

Wedding Planner
For an island celebration
PAGES 10-11

Health & Wellness
Spring + summer issue
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A MONTH OF HEALTH
Pgs 18 + 19

GULF ISLANDS
Driftwood

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 58TH YEAR — ISSUE 19



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

CLEANING EMPIRE: From left, Rani Dunkley, Dylan Keogh, Indigo Lainas and Fiona Pirie are some of the 2018 grads using "the force" to raise money for GISS safe grad at their May 4 car wash and BBQ honouring Star Wars Day.

WATER SERVICE
Pipe break leads to Highland boil water advisory

Emergency preparedness advised by commission

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF
Users of the Highland Water Service Area on Salt Spring have been put on a boil water advisory until further notice. Capital Regional District, in consultation with Island Health, issued the advisory on Monday afternoon, stating residents using the Highland water distribution system should boil their drinking water until further notice due to materials entering a water pipeline, caused by a break. CRD senior manager for Salt Spring Karla Campbell said two leaks were discovered in one of the water mains, but there was no single event that was known to have caused the damage. Sharon Bywater, who is a member of the Highland Water and Sewer Service Commission, said that alerts went out through the CRD's phone and email notification system Monday at 4:30 p.m., and highly visible signs were also posted in her Maliview neighbourhood.

"Having the new system is certainly a huge improvement from what we used to do as a telephone tree," Bywater said. The advisory will be removed when Island Health is satisfied that the drinking water does not pose a health concern and issues an "all clear" notice. Customers of the Highland Water Service Area will be notified as soon as possible when that happens.

HIGHLAND WATER continued on 5

DEATHS

Body recovered from harbour

Criminal cause not suspected

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF
Local emergency teams recovered the body of a woman from Ganges Harbour near Centennial Dock on Saturday. A strong police presence was noticeable in Ganges village on Monday as BC Coroners Service personnel investigated the area. According to an RCMP press release, Salt Spring RCMP officers responded to a

report of a body in the water, which had been spotted by a tourist on May 5. When officers arrived, Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue crew members were on scene and had removed the deceased woman from the water. Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George said that firefighters received the call around 3:30 p.m. Staff on duty at the main fire hall were able to respond quickly. The RCMP's initial investigation indi-

cated that the woman's death was not criminal in nature and the file was turned over to the BC Coroners Service. BC Coroners Service confirmed Tuesday that an investigation is in its early days and will be ongoing. The deceased woman is believed to have been in her 30s. No name has been released. Previous reports from off-island media outlets incorrectly stated the location as being Fulford Harbour.

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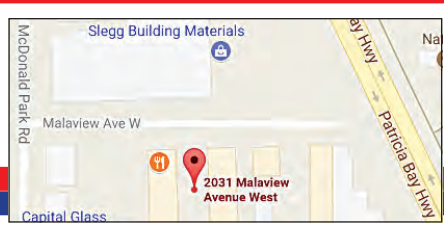
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PHOTOS BY PETER GROVE (TOP) AND GAIL SJUBERG (ABOVE)

CANOE ON TOUR: A cedar canoe being made for use by Xwaaqw'um Indigenous youth camps under guidance from master carver Joe Martin is brought to Fulford Hall grounds on Saturday during a day of cultural activities. The Xwaaqw'um projects fundraiser saw community members try carving and cedar weaving, among other activities.

INVITATION



Salt Spring Island Transit 10th Anniversary Celebration

Join the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure for the Province of BC Claire Trevena, the Capital Regional District, and BC Transit to celebrate 10 years of transit services on Salt Spring Island.

WHEN: Friday, May 11, 2018

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Builders of the System Celebration
Centennial Park

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Customer Giveaways
Bus Stop at Salt Spring Island Tourism Office



WATER SUPPLY

Cedar Lane commission sees acute water shortage

CRD asks ministry to respect first rights

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Volunteer members of the Cedar Lane Water Service Commission are concerned that 2018 could prove to be a disastrous year in light of recent well troubles.

Commission chair Ralph Dom reports that a water pump that should have enjoyed a 20-year lifespan recently had to be replaced after just two years because it burned out due to damage by sediment. This followed after residents were put on strict conservation notice when the district's two wells reached historically low levels in 2017.

Commissioners called an informal neighbourhood meeting on March 27 in order to update customers about the problems, and sent a letter outlining those problems to the Capital Regional District (Salt Spring and Victoria offices), Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's water authorizations department, the Islands Trust and others asking that proper enforcement in all respective jurisdictions take place to prevent aquifer over-burden.

"The water supply is clearly dwindling due to external influences, namely over-development and global warming. If we have a dry summer in 2018, there is a high probability that we will run out of water altogether," commission chair Ralph Dom wrote.

Cedar Lane users are used to being conservative. They use the least amount of water per capita out of all the island's water systems but one.

