Club.** Maureen Sullivan, well-known floral designer and owner of the Maureen Sullivan Floral Design School in Vancouver, speaks on Flower Arranging from Your Garden. Last meeting until club resumes in September. Meaden Hall. 6:45 p.m.

## Thu. June 29

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**As You Like It.** Shakespeare's comedy as set in The Summer of Love, in a musical presented by exitStageLeft Productions with Graffiti Theatre. Directed by Jeffrey Renn at the Mouat Park Meadow. Gates open 6 p.m., music jam 6:30 p.m., play starts at 7. Bring blankets or low beach chairs.

**Mike Alviano.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.  
**Simone & Mike Lamers.** Live music at Shipstones Pub patio. 7 to 9:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**150+ Art Collaboration.** See Wednesday's listing.  
**Bittancourt House Museum.** See Wednesday's listing.  
**Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.** Regular business meeting at Lions Hall starts at 9:30 a.m., with reports and town hall session at noon.  
**National Theatre Live's Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead.** Two special showings at The Fritz: 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m.

## Thu. June 29

### ACTIVITIES

**Ripple Effect 2 Opening Reception.** Second part of art show with water-themed paintings, ceramics, glass, textile, jewelry and photography in support of Salish Sea orcas. Opening wine and cheese reception with special guest Briony Penn. Salt Spring Gallery 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Salt Spring Chamber Mixer.** Members and guests invited to Mouat's for 110th Anniversary Celebration and a thank you from the community. Mouat's Historic Area. 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Classic Rock Bingo.** Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

## Fri. June 30

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Friday Wine Down.** Live music, food and wine tastings. Salt Spring Vineyards. 4 to 6 p.m.  
**Synergy.** Live music at The Local pub. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Duck Creek.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.  
**Simone and the Soul Intentions.** Live music on the Shipstones patio. 7 to 9:30 p.m.  
**Simon Miller CD Release.** Jazz music from GISS album and McGill University compatriots. Release of Lessons of Fairytales album. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7 p.m.  
**The Coalition.** Live music at The Local pub. 9 p.m.  
**Barefoot Thieves.** Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.  
**As You Like It.** See Thursday's listing.

## Fri. June 30

### ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt House Museum.** See Wednesday's listing.  
**150+ Art Collaboration.** See Wednesday's listing.  
**Canada 150 Youth Song Rehearsal.** Kids aged six to 18 welcome to a rehearsal at All Saints, lower hall, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. to learn a special Canada Day song for evening performance in Ganges on Canada Day. Free T-shirts for all the kids involved. Info: Caroni Young, caroni.young@gmail.com.  
**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.  
**Grace Point Block Party.** Steffich Fine Art hosts two-day party at Grace Point Square with live music, BBQ and a beer garden. Music runs from 4 to 10 p.m.  
**Art Opening - Diana Dean.** Opening of show featuring new landscapes and selected works. Artspace Gallery at Merchant Mews. 6 to 9 p.m.

## Sat. July 1

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Barley Brothers.** Live music at The Local pub. 3 to 6 p.m.  
**The Fabulous Flakes.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.  
**Voyager.** Live band at the Legion. 8 p.m.  
**Canada Turns 150 Party with Barefoot Thieves.** Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.  
**As You Like It.** See Thursday's listing.

### ACTIVITIES

**Goat Yoga.** Heartfelt Farm and Amy Haysom Yoga offer a fun yoga class in an outdoor farm setting where mama and baby goats roam and visit you as you flow through a balanced yoga sequence. Pre-registration is required at amyhaysomyoga@gmail.com. Time and location to be announced.

## Sat. July 1

### ACTIVITIES

**Saturday Market in the Park.** Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at famous event in Centennial Park. 8:30 to 4 p.m.  
**Art and Nature Fest.** Salt Spring Island Conservancy invites the public to experience a magical union of art and nature during two-day free event. Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Canada Day Activities.** Canada Day Show & Shine car show at the field on Jackson Avenue/Rainbow Road. Plus food, entertainment and more from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cake cutting with Elizabeth May, Adam Olsen and island trustees Peter Grove and George Grams is at 1:15 p.m. SSI volunteers who logged at least 150 volunteer hours since Feb. 1, 2017 will also be recognized at 1:15 p.m.  
**Canada Day at the Legion.** Enjoy festivities at the Legion from 2 to 4 p.m. Includes team tug-of-war at 2, strawberry tea, and cake walk for the kids at 2:30 p.m.  
**Canada Day at Rotary Park.** Outdoor Kidz Zone hosted by West of the Moon with games and snacks, and a free BBQ meal courtesy of Thrifty Foods. Rotary Park. 6:30 to 8 p.m.  
**Fireworks Show and Kids 150 Choir.** Fireworks show at dusk (around 10 p.m.) in Ganges Harbour, preceded by kids choir singing special Vallyd composition for Canada 150 at 9.  
**Grace Point Block Party.** See Friday's listing.

