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# Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 3 \$125 (incl GST)

## FIRE PROTECTION

# Four fire trustees fill gaps

Acclamations rekindle board activity

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will soon get back to business thanks to four individuals who've stepped forward to serve as trustees.

Martin Christopher Budd, Mary Lynn Hetherington, Howard Martin Holzapfel and Per Svendsen will be elected by acclamation to fill four of the fire district's five vacant seats, said Tony Kennedy, the presiding officer charged with managing the fire board election.

"Since we've only got four candidates for five positions, there will not be an election," Kennedy said on Monday.

The nomination period for the positions concluded Friday afternoon. Candidates had until the end of Monday to reconsider their decision and withdraw their names.

Kennedy said term lengths for the new members will be determined in a random draw slated for Wednesday afternoon at the fire hall in Ganges.

The incoming board members join chair Mitch Forest and Howard Baker. The board has operated in "caretaker mode" since four trustees resigned suddenly in October.

Though one vacancy is left on the board, the district has enough members to resume its monthly business meetings.

A date for the trustees' next meeting has yet to be confirmed, said Andrew Peat, the fire district's corporate administrator.

TRUSTEES continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MCLELLAN

**DRIVEN:** GISS Scorpions player Abe Green takes the ball against St. Michael's University School opponents during a 53-41 GISS victory in the Nairn Howe Memorial Basketball Tournament on Saturday. See tournament wrap-up story on page 20.

## SAFETY

# Life rings approved for lake beaches

Lions Club steps up with needed funds

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Swimmers at four popular lakeside beaches will have extra safety equipment on hand next summer thanks to a partnership between the Salt Spring Lions and the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission.

PARC decided in September to explore the idea of bringing life rings to lakes where it has a licence of occupation with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, following the accidental drowning of two men at Weston Lake last summer. The Lions Club has since agreed to donate \$6,000 in order to purchase and install four rings at public access beaches at St. Mary, Cusheon, Blackburn and Stowel lakes. PARC will fund inspections and maintenance through its operations budget and will pay for the rings' eventual replacement.

A private effort has already brought a life ring to Weston Lake, where the Capital Regional District does not have a licence.

The first four life rings were meant to be a pilot project but commissioners are eager to expand it as soon as possible.

LIFE RINGS continued on 4

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# Union contract and new hall deemed fire priorities

**TRUSTEES**  
continued from 2

## Dissolution of district ruled out

Incoming trustees have been quick to quash the possibility of disbanding the Salt Spring Fire Protection District.

"I am not at all in favour of disbanding," said incoming trustee Svendsen, a 22-year island resident who works as a mechanic and volunteers with Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue, Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue and the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island. "I feel there can be some give and take on both sides."

Former trustee Norbert Schlenker floated the prospect of dissolving the fire protection district in a series of blog posts published online following his resignation from the board last fall. Schlenker outlined his

suggestion as a last resort to cap what he deemed to be runaway expenses linked inextricably to the career firefighters' union contract.

"We can't lose the fire department," added Holzapfel, who said he and his family would be among the first to leave the island if such a fate were ever to materialize.

"I think it is crazy to talk about disbanding the district. When we buy a home, we expect emergency services," he said. "The union can be negotiated with, and a contract can be reached that's acceptable to everyone."

Holzapfel became a paid-on-call member of the Salt Spring Fire Department's field incident technician team soon after he moved to the island in 2010. Medical emergencies involving his young son and daughter instilled a strong respect for the island's first responders and encouraged him to sign up.

Holzapfel has extensive and wide-ranging experience in business, communications, construction and the U.S. Army. Since moving to Salt Spring, he has volunteered with Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue, the Spring Island Sailing Club and BC Ferries' Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee.

"Once you need 9-1-1 services, you have an appreciation for what they do," he said.

Hetherington, who has lived on Salt Spring since 2001, said she hopes to bring years of trauma training, counselling and conflict-resolution experience to the table. She has been a registered nurse, a small-business owner and an active community volunteer with groups such as the Royal Canadian Legion, Croftonbrook and Salt Spring Lions Club.

"I think it's time to start looking outside of the box, but I don't think that [dis-

banding the fire district] is the only solution," she said on Tuesday morning. "I want to go through and differentiate between rumour and speculation and what is really going on. I want to see the facts."

## New trustees seek middle path

Having watched the pendulum swing from one extreme to the other for years, new trustee Chris Budd said he considers himself a candidate who will strive to weigh the balance between a controversial push to dissolve the fire district and the equally contentious opposing perspective that no cost for service is too high.

"There's been a lot of controversy lately, and I think [the debate] is a little polarized," Budd said. "The middle road won't be perfect for everybody but acceptable to most."

Budd served as a volun-

teer firefighter for about four years in the 1990s and tried to serve on the board, only to learn that members were required to own property on Salt Spring.

"I decided that, rather than complain about [the fire district], I would run as trustee," he said.

Now that he has the time and meets the provincial requirements to serve on the board, Budd said he's keen to take on the problems associated with increased firefighting costs and the potential fallout from an upcoming referendum on local governance.

He said Salt Spring's current firefighter compensation situation is "way out of skew with how the rest of firefighters in most places are compensated" but has questions about doing away with the fire district altogether.

"I don't think it's doable," he said. "To have no first response to all situations? No, I don't agree with that."

## Fire hall project looms on horizon


When and if negotiations with the union representing career firefighters are concluded satisfactorily, incoming trustees agree the next priority will be replacing the department's aging fire hall in Ganges.

"The community expects a new fire hall, and we have to decide the best approach," Svendsen said. "I think we'll be a good group with lots of diversified input."

Island ratepayers defeated previous efforts by trustees to fund construction of a new fire hall in referenda held in 2007 and 2013.

Holzapfel said he will aim for "a fire hall at the cost the community can tolerate" by considering the use of alternative materials and multi-phase construction and by scaling back the design.

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## ENVIRONMENT

# Locals prepare to protest pipeline

Sunday organizing session set

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders opposed to Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion plans have vowed to stand up for the coast following last week's provincial government decision to give the plan a green light.

"We're directly affected by this project, and the risk we're assuming by allowing this is significant," said Salt Spring's Andrea Palframan. "We depend so much on tourism, real estate, film and high-tech, and all of these sectors are deeply imperiled by the project."

She worries about the sevenfold increase in tanker traffic through the Gulf Islands once capacity along the nearly 1,000-kilometre pipeline route between northern Alberta and a marine shipping terminal in Burnaby is complete.

Palframan will lead a Sunday organizing session at the Salt Spring Island Public Library, beginning at 7 p.m., where participants will be del-

egated to undertake specific tasks in the fight to stop the plan.

Islanders opposed to Trans Mountain have also put their support behind the pulltogether.ca fundraising campaign, which looks to raise \$500,000 for a legal challenge being undertaken by several First Nations groups.

Palframan led a Dec. 10 event that saw hundreds of people brave snowy conditions for a rally and march through Ganges. The event followed Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's decision to approve the controversial Trans Mountain expansion plan.

She hopes the pipeline expansion project will become a "make-or-break" issue for political parties in the provincial election in May, adding that Salt Spring stands to become a natural nexus for coastal opposition to the plan.

Environment Minister Mary Polak and Natural Gas Development Minister Rich Coleman issued an environmental certificate to Trans Mountain Pipeline on Wednesday, Jan. 11. The permit was granted based on the satisfaction of 37 conditions imposed on Kinder Morgan

for the pipeline expansion project along with more than 150 conditions outlined by the National Energy Board.

In a statement that followed the province's announcement, the president of Kinder Morgan Canada said he was pleased by the news.

"We believe this represents a positive outcome for our company, customers and for British Columbians and all Canadians who will benefit from the construction and operation of an expanded pipeline," said Ian Anderson in a statement to reporters.

According to the deal established between the province and Kinder Morgan Canada, the company will contribute between \$25- and \$50-million annually for 20 years to the new B.C. Clean Communities Program. The program will give communities across the province access to money that will help "protect, sustain and restore" coastal environments in B.C.

Anderson said the company plans to begin construction in September. Work is anticipated to conclude in late 2019.




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# NEWSBEAT

## Heads up!

### Town Hall with MP Elizabeth May:

Monday, JANUARY 23  
GISS from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

# School district greets 2017 with funding announcement

Cash infusion will fund new hires

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District will receive \$201,000 from the provincial government to hire more teachers, educational assistants and other support staff before the end of the current school year.

"This will help, but it is a very small beginning so we're hopeful more will be released soon," said Deborah Nostdal, president of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association. "It's a start but really not enough of a start."

Nostdal was at the Gulf Islands School District's monthly board meeting on Jan. 11 when news of the local funding was confirmed in an email from the province. The announcement came a week after the province said it would inject \$50 million into public education to immediately address class size and composition in accordance with a 2016 Supreme Court of Canada decision.

"This is the first step, this is a positive step, and we are working collaboratively with the union towards a final agreement," said Education Minister Mike Bernier during a press conference that coincided with the original funding announcement. "This sets the stage to get things moving while other negotiations take place."

The \$50-million contribution represents approximately 1,100 full-time positions across British Columbia. How those positions will be allocated is being negotiated between the provincial government, school districts and B.C. Teachers' Federation representatives.

"Each school district will look at what their opportunities are, what their needs are and go through that hiring process," Bernier told reporters.

Nostdal and Gulf Islands schools superintendent Lisa Halstead said it is still too early to say when new teachers will be hired.

Rob Pingle, chair of the Gulf Islands Board of Education, welcomed the news.

"We'll do the best we can with what we get," he said. "We never say 'no' to more money."

The 2016 Supreme Court of Canada decision sided with the teachers' union by stating the BC Liberals-led provincial government bargained in bad faith in 2002 to eliminate class size and composition limits.

Minister Bernier said the province is currently in negotiations with the BCTF to reach an agreement to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling and offer further funding for more positions.

"It's not as simple as just flipping a switch and going back to 2002 because, demographically speaking, we're not at the same place in the province as we were in 2002," he said.

## Lt. Governor plans island visit

School district trustees are finalizing plans to welcome the province's Lieutenant Governor during a visit to Salt Spring later this month.

The Honourable Judith Guichon will visit Fernwood Elementary School, Salt Spring Island Middle School and Gulf Islands Secondary School on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

Lyall Ruelhen, principal of GISS, said visit details are still being finalized, but the trip's theme is intended to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary.

## District votes to keep committee minutes

Trustees have announced plans to record minutes of committee meetings and make them available to the public in a bid to increase transparency and accountability.

School district officials meeting at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Jan. 11 unanimously supported the motion. Minute taking will begin at the committees' next scheduled meeting date before the end of the month.

"This is expected to supplement the verbal reports that we already have," said school trustee John Wakefield.

The Gulf Islands School District's board currently operates



BC GOVERNMENT PHOTO

The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of B.C., who is scheduled to visit Salt Spring schools on Jan. 31.

with five standing sub-committees tasked to discuss operations, programs, personnel, community relations and policy. Committees meet on an ad hoc or monthly basis depending on demand and scheduling opportunities.

Committee minutes will be available by following the "School Board Meetings" link under the "Board" tab at [www.sd64.bc.ca](http://www.sd64.bc.ca).

## Fulford students focus on writing

Staff at the Fulford Elementary Community School hope a grant from the school district will

strengthen students' writing skills. "Too many students are approaching but not fully meeting expectations in writing," said school trustee Nancy Macdonald during her school report at last week's monthly board meeting.

An upcoming session led by teachers will let students share their feelings about writing and suggest ways to improve the learning experience. Teachers will use interview results to identify specific needs and target instruction accordingly.

"One of our school goals is to improve student achievement in writing," said school principal Marie Mullen in an email. "In order to do that, we are going through a process of finding out what is going on for our learners in regard to writing by interviewing and surveying them with some simple questions."

The program is possible thanks to a professional growth grant offered through the Gulf Islands School District.

Teachers from throughout the district can apply for individual or group grants to further their professional growth. Fulford teachers applied for the grant to receive dedicated time to work together on instructional practices to support their students, Mullen said.

The opportunity will occur outside of regular instructional hours and is in addition to the regular professional development that teachers undertake on scheduled professional development days.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### LNG film shown

A proposed liquefied natural gas facility at Bamberston on southern Vancouver Island gets some attention next Wednesday, Jan. 25 with a film screening and discussion.

Troubled Waters, a 28-minute film created by Salt Spring's Gary McNutt,

gives voice to Saanich Inlet residents who would be directly affected by a Steelhead LNG plant, if the project goes ahead.

Steelhead LNG plans to build a pipeline across the Salish Sea, along with a processing plant and export terminal that would use massive amounts of electricity or natural gas to cool gas before loading

it onto tankers bound for Asia.

Screening of Troubled Waters will be followed by a panel discussion. Eoin Finn and Hilary Strand from the Saanich Inlet Network will be two of the panel members.

The event takes place at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room beginning at 7 p.m.

### Pool news

Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission members voted Monday to approve spending more than \$12,000 in the pool equipment replacement fund to install a new compressor at the Rainbow Road Pool.

Pool manager Jim Rad-dysh also presented the

facility's quarterly and annual reports. The quarterly report for July, August and September 2016 showed an increase in visits of 3,705 compared to the same period in 2015. Nearly three-quarters of the visits can be attributed to the fact that 2016 was the first time the pool was open for the entire

month of September, as it

used to schedule its three-week shut-down then. Swim club members, waterfit class attendance and annual pass holders also increased over the quarter.

