

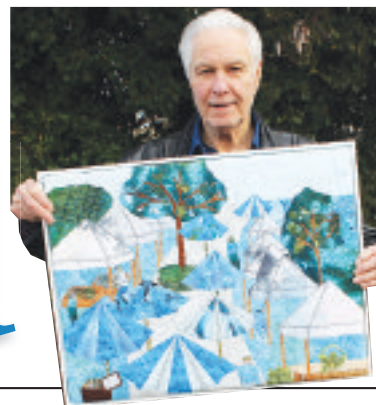


Kung Hay Fat Choy

Year of the Rooster in profile
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Quilted communities

CRD 50th anniversary project
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Driftwood

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 4 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

ACTIVISM

Women's march crowd hits 600

Salt Spring joins global day of action with silent walk

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Islanders were part of a global movement recognizing the importance of protecting women's rights on Saturday, with a crowd of 600 moving through the streets of Ganges in a local event supporting the Women's March on Washington.

Salt Spring marchers participated in a wave of pink that stretched across North America and around the world, with many protesters wearing knitted "pussy hats" to rebuke U.S. president Donald Trump for seemingly bragging about sexual assault.

Marilyn Guille organized a local knitters' group to make and distribute the hats on Salt Spring.

Explaining their significance at Saturday's rally, she said, "It's simply a sea of pink to show we stand together united, and to be part of a powerful visual statement."

"Pink is considered a very female colour, representing caring, compassion and love, all qualities that have been derided as weak but are actually strong," she continued. "Wearing pink together is a powerful statement that we are unapologetically feminine, and we unapologetically stand for women's rights."

Though motivated by the governance changes that predict a clamping down on women's, LGBT and civil rights in the United States, Saturday's overall message was a positive one based on unity.

"This is not an anti-Trump rally, in my opinion," said Nomi Lyonns, who coordinated the event with Sharyn Carroll and Kim Tebbutt.

"This is an honouring and a celebration of the divine feminine in all of us."

Lyonns noted we all have a little "D.T." or fear deep inside us, but asked participants to focus on what they wanted to see in the world rather than what they didn't for the walk ahead.

The most recent estimates are that 3.3 million people attended marches held in cities across the United States, while some 100,000 Canadians showed solidarity in sister events.

MARCH continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Kaya Reiss, left, and Kate Leslie get into the spirit of Saturday's Women's March in support of the Women's March on Washington. For more photos from the Jan. 21 event, see page 9 and the Driftwood's Facebook page.

GANGES

CRD gets Manson Road control

Outdoor Tree House Café seating still at risk

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of the public will potentially have more say and more insight into decisions governing the use of Manson Road following a successful bid by the Capital Regional District to take over its jurisdiction, but an ongoing battle to locate outdoor café seating there is not yet fully resolved.

The CRD announced Friday the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure had granted the local government body a five-year licence of occupation for the small stretch of laneway located beside the Tree House Café, effective immediately.

The agreement grants to the CRD the maintenance of the lands for public use, ensures a pedestrian corridor to the boardwalk and gives the CRD the ability to enter into leases with the adjacent business owners to support continued use as an outdoor restaurant seating on the lands.

"I think it's a positive step," said Tree House Café owner Mark LeCorre. "If the CRD says it's not a roadway and cars can't go through that section, I think that's positive as well."

MANSON ROAD continued on 2

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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

PROUD TO SERVE: Salt Spring Fire Protection District's newly replenished board of trustees meet with Fire Chief Arjuna George, centre, at the Ganges fire hall Thursday after elections officer Tony Kennedy announced the terms for the four new trustees. The new board, from left, is Howard Holzapfel, Chris Budd, chair Mitch Forest, Per Svendsen, MaryLynn Hetherington and Howard Baker. Terms as picked out of a hat for the new trustees run to April 2017 for Hetherington, April 2018 for Holzapfel and Svendsen and April 2019 for Budd. The first public meeting of the new board is expected to be on Monday, Feb. 20.

CRD promises community input into Manson Road use

MANSON ROAD

continued from 1

The roadway was previously licensed to the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island as part of its small craft harbour operations and to provide access to Kanaka Dock. HASSI maintains rights to the section located between the wharf head and the MoTI right-of-way, which is infilled land owned by the provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and leased to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

A CRD news release says the ministry's decision was important because it recognizes a strong community desire to have Manson Road under local government control with elected representation and an open and transparent governance model.

"With our strong relationships with the MoTI and the Islands Trust it will make planning and operational matters involving that portion of the roadway easier to facilitate, as well as being more flexible in options both for the public and local business," the statement adds.

The area has been a point of contention ever since 2014, when the Harbour Authority ordered the Tree House owners to immediately cease the unlawful sale of liquor outside and to remove all outdoor seating the following year. Community opposition to the café's reduced ability to host outdoor music included a petition signed by more than 2,500 people in 2015 and weekly Monday night protests held over the summer of 2016. The Tree House was closed to business on some nights as a result of

the restrictions.

LeCorre signed a temporary agreement with HASSI last August that allows the Tree House to serve food and drinks on a gravelled part of Manson Road until April 30, 2018. The agreement also ensures public access to Kanaka Dock, particularly in emergency situations.

LeCorre said the changeover to CRD authority may not actually impact his business much because he had already located tables on the MoTI portion of Manson Road with the ministry's okay. He will now have to negotiate with the CRD for the same right.

The triangle of infilled land stretching from the boardwalk to the café remains the main issue.

"I have some certainty for one season, but beyond that, not," LeCorre said. "This doesn't really change anything for the short term."

Harbour authority chair Kathy Scarfo said she had not seen the new licence of occupation or spoken to the DFO about the matter as of Monday. She could not comment on the change at that time except to say access to the public dock for pedestrians and vehicles, operational requirements and public safety are the top concerns.

Scarfo is still hoping to have a process defined for decision making in the laneway area.

"We do have an agreement with the Tree House until next year, and that was to give time for that discussion to take place," she said.

The CRD had previously raised the idea of obtaining a licence of occupation for the DFO-controlled portion as well as the Ministry of Transportation land. It's not clear whether this will be pursued going forward.

"We're looking at our options," Salt Spring's senior CRD manager Karla Campbell said Friday.

The CRD has meanwhile said it plans to include wide community input into Manson Road governance.

"It is our intention to work with local businesses such as Mouat's and the Tree House as well as the Islands Trust and the Salt Spring public to get input on any changes they would like to see. We will also engage HASSI so we understand and address their needs," the press release states.

"I have some certainty for one season, but beyond that, not. This doesn't really change anything for the short term."

MARK LECORRE
Tree House Café

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March featured music and speakers

MARCH

continued from 1

According to organizers, there were 15,000 marchers in Vancouver, as well as 60,000 in Toronto, 8,000 in Ottawa, 8,000 to 10,000 in Montreal and 5,000 in Edmonton.

Marches also took place in Vancouver Island cities like Victoria, Nanaimo, Courtenay and smaller communities such as Gabriola and Pender islands.

Salt Spring's rally outside the library was opened by Jo Logan and soon overflowed the allotted portion of the McPhillips Avenue roadway. In addition to speeches by Guille and the three organizers, MLA Gary Holman added his support and called for Canadians to take responsibility through voting.

Youth poet Taryn Muldoon performed a piece written especially for the march, proclaiming "Hell yes, I'm a feminist" at one point in the composition.

Music by Safiya Carroll-

Labelle, Dion Hackett and the Sunshine Song Sisters added to the sense of solidarity before the crowd moved out into the streets, following the same route as the annual Pride parade. Unlike most protests, and apparently unique to Salt Spring that day, was the fact that marchers were asked to stay completely quiet while they walked. The "empowered silent witnesses" were led by Carroll-Labelle's single violin.

"This is what we're doing all over the world today. We are showing up and showing love always conquers."

KIM TEBBUTT
March co-organizer

"This is what we're doing all over the world today. We are showing up and showing

love always conquers," said Tebbutt, who introduced the empowered silent witness concept.

The march ended with the crowd singing Imagine by John Lennon and a few concluding words by the organizers. Andrea Palframan had the crowd sign off by repeating the slogan "resistance is fertile."

The greater-than-expected success of Saturday's events has led to a promise of more activity from the organizers of the original march, with a new campaign called "10 Actions for the first 100 Days." Canadian organizers are following suit and want citizens to write a letter to the nation's five federal party leaders to ask them to make women's issues a priority in their agendas.

More photos of Saturday's march by Driftwood photographer Jen MacLellan and other contributors can be found on the Driftwood's Facebook page — www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood — where a video clip is also posted.

NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Library Late Nights

SS Public Library is open on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. until March 8th.

AGRICULTURE

FLNRO staff prep farmers on groundwater licensing

Application fee waived until Dec. 31

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Senior staff with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations found a capacity crowd waiting for them at the Farmers' Institute meeting room last Wednesday for an information session on new groundwater licensing requirements.

The Water Sustainability Act, which went into effect Feb. 29, 2016, requires anyone using a well for non-domestic purposes to apply for water rights and pay an annual rental fee, similar to how surface water rights are governed.

Speaking at the information session for agricultural users sponsored by the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority, Pat Lapcevic, FLNRO's water protection head for the region, said the new legislation has two main goals in addition to protecting the public from infrastructure like dams.

"One is it establishes the rules and procedures for the fair allocation of water," she said, noting surface water and groundwater are all part of one system. Another major goal is to protect water resources for the future. "It's ensuring the decisions being made today have some lasting effect and consider climate change and consider the long-term impact of using water."

Domestic users, who are generally defined as single home/single family, are exempt from the groundwater licence provisions, along with their gardens, pets and personal poultry. The licence applies to anyone who uses well water in the way they make an income — including farm stands, churches, community halls, vacation properties and home businesses such as ceramic studios. But also included is the domestic irrigation of anything larger than one-quarter acre (1,000 square metres) in size, such as personal orchards or extensive gardens and lawns, any number of livestock, and storage ponds that are filled up using well water. (Ponds filled entirely by rainwater are exempt.)

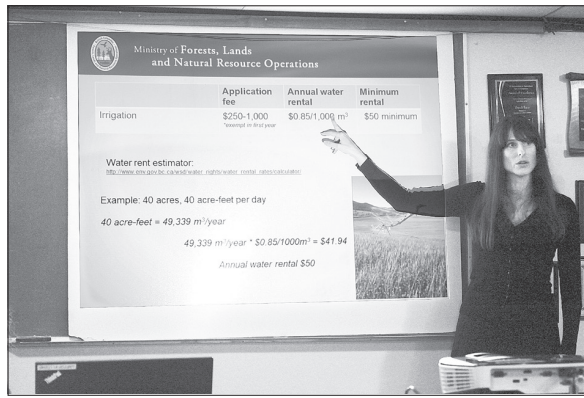


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

FLNRO senior authorizations specialist Faye Hirshfield explains the groundwater licensing application procedure during a packed meeting last Wednesday.

FLNRO senior authorizations specialist Faye Hirshfield walked the audience through a complex application procedure, which must be done online. She explained that as a brand new process that involves the not-to-be-taken-lightly granting of statutory rights, the ministry is trying for a six-month turn-around time. During that period, applicants can expect to hear from several different people calling for more information.

"Every water licence is different, every situation is different. There is no rubber stamp, one size fits all," Hirshfield said.

In British Columbia, water rights are attached to the land and go with a property when it's sold, instead of belonging to a person. Licensing is based on the principle of "First in Time, First in Rights," meaning the oldest continuing use of groundwater will be given priority in the event of a shortage. A well that was dug in 1960, for example, will have priority over one built in 1995.

Perhaps due to the public controversy around the negligible rental rates charged to commercial water bottlers like Nestle, the new legislation bases annual rental fees on types of use first, with low rates for agriculture, greenhouse and kennels, and higher rates for things like water bottling, ice- and

snow-making and vacation accommodations.

The ministry expects around 80 per cent of non-domestic users will qualify for the minimum annual rental fee. One hypothetical example that Hirshfield gave was irrigation of a 40-acre crop field at the extremely improbable rate of one foot per acre per day. The cost at the calculated rate would come out at \$42, so this person would pay the \$50 minimum.

Most local farmers would use nowhere near this amount of water, and irrigation would normally be calculated for an 180-day growing season, but the minimum fee would still apply.

One of the most difficult parts for applicants is calculating how much water they use, Hirshfield said. For those who are farming crops or animals, there is a provincial calculator tool available online that allows users to enter variables such as size of property, types of irrigation, types of crops, the number of livestock and even whether cows are kept for dairy or meat purposes. Ministry staff and the applicant will then consult to see whether the result seems reasonable.

Hirshfield acknowledged that calculating water use might be especially difficult for farmers because crops and conditions

change all the time. Farms may alternate between using surface and groundwater sources, and often have multiple wells serving different purposes. She recommended talking to the technical staff to figure out averages.

"We need to find out what's going on with your property and how much water's coming out of the ground," Hirshfield said.