## Sun. July 2

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Mike Demers.** Live music on the Shipstones patio. 12 noon to close.  
**Music in the Vineyards.** Salt Spring Vineyards features live music every Sunday. 2 to 4 p.m.  
**Jon Middleton and Sierra Lundy.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

## Sun. July 2

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Ganga Giri.** A night of world fusion, bass and beats. Fulford Hall. Doors open 8 p.m., music at 9.

### ACTIVITIES

**Art and Nature Fest.** See Saturday's listing.  
**Second Annual Rotary Club Crab Fest.** Join the Salt Spring Island Rotary Club to feast on fresh crab and enjoy live music by the Costners. Rotary Park. 4 to 9 p.m.



### Delicacy of Steel Opening Reception.

Metal sculptures by Bev Petow plus paintings and sculptures by Michael Robb. Opening reception for show continuing to Aug. 15. Duthie Gallery. 5 to 8 p.m.

## Mon. July 3

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Live Music at the Tree House Cafe.** Act TBA. 7 to 10 p.m.  
**Christ's Church College Choir.** All Saints hosts the choir of Christ's Church College from Cambridge, England. 7:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Camp Colossal.** Day camp for kids ages 5 to 12 opens today for the summer. Portlock Park. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pre-registration required with PARC.

## Tue. July 4

### ACTIVITIES

**Trivia Tuesday.** Tuesdays at Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.  
**Open Mic Night.** Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.



## Wed. July 5

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Trio Concordia Constans.** Anke Smeele, Connie Holmes and David Storm perform at Tea à Tempo recital, with special guest Jean McClure. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m. Optional tea and treats to follow.  
**Live Music at the Tree House Cafe.** Act TBA. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Summer Reading Club.** Salt Spring Library hosts in the Children's Area. Drop in for fun books, crafts games and more with the theme Walk on the Wild Side. For ages 5 and up. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



### Salt Spring Fire Protection District.

Special board meeting. SSI United Church, lower hall. 5:30 p.m.  
**Bittancourt House Museum.** See last Wednesday's listing.

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**Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead**  
 Exclusive screening of raw\*!  
 6:30pm Wed. June 28th  
 After the show, join director cast and crew for Q&A.

**National Theatre Live**  
 Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead  
 1 day only Thurs. June 29th  
 3pm matinee and 7pm

## CINEMA

• **Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales** — Captain Jack Sparrow finds the winds of ill-fortune blowing when deadly ghost pirates led by Captain Salazar escape from the Devil's Triangle, determined to kill every pirate at sea... including him.  
 • **RAW** — Shot on Salt Spring Island and produced by Vancouver Film School students, RAW\* tells the inspirational story of a delinquent 17-year-old on a downward spiral. Jakob Levin is sentenced by the courts to serve his time on an organic farm run by his uncle. Put to work with a bunch of misfit interns, he soon discovers that not everything is as idyllic as it first appears, and beneath the beauty of the farm, potentially malevolent forces are at play. Q&A with director David I. Strasser follows. One night only: Wed., June 28 at 6:30 p.m.  
 • **National Theatre Live's Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead** — Against the backdrop of Hamlet, two hapless characters take centre stage. They stumble their way in and out of Shakespeare's iconic drama, increasingly out of their depth as their version of the story unfolds. One day only: Thursday, June 29 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Reserve tickets at thefritz@hotmail.ca.