"We're pretty much looking at the pool being more well-used than it ever has in its history," commented commissioner Brian Webster.

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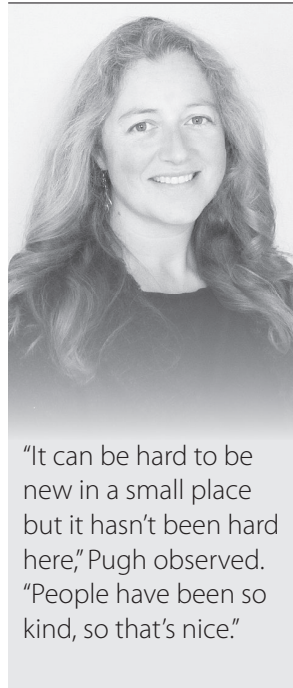
## Anna Pugh is new face of island law practice

Ian Clement says goodbye to firm after three decades

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

More than 30 years after hanging up his shingle in downtown Ganges, lawyer Ian Clement is taking retirement and replacing his name with that of island newcomer Anna Pugh.

Clement moved into the office at the corner of Rainbow and Lower Ganges roads in 1986 after sending in an application for an associate position with Gordon Sloan.



"It can be hard to be new in a small place but it hasn't been hard here," Pugh observed. "People have been so kind, so that's nice."

"Gordon caught me in a moment of weakness and sold me the practice over the phone, practically," Clement said. "I had articulated in Victoria, and this was the first indoor job of my life."

Clement fortunately had a background in the islands to prepare him for the lifestyle change — he lived on Pender for 16 years before moving to Salt Spring and his parents had arrived on the island a couple of years earlier. Prior to going to law school, though, he put in years of hard work, including a stint in the Yukon, where he did mining exploration, industrial tunneling and finally diamond drilling.

This background was intriguing to Pugh, who moved to Salt Spring with her family on Aug. 15 and started practicing with Ian Clement in September. Pugh officially took over the business in November. She grew up in the Yukon herself and worked in Whitehorse as a summer student while she was completing her law degree at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Though she did her undergraduate degree in English at the University of Victoria, she had also experienced hard work — she apprenticed in marine diesel mechanics in Sidney.

Pugh and her family were living in Whitehorse but were thinking about making a change when she emailed Clement "out of the blue" to ask

him what it was like to practice on the island. She had actually lived on Salt Spring for several months while attending UVic in the 1990s, so she also had some local experience. After noting some of their interesting connections the two lawyers started a correspondence. History found a way to repeat when Pugh agreed over the phone to take over the practice and allow Clement to retire.

Clement said having an island practice has presented a much wider variety of work than lawyers in city firms typically enjoy. Salt Spring has attracted an interesting cross-section of people and related files.

"Worked into everything is the problem solving the lawyer is compelled to do," Clement said. "Fundamentally, the lawyer's role in a small community is inevitably founded on relationships — and that's what's given me the greatest pleasure in practicing."

With her English background, Pugh once thought she'd end up writing policy for government, but after her summer work in Whitehorse she too realized she loved the practice of law and the clients.

"It was this world of helping people that I hadn't understood that lawyers did," she said.

During her time practicing in the Yukon, Pugh kept up her B.C. licence in order to help people living in the northwest corner of the province, where legal services are not available.



PHOTO ELIZABETH NOLAN

Ian Clement replacing his sign with Anna Pugh's at the Rainbow Road law firm office.

That made a move south easier to process with the right location, which Pugh is confident she's found.

"It seemed like a place both my partner and I would be very happy, and our children would be too," Pugh said. The fact that her office is located in a heritage home and the window has views across Ganges Harbour doesn't hurt — Pugh spent many summers in south-east Alaska, so the sight is a happily familiar one.

The family's introduction to island life has also gone well.

"It can be hard to be new in a small place but it hasn't been hard here," Pugh observed. "People have been so kind, so

that's nice."

"We feel like we're here to stay. We're building a house; two of my kids are in school now and they've settled in well."

With the changeover in the law firm after so many years, Pugh wants to extend that welcome back to the community and build the same kind of relationships that Clement fostered.

"I would like to continue to have the feeling of helpfulness to the community that I think Ian's leaving with," she said.

"One of the things I've noticed is how valued he is as a person, and I hope it's the same for me. I'm hoping to build my name as a person and a professional."

*It is with considerable pleasure that*

**IAN H. CLEMENT**

*Is able to confirm that all aspects of the law practice formerly known as Clement & Pugh have been assumed by*

**ANNA J. PUGH\***

\*denotes a law corporation

After a very full life spent mostly in the Yukon, Anna and her family moved to Salt Spring last summer - and quickly won friends for her genuine and approachable manner, as well as respect for her experience and competence in the law. With kids in school and a new house under construction Anna will be making a

positive contribution to this community for many years to come.

While still a resident of the island, Ian will be stepping back from the general practice of law here, and will be primarily working on a number of different projects, while hoping to spend more time with his family.

He wishes to take this opportunity to thank his many clients over the last thirty years for the pleasure that meeting and representing them has afforded him, and is grateful that someone of Anna's calibre stands ready and able to serve the legal needs of his community.

*Good Luck Anna!*

**ANNA J. PUGH LAW CORPORATION**

#1-105 Rainbow Road (corner of Rainbow and Lower Ganges – opposite the School Board office)

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# OPINION



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



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

## EDITORIAL

# Answering the call

With only a few days to go before last week's nomination deadline for potential fire trustees, how many, if any, contenders would seek a position was anyone's guess.

By early this week, a clearer picture had emerged as four candidates were confirmed to have sought spots on the board. Martin Christopher Budd, Mary Lynn Hetherington, Howard Martin Holzapfel and Per Svendsen will be officially acclaimed to their new volunteer positions this afternoon (Wednesday, Jan. 18) at the Ganges fire hall.

What happens after that is anyone's guess, but there's good reason for optimism.

We still don't know when the fire trustees will resume their monthly public business meetings following more than three months of operating in caretaker mode due to a lack of members, but we can be sure that meetings of the board, and presumably the board's many subcommittees, will resume shortly.

### THE ISSUE:

Fire district trustees

### WE SAY:

Thanks for stepping up

As the wheels get back in motion, we hope our new trustees won't run headfirst into the same challenges that led to the mass resignation of four trustees in October of 2016.

The newcomers each bring experience in emergency operations, negotiations and conflict resolution. They appear to have strong connections to the island and possess a thorough understanding about the significance of first responders of any stripe.

Perhaps most important is the sense they wish to dismiss talk of dissolving the district and take a renewed look at the controversial subject of negotiations between the fire district and the union that represents career staff.

More than one of the new trustees has used the terms "give and take" when it comes to the district-staff relationship. Establishing a willingness to negotiate and restoring a relationship of trust in both directions is the only sure way to resolve the ongoing dispute between ratepayers and the union. After overcoming this challenge, then it's time to move ahead and finally resolve the longstanding need to replace the Ganges fire hall.

## THE INAUGURATION OF DONALD J TRUMP.



VIEWPOINT by Val Konig

# Powerful play from GISS students

As soon as I read last week's Driftwood article about the upcoming adaptation of Orwell's 1984, I determined to attend. For a person who avoids watching the news as a self-protective measure (I get the basics second-hand), this was going to be a stretch. But I wanted to know the GISS students' point of view.

They were quoted as saying that this play "has never been more relevant than it is today. We found so many similarities in the use of technology and propaganda, and what we are exposed to in our everyday lives." I felt immediately confirmed in my own unease with the vulnerable position we are in with the omnipresent internet. It's a rare business or person who isn't connected.

And never before in history has the technology been in place to control human beings on a world-wide level. The "Mark of the Beast" predicted by St. John the Divine on the Island of Patmos in the Bible's Revelations comes to mind. No one buying or selling without this "mark" on either the hand or forehead. It's going to be seductive to be told that you can buy and sell without all those cumbersome passwords! A cashless society without the threat of the theft of your hard-earned dollars.

But at what price? Well, total control by Big Brother, of course (or the Antichrist, as St. John called him).

In the GISS play it was interesting to see followers of Big Brother in formation, holding up their cell phones. In worship? Haven't we all been bent over our cellphones in an almost

worship-like state? Oblivious to all else. Gosh, we nearly ran over a young lady too busy with her phone to notice that she was stepping right into oncoming traffic!

Did you know that the present Information Age was foreseen by a Hebrew prophet named Daniel who was a seer in the royal court of Babylon in around 165 BC? (Where did I get this date? You guessed it — the internet.) In one of his many visions he saw a time when both travel and information would be increased. People are travelling as never before and information is growing exponentially. Perhaps this is the time he "saw." Though the torture scene in the play was more than I could take (the students acted just too well!), I reminded myself that this is happening in many places in the world as I write. I've heard it said many times that more people have been killed in this last century than all the previous centuries combined. While I'm comforted that I live in Canada, I pray that we will always have it this good. But things can change . . .

On a more positive note, St. John also saw a restored world with Jesus as benevolent dictator, if you will. Environmentalists will take heart in the fact that he will take drastic action with "those who destroy the earth." Imagine a world with true "peace on earth," wisely managed so we can grow enough food organically to feed everyone. I hope I live to see the day.

The writer is a longtime Salt Spring resident.

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

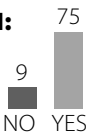
## Are you optimistic about the new fire board?

Yes  No

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

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

## Are federal regs needed to curb derelict vessels?



# Driftwood

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# ISLAND VOICES

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** "Once you need 9-1-1 services, you have an appreciation for what they do."

HOWARD HOLZAPFEL, NEW SS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRUSTEE

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** Do you have a tweet for Trump?



**SHANE DROUCKER**  
*Really?*



**ROSEMARY BARTON**  
*Find someone with some sensible ideas to help out along the way.*



**NIKI SMITH**  
*Bah humbug.*



**WOLFGANG TEMMEL**  
*Get lost.*



**KAREN WALKER**  
*I'd say "Please think about governing for all our relations."*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Rationale not clear

Is it possible that Harold Swierenga's reading of the urban/rural divide originates in the name Urban Systems, the name of the consultants chosen by the Salt Spring incorporation study group? ("Don't be misled by 'rural' labels," Jan. 11 Driftwood).

I find it hard to believe there are folks who think places like Port Hardy or Pemberton are urban because they are municipalities.

He wants us to be clear that we have had no "government" on Salt Spring since the 1970s. Haven't we

done well!

Blessed with a population passionately engaged in all facets of community life has provided legions of volunteers over the years. We have no shortage of good ideas brought to fruition by committed volunteers, infrastructure that is still absent from many municipalities throughout B.C., such as ArtSpring, a library, pool, squash and tennis courts, hiking trails and pathways, and a transition team devoted to all things sustainable.

Do we really need a handful of councillors and a mayor and a brand new town hall to house them? I don't think so. What is it about that concept that they think will serve us better?

Let's put our collective heads together and make the changes needed to improve the system we have.

**RUTH TARASOFF,**  
DUKES ROAD

### Incredible shrinking ferry

I wonder how many people know just how magical the Howe Sound Queen is?

When it first appeared on the Vesuvius run it was deemed to be an 80-car ferry, despite only holding 65 cars. The ferry corporation decided the Vesuvius run was underutilized as the ferry was never filled to

its 80-car capacity.

After years of pressure from employees it was grudgingly allowed that perhaps it was, after all, only a 70-car ferry. It was still underutilized as it did not reach its 70-car capacity.

Of course, there were rarely any overloads as, on paper, it was rarely loaded to capacity. Tell that to the people frequently left behind in the parking lot.

Eventually the corporation measured out the deck using its automobile equivalent standard of 20 feet per car and decided it was indeed a 65-car ferry.

I am sure the people frequently left behind due to the usual overloads were

happy to know it was finally operating at capacity.

Using new criteria they have now decided it is actually a 52-car ferry, this despite the fact that for many years the average car has been getting smaller. I suppose it is better to replace a 52-car ferry with a 44-car ferry rather than replace a 65-car ferry with a 50-car one.

Many years ago I obtained figures from BC Ferries which clearly showed the Howe Sound Queen was operating at a profit. Since then, traffic on that route has increased, which would increase the profit. How does reducing capacity on a profitable route, which

for much of the year has frequent overloads (3.7 per cent of the time in 2015-2016), serve either the corporation, the customers, or the economy of this island?

While I can appreciate the idea that standardizing the ferries is a good idea, sometimes a good idea is the wrong idea. By all means standardize, but ensure that the standardized ferry has the capacity to handle the traffic now and into the future. Otherwise it is a waste of money and a bottleneck for the island's economy.

**KERRY BUTLER,**  
FAIRWAY DRIVE

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

# Non-action plan for whales assures extinction

**BY ASHLEY F. HILLIARD**

Like many other Salt Spring Islanders, I am concerned with the prospects for our southern resident orca whale population.

The orcas are the iconic species of our Salish Sea. Their presence in our surrounding waters is a wonder. They are a link to the natural world as it was and should be. I do not need to see them to feel uplifted, but when I do have that privilege, for example from a BC Ferries vessel, then I am thrilled, a feeling clearly shared by most other passengers. Besides their inherent dignity and worth, their image is used by governments and private interests to promote tourism and businesses in our region.