Proving historic usage may also be difficult, especially for those with older wells.

Well logs plus anything that shows how much water is used per year can be uploaded. This can include meter records, if available, or even photos of crops and historic newspaper clippings. If none of those are possible, a declaration from someone else, like a neighbour who can state what the property's been used for, can be submitted as a last resort.

"It's so important for us to get these calculations right because we don't know a lot about the groundwater," Hirshfield said.

Aside from technical questions about the requirements and exemptions, members of the public who attended the session were

most concerned about the fee schedule and why they should go to the trouble of applying.

"This is a new law, so it is the law," Lapcevic responded. "And so it becomes a personal decision, just like getting a building permit. You know, you want to extend your dock, you have a decision on whether to get a building permit or not. Well the law is, you have to get a building permit. But it's your personal decision whether you want to comply with the law, or not comply with the law."

Owners of existing wells that were in use before Feb. 29, 2016 have until Dec. 31 to apply for the licence without having to pay the one-time application fee, which is either \$250, \$500 or \$1,000. The annual rental fees will be backdated to the date the legislation took effect, so there is no financial advantage to waiting.

The application must be done online. People who don't have access to a computer can make an appointment to use one in the Service BC office at 343 Lower Ganges Rd.

For more information and to estimate groundwater rental rates, visit www.frontcounterbc.ca/Start/water/.

Registering domestic wells encouraged

Domestic groundwater users are encouraged, though not required, to register their wells to protect their water rights and add to the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations' data on groundwater use throughout the province.

"The benefit from registering your well is even if you're exempt from needing a licence, you're not exempt from having a right," explained Pat Lapcevic, the ministry's water protection head for the region.

New wells are required to be registered by the driller, but the ministry believes there may be many older wells on Salt Spring that aren't in its database. Anyone who applies for a commercial groundwater licence has to demonstrate their operations won't impact existing wells — and if the ministry doesn't know about them it can't protect them.

"By registering your wells you're giving the decision maker the opportunity," Lapcevic said.

Concerns from landowners who attended a ministry session last Wednesday were that by giving the government that information, it will be used to tax domestic water users in the future. Lapcevic said she personally doesn't see that as a risk.

"In our database there's around 100,000 wells; 80,000 of them are private domestic. We're having hard time getting a handle on those 20,000 [needing licences] — I would doubt we'd ever go anywhere near those 80,000," she said.

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TRANSPORTATION

Transit pass sales and pricing changes recommended

Bus advertising considered

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission will recommend minor price decreases to its day passes and ticket books following a transit fare review exercise with BC Transit.

Commissioners received a report with expected losses and gains associated with fare decrease, increase and status quo scenarios at their November meeting, and revisited the topic for decision on Monday evening. Judging the potential for lost revenue in the event of a fare decrease and lost ridership with an increase, the commission decided to stick with the cash box fare of \$2.25 for the time being.

Nigel Denyer observed that transit ridership decreased in the past year, and looks to do so again this year.

"I'm very concerned about ridership going down in a period

in which we increased service," he said, adding Salt Spring's fare recovery rate far exceeds any other comparable transit system in the province.

"For that reason, we shouldn't increase any of our fares," Denyer concluded.

An effort to increase prepaid fares through day passes and books of tickets resulted in several recommendations, which must be approved both by the Capital Regional District Board and BC Transit. The commission will ask to reduce the day pass price from \$5 to \$4.50, and the ticket book price from \$20.25 to a flat \$20 to encourage more uptake.

The commission also discussed but decided against two additional scenarios regarding Saturday fares on the Fulford-Ganges route. Former commissioner Scott Simmons had suggested raising the one-way fare to \$5 because many of the users are tourists and local taxpayers subsidize Salt Spring transit fares. With no capability for standees the route is often overloaded, resulting in the need for extra

staff and vehicle resources. Locals would be encouraged to purchase tickets or passes to avoid paying the extra rate.

BC Transit projected that this move would increase revenue by four per cent and decrease ridership by three per cent.

Transit operator Ineke de Jong said she thought the idea was "absolutely not" a good one. She said drivers would have a hard time explaining why the fare suddenly doubled for that one day a week, for one thing.

Commissioner Rod Martens wondered how BC Transit had arrived at its calculations since that question wasn't included in the original fare review report, suggesting they plug numbers into a basic formula that doesn't consider other factors — such as the fact that tourists wishing to come to Salt Spring without their cars would likely take the bus even with a \$5 fare.

"If they're price sensitive, the bus is still the cheapest way to do it," he observed.

An opposite suggestion that

came through the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission aimed at increasing traffic to the Saturday Market in the Park was to look at offering free fares on the Fulford route on market days. This scenario was projected to decrease revenue by 12 per cent or nearly \$20,000 and increase ridership by three per cent.

Commissioners agreed this second idea would cause more problems with overloading, and that their job of providing public transit did not include driving traffic to the market.

The commission also voted to ask BC Transit to allow the sale of day passes on board buses. A major problem is that there is currently no vendor willing to sell passes in Fulford village, which is where most users would likely wish to purchase one after coming off the ferry.

De Jong said the plan would bring along some concerns, but she felt overall it was a good idea.

"All I know is we would need to keep the buses more secure than they are now, and that might be an issue for our drivers," she said,

adding, "Whatever extra work is involved with that, I guess so be it."

Commissioners decided not to adjust pricing on monthly passes for students and seniors, and also set aside the idea of a family rate for the time being, but will request more input from BC Transit.

In other business, the idea of permitting advertising on transit property was discussed. Commissioners generally agreed that ads on bus shelters and on the outside panels of buses were not appealing, but had some interest in ads inside the bus, especially if they could be limited to local businesses. SSITC will request more information from BC Transit on how its program works.

- The commission also welcomed new member Shellie Barrett, who has a unique perspective as a visually impaired person who frequently rides the bus between the Fulford valley and Ganges. Barrett said she had taken 98 bus rides in 2008 and was up to 295 rides in 2016.

Bill Cote has also joined the SSITC but was away for Monday's meeting.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Islands Trust invites feedback on 2017-18 budget plan

Surplus funds used for bulk of increase

Islands Trust Council has proposed a \$7.7-million budget for the coming fiscal year and is inviting the public to comment on it.

While proposed spending is up by 5.3 per cent, or \$388,000, the money will be taken

from surplus funds and grant revenue rather than increasing the tax requisition. The exception is on Bowen Island, where property owners will pay \$30,000 more for Trust services this year. Bowen Island Municipality's contribution is determined by a provincially legislated formula.

"The proposed increase in expenses will enable the Islands Trust to maintain

core functions, as well as fund short-term projects identified in the Trust Council's 2014-2018 Strategic Plan," explains a press release. "Trust Council is also proposing a one-year temporary freshwater specialist position in its 2017-2018 budget to help respond to increasing concerns about the quality and quantity of freshwater and to help Trust Council better understand and

collaborate on these issues."

Public comments are invited on the budget proposal until Feb. 10. A survey is also available at www.islandstrust.bc.ca/budget. Results will go to the Trust's financial planning committee, which will make its budget recommendations to Trust Council. The budget will be passed at council's quarterly meeting set for Gabriola Island on March 14-16.

GRANTS

Sesquicentennial grants available

Projects to celebrate
Canada's 150th birthday

SUBMITTED BY SSI FOUNDATION

Canada's having a birthday, and the Salt Spring Island Foundation is helping islanders to celebrate through a special initiative.

The foundation is participating in the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, which provides small grants to support a wide range of sesquicentennial projects across the country.

A collaboration for Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation, the fund is bringing people and places together to build community and activate a groundswell of local initiatives, activities and events. The fund is led by Community Foundations of Canada and the national network of community foundations with support from the Government of Canada and leaders across the country.



to encourage participation in community activities and events to mark Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation; inspire a deeper understanding about the people, places and events that shape our country and our communities; and build vibrant and healthy communities with the broadest possible engagement of all our citizens.

"The Canada 150 grants will be given in addition to our usual foundation grants, so they provide some extra support for special projects to celebrate Canada's 150th and what it means to Salt Spring," says Kees Ruurs, board chair of the Salt Spring Island Foundation.

Full information on eligibility and procedures for applying for a grant from the Community Fund for Canada's 150th may be found at ssifoundation.ca, or call the foundation at 250-537-8305. Applications will be accepted from Feb. 1 to March 15.

"Canada's 150th is an historic moment with the power to strengthen our communities and our connection to one another. Through the leadership of participating community foundations, the Community Fund for Canada's 150th will spark thousands of initiatives and activities that bring out the best that Canada has to offer," said Ian Bird, president of Community Foundations of Canada.





Eligible projects will work toward the fund's objectives

We'd like your feedback on the 2017-2018 budget proposal

You can find it online at islandstrust.bc.ca/budget or request a printed copy by calling us at 250-405-5151.

Your comments will help the Islands Trust Council set its 2017-2018 budget at the public meeting on Gabriola Island, March 14-16.

Please send your comments by **February 10th** in the following ways:

-  Take our survey at islandstrust.bc.ca/budget
-  200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8
-  budget@islandstrust.bc.ca
-  Fax: 250-405-5155



Islands Trust

The Islands Trust preserves the communities, culture and environment of islands in the Salish Sea. Learn more about what we do at islandstrust.bc.ca.

FEDERAL POLITICS

MP urges public to demand federal electoral reform

Climate change, pipeline stances disappoint

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May has been on a town-hall circuit in her riding this month, with the seventh of nine sessions held at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Monday night.

May brought about 75 constituents up to speed on her activities since the last town-hall meeting in September.

Much of her time has been consumed with working on the House

of Commons Special Committee on Electoral Reform, with the group's report and recommendations submitted to the House on Dec. 1, 2016. Among its recommendations is that a referendum be held on whether or not Canadians wanted to change from the current "first past the post" electoral system.

"We do need to have a new voting system in legislation tabled in Parliament this spring or we won't make the deadline Elections Canada has given us," she said.

May elaborated on her negative experiences with FPTP, where she was shunned for attempts to cooperate with the NDP and Liberals.



ELIZABETH
MAY

stant nastiness."

She said it is important for Canadians to continue pressing the federal government about their desire to see proportional representation used in the next election as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau promised would

"If we get past FPTP, we can have people be able to commend and congratulate and show respect to people in other parties and to their ideas," she said. "FPTP creates this

be the case when he was elected in October of 2015.

On the climate change topic, May was critical of the Liberal government's decision to maintain the same greenhouse gas emissions reduction target set by the previous Conservative regime, which is 30 per cent reductions below 2005 levels by 2030. "That's among the weakest targets of any industrialized country," she said.

It is also "inconsistent and incompatible with what we signed on to in Paris [at the COP21 conference in October of 2016]," she said.

Government approval of the Petros LNG project in northern B.C. and

the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion project was also dismaying, she said.

"The objection I have to any pipeline... is what is in the pipeline," she said, describing how no one knows how to clean up bitumen and the toxic diluent that allows it to flow through the pipes.

On the positive side of government work, May reported on progress with the derelict vessels issue, which is a major local concern, and bills that are undoing some legislation passed by the previous Conservative government, including Bill C-33, which will repeal most of what was in the controversial Fair Elections Act.

The North Salt Spring Waterworks

flowing fresh and clean

NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT - 2017 UPDATE

North Salt Spring Waterworks District is looking forward to another busy year despite the uncertainty that comes with a possible governance change on Salt Spring Island. As the largest water purveyor on Salt Spring, NSSWD expects to play an integral role in any changes that occur.

New St. Mary Treatment Plant Moving Forward

After several unavoidable delays, the long-awaited water treatment plant for St Mary Lake will go to tender in February 2017 with an expected completion date of late December 2017 to January 2018. When the plant becomes operational, ratepayers can expect a noticeable improvement in water quality. In addition, the updated technology and multi-barrier design of the plant will also protect public health more effectively.

Key Water Studies Underway

Other projects currently underway in 2017 include an update to the 2014 *St. Mary Lake Watershed Water Availability and Demand - Climate Change Assessment* report and an *Environmental Flow Needs Study* for Duck Creek. These reports will inform the storage license application to raise the Duck Creek weir and provide support for both operational and strategic decision-making at the District. The additional storage created is expected to be sufficient to serve the remaining undeveloped properties on the District's tax roll and provide a level of security in the case of drought. Additional environmental monitoring equipment will also be installed in the Maxwell Lake watershed to better quantify the available water supply. This improved data will be critical for updating the *Maxwell Lake, Rippon Creek and Larmour Creek Watersheds Water Availability - Climate Change Assessment* report in 2018. Our ongoing efforts to protect this vital watershed will also continue and we greatly appreciate those islanders who respect this watershed.

Moratorium on Additional Demand Continues

Relaxing the District's service moratorium for ratepayers last year resulted in 41 new connections being added to the district, while there are still over 200 ratepayers entitled to connect when they're ready. Therefore, the moratorium on "increases to demand" within the District remains in effect and there is a long and growing waiting list of community and individual projects that would like service if water is ever available.