## EXHIBITIONS

• **Diana Dean** — New Landscapes and Selected Works — runs daily from June 30 to July 9 at #17 Merchant Mews with an opening reception on Friday, June 30 from 6 to 9 p.m.  
 • **Ripple Effect 2** - Water themed art for the Salish Sea, a multi-artist exhibit, runs at Salt Spring Gallery until July 30, with an opening event on Thursday, June 29 from 5 to 7 p.m.  
 • **Delicacy of Steel**, a show of sculpture by Bev Petow and paintings by Michael Robb opens at Duthie Gallery on Sunday, July 2 with an event from 5 to 8 p.m. and continues through Aug. 15.  
 • **The Salt Spring Basketry Guild** marks its 20th anniversary with Nests, an outdoor exhibit at Mahon Hall.  
 • **Eclectic Visions 2017**, an exhibit of work by 30 SS Photography Club members, runs daily at Gallery 8 through June 28.  
 • Photographer Judy McPhee shows Images in Still Life at Fernwood Road Cafe until July 15.  
 • **ArtCraft**, the Salt Spring Arts Council's annual show and sale of work by Gulf Islands artisans, runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The first Showcase exhibition of the year is Mrs. Williams: Homage to a

Homemaker, with work by Melanie Thompson and Judith Barnett, running until July 5.  
 • **Salty Pear Gallery** is now open at 279 Rainbow Rd. with an exhibition of recent work by photographer Stasia Garraway.  
 • **Nuseum** is an exhibition of 15 artists working in different media showing at Pod Contemporary until July 8.  
 • **Jeremy Borsos** presents Castaways at Fault Line Projects until June 28.  
 • **2nd Impressions Print Show** runs in the ArtSpring lobby until June 30, featuring 40-plus original prints by members of the Salt Spring Painters Guild Printmakers Group.  
 • **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** shows the paintings of Carmen Proffitt, Stephen Lockhart and Mikaela Heydemann through June during business hours, Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Then Barbara Edwards, Luke Weller and Laura Keil present Meanderings through the month of July.  
 • **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.

2nd Annual

## Salt Spring Crab Fest

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## CANADA DAY

# Conservancy festival promotes outdoor connections



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Susan Dann in a labyrinth made for the Art and Nature Fest at the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve.

## Two-day event unites art and nature

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is offering a special way to celebrate our national heritage this Canada Day weekend with a two-day Art and Nature Fest taking over the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve on July 1 and 2.

Five categories of activities brought to the public by 40 different artists and speakers will take place in locations throughout the nature reserve. Guided walks, musical performances, interactive displays, body and mind sessions and workshops are all represented on the schedule, which runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

It all takes place on the 45-acre property the conservancy calls home, which extends two-thirds of the way around Blackburn Lake. A former farm and then organic golf course, it is slowly returning to a natural state but still has plenty of open areas and trails to enjoy.

"One of our goals was to get people actually to be part of the reserve, experience the beauty here, and have a chance to see the fantastic restorations we've done," said Susan Dann, who is the conservancy's outreach and volunteer coordinator. "And just to connect with nature, as an addition to the other events that are happening for Canada 150, because we wanted to celebrate the Canadian natural heritage."

Dann said many people who live close to the nature reserve make use of it for their daily walks. This will be the chance to extend the invitation to the rest of the community and beyond.

A day can be happily spent shifting from the eco-centre's stage area to a movement class in the fields. Local writers, poets and visual artists will share how they create works inspired by nature, while a range of acts are performed on stage, on a hill-top or beside the lake. Children are welcome to join the adults or can find age-specific events, such as nature crafts and a scavenger hunt, in the Kids' Zone.

Salt Spring Printmakers Group will have a station where people can create prints of local moth species. Some of the products will then become part of an art installation in Albuquerque.

Former conservancy director Linda Gilkeson will be part of the event, leading a butterfly and pollinator walk on Saturday, July 1. Simon Henson will give several talks and workshops, including one on nature photography. As the official artist for many of the conservancy's special events, nature reserves and local species, he certainly has the skills for the job.

"We're going to be looking at three aspects of photography," Henson explained. "There will be landscaping, black and white and macro. Because we have such a diverse ecosystem here, we're going to be able to have stations where some of those will be really significant."

"The idea is that a lot of people sometimes have trouble being really aware of certain aspects of the landscape," he continued. "So what I'm trying to do is fine-tune their perception to the small world [and] the greater world. But what's it like if there was no colour? ... Black and white photography really requires dramatic contrasts between dark and light."

In other sessions, the Salt Spring Basketry Guild will help people create land art, including woven sculptures from local plants and flowers that will be set adrift in the lake. Kathy Page will lead a writing workshop and Christine Smart will give one on poetry.

