

# GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, December 13, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 50 \$1.25 (incl. GST)

## TRAGIC DEATH

# Island mourns death of Heather Jones

### Son apprehended under Mental Health Act

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A Salt Spring family and the community as a whole is in shock after lifelong island resident Heather Jones, 47, was found dead in her Maliview Drive home last Wednesday.

According to Salt Spring RCMP, her son, 22-year-old Martin Vandenberg, was arrested at the home on Wednesday, released from custody Friday and then apprehended under provisions of the Mental Health Act. He was taken to a psychiatric facility in Victoria. He has not been charged with a crime.

Paul Large, the fiancé of Jones' sister Tammy Walker, is the designated family spokesperson. He said other family members are unable to speak about the tragedy, except to provide a short tribute piece, which is at the end of this story. Large said they are still dealing with "the shock and the utter devastation of it because it's so out of left field and so surreal. I think 'surreal' is the best word to use," he said on Monday.

Jones was born on April 7, 1970 in Orangeville, Ont. and moved to the island in 1972 as a toddler with her family: parents Galen and Betty, older sister Penny and younger sister Tammy. Sister Chelsea was later born on the island.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

RCMP Forensic Identification Section members work Thursday at 148 Maliview Drive where Heather Jones' body was found on Dec. 6.

JONES continued on 2

## GOVERNANCE

# Referendum donations and spending revealed

### No-side support higher than yes

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring individuals and business groups donated more than \$100,000 and spent nearly \$70,000 advertising their positions on whether the island should incorporate in the lead-up to the Sept. 9 referendum.

Disclosure statements released by Elections BC this week show the winning "no" side of the question, who rallied under

the Positively No campaign of the Many Islanders Opposed to Incorporation, outspent the opposition by 18 per cent, and could have continued for a much longer period. The Many Islanders received \$60,985.52 in contributions and spent \$35,039.47 across all platforms. These included brochures and flyers, newspaper ads, signs and internet ads.

Dorothy Cutting was the most significant contributor to the no side, donating \$10,500. Next highest was Gay Alkoff with \$4,000. George Ehring and a holding company owned by Ashley and Wendy Hilliard each donated \$2,000.

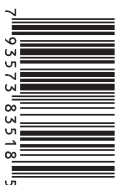
The "no" campaign received 59 donations of less than \$100

and had 350 anonymous donors.

Yes Empowers Salt Spring Island received donations of \$43,528.64 in total and spent \$29,647.26. The most generous donor to the campaign and to referendum advertising in general was Norman Elliott at \$25,000. Other significant contributors were Kevin Bell, with \$2,000 in personal donations and \$1,000 as part of Moutat Holdings, and Ken Marr, with \$1,050 in personal donations and \$1,403 from Discovery Holdings in partnership with Mike Stefancsik.

REFERENDUM continued on 3

Protect your WEALTH  
BMO Nesbitt Burns  
Joni Ganderton  
537-1654



### INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- The Local Liquor St.
- Ganges Pharmsave
- JUYSK
- Thrifty Foods
- Lowes West
- Home Hardware

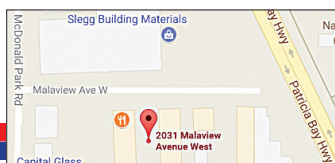
### INDEX

Arts.....	10	People & Community.....	14
Classifieds.....	18	Sports & Recreation.....	20
Editorial.....	6	What's On.....	12
Letters.....	7		

driftwood@driftwoodgimedia.com 250.537.9933 www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

**BEDDIS ROAD GARAGE**  
Repairs to all makes & models  
181A BEDDIS ROAD  
250-537-4122

**BOYD**  
AUTOBODY & GLASS



**SIDNEY**  
• 103-2031 Maliview Ave.  
250-655-3230  
Please ask about the Gulf Island resident promotion when you book your appointment!

**4 Island Boyd locations to serve you!**  
DND Discount!

**KEATING**  
• 25-6809 Kirkpatrick Cres.  
**VICTORIA**  
• 540 John Street  
• 2663 Sooke Road

friend us on facebook! and win prizes!  
www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood

# Son and parents sought help for illness at hospital

## JONES

continued from 1

Jones completed her schooling on Salt Spring and, except for some time spent in Victoria, lived on Salt Spring her entire life. She had worked at Country Grocer and her sister's restaurant, Penny's Pantry On the Green (and at its previous Lower Ganges Road location). She purchased Amber Cab Co. in 2014. She was a driver herself and also employed up to three people. The company is in "limbo" as a result of Jones' death, said Large.

Family members became concerned when Jones could not be contacted on Wednesday morning. Large said her mother Betty called the police.

RCMP responded just before noon to investigate what came across police scanners as an alleged assault with a medivac requested for one patient. The area was immediately sealed off to the public.

**"You couldn't not like her. She was just one of those people."**

PAUL LARGE  
Fiancé to Heather's sister Tammy

Neighbours in the area expressed concern about what was going on, but by 1:30 p.m. were assured on site by a Salt Spring RCMP officer that an individual was in custody and no one was in danger.

While no official police statement about the death was released until Thursday morning, the Vancouver Island Integrative Major Crime Unit confirmed it had sent officers to Salt Spring, which is only done in cases of extremely serious crimes such as a suspicious death.

Both Large and Vandenberg's father Martin "Buck" Vandenberg, also a Salt Spring resident, stated that he and Jones had taken their son to Lady Minto Hospital to seek treatment for his mental state on Tuesday, Dec. 5. Large said Martin Jr. had been hearing voices. The deterioration seemed to be progressing quite quickly and the young man indicated he wanted help.

"Both his mother and his father tried to help him," said Large.

While he did see various personnel at Lady Minto Hospital, his father said Martin had lost patience waiting to see a specific mental health worker and would not remain at the hospital.

"That's the tragedy in all of this," said Large.

"I don't think anyone is pointing fingers at anyone on the ground level," said Large. "I think the health-care system as a whole has failed them."

While Island Health does not comment on specific cases due to privacy issues, it stated that a comprehensive review will be undertaken to see what can be learned from the events of Dec. 5.

Dr. Richard Crow, Island Health's executive medical director of population and community health, provided the following statement: "We offer our sincere condolences to the family of Heather Jones. This is a tragic loss for everyone involved and for the



COURTESY TAMMY WALKER

From left, Tammy Walker, Heather Jones, Betty Jones, Penny Jones and Chelsea Jones at a family wedding in 2015. Heather was found dead in her home on Dec. 6.

entire community—including medical and Island Health staff."

Crow added that Island Health is supporting the RCMP in their investigation.

Large said he lost a family member due to mental illness in 1980 and is discouraged by the lack of progress made in dealing with mental health since then.

"I can't see where there has been any improvement between then and now in how this is looked at. There are no systems in place to get a person and treat them unless they are really at the point of hurting themselves or someone around them... It's sad that in the 21st century we're not putting care and attention into mental illness."

Buck Vandenberg said his son had more than once sought help for his condition.

Martin split his time between his mother's and father's homes and on Dec. 5 decided to go to the Maliview Drive house with Jones after being at the hospital.

A forensic autopsy was scheduled to be done on Monday. Large said between the police investigation and Christmas time that a memorial service for Jones would likely not be held until January. Jones is also survived by her daughter Jessica and infant granddaughter. She is predeceased by her father Galen.

Large praised efforts of investigating officers.

"The police are working night and day. Basically the first two days we had police officers in the house continually interviewing and they were sharing some of what the team was doing. One officer had been up for 36 hours processing the scene and what-not."

Family members, including Chelsea and her family, who shared the rented duplex with Jones, are currently staying with Large and Walker. Betty Jones also lives with the couple.

The Jones family is extremely close, said Large.

"I've never experienced such a tight-knit family," he said. "They are just loving, loving people."

Large said the family wants people to remember Heather as the wonderful person she was.

"You couldn't not like her. She was just one of those people."

Social-media comments echoed Large's assessment. "She was a ray of sunshine in so many people's cloudy days and will be so missed," wrote Forrest Behr. "Like others, I'm still in shock, at a loss for words, but apparently not tears. Condolences to all who knew how wonderful she was, especially to her family. Rest peacefully, Heather."

"I met Heather close to 20 years ago as her next door neighbour," said Michelle Allen. "Even after all that time, I have never forgotten the smile, generosity and pure love of Heather. She was a beautiful woman who loved all so much, and she will be greatly missed."

"Heather was such a great person with her clients," said Joanna Barrett. "She went out of her way to please. I have known her since grade school and she was always such a nice girl."

A GoFundMe page to help cover memorial expenses was set up by Sherry Parrnell on Friday. By Tuesday the fund had reached \$9,370 of its \$10,000 goal.

## Heather: 'Always in our hearts'

*Chelsea Jones has provided the following piece about her sister Heather Jones on behalf of the Jones family.*

On Wednesday, Dec. 6 we all lost one of the most amazing people anyone ever knew: Heather Jones; loved by all. My best friend, sidekick and the greatest auntie my kids could ever ask for.

Every day I spent with Heather was such an honour. I can still smell

her, feel her, hear her. Her beautiful smile, her long golden hair, her big brown eyes, the way she danced around our house with many children. Man, we all looked silly. Always fun and smiling, even if she is hurting inside. 5'2" with the biggest heart.

Her whole life she worked so hard. She loved hard and she played hard.

I miss our coffee dates we had every afternoon and evening. Always young, happy, smiling,

her favourite thing to do was to play on the swings. If you were sad, Heather would make your heart hurt less.

Her greatest wish was to hold her new granddaughter. Her biggest dream to have her children back in her life. Her greatest accomplishment Amber Cab Co.

Heather, you will always be in our hearts. You will always be by our side and you will never be forgotten.



Islands Trust

Have Your Say

Thursday, December 21 9:30 a.m.



Lions Club, Hart Bradley Hall 103 Bonnet Avenue



Who should attend? Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.



Enquires? Seth Wright, Planner 2 ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca 250-537-9144



OCP Amendment and Rezoning for Change from Commercial to Residential Bylaws No. 502 and 503

**PUBLIC HEARING**

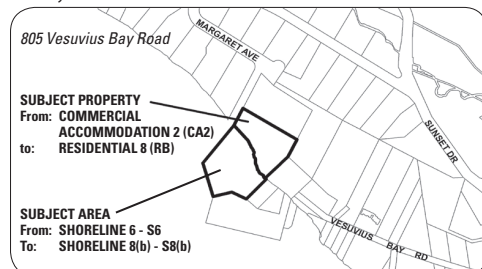
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaw changes about?

Bylaw No. 502 amends the Official Community Plan to remove the property indicated below from Development Permit Area 2 – Non-Village Commercial and Industrial.

Bylaw No. 503 rezones the property and foreshore shown in the sketch map below to:

- Change the zoning from Commercial Accommodation 2 (CA2) to Residential 8 (R8);
- Change the zoning of the foreshore from Shoreline 6 to a new Shoreline 8(b) zone permitting only navigation and moorage buoys.



How do I get more information?

Copies of the bylaws and other information is available at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays from December 6, 2017. Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

Planner Seth Wright will be available at the Lions Club, Hart Bradley Hall before the Public Hearing from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. to answer any questions about the bylaws.

# NEWSBEAT

**Heads up!**

**Merry Monday:**  
Monday, DECEMBER 18, 5:50 p.m.  
Fulford Village

**WATER SUPPLY**

## Cedar Lane district looks for long-term supply answer

Loan repayment achieves 2018 ratepayer savings

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Cedar Lane Water Service Commission is celebrating good financial management over the past year, and at the same time looking to ensure ratepayers aren't burdened with crippling expenses in the future.

The Capital Regional District commission passed its 2018 budget at its annual general meeting on Nov. 30 and spent time discussing concerns about how finances might be impacted by low water supply in two community wells.

"This turned out to be a good meeting. About 15 Cedar Lane water customers showed up and the staff had to go out to find more chairs," commission chair Ralph Dom reported.

"The CRD director and staff gave us an unprecedented three hours of their time to explore our options," he added. "Cedar Lane Water Service residents are committed to continued improvement in the collaborative approach of decision-making with the CRD."

Water district customers will see a net savings of \$60 per user in 2018 over the previous year. Commissioners voted to increase by the user fee by \$80 but reduced the parcel tax by \$140.

"This was a direct result from the Cedar Lane Water Service Commission's decision to pay off one of the loans with the provincial government. We are proud that this ability to pay off our first loan with our reserve funds is a result of careful management of our system and conser-

**"We need the CRD to exercise our first rights to groundwater, based on our date of precedence."**

RALPH DOM  
Chair, Cedar Lane Water Service Commission

vative water use," Dom said.

However, abnormally low well levels experienced in 2017 have Cedar Lane area residents concerned about what the future might bring. CRD technicians notified the commission in July that conservation measures should be followed after wells reached a historic low. The reason for the shortage is not known, and even more concerning since it occurred just after an usually wet winter and spring.

There are concerns that the opening of 25 tourist cottages nearby had drained the aquifer, and the commission has called on the CRD to ascertain the facts. They are also asking the regional body to help come up with realistic plans in case the water supply further diminishes or vanishes.

Dom noted the cost of serving the service area with hauled-in water would exhaust their reserve fund of over \$100,000 in just 10 months. Further stresses to the aquifer could occur due to nearby agriculture activities and a Local Trust Committee proposal to allow long-term housing in cottages.

Possible solutions include drilling a new well or licensing an existing private well in the area, adding rainwater collection and/or issuing a moratorium on



Cedar Lane Water District sign emphasizing the need to conserve water in the area. The water shortage was more severe in 2017 than in past years.

further development and permits in the Cedar Lane area (similar to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District moratorium) until the groundwater supply is assured.

The commission is meanwhile calling on the CRD to take up its responsibility in terms of protecting existing water rights before any action is taken to develop a new source of supply.

"The Cedar Lane Water Service area is not a high income group; we have many

customers living in a low-income bracket. The cost of our water service is already very high and it would be unfair and unaffordable to burden Cedar Lane Water Service customers with more debt," Dom said in his report.

"We need the CRD to exercise our first rights to groundwater, based on our date of precedence. The most viable approach for the CRD to take is to implement action to preserve our aquifer."

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Public menorah lighting Thursday

The entire community is invited to join in during the official lighting ceremony of the eight-foot tall public menorah in Centennial Park this Thursday, Dec. 14.

The event with Rabbi Meir Kaplan starts at 4 p.m. and also provides the chance to enjoy sufganiyot (Israeli jelly donuts), dreidels, chocolate gelt and the sounds of Chanukah music.

A press release for the Vancouver Island area events notes the Jewish holiday Chanukah is also known as the Festival of Lights. It celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, purity over adulteration, and spirituality over materiality.

### CRD waste committee volunteers sought

The Capital Regional District is seeking members from the community to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

This committee provides input on solid waste management matters, advises on the development of a major revision of the region's Solid Waste Management Plan and will monitor implementation of the new plan, once it is approved.

Residents are invited to apply by submitting a brief summary about themselves and who they represent, any relevant experience and why they would like to serve on the committee.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Dec. 29, 2017. See crd.bc.ca for details.

## Expenses tallied

### REFERENDUM

continued from 1

There were 109 anonymous contributors to the YESS campaign. Just four people gave less than \$100.