While the moratorium continues to be somewhat controversial, whether you agree or disagree, rest assured it is not a political decision but rather, it is based on scientific evidence, sound resource management practices, and an awareness that the District is obligated to act in the best interests of all existing ratepayers.

Conservation Proving Effective

Conservation measures implemented by the District including watering restrictions and permits, a conservation-oriented pricing structure, and a proactive public awareness campaign have been effective over the past two summers. During the summer droughts of 2015 and 2016, the District reduced consumption by 27% and 23% respectively, which almost met the provincial target of a 30% reduction during a Level 3 Drought. However, continued demands for service and competing priorities continue to stress this limited resource. At times, the Board of Trustees must make difficult decisions when balancing domestic, agricultural, institutional, tourism and fire protection needs, all while meeting the many regulatory requirements for public health, safety and the environment.

The District is also looking forward to working with the other St. Mary Lake water licensees to address overall conservation of this integral island resource for current and future generations.

Access to Grants Remains an Issue

As an Improvement District, NSSWD is not currently eligible for funding from senior (provincial and federal) government grants. In other communities that are incorporated as municipalities, waterworks departments can often expect to receive two-thirds of the funding for capital infrastructure projects in the form of those grants; however, NSSWD must cover the entire cost through taxes, tolls and other fees paid by ratepayers.

Declining revenue due to conservation and the continuing need to upgrade infrastructure prompted the District to review all available revenue streams. This year will see the implementation of a more equitable parcel tax assessment system, which has allowed us to gather taxes from a broader base of categories while not raising the residential base rates. Should the upcoming incorporation vote fail, the District will continue to pursue discussions with the Capital Regional District (CRD) with the intent of potentially becoming a CRD service area in order to gain access to grants.

NSSWD staff and trustees welcome these challenges, and have actively moved forward in answering a number of critical questions. In the coming months and years, regardless of the island governance structure, NSSWD will be part of the conversation. The Board and staff have handled many challenges over the past several years and the experience and knowledge gained provides us with the confidence to manage our precious resource successfully for our ratepayers in 2017 and beyond.

Marshall J. Heinekey,
Chair, Board of Trustees

www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

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

EDITORIAL

More work ahead

Salt Spring Island was among 673 communities worldwide supporting the Women's March on Washington on Saturday.

With a crowd tallied at 600, it was the largest local rally since Feb. 15, 2003, when close to 1,000 islanders marched to protest the American invasion of Iraq. An estimated one per cent of the U.S. population also hit the streets. Not surprisingly, U.S. President Donald Trump dismissed media-reported march participation numbers and ridiculously boosted those of his own inauguration attendance.

One of the ironies of Trump's disdain for traditional media is that it blazed the way for his path to power, not only by keeping his name and outrageous utterances in the limelight. Media's job of holding politicians accountable by highlighting their mistakes and shortcomings rather than their successes has magnified the flaws of the profession. It contributes to a distrust of all politicians, and now, incredibly, the world's most powerful nation has a leader who was elected partly because he has no experience with the profession he entered into.

Even more troubling is Trump's blatant disregard for the truth. While every political faction will have its own spin on events, the existence of measurable facts is something we take for granted as guiding the democratic process.

Is democracy and its values as a governing system in trouble? It's not an unthinkable notion.

An essay titled *The Democratic Disconnect* by Robert Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk, published in the July 2016 edition of the *Journal of Democracy*, details how citizen support for democracy has been measurably declining in the western world. Foa and Mounk came to some disturbing conclusions after analyzing data from World Values Surveys undertaken between 1990 and 2014.

"Citizens of democracies are less and less content with their institutions; they are more and more willing to jettison institutions and norms that have traditionally been regarded as central components of democracy; and they are increasingly attracted to alternative regime forms," they state.

The strength of Saturday's women's marches around the world is heartening, but it's going to take far more work to restore some much-needed stability to the state of democracy itself.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

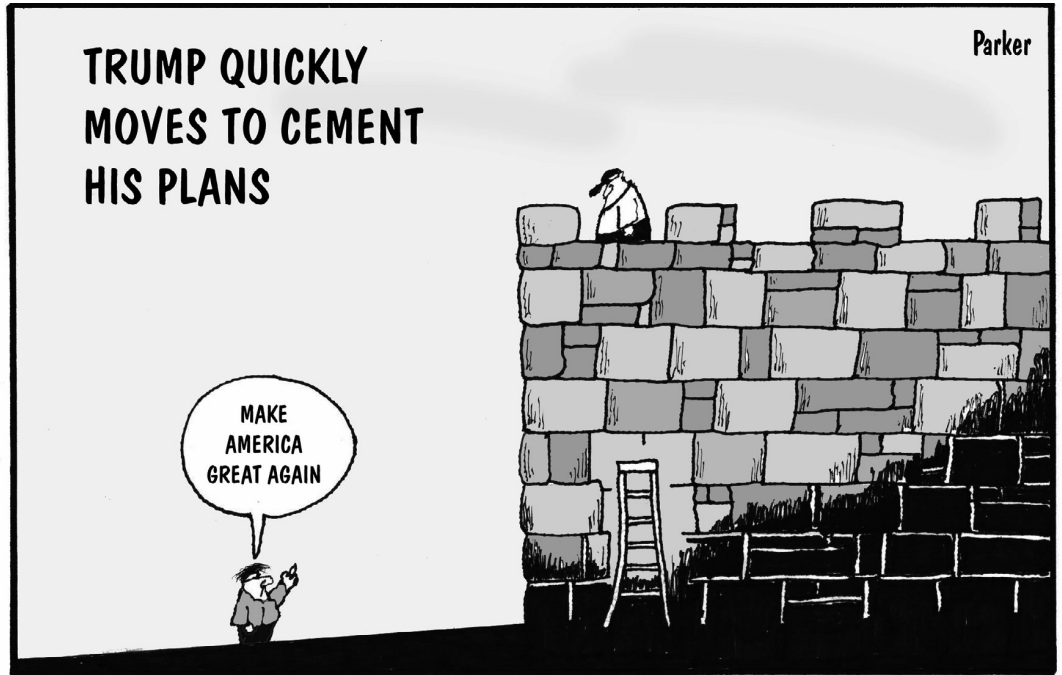
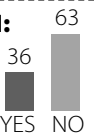
Is western democracy under threat?

Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you optimistic about the new fire board?



VIEWPOINT by Bob Weeden

World needs fire to birth a phoenix

Most of us develop abstract notions of pure good and pure evil. We never encounter them in real life. Instead, experience reveals a spectrum of human behaviour from best to worst. We live in the full and turbulent middle, where rights and wrongs of both situation and personal compulsion swirl in great confusion.

It can be a weird kind of relief when the mists lift to illuminate a clear choice. President Trump, the worst embodiment of human behaviour I've found in 60 years of alertness to politics, has brought that kind of relief. I thank him for defining the undesirable so vividly.

Two years of electioneering brought only an incredibly vague idea of his vision for the singular person, for America, or for the world. This vision — if he has one — necessarily will be revealed in an avalanche of executive acts and legislative proposals. I don't expect to like them.

I think they will unveil a drive toward a version of capitalism more radical, more heartless, more materialistic and more elevating of the competitive individual over the common good, than any of its founders imagined.

I think they will attempt to destroy every commons America still has, from the well meant but inadequate programs forcing the strong and lucky to help the less strong and luckless, to the one-third of the nation's land

— the public lands — still held for the public good.

I don't expect him to have his way very often. I do expect him to hurt, sometimes seriously, the international aid programs the U.S. has helped fund for decades. I expect the U.S. to be embarrassed more than once by his words and manner — which, taking America down a peg or two, isn't all bad.

It can be a weird kind of relief when the mists lift to illuminate a clear choice.

Anger and fear run high right now. There is a violent streak in U.S. politics. I pray that no one makes a martyr of President Trump. We need to see him and his ideology in operation, confronting real issues in a real way.

Let's say that four years of the Trump presidency will shine a light on the worst — and by contrast, the best — of what America is. What next?

Will we return to the old guard who lost, even knowing that they want to preside over a country with serious faults they helped create and perpetuate? Or will something new and more humane be born in American politics: something with heart, something more humble, something more conscious of our roots and home in Gaia? To birth a phoenix, you need a fire.

The writer is an American with 26 years on Salt Spring in retirement, reading and writing and keeping up a small farm.

Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "First past the post creates this elbows-out constant nastiness."

MP ELIZABETH MAY, ON ELECTORAL REFORM

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Why is it important to march for women's rights?



DONNA GARNER

I'm very concerned with what the U.S. government will do to the progress that's been made over the years, and it's important to show the world the majority supports rights for women and all minorities.



JULES RIETER

Because it's not just about women, it's all people, all beings — and how we treat our women is how we treat all beings. So it's important to be there and do something.



ERIKA VERLINDEN

I just want to be part of my community coming together for all the people coming together in the United States.



MILO STUART

One thing that stood out for me is the beauty and magic in uniting all over the world right now. We have this common thread and we're able to weave it together when we come out in numbers for people to see.



TAMMY MILLER

I think it's important to bring my daughter out and show her that everyone here is supporting women.

Letters to the editor

Ship capacity clarified

I'm writing to clarify the history on the Howe Sound Queen's differing vehicle capacity, referenced in a letter to the editor titled "Incredible shrinking ferry" on Jan. 18. The writer is correct that the capacity number has changed over the ship's life. The changes arise from two sources; modifications that have consumed deck space and the increasing size of vehicles.

When the Howe Sound

Queen was first built in Quebec in 1964 it was referred to as an 80-car ferry, which was based on the deck configuration and average vehicle size at that time. Some years after acquiring the vessel, BC Ferries re-measured the deck area based on its standard unit of measure, referred to as an automobile equivalent unit (AEQ). At the time an AEQ was based on an average vehicle length of 5.28 metres (17.3 feet). The Howe Sound Queen was rated with a capacity of 70 AEQ using this measure.

Over the decades, BC Ferries has added on-deck waiting areas, washrooms and stairways in response to customer requests and regulatory requirements. These additions have taken up deck space, reducing the capacity of the vessel to something less than 70 AEQ. At the same time, the average size of a vehicle has increased.

BC Ferries has since re-measured all vessels with a modernized standard AEQ of 6.1 metres (20 feet) that reflects the current average size of vehicles and also

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

"Fleet" section under 'About BC Ferries' on bcferries.com.

MARK COLLINS,
VICE-PRESIDENT,
STRATEGIC PLANNING &
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT,
BC FERRIES

Kindness on the Bowen

Last Wednesday I was returning from Victoria on the 5 p.m. sailing of the Bowen Queen.

I could not manage to get up the stairs, so I sat on my walker near the stairs. It

was quite chilly.

A nice young man got out of his car and wrapped a warm coat around my shoulders. Then another young man opened his car door and invited me to sit in his car for the journey to Fulford.

I neglected to get the names of these gentlemen, but I would like to publicly thank them for their kindness. Thank you.

PAT O'NEILL,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Humour still flows despite Sèzary diagnosis

Enough already. Why does it have to be me all the time? It feels like I'm walking around with a bullseye target on my front and a "kick me" sign on my rear end.

To quote comedian and film director Woody Allen, "I don't want to achieve immortality through my work; I want to achieve immortality through not dying. I don't want to live on in the hearts of my countrymen; I want to live on in my apartment."

All I can say is "thank God for the Travel Assistance Program" as I have recently started my third face-off with cancer.

Ten years ago my family doctor discovered an enlarged prostate gland and further tests showed I had early stage prostate cancer.

The cancer was slow growing, so for the first few years I went about my usual business while getting the occasional blood test and annual biopsy. This was euphemistically called "watchful waiting." Since it's impossible to actually watch your prostate, I decided to do the waiting while in my La-Z-Boy chair, following one sports show after the other. About three years later, the PSA blood test results worsened and the biopsies showed a more aggressive form of cancer cells, perhaps influenced by all the high sticking and rough play I'd been exposed to.

At this point I made the decision to undergo radical prostatectomy surgery. The operation seemed to have been successful, although recuperation was difficult and there were more than a few after-effects that certainly impacted my quality of life. However, over time, my PSA count slowly but steadily started to rise again. It seemed that not all of the cancer cells had been removed by the surgery, and now the remaining ones were starting to multiply again, much like the rabbits in our

garden. Intervention, this time in the form of external beam radiation, was advised.

For six weeks, five days a week, I journeyed over to the Cancer Agency in Victoria to get my daily dose of radiation, which would have been more interesting had I turned green and developed some super-human qualities. Alas no, but for almost four years I have been clean of prostate cancer.

Thing is, this time around, I've got a cancer called cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL). This cancer happens when T-cell lymphocytes, white blood cells whose normal function is to fight infections, turn malignant and lodge in various parts of the body.