If body/mind sessions are more to the liking, there are meditation classes with Kira Schaffer, a Taoist Tai Chi demo and class, and yoga with Jayne Lloyd-Jones. Several meditation benches are located around the reserve for people who would like to take a moment on their own. There is also a natural labyrinth to walk. It was designed by Tisha Boulder and created by laying branches on a flat piece of ground that used to house a golf hole.

Music performers ranging from the introspective to the energetic will also be playing throughout the weekend, both on a main stage off the conservancy office deck and in intimate settings around the reserve. Lorraine Lowry opens the festival both mornings as the Welcome Piper, playing between 10 to 10:15 a.m.

The conservancy received Canada 150 funding for this year's festival, but hopes to make it an annual event that attracts both locals and visitors. They're also using part of the grant to plant a Garry oak

grove with help from school children when conditions are optimal in the fall.

All events this weekend are free. Participants are welcome to bring picnics and make a day of it, but should be advised it's a zero-waste event so garbage and recycling should be taken home. Extra parking will be available nearby and the nature reserve is close to the major bus route on Fulford-Ganges Road.

For the full schedule and more information see [www.saltspringconservancy.ca](http://www.saltspringconservancy.ca).

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Music lineup

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6 pm "Roy Orbison" tribute  
featuring **Mike Demers**

7 pm "Valdy"

8 and 9 pm "Donny Brook and the Haymakers"  
featuring **Lorne Burns** (drums) **Dave Roland** (bass)

**Brent Shindell** (guitar/vocals)  
**Matt Steffich** (guitar/vocals) **John Ferreira** (sax)

Saturday:

4 and 5 pm "The Pinkertons"  
6 and 7 pm "Early Spirit" featuring Spirit of the West  
founding member **Jay Knutson**

8 and 9 pm "Donny Brook and the Haymakers"

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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**WINNING CATCH:** Nick Boychuk, left, and Brandon Leeson hold the salmon they caught aboard Boychuk's Vessel Assist, with sponsor Robert Reinhardt in the middle, during Moby's Fishing Derby. The fish weighed 19.5 lbs and was 84.5 cm long. The biggest fish caught and released was said to be 102 cm long. This year's derby included 90 fishermen in 35 vessels and raised \$10,645 for the Pacific Salmon Foundation. In total, 51 salmon were weighed in.



## THANK YOU SALT SPRING!



The June 17-18, 2017 Moby's Fishing Derby broke a new record raising almost \$11,000 for Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) salmon projects! Visit [psf.ca](http://psf.ca) to learn more about the important work supported with these funds.

Special thanks to Kurt Irwin of SSI Reel Action Fishing Charters for unparalleled efforts raising cash and prizes.

Great work by tireless event hosts, Dale (above left) and the entire Moby's team. To all participants, sponsors, and volunteers, your generosity and support made this possible!

On behalf of PSF staff and volunteers across BC

To help Kurt with the 2018 event (or book a charter) call 250.537.2513.

\*Thanks to an anonymous Salt Spring resident for sponsoring this ad

## GARDEN CLUB Floral designer visits island

Final club session tonight

The last Salt Spring Garden Club meeting for the season takes place tonight (June 28) on the subject of floral design.

Speaker Maureen Sullivan is a well known floral designer and owner of the Maureen Sullivan Floral Design School on Main Street in Vancouver.

"She successfully owned and operated Thomas Hobbs Florist in Kerrisdale for many years but she wanted to find a way to share her extensive knowledge of flowers," explains garden club press material. "She decided to sell her business and, along with her sister Kathleen, to open a school dedicated to the art of floral design."

The new space was big enough to provide a venue for workshops, classes, and a retail space where all four sisters are now involved.

Sullivan will create two floral arrangements for the June 28 meeting. She will demonstrate techniques used in the floral trade, plus selection of plant materials and the proper care and handling of fresh cut flowers. Two lucky club members will go home with big smiles as her arrangements will be donated as door prizes.

The club meets at Meaden Hall beginning at 6:45 p.m.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

# Expressive writing course expands

Home Words brings writers of different ages together

BY SEAN HITREC  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Gulf Islands Secondary School writers group is gearing up to expand to new areas with facilitators booked for a course this fall.

The Home Words - Writing in Community project is part of a larger School District 64 initiative called Connecting Generations, where various activities bring community members of all ages together with students.

"We got so many people," said Shira. "Right now we are at 19 and we were planning for 12, so it's expanded more than we had anticipated, which is really exciting. We've got from teens to 70s, every decade."

The new course, funded by the B.C. Arts Council and in partnership with the Salt Spring Arts Council, will be able to address demographics.