Several ads not associated directly with a campaign were also registered with Elections BC. Advertising totalling \$3,612.70 was reported by three individuals, and another four forms were filed with undisclosed amounts of less than \$500 each.

**Need Packing Paper? Puppy Paper?  
Art Supply Paper?  
Paper Table Cloths?**

Why not stop by the Driftwood and buy a Roll End  
**Prices \$5 and up. CASH ONLY.**



## DYING with DIGNITY | PART THREE IN A THREE-PART SERIES

## Islanders choosing assisted death despite barriers to access

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Canadian legislation outlining the parameters for medical assistance in dying put strict limitations on who is eligible for the service. Having a terminal condition, intolerable suffering and a short-timeline for one's end are required — but no guarantee that medical help will be available even if all of the above is in place.

Since the passing of Bill C-14 in June 2016, no person living on Salt Spring has received medical assistance in dying (MAID) from a locally based family doctor.

"As far as I know, the local doctors are all supportive but there's no one willing to take on the procedure. And that's too bad, because it could be done in the home," said Brian Finmore, a member of Dying with Dignity's Salt Spring chapter. "I think from a patient's point of view, dying in one's own home would be the best option. That way one can create the environment and prepare spiritually and emotionally."

"It would be a good death," agreed Melinda Okulitch, a fellow Dying With Dignity member who is a lay chaplain with the Salt Spring Unitarian Fellowship. "I think those are few and far between — but we would all wish for that. I think a good death is when you've prepared yourself, prepared your family, you've done what you need to do."

## MEETING THE NEED

There are currently 150 doctors and nurse practitioners trained as MAID assessors and 17 medical professionals who actively provide MAID in the Vancouver Island region, compared to just seven in all of Nova Scotia. The region's take-up in service also compares on the high side, estimated at five times that of the rest of Canada. But the number of people who can handle and administer MAID drugs for Island Health may be unevenly distributed toward urban areas, with little incentive to move beyond home base.

Some Salt Spring residents have died at home with help from physicians who came over from Vancouver Island, and Dying with Dignity members say others have themselves done the travelling for a quiet end at Saanich Peninsula Hospital. Unfortunately, the requirement for a patient to be in intolerable pain to be eligible makes movement near impossible for many. It also takes away some of the agency and dignity that the Supreme Court's 2015 Carter decision intended to restore.

"The principle challenge has been access to physicians who are willing to prescribe, in all locations. Salt Spring is one of those. That has been the principle issue and it's not unique to the island," said Dr. David Robertson, MAID coordinator for Island Health.

"This is an access problem for parts of Vancouver Island, and parts of the province and parts of Canada. We think it might be dif-

icult on Salt Spring, but it's nothing compared to Northern Health."

Robertson's role is to coordinate implementation of the MAID program in the facilities run by Island Health. Because most doctors in B.C. work as independent contractors, though, he said there is no way to implement a regional policy that ensures equitable access between rural and larger communities.

"Our policy is to ensure and support assisted dying in all our facilities within Island Health. We also support the rights of individuals to withdraw or not take part. But we have tried to ensure there are people who will prescribe the medication in every part of the island — and so far we've been successful," Robertson said.

"The whole philosophy behind this and also behind the Supreme Court's original judgement back in 2015 is to place the authority in the hands of the person who's dying. We're trying to do that as much as possible."

## BARRIERS TO ACCESS

Dr. Jonathan Reggler is a family physician from Courtenay who chairs Dying with Dignity Canada's Physicians Advisory Council. He says one of the problems with finding MAID providers in small communities is the privacy issue. When he decided to take the training, for example, he was worried about how his family-practice patients and his nursing colleagues at the Roman Catholic St. Joseph's Hospital might respond.

"I thought there was actually a very real risk that my patients would be upset with me and would want to be looked after by another physician," Reggler said, although in fact the opposite situation occurred and both groups voiced overwhelming support.

Reggler has been a public advocate for access to compassionate death beginning with the early days of the legislative process. He went to the media to denounce the St. Joseph Hospital board decision to block access to MAID in their facility and has been a strong voice for patient rights ever since.

"My reason is because when and if I develop a grievous and irremediable condition that causes me intolerable suffering, I would like to have a medically assisted death, or at least have it available to me. So it's appropriate for me to offer it to others now," Reggler said.

To get started, Reggler and his colleague Dr. Tanja Daws set out to educate themselves on how to start up a practice, using research from the Netherlands and a Dying with Dignity webinar among their materials. They ended up writing a handbook that's being used in many communities across Canada.

As they've found, it's not as easy as just agreeing to be a provider. Aside from the training for the act itself there is complicated paperwork to get through — a recent report from the BC Coroners Service found 40 per cent of MAID case files from 2016 were missing forms.

Equitable remuneration for time served has yet to be worked out properly. Providers get a flat fee for administering the death, with a cap on their time that does not allow for the many tasks involved before and after.

"Doctors are not likely to take a very large reduction on income for what is very intensive work," Reggler said. "There are still no billing codes to allow doctors to bill appropriately for MAID services. Because of the way doctors are able to bill, they are better off staying at their home offices."

## CRISIS OF CONSCIENCE

Reggler now routinely asks all his patients age 75 and older whether they would like him to include a conversation about MAID if they receive a terminal diagnosis. Between 90 and 95 per cent have said they would.

"In a way, that shouldn't be surprising, because 86 per cent of people in B.C. support MAID, and 80 per cent of Catholics do — despite the position of the church against it," he said.

The percentage of Canadian doctors that support MAID has been significantly lower than the rest of the population, however. A report by the Canadian Medical Association published in 2015 found its members were evenly divided on the issue of legalizing assisted dying, and the number of respondents who said they would offer the service were a "significant minority."

In addition to the fact that providing MAID was a criminal act until just last year, this reluctance has a lot to do with doctors' training about the purpose of medicine, which is based on the concept of "primum non nocere." Segen's Medical Dictionary interprets the Latin "first, do no harm" term as "a guiding principle for physicians that, whatever the intervention or procedure, the patient's well-being is the primary consideration."

Doctors may struggle to accept the idea that a patient's well-being is best served by ceasing to live, while supporters of medically assisted death take a more liberal view.

"It shouldn't amount to a denial



Jonathan Reggler

of service," said Joan Farlinger, a co-founder of Dying with Dignity Salt Spring. "The Supreme Court issued its ruling, and it was a good ruling."

"I always think of it as 'Do no harm.' And you're doing harm by forcing people to suffer," Okulitch added.

If professionals trained in the health sciences have their doubts about assisted death, the religious community is often opposed; taking a life for any reason is forbidden in many faiths. That becomes a problem when patients are admitted to Christian facilities, which are sometimes the only type available.

A 1995 agreement between Island Health and facilities run by religious organizations allows those bodies not to provide services they don't agree with. The agreement was drafted to cover abortion, but Reggler said it is now being stretched to include MAID as well. That's different from individual doctors and nurses exercising their right to withdraw for personal reasons.

"It's a big problem — 20 per cent of residential care beds on Vancouver Island are in control of religious entities," Reggler said. "I think the idea of a facility being able to claim it's a conscientious objector is wrong. Bricks and mortar can't have a conscience."

The Ontario College of Physi-

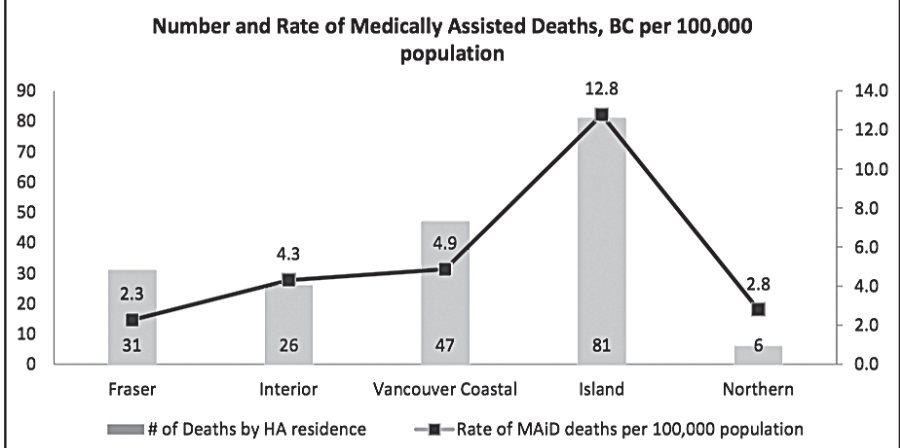
cians and Surgeons is so far the only Canadian jurisdiction that requires doctors to provide an "effective referral" for patients who are seeking an assisted death if they themselves object to providing one, but that policy has been challenged in court by the Christian Medical and Dental Society.

Self-referral is available in jurisdictions like Island Health. That is insufficient according to Dying with Dignity Canada.

"We don't think it's fair that someone who has a terminal cancer diagnosis be given a website or phone number to do their own research. We believe medical practitioners should have the right not to provide, but that must be balanced with the patient's right to care," said DWDC spokesperson Cory Ruf, adding the case could pose a troubling precedent if CMDS wins.

He said Dying with Dignity executive director Shanaaz Gokool has made a point of collecting the stories of people denied access and is taking them as the organization's "north star" for future action.

"Something Shanaaz always says is in human rights, your work is never done. You still have to be vigilant to ensure that right is protected," Ruf said.



Source: BC Coroners Service

ISLANDS TRUST

# Trustees explore ways Islands Trust could do more

Open space session takes first steps

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Islands Trust Council dove deep at its quarterly meeting in Victoria last week to contemplate changes that could be made to its powers with and without amending the Islands Trust Act.

The exercise arose from a council motion made one year ago and expanded to identify about 20 areas where the Trust could explore making changes.

"We took the top 20 or so and gathered some information around them," explained Trust chief administrative officer Russ Hotsenpiller in introducing an "open space" exercise for trustees. "For some, however, and particularly one or two of the potential amendments, there's been so much work done over such a long period of time that's

it not really a question of will these go forward or not. A lot of that work has already occurred."

Hotsenpiller was referring to a request to change the corporate structure and name of the Trust Fund Board — the land-and-covenant-holding arm of the Islands Trust — to better reflect its land conservation activities, and to add "First Nations" to the list of those with whom the Trust works "in cooperation."

Council has also discussed seeking provincial government funding for the Trust Fund Board rather than having costs covered entirely by Trust-area property tax requisitions.

Other ideas proposed for feedback purposes ranged from seeking the ability to acquire land for affordable housing purposes to bringing in business licences — mainly to help regulate short-term vacation rentals — and pursuing tree-cutting regulations. Allowing Salt Spring Island to have four trust-

ees instead of the two granted all islands was another item up for discussion. A Salt Spring referendum on that subject failed in 2008.

**"I'd hate to see us pursue [changes] that are controversial or difficult in a way that might prevent us from getting the more important ones accomplished quickly."**

TONY LAW  
Hornby Island trustee

Trustees circulated around the meeting room at the Victoria Marriott Inner Harbour to offer ideas and ask questions connected to the different topics.

The meeting noted that some existing tools are not being used, such as local Trust committees enacting tax requisitions to fund specific projects. Salt Spring's LTC has used that power in the past few years to fund the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority.

Beyond pursuing the Trust Fund Board and First Nations cooperation ideas, the appetite for broad strokes of change did not appear to be huge at the meeting.

"I don't want to see us proposing any legislative changes except those two without going back to our communities first and making sure there is public support for them," said Hornby Island trustee Tony Law. "I'd hate to see us pursue ones that are controversial or difficult in a way that might prevent us from getting the more important ones accomplished quickly."

A full list of the potential amendments with accompanying staff analysis is available in the Dec. 5-7 Trust Council agenda package on the Islands Trust website.

Two Salt Spring residents addressed council as a delegation after the Dec. 6 workshop, urging the Trust to find ways to improve inter-agency coordination and collaboration to improve local governance. Peter Lamb and Patricia Lockie, representing a group called Positively Forward that grew out of the Positively NO committee during the island's incorporation referendum process, said a survey of "no" voters had found lack of coordination in local governance among top concerns.

The text of their presentation is published on page 8 of this week's Driftwood.

Trust Council meets next on Salt Spring Island. Dates are March 13-15, 2018.

SCHOOL BOARD

## Mayne parents make pitch for daycare

Galiano model successful example

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Board of Education has lent its support to an initiative that hopes to bring the first licensed daycare facility to Mayne Island by September 2018.

Meaghan Feduck and Amy Dearden of the Mayne Island Early Childhood Society gave a presentation to the board on Wednesday, Dec. 6 on the need for licensed childcare in their community and made the case for having it integrated into the Mayne Island School. They met with strong support from the board, who saw the advantage for the school district and the community at large.

"Your goals are our goals and we're glad to have the opportunity to build the learning community on Mayne Island," said board chair Rob Pingle.

MIECS plans to share a room used for the district's Strong Start program on the three days a week when that program is not in session. They have already received a Capital Regional District grant of \$42,000 for renovations and supplies.

The society has done plentiful research, including a community survey, to prove the need. With no licensed daycare on the island and very few unlicensed spots, it's not surprising that parents of young children said childcare was their top priority.

The need is only becoming more acute with a recent workforce shortage on Mayne, which caused difficulties this year during the busy summer

months. The presenters said around five families have left the island in the past three years.

"The demographic shift and current labour shortage indicates the growing need for a younger workforce on Mayne Island. Offering childcare will allow more parents to work," Feduck said.

In addition to helping families stay on the island, the project is expected to support learning by establishing the school as the hub of the community. Mayne School principal Margo Cullen was at the meeting to support the initiative.

The school board voted to write a letter of support in principle. The district's chief financial officer Rod Scotvold said agreements around resource sharing and operations can be largely based on a similar project that went into effect on Galiano Island in September.

EDUCATION

## SD64 hiring plan approved

Superintendent call to extend to B.C.

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Board of Education is taking up the recommendation of its personnel committee on how to find a new superintendent for the district following the announcement that Lisa Halstead will leave that position as of August 2018.

School board chair Rob Pingle said the goal is to have the position posted in January, with the search to extend outside the district but limited to within British Columbia.

"Knowing who we are hiring by spring break will definitely be the most beneficial outcome to ensure we transition as smoothly as possible," Pingle said.

Pingle said anyone within the Gulf Islands district who is qualified is welcome to apply, but the board will not simply hire a new person from existing staff as they did when previous superintendent Jeff Hopkins announced his resignation in 2012.

"The purpose of going to an external search is ensuring we have the support for the final posting. It was highly unusual that Lisa was just appointed — doing that two times in a row would be twice

as unusual," Pingle said.

Promising applicants can be compared against the requirements once on the shortlist, he explained.

"I think that only confirms the validity of that candidate, whether they're internal or external," Pingle said.

Pingle said the board is supportive of Halstead's decision and is not entirely surprised she's giving up the job after putting in five years, which is a normal timeline for the high-responsibility role.

"We're not disappointed. Everything Lisa has done is above and beyond in her mindfulness of the situation," Pingle said.

