



All About Pets
Photos, stories and more!
PAGES 11-14

Aqua magazine
Our super summer issue
INSIDE



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 28 \$1.25 (incl GST)

HEALTH CARE

Island loses two newest doctors

Travel assistance to Duncan available for patients

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island chapter of the Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice announced Tuesday that doctors Hala Aljuburi and Manuela Lowo will no longer be practising in the community.

The two physicians came to Salt Spring through the Practice Ready Assessment program, a partnership between the provincial government and Doctors of BC through the Joint Standing Committee on Rural Issues. They were practising out of Dr. Magda Leon's Lancer Building office until their sudden departure from that space in the late spring.

"In the June 14, 2017 edition of the Driftwood we shared the news that Drs. Lowo and Aljuburi were no longer in practice with Dr. Leon. We articulated the hope that we would be able to retain them within the community," chapter coordinator Janine Gowans wrote in a statement. "Today we share the disappointing news that those efforts have been unsuccessful and we have received confirmation from both physicians that they will be ceasing to practice on Salt Spring Island effective Aug. 1 and will be moving to a practice in the Cowichan Valley."

Since leaving Leon's office the two doctors have been taking shifts at Lady Minto Hospital, but were not able to schedule regular appointments with patients. The situation left some community members confused, anxious or angry.

PHYSICIANS continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

TICKETS TO PARADISE: Frankie Johnstone, left, and Karen Davies sell 50/50 tickets at the 26th annual Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Charity Golf Tournament. This year's event had a Hawaiian theme, with the foundation's 2017 Phantom Ball prize being a trip to Oahu.

ENVIRONMENT

Regional approach floated for derelict vessels

CRD to consider joining broader plan

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

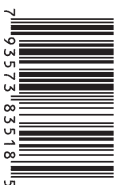
A Salt Spring-based organization's proposal to develop a regional response to derelict and abandoned vessels is finding support from local government, with a motion from the Capital Regional District adding to the momentum.

CRD directors meeting today (Wednesday, July 12) will hear from Victoria councillor Ben Isitt, presenting a motion based on one that Victoria City Council passed unanimously last week.

The motion calls for the CRD to work with the Cowichan Valley Regional District, the Regional District of Nanaimo, the Islands Trust, the Government of British Columbia, the Government of Canada and local governments and First Nations governments on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands on a coordinated response to abandoned vessels, including submission of funding applications to the Abandoned Boats Program and Coastal Restoration Fund.

VESSELS continued on 2

Protect your WEALTH
Joni Ganderton
537-1654



INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- Ganges Pharmasave
- Thrifty Foods
- Home Hardware
- Buckerfield's
- Lady Minto
- Lifestyle Markets
- The Local Liquor St.

INDEX

Arts.....	15	Letters.....	7
All About Pets.....	11	People & Community.....	19
Classifieds.....	21	Sports & Recreation.....	23
Editorial.....	6	What's On.....	16

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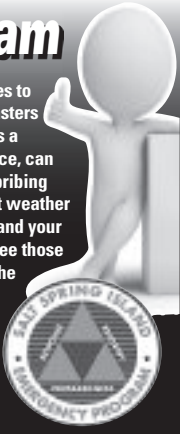
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POD Program

Do you know someone who loves to help others, is interested in disasters - man-made or nature-made, has a telephone, computer or loud voice, can organize a few people without bribing them, loves to talk about current weather related issues that interest you and your neighbours, e.g. Wow did you see those red yellow skies? Where di the sun go? Is there a fire nearby? When do you think the smoke will reside? then that person might be the perfect person to join the POD program and help out your neighbourhood.



Please contact Laurel Hanley and ssidepc@crd.bc.ca or call 250-537-1220 if you know of such a person or if you would like to be part of a POD.

www.prepareyourself.ca



Volunteer and non-profit help needed

VESSELS
continued from 1

Salt Spring resident John Roe of the Veins of Life Watershed Society proposed local governments take this step after \$6.85 million in federal funding was announced for the Abandoned Boats Program this spring as part of the \$1.5-billion Oceans Protection Plan. While individual municipalities were invited to apply for funds, Roe felt the CRD should be involved in a single effort stretching from Nanaimo to Victoria.

"We are proposing for the convenience, simplicity and saving of monies, time and resources, the CRD join us for a Southern Vancouver Island approach," states a joint letter from Roe and the Cadboro Bay Community Association.

Isitt said there is much to recommend such a plan, since it's often tough to say who has responsibility for abandoned boats, while jurisdictional boundaries are easily crossed in the water.

"I think it's a great idea," Isitt told the Driftwood.

"This issue has come up in a lot of municipalities. This is about putting a strong regional ask for federal funds, so I think there's a strong possibility the CRD board will support it."



John Roe of Veins of Life Watershed Society.

FILE PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Isitt said if the other local governments and First Nations sign on, he envisions the corporate administrative officers of the three regional districts could form a working group to coordinate abandoned vessel clean-up. The working group could do things like keep an inventory of abandoned vessels, flag those with high priority for removal and come up with an effective process, he said.

Isitt pointed out the CRD is the de facto local government for Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands, while many of the regional districts have been working hard to improve relations with First Nations.

"I think the regional districts are best positioned to

coordinate those efforts," Isitt said. "That would be a fairly streamlined approach to coordination."

Salt Spring CRD director Wayne McIntyre said Monday that he would support the motion as it is currently worded, although he observed things could change after debate on Wednesday.

"It's a common issue and I think anytime you coordinate your efforts you are better off, and you can make it more cost-efficient," McIntyre said.

McIntyre said he also thinks it's a good idea for the CRD to show leadership in the area, which might then spread to other communities.

"There's a lot of common-

alties, and I don't like to see duplication," he said.

Veins of Life has been successful in cleaning up abandoned boats and associated beach junk in Ganges Harbour, Cadboro Bay and the Gorge Waterway in Victoria with significant help from corporate sponsor Ralmax. Roe said once a regional body and strategy is in place, Ralmax has signalled it's willing to help with boat removal.

Help will be needed from local volunteers and non-profit groups as well, since the money available under the federal plan is only a fraction of what is likely needed, and won't cover steps such as the initial inventory.

Roe said the number of abandoned boats in his target area numbers anywhere from 300 to 1,200 depending on the report, while some have sunk and disappeared from view except at low tide.

"Everybody's complaining but the reality is we as a community have to go out to do the work. Otherwise it ain't gonna happen," Roe said.

Roe has also brought the regional proposal to the Islands Trust and hopes it will be discussed at their executive committee's July 19 meeting.

Salt Spring Island Public Library
Summer BOOK READINGS

<p>SATURDAY, July 22, 7:00pm LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM</p> <p>THE QUEEN OF THE NORTH DISASTER by Colin Henthorne</p> 	<p>WEDNESDAY, Aug 2, 7:00pm LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM</p> <p>A Rain of Night Birds by Deena Metzger</p> 
<p>TUESDAY, Aug 8, 7:00pm ARTSPRING THEATRE TICKETS \$10</p> <p>THE CLEAN MONEY REVOLUTION by Joel Solomon</p> 	 

3

~ Great Authors!
~ Great Books!
~ Dates to Save!

Doctor retention a complex issue

PHYSICIANS
continued from 1

Jane Horsburgh is one patient affected by the unusual situation. She was a patient of Dr. James White until he retired in January 2017 and then was assigned to Dr. Aljuburi after being without a physician for three months.

Horsburgh said she was given no warning the doctors were leaving the Lancer Building office and had received no update since their departure was announced in the paper.

"All we are told is to go to emergency if we need to see a doctor. The ER is for emergencies, not to renew a prescription, consult about a health problem, or get a referral to a specialist. To go to

the ER for such items is a terrible waste of health care dollars," Horsburgh wrote to the Rural & Remote Division of Family Practice, in a letter that she shared with the Driftwood.

"To go to the ER for such items is a terrible waste of health-care dollars."

JANE HORSBURGH
Dr. Aljuburi patient

Existing patients of doctors Lowo and Aljuburi who wish to continue under their care, and who are willing to travel to do so,

can make appointments at the Cowichan Way Clinic in Duncan. Personnel from B.C.'s Travel Assistance Program have said that patients can apply to have their ferry costs covered because there are not currently any physicians accepting patients on Salt Spring Island.


The reason for the doctors' departure has not been shared, but more information on the general issue of physician recruitment is expected in the near future.

"Many community residents will have questions about the events of the last several weeks that have led to this disappointing outcome. The challenges facing Salt Spring in recruiting and retaining physicians are complex; some are local and some systemic," Gowans said.

4

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VICTORIA
540 John St
2663 Sooke Rd



NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Heritage Day:
Sunday, JULY 16
Farmers' Institute, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

COMPOSTING

Salt Spring group looks to keep nutrients on the island

Large 'mechanical cow' could process Salt Spring's organic waste

BY SEAN HITREC
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An island group is making a push to increase composting on Salt Spring Island.

As a result of a Hartland Road landfill ban starting in 2015 that includes kitchen scraps, businesses are required to compost their organic waste. Currently, all major composting materials are taken off-island and then, in some cases, sold back to the island as fertilizer.

The plan, titled Organic Waste Management Integration, proposes eliminating the need to ship organic waste off-island. That will keep nutrients on the island and reduce the community's carbon footprint, say members of a working group. A proposal has been drafted and sent to the Capital Regional District.

"What we really need at this point is some sort of hired consultant who will come in, look at Salt Spring's population and geography and tell us what system would work for us," said Mary Richardson, a founding member of the working group.

Richardson said it would cost about \$50,000 to hire a consultant for a multi-month study.

One of the machines proposed for use on Salt Spring is called an anaerobic digester. These advanced composting units heat the material inside to the perfect temperature for decomposition and speed up the composting process. The other type of unit is an aerobic digester, which are currently used to turn human waste into fertilizer. The unique thing about the digesters is that they can take all



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

GISS' Salt Spring Salads food truck is part of a program that sees all food scraps and take-away dishes composted.

organic waste, including meat, and speed up the composting process dramatically.

Jane Squier, an inventive farmer who is part of the Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission as well as the working group, currently has a small custom-made anaerobic digester on her farm. She powers it with solar panels. With the digester, Squier is able to renew nutrients in her farm.

"Essentially, this is a mechanical cow," Squier said.

The smell emanating from the end product called digestate will be familiar to anyone who has been on a dairy farm or ranch. The difference is that the methane released from the digestion process is captured and can be reused.

Squier uses the methane for cooking, but

said it can also be used to power the digester.

Having a system by which the island maintains its own nutrients is a long process that the group doesn't expect will happen immediately.

"It's a complex issue. It's not going to happen tomorrow," said Salt Spring's CRD director Wayne McIntyre, who is also part of the described group.

He added that there are other projects currently in the works, including replacement of the reclamation station at Burgoyne Bay.

"I'm excited about the fact that possibly the school district will do something and also looking at possibilities for encouraging some home-based systems," McIntyre said.

In June, Squier and Richardson asked the school board about adding a digester to Gulf



MARK KILNER

Islands Secondary School. The goal was to create a system where all of the schools on Salt Spring could bring their organic waste to be digested and used in the garden at GISS.

Mark Kilner, who teaches the cafeteria program at GISS, runs a culinary, garden and business-oriented program throughout the summer. Students at the school learn how to grow, prepare and then sell food to the public from a food truck over the summer break for extra credit.

"We grow, we harvest, we cook. I just thought having a really serious composter there would be just one more teaching moment for the kids," Kilner said. "We don't even recycle in the cafeteria anymore, we just compost. We compost everything."

From take-out boxes to cups, everything used in the Kilner's salad bar at the school and salad truck during the summer months is compostable.

Kilner said he already has two rotating-composting units and three plastic ones bought with proceeds of the school's cafeteria and Salt Spring Salads food truck program.

He would like to replace the current units with a single larger anaerobic digester, so that all of the schools on Salt Spring can participate in retaining nutrients for their gardens. Kilner's plan is to send the existing composters to schools on other Gulf Islands.

He does not have the capacity to compost all of the material himself at the school, however, so he ends up shipping some of it off island for a fee that can reach up to \$300 a month.

"Besides the costs, you just have to do the right thing, and composting is the right thing."

NEWS BRIEFS

B&E suspect appears in court

Charges have been approved in relation to a break and enter at North End Fitness in June.

Salt Spring resident Erin

Hartley, 36, also known as Erin Joseph, has been charged with one count of break and enter. She made her first appearance in Ganges court on Monday.

"Additional details can not be provided at this time as the matter is before the courts," states an RCMP press release.

Over the weekend a car window was broken near the school board office on Rainbow Road and sometime during the same evening a red swastika was painted in the intersection of Central and on a nearby building. RCMP said they currently have no suspects for either cases.

FOR THE RECORD

• A photo of Dan Ureta skateboarding in Day in the Life should have been attributed to Avril Kirby.

• Last week's paper had incorrect information in the poll-by-poll provincial election results. The map from the 2013 provincial was erroneously used. Corrected poll-by-poll statistics show former NDP MLA Gary Holman won continued support on all the Gulf Islands with the

exception of North and South Pender and Portland islands. Holman had significantly more votes than newly elected Green party member Adam Olsen on Salt Spring, at 2,641 to 2,073 (includes Prevost Island voters), and won all polls on the island except two.

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FIRE DISTRICT

Fire board elects Svendsen as chair

Work done on strategic plan proposal

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Protection District's board of trustees settled into a summer of clearing up old business with the first of a series of special meetings on Wednesday, June 5, followed up with a second on Monday evening.

The board's first order of business Wednesday was to elect a new chair, due to the June 20 resignation of trustee Mitch Forest. Per Svendsen, who was acting chair at past sessions when Forest was unable to attend, was elected by acclamation to make the role a permanent one.

"It's interesting thinking about us as a group, in that we're a new group and we each have our ideas about what we'd like to see done," Svendsen said after the decision. "We come together and there's going to be a little bit of [shuffling] until we figure out how it all comes together."

Svendsen continued by noting the board is a team and that any team has

a set of basic rules to follow. The fire board's include Roberts Rules of Order and the district's meeting procedure bylaw. Svendsen said following those guidelines will lead to great success.

"As a team we just have to understand where we fit and how we do things . . . and we all come with talents. I think we're starting to weed those out as to who can do what and where, so I'm excited about it," Svendsen said.

Of the six trustees currently sitting on the board, Howard Baker has served the longest, having been elected in December 2015. Four trustees, including Svendsen, were elected during a by-election in February.

Rollie Cook, who was elected in April and is the most recent trustee to join the board, suggested the group get to know each other better on a social basis, such as through a barbecue at his farm. Svendsen agreed it was a good idea as long as everyone made sure not to discuss business that must be conducted in public.

In terms of defining the role of the chair and the individual trustees, the district's corporate administrative officer Andrew Peat said the most important

thing to remember is that no person can act on his or her own authority. A legal opinion sought by the district states all actions, including that of the chair, must come at the direction of the board.

"It's very clear that the trustees act collectively. The chair's role is largely confined to his role at a meeting of the trustees," Peat said. "The chair or any trustee is given responsibility by the board."

"It's good for everyone to hear periodically and remember that no, you're not all independent sub-entities. Your sole authority arises at this meeting. You do not have any authority to go off on your own," Peat added.

Monday's agenda was mainly devoted to refining the request for proposals to create a new 10-year strategic plan for the district. Some changes were suggested by Cook to acknowledge upcoming requirements of the Fire Underwriters Survey.

The updated proposal will go to the Strategic Planning Committee for further comment.

The next regular business meeting of the board is set for Monday, July 17 at 7 p.m. at the United Church's lower hall.