"The only parameter is that they create a group in the community. It can be with any kind of population in the community," she said.

Shira has facilitated the writers' group for six years at GISS. The group's purpose is to help mirror the values of the Connecting Generations program through artistic expression.

"Connecting Generations' mandate is to create connection with the youth in schools and the community at large," Shira said. "Education doesn't only happen at school, it actually happens in the community, at home and in the school."

At every session, a word is provided to spark the participants' imaginations and some weeks local writers and others attend and help guide the classes as guests.

The writing program furthers that sentiment by working on four tenets, which are "writing freely, reading aloud, listening deeply and bearing witness," Shira said.

"So, it's about writing together, sharing our writing, listening to each other and being witness to our stories, in a sense, so it creates the space. We don't critique each other. The philosophy is



PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

From left, GISS writers group member Mareike Munsch and group facilitator Ahava Shira at a collaging session held last week.

the belief and the recognition that we thrive as writers and as humans in an environment of encouragement, affirmation, support [and] belonging."

Mental wellness is one of the major components of the writers' group at GISS.

"One of the things that happens in the writers' group is we get to talk about things that we don't normally talk about, like fears, anxieties, confusion, contradictions, depression, dark times, difficulties and challenges in our lives; things that may lead to more serious consequences if not given the opportunity to express them," Shira said. "So, part of mental wellness is having spaces and places and ways to express yourself and to cope with the challenges of life."

Mareike Munsch, an international exchange student from Germany, joined the writers' group at the high school while she was here for the spring semester and said that the experience created a safe space for expression.

"I had never [shared my writing with a group this way] before, so I was new and thinking, 'How should

I really do this?' But then I realized that everybody is doing it and they were totally comfortable with it and I got comfortable with it too," Munsch said. "It also means that I trust these people... that [what we present] stays in this room and I think it's good to have something like that."

Sam Barlow, a mentor in the writing program who also works with students on a visual storytelling component on a different day, has signed up to take the Home Words Project facilitating course. She spoke of her experience thus far working with students at the high school.

"I love their energy, I love that they remind me about play and having fun. I also have great admiration for them because of the language that they use and because of the courage they have to share what they do. It's obviously a very safe place for them."

Barlow is excited to expand the program to children as well as seniors when she has finished her training.

The course will be eight weeks long in the fall, followed by a "practicum" portion that will run from mid-January until mid-March 2018.

CANADA 150

# Volunteer achievers to be recognized

VCR challenge nets 74 participants

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May will recognize 74 islanders with a special achievement in volunteer hours as part of events at the Canada Day Show and Shine on July 1.

Volunteer and Community Resources' 150 Volunteer Challenge asked volunteers to commit to at least 150 hours of their time in just a few short months. The challenge began on Feb. 1, exactly 150 days before Canada Day.

When broken down, reaching 150 hours would require a minimum of five hours per

week over the five-month period. This seemed like a significant challenge when the campaign was conceptualized, the coordinators explain.

"What proved to be a fascinating learning with the campaign is that, not only do many of our island volunteers give well beyond five hours of volunteer hours per week, but a lot of them are giving to more than one organization," said Janine Fernandes-Hayden, Volunteer and Community Resources administrator.

For example, Kerry Lee, a volunteer with the Girl Guides, the Salt Spring Abattoir Society, Island Comfort Quilts and the Salt Spring Farmers'

Institute, already had her 150 hours as of Feb. 23.

In an email she wrote at the time, Lee said, "With four months still to go, I'm really surprised at how these hours add up."

The Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary was the organization with the greatest number of volunteers registered in the challenge with 19, while Dorothy Kyle volunteered the most time of those people at 650 hours. Loretta Rithaler earned 770 hours divided between 4H, Gulf Islands Early Learning Centre, the Salt Spring Aquatic Society and the Salt Spring wrestling team.

The youngest challenger was 13-year-old William

Rithaler, who reached 356 hours volunteering with the 4H club, Gulf Islands Early Learning Centre, Salt Spring Stingrays, Our Lady of Grace church and with the student council at Queen of Angels School, not to mention being a "big buddy on the ferry and bus" to his fellow school-mates.

"Volunteer and Community Resources recognizes its partners Gulf Islands Driftwood Media, Country Grocer and the Salt Spring Antique and Classic Motor Club," Fernandes-Hayden said. "Additionally, thanks is extended to the businesses and organizations donating to the prize packages."