Initially, the type of CTCL the doctors thought I had was classified by the name of mycosis fungoides (and let me assure you that the "fun" part is grossly exaggerated), but just recently the diagnosis has been changed to Sèzary syndrome, an even rarer form of lymphoma. This type of lymphoma affects the skin and since the skin is our biggest organ, it's a head to toe experience!

How rare, you ask. The chances of coming down with Sèzary in North America is about one in 10 million. Compare that with the odds of winning the big prize in Lotto 649 if you buy a single ticket: 1 in 13 million. Considering I was born in the sixth month of the 49th year of the last century, you might say I had just won the jackpot in cancer's Blotto 649.

Here's the rub. For the past five years, I have been afflicted with a condition which has caused my outer layer of skin to go beet red and then slough off, leaving clouds of white dust to settle everywhere I go. If you didn't



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

know what I did for a living, you would guess I was a dry-waller. Added to that, I live with a constant and severe itching, which has been making daily life miserable. Every morning, I wake up feeling as if I had spent the night sleeping in a patch of poison ivy.

Over these years a number of dermatologists have hummed and hawed over me. I have had biopsies and lab tests and light therapy. I have been passed from specialist to specialist, with no one being able to definitively diagnose me.

The consensus was that I was suffering from a super bad case of psoriasis. Following these dermatologists' orders I slathered numerous prescriptions of salves, creams and ointments all over my body. I tried assorted potions and elixirs that were suggested to me by concerned friends. I soaked in bath water infused and permeated with substances ranging from Epsom salts and baking soda to oatmeal and tea tree oil. I went on cleansing diets, elimination diets, and especially cheating diets (meaning my resolve often wavered). I added so many supplements to my meals that there was no more room left on my plate for any real food.

Beyond conventional medical personnel, I made appointments with naturopaths, herbalists, traditional Chinese acupuncturists, integrative medicine practitioners and holistic healers. I injected myself with some cutting-edge pharmaceuticals that were supplied by drug multinationals at a cost that rivalled the gross national product of several Third World countries. (Luckily I was subsidized by my wife's extended health care plan.)

Not one of these treatments and interventions made a lick of difference. My physical torment continued to worsen. Every morning began a personal challenge for me to find some way to get to the end of the day.

Finally, at the urging of a close personal friend who happens to be a doctor of internal medicine in Vancouver, I was sent back for another group of biopsies and a specialized blood test called a blood flow cytometry.

Results? The good news is that I don't have psoriasis at all. No wonder none of the treatments worked. The down side of my medical condition is that, as of this date, Sèzary syndrome, which I do have, is incurable. And my debilitating symptoms continue.

So I ask myself now, "Why me again?" I don't want to be accused of whining or wallowing in self-pity and anyway, as rock and roller Jim Morrison of the Doors once said, "No one here gets out alive," but haven't I already had my fair share of this cancer business? Soon I'll be heading back to Victoria for chemotherapy and who knows what else.

But enough, already. This is supposed to be a humour column. Seriously, I've been searching for the funny part of this experience. The prognosis does not look good. No one knows what causes CTCL, and Sèzary is aggressive. I can expect somewhere between two to four years left on this planet and after that all bets are off.

The upside is, as a man who likes beating the odds, I'm hoping for more than another 50 or so "Nobody asked me, but ..." opinion pieces to inflict on you, dear reader. As Monty Python says, "When you're chewing life's gristle, don't grumble, give a whistle ..."

I plan to keep the humour flowing! But what do I know? Nobody ever asks me.

RANTS and Roses

Roses

Lovely scented roses to all the kind thoughtful, generous people who have helped make my

recuperation easier. Very much appreciated. Kathy

Many many roses to Paul for your thoughtfulness and kind-

ness in staving off another metabolic crisis. JD

A thorn-free rose to Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May, whose town-hall meetings are so informative for constituents.

Shelves of roses to Island Savings and First West Credit Union for their fundraising initiative

called The Full Cupboard, by which many of their members provide generous support to our local food bank.

PARC and the Salt Spring Public Library would like to send a whole park full of roses to Andrea Hollingsworth and the ELF Program for loaning us a copy of A Mountain Alphabet

for our StoryWalk. Thanks to you, the event was a huge success!

A big bunch of green roses to Julian Sale at Motorize, the EV store in Sidney, for providing a wonderful Nissan Leaf for the Shakespeare on the Islands tour.

Stop buying U.S. products

Saturday's women's marches around the world were a great success, and the turnout and tone of the Gangey march was particularly inspiring.

But we need to ask ourselves, "Now what?" Demonstrations make for good media theatre and participants feel good about having publicly demonstrated their opposition. But Donald Trump will be very happy if the only resistance to his "America first" policy is marches and demonstrations. By even the most optimistic estimates, marchers worldwide amounted to much less than one per cent of the U.S. population. Do you think this has the Donald the least bit concerned? I most certainly don't.

We hear much in the Canadian media about how important we Canadians are to the U.S., but I very much doubt the new president or any of his close advisers listen to the CBC or read our newspapers (the Driftwood being perhaps the exception). We need to demonstrate in real economic terms what it would mean to the U.S. if Canadians marched with their dollars as well as their feet.

Would it come to the president's attention if Canadians stopped spending their money in the U.S., and with U.S. retailers, and stopped buying products imported into Canada from the U.S.? Think about it: no "snowbirds" showing up in Hawaii, California, Arizona or Florida. No Canadians shopping at Starbucks, Home Depot, Costco, Staples, Walmart, or any of dozens of U.S. retailers in Canada. Now that would make headlines around the world, even in Washington.

For us, since the election, we've bought no California vegetables, no Florida citrus, no package containing the words "Product of USA." It hasn't always been easy. We spend a lot more time in stores reading the fine print to discover product origins. If thousands, dare we hope millions, of Canadian shoppers stopped buying U.S. products, our retailers would very quickly catch on and start stocking more Canadian-made products while "Made in the USA" goods remained unpurchased on the shelves.

That will not only send a message to President Trump but it will help our Canadian businesses and workers weather the storm from the fallout of the America first policy. We might even set an example for the rest of the world.

FRANZ SCHERUBL,
SALT SPRING

Much march gratitude

The co-organizers of the Salt Spring Women's March held Saturday would like to thank everyone for joining in this global and herstoric event for equality and peace.

Thank you to Karen Hudson and the library staff for giving us the space, the Raging Grannies for always being first on the scene, Sandra Leckie and Myna Lee Johnstone for traffic safety, the Driftwood and SS Exchange for sharing the event. And thank you to each and every human being who supports our mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts and grandmothers who came before and those who will come after us.

Deep gratitude to all those who offered their skills, talent and heartfelt energy in creating such a positively uplifting day: Jo Logan for the lovely opening blessing, Taryn Muldoon for the gorgeous poetry, Marilyn Guille for creating a circle of knitting women and gifting the pink hats, MLA Gary Holman for his dignified leadership and support, Safiya Carroll-Labelle for sweetly leading us all with her delicious violin wafting through the ether and sharing the stage with Dion Hackett, assuring us "We Shall Overcome."

Thank you, Andrea Palframan, for the deep Mother Earth connections, the soulful Sunshine Song Sis-

MORE LETTERS

the song Imagine.

Thank you to Gary McNutt, David Denning and Christopher Roy for documenting.

Thank you to all those who were not able to be part of the festivities but who stayed patient while we took up much space — 593 of us came through the meadow gate!

KIM TEBBUTT,
SHARYN CARROLL,
NOMI LYONNS,
SALT SPRING

P.S. Sharyn and Nomi would like to especially thank Kim Tebbutt for all the unconditional love and starting the ball rolling.

Foreign aid benefits all

As someone who advocates for official development assistance, I often hear protest about helping ours before helping others. What most don't seem to realize is that foreign aid pays huge net returns for Canada.

Our foreign assistance increases peace and political stability in poor nations. Desperate people are ripe for exploitation by extremists and it's a lot cheaper preventing extremism than fighting it.

Supporting health care in other countries slows the spread of increasingly drug-resistant diseases that know no borders. Recall that the worst epidemics in our history started in other nations, and there are strains of TB emerging that have no effective treatment.

Lastly, the battle against climate change is supported by Canada's foreign aid, as economic development can reverse desertification and deforestation, and encourage sustainability.

Underdevelopment, inequality, poverty, political instability, human rights violations and environmental degradation are all interconnected, and impact Canada in many subtle and not so subtle ways. Security, economic growth and trade, climate change and public health are impacted. This is well known and long researched, yet our aid commitment is far less than most developed nations. It's a long neglected government file that gets little thanks or public praise, and that needs to change.

When we take care of others in this interconnected world we take care of ourselves.

NATHANIEL POOLE,
VICTORIA

Politicians

You may see them in London, in Paris or Rome Or even in Madagascar — they're never at home. They show up on Wall Street or Brussels or Bonn They have speeches to make on how things can be done.

They zip to the West — vapour trails in the sky To attend party dinners, but don't ask them why. For that is a secret they'll have you to know For they're there to make promises with visions in tow.

In Basel or Dresden they can always be found Plans in their pockets and ears to the ground Hot on the trail of the old "do-re-me," To cover mistakes that the voters may see. They are praising the East when out in the West While back in the East they clasp West to their breast.

So the old razzle dazzle still goes 'round, By words or by promises they can never be bound. So we gaze on the vapour trails high in the sky And ponder the costs which we'll pay by-and-by.

JON VAN TAMELEN,
SALT SPRING



NOTICE GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE GL-TUP-2016.10 and GL-TUP-2016.13

NOTICE is hereby given that the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of Temporary Use Permits pursuant to Section 493 of the *Local Government Act*. The proposed permit would apply to the following properties:

- Lot A, District Lot 2, Galiano Island, Cowichan District, Plan 26354 (PID: 002-757-613) — **257 Active Pass Drive (GL-TUP-2016.10).**
- Lot 1, Section 4, Galiano Island, Cowichan District, Plan 22210 (PID: 003-348-369) — **2154 Sturdies Bay Road (GL-TUP-2016.13).**

The purpose of the temporary use permits would be to permit a "commercial vacation rental" in the main dwelling units on the subject properties. The establishment of the temporary use would be subject to a number of conditions specified in the permits. The permits would be issued for up to three years and the owner may apply to the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee to have it renewed once for up to an additional three years.

The general location of the subject property a) located at — **257 Active Pass Drive (GL-TUP-2016.10)**, is shown in the following sketch:



The general location of the subject property b) located at — **2154 Sturdies Bay Road (GL-TUP-2016.13)**, 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 23, 2017** and up to and including **February 3, 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 Galiano Island, B.C., commencing **January 23, 2017**.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Phil Testemale, A/ Planner 2 at (250) 405-5170, 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, before **4:30 p.m., February 3, 2017**. The Galiano Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the regular business meeting starting at **11:00 a.m., February 6, 2017**, at the South Community Hall, 141 Sturdies Bay Road, Galiano 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



WOMEN'S MARCH in Solidarity with Women's March on Washington



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

A captivated crowd on McPhillips Avenue between the library and Island Savings. Close to 600 participants were recorded at the event on Saturday. It was one of an estimated 673 similar marches held in 82 countries around the world, including McMurdo Research Station in Antarctica.

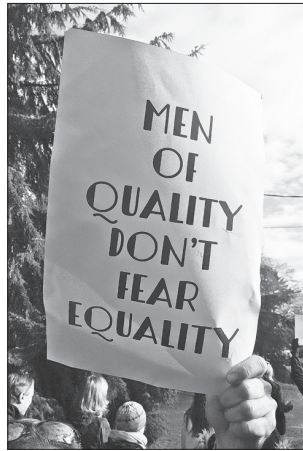


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

One of many signs seen at the rally.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Leading the crowd in singing Imagine are, from left, Kim Tebbutt, Nomi Lyonnys, Sharyn Carroll and Blair Francis.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Silent marchers walk along Jackson Avenue, led by violin player Safiya Carroll-Labelle, at right.

Options abound to help prevent lousy governance

BY CHRIS DIXON

When I lived in (incorporated) small-town Manitoba, a mayor and four councillors were the grit or the grease that confronted every new idea.

Each application ran the gauntlet of five relatively unsophisticated conservative men drawn from the business community.

An application's momentum in the council chamber would benefit from who you knew and what clubs you belonged to. So did your hopes of landing a maintenance contract for mowing or snow removal. There were rules in place to limit the length, scope and frequency of your presentation, but none to ensure a timely or intelligent response. I only go back for funerals.

Here on Salt Spring Island, our incorporation question behaves like a boomerang. If it is tossed out again in this next referendum, it will surely come back soon in new wrapping.

I remember a time here when our mayor and councillors had already chosen themselves, except that the vote went something like 70 per cent against incorporation.

A few years later a group called Islanders for Self Government made a huge fuss. I'm unclear whether their performance was truly about promoting incorporation or if they were merely Trust-bashing, but it was toxic

INDEPTH

behaviour in a small community.

Folks seem to be minding their manners this time around, though I sense the same pressure from the get-mores to have their way. That's always my first question: who wants this, and why?