**Shop Local & Save!**



**Salt Spring Appliance SALES & REPAIR**

- 40 different brands
- match Vancouver Island competitors prices
- in-home consultation
- we deliver & install

info@saltspringappliance.com  
saltspringappliance.com **250 537 5596**

*I will help you design your dream home*



**Dennis Maguire Architect**

Serving the Gulf Islands with experience, imagination and professionalism

PH: **250-800-1460**  
WEBSITE: **www.dmarchitect.ca**

**RECYCLING DEPOT HOLIDAY HOURS**

WE SUGGEST CLIPPING THIS AD AND STICKING IT ON YOUR FRIDGE

SUNDAY Dec. 3 <del>Closed</del>	MONDAY Dec. 4 <del>Closed</del>	TUESDAY Dec. 5 Open	WEDNESDAY Dec. 6 Open	THURSDAY Dec. 7 Open	FRIDAY Dec. 8 Open	SATURDAY Dec. 9 Open
SUNDAY Dec. 10 <del>Closed</del>	MONDAY Dec. 11 <del>Closed</del>	TUESDAY Dec. 12 Open	WEDNESDAY Dec. 13 Open	THURSDAY Dec. 14 Open	FRIDAY Dec. 15 Open	SATURDAY Dec. 16 Open
SUNDAY Dec. 17 <del>Closed</del>	MONDAY Dec. 18 <del>Closed</del>	TUESDAY Dec. 19 Open	WEDNESDAY Dec. 20 Open	THURSDAY Dec. 21 Open	FRIDAY Dec. 22 Open	SATURDAY Dec. 23 Open
SUNDAY Dec. 24 <del>Closed</del>	MONDAY Dec. 25 <del>Closed</del>	TUESDAY Dec. 26 <del>Closed</del>	WEDNESDAY Dec. 27 <del>Closed</del>	THURSDAY Dec. 28 Open	FRIDAY Dec. 29 Open	SATURDAY Dec. 30 <del>Closed</del>
SUNDAY Dec. 31 <del>Closed</del>	MONDAY Jan. 1 <del>Closed</del>					

Regular hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm  
349 Rainbow Road • 250-537-1200  
The Recycling Depot is operated by SSI Community Services Society

# OPINION



2017 CCNA Awards  
Gold - Best All-Round | Gold - Best Editorial Page | Silver - Best Front Page | Silver - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)  
Silver - Best Coverage of the Arts | Best Community Newspaper Magazine (Aqua - Gulf Islands Living)  
Silver - Best Print Innovation (Driftwood wall calendar) | Silver - Best Print Ad (Home Hardware fall fair catalogue)

2017 BCYCNA Awards  
Gold - Best Cartoonist (Dennis Parker)



## EDITORIAL

# Local change

Despite Salt Spring voting against incorporation in September's referendum, the consensus is that local governance can still be improved.

That point was even made by representatives of the winning "no" side in the referendum last week when they addressed Islands Trust Council in Victoria. Patricia Lockie and Peter Lamb told the Trust that a survey of "no" voters found "a broad base of support on Salt Spring for changes aimed at strengthening the efficacy of the Islands Trust and its work."

But something that was made clear at the Trust Council session in Victoria last week is that legislative changes are not approved without a long and thorough process. Since the Islands Trust Act is provincial legislation, it requires complete provincial government buy-in at the bureaucratic and political levels.

### THE ISSUE:

Local government communication

### WE SAY:

Agencies must work together

was basically not interested in what should be a fairly innocuous change and so it was given a pass on three occasions.

Enacting legislative changes and getting consensus for change among trustees from 13 disparate islands — or the communities they represent — is just not going to happen in the foreseeable future.

As identified in both the "no-side" post-referendum survey and the incorporation campaign itself, better communication and coordination between the various government agencies serving Salt Spring is what is really needed to improve governance on Salt Spring. It would no doubt aid governance on other Trust islands as well.

A good start would be to schedule regular monthly inter-agency meetings. More formal arrangements such as creating service coordination agreements between the Trust and regional district would be beneficial.

It doesn't matter whether leadership for change comes from the Islands Trust or the Capital Regional District. Lack of coordination and communication is the biggest flaw in our local government system.

We can make great strides by fixing that problem now.

An example is the Trust's attempt to change the name and corporate structure of the Trust Fund Board. It's the separate arm of the Trust that conserves ecologically sensitive lands through purchases and covenants. The previous provincial government



VIEWPOINT by Bob Weeden

# Grateful for a generous community

A while ago the GISS 2017 graduation brochure fell off my shelf. I read it. Ninety-eight young people graduated, and the community donated 81 bursaries or scholarships. Ten were for technical skill development, 40 for more academics, and 31 recognized great work during high school years.

Yesterday I read the Dec. 6 Gulf Islands Driftwood, and I was so impressed with the number and variety of things volunteers are doing that I made a rough tally.

I can't list them all. To sum up, I found news of eight different free events given by painters, singers, poets and storytellers; four activities raising money for food and clothing for people in need on the island, two sending help (solar cookers; food) to Africa; and four offering specific services from grieving workshops to safe operation of wood stoves and fireplaces.

On top of that, the Driftwood carried major stories (Burgoyne liquid waste facility, Ganges boardwalk) that involve citizens thoroughly engaged in community development.

All this makes me glad to be here. (We lived in another giving community, Fairbanks, Alaska, for three decades, but it is warmer here.)

My guess is that community volunteers will be way more important as the years go by. You may recall economist Jeremy Rifkin's 1995 book, *The End Of Work*, in which he predicted that automation will put more and more people out of work, shrinking the labour force even while human numbers rise. Six per cent unemployment worries us now; he predicts joblessness at 20 to 25 per cent. Our first reaction is despair: How

will people live? A lot of people have given us economic alternatives, basically answering what we can do with the money machines save.

I'll venture two possibilities. One is to revitalize our physical community infrastructure, because in the last half century of high living we haven't spent the money ("Don't raise my taxes!") to maintain it. Example: the North Salt Spring Waterworks District tells us we lose from three to four times as much water out of leaky pipes than "industry norms." It will take a lot of money to plug them. I'll bet Canada easily could invest \$1 trillion over the next 20 years just on that sort of thing. Very likely we could invest twice that much to repair the damage we've done to forests, the air, soils, freshwaters and oceans while getting rich.

There's no shortage of work to do.

Even if we take those jobs seriously we'll still live lives with a lot more free time than now. Our concern today is still survival, but we are meant for more than that. At least so we tell ourselves.

If we do come to a time of more leisure for more folks, isn't that a time to figure out what that "something more" is? And we aren't ready for it. Productive leisure will require as much training as productive work — more, at first, because in 250,000 years we've never had that problem.

Back to solid island ground and my pleasure in being part of this community. It's the best Christmas gift I can imagine.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident, biologist and author.

There's no shortage of work to do.

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

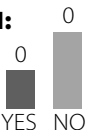
## Do you agree with the Site-C dam decision?

Yes  No

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

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Not available due to technical glitch!



# Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR  
328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3  
Ph: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll Free: 1-877-537-9934  
Email: driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com  
Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday  
Subscription Rates: In the Gulf Islands \$52.50  
Elsewhere in Canada \$88.20\* Foreign: \$235.00\*  
Digital Edition: \$39.85 anywhere | Prices include GST  
Digital Edition with Print Edition subscription additional 1yr \$12.60 | 2 yr \$18.90

Editorial: Elizabeth Nolan

Front office: James Burton, Johanna Walker

Advertising: Drew Underwood

Amber Ogilvie  
PUBLISHER  
aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Gail Sjuberg  
MANAGING EDITOR  
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Lorraine Sullivan  
PRODUCTION MANAGER  
production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Funded by the Government of Canada



Canada Publication Mail No. 0040050837  
International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



# ISLAND VOICES

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** "Every day I spent with Heather was such an honour."

CHELSEA JONES, ABOUT HER SISTER HEATHER JONES

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** What is your favourite holiday-season movie?



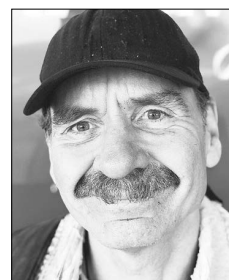
**GAYE GARDINER**  
*A Christmas Story — with the leg lamp.*



**MAGGIE O'SCALLEIGH**  
*Die Hard, of course!*



**SARAH JUTZI (WITH ARWEN)**  
*That classic Rudolph is pretty good.*



**STEVE SIGURGEIRSON**  
*It's a Wonderful Life.*



**TROY DUNNETT**  
*The Sound of Music and Home Alone.*

## Letters to the editor

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

### Apply policies equally

When elected politicians change or rescind laws or reinterpret and disregard others to give themselves freedoms not given to some, we are witnessing an unacceptable duplicity of justice that has nothing to do with "expediency of process" or "getting the job done," and has everything to do with an arbitrary application of the law, which favours one individual or group over another. Locally I am referring to completion of the Ganges harbourwalk.

The result of this action, that withholds from one and gives to another, is what Islands Trust planner Jason Youmans noted in his report of Oct. 13, 2016. Youmans indicated that if the Salt Spring Local Trust Commit-

tee's proposal for the Ganges harbourwalk ignored the requirement to demonstrate potable water while at the same time refusing three other rezoning applications for their failure to demonstrate the same, some might view this "as inconsistent with previous decisions related to this question." (It's on page 55 of the report.)

It is not acceptable that the rezoning applications of three developers were refused by our LTC for failing to comply with the same bylaws and regulations our LTC chose to disregard for the harbourwalk issue. If we are not equal before the law and equally subject to it then there is cause for concern.

The arbitrary application of any law or the disregard of others by any government to achieve any goal regardless of any perceived benefit needs

to cause concern to all individuals interested in freedom, equality and justice before the law. We need to demand our governments, and in this case our LTC, comply with the same laws as everyone else.

At a time when personal freedoms and basic human rights are eroding and being abused throughout the world, we must be vigilant and stand in opposition when we observe any disregard for equality before the law, even if it is only seen on our small island and even if the miscarriage of justice appears very small.

The issue here is how our elected Trust committee works towards achieving goals. It is rightfully assumed that in their efforts they will comply with the same laws, regulations and restrictions that govern us all. Therefore let our vigilance and careful

attention be used to help support our LTC to achieve their highest level of political integrity and let our concern for the fair application of the law be used to encourage our LTC to apply all laws equally to all.

**PATRI JANYK,**  
SALT SPRING

### Mark the date for fire talks

The holiday season is now upon us. And then we Salt Springers will find ourselves in a new year. It won't be as dramatic a one as 2017 with its incorporation referendum. However, all sorts of community issues still remain to be resolved. One of these issues is the future of fire protection on Salt Spring.

Please save the date on your new 2018 calendars: Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Lions Hall. That's

when your Salt Spring Island fire board is inviting you to a community consult on the fire protection challenges now facing all of us.

Why is this meeting being held? It's for two reasons. First, the current fire board wants to report on three things: what was done, what was decided and what has been delayed over the last year. But that's just to provide you with necessary background for what will then follow.

We want community input at this meeting, as much as we can get, on the important, and potentially costly, decisions that must soon be made. These include district governance issues, improving firefighting access to water sources, scheduling equipment purchases and, of course, planning for a new, cost-efficient fire hall. And,

of course, you will have time to bring up other issues you think must also be considered. That your fire board listens and learns from you before we spend additional taxpayer dollars seems only right.

You will hear a great deal more about this meeting early in the new year. And, of course, the fire board will also be using many other methods to obtain stakeholder feedback on important fire protection issues. But for now, please set the evening of Jan. 24 aside for the first of what will be a series of fire board community consults. And then enjoy your Christmas holiday!

**SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

MORE LETTERS continued on 9

# Island's hospital fills prescription for caring

I've recently taken to spending much of my time on the bench outside Lady Minto Hospital's main entrance. I've come to see it as my civic duty to circumvent the cost of an ambulance when Dr. Google inevitably tells me my time has come.

So now, as soon as I've googled my symptoms and verified what I have, I need only put my head around the corner to summons a stretcher once, of course, I have taken a number.

I like to get there early so I have Number 1 and then graciously wave people in ahead of me until I am completely satisfied what it is that ails me. Where your run-of-the-mill GP will probably allow you just one piddling malady, Dr. Google will throw up a cornucopia of chronic diseases, each more contagious and therefore more interesting than the next.

Itchy palms, for instance. When I was a young man with only the Big Boys' Book of Medical Emergencies (Unexpurgated, except for the rude bits which had been expurgated by the school's librarian) to refer to "itchy palms" simply meant you were coming into some money. Nowadays, it's atopic dermatitis at the very least, psoriasis if you're lucky, all the way up to pregnancy, which would be simply showing off

in my case. Anyway, I know all the other symptoms of pregnancy because I've had them, googled them and eventually eliminated them as unlikely to convince the doctor.

But I digress. This was intended as an homage to Lady Minto Hospital, the best little cottage hospital pretty much anywhere. If there's a Michelin Guide for the Chronic Hypochondriac, Lady Minto is a seven-star infirmary.

Let me tell you, I've seen the inside of some hospitals in my time. Some of them were also what the Brits like to call "cottage hospitals" which conjures bucolic images of thatched roofs and hollyhocks around the emergency department entrance. But more likely it means the chief surgeon is also the village motor mechanic.

At the other end of the scale there are monstrosities like Southampton General, which is caring on an industrial scale. Where Lady Minto has a glass cabinet selling knitted knickknacks, Southampton General has a shopping mall offering everything from a hernia truss to a new Honda. You can enter that hospital a



**Paul McElroy**

### AND ANOTHER THING

spry 40-year-old and by the time you've got to the reception desk you'll be looking for the geriatric wing. I lost my mum at the General once and found her two hours later in a maternity bed. She was 81 . . .

This is not to say the staff there were less than caring, I guess, but nurses in a hospital the size of a small town have their hands full and you can't help but worry in a hospital that issues its porters with satnavs.

Lady Minto, on the other hand, is a bedpan boutique, a charming little oasis of wellbeing where, I imagine, each bedpan cover is lovingly crocheted by the staff.

If you can swing it, get a bed in the emergency room. It's better than Netflix, and a great source of prospective malaise. Not that I'm nosy, but I couldn't help noticing that the people behind the curtains around me had some pretty interesting excuses for being there. Better than mine, at any rate.

I do in fact have a medical background — my mum drove an ambulance — and would have been quite happy to help out the doctor and nurses. They had only to ask.

However, the Hippocratic Oath (and probably the laws of libel) forbid me regaling you with the full gruesome details of the other admissions while I lay at death's door on an emergency room cot. (As it turned out, I wasn't even in death's near-neighbourhood, but you can't be too careful), and what I can tell you is that we were all ministered to in a manner that wouldn't have embarrassed Mother Teresa.

There was a cheery doctor, an apprentice doctor, nurses, blood testers, heart checkers, an X-ray guy and, for all I know, an exorcist, all hovering for a chance to put things right with the smooth-running no-nonsense efficiency of a Formula One pit-stop team. I wasn't even allowed to walk to the emergency reception but was wheeled there in a wheelchair, which was a tad embarrassing but nonetheless gratifying that somebody had finally recognized my great frailty.

I'm reminded of the inscription on the grave of Spike Milligan, a great British eccentric. It reads simply: "I TOLD you I was sick," and if I've got to be sick, the Lady Minto is where I intend it to happen.

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Now is the time  
to mail out your  
personalized  
calendars, cards  
and mugs!