It was thus with great sadness that I received the news of the death of two members of the southern resident population over the holiday season. A male orca was found dead off the Sunshine Coast in December with blunt force trauma to its head almost certainly resulting from collision with a vessel. (A necropsy is being carried out to confirm the cause of death.) More recently, researchers have announced the disappearance of the 100-plus-year-old matriarch of the population, known as "Granny." 2016 was a bad year. Six whales died and no calves were born that survived. This brings the number of southern resident orca whales down to 78. These figures come from [www.orcanetwork.org](http://www.orcanetwork.org).

To top it off, our B.C. and federal governments keep pressing ahead with projects that further industrialize our southern B.C. coast: expansions of the Vancouver and Fraser River ports, LNG projects, increased anchorage of freighters in our waters and the approval of the Kinder Morgan pipeline.

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau came here to announce his government's approval of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline, he told us that decisions like this were now science-based and, looking straight at the camera, that if he thought that there was any risk to B.C.'s south coast, he would not approve the project.

I decided to do some fact-checking. The southern resident orca whales are an endangered species under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). They were designated as endangered in 2003. "Endangered" is as dire as it gets — one step from extinction. Unfortunately, the designation has not done them much good. Since 1998, there have been 43 births in the population and 70 deaths. SARA requires the government to prepare a recovery plan for an endangered species. The former Conservative government dragged its heels on preparing a recovery plan for this population. It had to be forced by lawsuits to develop a plan and only did so in anticipa-

## INDEPTH

tion of the Northern Gateway and Kinder Morgan pipeline applications.

The plan is only at the proposal stage. It is entitled Action Plan for the Northern and Southern Resident Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*) in Canada [Proposed] and was published by Fisheries and Oceans Canada in 2016. I encourage everyone to read the document themselves. It is not long, at 38 pages, including the cover and appendices.

I turned to this plan with some hope, expecting to find some robust measures to protect the whales. The plan correctly identifies that the "threats to recovery are reductions in the availability or quality of prey, environmental contamination, and both physical and acoustic disturbance," and emphasizes "the commitment of the Government of Canada . . . to the principle that, if there are threats of serious or irreversible damage to the listed species, cost-effective measures to prevent the reduction or loss of the species should not be postponed for a lack of full scientific certainty."

However, when one reads the list of proposed measures to protect this species, one's reaction quickly shifts from hope to disbelief and dismay. The specific measures are to "examine," "investigate," "analyze," "assess," "review," etc. There is not one specific measure that involves forcing any

human to alter their behaviour in any way in the interest of protecting these whales. Not one fishery closure, not one regulation of shipping, not one requirement for ships to reduce their noise, not one control of the whale-watching industry.

In other words, not one real action. It is all study and nice sounding words. This is not an "action plan." At best it is a "we will investigate and discuss possible future actions on a long, undefined time scale and maybe at some time in the future suggest, timidly, some measures to help these poor animals, but maybe we will just document them as they die" plan.

If this is the best our governments can do, then it is only a matter of time before the southern resident orca whales go extinct.

I have written to Prime Minister Trudeau to request an explanation of his decision in light of this "non-action" plan. I have not had a response. I have also written to Premier Christy Clark, asking her to read this document before deciding whether to grant approval to the Kinder Morgan pipeline project. As a last hope, the organization Ecojustice is challenging the approval of the Kinder Morgan pipeline on the basis that the threat to the orca whales was not adequately considered.

*The writer is a retired lawyer living on Salt Spring.*

# Memories from 'the section': a tribute to Mitch Howard

BY DAWN HAGE

I first met Mitch Howard in the late '70s at the University of Alberta. I was entering second year as a trumpet-playing music major and he was the new kid in first year.

I was struck right away by his infectious smile and incredible enthusiasm. That fall, Mitch joined the Edmonton Youth Orchestra and thus began "the section" — an incredible friendship, musical partnership and years of adventure, travel, fun, laughs and growing up together.

Our musical groups took us to Los Angeles, Australia, Banff, Ontario, Calgary. We played in the U of A wind ensemble, concert band, orchestra and anything else that needed two trumpet players that played like one. But the best part was the friendship: the laughs, the drama, the late nights practising and talking about the future and all the excitement and fear and hope that you have at that incredibly tumultuous and magical time of life.

I have so many memories — racing along the freeways in LA in a

## GUEST COLUMN

top-down sports car with our trumpet clinician who delivered us to a music store where we both picked out Bach C trumpets. Staying up all night on the beaches of the Gold Coast in Australia after a wonderful festival in Melbourne and before a performance in the Sydney Opera House with the youth orchestra. Playing the opening of Mahler's Fifth Symphony together, after a few beers, on top of a table in a pub in Melbourne, in the halls of HUB mall at U of A and in the streets of Edmonton late at night with the moon shining on the snow banks . . . it was our calling card. Mahler, Bruckner, Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Berlioz, Rimsky-Korsakov — we loved them all.

University finally ended, life moved on and we went our separate ways, with marriage and kids and careers taking over our lives. Eventually I found my way to Salt Spring and had settled in for a few years when one day I was having

a coffee at Barb's Buns and looked up to see Mitch's mom, Lauretta, walking towards me. They were visiting the island for the weekend and, by a great stroke of luck, we connected again. That was it for Mitch. He fell in love with Salt Spring and never looked back. And thus began a new chapter for "the section."

It's astonishing when I think of all the ways Mitch touched the lives of myself and my kids in these last 20 years on Salt Spring. It began at the Salt Spring Centre School where he took a job as teacher and principal, and led the organizing of musicals with the kids. I played the piano while he directed — we were a new version of "the section." He created amazing productions of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Rumpelstiltskin and The Sound of Music. These were very young kids and the productions were amazing.

Mitch had a gift. He inspired, educated, built confidence, aimed high, and the kids rose to his expectations and had life-changing experiences as a result.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY DERRICK LUNDY

Mitch Howard conducts youth Honour Choir in 2004.

After the Centre School, there was SIMS music, the Honour Choir, the Salt Spring Singers and so much more. Hundreds of students, including my own children, passed through Mitch's groups and were touched forever by his love of music, his laughter and sense of humour, his kindness and humility, and his multiple talents as a singer, musician, speaker, educator and academic.

Oh, Mitch, I have thought about

all the ways I wanted to say thank you. Did you know how inspiring you were? How incredibly fun you were? How many lives you touched and careers you launched with your encouraging words and shining, musical joy?

That you were so funny, your stories would make me laugh so hard that I couldn't breathe. That your writings and intellect were profound? That you created so many opportunities for young kids, my own included, that were life-changing. That you were a hero with your illness, keeping your humour, enduring what I can't begin to imagine, trying everything. I am grateful you found Salt Spring and Jennifer and we got to share our families and our lives.

I am so sad to lose you and will be eternally grateful that you showed up, trumpet in hand, to the U of A and became one of my greatest friends.

*The writer is director of the Salt Spring Concert Band. Mitch Howard died following his battle with multiple myeloma on Jan. 6.*



Islands Trust

### NOTICE NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NP-TUP-2016.2

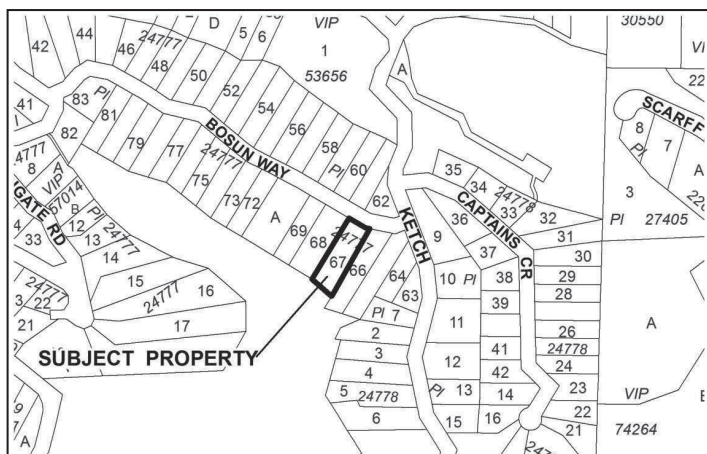
NOTICE is hereby given that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit pursuant to Section 493 of the Local Government Act. The proposed permit would apply to a portion of Lot 67, Section 10, Pender Island, Cowichan District, Plan 24777. This property is located at 4753 Bosun Way.

The purpose of this temporary use permit would be to permit:

- "The use of an accessory building (cabin) as temporary commercial accommodation for a period of less than a month at a time by persons, other than the owner or a permanent occupier."

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the permit. The permit would be issued for three years and the owner may apply to the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee to have it renewed once for an additional three years.

The general location of the subject property is shown in the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing, **January 13, 2017** and up to and including **January 25, 2017**.

**Please note this application relates to Bylaw 203, currently at Third Reading and Post-Public Hearing. For this reason, only written submissions to planning staff will be accepted in response to this notice. Presentations at the meeting will not be accommodated.** Enquiries or comments should be directed to Planner Justine Starke at (250) 405-5189, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: [northpenderplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:northpenderplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca), before **4:30 p.m., January 26, 2017**. The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the regular business meeting starting at **9:45 a.m., January 26, 2017**, at the Pender Island Community Hall (Lounge) on North Pender Island.

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

Sharon Lloyd de Rosario  
Deputy Secretary

## MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

### More important values

Regarding "Fire department dissolution deemed 'not impossible,'" Jan. 11 Driftwood, does former fire trustee Norbert Schlenker not have anything in his house that he loves? No pets or family members or family heirlooms?

Dissolving the Salt Spring Fire Protection District would leave him and all the rest of us with no one to call on to help if our homes were to catch fire. The three people who had chimney fires last week would have been left with the options of either letting their houses burn down or trying to put out the fires themselves.

Believe me, from personal experience, there is little more terrifying than seeing your life partner up on the roof with a hose pouring water down the chimney while smoke curls up through the shingles, trying to put out a chimney fire. Fortunately, the Fulford fire folks arrived and dealt with the situation. I was impressed with the courage of the fireman who opened the trap door to the attic to check that there was no fire up there in it. There could have been a burst of flame and smoke in his face when he did so, if the chimney fire had ignited material in the attic.

This is not to mention that I am not sure that we would be able to get fire insurance for everyone in a whole community without fire protection, no matter what we were willing to pay. The people last week who had an outside fire were not able to control it with a hose and without help they would have had a badly damaged house and possible injuries as well.

If citizens were left to deal with potentially lethal fires on their own there would undoubtedly be the added costs of injuries, including burns and smoke inhalation as well as additional deaths. This would add to expenses for emergency helicopter flights to off-island hospitals and would probably reduce property values on the island considerably.

We do have to pay for the services of fire protection, but given that we live in a forested landscape with spread out houses so that neighbours are not always close enough to help, we need a group that we can call on in times of emergency.

It is not just for financial reasons that we

live here, but for an environment that is the envy of many. I realize that there are many whose financial situation is tight, but we need fire protection. Financial expediency is not the most important value in life.

ANNE ZELLER,  
FULFORD HARBOUR

### Ironic assertions

Re: Harold Swierenga's Jan. 11 Viewpoint article "Don't be misled by 'rural' labels."

In the above referenced Viewpoint, the writer states that "the reason the Islands Trust exists is because there was no municipal government in the Gulf Islands when the need for land-use planning became apparent."

To put that in a fuller context, in 1974 all three provincial parties agreed that the Gulf Islands are so distinctly beautiful, environmentally sensitive and subject to extraordinary developmental pressures that special protection was required. All parties were unanimous in their conclusion that the usual form of governance (i.e. municipal incorporation) would not afford sufficient protection for the rarest ecosystem in the province. So a unique form of governance, the Islands Trust, was created.

The writer contends that incorporation would not result in "urban" development and that Salt Spring could retain the island's "rural" character. That is an ironic assertion, given the fact that the consulting firm (funded by the province) that conducted our incorporation study is named "Urban Systems."

SHARON MCCOLLOUGH,  
WELBURY DRIVE

### Nonsensical

Problem: the degradation of our planet.

Solution: apply resources, material and human.

Why not? We haven't the money. Really?

It's nonsensical that we can find the resources — material and human — to subsidize multi-million-dollar fossil-fuel industries; to produce and sell weapons of destruction for wars; but not for actually saving a habitable Earth.

EILEEN WTTTEWAALL,  
SALT SPRING



PHOTO BY CORRIE HOPE FURST

How many birds can you see in this photo of a frozen waterfall off Mountain Road captured by Corrie Hope Furst? It was just one of several ice photos submitted by Driftwood readers and Facebook page followers in recent weeks. See the Driftwood's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood](http://www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood) for more ice albums and this photo in colour.



## ICED UP!

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH HUNTER

A half-submerged canoe is frozen into the ice at St. Mary Lake, one of the rare sights seen during the December-January cold snap that gripped Salt Spring Island and the south B.C. coast. Overnight temperatures finally remained above 0° Celsius beginning Sunday night.

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# KM pipeline not in B.C.'s interest

BY ADAM OLSEN

The BC Liberal government has now approved the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project. They have stated that Kinder Morgan has met their five conditions and have added 37 new conditions with their approval.

With this decision comes a more than 500 per cent increase in diluted bitumen transports through the Salish Sea. I have heard consistently from all communities in Saanich North and the Islands that this project is a top concern, and so it should be. It threatens our coastline, our wildlife, our tourism industry and our quality of life.