WATER CONSERVATION

Rain-smarts meet water needs

More opportunities to share rainwater harvesting info

BY SHANNON COWAN AND SANDRA UNGERSON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Communities with a good rain-smarts have thrived throughout history. All life depends on stored rain, even if it is trapped in rock crevices deep, in underground aquifers. Recently, Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority and its Conservation and Efficiency Working Group teamed up with Royal Roads University undergraduate students from the Environmental Science program to assess the rain-smarts on Salt Spring Island. An online survey was conducted between April and June of this year.

Everyone who filled in the survey, was eligible for the three draw prizes of a free rainwater system audit by SSIWPA working group member, Sandra Ungerson MSc of AloPluvia Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Ltd., who has been trained at the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association plumbing school in Annapolis, D.C.

Congratulations go to John Jefferson, Gail Bryn-Jones and Martin Thorn. These three have each won a free ARCSA rainwater harvesting audit from AloPluvia IWRM Ltd.

SSIWPA, CEWG and RRU students appreciate the participation by all who contributed to the survey. The results will be available on the SSIWPA website at www.ssiwatersheds.ca.

Second chance

If we missed you, there is still a chance to help improve accuracy of the SSIWPA working group report: We are seeking even more



PHOTO COURTESY SSIWPA

Royal Roads Environmental Studies students undertake rain harvesting surveys at Earth Day in Centennial Park. From left: Derek Wilcox, Angela LeBlanc, Kendra Anderson and Charlene Lloyd.

information to better understand how much rainwater is being stored, used and for what purposes. This project will identify, list and compare technologies and techniques for water conservation and improved supply management that are in use or could be used on Salt Spring Island.

People should email SSIwaterstest@tutamail.com if they collect rainwater and did not complete the survey. If you have other water conservation technologies that you use and would like to share, we welcome your information as well.

Rainwater tour coming up

SSIWPA will also be hosting a Rainwater Home Tour on Satur-

day, Oct. 14. Examples will range from hi-tech to simple, small to large. You can also see examples of constructed wetlands and irrigation ponds. If you have a system and would like to participate in this event, please contact Sharon Bywater at 250-537-5000 for more information.

All tour participants can enter the draw to win a free ARCSA rainwater harvesting audit from AloPluvia IWRM Ltd.

For more information on SSIWPA, or the integrated program to develop a Water Sustainability Plan for Salt Spring Island see the www.ssiwatersheds.ca website or contact SSIWPA coordinator Shannon Cowan at ssiwpacoord@gmail.com, or Sandra Ungerson, chair of the Conservation and Efficiency Working Group at alopluvia.info@gmail.com.

YesSI
Yes Empowers Salt Spring Island

Municipality in 11 Easy Pieces

Local Decision Making

- Made by Salt Springers, not by the CRD Board, not by the province, not by non-resident Trust trustees

More Representation

- A locally elected 7-member council eliminates the concentration of power in the hands of a few

Smaller (Not Another!) Government

- One 7-member council replaces 4 water districts, the CRD, the local trust committee & the fire district

Cohesion & Coordination

- One council would prioritize and balance all service decisions with an overall view to the greater good

Financial Planning & Efficiency

- One central budget replaces many, opening the door to long term financial planning and tax efficiencies

Sustainability Planning (we have none now!)

- Integrated long range planning (holistic visioning)

Water Resource Planning

- One authority means integrated long term planning

Accessibility

- Local meetings will mean more local participation

Accountability (no non-resident decisions)

- Salt Springers will be accountable to Salt Springers

Grants & Other Funding

- Direct access to gas tax funding and other senior grants - CRD does not prioritize us, our council would

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GANGES HARBOUR

Legacy artwork finds home with harbour authority

Willard Davies sculpture installed at Centennial Wharf

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A piece of artwork that many islanders helped grow and steward over the past 20 years has gained a permanent display near the spot where its creator spent much of his time.

Willard Davies' massive wood sculpture *Mother and Child* is now installed outside the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island office — right at the head of Centennial Wharf, where a concrete pad was already in place. The piece will soon be dedicated with a memorial plaque, a fitting tribute to the "wharf rat" who had many friends on the waterfront before his unfortunate death in 2016.

"I think it's a good fit. It's found a home," said Don Clogg, whose friendship with Davies dated back to when they were both living on boats in Fulford Harbour around 15 years ago.

Clogg, who with Dave Beck is acting as executor of Davies' estate, said Davies had worked on the carving for at least 14 years. During that time many friends took a turn doing a little work on it, and many others helped with moving and storage in various locations. The sculpture was carved out of a single block of fir and features a lovely depiction of a woman carrying a child on her back. But at three metres long and 900 kilograms (2,000 pounds), it isn't the most graceful of objects to be carrying around.

"We knew about the carving but couldn't locate it for a while. A fellow named Dave Stone had custodial care of it after Willard's death," Clogg said.

After establishing the artwork's most recent location, Clogg approached the harbour authority about moving the piece to the dock area for permanent viewing.

"Willard was a long-time client. He came and went from Centennial, so we thought he might be happy with that," said harbour manager Jim Heath.

"I think it really is wonderful. We wondered what was happening to it."

ANN SEMLER

Willard Davies' sister

year, after another vehicle struck his truck while he was driving friends home on Vancouver Island. She did visit the island in 1997 though, and saw *Mother and Child* in its early days.

"I think it really is wonderful. We wondered what was



PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

Mother and Child, a sculpture by the late Willard Davies, in its new home at the head of Centennial Wharf.

happening to it," Semler said about the installation.

Semler explained she and Davies were born in England and then grew up in Canada after their family moved to Montreal. Later on they moved to Connecticut with their father, but Davies returned to his friends in Montreal before making his way out to the West Coast.

Semler said he must have picked up his love of boats and water once he got here, but he was always interested in art.

"He did it kind of by the moon. He did it when he felt like it — he didn't pursue it for money," Semler said.

Like Heath, Clogg remembers his friend as being quiet and almost shy, often speaking in a mumble.

"He was a very considerate guy as well. He didn't like to make waves," Clogg said.

Davies was known for always having a pick-up truck that was filled with various items, no doubt making his frequent moves more difficult. But he was also generous, offering his boat to anyone who needed accommodation for a night or two, and he made friends easily.

Clogg said many of those people had an interest in where *Mother and Child* was headed and how it would be protected over time. The harbour authority is doing its best to discourage climbing and vandalism by having the piece behind fencing. The board will also be voting this week on whether to construct a roof over it. Since the sculpture is located right outside the HASSI office window, any structure will have to meet guidelines such as not obstructing views of the dock, if it is approved.

A dedication ceremony is planned for later this summer and a memorial plaque will be installed. Until then, Clogg said, information could be posted behind plastic. The only other step remaining is to re-attach a missing hand still in Stone's care, which Clogg hopes will be returned soon.

Semler hopes to come to Salt Spring someday soon to see the carving in its new place and once again see the place that her brother loved.

"Don has been very helpful and this has been a pleasant surprise," she said. "Willard found an ideal home. He found a good place to live, he really did."

POLITICS

NDP party celebrates at BBQ

Supporters host politicians and friends

Salt Spring's NDP club is continuing its renewal from the past with a summer barbecue at the Farmers' Institute on Saturday, July 15.

The lamb and salmon barbecue begins at 3 p.m. with a beer and wine "garden" and live music from Alan Moberg, Susan Cogan and Phil Vernon, followed by dinner served at 5 p.m. Lamb, barbecued salmon, a vegetarian option as well as side dishes, dessert and non-alcoholic drinks are available.

"This year's event is to raise friends and funds for the NDP that is looking ahead to a new federal party leadership and rejoicing in a progressive provin-

cial government," said longtime club member Irene Wright. "The lamb is provided by Bev Byron with the preparation by Brad Bompas, the salmon by Ron Nordine, and various fine cooks. Local farms and business will look after the rest. Most of the dinner will be raised, grown and prepared on Salt Spring."

Next year the Salt Spring NDP Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary. According to Wright, many special guests have attended the event over the years.

"Alexa McDonough, Ed Broadbent, Rob Fleming, MPs Kennedy Stewart and Sheila Malcolmson. This year, Gary and Alicia Holman, Pat Martin, a former MP from Winnipeg who now lives here, and a few members of caucus plan to join us . . . maybe our new premier as well," she said.

SALT SPRING INN



Jeremy Milsom and Basil Chow are very proud to welcome Beth Lay and Caitlin Kettlewell to the ownership of the Salt Spring Inn.

We are very confident that their exceptional leadership and hospitality excellence skills will continue to complement Jeremy and Basil in guiding future business success and community contributions of "The Inn".

We encourage our guests and friends to congratulate Beth and Caitlin in their exciting new roles.

JEREMY MILSOM, BASIL CHOW

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

It could be us

Scenes of the wildfires in B.C.'s Interior this week have been chilling.

Personal videos taken as vehicles drive through thick smoke and close to burning trees offer a terrifyingly real sense of what evacuees are experiencing.

Just last year we witnessed the devastating Fort McMurray fires, which took two months for firefighters to quell. Having out-of-control fires that much closer to the B.C. coast prompts thoughts of "What if?"

It doesn't take much to imagine wildfires unfolding on the Gulf Islands, except the evacuation of an island could be that much more difficult.

Fortunately, learning to deal with a wildfire scenario is part of Salt Spring's Emergency Program of the Capital Regional District, and includes all of the island's emergency services.

For individual residents, the best thing to do is ensure that you are registered with your pod area of the island's emergency program, and to help with its activities, if possible. Each pod aims to maintain a list of the most vulnerable residents in their neighbourhood, as well as a record of people

with particular skills and equipment. Evacuation plans are in various stages of development for various pods.

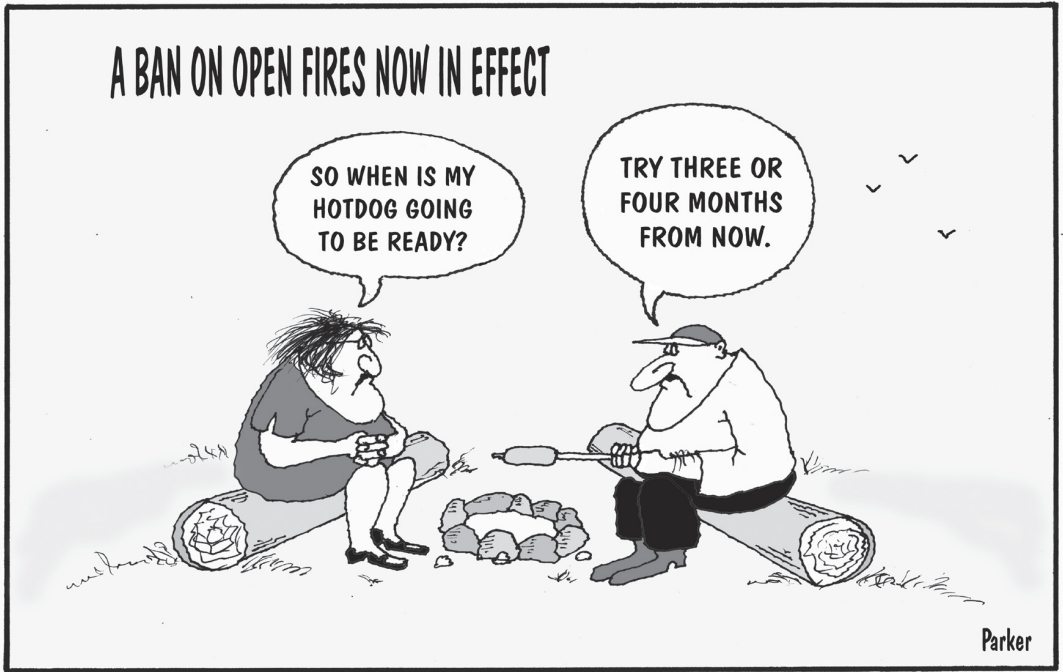
Emergency Social Services is another part of the program whose volunteers help people who have been evacuated from their homes. The ESS corps would take care of evacuees in one of six reception centres, assuming a fire did not threaten the entire island.

Having a "grab-and-go bag" is another essential component for surviving a wildfire. For people with pets, a separate portable bag of supplies should be easily accessible. Again, the Salt Spring Emergency Program has all the information one needs

On Salt Spring Island, the fire department instituted a total fire ban last Thursday. That means no campfires, incinerator fires or burn piles at all.

But that's only part of a prevention plan. Islanders and visitors must take extreme caution when it comes to dealing with smoking materials, and should call 9-1-1 immediately to report smoke sightings.

We don't want to join our fellow B.C. citizens in facing massive devastation to our landscapes and personal property.



VIEWPOINT by David Wood

Municipal model provides tools

I have to declare a bias that I am, and have been for a long time, in favour of incorporation for Salt Spring.

From 1999 to 2002 I served as the chair the last local government restructure committee, and by the end of that process, I, and most (not all) of the other members, had come to the conclusion that becoming a municipality offers the best opportunity for our community to achieve the future we all want. (I mean it: Do you know anyone who wants a Salt Spring different in any important way from the one you want?)

Of course simply being a municipality does not itself solve problems or provide solutions. What incorporation does is give us a structure in which decisions affecting life on our island are made by people who live here, rather than, as happens now, by people who mostly do not live here, and don't have to live with the consequences of their decisions. At the end of the day, the bucks are ours, and as a municipality we will be able to choose how they are spent.

Some intelligent and sensible people I have talked to are concerned that an incorporated Salt Spring will elect a pro-development mayor and council; but a look at our voting history does not support this. Over the 20 years that I moderated election debates on the island, Salt Spring has not once elected someone who was in favour of opening the door to development. The idea that our community, the greenest in Canada (with both federal and provincial Green MLAs), will reverse its track record of many years and elect a pro-development council is simply not credible.

Many objections to incorporation are based on fear and incorrect or incomplete information, but not all of them. The most rational position against a municipality is summed up in the old adage: If it ain't broke, don't fix it. And it is true that most of us in our day-to-day lives don't come up against the shortcomings of the present system. We don't have to deal with the extreme shortage of rental accommodation, of affordable housing or the absence of a public laundromat and showers, among

many other things. Salt Spring is a very welcoming and inclusive place with a long tradition of providing safe haven for those seeking refuge, whether from the stifling social mores of Britain before the First War, the insanity of the Vietnam war or the corporate culture of the '70s, or for those who, like the rest of us arrivals over the past 40 years, came looking for a simpler and more balanced life. There have always been islanders, some recent, some long-time residents, who depend upon that tradition of kindness, and for many of them the system is not working. If as a community we do not pay attention to the living needs of the less advantaged among us, we put in peril the nature of the island we call our home, whose beauty and diversity drew us here in the first place.

Obviously, just being a municipality does not solve these or any other problems, but it gives us the tools to do so. What we do with them is up to us; but as they say in the lottery game, you can't win if you don't have a ticket.

The writer chaired the 1999-2002 governance committee.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

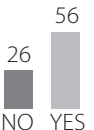
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Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you started summer water conservation measures yet?



Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Your sole authority arises at this meeting. You do not have any authority to go off on your own."

ANDREW PEAT, FIRE DISTRICT CAO, TO FIRE TRUSTEES

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What are you doing to prepare for a potential fire?



HANNAH BROWN
Well I think about it and I look out at the big trees that surround my house and I think, "Oh my goodness it would be a disaster."



GEORGE JAMIESON
Having water on-hand is very important. Knowing your surroundings and being mindful of people who smoke, campfires, all those kinds of things.



ALANDA NAY
Oh gosh, I guess not a lot... I guess it's just get me and my pets out. And my partner, of course.



ROB PINGLE
I've got my grab-and-go kits and I keep my gas tank full and I keep the shrubbery near my house as tidy as possible.



SIMON WOODARD
I just have a go-bag ready for a fire... and it has all my important documents and some essential stuff.

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**

Island gets lots of grants

I'm writing in response to John Macpherson's column in which he argues that Salt Spring will not get its fair share of infrastructure funding unless we incorporate.