250.537.9917 #3-121 McPhillips Ave  
applephoto@saltspring.com



JEWELLERY



WOODWORK



BASKETRY



POTTERY



ART



GIFTS

NOV 24th ~ DEC 21st  
daily 10 ~ 5 Mahon Hall

WINTERCRAFT

salt spring  
arts council

# 'Positively Forward' group urges changes

The following is text of a delegation to Islands Trust Council at its quarterly meeting in Victoria held Dec. 6.

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE AND  
PETER LAMB

We speak to you on behalf of a new group on Salt Spring Island, one that grew out of the Positively NO campaign following the recent incorporation referendum.

The group is called Positively Forward, a name chosen to reflect our goal of promoting initiatives that many Salt Springers think would improve local governance.

We believe that Trust Council's move to consider possible legislative changes is timely in light of a new provincial government, as well as in the context of the recent Salt Spring incorporation referendum and what was made clear by voters during that campaign.

Most importantly, the decisive rejection of incorporation on Salt Spring re-affirms support for the Islands Trust and its preserve and protect mandate; however, there still may be governance and legislative changes that would allow the Trust to better implement its mandate.

As you are aware, the Islands Trust has now experienced three incorporation referenda since the incorporation of Bowen Island in 1999, two on Salt Spring and one on Gabriola, all decisively defeated.

The high cost to taxpayers of these exercises is concerning enough, but more significant for Salt Spring was the divisiveness caused in our community and the lost years and opportunities to move forward on governance issues of real importance to islanders, issues that are now being seriously discussed within our community.

We would like you to hear two key messages from the feedback we received during and following the campaign.

The first message is that Salt Springers consider the Islands Trust essential to the preservation of the island and its way of life. Regardless of other reasons people had for voting "no," the importance of maintaining the presence of the Islands Trust on Salt Spring and enforcing the "preserve and protect" mandate

was raised repeatedly.

This observation was reinforced by a post-referendum survey of "No" supporters where respondents ranked "preserve and protect the Islands Trust" as the top reason for their vote against incorporation, followed by "risks of over-development" and a perceived need to safeguard the "rural island character."

"No" supporters also told us that separation of land-use decision-making from service delivery was key to the ability of the Islands Trust to "preserve and protect." They also felt that this unique method of administering government functions contributes in no small measure to the prevailing rural culture of Salt Spring.

The second key message is that a "no" vote was not a vote in favour of the status quo. While dissatisfaction was largely centred around infrastructure and service delivery issues, some concerns related to the operations and legislative mandate of the Islands Trust. These include a strong desire for better communications between the various agencies and with the public, including expanded "town hall" meetings, and suggestions for better coordination of bylaw enforcement for specific issues such as tree-cutting and STVRs. These particular concerns were also reflected in the post-referendum survey.

Based on this community feedback, we believe there is a broad base of support on Salt Spring for changes aimed at strengthening the efficacy of the Islands Trust and its work. These changes may, or may not, require governance or legislative amendments. We further believe that this appetite for changes to enhance the work of the Trust is likely shared by communities on other Trust-area islands.

## The Trust Council program

We have followed your internal review of potential amendments and listened to the trustees workshop discussion earlier today.

In general, we support council's plan to "improve the delivery and integration of all types of services in the Trust area." We'd like to

now offer a few preliminary comments that we hope will be taken into consideration.

First, Salt Springers wish to see changes to local governance that would improve coordination and collaboration at both the political and the staff levels. They are looking for something more immediate than legislative changes which may, or may not, be arrived at in the distant future. So, our request to Trust Council today is why not focus on what can be accomplished within the Trust's existing powers and authority?

For example, under Section 8 (2b) of the Islands Trust Act, you have the authority to coordinate and assist with inter-agency collaboration on policies related to the Trust mandate. Section 10 allows Trust Council to delegate those powers — as has been implemented for potable water concerns on Salt Spring. Thus, it appears that a local Trust committee could coordinate regional district and improvement district policies on each island, if the agencies involved were willing to participate.

## The second key message is that a "no" vote was not a vote in favour of the status quo.

Similarly, Section 37 of the act deals exclusively with service coordination agreements with regional districts. There is merit in fully exploring the potential of this section with regard to regional district services, while still maintaining the critically important principle of separation of land-use planning authority from delivery of services.

The need for improved governance action is urgent. This has been recognized as such by Municipal Affairs Minister Selina Robinson, who recently expressed in a letter to elected officials on Salt Spring the need for cooperation and communication among planning agencies, the CRD and improvement districts, strongly echoing what many Salt Springers were saying during the referendum campaign.

The minister's letter also sug-

gests support for a pilot project on Salt Spring (perhaps including funding?) to explore enhanced inter-agency communications and collaboration.

Our second comment is that, however you choose to proceed, we urge you to include meaningful public engagement for all island communities in the process of governance reform. On Salt Spring, it would be easy to harness the interest of groups such as Positively Forward and the new Salt Spring Community Alliance to foster broad community involvement.

Finally, there is some public support for revisiting the earlier proposal for four local trustees on the Salt Spring LTC, which would require a legislative amendment. This was unanimously approved by Trust Council but, with limits imposed by the ministry on council voting, rejected in a 2008 referendum. However, there is also support on Salt Spring now for additional regional district elected representatives and we suggest that the four-trustees option would require evaluation within the total local electoral context.

In closing, Salt Spring has expressed its faith in the Islands Trust and we look to Trust Council for strong leadership. The Islands Trust is, by virtue of its mandate, the only green-by-design local governance system in Canada. As such — in this time of unprecedented ecological collapse — it has an extraordinary opportunity and responsibility to be as effective as possible and a model for others.

We encourage you to first focus on using the authority you already have in order to improve coordination and collaboration among government agencies on Salt Spring. We further urge you to seek input from and heed the advice of your island communities in pursuing legislative and other improvements. This should be done sooner rather than later.

We look forward to participating in a collaborative public process whose goal is an Islands Trust better able to meet the needs of the islands it serves.

The writers are members of what is now called the Positively Forward group.

## RANTS and Roses

### Roses

The Fulford Hall Christmas Fair committee sends a big thank you to all of our volunteers and artisans who made the fair such a great success. Thanks to all those who came out to decorate the hall and thanks to the kitchen goddesses Nancy and Mary Lou, Ann and Susan, who ran our upper kitchen; Jacqueline, in decadent desserts; Paula, who kept our cash in order; Brian, for keeping us on the straight and narrow; Bev, Gladys and John, John and Margaret and Flo for their years of support. Thanks to kitchen elves Angelina, Carmen, Emily, Devyn, Rebba, Daphne, Dean and Shaun for a tasty Friday dinner. Thanks to all those who contributed food and goodies, and Country Gro-

cer, Upper Ganges Liquor Store, Thrifty's and Windsor Plywood for always supporting our community. We thank you all and wish you a very happy festive season.

A fragrant bouquet of roses to all the servers, dishwashers, bakers, cooks and volunteers of every stripe who donated their valuable time to make this year's Beaver Point Hall Christmas Craft Fair a success. Once again Salt Springers have proven that it takes willing individuals coming together to build a community. We hope to see you all again next year!

Roses to the volunteers at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Centre for lost and found assistance.

### Notice of Christmas Holiday Closure Eagle Ridge Clinic

please note:

We close **Friday December 22 @ 2:30 pm**  
And will re-open on **January 2 @ 9:30 am**

To our patients: Please check to make sure  
you have enough of your  
medications for the holiday break.

Happy Holidays from all of us!



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**IN FULL VOICE:**

Members of the Christmas With Scrooge cast sing at the Extended Care Unit at Lady Minto Hospital on Monday evening. The group also paid a visit to Braehaven and Greenwood, and Salt Spring Elementary School on Tuesday morning. The local production runs Dec. 20-23 at ArtSpring, but all of the shows are already sold out.

**MORE LETTERS**

continued from 7

**Help for hungry times**

As the joyous holiday season approaches, my brother and I are regrettably reminded that our fair island can be a hungry home for some. We have therefore put pen to

paper in order to remind our friends and neighbours that there are several opportunities to help.

All through December, whenever you come to ArtSpring to enjoy an event, you can bring a non-perishable donation along and put it in one of the boxes near the entrance. There are also boxes set out at Country Grocer and Thrifty Foods. And there is a delightful display of jolly trees decorated by several of the island's chari-

table groups at the Harbour House and you can leave some food bank gifts under your favourite.

We so look forward this year to seeing everyone's table full of your generosity!

We sincerely hope you all will open your hearts and wallets in thinking of all those who particularly need a little extra aid at this time of year.

**MARTHA AND TIM CRACHIT,**  
CHRISTMAS WITH SCROOGE

**Consuming innocence starts early**

BY GLEN WILSON

My two year old just had the first Christmas that she will remember. We chose not to be excessive and did not intend to get her much. I hoped that we could sail past it with little fanfare. So far, her life was one of being easily satisfied by the immediate.

Of course Santa came into the picture and we helped create the Santa magic. She liked Santa, but her biggest interest over the season was Frosty. She learned a lot about Frosty the Snowman. She watched the old movie about him maybe five or 10 times. Making her first snowman was a huge event to her. For her new brain, possible permanent memories made were Santa and Frosty and the Snowman.

Santa was of lesser importance, but he did help her to not be afraid of masks. There were scary masks on display in the restaurant that we go to often, and one afternoon Santa was there. He made magic happen and she lost her fear of them. I have no idea if this is a good or bad thing, but of course, as a parent, I have to wonder. This event, too, may be a permanent memory.

On Christmas morning there was an empty milk glass, an empty cookie plate and carrot bits left on the hearth from the reindeer. The room was filled with warmth and more magic. Stockings that were empty the night before were full.

She was interested in the stocking but not too much at first. We had to prompt her to look inside. The first present that she pulled out and opened was a package of three small plastic animals. She un-wrapped them with a bit of help and preceded to create realities with them in immediate spontaneous and enthusiastic play. We let this happen for a while, but everyone was waiting to open other presents. When we suggested that she reach into her stocking and get out another present she was just simply not interested. The first gift was enough. She handed the stocking to me and said, "You open it."

The long and short of it is that she had no concept of "more." It took her most of the day to be indoctrinated into this concept. By the end of the day she was actively looking for more presents and even attempting to open presents that were not hers.

By the end of one day our two-year-old daughter had graduated from satisfaction.

Is this what we really want for our children? Maybe so, for to be true North American citizens, being trained as a consumer at an early age fits the program.

It all starts somewhere.

I remember when another daughter, who is now 26, went to her first day of kindergarten. Her mother and I took her there and felt all of the feelings that all parents feel on that first day. We stayed in the class for a while and left when she

**INDEPTH**

was comfortable.

She came home with a Scholastic pamphlet and order forms. She was very excited about it and told us that we needed to help her order books. This was one of her first experiences of school that she brought home. I was completely furious. Catalogue shopping was introduced on the first day of kindergarten.

I was ballistic. The way new parents get when someone is messing with their child. I immediately went to the school and complained.

The teacher put me in my place quickly. Apparently the Scholastic book program is good for the kids and good for the school. The more books that the kids order with catalogue shopping at home, the more free books the school gets to order. This is a good thing!

Pretty awesome business plan. Even now, I probably would be scolded for countering such an honourable organization.

In all honesty, I know little about Scholastic and probably should have researched it before writing this. They may be a non-profit organization and they may direct funds to areas of the world where education is minimal. Of course I would support that. I wonder . . .

These beginning small things may have a large effect in the end. We knowingly help our children to learn to be the norm of the North American consumer, starting when they are very young. We also know that this consumerism creates the disrespect for peoples of the world and our environment.

Questioning what we do is necessary. Acting on what we learn from the questioning is next. To create a world that is supportive of all life and peoples, we must actively stop buying into the need to perpetually consume. We must participate and act to be part of a different world.

Quickly.

This is not meant to be recognition of doom. It is recognition of the power that we all have to affect change. We need to celebrate our ability to do the simple things in daily life that change the world. We need to feel the enjoyment of doing them.

Let go of fear and embrace innocent simplicity.

*Glen Wilson is a Salt Spring Island resident. He originally wrote this piece in 2015 when his daughter was two years old and submitted it to the Driftwood for publication this Christmas season.*

**Christmas Season ADVERTISING DEADLINES**

Please note the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Monday Dec 25 & Tuesday Dec 26. Open for usual business hours on Wednesday Dec. 27.

**ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR THE DEC. 27 PAPER:**

Display Advertising Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm  
Classified Display Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm  
Classified Word Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm

Please note the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Monday Jan. 1. Open for usual business hours on Tuesday Jan. 2.

**ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR THE JAN. 3 PAPER:**

Display Advertising Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm  
Classified Display Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm  
Classified Word Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm

**Driftwood**  
gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Capital Regional District **CRD**

**Volunteer Opportunity**  
Solid Waste Advisory Committee

The Capital Regional District is seeking volunteers to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The committee provides input on solid waste management matters and will advise on the development of a major revision of our region's Solid Waste Management Plan.

Interested? Please send a brief summary telling us about yourself, who you represent, your relevant experience and why you would like to serve on the committee. Deadline for receipt of applications is December 29, 2017.

For more information, please visit [www.crd.bc.ca/service/waste-recycling/solid-waste-management](http://www.crd.bc.ca/service/waste-recycling/solid-waste-management).

Send your application to:

Mail: CRD Environmental Resource Management  
625 Fisgard Street, Victoria BC, V8W 1R7

Phone: 250.360.3218  
Fax: 250.360.3047  
Email: [infoline@crd.bc.ca](mailto:infoline@crd.bc.ca)

Michelin BF Goodrich Uniroyal Bridgestone Toyo

**Salt Spring Auto Service**

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

from everyone at **Salt Spring Auto Service**

CALL US FOR COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICING BY OUR LICENSED TECHNICIANS

- Brakes • Exhaust • Steering • Tires (New and Used)
- Lube • Oil & Filter • Computer Diagnostics

We are a Government Designated Test Facility

**537-2876**

#2 - 319 Upper Ganges Road (across from Home Design Centre)  
Open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday

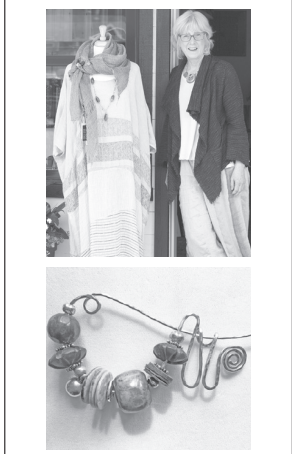
Riken Pirelli Michelin BF Goodrich Uniroyal Dunlop

Yokohama Armstrong Dunlop Firestone Hankook Good Year

# arts&entertainment

**SALT SPRING INN**  
 Open for Breakfast every day at 9am  
 Sunday Brunch served until 2pm  
 "Where Islanders & friends start their day"

The Driftwood Office will be closed on Friday Dec. 15 @ 12 noon.  
 We will be having our Christmas luncheon.



Brooches! Unique closures for shawls, sweaters and scarves. Gift certificates available. Merry Christmas!