I was an intervenor in the National Energy Board hearings for the project. I can say from first-hand experience that the review process established by the Stephen Harper government, and subsequently supported by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, is not one in which British Columbians can have any confidence in. The evidence was not tested, questions went unanswered, assurances were vague and often inaccurate.

**This is no way to build public confidence in a major industrial project.**

At the very least, Kinder Morgan should have been expected to show that they can clean up a dilbit spill to get approval. But they haven't — because they can't.

This is the result of a "get to yes no matter the costs" approach to economic policy. We have a process that actively excluded communities and with mounting evidence that we do not have the capability to deal with a spill, we hear the gov-

## INDEPTH

ernment say "Don't worry, Kinder Morgan will figure it out."

The BC Liberals promised that any heavy oil pipeline would have to meet their five conditions before it was granted. Do we suddenly have a world-leading marine oil spill response? No we do not. Do we have world-leading practices for land-based oil spill prevention? No we do not. Have we addressed the legal requirements regarding aboriginal and treaty rights? Definitely not. Does a few million dollars each year give British Columbia a "fair share," due to the high risk we are accepting? Hardly.

A year ago the BC Liberal government said a firm "no" in its final written submission to the NEB to this pipeline because it did not meet these conditions. Now they have reversed course and approved it.

This is no way to build public confidence in a major industrial project. This approval has not only undermined our environment and the communities directly affected, it has undermined the role of science, our climate responsibilities, and all of the economic sectors that will be negatively impacted by industrializing the Salish Sea. This is irresponsible decision-making, plain and simple.

If we look to the future we know that we have to transition away from fossil fuels. Expanding this pipeline means extraction companies will be doing everything they can to fill it. This takes us in the completely wrong direction by investing in fossil-fuel infrastructure that will last decades.

The 21st century is increasingly being powered by innovation and

the creative economy. Instead of doubling down on the industries of the past, we need to be making investments in the future.

I have stood up for the interests of our riding throughout the NEB process and I will continue to stand up for the Salish Sea. I am running in this election with the BC Green Party, which is the only party that has consistently opposed this reckless industrial project.

I hope you will support my campaign to become the next MLA in Saanich North and the Islands. I will be honoured to stand up for our home in the legislature.

*The writer is the BC Green Party candidate in the Saanich North and the Islands riding of the May 2017 provincial election.*

## Town Hall Meetings

**Mayne Island**  
Wednesday, January 18  
6:30—8:00pm  
Mayne Island Community Centre  
493 Felix Jack Road

**Sidney & North Saanich**  
Thursday, January 19  
7:00—8:30pm  
Bodine Family Hall  
Mary Winspear Centre  
2243 Beacon Avenue

**Galliano Island**  
Friday, January 20  
6:00—7:30pm  
Galliano Community Centre  
141 Sturges Bay Road

**Central Saanich**  
Saturday, January 21  
3:00—4:30pm  
Brentwood Bay Community Club  
7062 Wallace Drive

**Salt Spring Island**  
Monday, January 23  
6:30—8:00pm  
Multi-Purpose Room  
Gulf Island Secondary School  
232 Rainbow Road

**Saanich**  
Wednesday, January 25  
7:00—8:30pm  
Bob Wright Centre  
Room B150  
University of Victoria

**Pender Island**  
Friday, January 27  
6:00—7:30pm  
Pender Island Community Hall  
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road



Elizabeth May, O.C., MP Saanich-Gulf Islands

[elizabethmaymp.ca](http://elizabethmaymp.ca) | 1-800-667-9188

9711 Fourth St., Sidney BC V8L 2Y8

# arts&entertainment

**SALT SPRING INN**

**WEDNESDAY PRIME RIB DINNER** ... **Sunday Night Music**  
with **Meghan McKillop**

FOR MORE SALT SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS, SEE OUR WHAT'S ON CALENDAR ON PAGE 12.

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Jimmy Rankin concert ready to thrill

Award-winning Cape Breton singer-songwriter

One of Canada's finest and most popular singer-songwriters is coming to Salt Spring for an afternoon performance at ArtSpring.

Hailing from Mabou, Cape Breton Island, Jimmy Rankin rose to fame as a lead singer, guitarist and songwriting lynchpin for multi-platinum Canadian Celtic-pop heroes, The Rankin Family, who sold over two million records and earned five Junos, including the coveted Entertainer of the Year award.

The show, made possible through sponsorship of the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney, runs at ArtSpring on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 2 p.m.

Since embarking on a solo career in 1990, Rankin has won numerous awards and accolades over the course of six CD releases. He has built his reputation on the power and dynamism of his live shows, which move effortlessly between roots, country and Celtic stylings and draw on an impressive catalogue of hits that appeal to fans of all ages.

"After cutting his teeth

on stages and dance halls in and around his Cape Breton Island home, Jimmy Rankin has established himself as one of the most entertaining and respected artists in the Canadian recording industry," states press material. "His career boasts numerous number-one radio hits, multi-platinum album sales, international success and a shelf overflowing with industry awards for his work as front man for Celtic-pop heroes The Rankin Family and as a much-loved solo singer-songwriter."

Rankin has toured and recorded with the likes of Keith Urban, John Prine, Alison Krauss and The Chieftains, among others.

This winter Rankin is touring in support of his sixth solo album, called Back Road Paradise, which he says is "the most country I've been, ever." People can hear samples on iTunes or through his website: www.jimmyrankin.com.

"Confident and excited, Jimmy Rankin is as proud of his current album Back Road Paradise as any of the work in his long and hit-filled career."

Tickets are available through ArtSpring.



WWW.JIMMYRANKIN.COM

Cape Breton native Jimmy Rankin, who will perform at ArtSpring on the afternoon of Sunday, Jan. 29.

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Opening: Yael Wand  
Monday January 23  
Fulford Hall  
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Show starts 7:00

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

## LITERARY EVENT

# Four authors converge for reading

Memoirs and poems celebrated

### SUBMITTED BY EVENT ORGANIZERS

The snow storms of last month postponed many events on the island, not least of which was the gathering advertised as A Writer's Quartet.

Having rescheduled the program, four recently published Salt Spring authors again invite islanders to join them on the afternoon of Friday, Jan. 27 for a reading and book signing. Each with their own potent style, the work of poets Eileen Wttewaall and Lottie Devindisch, together with the anecdotes of memoir writers Jim Warren and Pat Gould, promises to provide the audience not only with food for thought but also an opportunity to simply enjoy the music of the spoken word.

Written in the span of 25 years, the poems of Come Dance With Me by Wttewaall are a reconciliation of grief, an ode to the joys of nature and a compelling com-

mentary on what ails the world. Active in social justice groups for many years, the poet speaks for women, children and the downtrodden in searing lyrics. Her observant eye pierces the ordinary in poems about the landscape and wildlife of Salt Spring Island, and her strong connection with family adds poignant reminiscences in this broad-reaching collection.

Devindisch has been a member of the Salt Spring Island dance community for 35 years as a performer and teacher. She writes both poetry and prose and this latest chapbook, A Dance of Pelicans, is her second published collection. Her work is both energetic and reflective, drawing inspiration from her years as a dancer, writer and spiritual seeker, with glimpses into the inner world of the emotions and demands of the creative experience.

Listen to Your Garden is Warren's third book and draws from his passion for gardening. During his practice as an orthopedic

surgeon for 45 years in Victoria, Warren found a way to meet the pressure and responsibilities of his work by spending time in his garden. The anecdotes in this latest publication are suffused with wit and remarkable insight as they describe a personal encounter with the broader environment of the garden.

Gould's Bedtime Stories is a memoir compiled and published for family and friends, in a delightful collection of stories. Her career began as a singer on the radio, which led to a part in a weekly CBC television series and much more. With a life full of fascinating material for an author, her work has appeared in numerous publications, including Reader's Digest, Yachting Monthly and the Driftwood, most latterly in the November 2015 Remembrance edition.

Next Friday's event begins at 2 p.m. in All Saints By-the-Sea, with an opportunity to meet with the authors over tea and treats following the readings.

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Snow-cancelled Colour Wheel concert gets new date

Exciting repertoire on tap for next Friday

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

When early December snow and freezing temperatures visited B.C.'s south coast, one of the casualties was the Salt Spring Concert Band's winter concert called Colour Wheel set for Dec. 9.

"The band was primed and ready and the dress rehearsal the previous evening had gone really well," said band director Dawn Hage. "Everybody was hoping that the snow would arrive and then warm up into rain before the evening, but the opposite occurred, with the storm arriving later and with much greater force than predicted."

Hage and her band manager, Kate McWilliams, waited until early after-

noon to make the final call to cancel the concert. Everyone agreed that it was the right decision, since both band members and patrons were snowed in and without safe passage to ArtSpring.

However, luck was on the side of the band and, due to a cancellation, ArtSpring was able to offer a rare opportunity to reschedule the show for next Friday, Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Hage said the concert band has

been hard at work bringing the show to an even higher level than achieved in December. Colour Wheel will be performed as originally planned and with the same repertoire, which celebrates the winter season with music from around the globe. Now that all the hustle and bustle of Christmas and New Year's is past, islanders can take a break from the rain, snow and cold to enjoy a wonderful evening of music, including Russian Christmas

Music, Holst's First Suite in Eb, Variations on a Korean Folk Song, Joy and much more.

In addition, the concert will be dedicated to long-time island musician and a great member, friend and promoter of the band, Mitch Howard, who died earlier this month.

Colour Wheel tickets are available through ArtSpring. Tickets purchased for the original concert will be honoured for the Jan. 27 performance.

## LIVE THEATRE

## GISS portrays grim universe in 1984 play



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

A group of party members show their support for Big Brother in Second Story Theatre's production of 1984, which ran for two evenings at ArtSpring last week.

Play argues for protecting means of expression

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary and Second Story Theatre produced one of their more serious and adult-oriented efforts to date in an adaptation of George Orwell's 1984, which ran at ArtSpring on Thursday and Friday.

With much of the content based on sex as a form of rebellion, a vivid torture scene and the only curse words I can recall in a high school produced play, the warning that it was for mature audiences only was not issued casually. None of the above was gratuitous, however. Students deftly portrayed the brutalities of a totalitarian world where the ability to choose love, use language, or even have individual thoughts, is forbidden.

During my university days, students were asked to consider whether we were living in an Orwellian or Huxleyan world, the determination being that the more insidious types of social control that Aldous Huxley imagined in Brave New World (conditioning, anti-depressants and consumerism) were more prominent in the West.

Orwell was reacting against the betrayal of socialism and social justice in the Soviet Union, and 1984 eerily forecast many tragedies that would come to pass in communist China. But with reality itself now under attack in a "post-truth" world, the brutal crackdowns on civilian

protest, the limiting of civil rights and the hatred of difference apparent in the United States and much of Europe, many fear that Orwell's vision is now merging with Huxley's for a horrible new future. The GISS adaptation of 1984 expressed that as well as any media think-piece.

As teacher Jason Donaldson explained in the director's notes: "The dumbing down of language through globalization, text speak, emojis and post-truth political pageantry limits what we communicate and, in turn, what we are actually capable of thinking and feeling. We feel an imperative to safeguard the purposeful use of language, self-expression, reflection and public discourse in increasingly subversive acts of personal and communal hope and appreciation."

**GISS acting students showed range and maturity while somehow folding a long novel into just 75 minutes of stage action.**

Second Story Theatre's setting for 1984's maximum conformist society was simple, with low-ranking party members dressed in identical dark grey jumpsuits and the bare stage divided by rolling lengths of chainlink fence. A projection screen divided into nine panels formed an effective backdrop as the massive

two-way television through which propaganda is delivered and citizens are watched, with prerecorded materials coming through as crackling broadcasts.

With the plot following Winston Smith's immersion in the party's revisionist work, his brief escape and tragic but inevitable recapture, an interlude featuring the ensemble was a pleasant break from the heaviness. The group seated at desks and typing in unison to a cheerful jazz instrumental served to illustrate the conformist society at the same time as offering a pause. Another nice touch was the modern injection of having all the party members glued to their phone screens — distraction and control rolled into one device.

Shaye Steele made for a compelling heroine as Julia, who argues the act of love and living in the moment are rebellion enough, while Kevin Gray as her lover Winston portrayed a sort of tense, begrudging acceptance of routine, as well as frightening eruptions into violence and betrayal.

Atum Beckett had a memorable supporting role as Syme, whose job is to destroy the English language and replace it with Newspeak. He starts out noting in wonderment that by 2050, no one would understand the conversation they were currently having. By the third time he says it, the realization of horror has crept in and he's been arrested as a thought criminal. Nigel Bisnar was also key in his role as the cheerful and overly talkative Parsons, who is denounced by his daughter (for talking in his sleep) but proud of her for doing so.

The play's major stand-out was perhaps Peter Hoskins as O'Brien, the inner party member who tricks Winston into believing he's a leader of "the Brotherhood" rebel faction. Hoskins pulled off a slightly racy joke with great timing, but played it with an edge that left the audience feeling the punchline was foreshadowing nastier things to come. He also led the surprisingly realistic torture and beating scene with a sure hand.

The tone of the performance, with the feeling of being alone within the forced collective, was meanwhile anchored by Sophie Douglas, who played and sang a few heartfelt songs on guitar.