It's been said we get the government that we deserve. The single most important concept I took home from an incorporation study meeting was offered during the Q&A portion of the event. Questions from the floor that started with "what if?" were all answered the same way: the success or failure of a municipal (or any) form of administration depends directly on the integrity of the people we elect.

Said another way, elect good stewards and enjoy the result; elect the other kind of people and prepare for heartbreak. It's a no-brainer.

Provided that we can attract good candidates, craft an environment free from mis- or disinformation and cultivate an engaged community that is willing to invest time and insight into selecting their representation, we'll make a good decision. Nothin' to it.

There are people on this island who have world-class skills and

broad experience. What can we offer them in return? There are others motivated by self-interest who are eager to make our community their commodity. They will have the larger advertising budget. Some individuals will be attracted to — yet by their nature be inappropriate for — positions of influence and authority over others.

One way we can make the job attractive to helpful people is to offer shorter terms of office. The current four-year terms for the Islands Trust and CRD director positions are a big commitment which can be a disincentive. A second advantage to a shorter term is the opportunity to remove an unsuitable individual

sooner rather than later.

We could agree to outlaw tag-team campaigns where two or more candidates run as a unit and presumably vote as a unit. We could resist imposed restrictions and deadlines and all manner of pressure to make hasty (read, compromised) decisions about what we do and how we do it.

While it will be very easy to vote for or against changing our form of government, it will require disciplined work by competent people if we actually hope to improve it. My preference would be local volunteers over paid outsiders.

Inevitably, stuff will cost more in the future. We can strive for value

for cost in every decision and still be blind-sided by unforeseen events and issues. Moving our costly decision-making process to the island makes sense, but filling a shiny new building with shiny new graduates paying off their student loans does not.

The argument that we should provide a one-stop drive-thru process for developers reflects the desires of just one very small segment of our population. Period.

Oh! And the next big cash-grab coming our way? Stormwater control. Watch for it.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.

Planning a Community Project for Canada's 150th?

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is seeking applications to the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a national small grants program that will support projects in our community related to Canada's sesquicentennial. For more details about the fund, eligibility and how to apply for grants, visit ssifoundation.ca or call 250.537.8305.

Applications accepted: February 1 to March 15, 2017



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CANADA
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Canada



arts&entertainment



CONCERT PREVIEW

Canadian Guitar Quartet promises exciting evening

Top ensemble playing on Monday night

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

For the Canadian Guitar Quartet performing at ArtSpring on Monday, Jan. 30, the title says it all: four young Canadian men playing guitars in a bewitching genre-melding style.

Julien Bisaillon, Renaud Côte-Giguère, Bruno Roussel and Louis Trépanier perform classical guitar in a unique ensemble arrangement more reminiscent of chamber music.

With a combination of original works and classic masterpieces, this French-Canadian group has toured extensively in Europe, North America and South America, performed with orchestras, and recorded four CDs to date: Portrait 1 (2001), Les Scenes de Quartiers (2004), Orchestral Works for Guitar Quartet (2011) and, most recently, Mappa Mundi in 2017.

The CGQ has been featured on a national Bravo! TV special, and on both



PHOTO COURTESY ARTSPRING

Promo photo for Canadian Guitar Quartet, the acclaimed Jan. 30 act at ArtSpring.

CBC's English and French national networks. The CGQ's New York debut on 92nd Street Y's Art of the Guitar series

was enthusiastically received with several standing ovations.

In fact, standing ovations are com-

mon fare for this dynamic young group, whose second CD, Les Scenes de Quartiers, was awarded Le Prix Trille Or for "instrumental album of the year" by the Association des Professionnels de la Chanson et de la Musique.

What the audience will see on Jan. 30 are four handsome young men, formally dressed in black, their chairs in a semi-circle, guitars in their laps, weaving out melodies they never would have imagined possible from these instruments.

Don't just take it from ArtSpring that this group is worth seeing. As Fanfare Magazine expresses it, "One cannot imagine better ensemble playing." The Guitar Foundation of America describes the group's playing as "Fabulous . . . highly energetic, precise and musically convincing."

Monday's show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the concert are available through ArtSpring, in person at the box office or online at www.artspring.ca.

The ArtSpring Presents series show is generously sponsored by Joan Farlinger and Mouat's Old Salty.

PRESENTED BY MARY WINSPEAR CENTRE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
2:00PM

JIMMY RANKIN

100 Jackson Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC
250-537-2102
www.artspring.ca

LIVE THEATRE

White Dogs play benefits library

Vaughn Fulford presents award-winning play

Islanders can enjoy some live theatre and a little wine while supporting the Salt Spring Public Library.

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the library will present The White Dogs of Texas, a one-person philosophical comedy that includes "music, science and a streak of mercy" and stars local musician and actor Vaughn Fulford.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., a wine and cheese reception takes place

at 7 p.m. and the one-act play will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Through monologue and music The White Dogs of Texas chronicles the emotional journey of the show's only character who has been rejected by his country music band.

The play, created by veteran Canadian actor Alan Williams, features the philosophical ramblings and country tunes sung by a character named Houston. Williams received the Pierre Trudeau prize for best one-person play for the show at the 1985 Toronto Fringe Festival.

Fulford has presented his rendition at different times throughout his career and said he has made this show his own.

In a Driftwood interview about his 2010 version of the play, he said, "I keep coming back to it because I enjoy it. It's fun to do and it's challenging to do — that's what makes it rewarding . . . It fulfills the job of a great play because it stimulates conversation and ideas."

As seating is limited, people should get their tickets at the library circulation desk as soon as possible.

The evening is a benefit for the library.

WRITING

Call goes out for short fiction entries

Regional contest offers prizes and prestige

One of the Salish Sea's premier literary events is back in 2017.

Now in its 12th year, the Islands Short Fiction Contest welcomes entries from writers on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands in three categories: adult (writers 19 and over), youth (writers 13 to 18), and junior (writers 12 and under).

The contest is co-sponsored by the Nanaimo Arts Council, the Vancouver Island Regional Library and the Vancouver Island University Department of Creative Writing and Journalism.

More than \$2,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded. "Last year's winners hailed from throughout the region," said Jennifer Seper of the VIRL. "And we packed the room for the awards presentation. We're glad to see

the contest has become an important part of literary life on the islands."

Adult category judge in 2017 is Governor General's Award-winner and VIU creative writing instructor Robert Hilles. Seper, along with Julie Carter, also a VIRL librarian, will judge the junior and youth categories. The winner of the youth category will be published in the anthology In Our Own Voice – 2017 from Rebel Mountain Press, and first, second and third-place stories in all categories will be published on the ISFC website.

The entry deadline is March 27. Entry forms are available at isfc.ca, at all Vancouver Island Regional Library branches and at the Nanaimo Arts Council, #120, 256 Wallace St., Nanaimo.

Winners will be announced in April.

For further information, email admin@isfc.ca or phone 250-729-3947. The winning entries from recent years can be read at isfc.ca.

SSNAP The Salt Spring National Art Prize

Call for Artist Submissions

January 12 - May 31, 2017

Juried exhibition on Salt Spring Island
September 22 - October 22, 2017

Winners presented at
Gala Awards Night: **October 21, 2017**

- open to two and three-dimensional art
- open to Canadians + permanent residents
- \$30,000 in prize money

Sponsored by

Details and entry form on website
www.saltspringartprize.ca

ART Life drawing day moves to Saturday

Long-running event open to all artists

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The meeting date for a long-running Salt Spring arts practice has shifted from Mondays to Saturdays, with a reminder that all artists are welcome to drop in to the weekly sessions.

They now take place on the third floor of the Core Inn on McPhillips Avenue every Saturday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The life drawing group was initiated in 1991 by Rosamunde Dupuy and the late Louise Woodward.

“Louise thought it should be easy to do on Salt Spring, where lots of people were happy to take their clothes off, so we just put the word out and it took off,” said Dupuy.

The group first met at Tassaday Farm on Sharp Road, but also found homes in individual artists’ studios and living rooms, the United Church basement and the archive room at the old Mary Hawkins Memorial Library before settling at the Core Inn.

Martin Herbert, who has participated for about 10 years, notes that the third floor of the historic building has great natural light.

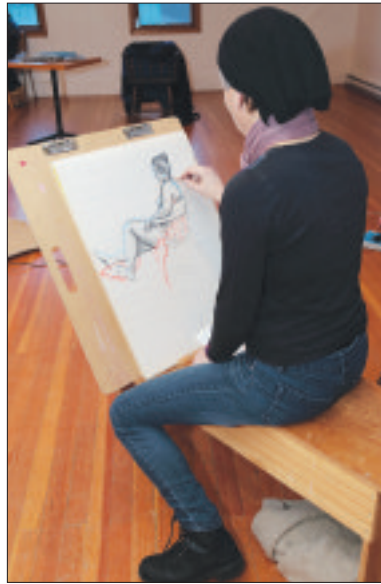


PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Model Aly Coy poses for artists at the first life drawing gathering held on a Saturday, while artist Olga Szkabarnicki sketches her.

It’s also rumoured to be a space that Emily Carr used as a studio at one time.

Herbert notes that the island is blessed with a great pool of models who work hard to make creative poses that challenge the artists to do good work.

“The level of concentration is astounding from both artists and models, the only sound being the scrape of charcoal on paper or the swish of a

quickly rinsed watercolour brush.”

Herbert said there is no instruction, no pressure and no expectations at the drawing group, and everyone is welcome. Sometimes high school students needing to top up their portfolio drop in, as do visiting artists.

“The format starts with quick sketches and advances to longer poses so over the two hours there

are 17 drawing chances.”

A nominal drop-in cost goes to pay the model and rent the space.

“For me, the two hours at the Core Inn and the three hours on Wednesday’s single-pose drawing hosted by the painters’ guild are work that I need to do to stay ‘tuned up,’” he said.

For more information, contact Herbert at 250-537-8493.

RECITAL Kaizenjammers trio kicks off series

Multiple styles presented by performers at next Tea à Tempo recital

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH

A fairly new Salt Spring trio called the Kaizenjammers is the first Tea à Tempo act of 2017 on Wednesday, Feb. 1 in All Saints By-the-Sea Church.

John Reid, Michael Aronoff and Warren Langley have been making music together for over two years, crossing musical styles all the time and shape-shifting them into their own.

Their “sound” is quite unique as well: a little bit country, a little bit folk, a little bit blues and a little bit jazz; and always a whole lot of fun.

Reid is on acoustic guitar, harmonica and a drum kit made from luggage and a toe shaker. Aronoff plays bass and occasionally the guitar and mandolin. Langley plays harmonica and theremin and sometimes both at once. All three musicians sing.

The name Kaizen comes from the Japanese word for “continuous



PHOTO COURTESY TEA A TEMPO


From left, Warren Langley, John Reid and Michael Aronoff are the Kaizenjammers.

improvement.”

Next Wednesday’s concert begins at 2:10 p.m.

Tea and treats provided by the Anglican Caterers may be purchased immediately following the concert.

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SHAKESPEARE 1600

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THE STANDARD BEARER

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Generously sponsored by Joan Farlinger and Moutat's Old Salty

250.537.2102 | artspring.ca Adults: \$28 Youth: \$5

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what's on this week



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.self-management.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.

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

Steelhead LNG Film and Discussion.

Showing of *Troubled Waters*, a 28-minute film by Gary McNutt, followed by discussion about the proposed LNG facility at Bamberton. SS Public Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

Songjam.

A pub-style singalong to the soundtrack of our lives. Moby's Pub beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Thur. Jan 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic With Dave & Ross. Every Thursday at Moby's Pub beginning at 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Nia. Every Thursday with Arleen Sadler at Antler Ridge Studio. 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Email to see if there is space: movingto-bealive@gmail.com



Library Book Club.

Meet other book lovers and have fun discussing an interesting read. This week the group will discuss a non-fiction book of your choice. Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

Green Drinks at Moby's.

Monthly social mixer for Transition Salt Spring that's open to everyone and held on the fourth Thursday of most months. Moby's Pub. 5 to 7 p.m.

Fri. Jan 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SS Concert Band: Colour Wheel. The Salt Spring Concert Band under Music Director Dawn Hage plays a celebration of music from Canada, Great Britain, Korea, Japan, Ireland, Russia, Norway and the U.S.A. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

County Line.

Live band at the Legion. 8 p.m.

Fri. Jan 27

ACTIVITIES

A Writer's Quartet. Readings by four Salt Spring authors: Eileen Wttewaall, Lottie Devindisch, Jim Warren and Pat Gould. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2 p.m.

Youth Costume Making Workshop.

One of three free sessions at the Salt Spring Island Public Library where new and experienced cosplayers can learn costume making techniques and work on a costume or prop of their choosing. Register in person at the library or by phone at 250-537-4666, or email info@saltspringlibrary.com. 3:30 p.m.

Argentine Tango Practica.

All are welcome to join the tango group, Por el Amor del Tango, at weekly practicas. Every Friday at the Core Inn, 3rd floor. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: ssi.tango@gmail.com.