**GIULIETTA DESIGNS**  
 GALLERY & STUDIO  
 Ganges Alley, 127-149 Fulford-Ganges Road  
 Thurs-Sat 11-4 • 250.931.1290  
 info@giuliettadesigns.com www.giuliettadesigns.com

**ARTS FUNDING**

## New donor program invests in island arts



PHOTOS BY DAVID BORROWMAN

Above: Gingerbread creation depicting Mahon Hall made by Robin Jenkinson and Buddy Pyper; at right, Gillian McConnell with her gingerbread house, with her mom Joan McConnell looking on. The halls were part of a Salt Spring Arts Council party on Sunday afternoon.



### SS Arts Council launches endowment fund

As the Salt Spring Arts Council gets ready to celebrate 50 years of supporting the local creative community in 2018, the board has started the festivities early by announcing the new Salt Spring Arts Council Endowment Fund.  
 The SSAC Endowment Fund is a special form of donating that will contribute to the stability of the organization and the ongoing success of its many programs. It will be managed through the Salt Spring Island Foundation.  
 "The SSAC will receive an annual 'dividend' from the endowment fund that will be held by the Salt Spring Foundation in perpetuity, in the same way that the Rosmarie Behnke Fund is held by the foundation. Both will provide annual disbursements to

support SSAC community programming," a press release from the arts council board states.  
 The Salt Spring Arts Council is a not-for-profit 200-plus member organization that supports and promotes the arts through events, education, partnership and advocacy. Alongside ArtCraft — B.C.'s longest-running fine arts and craft exhibition — SSAC delivers a wide array of cultural programs and workshops. It initiated the Salt Spring National Art Prize in 2015, operates a successful gallery and provides funding to emerging and established visual, literary, performing artists and artisans.  
 The new endowment fund was initiated with a \$10,000 donation from Janet Halliwell, a former arts council board member and long-term supporter.  
 "I am continually impressed by the dynamism and impact of the SSAC programs," Halliwell stated. "From Art Jam, through youth-oriented programming like Artists in the Class to SSNAP, the SSAC programs provide rich cultural benefit to all parts of our community. At the same time, I am enormously sensitive to the challenge of ensuring the sustainability of these programs through external grants. I encourage others to contribute to this fund and through it the cultural health of Salt Spring."  
 The board says the fund is suitable for donors wishing to make larger donations, who would like to leave a legacy and provide for the long-term future of SSAC. Arts council supporters can make a donation of cash or securities to the Salt Spring Foundation for the SSAC Endowment Fund. They will be pooled in sustainable funds managed by the foundation.

**Bach on the Rock Chamber Choir and Orchestra**  
 Conductor and music director  
**Michael Jarvis**  
**Messiah**  
 Concert Performance  
 1743 London Premiere Version  
**Saturday, December 16, 2017**  
 7:30 pm, ArtSpring  
 and  
**7th Annual Sing Along**  
 Sunday, December 17, 2017  
 2:00 pm, ArtSpring  
 Adults \$20, students \$5 (each concert)  
[bachontherock.org](http://bachontherock.org)  
 The Messiah is coming twice!  
**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

COUNTRY CROCKER presents  
 Newman Family Productions  
**CHRISTMAS with SCROOGE**  
 Musical Adaptation created by Ray & Virginia Newman (with apologies to Mr. Charles Dickens)  
 A De De De SOLD OUT & 7:30  
 graffiti PHARMASAVE THRIFTY FOODS salt spring arts council

Come celebrate our 20th birthday!  
 Transitions Thrift Store would like to give a heartfelt Thank You to our community for its generous support over the years.  
 Please come in Wednesday, Dec. 20th at 2:00 pm for cake and treats  
**Transitions Thrift Store** 250-537-0661  
 iway Island Women Against Violence

CERAMIC ARTS

# Mudpuppy Studios settles in to Salt Spring practice

First open studio day set for Dec. 22

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An experienced potter who is forging new roots on Salt Spring will open her home studio and gallery to the public on Friday, Dec. 22.

Mudpuppy Studios is the latest venture for Francine Hampson-Reid. Though fairly new to the island — she and her husband John Reid moved to the Channel Ridge neighbourhood from Calgary in August 2014 — she is deeply connected to the history of her craft on the West Coast. In a way, she's actually continuing a legacy, since her gas-fired kiln was partly built using bricks that came from the kiln of a renowned local potter who died in 2012.

"In January 2015 we spent the month hauling more than 1,000 bricks from Lari Robson's studio, back and forth, back and forth," Hampson-Reid recalled, describing it as a difficult but healing process for Robson's partner Diana Thompson.

The bricks are in good use in their new home, with the kiln anchoring the creative practice of someone who, like Robson, has spent decades specializing in salt-fired stoneware.

Hampson-Reid started learning ceramics at age 15 and then studied at the Sheridan School of Design in Mississauga and the Georgian College School of Design and Art in Barrie, Ont. While at the latter institution she learned under the influential English artist Robin Hopper. (He then moved to the West Coast where he set up the Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts and the region's famous studio scene.)

Hampson-Reid was at first drawn to traditional English pottery methods and learned the importance of mastering the technical aspects of things like throwing on the wheel, mixing her own glazes and achieving a successful firing. She opened studios early on in Springhill, Ont. and Hull, Que. Later she studied at the University of Calgary when the family moved to the city for Reid's work. They stayed there for 30 years.

The decisive turn to a specialty in salt firing came during a period when many artists were creating production molds of their designs and shining up the manufactured element with flamboyant hand-painting. Hampson-Reid's response was to produce a line of work that could not be mistaken for anything other than hand-made. (She believes it's up to the artist to educate people about the true costs of producing such work.) She mainly creates functional pieces produced on the wheel and then altered, although she also does some hand-built work.

Salt is added during the firing and vaporizes, creating a signature "orange peel" texture in the finish. The firing itself takes 24 hours and the kiln has to be watched throughout to make sure neither burner goes out. Reid has made the process more enjoyable by building a sauna nearby and a mirror system the couple can monitor through the glass door. They can jump out to relight the burners or adjust the damper as needed.

"The firing is a really fine dance of 'how much fuel' and 'how much air,' and because I've done this a long time I know what to do to get the results that I want," Hampson-Reid explained.

Mudpuppy Studios uses an electric kiln as well as the propane unit that incorporates bricks from Robson's oil-fuelled operation. The second is necessary for salt-firing because electric elements cannot withstand the havoc of vaporized mineral particulate during firing. Building it proved a challenge, though, both getting the provincial permit to run gas lines and then finding a pipe fitter



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Francine Hampson-Reid and John Reid stand next to their gas-fired kiln, constructed partly using bricks from the late Lari Robson's outfit. Above right: ceramic bowls made by Hampson-Reid and painted by her husband. Below: Reid's stamp trademarks Hampson-Reid's salt-fired functional stoneware.



who could connect them.

Other challenges in moving the studio from Calgary to Salt Spring involved getting used to the West Coast's humid atmosphere and water with a different pH level — factors that have huge impacts on how clay dries and fires. There was a year or so of heartbreaks before Hampson-Reid got it down, even with her deep knowledge and experience.

Since retiring, Reid has also been exploring the ceramic arts. He is interested in hand-built works using paper clay, in which wood fibres are mixed into the raw clay and then burned up during the firing, producing a light, textured material. Steel wire supports help define the form.

"I'm an emerging artist if you will. Even though I spent my life as a designer, I never really worked in clay too much, so now I'm kind of leveraging off what Francine knows and just doing my own thing," Reid said.

Some of his pieces combine curved ceramic platters with bases made of interesting wood, such as a section of burl maple. The couple has also collaborated on many projects that incorporate his designs and her clay work, such as a set of Salt Spring mugs with different island-themed stamps, and decorative bowls with hand painting.

Hampson-Reid's studio is at 148 Cormorant Cres.

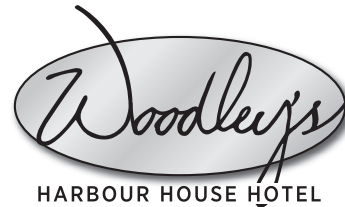
**Merry Monday** DECEMBER 18, 5:50 - 7:30pm

Complimentary hot chocolate, please bring a mug.  
Valdy will be leading the carolers!

**SALT SPRING Mercantile**

Fulford Harbour (250) 653-4321

Fresh pizza available by the slice or whole, on Merry Monday.



**Now Open!**

Serving Breakfast, Lunch, Drinks & Dinner

Join us to enjoy our tasty new offerings and comfortable refined ambience.

**Eat, Drink & Be Merry this Festive Season!**

**Christmas Day:** Invite family and friends to delight in our 3 course festive menu for \$40 pp.

**New Years Eve:** Ring in the New Year at Woodley's Farewell 2017 & Welcome 2018 in style!

**BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR TABLE**  
Reservations 250 537 4700



# what's on this week



## Wed. Dec. 13

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** Community members vote for best decorated tree with a food bank donation. Harbour House Hotel meeting room (rear entrance.) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Mother Goose.** Join Nomi and Hannah on Wednesdays in the Salt Spring Library Program Room for Parent-Child Mother Goose, with songs, rhymes and play-time. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

**SongJam.** Pub-style sing-along featuring secular holiday tunes. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.



## Thu. Dec. 14

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Mic.** Thursdays at Moby's. 8:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.

**National Theatre Live: Peter Pan.** Screenings at The Fritz at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca for tickets.

**Ganges Shop Local Social.** Join the merchants of Ganges for an evening of late shopping, specials & holiday cheer. 4 to 8 p.m.

## Thu. Dec. 14

### ACTIVITIES

**Menorah Lighting.** Official lighting ceremony of the eight-foot-tall public Menorah. Enjoy Sufganiyot (Israeli jelly donuts), dreidels, chocolate gelt and the sounds of Chanukah music. Centennial Park. 4 p.m.

**Glowlini Contest.** 7th annual Glowlini Contest runs at Meaden Hall. 7 p.m.



## Fri. Dec. 15

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Fabulous Flakes.** Live band at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.

**StoryWalk.** Walk from the library to Mout Park and to the pool, following a story along the path. All day, with crafts and activities at the library at 10 a.m.

**Salty Pear Christmas Bazaar.** Curated parlour adorned with a fresh and exciting array of small-batch, sustainably hand-made and locally sourced products. Salty Pear Gallery. 12 to 4 p.m.

## Fri. Dec. 15

### ACTIVITIES

**A South-end Christmas.** A program of readings from scripture and poetry will be interspersed with music by the Salt Spring choral group Women of Note and some traditional carols of the season sung by all. St. Mary's Anglican Church. 2 p.m.

## Sat. Dec. 16

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

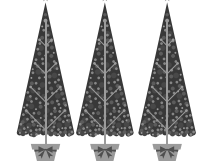
**Seasonal Stories and Songs.** A Grandmothers to Grandmothers fundraiser for the Stephen Lewis Foundation featuring Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales and its parody A Child's Christmas in Scarborough plus other poignant and humorous dramatic readings and music. SS United Church. 2 p.m.

**Handel's Messiah.** Bach on the Rock presentation of the Messiah in its original London premiere conception. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

**The Coalition.** Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.



## Sat. Dec. 16

### ACTIVITIES

**Salty Pear Christmas Bazaar.** See Friday's listing, plus ticketed evening celebration from 6 to 9 p.m.

**Salt Spring Christmas Saturday Market.** Open at Centennial Park. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



**Imp the Elf Book Launch.** Salt Spring author Roger Brunt celebrates the launch of the fourth elf book: Imp the Elf in the Valley of the Kings at the Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m. Elf treats, reading and more.

**9th Annual Cusheon Lake Christmas Carol Canoe Caravan.** Meet at the Cusheon Lake public dock, and then go caroling dock to dock-ish around the lake — or stay at the dock and sing. 1 to 4 p.m.

**Yule Rites & Sacred Feast: A Heathen Winter Solstice.** Celebrate the the ancient Germanic holy-day of winter solstice known with newlyweds Dan Ralph Miller and Leeann Verboom Miller at Beaver Point Hall. Opening ceremony 6 p.m., potluck feast at 7, followed by visit from Father Yule, toasts and glee.

## Sun. Dec. 17

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Handel's Messiah Sing-along.** Community members invited to bring your score and join in with Bach on the Rock. Scores also available to borrow. ArtSpring. 2 p.m.



### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.

**Salty Pear Christmas Bazaar.** See Friday's listing.

**Fulford Hall Rollerblading.** Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Info 250-653-4630.

**SS Unitarian Fellowship Potluck Supper.** Potluck supper to celebrate the solstice. SS Seniors Centre. 5 p.m. If you wish to come, please contact coordinator Katie Watters: ssucoordinator@gmail.com.

## Mon. Dec. 18

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.

**Merry Monday.** Annual carol-singing gathering with Valdy in Fulford, and shops stay open late. Singing begins at about 5:50 p.m. (after the ferry leaves) and continues until it arrives again at 7:35. Bring your own mug to fill with Christmas cheer.

## Tue. Dec. 19

### ACTIVITIES

**Festival of Trees.** See Wednesday's listing.

## Wed. Dec. 20

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Carols for Christmastide.** Annual community carol sing with All Saints' choir accompanied by choir director David Storm at the piano and organ. By-donation fundraiser for Salt Spring Food Bank. All Saints. 2 p.m.

**Christmas With Scrooge.** Newman Family Productions show at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. SOLD OUT

## Wed. Dec. 20

### ACTIVITIES

**Transitions Store 20th Anniversary.** Come to the shop for cake, songs and volunteer appreciation. 2 p.m.

**Festival of Trees.** See Thursday's listing.

**Mother Goose.** See last Wednesday's listing.



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



Cusheon Lake carol caravan takes place Saturday. FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**THE FRITZ CINEMA**  
901 North End Rd. 250-537-4656 Movie info: www.thefritz.ca  
To watch the previews of movies visit our website.

**National Theatre Live**  
**Peter Pan**  
One day only Thurs. Dec. 14  
3pm matinee + 7pm. All tickets \$22  
Email: thefritz@hotmail.ca to reserve tickets

130 min Rating: PG  
Dec. 15 to 21  
Fri. to Thurs.  
7pm  
Sun. 3pm  
matinee  
and 7pm

**THOR RAGNAROK**

**driftwoodgulfislands media.com/calendar/**  
VIEW OUR ONLINE COMPREHENSIVE INTERACTIVE  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTINGS**

**Seasonal Stories & Songs**  
Saturday, December 16th  
Salt Spring United Church • 2pm  
**THRIFTY FOODS**  
Ganges, Mout's Centre • Customer Service 250 537 1522

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:  
**news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com**

### CINEMA

• **Thor: Ragnarok** — Thor is imprisoned on a planet without his hammer and must get back to stop the destruction of Asgard by the ruthless Hela. But first he must survive a gladiatorial contest against the Incredible Hulk!  
• **National Theatre Live: Peter Pan** — Recorded live at the National Theatre. When Peter Pan loses his shadow, Wendy helps him to find it. One day only on Thursday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Email thefritz@hotmail.ca for tickets.

### EXHIBITIONS

• **League 181** shows Historic Vancouver, an exhibit of paintings based on archival photos, in the ArtSpring lobby through Dec. 23.  
• **Christmas Saturday Market in the Park** runs Dec. 16 and 23. Centennial Park. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
• **Gallery 8** holds its annual Christmas Exhibition of Small Works daily through Dec. 31.