John focuses on one particular source of funding, the Strategic Projects Fund, that is part of federal gas tax funding. He cites data for 2015 indicating that Salt Spring has only received a \$60,000 planning grant from the fund, but fails to mention that no other individual municipality in the CRD received SPF funding either, except for Saanich, which also received a planning grant. All the other SPF funding within the CRD was for joint projects of regional

significance involving several municipalities.

The article omitted a few other facts. Salt Spring has received millions in Community Works gas tax funding over the past decade, which has helped finance a number of water, pedestrian/cycling infrastructure projects on the island. Community Works funding, currently at roughly \$550,000 per year, is directly allocated annually, on a per capita basis (i.e. requires no application).

Salt Spring has also been successful in attracting several million dollars in federal-provincial infrastructure funding for a half dozen water districts that agreed to become CRD entities, as well as for sewage treatment upgrades.

Salt Spring has also received millions more in

other grants and subsidies for a whole range of projects, including our award-winning transit system, the library, pool and affordable housing. In fact, when funding for land protection and upgrades to Lady Minto are included, Salt Spring has received about \$60 million in grants and transfers from various levels of government since 2001. This is a record that any community of Salt Spring's size, whether incorporated or not, would envy.

Any discussion about the financial implications of governance for Salt Spring should include the fact that incorporation also comes with some significant financial burdens, such as assuming full responsibility for 265 kilometres of poorly maintained roads. This liability will only grow with

climate change impacts on sea levels and extreme weather events, and should not be dismissed with the notion that "we'll get a grant for that."

GARY HOLMAN, BRENTWOOD BAY

Airbnb rationale

Owning a home is very expensive: house prices, property tax, insurance and maintenance.

Basement suites are/were "mortgage helpers." Today, Airbnb is a mortgage helper as well as an income assist.

Affordable housing is a real problem. Current wages are low and good full-time jobs are few and, therefore, some people are hindered, unable to save for down payments.

And, there are few condo options on Salt Spring to offer an alternative to a stand-alone house.

Governments — federal, provincial, municipal — are unloading the affordable housing crisis onto homeowners, who are already the ones doing the majority of the heavy lifting, by providing entire houses and/or livable suites within their homes.

Application of the Landlord Tenancy Act is also a factor. As a necessary body, to make sure fair and just judgements are being made, the agency offers little help to those homeowners who encounter a problem tenant who damages property and leaves garbage and belongings behind when they skip paying rent and/or utilities.

It is understandable,

consequently, if one has experienced a difficult and disrespectful tenant living in or on their property, why some would choose the Airbnb option, coupled by the fact that it generally brings in more income, which can be necessary when undertaking the expense of home ownership.

Affordable housing should be policy. Commitment by all levels of governments is needed, not an ad hoc approach. The latter has worked up to a point but is failing us now — when there are more far-reaching and complex pressures involved in housing in our communities.

HELEN MEARS, SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Scorn of the aged tougher to take as years pass

I've been giving some thought to aging, and I'm against it. Can't see any point to it.

It is hardly fair that after decades of looking only slightly presentable, all I have to look forward to is a future of looking worse. I have veins in my nose that look like a map of Mars, rococo eyebrows you could clean a barbecue with and either my head is shrinking or my ears have taken on a life of their own. I read somewhere once that your fingernails actually keep on growing after you are dead. I just wish mine would have the decency to wait until that happens.

And what is it with liver spots? My only hope is that, eventually, they will join together and I'll look as if I've just got back from Mexico.

I suppose there was a time when great age had a virtue, with the venerable old fellow in the corner of the room to whom the respectful youngsters turned to for advice and counsel. He'd suck on his pipe, look off into the distance and eventually offer something sage. "Probably wait another week afore setting the pigs to roost, boy..."

I've tried that. Sitting in the corner, pearls of wisdom poised, ready to

offer. But when their busy little faces weren't buried in iPhones and iPads, checking email, Facebook or Twitter accounts, they ignored me. It was only a matter of time before someone covered me with a dust sheet. I might just as well have been in an urn on the mantelpiece.

It is a bitter truth that the gap between young and old has become a chasm. The elderly don't understand youth and youth, overall, have absolutely no interest in what the wrinkles have to say about anything. Personally, I have always respected policemen and still respect them, even when they do seem to have not bought their first razor yet, and I will listen to my GP once I've convinced myself that Doctor Google is possibly wrong in his diagnosis and that it's unlikely I have contracted beriberi on Salt Spring.

But kids these days seem to scorn adults. Or is it just me they scorn?

Now, an elder-to-elder conversation will inevitably, relentlessly, turn to health. I have sometimes considered wearing around my neck one of those charts nurses



Paul McElroy

AND ANOTHER THING

clip to the bottom of hospital beds. That way we can speed things along by checking each other's medications and general well-being without the need for conversation. But that would spoil the satisfaction of discovering, in between opposing monologues about the weather and parking in Ganges on a Saturday, that there is someone even more terminally decrepit than yourself.

Meanwhile, try discussing your cranky hips or rogue prostate with anyone a third your age and they will likely throw you and then themselves under the nearest bus. I've tried warning my three sons about the perils of owning a prostate, but they'd sooner clean out the septic field with their bare hands than discuss their father's internal workings.

Personally, I blame computers. And television. And for good measure, video games. When I was a young man technology was a single-station TV. I think the first thing I saw on a colour TV was the landing on the moon, which wasn't especially memorable because the moon, as we now

know, is in black and white.

In those days, music-on-the-go was a portable wireless that hung from the rear-view mirror of my Ford Poplar. The Beatles would fade in and out, depending which way the car was pointing, and consequently we'd actually talk to our passengers.

And, pre-Google, there weren't too many places you could turn to for edification unless you were happy to spend time in a library which, even in my day, ranked somewhere below the council offices as a local hotspot. So occasionally you'd look to a parent for information — and then most likely ignore it, especially where it involved the length of your hair or the tightness of your trousers. My Glaswegian dad's invariable observation, after regarding my haircut and wardrobe, was that I was a "big girl's blouse."

But at least a parent then was allowed a small satisfaction that they had a few more uses than simply handing out criticism and money.

My children, thankfully, are all older than me now so I am spared the reluctant largesse, but I do have plenty of advice to offer, which they had better take up while I still remember what it is.

here's
my card

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Look both at and beyond road costs

BY BOB RUSH

Salt Spring was incorporated as a municipality from 1873-1883. One bylaw required all men to provide two days of work on the roads annually.

Today, many islanders seem to be leaning towards the "no" side for incorporation, based on the single issue of road costs alone, without looking at the bigger picture.

For the "no" side, Brenda Guiled has done a lot of research to determine that past road costs have apparently been understated. I don't question her findings. She and I know and respect one another. I consider her to be a personal friend. That doesn't rule out having different views on a given subject. Two come to mind.

One concerns the upgrading of Fulford-Ganges Road in the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development's "Offer of Assistance" in the event of incorporation, valued at \$19,815,200. (See Appendix E in Urban Systems' final incorporation study report.)

The other is not keeping road costs in perspective, creating fear that they will be prohibitively expensive if we were to incorporate.

I attended both of Brenda's public presentations, one at Lions Hall and the other at Fulford Hall. In her presentations she questioned the ministry's

INDEPTH

length and cost figures for upgrading Fulford-Ganges Road. She inferred that the upgrading would not be completed because it couldn't be done for their stated \$5,000,000.

On the other hand, I "interpret" the ministry's letter differently. Maybe I'm naïve in doing so, but I take it at face value. Its opening sentence states, "I am pleased to write to you to provide a commitment of restructuring assistance . . ." Further along, it says, "The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has determined that rehabilitation will also be provided as follows: Complete resurfacing of approximately 13 km of Fulford-Ganges Road between Ganges village and the ferry terminal, including a 1.2-m shoulder (estimated at \$5 million)." Note that it says (a) "approximately" 13 km, and (b) "estimated" at \$5 million, i.e. they appear to have undertaken to resurface the full length, including a 1.2-m wide shoulder (even if it costs more than their estimated \$5 million, as is likely). Our three elected representatives have since written the ministry for an addendum roads report for clarification on this and other matters in Brenda's presentation.

Looking at the bigger

picture beyond roads, the advantages of incorporation include:

1) A municipality's direct access to certain unconditional grants, e.g. almost \$600,000 annually from a Community Works Fund, grants in lieu of taxes, and traffic fine revenue sharing (page 163 of Urban Systems' final report).

2) A municipality's eligibility for certain conditional grants, e.g. Gas Tax Agreement Strategic Priorities Fund, which provides funding to implement infrastructure projects (page 199).

3) The budgeted reserve fund, estimated at \$12.96 million, intended primarily for capital expenses related to roads (page 179).

4) Taxes will continue to increase, even if we don't incorporate. They've reputedly tripled in the last 15 years.

5) The estimated tax increase in the event of incorporation will be \$10 (from \$3,022 to \$3,032, for the average residential property, valued at \$480,000). (See page 191.)

6) Even if road costs are underestimated by as much as \$1,000,000 per year, the estimated tax increase on a residential property would be a relatively modest \$30.84 per \$100,000 of assessed value (page 208). Even that's before taking available and potential

infrastructure grants into consideration.

7) Urban Systems' report is based on the current tax base. Tax revenues are bound to increase as property values increase.

8) What happens if we don't incorporate? Past performance by MoTI is a likely indication of future performance. I don't share Brenda Guiled's optimism that MOTI can be persuaded to do major upgrades under the present system, even if we turn down their present offer. Quite the contrary, their attitude could become negative. "Since you turned down our exceptionally generous Offer of Assistance in the event of incorporation, to heck with you."

In conclusion, when reading the pros and cons of incorporation in Urban Systems' incorporation study report, vs. maintaining the current fragmented status quo, let's look beyond the single issue of road costs.

The writer says that aside from having been born and raised on Salt Spring, and seen events unfold since before the existence of regional districts, building permits, zoning bylaws or the Islands Trust, he has served on numerous Islands Trust and CRD committees, including the 1999-2002 Incorporation Study Committee, and again on the 2012-13 first phase of the current study.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Struggle to protect

Thank you, Driftwood, for printing the Cedar Lane Water District representatives' letter explaining our position regarding the effect The Cottages (on Bullock Lake) will have on our water supply ("Cedar Lane water supply threatened," June 28 Driftwood).

We are not NIMBYs; our problem is not unique. We have been struggling, are struggling and will struggle to protect the source of our water supply.

How this development based on 1994 "wisdom" of hydrology and ecology was allowed to proceed is still perplexing.

To quote the Bard, "Something is rotten in the state of Denmark!"

MARIANNE HOBBS,
CEDAR LANE

Bias exposed

The three elected officials certainly blew the cover on their supposedly objective incorporation information process in their criticism of Brenda Guiled's road cost presentation ("Roads presentation challenges study report findings," July 5 Driftwood).

I was surprised they didn't call it "poorly rated" and "fake news." Even

their litigious phrasing around Urban Systems was very Trumpian.

If they were really interested in presenting islanders with real data, they would tell us all what errors they found in her analysis so that Brenda could correct it and we would be wiser.

I challenge them to do so.

MICHAEL WALL,
SALT SPRING

Another CRD water area

A point of clarification when it comes to discussing Salt Spring governance: the Fernwood/Highland Water District (which encompasses Fernwood Road, Malview Drive, Trincomali Heights and a portion of North Beach and Walker Hook Road) is managed by the Capital Regional District.

Do your research, make an informed decision and vote in the referendum on Sept. 9.

SHARON BYWATER,
MALVIEW DRIVE

Inconsistent

It seems to us ladies of the Save Salt Spring Calendar that whether or not we are NSSWD ratepayers is entirely irrelevant. Bob Rush, in his June 28 "Pragmatic position" letter, apparently fails to appreciate the inconsistency of his letter.

It appears that NSSWD may broadcast its position on incorporation to the whole of Salt Spring to influence voters while only NSSWD ratepayers may voice a contrary opinion.

We provided protection to the Maxwell Lake watershed. That, in our view, gives us every right to speak out. The considerable amount of money the calendar produced was raised and given freely by ratepayers from all over this island. In fact, money came from all over Canada, including the other Gulf Islands. It was a community effort, just the type of activity that thrives under the Islands Trust system of governance.

We are furious that the NSSWD, the recipient of our goodwill, chooses to recommend a solution that would not only weaken the Islands Trust and its ability to preserve and protect on this island but would also lead to higher property taxes and more rules and regulations for all Salt Spring residents. There are other options for NSSWD that would not disadvantage everyone else and would not jeopardize the island we love.

We will be voting no on Sept. 9.
ANNICA BURNABY, SUSAN COGAN,
LESLIE CORRY, MELANIE FURMAN,
CATE MCEWEN, BRIONY PENN, LINDA
QUIRING, KAREN REISS, MARJOLYNE
VAN ZANTEN AND ELIZABETH WHITE

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Municipalities need development

BY ASHLEY HILLIARD

A municipality will lead to increased development, opponents of incorporation warn.

An over-blown concern, proponents counter. Development responds to market demand, they say, and the door is already open with thousands of development potentials approved or allowed within our current zoning. True enough, but that does not tell the whole story.

I believe the concerns of those who worry about increased development if Salt Spring chooses to become a municipality are valid. Here's why.

A municipality's business is to provide services to its inhabitants, and municipal politicians tend to run for office promising more and/or better services to the electorate. Improved services generally require additional revenue, leaving candidates three options: a promise to raise property taxes — honest, but not a winning strategy; or applying for grants to pay for the services — possible but not certain and often requiring significant local cost-sharing; or expanding the municipality's tax base.

One "attractive" way to expand the tax base is to facilitate land development by rezoning sites, increasing permissible densities, lowering minimum lot sizes in certain areas, fast-tracking subdivision and development approvals, etc. Fees charged to developers and builders, including development cost charges, demolition and building permit fees (all built in to the final price)

INDEPTH

raise additional money. As the incorporation study notes, a municipality would have the ability to charge DCCs to assist in funding growth-related infrastructure and parks. These are not currently charged on Salt Spring. Over time, municipalities can become dependent on this development industry revenue. While it may help limit property tax increases, it comes at the cost of continuous development pressure.

[Developers] are consistently the largest contributors to municipal political campaigns.

Grant funding can be part of this pro-growth treadmill. Grants pay for more infrastructure, e.g. for water, which leads to more development, which leads to more demand, which leads to more infrastructure being needed.

Salt Spring Island's current governing structure insulates us from this development pressure. Under the Islands Trust Act, the responsibility for land use decisions is separate from the responsibility for delivering services and raising the tax revenue to pay for them. Land-use planning rests with the Island Trust, whose

specific mandate, under the Islands Trust Act, is "to preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia generally." This provincial statute, custom-made for the Gulf Islands, is unique among local government acts in that it establishes the planning authority for Salt Spring and the other Trust-area islands as a trust whose first priority is to protect the qualities that make Salt Spring special — including its rural character and quiet, natural beauty. The impact on tax revenue is not foremost in decisions about land. Development can take place, but carefully.

Moreover, services on Salt Spring are currently delivered by a variety of bodies, such as the province (roads, for instance), the Capital Regional District, the RCMP, water improvement districts, and a number of societies, including ArtSpring and the library. Each of these service providers has its own dedicated revenue stream.

If Salt Spring becomes a municipality, all this would change. Land-use planning would be carried out by staff employed by the municipality and reporting to the mayor and municipal council. Development decisions would be made by the council, the same entity responsible for providing services (such as road maintenance, fire protection and policing), and raising the tax revenue to pay for them. The separate dedicated taxes that pay for various services would go into one pot, allocated by

the council.

Two municipal councillors would sit on the Islands Trust Council as trustees, but they are only two votes out of seven on municipal council. The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee would be dissolved. The municipal council — with its ongoing need for tax revenue — would make day-to-day land-use decisions. While an island municipality is required to "have regard to" the preserve and protect mandate of the Trust, it is not legally bound by it.