"We've always had to be cautious with water. We're in a poor area [for groundwater] — that's part of it," Dom said.

However, the recent supply and sediment issues suggest something more is going on. The commission submitted freedom of information requests related to operations of nearby resort The Cottages at Bullock Lake and a licensed medical marijuana facility located on Cairns Place in an attempt to determine their impact on water supply.

The FOI documents reveal the latter location, which has been identified as BC Bud Depot's research facility, is operating in contravention of CRD Building Inspection, although nothing in the packages suggests The Cottages' building permit requirements are not being observed.

"The Cedar Lane community is becoming increasingly desperate. And now, in an effort to solve this community's difficulty, the Cedar Lane Water Service Commission has moved towards an investigative role, a function for which the commission was never intended and which the commission is profoundly uncomfortable performing," Dom's

letter states. "But the commissioners feel that something needs to be done, and quick and urgent and immediate action taken. Most of the 37 homeowners have all their savings tied up in their property, which will suffer serious devaluation if we have no water supply."

Platform Properties, which owns The Cottages, maintains that groundwater management to ensure neighbouring systems aren't impacted by the resort's groundwater use is successfully employed.

"We're conscious of our water use at the resort and continue to promote conservation with our guests, especially as we move into the summer months," said spokesperson Andrew Sinclair. "We continue to monitor the system and its performance. We have not experienced any problems since the resort opened last year."

The Capital Regional District, which has authority over the water service, has now taken steps to ensure the district's existing groundwater rights are not being supplanted by other users. Salt Spring CRD manager Karla Campbell wrote to the section head of the regional water authorization department to request the province prevent newer groundwater users from adversely impacting Cedar Lane's water quality and quantity under the "first-in-time, first-in-right" prioritization rule.

As of last week she had yet to receive a response.

The province initiated licensing of non-domestic groundwater use under the Water Sustainability Act in 2016. Existing non-domestic users who apply during the first three-year transition period are accorded a place in the "first-in-time, first-in-right" priority system based on evidence of historical use. Those who apply after March 1, 2019 will be given junior priority, based on the date of application. Ministry employees can take action to enforce the FITFIR priority system in the act, including ordering water users to curtail their use.

"During time of shortage where there is competition amongst users, the senior right holder is allowed their full water use before junior water right holders on that source (stream or aquifer) or other source that is hydraulically connected," the ministry explained.

According to the province's Water Management Branch, so far only the CRD has applied for its groundwater licence out of the three operations in question.

The CRD has also started exploring other options for water supply. According to information provided to the Cedar Lane commission, an engineering study that has been contracted to provide a strategic asset management plan for six of the regional district's local water services will also provide an evaluation of supply options for Cedar Lane, including the possibility of rainwater catchment.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

Mother's Day:

Sunday, MAY 13

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SD 64

Galiano observation hive creates educational buzz

School hive teaches that bees are nothing to be afraid of

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Since 2016, Galiano Island Community School has played host to a hive of honey bees, part of the Bee Cause program that provides observation hives to schools and community centres across North America.

Galiano's program is run by Colleen Doty, who applied for a Bee Cause grant when she was working with the Galiano Island Food program. Doty volunteers to both keep the bees and teach the kids.

"I think it really connects children with ecology and our connections with nature. We are linked and it's really important for the kids to learn from the bees as well," she said. "There's so much fear around little insects that sting, so this has been a great way to teach kids that bees don't want to sting you. They're very gentle and they're just really lovely."

The Bee Cause program is a charitable organization based in Savannah, Georgia dedicated to teaching kids about honeybees. Its goal is to put 1,000 hives all over North America. So far they have provided over 300 hives, according to their website.

When the program started, Doty was a new beekeeper. She has had support from a local mentor, the community and the school since the beginning of the project. Though the hive is in the school library, it is available to community members of all ages interested in learning about bees.

"In previous years we've had the daycare and Strong Start program, which is like preschool. Those kids came in to see it," she said. "It's open to whoever. I've let people know and the public out there who aren't necessarily connected to the school community that I'm available to show the bees if they want."

"We are linked and it's really important for the kids to learn from the bees as well."

COLLEEN DOTY
Galiano hive volunteer

Keeping bees in an observation hive presents different challenges to the beekeeper than traditional hives. Bees can be more stressed by the rapid changes in light and in temperature. It is also harder for the bees to keep the hive clean.



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Colleen Doty with the Bee Cause program observation hive at Galiano Island Community School.

In a regular hive, any dead bees or waste products fall to the bottom and are carried out of the hive by worker bees. Due to the set-up of the observation hive, the only entrance is at the top of the hive, which makes it much more difficult for the bees to clean up.

The school hive has had some issues with disease as well. The first colony of bees — imports

from New Zealand — was afflicted with a fungal parasite called *Nosema ceranae* that can spread easily between bees.