GISS acting students showed range and maturity while somehow folding a long novel into just 75 minutes of stage action. Though not very uplifting, the final cry of "Down with Big Brother" left reason to hope. It feels as if works of art like this may be increasingly important in this coming age.

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# What's on this week



## Wed. Jan 18

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**GISS Dance Show.** GISS Dance presents Roots, a high-energy, vibrant show of new choreography that pays tribute to the roots of modern and popular dance styles. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Water Licensing and Agriculture Workshop.** Learn how the B.C. Water Sustainability Act will affect property owners with a well used for non-domestic purposes, such as farming, food production and other commercial uses. Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. 1 p.m.  
**Library Open Late.** Salt Spring Public Library is open late on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m., until March 8.  
**Tech Cafe: Selling Online.** An Introduction to Selling Online with WordPress and WooCommerce with hosts Phil Rees and Duncan Else. Space is limited. Pre-register at Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.  
**Central Community Hall Board of Directors Meeting.** Public welcome. Central Community Hall. 7 p.m.  
**SongJam.** A pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub every Wednesday beginning at 7:30 p.m.

## Thur. Jan 19

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Dance Temple 55+.** New lightly guided dance session for dancers 55 and over and those who want a gentler, shorter dance experience. Salt Spring Wellness Centre. 3 to 4 p.m.  
**Dance Temple Thursdays.** A lightly facilitated community gathering to tune in, join in, celebrate, meditate and unwind through movement. Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

## Fri. Jan 20

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Rémi Bolduc - Tribute to Dave Brubeck.** Canadian ensemble of jazz greats plays concert of music that includes a tribute to Dave Brubeck. ArtSpring. Music starts 7:30 p.m., bar opens at 6:30.  
**Doug and the Thugs.** Live at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**The Marsh King's Daughter Play-building Workshop.** Spring session with Real Play Productions for children ages 7 to 19 begins today and ends with performances May 5-7. Location TBA. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Info/register: veronikamckee@gmail.com or 250-538-8206.  
**StoryWalk.** On the third Friday of every month, follow a story from the library, through Mout Park, to the Rainbow Road Pool. Each month a new book will be introduced along with a special activity or author at the library from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Follow the story pages through the park from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Jukebox Fridays.** Every Friday night at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

## Thur. Jan 19

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**GISS Dance Show.** See Wednesday's listing.  
**Open Mic With Dave & Ross.** Every Thursday at Moby's Pub beginning at 8 p.m.

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 Sun. 3pm matinee and 7pm

**National Theatre Live**

**No Man's Land**

with Ian McKellen & Patrick Stewart.  
 Thurs. Feb. 2nd only 3pm matinee & 7 pm.  
 Email threfritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets.

## CINEMA

• **Rogue One: A Star Wars Story** — Held over! A group of unlikely heroes band together to steal the plans to the Death Star, the Empire's ultimate weapon of destruction, in this key event in the Star Wars timeline.

• **National Theatre: No Man's Land** with Ian McKellen & Patrick Stewart — Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart return to the West End in Harold Pinter's comedy No Man's Land, from Wyndham's Theatre, London. Thursday, Feb. 2 only. 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m. Email threfritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets.

## Sat. Jan 21

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Canadian Improv Games.** Mid Island Zone Junior Tournament & Mid Island Cup, featuring teams from GISS, Ladysmith and Queen Margaret's schools. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.  
**Knacker's Yard.** Celtic band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Women's March on Washington.** Meet at Salt Spring library at 10 a.m., walk through Ganges and come back to the library for speakers and music. All people who support women's rights are welcome to participate.  
**MET Opera: Romeo and Juliette.** Diana Damrau and Vittorio Giarola star in Gounod's lush Shakespeare adaptation. Gianandrea Noseda conducts the sumptuous score. ArtSpring. 10 a.m.  
**Saturday Life Drawing.** Life drawing group sessions move from Monday to Saturday at the Core Inn, third floor. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Drop-ins welcome. Info: Martin, 250-537-8493.  
**Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance.** Scottish Country Dance Club event at Fulford Hall. 5:30 p.m. Advance tickets from Pat Spencer at 250-653-4700.

## Sun. Jan 22

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Meghan McKillop.** Live music at the Salt Spring Inn. 6 to 9 p.m.

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

## Sun. Jan 22

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Protecting Home.** Community gathering and information session on the Pull Together campaign to stop the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

## Mon. Jan 23

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**Alex Cuba Trio.** Salt Spring Folk Club concert at Fulford Hall. 7 p.m. (Doors at 6:15 p.m.) Opening act is Yael Wand.

## ACTIVITIES

**SSI Transportation Commission.** Public welcome to observe business meeting. Portlock Park Portable. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
**MP Elizabeth May Town Hall.** At the GISS multi-purpose room. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

## Tue. Jan 24

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**GISS Music: Mad World.** One night-only performance includes selections from GISS' junior composition class, small ensembles, some beautiful solos, choir and GISP music. ArtSpring. 7 pm.

## ACTIVITIES

**Workshop: Hand building with clay.** Free three-class session with artist Kathleen Raven starts today. Salt Spring Public Library. 6:30 to 8 p.m.  
**Floor Hockey.** Every Tuesday at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

## EXHIBITIONS

• **The Salt Spring Photography Club** holds its annual lobby show at ArtSpring through the month of January.

• **Weston Abbott-Arcan** presents artwork related to the mystical, the symbolic and the afterlife at the **Salt Spring Library Program Room** through January.

• **Sabrina Ali** shows photography highlighted by lines of her poetry at the Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe from Jan. 16 to Feb. 28. Until then, Salt Spring Photography Club members have photographs on display at the cafe.

• A shared photography exhibit is in the **Salt Spring Coffee Co. Cafe** hallway through January: Doors & Windows by **Margaret Ann Argiro** and Flowers by **Judy McPhee**.

## Wed. Jan 25

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Understanding Dementia.** A presentation of the Alzheimer Society of B.C., followed by a question and answer session. Speaker is Staci Hunter Noble. SS Seniors Society. 1 to 4 p.m.  
**Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshop.** Six-Wednesday series begins today at Seniors Wellness Programs office on Hereford Avenue. 3 to 5:30 p.m. Register through www.selfmanagement.bc.ca.

**Book Cover Design Workshop.** Free discussion for Salt Spring Island writers, especially those planning to self-publish, with Margot Boland, a registered graphic designer and professional book designer. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 p.m.

## Wed. Jan 25

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Library Open Late.** Salt Spring Public Library is open late on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. until March 8.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/ view our online comprehensive interactive calendar of events listings

## Wed. Jan 25

**ACTIVITIES**  
**Steelhead LNG Film and Discussion.** Showing of Troubled Waters, a 28-minute film by Gary McClurt, followed by discussion about the proposed LNG facility at Bamberton. SS Public Library Program Room. 7 p.m.  
**SongJam.** See last Wednesday's listing.

## White Dogs of Texas

Philosophical comedy presented by Vaughn Fulford

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**TIP OF THE WEEK**

Aquarius time has begun! Western Astrology is based on the sun's light and the time of the year that corresponds with the 'natural signs for each sign'. With Aquarius here in the Northern Hemisphere, with the Tropic of Cancer serving as the mid-point between the Equator and the North Pole, we experience the paradoxical twist of noticeable increase of hours of sunlight and the peak of winter manifesting as deepening cold. The overall chart pattern is called 'the bowl' which indicates the aspiration for new experiences. Jupiter in Libra opposing Uranus in Aries are the rim point. The President Era begins.

**Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19):** Ignition sparked, engines firing. Yet, you may be happy to remain parked, for now. You do fully intend to shift into drive, soon. Meanwhile, a distinct ping gives reason to pause. A tune-up and minor repairs may be required. Is it the car or the vehicle of your soul that needs attention?

**Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20):** Stepping forward to assert new leads feels right. Seeing through wistful dreams and cloudy skies, however, remains a challenge. With so much going on inside, feeling fully confident about what to do remains a challenge. Take it slow and watch for the signs.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20):** The time has come for some fun, again. Fortunately, at this carnival time of year, opportunities are available. Inaugurations, carnivals, Chinese New Year... the list goes on. Opting for the conservative approach is likely: armchair politics and spectator sports.... Either way, you will be there.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22):** Bringing your dreams and ideals down to earth is important, but you may need help. As confident as you may be there ever remains more to learn. Improving, fixing, healing... repairs may be required. Objects aside, you may be wise to do a check-up on your philosophies, perceptions, attitudes, and interpretations.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):** A sudden shift in your relationship life should be apparent now. Opportunities abound and business prospects look good, provided you are willing to reach out, say hello and shake hands. Be the one to take the initiative. Call it exercising your executive. Groomed, dressed for success, business cards, notepad...? Go!

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22):** The impulse to make a few changes, improvements perhaps, is rising. Yet, you may have to see through some clouds of confusion, determine if there is a grip of denial or the sound of sirens leading you astray. Fortunately, whether by inspiration or exasperation, you want to wake-up.

**Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22):** Play time! It may come under fun and games. Add a drop of drama or two and boredom be gone. There are indications of getting out and going to where the action is. But if you create an atmosphere of art and studio and some do-it-yourself pub food, your festivities could be fulfilled at home.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Unconventional etched with a strip or two of eccentric actually exists at your core. As if suddenly, someone has switched on the lights igniting a glow from within. While intuitions for art inspire ideas to create, you want to do something special, something that may even qualify as great.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** A lively, social cycle begins now. Your focus probably remains sober, so mixing business with the pleasures of meeting with others could work well. Sometimes self-knowledge is best realized by way of social interactions. Reach out to get a clear reflection of how you are these days.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Seeing through the clouds can prove challenging. However, you can be sure that doing so will reveal the sun shining brightly. Sometimes the cloud cover is actually the projection of one's own attitude and emotional state. Use your mind and see the clouds dissipating and the sun shining through.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** The Sun in your sign signifies the beginning of a new 1-year cycle for you. Mercury in Capricorn indicates you have work to do behind the scenes and perhaps at subconscious levels. Venus, Mars, and Chiron together suggest that your love life may require more attention and healing. There is more....

**Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20):** Something is awakening within you, probably at subconscious levels. Yet, in order to realize what it is you probably have to reach out to engage others and to be engaged. Strategic alliances are featured. Yet, you may have to break through lingering fears that may be the source of inertia. Go out!

LIVE THEATRE

# One-man acts riff on Shakespeare tropes at ArtSpring

Chris Humphreys and Neil Dickson perform next weekend

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

There are still several months to go in the year commemorating the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, and a pair of one-man acts touring the Gulf Islands this month are just the thing to remind audiences of the many gifts the playwright has passed on to the world.

Chris Humphreys and Neil Dickson team up with two 45-minute pieces for one delightful evening of theatre, presenting Shakespeare 1600 and The Standard Bearer in a mini touring schedule that visits Galiano, Mayne and Pender islands before their triumphant finale at ArtSpring on Saturday, Jan. 28.

"It's so exciting to both Neil and myself to be back to our roots, really," Humphreys said. "This is how we both began."

Both actors graduated from the prestigious Guildhall school in London and started out in small classical parts in the English theatre scene before making their way into the wider world. They met 30 years ago in Tunisia on the set of A.D.: Anno Domini, a Biblical-Roman epic mini series in which they were cast as the two young leads, launching their North American careers.

Humphreys and Dickson became good friends during nearly a year on set and have remained so to this day. After the Anno Domini show, they both moved to Los Angeles to try Hollywood, but only Dickson liked it enough to stay.

During the intervening years, Humphreys has added playwright and author to actor and fight choreographer to the list of skills on his resumé, with his two latest historical novels Plague and Fire hitting the bestseller lists. His novel Shakespeare's Rebel, which he adapted for the stage, premiered at Bard on the Beach in Vancouver in 2015.

Humphreys' Salt Spring contributions over the past year have included producing the excellent Shakespeare 400 variety event last April and directing and starring in the ExitStageLeft production of A Midsummer Night's Dream last summer.

Much of the material Humphreys addresses in Shakespeare 1600 came out of his Shakespeare's Rebel research. His piece delves into the late Elizabethan world to explore the social, political, religious and theatrical trends that gave birth to Shakespeare and to Hamlet, which Humphreys calls "the greatest game changer in literature."

Despite the nonfiction content, Shakespeare 1600 is no dry lecture by any means.

"It's an exploration and a performance," Humphreys said. "I mean, how many lecturers dress up in pantaloons?"

Costuming also includes hose, doublet and ruff, and the event includes demonstrations of bladed weaponry. The piece is structured as if Humphreys is a tour guide, with his guests coming into the great city of London for the first ever performance of Hamlet at the Globe Theatre. Illustration of the themes will come via soliloquies from that play and others such as A Midsummer Night's Dream and Henry V.

Dickson was also part of Shakespeare's 400th anniversary events last spring, appearing with Patrick Stewart, Joely Fisher and other notable actors, musicians and dancers for a sold-out performance at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills. Dickson's career has spanned stage, film, TV and radio; his West End debut in London was under the direction of Sir John Gielgud and opposite Dame Judi Dench. Recent high-profile productions include Mad Men and the upcoming new season of Twin Peaks.

For the Gulf Islands Shakespeare tour, Dickson will perform The Standard Bearer. He first starred in the one-man play by Stephen Wyatt under director Julian Sands in London in 2010, and later in L.A. and San Francisco. To get ready for this revival, Dickson has been working with Sands again out in his garden shed.