### EXHIBITIONS

• **Salt Spring Gallery** presents its Solstice Show with gallery artists and special guests through Dec. 22.  
• **Wintercraft**, the annual show and sale of work by Gulf Islands artisans, presented by the Salt Spring Arts Council, runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Dec. 21.  
• **Artists From the Fringe** group members show work as part of Wintercraft at Mahon Hall through Dec. 21.  
• **Salty Pear Christmas Bazaar** runs Friday-Sunday, Dec. 15-17, from 12 to 4 p.m. at Salty Pear Gallery on Rainbow Road.  
• **Volunteer and Community Resources** wraps up Canada 150 with their 150 Days, 150 Volunteers, 150 Organizations exhibit running in the SS Library Program Room through December.  
• **Gabrielle Jensen** shares new work at Gulf Island Picture Framing.

**gulfislandsdriftwood.com/events/**

**getnoticed board**

Send your submissions to  
**news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com** or  
drop them off at the Driftwood office.  
Published in the first Driftwood  
of each month!  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY PATTISON SUBARU.

SEASONAL CONCERTS

# Dual Messiah shows allow for listening and singing

BotR performance plus annual singalong this weekend

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The now-annual holiday tradition that allows islanders to sing along to Handel's Messiah with Bach on the Rock will make a move to ArtSpring this Sunday, while the theatre will also be the place to hear the first full and complete performance of the oratorio on Saturday night.

Audiences for the Dec. 16 evening concert will be treated to the "First London" version of Handel's great work, reflecting the unique orchestration as it appeared on March 23, 1743.

Then people who enjoy adding their voices to the Salt Spring Chamber Choir and Salt Spring Chamber Orchestra are invited to return for an afternoon show on Dec. 17. It features the more familiar choruses and revised writing.

"I know the sing-along has become a very important event leading up to Christmas," said BotR director and conductor Michael Jarvis. "However, I've been really wanting to develop the choir and orchestra. And it sort of makes sense for the people of Salt Spring to hear the whole oratorio as Handel composed it — to the best of my knowledge it's never been done on Salt Spring."

The Messiah had its very first premiere in Dublin in the spring of 1742. Tickets were sold to benefit several local charities, but as Jarvis notes, the work soon "took on a life of its own." Handel improved on the rapidly written composition for the London premiere, but he did more rewrites later on and the work changed again to reflect the trend for ever larger choirs.

The Oxford University Press explains, "Today's performances do not reflect the scores of these initial performances. Handel revised the piece often, and current productions use one or another of these later ver-

sions." As well, "the full Messiah tells not only the Christmas story but also of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Groups that perform the oratorio at Christmas generally only perform the first part."

Jarvis said Saturday's audience will therefore hear some seldom-performed and beautiful airs and choruses that are different from what they are used to hearing at the sing-along.

"People should come to have an experience. The choir is very excited, and the orchestra is sounding fantastic," Jarvis said.

Saturday's orchestra will be restricted to strings, oboe, trumpet, timpani, harpsichord and organ (via keyboard). In order to perform the early version accurately, BotR has borrowed Baroque bows from UBC for its string section.

"This changes the articulation so it's more complementary to the vocal sound. The violin becomes lighter and more transparent and really complements what the voice does," Jarvis said.

The choir itself will benefit from the addition of four young soloists from the University of Victoria and the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

Jarvis said Sunday's sing-along will feature a shortened version of the Messiah and will concentrate on the choruses that everybody knows and loves to sing. The orchestra will include the brass and wind instruments that were added in later versions to support the larger choirs and the singers in the audience.

Scores will be provided, although people who have their own are encouraged to bring them. Signs will show audience members which section to sit in according to whether they are soprano, alto, tenor or bass.

Jarvis noted that BotR's first show of the season in November was almost entirely sold out, so he encourages people to get their tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

ANGLICAN FAITH

## Anglicans celebrate season with scripture and song

Community events on Dec. 15 & 20

The Salt Spring Anglican Parish is inviting the community to attend two signature events observing the holiday season.

A South-end Christmas will once again be hosted by St. Mary's Anglican Church across from Fulford Hall this Friday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Gathered around the theme "listening," the afternoon will feature a program of readings from scripture and poetry interspersed with music by the Salt Spring choral group Women of Note and some traditional carols sung by all. Women of Note will present a varied program including Linda Quinn's recent composition, I'm Listening.

All are welcome. There is no charge for admission although donations are gratefully accepted.

Carols for Christmastide, the annual community carol sing held in All Saints By-the-Sea, is slated for Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 2 p.m.

"Hosted by Music Makers of the Anglican Parish for many years, the popularity of this hour-long afternoon event may be due to timing, which allows for daylight driving, together with the ambiance of candle-lit intimacy and the traditional sounds of the pipe organ in this acoustically excellent venue," the organizers explain. "It also offers islanders the opportunity to take a break from the Christmas rush and enjoy time together after the singing over delicious Christmas fare, including Sarah's superb Christmas cake, Ros' mince tarts, mulled apple juice, and more."

Accompanied by choir director David Storm at the piano and organ, the All Saints' choir will be leading familiar carols, with soloists performing seasonal gems.

Solo sopranos Jean McClure and Betty Rothwell have several favourites in their repertoire, including The Gift by Stephanie Davis and the tender Sweet Little Jesus Boy. Alto Anke Smeele will be singing Handel's Father of Heaven, while All Saints' choir has prepared two pieces, including Ave Maris Stella, chosen to be the national anthem of Acadia in 1884.

Admission is by donation, with all proceeds going to the Salt Spring Food Bank.

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

**Financial Advice**

**Should I trust the financial advice from my friend, neighbour, plumber...?**



SCOTT HOWE

"My investment grew like wildfire," says your friend. "It's a life-changing opportunity," exclaims your neighbour. People you trust in other areas of life will commonly offer you advice that sounds good, but has little potential to be repeated or realized. This is simply because there are many factors that will influence your own results.

Instead of taking unqualified advice at face value, I encourage people to carefully investigate these opinions and opportunities with a financial advisor. When my clients have an idea or question, we take time to analyze both sides of the coin. We do the math to understand the best and worst case scenarios, and I help them make confident decisions.

When it comes to your investments, don't jump on someone else's bandwagon without being sure it will get you to your destination.

**IslandSavings INSURANCE**

A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST INSURANCE SERVICES LTD.

**Scott Howe, BA, PFP, CFP, CPCA**  
Senior Advisor, Financial Planning  
Island Savings Insurance Services

250-537-8868 showe@islandsavings.ca

First West Insurance Services Ltd., offering financial planning, life insurance and investments, is a wholly owned subsidiary of First West Credit Union. Island Savings Insurance is a trademark of First West Credit Union, and is used under license.

**Real Estate**

**A Time For Thanks**



JAN MACPHERSON

During this holiday season we are reminded of how blessed we are to live on this island, in this province and in this country.

To my clients, friends and colleagues in real estate, I continue to enjoy and appreciate working with you especially during these times of change.

In 2017 it is my hope that our sense of world community deepens and that we can work together to find creative solutions to address the many challenges ahead.

*Peace, Good Will, Prosperity, And Good Health To All!*

**Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2016 (VREB)**

**TOP SELLER ON SSI for 2016** based on highest number of listings & sales - Victoria Real Estate Board statistics.



**Direct: 250-537-9894**

RE/MAX Salt Spring: 1-800-731-7131

janmacpherson@gmail.com

www.SaltSpringGuide.com



**Fitness Expert**

**What Can I Do Over The Holidays To Reduce Stress?**



BRENDA AKERMAN

With the Christmas Season upon us, we can all feel a little more stress in our day to day life. You start to put things off or you say I'll miss just one fitness class then another!! THIS IS NOT A GOOD IDEA!

Exercise improves blood flow to your brain, bringing additional sugars and oxygen that may be needed when you are thinking intensely. When your neurons function more intensely, a toxic waste can build up, which fogs our thinking. Exercise speeds the flow of blood through your brain, moving the waste through faster.

After swimming a few laps in the pool or participating in an Aqua Fit Class you will have more energy, feel calmer and be better focused.

Keeping your regular exercise routine or starting a new one, can give you the fitness and stamina to make it through the demands of the festive season and beyond for a healthier you all year long.

**Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre**

250-537-1402 • 262 Rainbow Road

**Mechanic**

**Holiday trips in cold weather may require more than a well prepared vehicle**



GYLE KEATING

All the regular things like snow tires, antifreeze, new wiper blades etc. are a top priority and should be checked before heading out on a holiday trip.

As well as all these things give some thought to a survival kit. No one wants to think about getting stuck in their vehicle in adverse conditions but it does happen and a small kit prepared ahead of time could make the difference between being uncomfortable and being dangerously hypothermic.

One website has a rather extensive list of materials for your survival kit and attached to it are a few paragraphs of excellent advice on what to do in case you are stranded in your vehicle. Check out <http://www.21stcenturyadventures.com/advice/lists/winterSurvivalChecklist.html>

*Drive Safe, Gyle*

**SALT SPRING AUTO SERVICE Tread Shed**

537-2876 • #2-319 Upper Ganges Rd.  
Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

**PAINTING LIKE A BATEMAN:** Members of ArtSpring's Youth Art Enrichment program gather with world-famous artist Robert Bateman, left, at the opening of their Dec. 8-10 Exploring Nature's Beauty Through the Art Work of Robert Bateman exhibit in the Bateman Gallery at ArtSpring. The session of weekly lessons that used the techniques of Salt Spring's Bateman was facilitated by island artist Tracy Harrison, right.

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

# Stress-free airline travel for seniors

For many seniors, the arrival of winter means a departure for warmer climates or visits to see family. The Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) offers some helpful to help you breeze through security at the airport as you start on your trip to the sun.

Keep the 100 mL restrictions in mind. Containers of non-solid food, beverages or personal care products that are 100 mL or less can be brought in carry-on baggage. They must be placed in a one-litre clear and resealable plastic bag. The bag needs to be taken out and placed in a bin for screening. Containers that are more than 100 mL should

be packed in checked baggage.

Pack medication in your carry-on baggage. Prescription and essential non-prescription medications are exempt from the 100 mL limit. This includes cough syrup, decongestant spray and contact lens solution. Pills and vitamins can be kept in a day-by-day pill separator. Although not necessary, passengers may also bring supporting documentation like a doctor's note to present to the screening officer during the inspection.

Wear easy-to-remove outerwear. Outerwear that can be removed and placed in the bins quickly will save you time. To prevent setting off the metal detector, avoid wearing belts with

large buckles, clothing with metal snaps, buttons or studs, and limit jewellery to small earrings, watches and rings.

Leave gifts unwrapped. If you're travelling with gifts, leave them unwrapped in case they need to be inspected.

Look for the family/special needs lane. If you need assistance, look for this special lane, which has larger screening equipment to accommodate items like mobility aids. Screening officers are also available to assist passengers who need more time or help during screening.

You can check CATSA's website or mobile app for additional information.

**Seniors Program**  
 Shellyse Szakacs, Coordinator  
 ssszakacs@ssics.ca

**CHRONIC PAIN SELF-MANAGEMENT**  
 At Seniors Wellness 129 Hereford Ave

Free Six-Session Workshop for Adults with Any Kind of On-going Pain. Family Members and Friends also welcome.

Starting January 17th until February 21st, 2018. For Six Wednesdays from 3:00pm - 5:30 pm.

Registration required. Toll-Free 1-866-902-3767  
 Or online: [www.selfmanagementbc.ca](http://www.selfmanagementbc.ca)

SENIORS WELLNESS OFFICE. CALL 250-537-4607 FOR MORE INFO  
 129 Hereford Ave. Open 10am - 2pm Monday to Thursday

**Sherwood House**  
 Independent Retirement Living with Supportive Services

Call today to book your complimentary lunch & tour!

Delicious chef prepared meals for your enjoyment  
 24 hour emergency response for peace of mind  
 Daily activities to make friends and stay connected  
 House keeping & fresh linens, you deserve it!  
 Bring your best furry friend, we are pet friendly!  
 Premium suites with balconies and views

280 Government Street | Duncan, BC V9L 0B5 | 250-715-0116  
[www.sherwood-house.com](http://www.sherwood-house.com)

Ask our residents:

## Life is divine here.

Lois and Bente share their 'me-time' over a fine glass of wine.

Start on location at Peninsula at Norgarden

**PENINSULA AT NORGARDEN**  
 INDEPENDENT AND ASSISTED LIVING CHOICES FOR TODAY'S SENIOR  
 2290 Henry Ave. Sidney | 250.656.8827 | [www.welcometopeninsula.ca](http://www.welcometopeninsula.ca)

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED by THE TIDMAN GROUP

# people&community

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

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



LIONS  
**Santa Ship**  
from Bellingham to the Gulf Islands and San Juan Islands



PHOTO COURTESY RCMSAR STATION 25

Santa and his entourage disembark at Lyall Harbour on Saturna Island from the Victoria Star vessel transporting the group through the Gulf Islands and San Juan Islands over the weekend. The Lions Santa Ship made its first voyage in 1947 and is a well-loved island tradition.



PHOTO ABOVE COURTESY RCMSAR STATION 25; PHOTO AT LEFT BY JEN MACLELLAN

Above: Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue volunteers, from left, Rod Martens, Ken Squirell and Duncan Eley outside the Saturna Community Hall on Saturday. RCMSAR crews accompanied the Victoria Star through Canadian waters. At left: Santa greets the crowd at his final stop for the day at Ganges Harbour, where he met with children in Moutat's Mall before heading to Greenwood and Lady Minto Hospital.

The Driftwood Office will be closed on Friday Dec. 15 @ 12 noon.  
We will be having our Christmas luncheon.

**NORTH END FITNESS**  
**\$89<sup>95</sup>**  
**FIT KIT**  
2 MONTH MEMBERSHIP  
2 MONTHS AEROBICS  
FREE ORIENTATION  
SAUNAS AND/OR TANS!  
OFFER ENDS DEC. 31, 2017

[northendfit.ca](http://northendfit.ca)  
**250.537.5217**

**SEASONAL EVENTS**

## Christmas dinner table set

Free Dec. 25 event runs again at Meaden Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend the 18th Annual Christmas Day Dinner sponsored by the Salt Spring United Church at Meaden Hall.

The tradition continues with the help of generous and faithful local businesses and individual volunteers.

"From financial and food donors, to decora-

tors and 'preppers' on Christmas Eve; to cooks, greeters, servers and the clean-up crew — all work together to create this seasonal miracle and more importantly to make it 'feel just like Christmas,'" states a press release from the organizers.

The free feast includes home-cooked turkey with all the trimmings, salmon, ham and vegetarian lasagna, four vegetables and rolls, topped off with goodies and fruit for dessert, and a variety of beverages.

Meaden Hall is decorated for the occasion, and long tables make it easy to sit with friends, to meet and mingle (or not), and to enjoy live music and carollers.

Everyone is welcome at the dinner in the Legion's Meaden Hall on Blain Road on Monday, Dec. 25.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. with live music, food service begins at 12 noon and celebrations continue until 2 p.m.

For more information, leave a message at the United Church office, 250-537-5812.