Jukebox Fridays.

Friday night at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Sat. Jan 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shakespeare 1600 and The Standard Bearer.

Chris Humphreys explores why the playwright wrote Hamlet in Shakespeare 1600, and Neil Dickson plays an actor touring Africa who discovers Macbeth in two one-man, one-act theatre pieces. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Sat. Jan 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Happy Daze. Live at the Legion. 8 p.m.

Sam Weber Band.

Indie rock at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island Open House.

Meet with HASSI directors and see the group's initiatives. Snacks and beverages provided. Lions Hall. 2 to 4 p.m.

Saturday Life Drawing.

Drop-ins welcome. Third floor of the Core Inn. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. every Saturday.

(Note day-of-the-week and time change from previous Monday sessions.) Info: Martin, 250-537-8493.

Sun. Jan 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jimmy Rankin. One of Canada's finest and most popular singer songwriters, and a lynchpin for multi-platinum Canadian Celtic-pop heroes, The Rankin Family, performs dynamic solo show. ArtSpring. 2 p.m.

Richard Cross & Terry Warbey.

Live music at the Salt Spring Inn. 6 to 9 p.m.

Sky Valley Jazz.

Sunday Jazz Night with Salt Spring's own Sky Valley. Moby's Pub. 7 to 10 p.m.

Sun. Jan 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Stage Old Timey Cafe.

Open stage with good music and munchies. Alcohol-free and everyone welcome. OAPO annex at Fulford Hall. 7 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Rollerblading.

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

Mon. Jan 30

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Canadian Guitar Quartet.

One of the finest guitar ensembles in the world performs at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Tue. Jan 31

ACTIVITIES

Nia.

With Arleen Sadler at Salt Spring United Church Hall on Tuesdays from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. and at Mahon Hall from 5:45 to 7 p.m. Email to see if there is space in classes: movingto-bealive@gmail.com

Workshops: Hand Building With Clay.

Second in series of three classes at the Salt Spring Public Library. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Floor Hockey.

Every Tuesday at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Feb 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo - Kaizenjammers.

Trio of John Reid, Michael Aronoff and Warren Langley perform music that is a little bit country, a little bit folk, a little bit blues and a little bit jazz; and always a whole lot of fun. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m. Followed by tea and treats.

The Lonesome Ace Stringband.

Live and gritty Appalachian folk songs and fiddle/banjo tunes. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Wed. Feb 1

ACTIVITIES

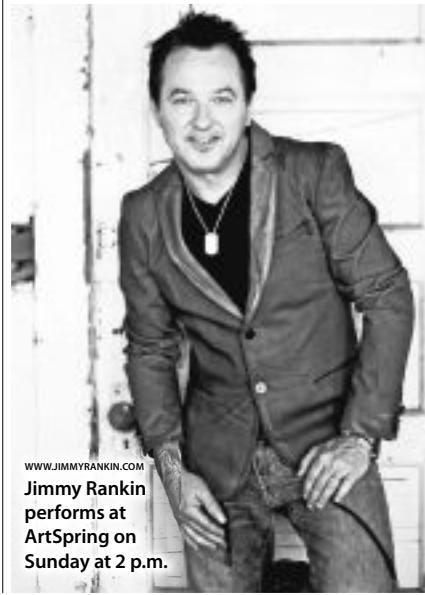
Library Open Late.

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

Library Tech Series: Excel Part B.

Instructor Jared Finesmith will take students through using Microsoft Excel in this free four-part course. Excel Part A or previous experience with Excel is required.

Pre-register at the library information desk, by phone at 250-537-4666, or email at info@saltspringlibrary.com. 6:15 to 9 p.m.



WWW.JIMMYRANKIN.COM

Jimmy Rankin performs at ArtSpring on Sunday at 2 p.m.

THE FRITZ CINEMA

901 North End Rd. 250-537-4656 Movie info: www.thefritz.ca

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FINAL 2 SHOWS

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Wed. Thurs.
Jan. 26th and 27th at 7pm

HIDDEN FIGURES

2hr 7min Rating: PG

Jan. 27th - 31st Fri. - Tues. 7pm
Sun. 3pm matinee and 7pm

National Theatre Live
No Man's Land

starring Ian McKellen & Patrick Stewart. Thurs. Feb. 2nd Only. 3pm matinee & 7 pm.
Tickets \$22. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets.

driftwoodgulfislands media.com/calendar/

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OF EVENTS
LISTINGS

Family Day Celebration

Featuring the Ta Daa Lady

Monday, February 13th

Mahon Hall

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250-537-9933 or
dwsalty@driftwoodgimedi.com

CINEMA

- **Rogue One: A Star Wars Story** — Final two shows on Wednesday and Thursday. 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.
- **Hidden Figures** — Crowd-pleasing celebration of the overlooked contributions of three brilliant African-American women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit.
- **National Theatre: No Man's Land** with Ian McKellen & Patrick Stewart — Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart return to the West End stage 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 thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets.

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** until Feb. 28.
- 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**.

This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastrlogy.com
sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com
1.250.352.2936

PAGE 18



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

PATH TO OTTAWA: GISS senior improv team members gather around the mid-island cup they earned in Canadian Improv Games regional finals at ArtSpring on Saturday night. From left are Amelia McCluskey, Peter Hoskins, Melanie Gregory-Worsell, Kane O'Scalleigh, Fiona Pirie and Shaye Steele. The team heads to regional finals in Victoria on Feb. 10-12, with the winner of that event advancing to the national tournament in Ottawa. The GISS junior improv team has also qualified for Vancouver Island finals, which will be held on Feb. 11.

DANCE REVIEW

GISS dancers swing into performance

End of term show highlights choreography roots

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Almost all humans are born with a natural, bodily response to music.

Even if it's just at home, we all like to dance. But a wish to put a little more style into our moves doesn't always translate into a desire to put them on display for a group of strangers to assess. That's why dance students at Gulf Islands Secondary School are to be congratulated year after year. The simple act of signing up for the elective either gives students a long-awaited opportunity to appear on the ArtSpring stage, or condemns them to it, but everyone winds up there at the end of the term.

This year's final show, which ran Wednesday and Thursday nights at ArtSpring, featured both junior and senior class levels and revealed the wide range of interests and experience among the students, and also a uniformly high level of enthusiasm and determination.

"What a great group of kids this was to work with," said teacher Sonia Langer. "They just wanted to get along and get to work."

As Langer told the audience at the beginning of the show, she had noticed a theme of dance style roots kept emerging during class, so she decid-

ed to focus on it explicitly in the class ensembles. The show opened with a piece Langer choreographed for the senior class called Return to the Classics, a fun, upbeat number that looked back to the early days of hip hop.

Likewise, Langer looked to another form that came out of African-American culture for the show's finale, in which the senior class performed a complicated swing routine from the Big Apple Contest in the 1939 film Keep Punching. The all-female junior class also took on some complicated swing moves and were very cute in polka-dot '50s-style dresses for their ensemble piece, danced to the blues-infused Who Will Comfort Me by Melody Gardot.

Student choreography between these impressive bookends showed how modern dancers constantly synthesize classic movements and diverse cultural elements into new personal expression. For that reason there was something to admire in every piece.

Many pieces could be said to have a street jazz vibe — defined by one dance studio as a combination of modern styles such as hip hop, funk, electronic dance and jazz — performed to songs by artists like Bishops Briggs, Ariana Grande and Bruno Mars. Of this set, many included Vani Engel Larrain among the dancers and choreographers — perhaps not surprising as he is a hip hop teacher at the RainWood Dance Studio.

Two duets that he performed with female partners worked particularly nicely: Don't with fellow RainWood teacher and compelling watchable Teija Baxter, and Slip with Gia Hasenfratz, an effective and moving expression of a relationship in jeopardy.

This year's final show revealed the wide range of interests and experience among the students, and also a uniformly high level of enthusiasm and determination.

The maximum-bling 24K Magic with Jonah Baker and K'sana Wood Lynes-Ford mostly didn't get too fancy with the moves but the exuberant delivery did produce maximum smiles. Queen's Speech with Ella Baker and Isabella Law was energetic and funny with its literal translation of the lyrics into moves, especially the "brush your teeth" segments.

Law introduced a more serious but dramatic vibe into the choreography for Special Affair, while Ella Baker and Jayda Cullis brought their upbeat expression all the way

into the audience in Greedy.

The junior class students created several different pieces for groups of four or five dancers and showed good results in terms of composition and use of stage space in pieces like Wild Horses, Sleepless and You Don't Own Me. (In fact, one audience member with zero connections to the group felt Wild Horses was the most effective piece of the entire first half.)

Classical dance was represented in two pieces by Hinako Aikawa and Alice Liu, who demonstrated ballet's strength and beauty to music by Riccardo Drigo and Tchaikovsky. Emily Law and Wren Wilde also seemed to have a more classical style in a lovely duet choreographed by Wilde to Tee Shirt (heard in The Fault to Our Stars).

Multicultural influences were represented by two works in particular. Peacocks Flying Over featured traditional dance movements and music from China's Yunnan province, with students in spectacular costumes arranged around Liu as the principal dancer.

Casino Round paid homage to Latin styles in Langer's fun finale to the first half, with two rings of dancers switching off partners dressed in sultry red and black. Choreography was inspired by the Café con Leche dance group in Havana, and served to demonstrate the breadth of knowledge GISS dance students are lucky enough to access.

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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



TEXTILE ARTS

Regional district anniversary quilt unveiled in Victoria

Salt Spring panel to be displayed at home

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A massive project involving 33 quilters has successfully brought an impressive new textile artwork to the Capital Regional District office in Victoria, where the CRD 50th Anniversary Quilt now has a prominent place.

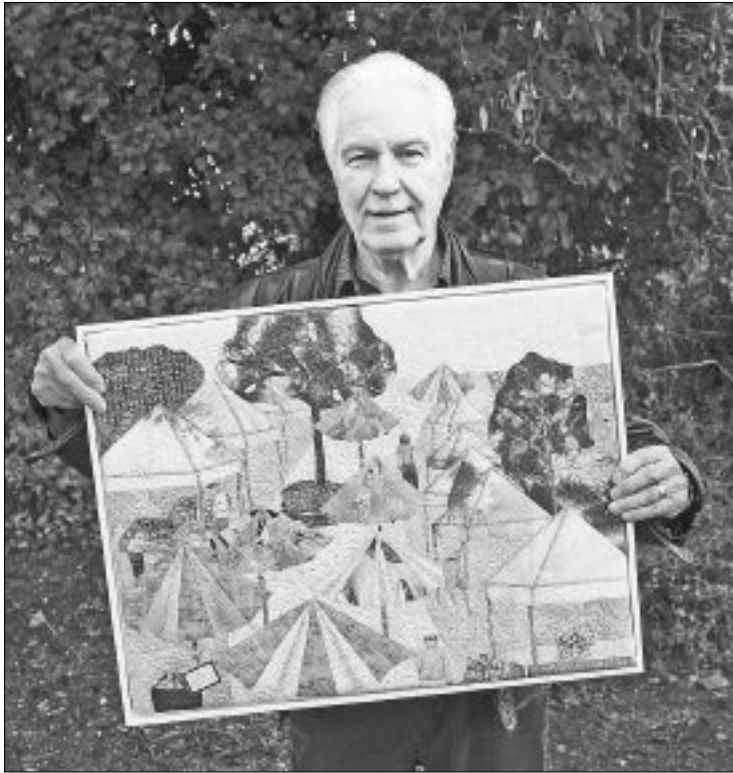
The CRD created the legacy project “to showcase the collaboration that has built the region and its sense of connection and inclusiveness” as part of events celebrating the organization’s 50th anniversary, which took place in 2016. Each of the 13 member municipalities and three electoral areas is represented by one block, with 28 blocks in total weaving a picture of the region’s different landscapes and communities.

The CRD also worked with Tsawout First Nation artists to design three blocks for the quilt, and additional blocks were created representing iconic images and locations in the region to tie the piece together.

Salt Spring’s panel was created by Karen Tottman, who owned Stitches in Ganges for many years.

“It was very much a collaborative project by everyone involved, which was really neat,” Tottman said.

She found the project had great cohesion and visual



Salt Spring’s electoral area director Wayne McIntyre holds the Salt Spring panel of the CRD 50th Anniversary Quilt. Fabric artist Karen Tottman created the market-themed art piece.

continuity despite involving so many different artists, in part because the participants had monthly meetings held over nearly a year that involved taking and sharing minutes. Working under lead coor-

inator Susan Teece, the quilters were all given the same 10 fabrics as a base and instructed to use those fabrics for 70 per cent of the block. The quilters were then able to choose any other fabric to make up

the rest of the block, adding their own personal touches.

Tottman did a lot of research on the CRD and its role on Salt Spring before creating her design. Her panel portrays a view of the Saturday Market in

the Park, with a grouping of market umbrellas and tents as if seen from slightly above. The striking geometric pattern is set off with a smattering of produce baskets and flowers, balanced by a couple of looming trees in the background.