One of the principal statutes under which an island municipality would operate is the Community Charter. It sets out the purposes of a municipality (Section 7). Environmental protection is far from the top of the list.

Developers know the benefits that municipal politicians — whatever their political stripe — gain from increased development. They regularly lobby municipal councils. They are consistently the largest contributors to municipal political campaigns. They are in their comfort zone in dealing with municipalities.

I don't for a minute suggest that all development is undesirable or that developers and politicians are corrupt or self-serving. But there is a mutual interest that often takes its natural course. Those who fear that incorporation will lead to increased — and less well-considered — development are right to worry.

The writer is a retired real estate lawyer.

Let's not weaken current governance

BY MORT RANSEN

Eighteen years ago, I was commissioned by the National Film Board and the CBC to make a documentary film on this island. The working title was "The Battle for Salt Spring."

This is where I live and, like most of the people who had homes here at the time, I was very, very angry. Two developers from the Texada Land Corporation had quietly purchased 5,000 acres, one tenth of Salt Spring, and their logging trucks were already carrying trees off the island. Within hours, protesters were meeting on Fulford-Ganges Road.

The developers owned the land. They could do what they want.

People fought back, forming planning committees, blockading highways, tying themselves to the trucks, getting arrested, working for long hours over many months attending meetings and sending e-mails.

In the end, these people saved most of the trees, inspiring others internationally who were fighting to protect pristine lands.

But it's never over. Salt Spring is a wonderful magical place, a ferry ride away from Vancouver and Victoria. Developers will always see it as a potential place to make money. In fact, when the film was finished, the CBC's *The Nature of Things* suggested changing the title from *The Battle for Salt Spring* to *Ah . . . the Money, the Money, the Money*, quoting one of the developers, filmed in a rare moment of candour. I agreed to the change.

Now, the world and Salt Spring itself seems to be going through another difficult time. Donald Trump wants to run the world like a corporation. He hates regulations and constitutions, especially those that slow things down and interfere with making money.

I don't for a minute think that there are many people on Salt Spring who support those ideas. But I do think we should be careful when we consider allowing incorporation to weaken the governance we already have.

Why do we think we are immune to what goes on in most incorpo-

rated communities? When I moved here from back east, I thought I'd seen the back of mayors and councillors, expensive election campaigns, bureaucracies and often corruption.

If we were to vote for incorporation, I would trust the people on this island to vote good, reliable people into office, but what often happens is that good people get tired of endless meetings and continuous conflict over rezoning and regulations. That's when professional developers often use their money to gain power.

I hope that most of us understand how lucky we are to live in a place where change is a bit slower and more thoughtful. Under the Islands Trust, we almost have a constitution in the "preserve and protect" mandate, with its sometimes annoying regulations, making sure we don't stray from considering the environment ahead of private greed.

The writer is a filmmaker living on Salt Spring.

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Bowen costs higher before and after incorporation

BY NORBERT SCHLENKER

I attended Brenda Guiled's roads presentation at the Lions Hall on June 20. Brenda deserves credit for all the work she's done on Salt Spring's transportation issues, and for the digging she's been doing about the true cost of roadworks during and after our incorporation study committee's work.

Regrettably, I found some of Brenda's points speculative. A committed "no" voter would use them to support their position. A committed "yes" voter would dismiss them as hand waving. An undecided voter would wonder what's true.

For example, Brenda remarked about the province's commitment — if we vote "yes" — to widen and resurface 13km of Fulford-Ganges Road when it's 14km long, suggesting that they would leave out Ganges and Fulford hills, the most expensive parts of the project. That met with nods and murmurs from the committed "no's" in the audience. But Brenda misrepresented what the province promised. The minister's letter of Sept. 20, 2016

promises "complete resurfacing of approximately 13 km of Fulford Ganges Road between Ganges Village and the ferry terminal, including a 1.2-m shoulder."

However, another part of Brenda's talk really got me thinking. Brenda accuses the incorporation study committee, and behind them the consultant who prepared their final report, and behind them the road consultants and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, of systematically understating what is spent on Salt Spring's roadworks annually.

To paraphrase, they lowballed us in order to grease the wheels for a bargain basement transition assistance offer that doesn't come close to compensating us for what a municipality would really need to spend on roads. A municipality — we local taxpayers — would be 100 per cent on the hook for road costs after the five-year transition period and the Fulford-Ganges and Walkers Hook improvements are done. If the committee's final report is wrong about road costs, we're in for

IN RESPONSE

some very expensive trouble.

Brenda apologized for her talk being so numbers heavy, but numbers are exactly what we need. Her most formidable evidence, with hard numbers to look at and not just speculation, was what Bowen Island spends on its roads every year. Brenda reduced Bowen's actual maintenance expenditures to a per-kilometre cost to make an apples to apples comparison, which is sound methodology. On Bowen, they spend about \$10,000 per kilometre per year. Our incorporation study says \$5,000 per kilometre per year is spent on Salt Spring.

This is a huge differential. Bowen and we have similar climate and topography, so the per kilometre figure should be in the same ballpark. This argument hit home for me. I have always leaned Yes, and this put me squarely on the fence. "Perhaps Brenda is right,"

I thought. Perhaps we have been sold a pup. So I looked into Bowen's numbers, sent a few emails, read their 1999 restructure study, and made some phone calls.

What I found was that Bowen's road maintenance costs have always been higher than ours, before AND after incorporating in 1999. Their restructure study showed what MoTI was spending on Bowen's roads and accurately projected what they would spend. Adjusted for inflation, what Bowen spends for maintenance today is what MoTI spent in the late '90s.

I don't know why MoTI spends so much less on Salt Spring's roads. Perhaps MainRoad is much more cost efficient than Bowen's public works department today (and MoTI's Bowen contractor 20 years ago). Perhaps there are efficiencies of scale on Salt Spring. Perhaps Bowen has always had Cadillac road maintenance compared to us.

Brenda's spoken and written presentations don't dispute the correctness of MoTI's \$5,000/km figure for maintenance on Salt Spring. All we

really know is that, on Bowen, twice as much is spent, and that was also the case before they had a municipality. What Bowen municipality spends today is not a good predictor of what Salt Spring municipality will need to spend tomorrow.

Brenda's road research appealed to my analytical nature. Her numbers gave me pause as I weighed the evidence. I was swayed. I am not persuaded.

My underlying philosophy of good government is that it's better to have decisions made at as small a scale as possible. That fosters efficiency and accountability. One can break things up too finely and compromise cohesion and effectiveness, something we have experienced to our cost. One can punt local matters to distant governors, which has cost us dearly as well. My conclusion is that local decisions should be made on this island, not Vancouver Island. I'll be voting yes on Sept. 9.

The writer has long been interested in island governance.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Guiled response

Regarding roads and the Incorporation Study Report, prepared by Urban Systems: Yes, they knowingly created every detail of it. Yes, they had the B.C. government's own incomplete data showing road costs above and beyond routine maintenance from 2002 to 2016, which I obtained through Freedom of Information requests and immediately

shared with the Incorporation Study Committee, hence Urban Systems.

Yes, they ignored those verifiable numbers in favour of a vague, unsubstantiated one. Yes, they knew that their multi-year average didn't jibe and was too low. Yes, they said at least eight times in the report that Salt Spring taxpayers put \$90,000 more per year into the Provincial Rural Tax that they get back in road works. Yes, they put in the back pages another \$324,000 for MOTI expertise that's unaccounted for in the \$90,000.

And yes, I did say — never in my two presentations about our roads, since I was delivering facts not commentary, rather in a June 2 Islands Marketplace piece — that Urban Systems' repetition of the \$90,000 number was knowing false, as their own report shows. Further, burying deep in it another number that requires some arithmetic to figure is, by my lights, cynically misleading. We could get into definitions of "cynical," or they could provide rationales or excuses for their choices, but they were hired as professionals to avoid such discussions.

Should Urban Systems wish to claim damages due to my reading of their work and right to freely express my take on it, they must do so themselves. Our elected local officials cannot claim defamation on their behalf.

What's important in all of this is to compare the road facts and related taxes in the report with the figures I've provided (web-search "salt spring island roads and infrastructure brenda guiled" for links), and let them speak for themselves.

BRENDA GUILDED,
SALT SPRING

double, or triple and, if an emergency like a serious road washout or legal liability or accident happened, the figure would balloon higher.

Our island is being subsidized at a rate of at least \$300,000 per year at present, as well as our receiving occasional boons like Grace Islet, purchased from rural property tax funds.

I did not need these figures to help me with my vote. Having lived here for 38 years, I have marvelled at the manner in which our small community, powered by individuals volunteering, can create amenities and a cultural life independent of an over-seeing government directive. It has pleased me to know that the "bottom line" on this island is a philosophy, "preserve and protect," as opposed to a dollars and cents consideration for every issue. Knowing the true facts about roadwork costs, a large, growing part of any municipal budget, might help others decide.

Something to note: Deep in the Urban Systems report they offer a "sensitivity analysis," suggesting that the true costs could be quite different than the figures they used throughout the Salt Spring incorporation analysis of road-work costs.

YANTARA WALKER,
FULFORD-GANGES ROAD

Dollars and sense

Any Salt Springer wishing to determine their incorporation vote on a "dollars and sense" basis would certainly vote "no" after considering the information in Brenda Guiled's excellent analysis of Salt Spring roads presented in public lectures twice this past week.

Contrasting our island's 268 kilometres with that of Victoria (260 kms. and eight times the population), painstaking graphs showed that when we considered maintaining our roads in their present condition, we would need to pay at least \$16,300 per km annually (similar to Bowen Island's outlay from now to 2019) and that it was inevitable the figure would rise. The incorporation report suggested a very different figure: \$7,000 per km annually for the future was presented.

Ms. Guiled's figures (her information used in part by consultants Urban Systems for their work) showed that a typical property valued at \$480,000 pays \$268 per year, standard for all rural residences in this province. Under a municipal government, responsible for all costs, this levy would


Broom lopping help needed

I'm trying to clear broom four feet either side of the four-wheel-drive road between Broadwell Road and the trails in the park. I've been working on it for two or three years and it seems I hardly make any progress.

I'm wondering if the walkers of Channel Ridge would consider taking their loppers with them when they walk that road, and lop off five or six plants every time they go. If several of us do this, we would have the job done very quickly. If we can get it cut, then we won't get wet pants walking on it in the rain.

Thanks so much for considering my request.
KISHORI HUTCHINGS,
SALT SPRING

For more local letters, see the Opinion section of the www.gulfislandsdriftwood website.



Rezoning for Picnic Shelters in Community Parks on North Pender
Bylaw 213

PUBLIC HEARING
NORTH PENDER ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaw changes about?
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- add *Height* regulations

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July 27th
10 a.m.

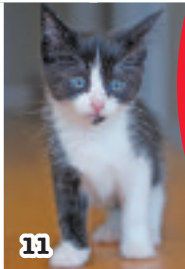
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Community Hall,
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Harbour Road

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by
the proposed
bylaws

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

How do I get more information?
Copies of the bylaws and other information is available at the Islands Trust office at #200 – 1627 Fort Street between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays from July 12 to 24, 2017. Or:
www.islandstrust.bc.ca/npender/applications

Written submissions?
Send by 4:30 p.m., July 24, 2017 to:
• Islands Trust, #200 – 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, or
• Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, or
• In person at the Public Hearing



Aren't They Lovable?

Once again we asked islanders for pictures of their pets, and they responded with wagging-tail enthusiasm. Many photos were accompanied with the owners' expressions of love for their pets, or details about the image. If you missed this year's call for pet photos, stay tuned for the next request in June of 2018. In the meantime, keep on loving the pets now in your household and save some love for those to come in future.



1. Chevy! SUBMITTED BY AMBER OGILVIE; 2. Molly, a Linux, Siamese and mink mix. SUBMITTED BY RAMONA LAM; 3. Emma the Belgian shepherd and Connan the pitbull basset hound on Reginald Hill. SUBMITTED BY JULIANA PAUL; 4. BCSPCA rescue Miss Magnificent (aka Maggie) and Abigail in a graduation day photo shoot. SUBMITTED BY ABIGAIL WALKNER; 5. Gracie, a two-pound chihuahua (now deceased). SUBMITTED BY HEATHER BINGHAM; 6. Moustache the cat makes her feeder doesn't escape. SUBMITTED BY MICHAEL POWELL; 7. Cutiepie. SUBMITTED BY SHERI STANDEN; 8. Oscar. SUBMITTED BY JUDE OLIVER; 9. Coco, a 5-year-old rescue dog from Mexico. SUBMITTED BY BERNADETTE MERTENS-MCALLISTER; Mickey, sister to Molly. SUBMITTED BY RAMONA LAM; 12. 8-week-old Arabella. SUBMITTED BY ROBERT LEADER; 13. Charlie the Halloween hot dog! SUBMITTED BY ANGELA ANDERSON; 14. Chase the labrador/shepherd, born on Salt Spring. SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE KAY; 15. Two-week-old Oatmeal, a kitten at the BCSPCA. SUBMITTED BY ABIGAIL WALKNER; 16. "Please don't wake me!" says Winston. SUBMITTED BY JOY EASTMAN; 17. Pasha with a crown of daisies on the deck. SUBMITTED BY JANINE GOWANS; 18. Tyler's first birthday. SUBMITTED BY NANCY KRIEG; 19. Bruce, left, and Bullet are inseparable. SUBMITTED BY LARRY GORRILL; 20. Hawksworth after eating his first mouse. SUBMITTED BY ROBERT LEADER.

FAMILY LIFE

Plucky backyard chickens: Are they pets or livestock?

Family dog not impressed

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Just a few years ago I was feeling bad for my son because he had no siblings and no pets.

Getting a dog was life-changing for the whole family — almost entirely for the better — and I couldn't imagine going back to a world without a furry companion, even if it makes things like travelling difficult.

I'm not so sure about my chickens. Are they pets? Are they livestock? Our main purpose in getting them was for the eggs, but the entertainment value seems even higher. Also, there are only three of them so they have identifiable personalities, even though only one has an official name.

My family has long had the goal of keeping backyard chickens and even had a very nice coop and yard area that my husband built some time back. Our plans to get chicks from a neighbour didn't quite work out though, so the little house sat empty for a year or two.

Then last December I happened to notice an ad for some Ameraucanas, which I have always wanted to have for their beautiful green eggs, and suddenly we became poultry farmers just as the cold snap hit, with temperatures dipping to -5.

We started out with four chickens: a pair of two-year-old Ameraucanas and two 16-week Bovan Browns, just about ready to lay. None of them were laying for the first six weeks or so, though, with the shortening days and the horrible weather

keeping them indoors for long hours.

The browns, in my opinion, were not quite deserving of names. We referred to them as the two kids, noting their teenage bumbling. My husband now calls them Miss Tight Bottom and Miss Loose Bottom for their feathers, but I feel that's too unwieldy.

Our first chicken tragedy took away the most beautiful chicken of all, a speckled black and white I dubbed Henrietta. An unknown predator killed her in the pen in broad daylight over the Christmas break.

Somehow her sister Ameraucana Bianca and the two browns had managed to escape into their house and slam the hatch shut while poor Henrietta was killed outside. Bianca then stepped in as queen of the small pack. She had already become a chicken Houdini, escaping through the hatching of ropes and wires across the top of the pen every day when our backs were turned, and then reappearing as if by magic when she wanted back in. (So clever and silent were her movements we suspected her of being a time-travelling chicken until I finally witnessed her flying through the maze one day.)

We immediately covered the top of the pen with chicken wire to keep Bianca in and predators out. But Bianca became a very unhappy bird. She had started laying in early January and the browns followed suit not long after, but after we shut down her escape route Bianca went on strike. So we started allowing her supervised visits to the backyard.