The Standard Bearer is set after the last gasp of the British Empire, somewhere in East Africa in 1980. Dickson's character George has been travelling with his wife and a stage manager, taking a program of Shakespeare to the villages and townships in the tradition of his grandfather. After a long, frustrating day travelling across the bush, things don't go as planned and he has to

begin the performance on his own. As he continues, his choice of soliloquies and speeches seems to chart both the death of colonial Britain and his own crisis of identity.

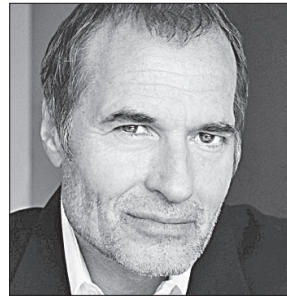
Speaking from his home in L.A., Dickson said going back to the theatre after years of screen work has been a rewarding exercise.

"For me, just going out there and doing a play, never mind without anyone else in the cast, is a challenge."

"I'm really excited about coming," he added. "It is like going back to our roots, and I'm also excited about partnering with Chris again."

George is a meaty role for the actor to revisit. Dickson comes from a similar tradition of drama training and repertory theatre work, although George's life and working career now are in ruins.

"I've done lots of the plays he's talking about. It's interesting being



Neil Dickson, above, and Chris Humphreys, right.



him — I can relate to a lot of it, even though my life isn't falling apart," Dickson said.

Humphreys and Dickson appear at ArtSpring for one night only on Jan. 28. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

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**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](mailto:dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com)



## EDUCATION

# CyberScorpions storm world of robotics

GISS team eyes prestigious competition

**BY SEAN MCINTYRE**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An exciting new program at Gulf Islands Secondary School has participants buzzing about competing in a global robotics competition set to take place in Calgary in early April.

The 22 members of the CyberScorpions robotics team intend to work tirelessly after school and on days off to develop a strategy and the mechanical aptitude to help them stand out from a massive field of competitors at the FIRST Steamworks Robotics Competition.

"We are team number 6,406,"



PHOTO BY ALEXANDRIA DELANEY-LEBLANC

From left, Thomas Boland, Andrew Chan and Patrick Little inspect "robot parts" given to their team at a recent BCIT robotics competition.

said Rachel FitzZaland, a teacher who oversees the program.

Team GISS' robot will need to work cooperatively alongside

robots from two randomly selected teams to collect, transport and deposit items set out in a gaming arena before hoisting itself up a rope and boarding an airship.

Teams of three allied squads will face off against one another in a timed showdown. Points are awarded to each team for individual tasks and the side with the highest number of points at the end of a set time is declared the winner.

Students have six weeks to assemble a robot to perform the tasks set out in the competition.

"Then we've got to bag it, tag it and ship it to the competition," FitzZaland said.

Though the process sounds complex, the CyberScorpions are showing signs that they fully intend

to be strong contenders at the April event. They're also getting some tips from a group of eight community mentors, predominantly retired engineers, who've volunteered expertise and enthusiasm to get the robot rolling.

Earlier this month at a FIRST robotics kickoff event at BCIT, the GISS team was the first to finish a fully functioning robot within the allocated time. Competitors were given two bags of parts and tasked to construct, program and bring their creations to life.

"By succeeding in our tasks, we were able to become the first group to have our robot up and running and moving around," said team spokesperson Alexandria Delaney-Leblanc. "We then all took turns learning to maneuver the robot around the room."

"The GISS CyberScorpions are eager and excited for all the rest of the learning experiences to come." The CyberScorpions have already raised \$17,000 to fund the project and their upcoming trip to compete in Alberta, but they still need roughly \$5,000 to reach their goal.

"It's a very expensive competition," FitzZaland added. "We are basically building everything from scratch."

Contributors can donate to the group by getting in touch with FitzZaland at [rfitzzaland@sd64.bc.ca](mailto:rfitzzaland@sd64.bc.ca) or calling her at the school at 250-537-9944.



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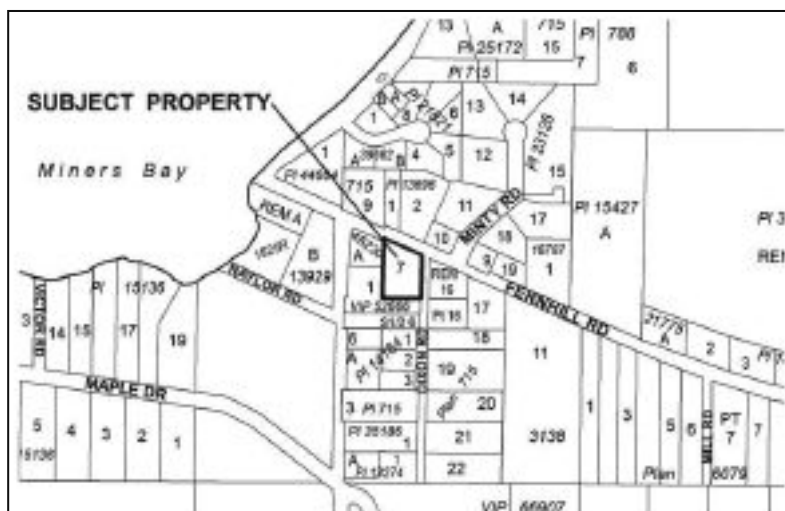


## NOTICE MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE MA-TUP-2016.3

NOTICE is hereby given that the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit pursuant to Section 493 of the *Local Government Act*. The proposed permit would apply to Lot 7, Section 12, Mayne Island, Cowichan District, Plan 715, (PID: 001-377-451), 424 Fernhill Road.

The purpose of this temporary use permit is to permit "office use and personal service use" as permitted uses on the subject property. The permit can be issued for up to three years and the owner may apply to the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee to have it renewed once for up to an additional three years.

The general location of the subject property is shown in the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing, **January 16, 2017** and up to and including **January 27, 2017**.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 494(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the Proposed Permit may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Mayne Island, B.C., commencing, **January 16, 2017**.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Gary Richardson, Island Planner at (250) 405-5157, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: [information@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:information@islandstrust.bc.ca), before **4:30 p.m., January 27, 2017**. The Mayne Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the regular business meeting starting at **1:00 pm, January 30, 2017**, at the Mayne Island Agricultural Hall, 430 Fernhill Road, Mayne Island, BC.

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

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario  
Deputy Secretary

## THEATRE CLASS

# Play-building launched

Youth tackle *The Marsh King's Daughter*

Real Play Productions is inviting island children ages seven to 19 to take part in a play-building and performance workshop session this winter and spring.

Under the guidance of producers Kate Nash and Veronika McKee, children will collaborate to create an original musical based on Hans Christian Andersen's story *The Marsh King's Daughter*. Using acting, dancing, singing and storytelling, students will recreate an incredible story that starts in Egypt and takes audiences all the way to the Viking Kingdom on a magical, mythical journey.

The project starts this Friday, Jan. 20 and continues Fridays to April 28, with daily workshops offered during spring break. Performances are scheduled for May 5, 6 and 7.

Nash has been teaching improv and drama in schools and with Stagecoach Theatre School for six years. McKee has been teaching dance to children and youth off and on for the past 15 years. Both enjoy facilitating in a creative and improvisational way that inspires youth to be team players, and encourages even the most shy child to shine.

They entered into a working relationship a year ago to produce the original musical theatre piece *Wild Swans* with Phoenix Elementary School, involving 50 students aged five to 14.

The producers say the workshop is a great opportunity for kids to build confidence, leadership and mentorship; connect with other students from different schools and age groups; develop skills and discover strengths; and experience the power of working as a group.

More information is available on the Real Play Productions Facebook page. To register, contact Veronika McKee at [veronikamckee@gmail.com](mailto:veronikamckee@gmail.com) or 250-538-8206.

*The Marsh King's Daughter* is supported by Graffiti Theatre and the Salt Spring Foundation.

# DEATHS

## Salt Spring school community loses important mentors

Mitch Howard and Diane Weatherby remembered

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The year 2017 started off on a sad note for many on Salt Spring with news that Mitch Howard and Diane Weatherby had both died at the age of 56.

Weatherby died in hospital in Victoria on Jan. 4 following a brief illness. Howard, who died on Jan. 6 due to multiple myeloma, was also born in 1960.

They were both active and popular participants in island life who had a particularly positive influence on local youth.

"It's been tough for the community," said Gulf Islands School District superintendent Lisa Halstead. "We are feeling their loss."

As a basketball coach and music teacher, respectively, Weatherby and Howard shared their passions and skills at various schools and institutions. Weatherby began coaching when her sons Eric and Thomas were in elementary school and continued with them all the way through their high school years.

"I first met Diane when I was Salt Spring Middle School principal," Halstead said. "I remember her as a caring and passionate parent who



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

GISS senior boys basketball coach Diane Weatherby, top left, with her 2015-2016 Scorpions team, the final one she coached after moving to Victoria last summer.

dedicated countless hours volunteering in our schools."

Halstead said Weatherby shared her enthusiasm for basketball with many students over the years and was a consummate professional as a coach.

"She had an inclusive approach to the sport, and skill development was not the only focus for those on her teams. Students also had the opportunity to work on aspects of personal development, team work and becoming a good citizen. Diane's presence and passion have impacted many and I am thankful that she had the opportunity to positively influ-

ence so many individuals in our community and beyond," Halstead said.

Peter Levitt co-coached with Weatherby when their sons were all at Fulford Elementary. Together, they helped spread the spirit and excitement of the game to boys and girls across the island who may never have considered playing basketball.

"After those early years, Diane ran with the program on her own and created wide-ranging opportunities for Salt Spring teams to play and compete at high-level basketball locally and within the province. And, our teams went far," Levitt noted. "She even brought excellent basket-

ball camps to the island in summer so that players could learn to maximize their skills as they prepared for the season to come."

Weatherby was an independent woman who raised her sons on her own after separating with their father, and was a gifted graphic designer who ran her own firm, Diane Weatherby Design, after 14 years of award-winning work with The Malahat Group (owned by sister-in-law Silk Qesto).

Her design work went into the 1994 Commonwealth Games program and can be seen today as the Salt Spring Arts Council's distinctive circular logo.

Suzanne Little worked with Weatherby on a number of projects over the years, such as branding and promoting Work Songs, a successful Tuned Air choir musical theatre production that toured to Victoria and Nanaimo. "The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce and Tourism logos are also Diane's work — we worked with the community to develop those together," Little said. "Diane's designs were elegant, her work was always sophisticated. She contributed this talent to many community organizations over the years."

Howard taught music at the Salt Spring Centre School, where he was principal, was the youth director for the Anglican Parish and founded the Children's Honour Choir with his wife Jennifer. The two later paired up as

director and accompanist of the Salt Spring Singers. Howard also enjoyed many teaching positions with the Gulf Islands School District, including dance, woodworking and music.

Adults in the community benefited from Howard's guidance just as much as children did.

"In my mind, Mitch was a truly inspiring person, both in the way he lived (really lived!) with his illness and in the easy way he brought people into his musical community," wrote Salt Spring Singers member Meghan Howcroft. "He was conductor when I joined the Singers and is single-handedly responsible for bringing music back into my life."

"The Salt Spring Singers became my musical family, in every sense of the word, and Mitch was at the head of that family, leading us, challenging us and inspiring us with his wit, his humour and his deep love of music. For this and so much more, I will be forever grateful."

A celebration of Howard's life will take place this Saturday, Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. at the Salt Spring Middle School. A tribute to his memory written by his friend beginning in their university days, Salt Spring Concert Band director Dawn Hage, can be found on page 8 of this week's Driftwood.

Weatherby's family will be having a private service for immediate family. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. Visit the H.W. Wallace website for more information.



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## TOURISM

# Exciting island events entice visitors

February Festival launched for second season

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands are an easy sell for visitors in the high season. But the folks at Salt Spring Tourism want to see more visitors on local doorsteps in February. For the second year in a row, people are being encouraged to visit Salt Spring Island through a February Festival marketing campaign, which highlights activities taking place next month.

As Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce

executive director Janet Clouston points out, it's surprising how many events regularly occur on the island at this time of year.

"I laid out a calendar for February and it was already half full," she said.

Pre-existing events included the Salt Spring Arts Council's Family Day concert at Mahon Hall, Seedy Saturday Weekend and Valentine's Day activities like the Swing Shift big band dance.

Last year under the inaugural February Festival banner, an indoor Salt Spring market took place on one Saturday and a Coast Salish First Nations Day on a Sunday. The latter may not be part of this year's roster,

but the indoor market has been set for Feb. 18 at the Farmers' Institute.

Otherwise, visitors and locals are encouraged to take in arts and recreation activities, and to enjoy Salt Spring's rich culinary scene throughout the month.

Clouston notes how the Gulf Islands' visitor season benefitted from being named one of the New York Times' 52 Places to Visit in 2016, and that "Canada" tops that list for 2017.

"This year we brought the rest of Canada with us," she said.

For more details, see the www.saltspring-tourism.com website and future issues of the Driftwood.