“It was easy to think about the parks — they’re very visual. Then I started researching and the CRD is very involved with the library and ArtSpring,” Tottman said. “But I wanted to balance what I could do with the fabrics and fit into what others were doing with nature and also fit Salt Spring, so I came up with the market. It’s so iconic to us.”

The market tent design allowed Tottman to avoid being completely realistic, which she felt would be necessary if she focused on people. Instead, the scene has an eye-catching abstract quality.

Donna-Fay Digance of Saturna Island created the block for the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area. Her design employs sweeping curved pieces to represent the seeming continuation from sky to water, with the eye drawn to a vista of arbutus, fir and cedar trees.

Tottman said the requirement for participants to use set materials on the majority of the panel was an important factor in the quilt’s overall design.

“You need something like that to make it flow, but

it still gave you the opportunity to not use only the provided fabric. I do a lot of hand dying so I used some of that as well. But when you see the entire quilt there’s a consistency that’s so important,” she said.

Another aspect that added consistency was having the talent of Jennifer Watson as long-arm quilter to connect the panels to each other and to the backing layer. According to the CRD, her work “brought each of the already beautiful blocks to life and ensured seamless flow throughout the quilt.” Tottman strongly agreed with this assessment.

“The CRD put so much work into this, I hope a lot of people get to see the quilt and just like me learn a little more and get awareness of what the CRD is doing,” Tottman said.

Each panel was produced in duplicate, so while the anniversary quilt as a whole will reside in the Victoria office, member communities will be able to display their designs at their local CRD offices. The Salt Spring block is currently under CRD director Wayne McIntyre’s care until construction of the new office on McPhillips Avenue is complete.

The CRD has produced a booklet that describes the project and includes a page for each artist and each panel. A pdf version can be viewed online at www.crd.bc.ca.

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DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Starved players battle elements

Usual and less usual winners recorded

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The Inuits have a deity who may have been beginning to relinquish his frosty hold on Jan. 9. This is Agloolik, the “evil god of the sea who can hurt boats by biting them; spirit which lives under the ice and helps wanderers in hunting and fishing,” according to Wikipedia.

In spite of icy roads and driveways, four and a half bridge-starved tables made it to Seniors, perhaps with the aid of another deity, Qailertetang, the weather spirit, guardian of animals, and matron of fishers and hunters.

The most successful hunters that evening were, as usual, Jeff Bell and Prem Margoless, followed by George Laundry and Terry Clement. In third place were Patricia Hewett

and Bob Morrisette, with Flo Laundry and Lynn Thorburn in the fourth spot.

Jan. 16 saw a gift from the Philippines: a flood of warm air from the southwest which banished that Arctic outflow, thawed out the icy driveways, stayed dry, provided four full tables and welcomed some returning absentees.

Not only was there a big change in the weather, but a big change in winners with Trinlay McPhee and Ted Bartrim surprising themselves by edging out the Bell-Margoless pair, Donn who had to settle for the second spot this time. Next were Gisela Welsh and Judith Borbas, followed by the Laundry-Clement partnership.

And then the rains came and planned to stay for a while along with relative warmth, but Salt Springers are used to that, and know that one can’t always believe the weather forecast, so keep hoping for “sunny ways.”

FUNDRAISER

Native plant fans rally for nursery

Rainwater storage system the goal

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A group of Salt Spring residents concerned about the survival of Fraser's Thimble Farms has initiated a rainwater storage fund for the Southey Point nursery that's been in business for 45 years.

World renowned for the native plants it grows and for its hellebore collection, Fraser's Thimble Farms faced extreme stress last summer when the North Salt Spring Waterworks District threatened to pull the special water permit the nursery requires to keep its plants alive.

Longtime island resident Nina Raginsky is among founders of the Friends of Thimble Farm group, which aims to raise \$60,000 for an additional storage system.

"We have already received several pledges and two 'camas lily' category donations," said Raginsky last week.

Gifting categories are dogwood (\$1,000), camas lily (\$500 to \$1,000), shooting star (\$100 to \$500) and trillium (up to \$100).

Trust account #2555746 at Island Savings is set to accept donations. Cheques should be made out to Thimble Farms Rainwater Storage Fund.

As well, Kristin Peebles has volunteered her expertise to set up a GoFundMe site.

Two raffles have also been organized. One prize is a 189-litre food grade rain



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Ready to collect funds drop-by-drop for an additional rainwater storage system at Fraser's Thimble Farms are, from left, landscapers Daphne Taylor and Lorraine Hamilton, water storage expert Sharon Bywater, conservationist Nina Raginsky, Transition Salt Spring past-president Andrew Haigh, salmon enhancement biologist Kathy Reimer, master gardener/author Linda Gilkeson, landscaper Michael Howell and Kristin Peebles of Constant Connection.

barrel donated by Windsor Plywood and a set of Fiskars tools from Mouat's Home Hardware. The other is a free five-hour landscape design consultation and advice session with Michael Howell of Terra Luma Design. Tickets are available only at Green, the Zero Waste Grocery Store, in Ganges.

Master gardener Linda Gilkeson and water storage expert Sharon Bywater are the other two founding members.

Kathy Reimer, Island Stream and Salmon

Enhancement Society biologist, is supporting the campaign because of all the help and plants that Thimble Farms has provided to her non-profit group over the years.

Island landscaper Lorraine Hamilton observes that Thimble Farms' cultivation of drought-resistant and native plants contributes hugely to reducing overall local water consumption, so they should be encouraged to stay in business.

"It just makes a lot of sense," she said.

Fraser's Thimble Farms faced uncertainty last summer when the NSSWD advised owners Richard and Nancy Fraser more than once that their water permit would likely be rescinded within a short space of time. Due to concerns about possibly exceeding the NSSWD's licence limit on St. Mary Lake, the NSSWD board and staff have not softened their position about providing a permit to the nursery for subsequent summers, making expanded storage a necessity.

PEDESTRIAN PATHS

Quiet but productive year for pathways

Atkins Road next on community group's radar

Partners Creating Pathways did not have a specific pathways project of their own in 2016, but they were not sitting idle.

"We were actually quite busy and have a few folks we need to thank for their effort and support," said PCP chair Jean Gelwicks in a press release.

"We have wanted to complete this [Atkins Road] section for years."

JEAN GELWICKS
Partners Creating Pathways

This year PCP offered to assist the CRD's Salt Spring Transportation Commission with their com-

munity pathways project in front of the Gulf Island Secondary School in three ways. Firstly, they provided a volunteer project manager, Richard Shead. They also provided a stunning bench built by Donald McLennan and installed by PCP members in front of the GISS playing fields, and they seeded grass and poppy seeds (collected and donated by a gardener on the island) and planted daffodil bulbs, which will hopefully bloom this spring.

In addition, and with the assistance of the Salt Spring Island Foundation, PCP had the funding to give the Ganges Village Pathway network a bit of a facelift. Actions included adding reflective pathway delineators to both ends of the section of pathways from Moby's Pub to the corner of Upper and Lower Ganges roads, which Mainroad installed; repairing sections of the pathway on Rainbow Road; making the Harbours End Kiosk area safer; replacing some old

and unreadable thank-you plaques on benches; and adding a few new signs.

PCP is grateful to the Salt Spring Island Foundation and all the PCP volunteers who did the work on the ground.

In 2017, PCP will tackle another section of the Ganges Village Pathway Network. It will be on Atkins Road, connecting the existing section of pathway on Atkins all the way to Rainbow Road.

"We have wanted to complete this section for years," said Gelwicks.

This area has been surveyed and PCP members have walked it with Ministry of Transportation representatives for their input and they are applying for a permit.

If all goes to plan, construction would start in April.

"Thanks to all our volunteers and supporters, 2016 was a good year and hopefully 2017 will be even better," said Gelwicks.

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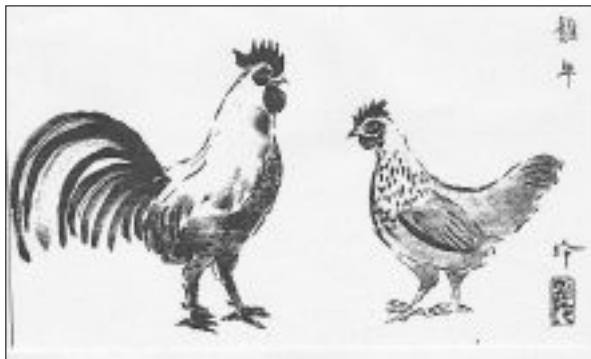
CHINESE ZODIAC

Go with the flow for a less challenging year in 2017

Ling's annual Chinese zodiac column

BY LING WESTON
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Kung Hay Fat Choy!
I'm so relieved that the year of the Rooster starts on Saturday, Jan. 28 as we got through the year of flux in 2016. Even the wise Monkey couldn't handle all the drastic changes that took place!



Ling Weston's Year of the Rooster illustration. Weston sells cards and a Chinese zodiac calendar to the benefit of UNICEF.

To start with, 2017 is the Year of the Fire Rooster with a capital F!

Roosters have a natural energy of yang (if you know about the ying/yang business). They are also assigned the natural element of metal by the ancient astrologers.

Do I know the basic traits of Roosters (or Hens)? I sure do! My mother (an Earth Hen) told me many times that she had hatched me, though she was surprised that I turned out to be a Monkey instead as my father was a Rooster (a Fire one).

Their marriage was arranged

after their corresponding horoscopes were scrutinized by astrologers and it was found that they were compatible even though they were 12 years apart.

The same astrological signs often run in families. My mother had a nephew, also an Earth Rooster, but 60 years younger.

Basic Traits

Roosters are born into a pecking order system (so watch out if you have a Rooster family member as I have). They are demanding, prone to flattery and also very concerned with how they look to others. Even our pet rooster in our childhood liked to preen and look

at itself in the big mirror hung in the balcony. Roosters also have high expectations of their partners and children. We chicks (my brothers and I) learnt to pull up our socks at all times so as not to be caught!

Generally speaking they are courageous; critical of others; ambitious and domineering in relationships. They also like to be boss in families.

There are five different types of roosters and hens. In modern science it can be explained the traits are encoded in their DNA.

You might ask what's the difference between the five types of Roosters/Hens?

I hereby list the generalized traits below, based on the year they were born.

1. Metal Roosters (birth years ending in 0/1). Double element sign (metal) makes them more determined as they are perfectionists and more critical of others.

2. Water Roosters (years ending in 2/3). The Water element adds more adaptability and more empathy to others. They are more flexible.

3. Wood Roosters (years ending in 4/5). Quieter in personality and prefer privacy. They pursue knowledge and wisdom by reading.

4. Fire Roosters (years ending in 6/7). My father was a typical one. Hot temperament and critical of others but very knowledgeable. They like to read and give advice.

5. Earth Roosters (years ending in 8/9). My mother was a typical one. They are more grounded and self-controlled. Also more yielding in nature.

The aim of studying the Chinese horoscope is to better know the characteristics of yourself first and also of others so as to cope in this changing world that overwhelms us at times.

So I wish you all not only health, wealth and wisdom but, more importantly, peace of mind. Go with the flow and hope 2017 will not be so challenging.

I sell 2017 East Meets West Zodiac calendars, one cycle of Chinese Zodiac letter cards with envelopes, with all proceeds to UNICEF. Contact me at 250-537-5784.

PARENTING

Visiting parenting expert offers advice on boundaries

Allison Rees workshop set for Feb. 4



ALLISON REES

Acclaimed author and parenting expert Allison Rees will create a unique experience for Salt Spring Island parents in a workshop running Saturday, Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at the GISS multi-purpose room.

Rees is a regular parenting coach and teacher at lifeseminars.com who specializes in helping audiences under-

stand and apply a practical approach to family relationships. She has been working with parents, families and professionals since 1991, and has been featured in Parenting Today! and Island Parent magazine as a monthly contributor to the Cut it Out column. She has also co-authored two books, Sidestepping the Power Struggle and The Par-

ent Child Connection, with Dr. Allison Miller.

As Rees states in her press materials: "My desire is to create a sense of confidence in both parents and children as they work towards a rich, purposeful and enjoyable life." Rees will present her Boundaries and Communication workshop this February at the invitation of the Salt Spring Centre School parents and the Salt Spring Cooperative Preschool.

During the session she will cover a

number of topics, including how to speak effectively to enhance co-operation, self-esteem and relationships, how to resolve family issues and how to coach children towards resiliency.

The event is open to the public by donation. A child-minding service by a local adult with experience in early childhood education will also be offered for a small donation. Parents are asked to come at least 15 minutes early to settle their children into the adjoining classroom.

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Real Estate

IS IT BETTER TO LIST NOW OR WAIT UNTIL SPRING ARRIVES?

Often sellers will say to me "I want to wait till my spring garden blooms". Many, many homes have lovely spring gardens; the better plan is to get the jump on the season and avoid undue competition as the listings supply expands later in the year.