One day all the chickens jumped out the back door of their house while I was



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

The author's chickens have some water after their daily free-range around the back yard.

<p>Espresso is a beautiful girl with silky black fur and a long sleek body. She is a bit shy at first but does love her cuddles. She shows great potential of being a fine hunter and a loving companion.</p>	<p>Cherry is an outgoing and confident kitten. This little gal is comfortable around a quiet dog; perhaps this is why she learnt to come when called. She also loves to snuggle on the couch in the evening with her companions.</p>	<p>Java is a very social and sweet boy. He is confident and friendly with the small dog in his foster home and absolutely loves interacting with people. He will chat and follow you around and is always quick to purr with cuddles.</p>

cleaning it, so I decided they might all test the roaming waters. They survived the day, and so it became a regular after-noon event.

Now all the chickens start screaming if too much of the day has passed and they haven't been let out to roam. They are fascinating to watch in their journey around the house: different areas become stations for dust baths, a snack under the bird feeder or a scrabble for bugs in the wood pile. They travel together, and if one gets separated they have a special call to bring the lost sister back in. They have another sound, a low warning trill when perceiving danger. That, combined with their cold eyes and jerky movements, makes it easy to imagine how their lineage goes

straight back to the dinosaurs.

I feel like the chickens maybe are pets, but they won't let me hold them or stroke their feathers. They also don't seem to pick up on English like my dog Charlie does. He definitely knows the word "chickens" and is very happy to help put them back in their pen at the end of the evening, which is where he's quite sure they belong at all times. If chickens are pets, he does not like it when I seem to be paying attention to them instead of him.

In the end, the chickens are three more beings in my household that I am responsible for and whose well-being I am concerned about. They might not be cuddly, but they are part of the family.

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FUNDRAISER

Furry Folk Fest supports pet-friendly web resource

Musicians support local venture at July 20 show

Where can people go when they want to find out if a particular Salt Spring hike or beach is pet friendly or want to have a cup of coffee with their furry friend in tow?

Many islanders and visitors having been using a relatively new website — www.saltspringpetfriendly.com — designed by Tracy Harrison, a self-defined pet lover, to find those answers.

Harrison spent a year researching every beach and hike on Salt Spring island with her two dogs, Frida and Diego, in tow. She marked down the trail hiking level, the degree to which it was pet friendly and took photos of each hike.

"It was a major undertaking, but we loved exploring the island and hope that it can help keep pets safe on the island with all the information it provides."

Harrison told a sad story that inspired her to design and pay for the website out of her own pocket.

"I heard about a woman who came onto the island to have a vacation with her dog and left with a dead dog because her dog had ran off a hiking trail to chase sheep and was shot.

"I know of islanders with the same experience. Losing your furry friend can be devastating. They are like a family member. So, I figured let's educate the community and visitors on how

The pet-friendly site is not only for outdoor adventures with dogs but also directs people to accommodation and has safe travel tips.

to avoid this and direct them to trails where their dogs can be safe."

The pet-friendly site is not only for outdoor adventures with dogs, but also directs people to pet-friendly accommodation and shopping and has safe travel tips.

A fundraiser has been organized to help keep the site alive as the backend platform needs upgrading.

Several local musicians have jumped in to help the cause and will be performing songs about animals — furry and otherwise — on Thursday, July 20 at the Tree House Cafe from 7 to 10 p.m.

Musicians are Marianne Grittani, Bobo Czanowski, Dave Jacquest, Bruce Grey, Sierra Lundy, Bruce Everett and Ken Lunn, Scout and Tom Upex and Leon Joseph.

Several prizes have also been donated for the event.

Donations can also be accepted on the website or contact Harrison at 250-537-6568.



From left, Tracy Harrison, Bruce Grey and Carl Borgstrom prepare for the upcoming Furry Folk Festival at the Tree House Cafe on July 20 from 7 to 10 p.m.

PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

TECHNOLOGY

App helps dogs in hot cars

Step-by-step advice for responders

A Gabriola Island based company called Dogsafe Canine First Aid is offering free access to its Dog in Hot Car Responder mobile app just in time for summer.

According to a press release, the resource helps anyone take action with step-by-step guidance, starting from assessing the dog to calling the police to entering a vehicle with force, and ending with assembling data into an email that can be sent to themselves, animal control, police or veterinarians.

People who witness a dog in a hot car often wonder what to do first. Questions include how to coordinate volunteers who offer to help, and what critical information should be shared with police, animal control officers and veterinarians? The Dogsafe Dog in a Hot Car Responder mobile app makes it easy by providing drop-down menus and fill-in-the-blanks over 12 screens.

"Adrenaline and emotions are high when responding to a canine first-aid situation, especially dogs in hot cars," explained Michelle Sevigny, creator of Dogsafe Canine First Aid and the new mobile app, in the press material.

Sevigny, a former Vancouver police officer and professional dog trainer, has responded to dogs in hot cars both as a constable and as a civilian. Her company Dogsafe Canine First Aid offers in-person courses, as well as eLearning.

Dogsafe also offers volunteer community programs, including its Heatstroke Awareness and Responder Network.

"Parking lot situations can be intense," Sevigny said, "so our Dog in a Hot Car

Responder app provides detailed guidance so responders can get calm and make the best choices to help the dog, and document these choices which may help police and animal welfare officers in a criminal investigation and veterinarians in their follow-up care."

Members of the public are not advised one way or another on whether they should break a car window, but Sevigny has some advice for what to do for people who decide they need to act quickly.

"We're not telling people to break a window or not break a window. That needs to be an individual decision based on the dog's level of distress and local laws, but if people decide to use force, we absolutely recommend documenting their actions because they'll have to explain to somebody, such as the vehicle's owner, the police, or a judge, and our app helps them do this effectively," Sevigny said.

The app also has low risk and high risk signs of heatstroke listed so users can easily record what they see and when — critical information that may help veterinarians during follow-up care.

The Dog in a Hot Car responder checklist is available as a downloadable PDF Awareness posters for businesses and posters the public can display in their vehicles whenever they choose to leave their dog at home on a hot day can also be obtained through Dogsafe.

Sevigny emphasizes that the Dog in a Hot Car Responder app does not replace canine first aid training, veterinary care or assistance from animal control, animal welfare or police.

The Dogsafe Dog in a Hot Car Responder app for Android devices is free and is available worldwide on the Google Play Store. For more info on the app, including screenshots, a user manual and FAQs, visit www.dogsafe.ca/dog-in-a-hot-car-app.html.

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Stetson the Australian shepherd chases Pippa the Vizsla (who is owned by Andrew McPhee).
SUBMITTED BY BRUCE MCPHEE



From bottom, Ernie, Cinnamin and Toby.
SUBMITTED BY CHRIS THIELE AND ANDY MASSIE



Jenny the Jack Russell and Harley the Shih-tzu host guest Sweet Pea the pug.
SUBMITTED BY DEBBIE AVERY



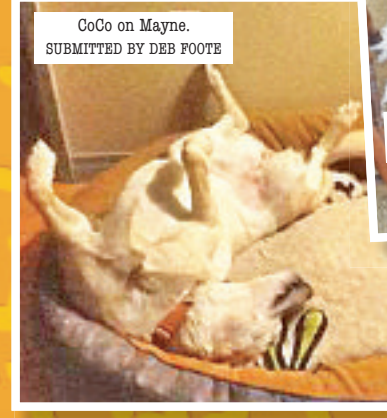
Scarlett and Soldier.
SUBMITTED BY FIONA FOSTER



Buried Buster is always on the lookout.
SUBMITTED BY GAIL SJUBERG



Harrison Furred enjoys an evening on the deck.
SUBMITTED BY CAROLYN BLIZZARD



CoCo on Mayne.
SUBMITTED BY DEB FOOTE



Cooper at the end of a long day for an old boy. Deck time!
SUBMITTED BY CAROLYN BLIZZARD



Abby enjoys the sunshine.
SUBMITTED BY EMILY BLIZZARD



Boots the goat.
SUBMITTED BY DORRIE JENSEN

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ART REVIEW

Delicacy of Steel delights in duality



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Bev Petow metal sculptures on exhibit at Duthie Gallery comment on the fashion choices of the global aristocracy, both past and present.

Joint show at Duthie Gallery on to Aug. 15

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Delicacy of Steel is an apt description for the life-sized sculptures by Bev Petow now on exhibit at Duthie Gallery, where couture made from sheet metal and wire mesh is so convincingly fluid it looks inviting to wear.

The title also serves as a metaphor for many dualities within the show, both in Petow's work and that done by Michael Robb, whose new paintings are shown in the back gallery. Each of the artists takes delight in creating works that are full of contrasts, seeming paradoxes that work precisely because they refuse to be one thing.

Petow, a resident of Sooke, is a former dressmaker who grew up feeling at home in her dad's metal shop. She had been exploring metalwork and welding for a while, but really came into her own path as an artist after a dear friend from childhood died. Petow created her first metal dress as a memorial to this friend, with whom she had sewed as a girl.

Petow said she immediately felt she had found her medium, and loved the contrast between the masculine value of metal with dressmaking's more feminine pastime and results. Other dualities that are immediately apparent in her work are the play of light and shadow, with light sources bouncing off shiny, twisted ribbons of the polished sheet, and marvellous shadows cast onto the wall through cut-out areas. The union of positive and negative space in the design is another pleasing contrast, while the full-scale dresses have a touch of the uncanny, suggesting personality in the filled out forms without the human being inside.

For this show, Petow focused on a particular theme of examining the costumes of the super rich. She recreates the haute couture of the Ancient Regime

(18th-century France) with its built-in curve amplifiers and then contrasts that with her own contemporary gown representing the modern "global aristocracy." As she describes in her artist's statement, this gown is made to expose "a body that has been physically altered through various kinds of implants, surgical contouring and augmentation to essentially create the same effects as its Revolution-era counterpart."

Petow is clearly as skilled at fashion as she is at welding, because the metal dresses are beautifully designed and assembled in a way that would not be otherwise possible. Indeed, she said people who know sewing or metalwork often ask her "How did you do that?"

The other question she gets is "Can I wear that, and what size does it come in?"

With bodices of polished metal not too far off from Wonder Woman's breastplate and cascades of wire mesh appearing as light as tulle, it's not surprising people think they might slip into one of these artworks.

Other pieces in the show include a gorgeous wall sculpture of a kimono jacket with a beautiful pattern of cut-outs, and Kitchen Maid — an apron with shiny steel outer face over a pattern of cutouts revealing a rust-patina under-layer and mesh lace accents.

Contrasts also infuse the work of Michael Robb, who moved into sculpture after realizing he was trying to create three-dimensional images on canvas. His surreal characters blend ancient mythologies with the artist's own quirky mind for fascinating results.

Now Robb is once again turning his focus to the two-dimensional, and while his previous series had a darker bent, with elements suggesting human organs and prehensile worms, the most recent paintings are more playful and inviting. From a distance, the acrylic paint seems softly textured — combined with the distinctly rendered

outlines and composition style of elements over a flat background, they have the appearance of perhaps being quilted onto fabric.

What is depicted in these works bridges the world of animal/vegetable/mineral in the way sea corals do, and similarly have a sense of marine life. A branching tube worm emits a cloud of cocktail-olive pollen in Fendora, with warm colour tones redolent of early '70s decor.

Lo Bo has a touch of gallows humour or perhaps gentle self-mockery. The central structure rising out a green pebble field could be a weathered tombstone, paired on either side by cheerful bulbs resembling human hearts. The background is a misty pink, with warm light cast onto the central board. If a tombstone, there is no text to recall who may be buried there.

Reading into the images is hard to avoid but not advised, however. Robb is usually concerned with colour and composition above all — and creating a defined narrative creates traps he'd rather avoid.

The Delicacy of Steel continues to Aug. 15. Duthie Gallery has also opened its sculpture garden for the summer, with some lovely new additions for 2017. Most immediately impressive is a towering basketry trunk woven by Ken Clarke. It seems a near perfect replica of one of the famous hollow cedars at Stanley Park but was woven from willow, giving even more texture to the implied bark and twist of roots. Like Petow's early sculpture, this piece was inspired by the loss of a dear friend and bears the haunting title Without a Trace.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Without a Trace, a woven willow creation by Ken Clarke, is a new addition to the Duthie Gallery sculpture walk for the 2017 season.

FOR MORE SALT SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS, SEE OUR WHAT'S ON CALENDAR ON PAGE 16.

17th Annual Gala Weekend
TREASURE FAIR
 Auction Catalogue www.artspring.ca
DANIEL LAPP TRIO
 World-Renowned Folk Fiddle Musician
 FRI JULY 14 7:30 PM
TREASURE FAIR SILENT AUCTION
 THURS JULY 13 to SAT JULY 15
 10:00 AM - 7:30 PM
TREASURE FAIR GALA & LIVE AUCTION
 Auctioneer Chris Humphreys
 SAT JULY 15 7:00 PM

8th Annual Heritage Day
 SUNDAY, JULY 16TH
 11 am to 3 pm
 Farmers' Institute Grounds, 351 Rainbow Road
 Come and enjoy a family outdoor experience that celebrates our Island Tradition: Farming.
 Interactive experiences, crafts demonstrations, antique equipment and...at the event this year the Salt Spring Farmer's Heritage Foundation is pleased to offer the recently published:
FARMS, FARMERS, FARMING,
 the engaging history of the first 80 years of island agriculture written by Morton B. Stratton.
ADMISSION IS FREE!

Salt Spring FOLK CLUB
 www.saltspringfolkclub.com
fiddleworks
 18th Annual Instructors Showcase Concert
 Featuring Genticorum
 Plus 10 other fabulous camp instructors on fiddle, trumpet, cello, bass, guitar, percussion & voice.
Sunday July 16
 Fulford Hall
 Door opens 6:00
 Show Starts 7:00
Tickets \$20 available at the door or online at www.fiddleworks.ca
 Catering by Haidee Hart
Best sound on the Island

what's on this week



Wed. July 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo presents Linda Quinn. Salt Spring pianist and singer plays concert on theme of Evocation. With guests Women of Note choir. All Saints By-the-Sea. Concert begins at 2:10 pm. Optional tea and treats to follow.

Doug and the Thugs. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

The Art of the Trio Series. The Art of the Trio Series presents NYC jazz pianist Misha Piatigorsky for an intimate evening of trio music with renowned bassist John Lee and drummer Kelby MacNayr. All Saints by the Sea. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute every Wednesday through Sunday in July and August. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Summer Library Camp. Fun and laughs and crafts exploring Canadian authors, history and themes. Two daily sessions at the library: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for ages 5-7 and 2 to 4 p.m. for ages 8-12.

Susan Rogers Art Talk. A short artist's talk, discussion and refreshments with Susan Rogers, whose paintings are on exhibit at the library program room through July. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

SongJam. A 21st century pub sing-along to vocal and instrumental backing tracks. Wednesday at Moby's. 8 p.m.

Thu. July 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

As You Like It. Shakespeare's comedy as set in The Summer of Love, in a musical presented by exit-StageLeft 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.



Martyn Joseph Concert. Welsh singer-songwriter Martyn Joseph gives concert at Centennial Park. 7:30 p.m.

Oliver Swain. 2016 Western Canada Music Award nominated 'Roots Artist of the Year' brings his signature old-time, blues and folk-noir sound with his 125-year-old goat skin banjo and string bass. Tree House Cafe. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

Summer Library Camp. See Wednesday's listing.

Treasure Fair 2017 Silent Auction. Hundreds of items in the silent auction part of Treasure Fair at ArtSpring. 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Classic Rock Bingo. Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.



Fri. July 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Friday Wine Down. Live music, food and wine tastings. Salt Spring Vineyards. 4 to 6 p.m.

Billie Woods. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Karaoke Night. At The Legion. 7 p.m.