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This Week's

## Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

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## TIP OF THE WEEK

July is a special month for many reasons. Among these is the fact that it is the 7th month of the year. 7 is a mystical number and somehow everyone knows this. Dividing a circle by 7 renders an infinite number akin to Pi. 360 divided by 7 = 51.42857142857143. It is the only number from 1 to 9 that does that. That Greenwich U.K. is located at 51 N and that this number is also significant to the Great Pyramid of Giza and others lends to some of its mystery and significance historically. Yet, as is true with all numbers, they are timeless even as they measure time. The mystery and magic of 7 goes on and on. Closer to mundane reality, this 7th month is also when both Canada and the United States celebrate their national birthdays, on July 1st and 4th respectively. One may also wonder if this is merely coincidental and was somehow planned and intended. As more and more research is done we are increasingly gaining new perspectives on history, in some cases, radically new perspectives. The implications of this revolution are massive. On a simpler note, this is a time of celebration of our national identities and the allegiances these imply. Regarding planetary alignments, close energetic exchanges between Sun and Mars in Cancer, Jupiter in Libra and Pluto in Capricorn are especially noteworthy. All 3 signs are Cardinal which can be described as the verb in the sentence. Initiative and assertive action are other keywords for Cardinal Signs. With Jupiter in Libra at the apex of a T-Square with Sun/Mars in opposition to Pluto over the next couple of weeks or so, we can expect a good deal of attention directed to themes of fairness, equality, and justice. In other personal lives, CHANGE is the key word and it requires that we are proactive and able to trust and cooperate with this flow. This is where I can help you with the tools of Astrology and Numerology. You will be literally amazed at how clearly I can see you and your situation with these tools and thereby support you to make wise and successful choices.

**Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)** Your focus remains riveted to home and family. As eager as you are to enjoy the moment, your attitude is not all fun and games. You want to get a few things done. Whether literal or psychological, you are determined to get to the heart of things. The good news is that in any case, your inspiration is to be creative.

**Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)** You feel extra emotional these days. Your thoughts and perceptions are colored strongly by how you feel now. Positively, you are able to harness these feelings and express them creatively. Variety is the spice in this regard so allow yourself to move from one project to another without the pressure of having to complete them all. Produce now, refine later.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** Attending to realities that support you to feel secure is now in focus. While this often includes money, the scope and quality of your closest relationships is featured. As eager as you are to socialize these days, in the shorter term you are happy to lay low and recharge your batteries. Quiet quality time shared with family will meet your core needs.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** Sun, Mars, and Mercury in your sign along with last week's New Moon are together activating impulses to take new leads and initiatives. You yearn for change one way or another. There are indications that you have reasons to feel confident, despite any other challenges. Reaching out to engage with friends is a source of pleasure.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** A busy time both behind the scenes and linked to other practical matters continues. You will feel increasingly social by next week. For now, weaving pleasure with business will give you confidence. The challenge here is ever to strike that balance between a serious and sober focus and a light and playful attitude. You can do it!

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** You are in an inventive mood. In some respects, you may even feel the need to reinvent yourself. This may well extend to your friendships. It may be time to cultivate new allegiances. As times goes on, things change and people move on as well. Trust this flow and enjoy fresh encounters and budding friendships.

**Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)** Some fresh starts have been activated in your world. These are linked to your career and social status as well as to your home and family. Your focus has and continues to be on finances. This emphasis will shift soon to a more social and culturally adventurous mood.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** You are in a philosophical mood. Thoughts about the future are strongly on your mind. In some respects, you feel rebellious and determined to get to the bottom of things. Making changes in your lifestyle is likely. Pushing through any resistances feels right. Your actions are inspired by love, beauty, and pleasure.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Sex, death, and taxes represent some of life's deeper complexities. To this list can be added questions of soul, reincarnation, and spirituality in general. Whichever deeper mysteries you are contemplating and or focusing on managing, they are indicated. This task includes breaking through denials, deceptions, and illusions.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Interactions with significant others bring something of a mixed blessing now. What is adding the twist is a potentially aggressive edge. Regardless of the source, it should be evident that it is active. On the high side, a process of clearing and renovating is implied. This may be literal or it may be psychological. Either way, focus on creating constructive results.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Significant changes in your daily rhythm and routine are underway. What is affecting your lifestyle and in a very measurable way. Creating beauty close to home is part of the plot. This may also be described as establishing new and better foundations. The twist is that there is work to do and things could get messy.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)** A creative, playful and sporting mood continues. You are excited to venture into new territory. It may feel as though a big door has opened right in front of you. If so, clearly you are meant to go through it. Avoid doubt and confront fear. Yes, changes in your public and professional life and social status are indicated. Trust this flow.