## IDEAS

## Scientists, poets reveal fascinating worlds

*Editor's note: The following is the second part of Bob Weeden's essay on science and poetry. The first part was published in last week's paper.*

Let's see what happens when poets and scientists look at something familiar, like a tree. Poet Robert Bly noted a thought by Yao Yuan-Ming, a fellow who combined careers as emperor of China and reclusive poet about 1600 years ago:

*After the storm the leafy tree is no longer solid*

*but the pine still throws a full shadow.*

*It has found a place to be. For a thousand years it will not give up this place.*

This small package holds a lot of knowledge. Needle-leaved and broad-leaved trees are different. Pines and many other conifers are cheapskates with energy and food, using each needle for several years. Leaf-shedding trees, like maples, live more extravagantly and die sooner. Pines often find root-hold in windy, dry places with extreme temperatures: our white-barked and digger pines come to mind. Their genes suit the place, and they have little competition. They can live for two or three millennia. They have found their place to be.

Bly wrote about pines, too: "... the pines somber/ made for winter, they knew it would come." "Knew?" How can a tree know? Bly understands that trees don't have thoughts or words, but, with inherited genes and the signals of rhythmic light and temperature, can sense and sensibly respond to changes around them. The poet's "know" compresses complex chemical and physical responses in the tree into one familiar word.

The word pops up in an essay by Mary Oliver. "Eventually," she writes, "I began to appreciate ... that the great black oaks knew me. I don't mean that they knew me as myself and not another — that kind of individualism was not in the air — but that they responded to my presence, and to my moods ... I am one of those who has no



Bob Weeden

### CONNECTIONS

trouble imagining the sentient life of trees."

Maybe David Chamovitz once imagined the same thing, but he turned to science to find out more. His book called What a Plant Knows is a revelation to a guy like me. I took my first botany class 65 years ago. Botanists today realize that plants see, smell, feel, communicate, know where they are and remember.

**There is, I know, something more than "What you see is what you get."**

"Communicate?" you scoff. How do you do that? "The answer," Bob Dylan sang, "is blowing in the wind." Suppose a bug alights on a leaf and chews on it. The leaf manufactures a chemical that warns the other leaves. They begin making a chemical that tastes bad to the bugs. Nearby plants, smelling the warning molecules on a small breeze, protect themselves as well.

Poets use words, invented for our own feelings, to describe what wild things seem to feel. There isn't any alternative; we don't know what they feel. Recent research, however, shows that human brains process pain in one place, suffering in another. Pain is the trouble warning; suffering is the complicated and prolonged process that is partly private, partly social. Perhaps, in wild things, the warning is there but not the rest.

Poets and scientists still experience trees differently.

However, scientists are rightly proud of the enormous recent increase in their understanding of plants, and the gap is less. Unless this particular corner of science sticks fast, in 10 or 100 years the tree of the poet and the tree of the scientist may be cousins.

Poets have journeyed toward the spiritual world often, and my impression is that more scientists than ever have set sail as well. I wouldn't dare to offer even a paragraph on the subject, but one sentence of Oliver's gives me courage. "Doesn't anybody in the world anymore get up in the middle of the night and sing?" I don't (lucky neighbours), but how can anyone ignore that passion?

In fancy's full flight I imagine myself on a springing board, poised over who knows what. I flail awkwardly into a cool oasis where people gather quietly. They have slogged across a sandy waste, burdened by leaden idols of the deities "Data" and "Word." Some wrestled with huge signs: "Don't Know and Don't Care."

Lesley Hazelton, agnostic, says, "I do not know anything about God, except that looking is my fate and my ecstasy. I want to be as open as a flower that can't become a bud again. To be closed is to fear, and to fear is to build walls."

The voice of Robert Frost reaches us: "Before I built a wall/ I'd ask to know/ What I was walling in or walling out."

Gregory Bateson, who looms even when he sits, tells us that the scientific model of the world has shifted from objects to relationships, which, in their miraculous complexity, bring us to the door of spirituality.

"Complexity! That's my passion!" Stuart Kauffman exclaims. "Early science remembered nature. Now we are re-assembling, and each successive bigger thing emerges with a new character. Bits of glass and copper and tungsten are trivial, but a light bulb isn't. One light bulb illuminates a room, several light up a home, and more reveal neighbour-

hoods, societies, the biosphere, Gaia ... ." Kauffman got excited. "Emergent complexity is the creative genius of the universe. Bring God out of heaven into the world! Worship natural creativity!" A voice asked, "Does creativity have a purpose?" "Purpose is a human hang-up," Kauffman shrugs. "Let humanity invent it."

Stephen Hawking, extraordinary genius and all scientist, asserts that M-theory is the explanation of everything, not only in this universe but the umpty-ump others out there. ("Just my luck," I thought, "that I'm stuck on the same one as Mr. Trump.") "Add the miracles of math to the grab of gravity and you've got it," Hawking says.

"All of it." Alan Lightman confesses that he lives with "a constant tension ... and a continuing rumble in the gut" because of the contradictions between science and art. He asks questions that can't be answered by science (What is love? Who is God?), hinting at an unvoiced search in the world of the spiritual.

What do I think, I who dived blindly into this company? I am fascinated by the worlds that scientists and poets reveal. I love the different one I experience. There is, I know, something more than "What you see is what you get."

Whatever it is, I see no more than the wispiest morning fog of its fullness. I believe that if humans ever find it, this "something more" will reveal itself only to full persons, passionately attentive, revelling in mystery, courageous in the search, humble in discovery, and in love with life.

We all are ever searching  
For something never found,  
Our spirits crying, thirsting  
For rain on dusty ground.

*If readers would like access to the source texts Bob Weeden refers to in his two-part column, send an email to the Driftwood at news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com.*



PHOTO COURTESY SSNAP

**LOOKING SSNAP-Y:** Officially launching the 2017 Salt Spring National Art Prize event at the Inn at Laurel Point in Victoria on Thursday are, from left, Saanich North and the Islands MLA Gary Holman, 2015 SSNAP grand prize winner Corrie Peters, SSNAP founding director Ronald Crawford, and 2017 Jurors' Choice Awards sponsor Stephen P. Roberts, who is also a Liberal candidate in this year's provincial election. Submissions from Canadian artists are now being accepted. See the www.saltspringartprize.ca website for all the details.

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ECOLOGY

# Mount Erskine reserve gets some TLC

Trail delineation and ecosystem restoration

BY CHRISTOPHER DRAKE  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

As many island residents and visitors know, the Mount Erskine area is a spectacular example of one of the most beautiful and rare ecosystems in the Gulf Islands.

Incredible views reward those that complete one of the short but challenging trails to the top. Described as Salt Spring's "Grouse Grind," this area attracts a large variety of users, with groups of tourists mingling at the lookout with some residents who have climbed the peak weekly for decades.

However, avoiding the impulse to stray off designated trails to explore around Mount Erskine is not an easy task. The open mossy areas are enticing, both to rambunctious dogs and walkers seeking solitude. Unfortunately, popularity has come with an environmental cost. What was once just one or two people exploring off-trail has increased to many such that several user-created trails now criss-cross Mount Erskine, making it easy to become disoriented. Many of these unauthorized trails lead to steep terrain that is dangerous and has high ecological values.

**These sensitive ecosystems are very easily damaged and take many years to recover.**

To preserve the natural integrity of Mount Erskine Provincial Park and Mount Erskine Nature Reserve, BC Parks worked with the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club, Salt Spring Island Conservancy and Islands Trust to develop a trail plan that tried to maximize recreational enjoyment while protecting ecological values. Several trails that were inherited by BC Parks were not ecologically sustainable or safe, and cedar split rail



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER DRAKE

Fencing and sign at Mount Erskine Nature Reserve contribute to restoration of the well-used recreation site.

fences have been constructed across these unofficial trails to assist with their "closure and rehabilitation."

As well, a system of ropes and cement weights have been placed along access points to Mount Erskine's view points to help define the trail in a fragile mossy bluff ecosystem. Other ecosystem restoration activities include planting hairy manzanita (a gnarly shrub related to arbutus) and other native plants, spreading moss clumps, and placing rocks, mulch and debris across degraded sections. Accompanying signs explain the importance of staying on the designated trails.

These sensitive ecosystems are very easily damaged and take many years to recover. The soil is shockingly thin, made up of a symbiotic community of mosses, lichens, fungi, invertebrates and bacteria that has taken decades to develop and will not easily return once the rock becomes exposed by knobby boots or clawed paws.

Also, these trails are cutting into the arbutus-hairy manzanita ecosystem, a red-listed (endangered) ecosystem that provides habitat for rare plants and animals. For example, the area supports ground-nesting common nighthawks, a threatened species that is easily disturbed during the summer breeding season.

This special place deserves to flourish. Please help make this restoration a success so that Mount Erskine can continue to be used for recreation, while ecosystem integrity is maintained. Staying on the designated trails will allow all users to continue to safely enjoy Mount Erskine while protecting the species that make it so fantastic in the first place.

*The writer is the owner of Coast Alive Recreational and Ecological Services, an environmental business based on Salt Spring Island. For more information, visit the website at www.coastaliveservices.ca or email him at drake@coastaliveservices.ca.*

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January 26, 1927 – January 7, 2017

Mearnie lived an amazing life of adventure, achievement, loving relationships and public service.

She grew up in Vancouver. She excelled at sports and played on many winning teams, including a professional softball team, the Chicago Bluebirds. She taught physical education and dance at John Oliver High School and then several other schools and 3 universities, becoming a consultant for the Vancouver School Board.

Mearnie started square-dance calling while still at university and became a nationally-known caller. She took up sailing in the 1950's and sailed to Tahiti. She was the first woman to sail alone around Vancouver Island. At the age of 27 Mearnie was diagnosed with cancer and had a double mastectomy. Through her life she supported women with breast cancer. Mearnie retired early from teaching and bought a store at Surge Narrows on Read Island, which she ran with then partner Jean Brown.

Mearnie met Caffyn Jesse Kelley in 1984 and they became life partners in 1986. They lived at a remote property north of Vancouver with a waterwheel generator. Mearnie worked running barges and building floats. They loved sailing. Mearnie and Caffyn were married in 2004, when it became legally possible to do so.

After they moved to Salt Spring Island in 1996, Mearnie was a founding member of GLOSSI (Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island). After becoming aware of the story of Japanese Canadians who were interned during WWII, she launched and worked for 10 years on the Heiwa Garden of unity and reconciliation. She continued teaching, offering private dance lessons and chainsaw lessons. She took up rustic furniture making and became a highly regarded craftsman.

The last 10 years of Mearnie's life were plagued by increasing ill health. In almost 4 years at Greenwood, Mearnie found much joy in a box-making enterprise, loving relationships, ice cream and hours of song. The people at Greenwood offered the finest and most compassionate care that could ever be wished. In addition we owe special thanks to Maha, Tula, Marion, Neith, Kate and Shirley. Mearnie died in Caffyn's arms, surrounded by love.

A celebration of Mearnie's life will be held at a later time. Please contact Caffyn [Caffyn.j@gmail.com](mailto:Caffyn.j@gmail.com) if you would like to be notified. No flowers please! Your memories and condolences are welcomed.

*In Loving Memory*



**PETER TREVOR FINER**

April 24, 1957 – January 13, 2017

Peter is survived by his wife, Trene and sons Max and Awstin, siblings Bryn Finer (sons: Eben, Hugh and Daniel Finer) Glynis Finer (children, Evan, Rhian (Garrett) and Rhys Hardy), grandchildren Kadence, Declan and Lochlan O'Dwyer) and John Finer (Tracy) (children Matthew and Kerry Finer).

Peter was born on April 24, 1957 in Calgary, Alberta to Richard Kelsey Finer and Dilys Olwen Finer. In 1972 he moved to Salt Spring Island when his father retired, entering grade 10 at Gulf Islands Senior Secondary and graduating in 1975. He worked through his high school years at Ron Lee's Shell station, pumping gas and messing with cars. Moving to Calgary, Peter operated Finer Cedar Siding bringing west coast cedar east. Answering an ad in a Calgary paper he began working in the oil industry where he found an outlet for his talents as a trouble shooter and oil field engineer. He spent many years overseas working in Iran, Libya, Algeria, Kazakhstan, and other countries, returning to the island regularly. He is remembered by the crews he worked with over the years as a great boss, fair, kind and supportive.

Peter met Trene Kaye on Salt Spring and in 1997 they relocated to Venezuela, living there for 5 years, before moving to Texas for 3 then returning to the island. In the middle of the moves Peter and Trene were married in 2002 on Salt Spring. Peter continued to work offshore on rotation, most recently in Ukraine.

Peter was an avid boater and fisherman as well as an inveterate tinkerer. He seldom gave up on a machine, stripping them down and reassembling to working condition.

Peter's family wish to thank the staff at Lady Minto hospital for their kindness. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Peter to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation would be appreciated.

A celebration of Peter's life will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 93, 120 Blain Road on Saturday February 4 at 1:00PM. Please join us.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COMING EVENTS**

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY**

Wednesday  
18th January, 2017  
at 7.00 pm.

Public welcome.

**LEGALS**

**CRIMINAL RECORD?** Why suffer Employment/Licensing loss? Travel/Business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon, US Entry Waiver, Record Purge, File Destruction. Free Consultation 1-800-347-2540.

**EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION**

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

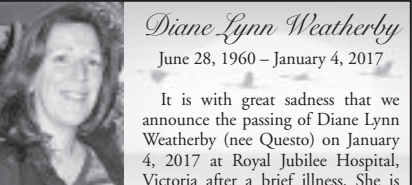
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**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

**F/T SAW FILER**

Required for central Vancouver Island sawmill. Should have good knowledge of benching and fitting band saws. **Benefits and Wages are Negotiable.** Please email resume: [terry@errced.com](mailto:terry@errced.com)



*Diane Lynn Weatherby*

June 28, 1960 – January 4, 2017

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Diane Lynn Weatherby (nee Questo) on January 4, 2017 at Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria after a brief illness. She is survived by sons Eric and Thomas Weatherby; brothers Warren (Maureen), David (Silk), and Larry Questo; niece Heather Metz (Jeff); and grand nephews Jonathan and Michael Metz. Diane is predeceased by her aunt June Mello (2004); father Fred Questo (2006); and mother Jean Questo (2016).

Diane was born in Lodi, California and raised on the family ranch in Wallace, a foothills town named for her maternal great grandfather. She graduated with a BFA from University of the Pacific in Stockton, and immigrated to Canada with her husband Steve in 1983, settling on Salt Spring Island near her brother David and sister-in-law Silk.

Diane was a gifted graphic designer and brought her creative talents to every aspect of life. She was an award-winning art director for 14 years at Silk's Victoria agency, The Malahat Group. Among her many credits was the visual identity program for the 1994 Commonwealth Games.

She later established her own successful practice, Diane Weatherby Design, on Salt Spring Island after the birth of sons Eric (1996) and Thomas (1998). As a single mom after she and Steve separated in 1999, Diane devoted much of her boundless energy to family, making a happy and supportive home for her growing boys.

A basketball lover since her high school days, Diane became well known on Salt Spring as a popular and enthusiastic basketball coach who led her teams to many victories. Basketball was a family affair for the Weatherbys. Diane loved her teams and they loved her back. She was especially proud of her athletically talented sons.

Diane will be dearly missed by her devoted family and many friends. She was a force of nature who touched many lives, and we are so grateful to have known her, laughed with her, and loved her.

The family would like to thank Diane's caregivers, doctors and the medical team at Royal Jubilee, who worked hard, and with great compassion, in an effort to bring her back to health.

A private service for immediate family is to be held on Salt Spring Island. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. For more information, please visit the H.W. Wallace website (<http://www.hwwallacecbc.com/obituaries/>).

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honour Diane may make a memorial donation to the BC Cancer Foundation (<http://bcancerfoundation.com>), or the charity of their choice.

**EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION**

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

**MECHANICAL TRANSCRIPTION!** In-demand career! Employers have work-at-home positions available. Get online training you need from an employer-trusted program. Visit: [CareerStep.ca/MT](http://CareerStep.ca/MT) or 1-855-768-3362 to start training for your work-at-home career today!

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**EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION**

**HELP WANTED**

**Permanent, Part-time Custodial Position at SSI United Church**  
Starting Feb 6, 2017, 6 hrs/week, salary negotiable.  
To apply send resume to: [general@saltspringunitedchurch.org](mailto:general@saltspringunitedchurch.org) by January 25, 2017

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**GET BACK ON TRACK!** Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420 [www.pioneerwest.com](http://www.pioneerwest.com)

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We'll help you get a fresh start!

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**CALL BOB'S Computer Service** for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 250-537-2827 or cell 250-538-7017. Please back-up your important data now!

**CONCRETE & PLACING**

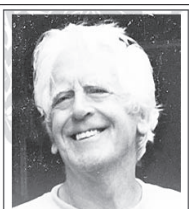
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Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.  
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**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**    **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**IN MEMORIAM**



**IN MEMORY OF JOHN MILLS**

Professor emeritus, novelist, literary critic, pilgrim, lover of life and literature, loving husband, step-father, "Grandog" and friend. Blessed by this community.

Born: Battersea, June 23, 1930  
Died happily here: Jan 16, 2016

**INFORMATION**

**Salt Spring Hospice**  
*Your hospice - Supporting individuals, families, and this community through end of life and loss*  
250-537-2770  
[saltspringhospice.org](http://saltspringhospice.org)

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COMING EVENTS**

**DCP Designs DESIGNER HATS Inventory Sale**  
Wed and Thurs  
10 - 4 through January  
Suite 204, Upper Ganges Centre (above Dagwoods)



# DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 9:30 AM

classified@driftwoodgimedia.com

- COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- RENTALS
- EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION
- EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

**THE HARBOUR AUTHORITY  
OF SALT SPRING ISLAND'S (HASSI)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

INVITES THE PUBLIC TO AN  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**JANUARY 28, 2017**

AT THE LIONS HALL  
2 TO 4 O'CLOCK

MEET WITH HASSI DIRECTORS  
AND SEE OUR INITIATIVES  
AND FUTURE PLANS

SNACK AND BEVERAGES  
WILL BE PROVIDED

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HOSTING YOU

**The Alzheimer Society of BC**  
*presents*  
**UNDERSTANDING  
DEMENTIA**  
*followed by*  
A question & answer session  
Speaker:  
Staci Hunter Noble MA (Social Work)  
Support & Education Co-ordinator  
at  
**Salt Spring Seniors' Society**  
**379 Lower Ganges Road**  
**1-4pm Wed, Jan. 25, 2017**

Participants will receive basic information on dementia and the impact it has on the individual, caregivers, families and the community. There will be an overview of the progression of Alzheimer's Disease. An extended question and answer period will be included as requested in previous sessions.

**No Charge**  
**For info: Marg Monro**  
**250-537-5004**

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STORAGE

**EMPLOYEE REQUIRED**

Eagle Ridge Clinic is looking for an additional Medical Office Assistant. Hours will start off as part time and may go to full time in the future. There will be a 3-month trial/training period.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Medical office training at a recognized college OR
- An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered
- Computer skills necessary; experience with a medical office computerized system, such as Med Access would be an asset
- Must have excellence communication skills, both in person and on the phone
- Must be able to work as part of a team
- CONFIDENTIALITY IS A MUST
- References needed

**PLEASE SEND RESUMES BY MAIL TO:**  
**258 Eagle Ridge Drive**  
**Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2L1**  
**Att: Office Manager**

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All Saints by the Sea, 110 Park Drive  
**OPEN HOUSE** Mon Jan 30, 6:30-8pm  
**BEGINNER CLASSES START**  
Thurs Feb 2, 10:30am - 12pm  
Mon Feb 6, 6:30pm - 8pm  
**Learn Tai Chi in 3 Days**  
Weekend Condensed Program  
**Fri Feb 10, 6 - 9pm Sat Feb 11, 12 - 5pm**  
**Sun Feb 12, 1 - 5pm** (Includes Sat Lunch)

**Register for 3-Day at taoist.org/victoria.bc**  
**Stephanie 250-537-1721**  
4 month package includes 3 Day and Beginner Classes till May 31, 2017

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

**THE LIBRARY  
IS OPEN LATE**  
Wednesday evenings  
5-7 PM on:  
• January 18, 25  
• February 1, 8, 15, 22  
• March 1, 8

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**SEE WEEKLY  
HOROSCOPE  
ON PAGE 12**

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STORAGE**  
250-537-4722

RENTALS

**Employment Opportunity:**  
**Position Title:**  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE  
SALT SPRING CONCERT BAND**

The Salt Spring Concert Band is looking for a Music Director for the 2017/18 season. The expectations of this position are directing and organizing weekly rehearsals, two formal concerts over the season and performances at community events.

The successful candidate will have experience and education in wind ensemble instrumentation and repertoire. Preference will be given to candidates with formal music education and conducting experience.

Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2017. Candidates should provide a cover letter and resume of pertinent or relevant experience.

**APPLICATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT:**  
**Rainbow Road Indoor Pool**  
**262 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring, B.C. V8K 2M3**  
**Attention: Jim Raddysch**

**OR BY EMAIL TO:**  
**jamesraddysch@gmail.com**  
**For additional information regarding this position contact Jim Raddysch at 250-538-8237**  
**Or by email: jamesraddysch@gmail.com**

**CRD** CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

**INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??**

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is looking to appoint a member at large from the Salt Spring Island community to participate on a Steering Committee for the Ganges Harbour Walk Project.

The overall mandate of the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee (GHWPC) is to oversee the project and make recommendations to the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC).

The current volunteer position is open to a Salt Spring Island Resident. The required commitment of service is anticipated to be from February 2017 to project completion.

Further information on the GHWPC terms of reference and project charter can be viewed on the CRD Website at the following location: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/ssi-parks>

Please submit your letter of interest and background information no later than January 31, 2017 to:

**CRD Electoral Area office**  
**145 Vesuvius Bay Road**  
**Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K3**  
**or by email to: saltspring@crd.bc.ca**  
**250.537.4448**

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

GARAGE SALES

**177 SUNEAGLE DRIVE.**  
Sunday, Jan 29th, 10am - 3pm. HUGE Moving sale.

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AND FUTONS**

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100% Natural

Replacement foam for FR, Boats, Sofas, Chairs, Window Seats, etc.

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RENTALS

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

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# 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](mailto:dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com)



## BASKETBALL

# GISS hosts emotional Howe tourney

Weatherby tribute part of three-day event

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Twelve teams representing some of the region's best high school basketball programs continued the Nairn Howe tournament's 12-year tradition last week under the weight of the recent death of a volunteer coach.

Former senior boys basketball coach Diane Weatherby, 56, died in a Victoria hospital on Jan. 4 following a brief illness. Two players on this year's senior boys team played for Weatherby before she retired from coaching in 2016 and moved to Victoria.

Lyall Ruehlen, the principal of Gulf Islands Secondary School, led a small ceremony and a moment of silence to commemorate Weatherby's life and contribution to high school athletics as a coach and parent. Weatherby helped last year's GISS senior boys team reclaim the Nairn Howe championship title at the 2016 tournament.

On the court this year, Salt Spring's senior boys team couldn't recover from two tough losses on the opening day Thursday. After dropping their opening match 45-42 to



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

GISS senior boys basketball team confer during the 12th-annual Nairn Howe Memorial basketball tournament at GISS on Saturday. Six boys and six girls teams from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland participated.

Ladysmith and following up with a 68-37 loss to tournament champs Carihi from Campbell River, the Scorpions defeated the St. Michael's University School B team 53 to 41.

"It wasn't so successful for our teams winning stuff, but things went really well," said Tony Mason, coach of the senior boys team. "It's always a fun tournament, and many of the teams

come back every year."

Carihi's senior boys clinched the tournament's top spot with a 91-61 win over Highlands from Comox on Saturday afternoon.

In senior girls play, a G.P. Vanier team from Courtenay defeated Carihi in Saturday's final.

The senior girls Scorpions finished the tournament with a 0-3 record. Their tournament includ-

ed a close 44-40 loss to Carihi, a 44-21 defeat at the hands of North Surrey and a closely contested 27-25 decision against Maple Ridge Christian.

The tournament has been held each January since 2006 to honour the contribution of dedicated parent volunteer Nairn Howe, who died of cancer in December 2005 at only 48 years of age.

## WRESTLING

# Cougars nab medals in Chemainus

Team secures third-place ranking

BY SEAN MCINTYRE  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Wrestlers from Salt Spring got 2017 off on the right mark over the weekend during their first major tournament of the new year.

"We had a slow start to begin and some kids lost their matches but, by the afternoon, we started to turn things around and we managed to pick it up really well," said head coach Leon Esquivel. "Our tournament went really well."

This year's Cougar Invitational Tournament brought together teams from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland to compete in Chemainus on Saturday, Jan. 14.

Esquivel said the Salt Spring

team handled the larger-than-expected number of competitors and highly skilled opponents with composure.

"We're ready for the matches but never know how things are going to turn out," he said.

**"The kids are happy and the moves are working out the way they're supposed to."**

LEON ESQUIVEL  
Wrestling coach

Cyrus Andress, Sam Holmes, Cathy Villa-Gomez, Danny Villa-Gomez and Sarah Caldwell earned silver medals at the event. Rivers Zenonian, Eve Green and

William Rithaler brought back bronze medals. Maxwell Irwin placed fourth in his weight class and Victor Nahirny finished in fifth spot.

"The kids are happy and the moves are working out the way they're supposed to," Esquivel said. "You train and do your best and, when it does work, you continue again and the moves come more easily."

Salt Spring moved up the rankings from sixth to third place based on members' performances in Chemainus, Esquivel added.

"This is just the beginning. Hopefully everything goes in the same direction for the rest of the season," Esquivel said.

Youths of all abilities who want more information about the Salt Spring wrestling program can contact Esquivel at [cieloazul19distant@gmail.com](mailto:cieloazul19distant@gmail.com).

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Contact the Driftwood for more information  
**250 537 9933**

## Have you been forced to switch your medication?

BC PharmaCare has expanded its Reference Drug Program as of December 1, 2016, which means that if you use PharmaCare, your medicine might have been switched with a different product at the pharmacy.

Patients affected by this policy of medication substitution are those who take medication for **high blood pressure** (hypertension), **angina**, **gastroesophageal reflux disease** (GERD) or **heartburn**, **ulcers**, **high cholesterol**, or **arthritis**.

Has this policy caused you any issues, have you experienced any medical problems, new or increased costs, or other concerns (i.e., more trips to the doctor/hospital)?

**We need to hear from you...**

Our survey is open **January 9-28, 2017**  
from Monday to Saturday, 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM  
Call **604-800-8251** or **1-800-313-0737**  
<http://www.betterpharmacare.com/>

**BPC** Better Pharmacare Coalition