Daniel Lapp Trio. A musical journey of fiddle, guitar and more featuring folk fiddler Daniel Lapp, with friends Adam Dobres and Adrian Dolan. Part of Treasure Fair 2017 events at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Salt. Salt Spring Island band infuses timeless funk-soul grooves with their own unique flavour. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

As You Like It. See Thursday's listing.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

Summer Library Camp See Wednesday's listing.

Treasure Fair 2017 Silent Auction. See Thursday's listing.

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

Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic Open House. Behind the scenes look at our vet clinic, with Vet Camp sneak peek, silent auction, scavenger hunt, snacks, door prizes and more. Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic. 3 to 5 p.m.

Sat. July 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Happy Daze. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Sweetleaf. Live reggae/ska at Moby's. 9 p.m.

As You Like It. See Thursday's listing.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.



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

Treasure Fair 2017 Silent Auction. Final day for silent auction part of Treasure Fair at ArtSpring. 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Salt Spring Island NDP Club BBQ. Club invites public to a lamb and salmon barbecue with vegetarian options. Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. Entertainment and bar from 3 p.m., BBQ served from 5 p.m.

Treasure Fair 2017 Gala and Live Auction. Live auction with auctioneer C.C. Humphreys. Bar opens at 5:30 p.m., with the auction running from 7 to 8 p.m. Silent auction closes at 8:30 p.m.

Sun. July 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Music in the Vineyards. Salt Spring Vineyards features live music every Friday. 2 to 4 p.m.

Fiddleworks Instructors Showcase Concert. Skilled instructors from Fiddleworks' annual music camp give concert. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.

Sue Newman. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

8th Annual Heritage Day. Public invited to enjoy a free, outdoor family experience that celebrates the island's farming tradition. SSI Farmers Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

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

ACTIVITIES

Summer Library Camp. See Wednesday's listing.

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Local, organic food producers and food artisans offer goods every Tuesday from June to October. Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

Trivia Tuesday. Tuesdays at Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Fiddleworks Community Dance. Public invited to attend event part of weeklong Fiddleworks camp activities. Beaver Point Hall. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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Mon. July 17

ACTIVITIES

Summer Library Camp. See Wednesday's listing.



SSI Fire Protection District. Public welcome to attend board of trustees' regular meeting. Salt Spring United Church, lower hall. 7 p.m.

Tue. July 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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



ACTIVITIES

Summer Library Camp. See Wednesday's listing.

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Local, organic food producers and food artisans offer goods every Tuesday from June to October. Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

Trivia Tuesday. Tuesdays at Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Fiddleworks Community Dance. Public invited to attend event part of weeklong Fiddleworks camp activities. Beaver Point Hall. 7 p.m.

Mon. July 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Ben Sures. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

17th Annual Funnyfest Comedy on Tour. Featured comedians are Joe King, winner of the 2009 FunnyFest Talent Search, and Stu Hughes. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Treasure Fair 2017

Silent & live auctions
Fundraising extravaganza!
July 13-15
ArtSpring
See www.artspring.ca for all the details

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ArtSpring
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CINEMA

• **Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie** — With a tidy plot, clean animation, and humour that fits its source material snugly, Captain Underpants is entertainment that won't drive a wedge between family members.

• **Wonder Woman** — Back by popular demand! An Amazon princess finds her idyllic life interrupted when she rescues a pilot who crash-lands nearby. World War I is engulfing the planet, and she vows to use her superpowers to restore peace.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Susan Rogers** shows paintings in the **Library Program Room** until July 28. Rogers presents an art talk there on Wednesday, July 12 at 7 p.m.

• **The Point Gallery** presents *A Woman's Work*, an installation by **Asha Robertson** in the lower gallery, and *Vertigo*, an installation by **Tai Dunkley-Whelon** in the upper gallery, through Aug. 6.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Steffic Fine Art** presents Discoveries, a photo show by cinematographer **Robert Primes** through July 16.

Painter **Nicola Wheston's A Celebration of Everyday Things** is on the Showcase stage at **ArtCraft at Mahon Hall** through Aug. 2.

• **Ripple Effect 2** - Water themed art for the Salish Sea, a multi-artist exhibit, is at **Salt Spring Gallery** until July 30.

• **Delicacy of Steel**, a show of sculpture by **Bev Petow** and paintings by **Michael Robb**, is on at **Duthie Gallery** through Aug. 15.

• **The Salt Spring Basketry Guild** marks its 20th anniversary with Nests, an outdoor exhibit at **Mahon Hall**.

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.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Kizmit Galeria and Cafe** Meanderings, paintings, woodwork and pottery by **Barb Edwards, Luke Weller** and **Laura Keil** during business hours, Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., through July.

• **Salty Pear Gallery** is now open at 279 Rainbow Rd. with an exhibition of recent work by photographer **Stasia Garraway**.

• **M.C. Benmore** shows flower photographs 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.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

FUNDRAISER

Treasure Fair reveals rich extravaganza for 17th year

Silent and live auctions plus concert at ArtSpring

Three days of fun is on tap this week for Salt Spring Islanders and visitors who love shopping, arts and community, plus a special concert with world renowned fiddler Daniel Lapp.

"ArtSpring's annual fundraiser called Treasure Fair keeps the doors open and an extraordinary artists' community thriving on Salt Spring," states the Island Arts Centre Society in a press release about the event.

From Thursday, July 13 to Sat-

urday, July 15 from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., ArtSpring's lobby and three galleries are transformed into a silent auction heaven with an array of more than 700 treasures ranging from the practical to the artistic to experiences.

A catalogue of items can be seen on the ArtSpring website.

On Friday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m. (with the bar open at 6:30), the Daniel Lapp Trio plays an unforgettable fiddle show with his trademark warmth and exuberance.

Following the same format as recent years, the grand finale live auction on Saturday, July 15 starts at 7 p.m. This year's auctioneer is actor and author Chris Humphreys wielding the gavel. Expect a vast

array of trips, tours and treasures at exceptional bargains. From a week in Hawaii to a Bateman collectible, there's something for everyone.

The bar opens at 5:30 p.m. on live auction night, and final silent auction bidding can be done until 7:30 p.m.

"Treasure Fair is a lot of fun, but it's also our major operational fundraiser and is hugely important to the daily running of this community facility. We're so grateful to our supporters who truly define community with their dedicated belief in ArtSpring and what art can bring to a community," said ArtSpring executive and artistic director Cicela Månsson.



PHOTO BY SEAN HITREC

Treasure Fair coordinator Terri Reid with a Gary Thurber sculpture valued at \$5,000 that is part of this year's event running from July 13-15.

CONCERT PREVIEW

Top-notch Québec trio performs Sunday

Genticorum part of instructors' showcase concert

A fixture on the international world, traditional, folk and Celtic music circuit performs at Fulford Hall on Sunday night as part of the 2017 Fiddleworks' Instructors Showcase Concert.

Genticorum is a power trio from Québec known for its energy and its stage presence. The group has given more than 800 concerts in some 15 countries.

The July 16 concert is co-presented by the Salt Spring Folk Club and the Fiddleworks society, which runs the annual Salt Spring Fiddle Camp.

Also hitting the stage that evening beginning at 7 p.m. is B.C.'s Juno-winning fiddle sensation Ivonne Hernan-



WWW.GENTICORUM.COM

Acclaimed Québec trio Genticorum: from left, Pascal Gemme, Yann Falquet, and Nicholas Williams.

dez, Adrian Dolan (fiddle, piano, accordion), Marc Atkinson (guitar, voice) and Scott White (bass) from The

Bills; North America's favourite old-time music duo Erynn Marshall (fiddle) and Carl Jones (guitar, banjo, voice); trumpet-

er Merrie Klazek; and former Salt Springer Zavallennahh on fiddola. Woven throughout the evening there will also be solo performances and collaborations from the versatile cellist Jeff Farragher, percussionist Ryan Dignan and fiddlers Owen Newson and Karen Dignan.

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.fiddleworks.ca and at the door.

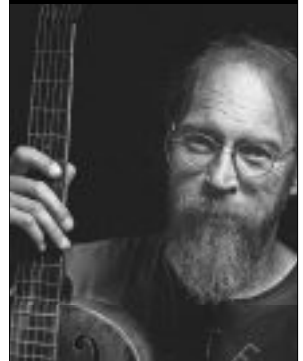
Concert proceeds help fund bursaries for low income families to attend fiddle camp.

Other events in the 18th annual Salt Spring Fiddle Camp are:

- Tuesday, July 18: Fiddleworks Community Dance at Beaver Point Hall at 7 p.m.

- Friday July 21: Fiddleworks Student Gala Concert and Dance at Fulford Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

CHARLIE PARR



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DINNER SALES 5:30PM

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LITERARY EVENT

Captain's story shared at library event

Colin Henthorne is July 22 event guest

Salt Spring's library hosts the author of a much-anticipated book about the sinking of the Queen of the North this Saturday, July 22.

Beginning at 7 p.m., Colin Henthorne will present his book called *The Queen of the North Disaster, The Captain's Story*, published by Harbour Publishing last November. The captain of the Queen of the North reveals a first-hand account of what really happened the night of the ship's sinking and examines the aftermath of the disaster.

"Few recent events in British Columbia have seized the public mind like the 2006 sinking of the BC Ferries passenger vessel Queen of



COLIN HENTHORNE

the North," states the library in a press release. "Across Canada, it was one of the top news stories of the year. In B.C. it has attained the status of nautical legend.

"Ten years later, questions are still being asked. How did a ship that sailed the same course thousands of times fall victim to such an inexplicable error? Was the bridge crew fooling around? Why doesn't anybody in the know come forward and tell the truth? Nobody knew the ship, the crew and the circumstances that fateful March night better than the Queen of the North's long-serving captain, Colin Henthorne, and in this book he finally tells his story."

Just after midnight on March 22, 2006, the Queen of the North — carrying 101 passengers — struck an underwater ledge off Gil Island, 135 kilometres south of Prince Rupert. The impact tore open the ship's bottom and ripped out the propellers. In less than an hour, it sank to the bottom of Wright Sound, 427 metres below the surface.

Henthorne, who was not on watch at the time of the grounding, fought to keep his job and lost. It took him over six years to recover his career.

On the 10th anniversary of the tragedy, Henthorne recalls with accuracy and detail that ill-fated voyage and all its terrible repercussions. The Queen of the North Disaster: The Captain's Story dispels rumours about what really happened that night, revealing a fascinating inside look at a modern marine disaster.

Myth Busters



MYTH: "A municipality will open the floodgates to development and ruin our island!"

EVIDENCE: Trust policy supports this choice and it hasn't happened on Bowen Island, a municipality within the Trust since 1999. A Mayor and six Councillors are still legally bound to regard "preserve and protect." Any change to the Official Community Plan can be refused by the Trust, which can also comment on changes to a land use bylaw. This check-and-balance might also involve the province. The Islands Trust Act dictates the terms to ensure the aim of the Trust is upheld.

There are also about 2,500 more homes presently allowed by the Trust, yet there has been no rush of developers. We are a green community and our voting patterns will not change when we adopt local decision making.

CONCLUSION: There is absolutely no evidence that local governance = more development. In fact, a local government will represent the will of the people even more strongly.

This Myth is... "Busted!"
www.yestosaltspringmunicipality.org

RECITAL

Busy musician Hardisty makes time for Tea à Tempo

Fiddle player next up at All Saints

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

Fiddle genius Wesley Hardisty is a rather busy Salt Spring musician these summer days.

Hardisty returns to the stage of All Saints By-the-Sea next Wednesday, July 19 for the fifth consecutive year, this time as part

of the weekly Tea à Tempo series. The recital begins at 2:10 p.m.

With a unique, compelling and passionate style of fiddle playing, Hardisty is fast becoming a musician to watch on our local scene.

For the benefit of Driftwood readers unfamiliar with his name, Hardisty is Dene First Nation, hailing from Fort Simpson, N.W.T. Introduced

to the fiddle at age 13 he quickly became so proficient on his beloved instrument that within a few years he was accepted into the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Now 23 years of age, he has taken his vibrant music style to venues not only locally but all over Canada, performing at festivals, TV programs,

radio shows and music camps.

Recently, Hardisty recorded with Alan Moberg on his up and coming album, performed at the Tree House Cafe with Andy Meyers, performed at the First Annual Art and Nature Festival on Salt Spring, and is just back from Ottawa's Canada Scene 2017, opening for Natalie MacMaster with four other fiddlers

representing various provinces throughout Canada. A trip to Saturna Island for a Parks Canada event is ahead at the end of August.

He also plays piano, guitar, drums and is a composer.

Donations for the artist and for the series are appreciated. Tea/coffee and goodies are available in the hall after the concert.



WWW.YOUTUBE.COM

Wesley Hardisty.

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

Avoid health risks in summer heat

By the time summer finally arrives, most of us can't seem to spend enough time outside — doing everything from dining on patios to jogging in the fresh air. But if you're active in the heat, you're at risk for a number of heat illnesses like muscle cramps, heat exhaustion and even heat stroke.

Weather conditions play a big role in how your body regulates its temperature. For example, if it's windy, sweat evaporates faster, which helps to cool you. However, high humidity slows down this process, contributing to increased body temperature.

Learn how to stay safe while you reap the benefits of physical activity in the warm weather. Here are some tips from Health Canada.

1. Know your risks. Your body is not used to extreme heat at the beginning of the summer or if you

don't exercise regularly during hot weather. Your risk increases if you have certain conditions, like breathing difficulties, heart problems or a mental illness such as depression. Watch for symptoms of heat illness including dizziness, nausea, headache, unusually rapid breathing and heartbeat, and extreme thirst.

2. Be prepared. Check the weather and the Air Quality Health Index before you start to exercise so you can modify your physical activity as needed. If you will be in an area where mosquitoes are active, protect yourself with insect repellent.

3. Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of cool liquids, especially water, before you feel thirsty since by that time you're already dehydrated. Take extra water breaks — move into the shade, drink water and

remove gear such as a helmet or equipment to let your body cool off.

4. Dress for the occasion. Wear loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing made of breathable fabric. Shade yourself by wearing a wide-brimmed, breathable hat. If you can't avoid the sun, use a sunscreen that is SPF 15 or higher. Remember, sunscreen will protect against the sun's UV rays but not from the heat. Sunburned skin is also less effective at sweating, putting you at greater risk for heat illness.

5. Be realistic. Don't expect your usual performance during extreme heat. Allow your body to recover after heat exposure. Spend a few hours in a cooler tree-shaded area or somewhere that's air conditioned like a shopping mall, grocery store or public building, such as the public library or community centre.

Seniors Program



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people&community

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

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



FIRST NATIONS

Canada Day events get cultural twist

Pender celebrations include WSÁNEĆ traditions

BY PAUL PETRIE
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

While many Canadians were celebrating 150 years of Confederation, many Pender Islanders were celebrating the more inclusive history of Canada.

The Pender Reconciliation Initiative joined with the Tsawout First Nation from the Saanich Peninsula to recognize the significant contribution of WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) culture to Gulf Islands history and our Canadian cultural heritage.

Pender Island was once the site of an ancestral village dating back 5,000 years. Archaeological evidence from Simon Fraser University documents some of the earliest examples of Northwest Coast artistic tradition that express spirit power, transformation and regeneration found at this ancestral village site. The ancient site was badly disturbed in the early 1900s during the construction of a ship canal between North and South Pender Islands.