## EDUCATION

## Care aide program gets A grade



PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

Newly certified health care assistant Kimberly Mann at her Greenwood's workplace. All 14 program graduates are reportedly employed after taking the Camosun College course offered for the first time on Salt Spring.

## Camosun-SD 64 partnership addresses labour shortage

BY SEAN HITREC  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Students who completed a health care assistant program held in conjunction with School District 64 and Camosun College on Salt Spring have entered the workforce on the island.

The program that ran from October 2016 to this May offered a group of people the opportunity to train for a needed skill on-island. Greenwood's Eldercare Society employed the bulk of the graduates immediately. The overwhelming success of the program offers hope for on-island care, as well as a solution for the skilled labour shortage as the housing crisis on Salt Spring continues.

For recent graduate and new HCA Amber Jensen, the program fit perfectly into her life between Saturna and Salt Spring.

"I live on Saturna and I moved here during the school year to allow my son not to take the water taxi," Jensen said.

After completing the course, Jensen was immediately offered work.

"I walked into private care right off the get-go and was very comfortable the first day," she said.

Jensen added that the many people who took the course wouldn't have been able to if it wasn't held on Salt Spring.

"I think it's a wonderful thing to [hold programs like this] out here because not everybody can drop everything and go in and out of Victoria. Just the sheer cost of the ferries every

day can limit people," she said.

Another graduate of the program, Angela Zamboni, who is a HCA with Beacon Community Services, also recognized the value of learning on Salt Spring.

"It was a fantastic opportunity for people to have a change and to be able to forward themselves in something that was desperately needed in the community," Zamboni said. "The people who organized it, they really put themselves out there to make that happen."

**"Because we are limited, we have to think a little harder and a little deeper about how we can achieve our goals within the confines of what we have at hand."**

MAGGIE ALLISON  
Manager for career development and community initiatives, SD 64

The inception of the program was brought about by Barb Aust, chair of the Greenwood's Eldercare Society and secretary of the Salt Spring Health Advancement Coalition. Aust confirmed that all of the students from the program on Salt Spring have been hired. Health-care professionals have been hard to find on Salt Spring and it is getting tougher and tougher to find housing accommodation, so an out-of-the-box solution was needed, Aust said.

"I'm grateful to the school district for... reaching beyond what their standard practice was to see if this thing would fly," Aust said. "It was doable and affordable for the people who took it. In addition to that, it showed [these types of courses] can be done [here]."

Aust originally brought the idea of an on-island HCA course to School District 64 superintendent Lisa Halstead, who assigned the task of finding a solution to Maggie Allison, manager for career development and community initiatives. Allison surveyed the community to tailor the program to Salt Spring's needs.

"At the time, I spoke with all of the stakeholders in the community," Allison said. "Greenwood's and Beacon were having to utilize health care assistants who would travel from Crofton every day to come and work on Salt Spring."

Camosun received a grant for \$155,000 in the spring of 2016 from the Ministry of Advanced Education to run the program on Salt Spring Island.

The course was something that Camosun hadn't done before on the island. They even built a mock hospital area for the hands-on learning in the course.

"We knew that, because we don't have a continuing-education wing, it was something that was really needed in the community and so we just went ahead and did it off the side of the desk," Allison said. "Because we are limited, we have to think a little harder and a little deeper about how we can achieve our goals within the confines of what we have at hand."

In the future, Allison said, she wants to attempt to bring a two-year licensed practical nursing program to Salt Spring.

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## TRACK AND FIELD

# Sneakers members and friends continue winning ways

Race and event round-up for several islanders

BY ERIC ELLIS  
SALT SPRING SNEAKERS

As summer approaches, Salt Spring Sneakers and their affiliates will be found far afield competing, travelling or both.

On the June 17-18 weekend, Sneakers were competing in Vancouver and northern England, while over the past month, Sneakers have raced in the U.S. and in Newfoundland, and are travelling in Europe.