By listing now, your residence will:

- stand out when it comes on the market on a day when there are few other new listings - buyers are waiting;
- possibly be the only listing that a buyer receives instant email notification about, when listed this time of year;
- have a better position in the market - price-point wise, BEFORE all the new competition is available;
- many "last year" temporarily off the market (while owners vacation) listings, burst back onto the market in April & May...your listing can stand out more effectively - SOONER.

I sell many homes in January and February that may not have sold at the same price later in the year, due to better buyers coming on the market as the spring progresses.

This old adage is really true for real estate:

"Why Wait till Spring? - Do it NOW!"

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The water offers a massage effect (hydrostatic pressure) to allow people to workout for a longer period of time while providing comfort to the exerciser. Total calorie expenditure is critical for successful and long term weight management.

A new year it's time to get moving come to a Aqua fit class or enough a swim.



BRENDA AKERMAN

Mechanic

Long defog time in the morning is telling you something

If it is taking longer than normal to defog your windows in the morning it is a sign of high humidity inside the car. This time of year every time you get in your car you are bringing in moisture on your shoes and clothing. While newer cars heating and air conditioning systems are set up to get rid of this moisture, it is still more effective to open the windows a bit when the inside of the car warms up. This vents the warm moist air out of the passenger compartment.

If your floor mats have water standing in them dump them out. On a sunny day crack the windows open when the car is sitting in the sun, but make sure they get closed before the interior starts to cool down.

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Joan Muriel Nicholson
May 23, 1930 - January 10, 2017

Joan passed peacefully at her Greenwoods home in the company of her loving caregivers Elizabeth, Kathy and Greenwoods staff.

Joan was predeceased by her husband Colin Philip Nicholson on April 20, 1997. Joan was born Joan Pinkney in Montreal and was raised by her adopted parents Stanley and Lillian Aird. She married Colin in Rosemount Montreal on May 21, 1960. She and Colin enjoyed their life in their Saltspring home on Kings Lane with their dog, cat, and garden, and kept busy with their many weaving projects.

Joan enjoyed going to Ganges in her Honourable Lady to volunteer at the SSI Library on Fridays, to sing with Saltspring Singers, meet with her friends for coffee, and to enjoy her Golden Island dinners.

She will be missed by Greenwoods staff, Elizabeth, Tony, Betty, Carol and Alan. She has gone to join her beloved Colin and their dog.

Special thanks to her Doctors, Nurses, Greenwoods, her kind and watchful Kings Lane neighbours, and especially Elizabeth Lee, her devoted companion for 6 years.

A Memorial will be held for her at All Saints by the Sea on Saturday Jan 28, 2017 at 2pm followed by refreshments. Please join us.

Cynthia Constance Tupholme
FEB. 4, 1959 - JUN. 14, 2016

Cynthia, age 57, passed away at Lady Minto Hospital on June 14th, 2016 after her long and tenacious battle with Multiple Myeloma. Cynthia was born in London, Ontario, the daughter of William (Bill) Stanley Tupholme and Eunice Dorothy Coudridge. Those who were fortunate to know Cynthia will always remember her strength and ingenuity, not to mention her artistic nature and incredible patience in teaching others. She was especially compassionate and knowledgeable, and she was known and very much loved as a mother, grandmother, and friend.

In addition to raising two children she was a passionate farmer and horticulturalist. Being raised on a farm, Cynthia adopted the lifestyle even when she moved from Ontario to British Columbia, finally settling on Salt Spring Island in 1995.

For many years Cynthia and her family sustained a humble purebred sheep, poultry, and vegetable farm under the name of Cerdine Livestock. She enjoyed teaching and helping others and did so, despite her adversity, until the very end.

Cynthia is survived by her two daughters, Kylarra Simmers and M Cali Belanger, as well as her grandson, Rowan Simmers. She will be remembered and loved forever in our hearts.

There will be a Celebration of Life in memory of Cynthia at the Community Hall (Fritz Theatre), 901 North End Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N5, on February 4th, 2017, from 1:00-4:00 pm.

Online condolences and memories can be shared on her memorial tribute Facebook group, "In Loving Memory of Cynthia Tupholme".

"When someone you love becomes a memory the memory becomes a treasure"

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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:
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TIP OF THE WEEK

The New Moon in Aquarius happens on January 27 at 12:37 am PST. This exact moment also marks the official moment of Chinese New Year, although the celebrations generally occur the day following, so everyone in the world is on the same day. The Fire Rooster, a.k.a. the Phoenix is an apt symbol of synchronicity for our times. That we must first enter the fire is the daunting side of this theme. The T-Square between Jupiter, Uranus, and Pluto at the apex point which has been active these past several weeks has definitely been a spike in the punch. Mercury will actually occupy the exact apex point and pull in the energies of Pluto this coming week, peaking between February 1 and 3. The outcry for rights and freedoms will escalate measurably.

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): A fresh activation of energies is again split in two directions: personal and professional. As well, striking the balance will remain your main interest. Yet, the emphasis probably leans to the professional side. Yet logic may have to yield to emotion as a healing crisis churns in your subconscious.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20): A bright light is illuminating your public life. Whether it is your profession and simply that you are getting extra recognition in general, this is your cue to be noticed. It is yet another feature of the changing stage of your life. While having faith in the process is featured, you may have to make your own luck.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): An adventurous cycle has begun. How you embark upon it is up to you. You could literally and suddenly decide to get away for a while. You could take a flight of imagination with a good book. Philosophical exchanges in the social setting could satisfy. However you do it, tally-ho!

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Close encounters of the strange kind are slated over the coming weeks. This will likely gain social recognition. As well, they could activate changes in your professional life. One way or another, you want to go big. With your confidences on a steady rise, the timing looks good.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your social horizons are expanding. You have entered an important window of opportunity. Success is significantly determined by your willingness to reach out. Keep your communications practical and to the point for best results. Focus to open fronts that will have a domino effect.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): Many new realizations are beginning to pour in. These range from metaphysical and spirituality to the finances and investments. In both respects, you are beginning to see certain things much more clearly. Inspiration is leading but necessity is catching up quickly.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22): Sometimes a party is a riot, but a riot can also be a serious event. Both possibilities are indicated now. Things could swing from one extreme to the other over the coming weeks. Health concerns may be an issue these days. The consequences of bad habits can rear their head suddenly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your unpredictable factor is running high. As if suddenly, you want to do good things. This window could linger for a few months even. Given the good karma factor, you have added reason to act on this impulse. The secret is to have faith in the returns is to eliminate any expectations altogether.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your social agenda is getting busier. While fun and games are featured, you are still in a sober and serious mood. You want to get things done and would like to see results and returns too. Rights, freedoms, and equality remain high regarding social activities.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are in an inventive mood. This can manifest as a unique twist in your style. At least some of your attention will be directed towards refining your skills and talents. All the while, you are thirsty for knowledge. You want answers and the facts to support their worth.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The time has come to take a new set of leads and initiatives. This theme has already been underway for the past several weeks. Making good of momentums and earned rewards is featured. Meanwhile, strict observation of principles and ethics has you all fired up.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): The push to go out must contend with the pull to stay in. It is precisely this paradoxical theme that characterizes some of your mystery. You may be as confused by it as anyone else. Keeping it simple, where others would stay home you are in the mood to go out. Anyway, business opportunities beckon.



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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



PHOTO COURTESY ERICA ROSS

CHAMPS: Peter Lamb, left, and Colin Ross, proudly display prizes won in the 37th annual New Year's Classic tennis tournament held at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre where more than 200 entrants competed for two weeks in 24 events. Lamb was a double winner, taking the men's 75 singles title as well as the men's 70 doubles title with partner Colin Ross. Former Salt Spring resident Elly McKeague also won the ladies 55 singles event.

OUTDOOR REC

Groups plot out February steps

Trail and nature club schedule

Hikers

Feb. 7: Lynn Thompson will lead a moderate off-island hike to either Stoney Hill (Maple Bay area) or Christie Falls (Ladysmith). The destination will be weather related. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:45 a.m. to carpool for the 9:25 a.m. ferry from Vesuvius.

Feb. 14: Sue and Al Lehmann lead a moderate hike with some steep sections from Mountain Road (rescheduled from January). The hike is longer than usual and there are hills to climb both before and after lunch. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 or Drummond Park at 10 a.m. Drivers need to be aware that the road is a single-lane winding dirt road with potholes.

Feb. 21: Join Ashley Hilliard on a hike into the northern portion of Ruckle Park through the "back door." Some side slope on uneven rocks so sturdy footwear and poles (if you like them) recommended. Carpool

from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or join at the start at the foot of Meyer Road at 10:05 a.m. (left off Beaver Point Road onto Bulman, then right at the junction with Meyer).

Feb. 28: Susan Hannon leads a moderately strenuous hike to Bold Bluff area. Note there will be wet areas and some possibly slippery steep climbs. Carpool from ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or meet Susan at the lower Burgoyne Bay parking lot at 10 a.m.

Walkers

Feb. 7: Barry and Sheila Spence lead a moderate walk in Cowichan River Provincial Park from the 66 Mile Trestle day use area to Stolz Pool on the Cowichan River footpath, with an easy return along the Trans Canada Trail. Meet at Portlock Park to carpool for an 8:30 a.m. departure to the Vesuvius ferry.

Feb. 14: Pick a leader and a location. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m.

Feb. 21: Charles Kahn will lead a walk from Mill Farm and work our way onto Mount Bruce. Meet at

ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m.

Feb. 28: Doreen Fenton will lead a walk in the north Channel Ridge area starting from Sunset Drive. Please carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet the leader at the trail entrance #1 opposite 1110 Sunset Drive at 10:15 a.m.

Ramblers

Feb. 7: Ramble with Betty Ball on Tripp Road. Lunch at Seaside Restaurant. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 14: Sterling and Maureen take the Ramblers to Channel Ridge. Lunch at the golf club. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 21: Leaders Choice Ramble with Frauke. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Feb. 28: Leaders Choice Ramble with Harold Page. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

More information can be found at the www.saltspringtnc.ca website.

RUNNING

Sneakers achieve impressive rankings

Summary of 2016 competition tells the tale

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING SNEAKERS

With 2016 having come to a close, the Salt Spring Island Sneakers can confirm both national and provincial top-five age group rankings for race performances over the year.

Among these are 14 first-place national rankings, four second-place national rankings, and five third-place rankings.

Leading the group is Lynn Thompson with first-place national rankings in the 75-79 age group in the indoor 60-metre hurdles, long jump and triple jump; outdoor 80 and 300-m hurdles, long jump and triple jump; a second-place ranking in the 8-km road run, and third-place rankings in the indoor 60-m and outdoor 100 and 200-m. In the process, Thompson set a B.C. indoor record in the triple jump, and a BC 55+ Games record in the 50-m.

Susan Gordon achieved age-group first-place national rankings on the track in the 800-m, 1,500-



PHOTO COURTESY SS SNEAKERS

Salt Spring Sneakers running club members celebrate a stellar year with ribbons and medals.

m and 5,000-m and on the road in the 5-km, 8-km and 10-km distances. During this year, Gordon set a B.C. record in the 1,500-m and three BC 55+ Games records in the 800-m, 1,500-m and the 5,000-m, all track disciplines.

Eric Ellis achieved a first-place age-group

national ranking in the half marathon.

Marion Young achieved a third-place age-group national ranking in the 10-km, fourth place in the 5-km, 8-km and half marathon road distances, and fourth place in the 5,000-m on the track.

Lise Fraser earned three

second-place age-group national rankings in the 5-km, 10-km and marathon, and third place in the 8-km road discipline.

In British Columbia, the Sneakers achieved 19 first-place rankings, seven second-place rankings and seven third-place rankings.

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Capital Regional District **CRD**

Request for Proposal 2017-209:
Dock Operations
Coordinator Services

The Capital Regional District (CRD) invites detailed proposals from individuals or companies to act as the Dock Operations Coordinator for the Southern Gulf Islands Harbour Commission (SGIHC). The proposals will be evaluated for the selection of a consultant (or consultants) with the intent to enter into a contract to provide the services described in Appendix "A."

The CRD provides small craft harbours (docks) at 11 locations in the Southern Gulf Islands and Swartz Bay. These harbours provide a vital link to island community residents and visitors by providing moorage, access points for supplies and mail delivery as well as for water taxis.

The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2017, at 3 pm.

For more information, please go to <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/contracts-rfps/current>.

Kevin Evans
Purchaser, Integrated Water Services
Capital Regional District
T: 250.474.9674
E: kevans@crd.bc.ca

Salt Spring's first baby of 2017



Kate Gooding and her daughter Nicola welcomed Salt Spring's first baby of 2017 on New Year's Day at Lady Minto Hospital at 7:49 a.m. Baby Micah weighed 6 lbs 11 oz. Momma and baby want to thank midwives Erin and Maggie, as well as hospital staff, for their care.



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