The Pender celebration of WSÁNEĆ culture kicked off on June 30 with a morning ethnobotany plant walk through Tsawout reserve land on South Pender with Tsawout knowledge keeper John-Bradley Williams and elder Earl Claxton Jr. sharing Indigenous plant knowledge and traditional WSÁNEĆ cul-



PHOTO BY DAVID GREER

Lillian Underwood explains the Kairos Blanket Exercise at the Pender Island Canada Day celebration with the Tsawout First Nation leaders and elders.

ture. At a luncheon for the elders hosted by the Pender Reconciliation Circle, elder Belinda Claxton (SELILIYE) spoke of the archaeological excavation of the ancestral village in the mid 1980s which removed ancestral human remains that were subsequently stored at SFU. Earlier this year the remains of over 200 ancestors were ceremonially returned and reburied at the ancestral village site in keeping with traditional cultural practices. The site represents a place of great cultural and spiritual significance to Tsawout descendants.

On the afternoon of June 30, Tsawout elders Belinda Claxton (SELILIYE) and Helen Jack (K'ANTENOT) presented

an introductory workshop on SENCOTEN, the traditional language of the WSÁNEĆ people. The celebration continued on the morning of July 1 to honour the 13 Moon Calendar installation on lands occupied by the Church of the Good Shepherd near Tsawout reserve land on South Pender. SELILIYE described how the 13 moon lunar calendar guided traditional hunting, harvesting and gathering practices and codified social and cultural activities. The permanent installation includes panels outlining the history of the WSÁNEĆ people on the Gulf Islands and beyond in both English and SENCOTEN.

The celebration culminated in a traditional

WSÁNEĆ salmon pit cook for 150 Islanders, visitors and Tsawout elders and guests at the Pender Elementary School grounds prepared by elder Earl Claxton Jr. and John-Bradley Williams. Salt Spring musician Phil Vernon provided a selection of engaging tunes including his iconic Reef Net Fishery song that captures the spirit of the WSÁNEĆ salmon fishing technique.

Following a welcoming song and prayer from Toby Joseph, Chief Harvey Underwood welcomed everyone to the celebration and emphasized the importance of building strong community to community relationships. He thanked Islanders for the welcoming reception and their interest in and engagement with WSÁNEĆ culture and history.

This two-day 2017 Pender Reconciliation Initiative was a joint effort of the South Pender Historical Society, the Pender Anglican Parish and the Pender Reconciliation Circle. The initiative was made possible by grants from the Victoria Foundation and the Capital Regional District, which provided support for Tsawout elder participation.

HISKWE and a special thank you to the Tsawout leadership team and elders who shared their time, knowledge and wisdom to make these events possible and to all the Pender volunteers and participants who helped make this a very special community to community celebration.

NEWS UPDATES

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter
<http://twitter.com/GIDriftwood>

Meet your new MLA!

Adam Olsen is holding public office hours for the community. Feel free to stop by and say hello or reserve a time by emailing adam.olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca



July 20, 12-3pm
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Join the quest for the Holy Grail!

ExitStageLeft presents the hilarious musical Monty Python's Spamalot at ArtSpring starting 25 August. Every week before, join in a search for the Holy Grail. If you find it, present the Grail at ArtSpring to claim a complimentary ticket to any performance but the last as the reward for your quest.

Look in the Classified section of the Driftwood each week to get your clue. It will guide you to a Salt Spring business where the Grail lies hidden. If your heart is pure and your eyes are clear, you may find the Grail. And if not, you'll have a great time exploring one of our fabulous businesses.

Many thanks to the merchants who have agreed to hide the Grail. And a warning to others: you may also be stampeded with eager Grail questers if they misinterpret the clues!

Don't like lists? Buy tickets at the ArtSpring box office or at www.artspring.ca for Aug. 25, 26, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2.

WORKSHOPS

Franciscan spirituality on tap

Registration open for Star of the Sea event

Star of the Sea, the newly formed centre for spiritual living and practice, is offering a day-long workshop on the theme of Franciscan spirituality on Wednesday, July 19.

The workshop will include a brief biographical sketch of St. Francis and his new understanding of living the gospel of Jesus in the 12th century. Two stories from the life of Francis will be explored: the Christmas creche story and its unfolding of the magnificence of God's love among us, and the story of the Wolf of Gubbio, which highlights the need for reconciliation within the unity of God's love.

The workshop will also include a dis-

ussion of the practice of lectio (reading and savouring the Word of God), with the opportunity to engage in a lectio exercise.

The event will be led by Bill Tarter, a member of the Order of St. Francis, for which he serves as director of education. The order is an Anglican/Episcopal dispersed community whose mission is to live the gospel of Jesus as inspired by St. Francis of Assisi. The brothers in the order strive to give a contemporary expression to the traditional patterns of religious community life.

The workshop is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Mary's church, Fulford, home of Star of the Sea Centre. Participants should bring a bagged lunch. For further information or to register, contact staroftheseasi@gmail.com.

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GREEN LIVING

Salt Spring eco home tour offers tools for transition

Inspiration to lower carbon footprint

BY ANDREA PALFRAMAN
TRANSITION SS

The 2017 Salt Spring Eco-Living and Home Tour will be held on Sunday, July 30.

People attending will get inspired by innovative examples of eco-building, renewable energy technology, tiny homes, and sustainable living.

"We challenge you to come away from this tour without an action plan for your own home and garden," said tour organizer Elizabeth White.

Not limited to homes, the

Eco-Living & Home Tour includes food gardens, edible landscapes, and planet-friendly ways of living that are taking root on Salt Spring. The popular tour is held every two years and is hosted by Transition Salt Spring, a local group that has been helping islanders reduce their ecological footprints for over 20 years.

The self-guided day-long tour includes some of B.C.'s most interesting examples of green living, including energy-efficient and passive solar buildings, rainwater harvesting, food production, renewable energy, and transportation alternatives. Tour sites, which range from a tiny-

home to a large organic farm, push the boundaries of sustainable living. The 2017 Salt Spring Island Eco-Living and Home Tour includes a high-tech container home, an off-grid straw bale home, a large sub-tropical greenhouse with adobe thermal storage system and bio-digester, a tiny home newly built by a creative young builder, PV arrays and rainwater harvesting systems and much more. The homeowner or other experts will be on hand at each site to explain the project and answer questions.

The tour consistently inspires others.

"Going on the tour had a huge impact on our re-

profit planning. We saw an off-grid solar system and a rainwater collection system among other conservation elements in the design of one house. We knew we had to follow this and other examples from the tour," said islander and green home owner Ann Wheeler.

"The best thing about these houses is living with the gentle, loving energy of the people that created them. You feel it every day in the very structure and fabric of the house," said Briony Penn, whose eco home was featured on a previous home tour. "It was a joy to share my home and

ideas especially with young families who are starting out and want a small, 100-mile house that fits in with their values and hopes for the world."

"We support the Eco Home Tour because it's fun peek into other people's lives to learn what they are doing to tread more lightly on the Earth, and to come away inspired to make more of a difference ourselves," said Elizabeth Fitzzaland of Green City Builders, which is co-sponsoring this year's tour. "We also support the tour as Transition Salt Spring's major fundraiser, knowing how important TSS's work is to our com-

munity and our planet."

Tickets are on sale online via Eventbrite at <http://tinyurl.com/ssiecotour>.

In addition to the biennial tour, Transition Salt Spring projects include the largest school-based solar power array in B.C., community allotment gardens and a green enterprise micro-lending co-operative. Transition Salt Spring also hosts a monthly Green Drinks gathering along with regular speakers' and film series devoted to building local resilience and reducing fossil fuel dependency, which are activities designed to support the Salt Spring Climate Action Plan.

RANTS and Roses

Roses

A bucketful of plastic roses (no watering required) to Ralph, Jane and Troy for your dedication to the Cedar Lane Water District! You have no idea how much we "Cedarlaners" appreciate all you do to protect our fragile water supply. Residents of CLW system

Om Mani Padme Hun to Salt Spring families, friends and beyond. Thank you. We are ever so blessed. Meals, hugs, prayers, smiles, GoFundMe, unconditional love. We are forever grateful for all. We all are on the upswing. Darcy is tumour free! Darcy Dharma, Will, Ellen, Mariah and Auna-

beth, Harley and Starley and Christopher. XOXOXOXO

A tub full of aromatic roses to all who made the second annual Rotary Crabfest such a sellout success, including all of the business sponsors, The Costners for great music, our suppliers and ticket selling outlets, the wonderful people who bought tickets, and finally, our Rotarians and families who put their hearts into the day. See you next year!

Thanks so much to the Canada Day Show & Shine crew for finding my car keys! Monique

Many thanks to the volunteer youths from the South

Delta Baptist Church and Salt Spring's Baptist Church and Community Gospel Chapel. Special thanks to the three energetic, personable young women who cut a lot of broom on a hot morning. Not only is the broom a noxious invasive species but presents a major fire hazard, so their work was especially appreciated. Sharon McCollough

As a final wrap-up of the Canada 150 for 150 Volunteer Challenge, Volunteer and Community Resources would like to extend its deepest gratitude to its campaign partners: Country Grocer, Driftwood Gulf Islands Media, SS Antique and Classic Motor Club and Rick MacKinnon. We would also like to acknowledge all those who sponsored the fabulous prize packages. Generous volunteers and generous community turn

the gears of our island.

A bouquet of fragrant gratitude to family, friends and musicians (young and old) who attended my birthday party. Thank you for the cards, the flowers, the music, the wonderful food and the many helping hands. To each of you, your presence made the event everything I had hoped for and more. Yarrow

Copper Kettle copper roses to all the folk and businesses that contributed to our huge raffle baskets (too many to name!) Congrats to Jas and Nan, who were our winners.

Thanks to the Upper Ganges Liquor Store employees. My lost wallet was safely returned. Cash and credit cards were not compromised.

To Mondo Trading staff, who returned my \$20 bill that I left on the counter. Your honesty is so appreciated.

Some 150 roses to the Salt Spring Singers, especially Ron Dyck, for their contribution to a successful and inspiring Canada Day event, as well as Wayne McIntyre and the CRD, Jim Raddysch and pool staff, BC Ferries, Salt Spring Foundation, SD64 superintendent Lisa Halstead, SS Chamber, Dorothy Cutting, Tim and John, Caroni Young, All Saints, Valdy, Brenda and island businesses.

Thank you, everyone, for your concern, care, kindness and prayers. I am healing well and on my way to recovery. A special thanks to Ghislaine, Jacquie and Janet, who kept us together in body, mind and spirit. Carol Spencer

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

Mechanic

How do I get my vehicle ready for summer holidays?

If you are planning a trip of any length, or just several shorter jaunts locally, your vehicle needs to be ready to handle a wide range of conditions. Hot dry weather puts extra strain on the engine cooling system, air conditioning, brakes and tires. Radiator, radiator cap, hoses and drive belts need to be thoroughly checked. Your antifreeze has an anti-boil component as well and must be at the proper concentration to be effective. Try out your air conditioning through its full range on a hot day and have it inspected for leaks and serviced if it's not performing properly. Rain after an extended dry spell will make for a slippery road surface that worn or under inflated tires will not grip safely. Have tires replaced as required. New windshield wipers and properly operating washers can make a huge difference to safe visibility. As always, a complete vehicle inspection while changing oil and filter will spot problems you may not have noticed yet. This will give you and your technician an opportunity to repair worn brakes, steering, and suspension and bring other vehicle systems back normal before leaving on a trip.



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Real Estate

Buyers: How to compare prices and value?

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

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

The most affordable home is rarely the lowest priced home!

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With the warm weather we are having it is important to stay hydrated. Be sure to drink water before, during and after exercise. Even if you do not realize it, you have the potential to lose a great amount of water during a class, even in the water. It is important to re-hydrate your body, this will keep your energy levels up. If you are feeling thirsty this is a sign that you have waited to long to drink. If you are having muscle cramps you need to drink more water.

Keep the back of your neck and head cool. Run cool water on your wrists for a few minutes and it will help cool you!

Aqua fit classes or swimming are a great workout in this warm weather. If you are doing aqua fit and feeling warm splash water on your face, or dip your head back in the water or just take a full dip under the water.

Eating To Stay Cool: Food can keep you cool provided you eat the right food. Salads, raw vegetables, fruit and cold soups are great. Avoid eating meat products, or protein foods during the heat of the day, because these can increase metabolic heat production, which can add to loss of water in the body. So drink, drink, drink and stay cool!



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JOHN PARRY DAVIES
Oct. 16, 1926 – July 4, 2017



John Davies died peacefully on Salt Spring Island after a long, slow decline with dementia, which never affected his enjoyment of family and friends. He is survived by his much loved wife, Noreen. He will be greatly missed by his children, Gillian and Michael (Pamela) and his grandchildren Joshua, Evan and Sarah, as well as his sister Ann, and his nieces and nephews Diana, David, Valerie, Christopher, Sue and their families.

Our sincere thanks to Dr. Reznick for his care of John for over 20 years, to his caregivers Tema and Janet, whom he loved and who brightened his days. Also to the wonderful staff at Lady Minto hospital whose love, caring and compassion made his last 14 weeks as comfortable as was possible.

John and Noreen retired to Salt Spring Island from West Vancouver in 1993, where they made many new friends who became very important and supportive in their lives. They also enjoyed visits to the island by friends and family from around the world.

John was born in Lallaguda, India and as a small child returned to England where he grew up with his older sister Ann. After serving in the RAF, he graduated from Faraday House in London with his Mechanical Engineering degree and later studied Hydro Electric engineering at Imperial College, London, which launched a career which took him around the world. John came to Canada in 1955 and married Noreen on July 2, 1960 in Chenies, England, returning to Ontario where they lived for 11 years and started their family, before coming to British Columbia in 1971.

He lived an extraordinary life, with a sparkle in his eye and a quick wit. He was loved by all who met him. Over the last part of his life, the overwhelming sentiment felt by those around him saw him as "such a lovely, kind and gentle man" - the way he was throughout his life. He will leave a hole in many people's lives and will be thought of often and fondly. Go in peace John - you will live on in our hearts and be remembered always!

A memorial service will be held at All Saints Anglican Church on Salt Spring Island at the beginning of August (date to be announced in the next Driftwood). In lieu of flowers, donations to Lady Minto hospital would be appreciated.

FENTON LOYOLA'S Celebration OF Life



On Saturday, July 22, we will be holding a Funeral Mass and Interment Service for **MARGARET CASS**. It will commence at 1:00pm at St Paul's Catholic Church 2719 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 1Z3 on Salt Spring Island.

FENTON LOYOLA'S Celebration OF Life



Please join us: **Saturday July 15th 2017** Beaver Point Hall 4pm onward, speeches at 5pm. Potlatch, memories & music. Friends & their families all welcome.

Info to help: Naomi Singh 250-931-0732

Salt Spring Hospice



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Notice to Decommission under the Water Act
Date: July, 10 2017 File : 1003719
Notice of Application to Decommission Dam Water Act-Dam safety Regulations

We: Stephen Nantel and Catriona Nantel of 2300 Northend Road, Salt Spring Island Have applied to decommission the dam on Weisner Brook

Which flows South and East into McFadden Creek and Trincomali Channel. We hereby give notice of our application to all persons affected.

The storage dam is located at 2300 Northend Road The quantity of water to be diverted is 1.2 acre feet.

The Dam is being decommissioned in order to address dam safety regulations. Kathleen Reimer, Biologist: Phone 250-537-7580, email: salmonkathy@gmail.com

The Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Association Box 289, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V9
Stephen & Catriona Nantel 2300 Northend Rd.
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 1A6

Anyone having concerns or comments with regard to the above proposal, please contact me/us at 250-537-9281 in order that you may discuss the issues and arrive at a mutually acceptable arrangement.

Objections to this application may be filed with the Assistant Regional Water Manager at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations 2080A Labieux Road Nanaimo BC V9T 6J9 within 30 days of the date of the Publication of this notice.

Information provided in response to this Notice will be used to help adjudicate this water licence application. Your reply will also be subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection Act. If you have any questions regarding the treatment of your personal information please contact the information Access Operations with the Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services, and Open Government.