**Jim Pattison Subaru victoria**


*I Believe in*  
**SUBARU**

**2018 OUTBACK** WELL-EQUIPPED FROM **\$31,540**

\*Price is for a new 2018 Outback 2.5i JD225 and includes MSRP \$29,295 plus \$1,725.00 freight and PDI, \$100.00 air conditioning surcharge, \$25.00 duty on new tires, \$395.00 dealer administration and documentation fees. Other taxes (including, where applicable, GST and PST or HST), license, insurance and registration are extra. Dealer #462319

[JPSubaruVictoria.com](http://JPSubaruVictoria.com) | 1784 Island Highway, Victoria, BC | 250-474-2211

here's my card



**REYNOLDS**  
CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING  
TILE & GROUT CLEANING

**PAUL REYNOLDS**  
owner/operator  
250-537-4208  
ssipreynolds@yahoo.ca

**JOSH LACY**  
certified technician  
FREE ESTIMATES  
"Since 1964"



**Kerry Chalmers**  
REALTOR®  
kerryjchalmers@gmail.com  
Office: 250.537.5553  
Toll-Free: 1.888.608.5553  
Fax: 250.537.4288

Real Estate Division  
#1101-115 Fulford-Ganges Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V6K 2T8  
www.pembertonhomessaltspring.com

**PEMBERTON HOMES**  
SALT SPRING

www.saltspring-realestate.com



**Salt Spring Way Pilates**

Reneigh Gerow  
Pilates Instructor

*Gentle Intelligent & Effective Exercise*  
Private reformer or mat classes

320 Salt Spring Way  
rengerow@gmail.com  
250 931 5553  
Find us on facebook

**Your "clear" choice for glass.**

- Auto Glass • Residential & Commercial
- Aluminum Fabrication • Custom Skylights
- Mirrors & Shower Doors
- Custom Sunrooms • Free Estimates



TROY KAYE

**Kapa Kai Glass** 250-653-4148

**READY FOR WINTER?**  
Stock up now on everything you need

From scrapers to lock de-icer, snow chains, antifreeze and emergency kits, pick up everything you need to avoid bumps in the roads this season.

**Bumper to Bumper® Saltspring**  
CANADA'S PARTS PEOPLE  
106 JACKSON AVE. 250-537-5507  
HOURS: MON.-FRI. 7:30-6PM, SAT. 8-5PM, OPEN SUN. 10-4PM

**CAMERON SWEET CHIMNEY SWEEP**

250-538-7225  
csweetchimneysweep@gmail.com  
WETT Certified, Inspections Insured



**Salt Spring GARBAGE Ltd. SERVICES**

250-537-2167  
DROP OFF AT: 360 BLACKBURN RD

- Island wide residential pickup service
- \$4.50 per bag; weekly or bi-weekly
- Convenient and hassle free
- Call now to open a new account
- The pinnacle essential service provider on Salt Spring Island

VOLUNTEERISM

# VCR wraps up initiatives for 2017



PHOTO BY KIM DALTON  
**VOLUNTEER POWER:** Volunteer and Community Resources administrator Janine Fernandes-Hayden, left, celebrates the opening of the 150 Days, 150 Volunteers, 150 Organizations exhibit at the Salt Spring Public Library last Tuesday with VCR board members, from left, Wendy Herbert, Maryann Bird and Susan Lee. The exhibit of photos of Salt Spring volunteers continues through December.

## Photo contest winners announced

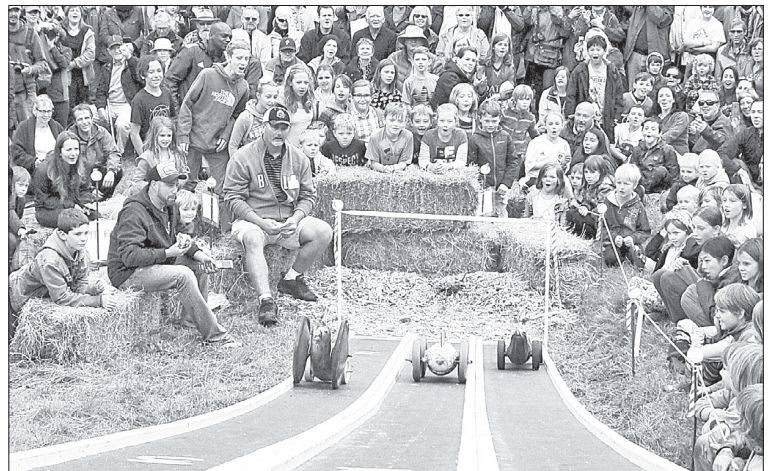
### SUBMITTED BY VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Volunteer and Community Resources is celebrating the giving season and the end of 2017 with two initiatives.

An exhibit currently on display at the Salt Spring Public Library entitled 150 Days, 150 Volunteers, 150 Organizations wraps up VCR's Canada 150 project through a display featuring local faces who volunteer in the community. Between Feb. 1 and July 1, 2017, exactly 150 days, VCR collected examples of volunteerism, highlighting the different reasons why people in the community volunteer.

"It is inspiring to see the whole collection displayed together for the first time. It really makes quite an impact," said Janine Fernandes-Hayden, staff for VCR.

VCR thanks the Salt Spring Island Foundation, Community Foundations of Canada, Country Grocer and the Salt Spring Island Public Library for their contributions in making the exhibit and the opening possible. The exhibit runs for the month of December, Monday to Saturday from



Avril Kirby won first place in Volunteer and Community Resources's photo contest with this shot of volunteer judges watching intently for winner of the zucchini race at the fall fair.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. when the program space is not in use.

VCR is also pleased to announce the winners of its photo contest. Over the month of November, Salt Springers were invited to submit photos of volunteers in action making a difference. Thanks to a panel of volunteer judges, the 45 entries were reduced to four winners in three places. Winners were awarded their prizes on Dec. 5 at the opening

of the Canada 150 exhibit, which also happened to be International Volunteer Day.

Tying for third place were Margriet Ruurs and Kim Dalton. Judy McPhee placed second with her entry of volunteers serving food at the Apple Festival. Avril Kirby took home a Salt Spring gift basket, courtesy of several local vendors, as the prize for first place.

The Volunteer Photo Contest was a partnership

between VCR and the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #92. VCR and the Legion recognize Salt Spring Shine, Monsoon Coast Spices, Salt Spring Kitchen Company, Harlans' Chocolates, Salt Spring Artisan Vinegar, Jana's Bake Shop, Pegasus Framing and Michael Levy for their prize donations.

Thanks also go to volunteer judges Ramona Lam, Susan Gordon, Doug Wahlsten and Linda Matteson.



Brian Smallshaw, left, Patrick Normal and Brahm Martz serving food for the 2017 Salt Spring Apple Festival in Judy McPhee's second place photo.



Kim Dalton tied for third place with her photo of Laila Anderson having her face painted by a volunteer with SIMS Tsunami Circus.



# DRIFTWOOD Classifieds **250-537-9933**

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com OR 1-855-310-3535 • OVER 20,000 CLASSIFIEDS ON-LINE UPDATED DAILY

**PLACE AN AD**

In person at 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Ganges  
By telephone 250-537-9933 or fax 250-537-2613  
By email to driftwood@driftwoodmedia.com  
By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd.,  
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

**Payment**

By cash, debit, Mastercard or Visa. Classifieds are prepaid.

**DEADLINES**

Class display deadline: Monday 4pm  
Word ad deadline: Tuesday 9am  
Too Late To Classify: Tuesday 1pm



**WHAT IT COSTS**

**3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS:**  
\$14.00 - additional lines \$1.00 ea  
All ads are posted to BCClassifieds.com  
**EMPLOYMENT/LEGAL ADS:**  
3 line rate \$16.75 - additional lines \$1.00 ea  
**DISPLAY ADS:** \$14.00 per col. inch

**YOUR AD ON-LINE**

All liner ads booked in the Driftwood Classifieds appear on-line at [www.bcclassified.com](http://www.bcclassified.com)  
Auto ads also listed on line at [www.bcautocentral.com](http://www.bcautocentral.com)

**BOOK YOUR AD ON-LINE**

Book your classifieds online - open 24 hours a day  
[www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or [bcclassified.com](http://bcclassified.com)



Please check your ad after the first insertion. Should an error appear in an advertisement, Driftwood Publishing Ltd. is only liable for the amount paid for the space occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion.

<b>FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES</b>
DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	COMING EVENTS	PERSONALS	COMPUTER SERVICES



**Betty (Marian Elizabeth Watson) Brodie**

Nov. 13, 1922 - Nov. 26 2017

Betty died suddenly and peacefully at Lady Minto Hospital on Sunday, November 26, 2017. Betty is survived by her best friend and husband Peter; children Jill, Joni (Jack), Dawn, Robin (John) and Scott (Patricia); two grandsons Jody (Sa) and Stephen (Renee) and great-grandchildren Lucy, Pippa, Georgia and Betsy.

Betty was born in Calgary, Alberta and after graduation became a proficient Morse code operator in order to help with the war effort. That career was cut short when her father put the brakes on her moving to a military base to start her first assignment. She then worked (under the watchful eye of an aunt) at Banff Springs Hotel where she met Peter and the two became inseparable for life. Betty and Peter celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary in October 21, 2017.

Peter and Betty were married in Edmonton in 1944 and lived on Canadian Air Force Bases from BC to Quebec raising five children plus accumulating eight horses, numerous dogs, many cats, fish, turtles and a rabbit.

Betty was a skilled and professional seamstress throughout her whole life, designing clothes for the whole family and teaching sewing classes, which always ended with a big finale fashion show.

Her creative and artistic side flourished with spinning, weaving, creative writing and painting with lessons from SSI Louise Woodward. Mom loved jazz as did Peter and they would dance up a storm to Blue Suede Shoes.

Peter & Betty retired from the Air Force after 25 years to Vernon in 1968 where they bought an acreage "The Berry Patch" that Betty soon transformed into beautiful gardens with an orchard of apples, pears, peaches, cherries and plums. Betty worked in consultation with the Summerland Research Station to develop two new raspberry varieties specifically for the Okanagan. They made several trips to Scotland and England with their "raspberry" earnings. Many a summer fete was held in the orchard with family games and Scottish country dancing.

Mom and Dad joined the Vernon Naturalist Club and had many trips canoeing and hiking the Great Divide, Broken Lakes, and Bowron Lake. Betty recorded faithfully all bird sightings around her home and at the bird feeders.

Scottish country dancing was a joy for them for many years in Vernon and continuing on Salt Spring until life's aches and pains caught up with them. Salt Spring became home for the last 31 years where Betty pursued her passion for gardening and both became an active members of the SSI Garden Club. They participated in garden and plant shows. Betty also became a well-deserved life Member. Well into her 90's she would still walk her garden with secateurs in hand. All her children carry the "gardening gene".

Betty and Peter were never without a dog in their life and 4 shelties and a border collie now rest on their island property.

Both were avid card players and they played each and every night without fail. On her last night, she won her last card game.

In 2014, a "Rest and Be Thankful" bench was installed on Channel Ridge trail for all hikers to enjoy. At 95 years young Betty and Peter often walked their favourite trail slowly but surely and savoured life and the view from their bench.

The family would like to give thanks to the wonderful staff at Lady Minto Hospital and to Dr. Paula Ryan for her genuine care over the years. The family will hold a garden gathering with friends in the spring to celebrate the life of Betty Brodie.

The family is full of sorrow but rich in memories of a wonderful mother and life partner.

**JOHN MENZIES**  
July 25, 1925 - December 5, 2017



John passed quietly December 5, 2017 at age 92 in Sidney BC surrounded by his family.

He leaves his wife of 66 years Beverly (Stavert), son Mike (Val) Jeremy, Kyle of Sprout Lake, daughter Suzette (Patrick) Chelsea, Russell of Victoria, Steve (Laura) Michelle, Carson of Tsawwassen, Ian (Denise) of Sorrento, daughter-in-law Marguerite, Jennifer, Brian, Stacy of Penitcton. John was predeceased by his eldest son Allan.

John and Bev lived in the Cowichan Valley moved to West Vancouver and have been on Galiano and Salt Spring Islands for the past 54 years.

The family would like to thank the staff of Sidney All Care for the exceptional care John received.

There will be no service by request.



<b>FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
IN MEMORIAM	COMING EVENTS



**IAN MONTAGUE BESWICK**

12-02-44 - 18-12-16

In Loving Memory of Our Dearly Loved and Amazing Ian. Beloved Dad of Sam and Sophie. Forever in our hearts.

We miss you more than you could have ever imagined. Love you always. Rest in peace precious one, until we meet again!

Sam (Jen), Sophie (Rob), Joyce

**Coming Soon**  
**Extremely Last Minute Sale**  
December 22

**MUDPUPPY STUDIOS**

**Christmas Corner/Crafts**

**Community Christmas Dinner**

**Meaden Hall**  
Dec. 25th 12 - 2pm

Doors open at 11:30am  
Meals served from 12 noon to 2:00pm

*Some of the Best Things in Life ARE Free!*

**Salt Spring Hospice**

*May the warmth of the season bring comfort and peace to our community, supporters, and volunteers.*

250-537-2770  
[saltspringhospice.org](http://saltspringhospice.org)

**Retired? Thinking About It?**

Probus Club of SSI seeks members.  
see: [www.probus-ssi.ca](http://www.probus-ssi.ca)

**Christmas Ball at Fulford Hall**  
DECEMBER 25TH

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- Wrapping Gifts
- Cooking
- Set Up
- Clean Up

Call Helga or Michael at 250 653-9856 for more info

**Advertise in the 2018 BC Hunting Regulations Synopsis**  
Largest Sportsman publication in BC  
**Call Annemarie 1.800.661.6335** or email: [fish@blackpress.ca](mailto:fish@blackpress.ca)

**LEGALS**

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why suffer Employment/Licensing loss? Travel/Business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US Entry Waiver. Record Purge. File Destruction. Free Consultation - 1-800-347-2540. [accesslegalmjf.com](http://accesslegalmjf.com)

**150 Days, 150 Volunteers, 150 Organizations**  
Exhibit on Now till December 31st, 2017  
SSI Public Library Program Space  
10am-5pm (when room not in use)  
[www.vcrsalspring.org](http://www.vcrsalspring.org) | [admin@vcrsalspring.org](mailto:admin@vcrsalspring.org)

**Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary's THRIFT STORE**

**Will CLOSE for the Holiday Season**

.....  
Closed at 4pm Wednesday, Dec.20th  
and re-open at 10am on Wednesday, Jan. 10th  
.....