On June 16, Sneakers coach and mentor Susan Gordon competed in the UBC Thunderbirds Longest Day 5K on the UBC campus. Her 20:15 finish, not her best 5K time as she had a bit of an asthma attack just before the finish, did nevertheless earn her second place in her age group, fifth of 190 masters (above age 40) women, 16th of 446 women and 60th of 751 competitors. More importantly, it qualified her in the 12-race BC Super Series competition where she is currently ranked first overall for masters women and ninth of all women. The BC Super Series awards prizes to the top three men and women in the open class, masters group and novice classes based on their best four race times in the 12-race series.



PHOTO COURTESY DOUG WAHLSTEN

Doug Wahlsten, left, participates in the discus event for the first time at BC Masters Championships in Langley. He says he looks forward to learning more about discus from accomplished Salt Spring track and field athlete Ness Murby.

Lynn Thompson spent the July 17-18 weekend competing in the 38th Annual Pacific Invitational track meet and BC Masters Championships in Langley where his Saturday 19:12 performance in the 80-metre hurdles earned him a first place in the 70+ age group and his 3.23-metre long jump earned him a first in his age group and eighth place of 11 in all competitors 50 years and above. On the Sunday of that event, his 16.99 performance in the 100 metres earned him a first of four in the 70 and above group, and was a .14-second improvement over his Duncan performance two weeks before, while his 6.84 triple jump performance earned him a first in his age group.

On May 27, Thompson and Doug Wahlsten competed in the Elwood

Wiley Invitational in Duncan, doing a one-two punch in the 100 metres in the 70 and over group, Wahlsten earning a 17:05 finish and Thompson a 17:13 finish.

On the same weekend, Hannah and Fiona Munro, daughters of Sneakers member Karen Clark and graduates of GISS, completed 81 kms of the Hadrian's Wall Rat Race ultra marathon across northern England in 16 hours.

As they traversed the northern United States, Eric and Julie van Soeren competed in the May 29 Bozeman, Montana Run to Remember 10K. Despite running extra mileage and competing at 5,000 feet, Eric finished 16th in 58:34 while Julie finished in 30th place at 1:01:11. On June 10, they competed in the Capital City Stampede 10K in Montpelier, Vt., far

closer to sea level. Eric's 50:01 earned him a sixth place in his age group and 44th overall, while Julie's 1:03:26 earned her a second in her age group and 75th overall.

On June 11, Sneakers affiliate Melanie van Soeren competed in the Uniformed Services St. John's half marathon, where her 1:33:49 earned her a first in her age group, a third place for all women competing and 23rd of 144 competing.

In other track news, Ness Murby flung the discus a remarkable 27 metres at an event in Duncan, followed by a winning toss of 23 metres of the javelin. Murby, who represented Canada at the Paralympics in Rio last year, is now training for upcoming world championships in London, England.



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## GOLF

# Canada colours on course Thursday

Annual scramble more special than usual

BY MARCIA HOGAN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Thursday nine-hole ladies captain Patricia Gibson invites all lady golfers to play in the annual Canada Day scramble on June 29.

The ladies will be decked out in red and white and maple leaves to celebrate our sesquicentennial.

The men's 18-hole league played the Lucky Mashie competition on June 7. The trophy is named after the "mashie niblick," a wooden-shafted club used primarily before the 20th century, which has been replaced by today's seven irons.

## GOLFTEES

Winners were the team of Harry Kirwin and Wes Akerman with a score of 60. Runners up were Tom Brown and Don Mahon with 62. Third place went to Doug Fraser and Larry Davies who shot 63.

The 18-hole ladies league played for the Brooks Cup, a low-net competition. Dora Reynolds and Jill Thompson each had stellar games, scoring a net 65. Reynolds was declared the winner through retrogression, a count back that compares scores. Franki Johnstone won the KP prize, dropping just a little closer to the pin than Gail Sharp. Elaine Shaw and Dora Reynolds tied for the putt pot

with 27 putts for the round.

- The Rose Bowl match play semi-final competition pitted Lynda Joyce against Alice Richards and Carolyn Sharp against Kathy Luke. Joyce and Sharp won the matches and will compete for the title.

- Salt Spring Golf Club hosted the ever popular Legion tournament on June 10 with a full field of players. The top scrambling team was the famous foursome of Steve Marleau, Chad Little, Jim Burrows and Troy Kaye.

- The next big event at the Salt Spring golf course is the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation's charity tournament. It runs on Sunday, July 9 with tee times available throughout the day. All island golfers are invited to support our hospital by participating in this social competition.