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COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

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Fall Fair



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THEME: **Party with the Animals!**



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CONSERVATION

Wild ideas through big acreage cooperation

Once upon a time people huddled in communal islands surrounded by wilderness.

Now wild places are small islands in an ocean of people. Places where, as one wag put it, the hand of man has never set foot, exist only because we let them. We awoke one day to a new reality in which big rivers were all dammed, transcontinental rail and roadways abounded, our bellies were full and we sold surplus food to the rest of the world. In North America the last straw came when vacationers, battling for hook-up space in Winnebago National Park, began to think it would be great to keep a few hard-to-reach and economically useless places "forever wild."

Congress passed the Wilderness Preservation Act in 1964, and road maps began to show green patches. But whatever human hands and feet hadn't been doing, the feet of several million sheep and cows had been tracking up the Western high country for almost a century. The land was the commons, the public domain, stolen or bought from other nations (including First Nations) in our westward sweep. Ranchers, miners, and loggers used it for generations. They built fence-



Bob Weeden

CONNECTIONS

es, dug waterholes, dammed streams, killed predators, and constructed travel ways. They depended on the commons to keep their families alive. Livestock summered higher up on public land under permits issued without question.

These traditions changed dramatically in the '60s and '70s. The US Bureau of Land Management (once the "Land Office") was told by Congress to get serious about planning and regulating both new and longstanding uses of the public domain. Ranchers got scared and angry. They lobbied Congress and the land agencies fiercely. "The Sagebrush Rebellion," it was called, or The Great Cow Flap.

It left a legacy of deep distrust between ranchers and environmentalists.

Fast forward to today. Look on the internet for pledges of cooperation between these same opponents; you'll be amazed! Major non-profits

in the U.S. and Canada build strategic plans around them, budget for staff to make them work and feature them in fundraising campaigns. New organizations like the Quivera Coalition will work up lasting agreements with ranchers and other holders of big acreage.

One example involves The Nature Conservancy of Canada and Napier Lake Ranch in the Nicola valley of B.C. One of the province's oldest, the ranch was sadly neglected when Agnes and Roy Jackson bought it in 1974 to fulfill a dream. Slowly they brought overgrazed rangelands back to health by rebalancing hungry mouths with ecologic realities. When Roy died Agnes needed help. She turned to NCC, who bought 1,300 acres of the ranch to manage for livestock, wildlife, public use and habitat protection. NCC also helps on the remaining ranchlands.

How did opposition become collaboration? One answer comes out of shifting politics. Environmentalists' 30-year fight to secure Wilderness on parks, refuges, BLM lands and crown lands had run its course, with amazing success. There are jewels of wild country still worth work-

ing for, but far more important wildlife habitat and watershed protection gains can be made on private land if one-time opponents can become partners.

Meanwhile, a lot of ranchers struggle to keep afloat. Many offer sore backsides, photo-ops and crowd-free trout fishing to dudes to help with mortgage payments, and realize that a run-down ranch isn't competitive in this new market. In exchange for the ecological expertise (and sometimes cost-sharing) of outfits like The Nature Conservancy, NCC and National Audubon Society, they offer a say in land use and restoration plans.

The 20-year boom in natural gas exploration has played in, as well. If a gas company offers money for access and a share of production income, the ranch family knows the bargain includes traffic, noise, smell and ground-shaking, often well-poisoning, earthquakes from fracking. The environmental offer looks better. Quieter. More fun.

There's another perspective. Modern politics in crowded democracies force people to oversimplify their interests and sharpen their language to win battles. They join oth-

ers, who have done the same, to swell the numbers. Their spokespersons are good at aggressive exaggeration, and away we go, more headlines, more win/lose fights. In reality, of course, our personal interests are complex, sometimes at odds with each other. That's what saves the day when the rare chance comes for truly open exchanges with opponents, or in backroom compromise sessions when you decide you can give way a bit on one goal to gain on another.

We're forgetting something deeper than "interests." Ranchers are in the business because they like the life. Maybe your horse has alerted you to a black bear clawing termites out of a log, and you watch. Maybe you love the free-fall acrobatics of courting eagles or the silent shout of camas blooming at the edge of a meadow. Or maybe you're reminded of your grandma's stories every time you see the ponderosa snag at the cliff's edge.

Below all that is something more. Under the sights, sounds, smells, and stories, under the beauty and foreverness of home, something opens and says, very simply, "yes."

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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

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Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)
Ever an emotionally stirring time, the Sun has one more week in Cancer and Mars, it so happens too. This combination has the effect of producing extra charged emotions. When harnessed, much can be accomplished. Otherwise, the edgy and swinging moods get expressed randomly. If you have work to do get it in now, you won't feel like it next week.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)
Your energy levels are running high and you are in the mood to cover a lot of ground. Some of this focus includes making particular improvements and fixing things. On the other hand, you also feel inspired to be creative, be playful, social and enjoy quality time with family... Your attention span may be short. So, do the rounds.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
You are in a creative and expressive mood and this trend will continue for several weeks yet. There is a social element indicated as well. At deeper levels, reflections about what constitutes security for you and how to achieve it are on your mind. This is especially true this week and your focus will soon shift to fun and games and arts and crafts too.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
A series of fresh starts and initiatives have been and continue to keep you busy. With Mars in your sign, you may feel stronger and more energetic than usual. However, circumstances are requiring more than you may want to give. Fortunately, the plot includes cultural activities and satisfying social activities.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
A busy time behind the scenes continues and you have likely been working hard both inside and out. Regarding the inner work, you may be contending with fears and doubts surfacing from your subconscious. An overactive imagination and losing touch with what is in the moment may be the main issue. Focus on simple tasks that add up to productive results.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
Nurturing new associations, friendships, perspectives and strategies continues. It is likely that you feel the need to be extra focused to activate stable momentums. Even social activities are colored by a sense of duty and business. Otherwise, you are happy to lay low and only do what you feel is necessary.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)
You continue to take new strides in your public and professional life. Your pace may be deemed assertive, even aggressive at times. A learning curve is implied and you may be on both the learning and teaching end. Yet, you are also eager to partake in cultural activities. Generally, you feel optimistic and confident.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Some very big changes are brewing for you. Yet, you are probably getting the signs and foreshadows more than the actual event. It is likely that these changes are desired. In the shorter term, you may be working diligently to feel confident. As well, you have been pushing hard to co-create a positive outcome.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
One way or another you have been delving into deeper waters. This may simply include taxes and other financial matters. Yet, you may also feel called to explore some of life's deeper mysteries. If you have been somewhat bewildered by it you will be relieved to know that this cycle will end this week.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Dynamic interactions with others of late may even be described as edgy, at times. While ever seeking harmony and eager to express love, you are a fighter at your core. This impulse will continue throughout the week. Ambitions to increase your influence and gain approval on public and/or professional fronts figures prominently.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Adjusting and re-calibrating to align with steadily changing circumstances continues. This has and continues to require a lot of effort. Yet, the focus has already begun to shift to more lighthearted activities. This trend will continue for several weeks. Make the most of it to rejuvenate and replenish your inspiration tanks.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)
A dynamic, creative and perhaps dramatic cycle continues. At best, you are achieving a clear and strong sense of renewal, both within and without. The changes indicated imply diligent efforts and steady follow through. This momentum and focus will draw to a close this week so concentrate to complete your projects to avoid lingering loose ends.

sports & recreation

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

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



TRACK & FIELD



Local Paralympian Ness Murby trains with a discus in Nottwil, Switzerland.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Paralympian shatters javelin record

Ness Murby training for second Paralympics trip

BY SEAN HITREC
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Paralympian Ness Murby won the F-11 javelin throw, creating a new Canadian and Para Pan American record for her category, at the Canadian Track and Field National Championships in Ottawa last Wednesday.

Murby's new personal best javelin throw of 26.24 metres brings her ranking to a tie for first place with a Brazilian who threw the same distance earlier this year.

"I PB'd by three metres," Murby said, when describing the distance she added to her throw. Her previous best throw was 23.29 metres.

After competing in the Paralympic Games in Rio in 2016, Murby said that the road to the next Paralympic Games is paved with a series of competitions and a strict training regimen. She has already been to eight competitions in 2017 and, after Ottawa, travelled to Switzerland for training and then London for the World Para-Athletics Championships.

She also threw the discus 28.59 metres in Ottawa and is ranked fourth in the world.

Murby's current focus is on adding new techniques to increase her discus throw distance. Changing or refining movements in any intense athletic practice can be difficult, but removing vision from a throwing competition takes it to a new level.

Murby recently introduced a

spin to her discus throw. It's something that is commonly done by discus competitors who can see, but for Murby, adding a spin is extra challenging.

"As a blind person, spinning is one of the worst things you can do," she said. So, the solution is to train one movement at a time so the result can be repeatable in a competition. "When I hit that technique... I'm gaining metres on my throw."

Murby's success can be partially credited to her spouse and sports assistant Eva Fejes, who does everything from pick up thrown discuses and javelins to help Murby work on her coordination.

While the athlete is self-sufficient in most contexts, she cannot train on her own. The interplay between home life and their 30-hour-weekly training regimen is something that the two cherish. It adds to a heightened sense of connection between them, along with travelling together so Murby can compete.

"We balance each other well. When I get insanely focused, Eva can draw me back," Murby said.

"I feel really lucky to be on this journey," Fejes said.

However, the pressure of competing on the world level can leave little time for their personal lives, even if they travel together.

"We get put in separate beds. There's nothing that's particularly romantic about it," Murby said.

"We don't really get any down time. We realized this year we actually haven't had a vacation with just us together," Fejes added.

One of the hurdles Murby must clear back at home is train-

ing while living on Salt Spring. Though she loves the island, it doesn't have any specific fields that facilitate javelin or discus.

"In the end it basically requires us going off island as much as possible," Murby said.

"In the pursuit for training grounds we have made some connections this year," Fejes said, adding that the Cowichan Sportsplex has provided private access to training.

The next feat to over-

come for Murby is in the World Para-Athletics Championships in London, where a tight, same-day timing between the discus and javelin will leave a small window for cool-down and warm-up between the two events.

Murby is excited to bring her new techniques and record-busting motivation to the next Paralympic Games in Tokyo in 2020.

To follow Murby on her Paralympic adventures, see [instagram.com/ness-murby/](https://www.instagram.com/ness-murby/).

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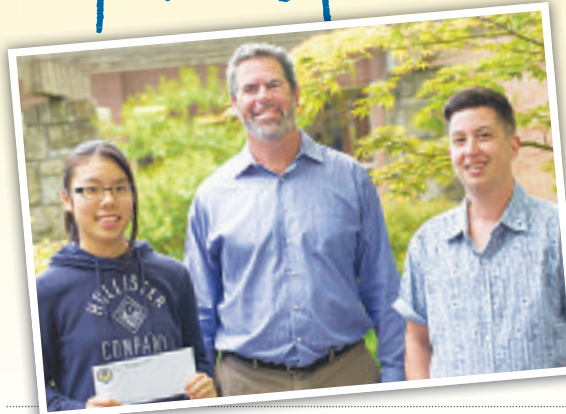
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Spirit of Salt Spring



From left, Salt Spring Forum Youth Scholarship recipient Tamaki Yoshihara with her recent award beside Gulf Islands Secondary School principal Lyall Ruehlen and Salt Spring Forum manager Julian Paquette. During her Grade 11 year, Yoshihara was a dedicated Forum volunteer.

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations. First-come, first-served basis as space permits. CALL DRIFTWOOD EDITOR GAIL SIUBERG FOR DETAILS.

Driftwood
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DRAGON BOATING

Spirit Point Dragons bring home gold from Nanaimo

Breast cancer fundraiser a popular event

BY DONNA COCHRAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

In the beautiful setting of Maffeo Sutton Park, Salt Spring's dragon boat team scored gold in their division at the 15th annual Save-On-Foods Nanaimo Dragon Boat Festival this past weekend.

The two-day event was a fun challenge for 72 teams, 46 women's and 26 mixed, and it was a successful fundraiser for the improvement of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment in

Nanaimo.

Every team raced two 500-metre races per day. Spirit Point Dragons raced well on Saturday against some tough competition. Their combined race times slotted them into the semi-final in the Jade/Gold division on Sunday morning, where they placed a strong second with their best time of the weekend (2:28) behind first-place Blazing Paddles (2:23) and ahead of third-place MS Warriors (2:39).

The Dragons' division final race in the afternoon was an exciting end to the festival. At the sound of the starter's horn, Spirit Point blazed off the start



PHOTO BY STEVE VERHEY

Spirit Point Dragons gather in Nanaimo over the weekend.

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line, grabbing the lead and breathing fire down the course to a first-place finish with a time of 2:32. It earned them the gold well ahead of FGPC Dragon Flyers (2:41) and VIU Ancient Mariners (2:42). It's always great to bring home some bling!

Paddlers for the two days included myself, Lorraine Ekelund, Robyn Huntley, Mary Lou Cuddy, Lesley Grott, Lynda Green, Carmelle Labelle, Wendy McEachern, Ann Marie Davidson, Ware Hartwell,

Melynda Okulitch, Kahsia Hartwell, Barry Green, Rob Huber, Andrew Okulitch, Conner Ekelund, Lorren Ekelund, Wendy Eggerston, with special appearance by coach Mary Rowles to help fill the benches.

Tom McKeachie was the hard-working steersperson and he met some major challenges with wind and shifting tides.

The team gives a shout-out of thanks to guest drummers/callers Sam Lu and Eli Del Valle.

The team would also like to give a special mention to Salt

Spring Island's own Sabine Georgy, who paddles with Gorgin' Dragons 50+. They won overall gold in the top category, Women's Platinum, with a time of 2:09.

Spirit Point Dragons are grateful for the support of team sponsors Country Grocer, Moby's Pub, Harbours End Marine and Royal LePage.

New members are always welcome. People can contact coach Mary Rowles by email at onthewater181@gmail.com for more information.

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Presentations from the following vendors:



TRACK & FIELD

Track and triathletes triumph

Wahlsten runs at state record pace

BY ERIC ELLIS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Salt Spring's Sneakers have not been at rest over the first two weekends of the summer.

This past Sunday, the Salt Spring triathlon duo of Marcia Jansen and Marion Young took on the very challenging Xterra Victoria off-road triathlon, said to be one of the most challenging of the international Xterra race series. This race held from Durrance Lake involved a 1,500-metre swim in Durrance Lake, a 24-kilometre mountain bike climb up Mount Work, and a run of two laps around Durrance Lake totaling 9.2 kms.

Jansen finished 64th out of 108 competitors, 20th of 43 women and second in her age group in a time of 3:13:53, 10 minutes faster than her

2015 time. Her performance included being 15th of 108 in the swim, 75th in the bike and 74th in the run despite suffering an ankle sprain. Marion Young finished 99th of 108 in spite of having a bike crash, 37th of 43 women and second in her age group in a time of 3:52:46, being fastest of her age group in the nine-km run.

"Credit is due for wise advice from Salt Spring Sneakers coaches Lynn Thompson and Susan Gordon ..."

DOUG WAHLSTEN
Track athlete

The weekend before, July 1-2, Doug Wahlsten was busy competing

in the Dogwood Track Meet at the University of Victoria, participating in four events over two days. In his track events, he achieved personal bests in the 100-m (15.65 seconds) and 200-m race (33.03 seconds), being also first in his age group. In his field events, he achieved a second place in his age group with a throw of 20.90 metres in the discus and third in the shot put with a put of 6.20 metres.

Wahlsten said his 100-m time improved by 1.2 seconds in an earlier meet in Duncan, and his 200-m time improved from 33.9 to 33 seconds. That time equalled his state record of 33.0 set while living in North Carolina in 2009.

"Credit is due for wise advice from Salt Spring Sneakers coaches Lynn Thompson and Susan Gordon, and to the inspiring young men and women aged 19 to 22 who ran in the same heat in Victoria," he said.