*Happy Holidays!*

**MAKE A Connection. Real People. Friendly Chat. Call FREE!**  
250-220-1300 or 1-800-210-1010. [www.livelinks.com](http://www.livelinks.com) 18+0

**EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION**

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Gladiator Equipment Inc.**

**JOURNEYMAN HEAVY DUTY, OFF ROAD CERTIFIED MECHANICS**  
Fort McMurray. Excellent wages and benefits.  
Fax: 1-780-986-7051  
[hr@gladiatorequipment.com](http://hr@gladiatorequipment.com)  
[gladiatorequipment.com](http://gladiatorequipment.com)

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

**EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS**

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING**

Online-based 43 wk program incl 8 wk practicum. Regulated Pharmacy Technicians earn \$25-\$28/hr in hospitals & \$20-\$27/hr in community pharmacies. Accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP).  
[www.stenbergcollege.com](http://www.stenbergcollege.com)  
Toll-Free: 1-866-580-2772

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

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

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

INFORMATION

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

**CONCRETE & PLACING**

**GULF COAST MATERIALS**  
Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rock
- Rebar
- Bagged Cement
- Colour & Sealers

**Small Load Pick Ups Available at Yard**

345 Rainbow Road  
**250-537-2611**

**WHAT'S ON**  
page 12

**DRAFTING & DESIGN**

**LET'S GET STARTED**

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

**HELSET DESIGN**  
250.537.1037  
Ask for Jim

**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

**FURNITURE**

**SOLID MAHOGANY** Drop-leaf Table 4x4 feet \$500. OBO Call: 250 537-9774

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**SAWMILLS** from only \$4,397 - MAKE MONEY & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info & DVD: [www.NorwoodSawmills.com/400OT](http://www.NorwoodSawmills.com/400OT) 1-800-567-0404 Ext:400OT.

**STEEL BUILDING SALE** ...FALL CLEARANCE SALE ON NOW! 20X21 \$5,990. Front & Back Walls Included. 25X25 \$6,896. One End Wall Included. 32X33 \$8,199. No Ends Included. Check Out [www.pioneersteel.ca](http://www.pioneersteel.ca) for more prices. Pioneer Steel 1-855-212-7036

CELEBRATIONS

# Transitions holds 20-year party

Community hub supports worthy endeavours

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

They call it a champagne birthday when a person's age corresponds with the day of the month they were born.

Transitions Store will be having a virtual champagne date on Wednesday, Dec. 20 when volunteers, staff and the public are invited to celebrate 20 years of the social enterprise in action. Apple cider will be the beverage of choice to wash down Barb Slater's original chocolate cake at 2 p.m.

The event will honour long-standing volunteers and will also include a short set by the Sisters of Mercy women's choir. Choir director Rama DeLaRosa started the group in November 2016 with a focus on community building, cultural integration and activism.

Transitions has built its success through a combination of quality

second-hand clothing, accessories, housewares and books, plus committed volunteers and staff members.

"I feel like it's just getting better and better," said manager Roberta Temmel, who has been at the shop for 13 of its 20 years. "People want to recycle goods and buy goods like that. They realize how important that is to the world, and they live it in their life by supporting us.

"We're thankful to the community for their generous donations and for continuing to support us, especially since there are so many consignment stores and ways of buying things now."

Proceeds from the store support Island Women Against Violence programs, with its core mandate to aid women and children who have suffered from domestic violence. They offer emergency shelter at the long-standing Transitions House, second-stage housing at The Cedars and counselling services. A new addition to the mandate supports people experiencing poverty and hous-

ing problems, so store sales will also help the expansion planned at Croftonbrook.

"IWAV's continuing to grow. We couldn't do it without the funds from the store," Temmel said.

Temmel said she feels the community is getting the message about the importance of IWAV's work and people are coming to the store to support the organization, learn more and have conversations. That's only become more true with awareness of recent tragedies involving violence against women.

Community involvement extends to running the store as well. The shop currently has 20 volunteers and is always looking for more. Temmel said she is excited to have high school students coming in on the weekends. The shop also has long-standing participation by the GIFTS program for adults with disabilities.

"We want to really honour our volunteers, some of whom have been with us for 10-plus years," Temmel said.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**STARTING YOUNG:** Noelle Burgess, age 5, sells hand-made Christmas ornaments at the Saturday Market in the Park, which sets up in the few weeks before Christmas each year.

## DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

RENTALS  
HOMES FOR RENT

RENTALS  
STORAGE

The Driftwood Office will be closed on Friday  
December 15 @ 12 noon.

We will be having our Christmas luncheon.

**ISLAND EXPLORER**  
Property Management Ltd.  
[www.islandexplorerproperties.com](http://www.islandexplorerproperties.com)  
250-537-4722  
1-800-800-9492  
Island Explorer is a fully licensed, management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

**STORAGE**  
• All units heated  
• Humidity control  
• 9 foot height  
• 24 hours access  
**MID ISLAND STORAGE**  
250-537-4722

**SALT SPRING SELF STORAGE**  
STORE YOUR CLUTTER. CLEAR YOUR MIND!  
Gated, Secure Storage  
250-537-5888  
347 UPPER GANGES ROAD  
[saltspringministorage.com](http://saltspringministorage.com)

**ESS: This is not Rocket Science Just PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE**  
Are you ready to get the easy training you need to be the effective help we'll all need in a disaster?  
Nothing like brain surgery, just a short course to upgrade your own existing skills:  
✓ learn to register people using our forms,  
✓ learn crowd control terminology,  
✓ learn where to find and how to disseminate goods and services,  
✓ learn basic incident command essentials, or  
✓ just the best way to calm fearful, worried people.  
**WE NEED YOU to join our team because WE WILL NEED YOU on Salt Spring Island ESS RECEPTION CENTRES during a disaster.**  
Call Elizabeth Zook, Emergency Support Services Director, 250-537-1220 or email [ssiessed@crd.bc.ca](mailto:ssiessed@crd.bc.ca)  
**SALT SPRING ISLAND EMERGENCY PROGRAM**  
**Driftwood**  
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1984

This Week's  
**Horoscope**  
by Michael O'Connor  
[www.sunstarastrlogy.com](http://www.sunstarastrlogy.com) | [sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com](mailto:sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com)  
1.250.352.6871  
READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

**Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)** Sometimes along the way, you may wonder if you took the wrong turn, like now. When this happens, it is wise to slow down and to proceed more cautiously. Yet, Mars is in Scorpio implying that your ambitions are running extra high thus producing something of a conflict and increasing the possibility of mistakes. Slow down, listen more and deliberate on big decisions.  
**Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)** Despite opportunities to increase and expand your social outreach, Mercury Rx is leading you to observe more and speak less. This is actually more commonly the case among members of your sign, but not always. The other twist here is that other players are pushing you to engage and they are not easily resisted.  
**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** An exciting and complex cycle is underway. Circumstances are leading you to increased social activity. However, you also may have to work harder and this includes an exercise of faith and perhaps discipline as much as, if not more than, actual physical exertion. Enjoying fun and frolic with others includes jest but may also include or even require lip service.  
**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)** The synchronicity of this Mercury Rx combines with Sun, Saturn, and Venus influencing your home, finances, and relationships. Circumstances have likely thrown you in on yourself to question, wonder and devise realistic strategies amidst an otherwise uncertain dynamic of events. Fortunately, things should stabilize before the year is out.

**Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)** Mercury in its retrograde cycle stands to work in your favor. At least it is supporting a clearer mind, ironically. Financial considerations remain at the forefront. These are linked to investments of various sorts which could include tools or furniture. You may still want to avoid electronics, at least until boxing week, lol!  
**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** If you have needed to focus on things then this retrograde cycle is probably working in your favor. The downside could manifest as fixed opinions that do not benefit anyone. The time is generally right to spread your wings and even take leaps of faith. At least keeping an open mind will prove helpful and supportive of entertaining new possibilities.  
**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** With a line-up of planets in your sign, you have the advantage of feeling inspired to explore new options. Mercury Rx among them lends support to having a clear and sharp focus on what you need to do and how. Other factors in the celestial equation indicate the ability to access hidden reserves of faith and confidence, so focus there.  
**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** With the line-up of planets in your solar 12th House, including Mercury Rx, metaphorical images of a submarine preparing to breach the surface come to mind. The metaphor of a rocket breaking free of the pull of gravity and through the atmosphere presents a more critical and dramatic process. Either way, you are in the process of leaving one realm and entering another.  
**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Mercury Rx and other players are serving to inspire dreams of possibility. Ideally, you have already taken the initiative and new commitments have already begun, as in 2-3 weeks ago. If you are trying to get things going now, it may feel like you are getting off on the wrong foot. But there is time to restore coordination and it is better to start 'now' than later.  
**Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)** Navigating a clear and reliable course of action may be the main challenge with Mercury Rx. Your confidence levels may be wavering. Positively, you are in a philosophical mood and are also able to lay claim to new tools and resources. If you are contending with any loose ends, now is a good time to address them before starting anything new.

**Driftwood Christmas Season ADVERTISING DEADLINES**

**ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR THE DEC. 27 PAPER:**

- Display Advertising Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm
- Classified Display Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm
- Classified Word Deadline: Wednesday, December 20, 4pm

**ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR THE JAN. 3 PAPER:**

- Display Advertising Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm
- Classified Display Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm
- Classified Word Deadline: Wednesday, December 27, 4pm

- Please note the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Mon Dec 25 & Tues Dec 26.
- Open for usual business hours on Wed Dec. 27.
- Please note the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Mon Jan 1.
- Open for usual business hours on Tue Jan 2.

# sports&recreation

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

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



**RUNNING**

## Predictions prove tricky for Sneakers troupe

Annual food bank fundraising event

**SUBMITTED BY SS SNEAKERS**

On Saturday, Dec. 9, the Salt Spring Sneakers running group held its Ninth Annual Prediction Run.

Unlike most competitions, the winners of this running event are not those who finish fastest but those who finish closest to the time they predicted when they registered for the race. The challenge is made more difficult as watches are banned during the running of the race and the course is usually not identified until just prior to the race. The race registration fee is a donation to the Salt Spring Food Bank. A trophy is awarded to the person who finishes closest to their predicted time, and to the person who is most "predictionally challenged," with a time furthest away from their prediction.

Saturday's race saw 27 participants, 21 who ran the 10-km course (one of whom was a child), three who ran the five-km course, and three children who did a two-km course. The winner of the first-place trophy was Donna Cloete, who finished just 18 seconds off her prediction. Cloete had previously distinguished herself for having won the predictionally challenged trophy for the last two years.



PHOTO COURTESY SS SNEAKERS

Salt Spring Sneakers runners before the start of their Ninth Annual Prediction Run on Saturday.

Three runners tied for second place, all with predictions 27 seconds off their actual time: Karen Clark, Doreen Person and Eric Ellis. The winner of this year's predictionally challenged trophy was the runner who finished first in actual time, Khai Foo, whose prediction was more than three minutes

slower than his actual time.

The other winner from this event was the Salt Spring Food Bank, which is receiving \$665 donated by the participants. The total sets a record for the largest amount raised in previous runnings of this event.

**Stocking Stuffers & Gift Ideas**

*New Stock in Weekly*

- ✦ LED Flashlights
- ✦ Tire Chains
- ✦ Winterization Items
- ✦ Car Audio Accessories
- ✦ Headlight Upgrades
- ✦ Tool Kits
- ✦ and much more!!

*Something for everyone on your list*

**Bumper to Bumper®**  
CANADA'S PARTS PEOPLE  
**Saltspring**

106 JACKSON AVE. 250-537-5507  
HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30-6PM,  
SATURDAY 8-5PM

**MEN'S SOCCER**

## Old Boys score all four goals in 4-4 tie game

Gunners match proves entertaining in Sooke

**BY FRASER HOPE**  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Salt Spring's soccer press corps performed double duty Saturday by covering a U-11 girls game on the spectacular new turf field at Fred Milne Park in Sooke and then the Old Boys game.

Everyone — players, coaches and parents — oohed and aahed at the contrast of real-looking artificial grass with the mud pit and other famous Sooke potholes of yester-years.

Old Boys manager Graham Tweddle, having the luxury of two subs, fielded the strongest squad available against the Gordon Head Gunners, considering all the injury tweaks and twerks of players on the team roster. A U-11 girl stood on the sidelines already suited up if needed, but passed most of the game retrieving the game ball from errant passes and climbing onto the crossbar of an overlooking goal for a bird's eye view of the game, despite repeated warnings about her propensity to fall out of trees.

The press would like to stress that the absence of some of the highest paid players in the squad in recent games has nothing to do with coach Tweddle's team "shake-up" but are entirely the result of lower body injuries sustained to David Toynbee, Kerry Walker, Henry Braak and Don Brown.

The game was one of the most entertaining of the season, with both teams finely balanced as to skill sets and fitness. The turf field and lack of a gale made passing easier for both teams, who stroked the ball from player to player with the utmost confidence, albeit at a very leisurely pace.

Unfortunately, all of the fine lead-up work

did not lead to much scoring, but goalkeeper Dennis Shaw, deputizing for the injured Braak, made several saves that belied his somewhat casual approach to his duties. Maybe it was a response to his untimely penalty infraction of several games ago that inspired him to make amends but, as always, Shaw can also provide moments of comedy gold. Just after making two consecutive goal-stopping saves, a Shaw clearance inconveniently arrived at the feet of the opposition striker but he recovered quickly to block the shot.

Ben Cooper wheeled through the opposition from his own penalty area up into the opponents' half, onward ever onward towards the goal, with the team and two fans willing him on, hearts in mouths, only to see his final shot slide past the wrong side of the post by the proverbial country mile.

A half-time scoreline of 0-0 gave the Old Boys hope and confidence for the second half based on Shaw's dominance in his penalty area. Quickly a pulsating movement out of defence, allied with raking, laser-like accuracy, saw Mark Aston's inside pass collected at speed by Stefan Cermak to blast the ball past the keeper for a well-deserved lead.

Gunners, not ones to go meekly to the scaffold, mounted a series of attacks that the Old Boys managed to repulse. Inevitably a corner kick, a recurring nemesis, allowed the improperly adjusted floodlighting to disguise the flight of the ball and Wade ter Heide unwittingly conceded an own goal with the assist going to teammate B. Hind for the second occurrence in as many matches to level the score. Ter Heide and B. Hind are moving up the Golden Boot Award Points Table. Once is an accident, twice a coincidence, but the third time?

By this time in the match the two staunch fans had retired to the warmth of their vehicles as the temperatures hovered around zero. It's a small price to pay for the greater return of a truck full of Christmas goodies or a chance to watch streaming YouTube videos and have access to Scottish tablet. What's not to like?

Old Boys once again girded their loins and attacked with a passing movement down the right wing, which saw Andrew Haigh dink a well-judged pass over the defender for Mike McCormick to restore the lead. Meanwhile, "Kamikaze" Sean Goddard ensured that the number of subs on the home team bench was reduced with his no-nonsense but legal approach to the art of tackling.

It is only human nature to try and protect a lead, certainly the default position of the Old Boys time after time, and so it goes without saying that a period of frenzied Gunners' attacks should see a desperate Goddard ricochet a shot past Shaw for the second own goal and tying goal of the match. Much as both teams strived for the winner, both teams were happy with the final 2-2 draw.

The cooler was open season for goalkeeper Shaw, whose heroics erased not only past painful memories but his soft drinks tab as a reward from the Keeper of the Cooler, Mike McCormick, who added to the occasion by providing Shaw with his preferred soft drink of choice. Buddies all 'round!

Further post-game analysis suggested that as we had provided all the goals in the 2-2 draw, Old Boys were entitled to regard it as a win.

The Old Boys enter their mid-winter break, which will mean time for injuries to heal, maybe new blood added to the roster and a fresh start for 2018 full of enthusiasm and confidence.



**BOOK NOW!**

If you are involved in one or more of the following:

- accommodations
- dining & entertainment
- retail • studio • gallery
- outdoor adventures

Call us to advertise in the award winning 34th edition of

**The Gulf Islander**  
**250.537.9933**