"It was very alarming for all of the beekeepers on the island," Doty said. "I phoned them once we established that they had [the disease] . . . It didn't spread. It was quite contained."

Though Doty has experienced some hard lessons in the

past few years, she has noticed that the bees are doing well this year.

"It would be great if we could keep the bees healthy and keep them going in the observation hive," she said.

"The school has been accommodating and the staff have been supportive. I would like to keep it going as long as the bees are doing well."

NEWS BRIEFS

GC scam reported in Ganges

Downtown business owners have issued a warning about a fraud involving gift certificates sold for significantly large dollar amounts to a person representing himself

as "Evan."

The gift certificates are purchased by a credit card that is eventually rejected as fraudulent, with the merchant then left short for the amount of the purchase. The purchaser manually enters the credit card number while appearing to be entering a PIN code.

On two occasions,

fraudulently purchased gift certificates for the Salt Spring Inn and Hastings House were later advertised as "for sale" at bargain prices. Both incidents were reported to local RCMP.

Island businesses are cautioned to carefully oversee every credit card transaction to prevent further instances.

Salt Spring Transit celebrates 10 years

Community members are invited to join Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Claire Trevina, the Capital Regional

District and BC Transit in celebrating 10 years of transit service on Salt Spring Island, with a special event planned for this Friday, May 11.

The event will start with a recognition of the transit system's historic builders, with speeches at Centennial Park starting at 1 p.m. The action then moves to the bus stop by the Salt

Spring Visitor Centre at 2 p.m. with a thank-you giveaway to 100 passengers.

Salt Spring Transit has been acknowledged as the best performing system of its size in British Columbia, and perhaps across Canada.

For more information on routes, schedules and service alerts, visit bctransit.com/salt-spring-island.



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ELECTORAL REFORM

Salt Spring student founds youth-led PR campaign

Fraser Byers leads B.C.-wide yes-side team

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The B.C. NDP government hasn't yet released details of its promised proportional representation referendum, but that doesn't mean campaigning isn't already underway.

Just ask Fraser Byers, the Grade 10 student who founded B.C. Youth for Proportional

Representation (BCY4PR) earlier this year as an independent directed study course at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Byers has been busy creating a website and social media accounts, reaching out to university groups and planning ways to encourage eligible B.C. youth to vote yes for electoral reform and to otherwise educate students and their families. On Saturday, the youth group hosted a pizza party at Creekside Community Recreation Centre in Vancouver.

"I started it and now we have a larger

team situated across the province," he said. "We have more than 10 people fully committed."

BCY4PR has representation at UBC, SFU, UNBC and UVic, and falls under the Make Every Vote Count Alliance umbrella made up of groups in favour of changing B.C.'s electoral system.

One of the big tasks will be finding a way to make it easier for university students to vote, due to the referendum's use of a mail-in ballot when students don't have a permanent address.

"There's no point telling them to vote if they can't vote," said Byers.

Byers favours proportional representation because it gives more weight to each vote than the current first-past-the-post system, where candidates can win with substantially less than 50 per cent of the vote in a riding.

"It can end up that more than 50 per cent of people who vote actually have no impact in the final outcome, and that is really not that good for democracy."

If people feel they will see representation from their preferred parties and candidates in the legislature, they would be more inclined to vote, he said.

Byers is pleased that the NDP government has set a 50 per cent plus one threshold for passing the referendum rather than the 60 per cent level in two previous B.C. referenda on the subject. He also hopes



FRASER BYERS

the question will be a general one rather than asking voters to choose a specific form of PR.

"People believe that proportional representation is complicated and when you get down to the details it is," he said, "but to be fair, first past the post isn't any simpler, when you think about strategic voting and how that all comes into play. It is pretty confusing as well and it is probably more confusing for people to think about voting strategically rather than just voting for the party they want to vote for the most."

Byers said one of the no-side arguments is that PR would open the door to extremist fringe parties proliferating in the province.

"If I thought that PR would give the Nazi party power in B.C., I wouldn't be doing this, and I don't think anybody would."

Setting a threshold of, say, five per cent popular support for a party to get a seat would eliminate that possibility, he said.

Byers and his group see a "yes" vote in the fall as a "now or never" proposition.

"They're saying this will likely be the last PR referendum, so youth won't actually get a chance to vote on this issue likely again, so this is the time we need to do it."

Byers said he is feeling optimistic about the chances of the referendum passing.

"I think it is looking really good and I think people should be confident in working for change," he said.

He expressed thanks to Gulf Islands Secondary School staff for making it possible for him to work on the BCY4PR project as an independent study course.



Salt Spring Island Fire-Rescue

SSIFR had their annual Trustee & Awards Dinner this past weekend (May 5th) at the Harbour House. We wish to acknowledge those that made this event such a success!! First and foremost, the hotel and their staff! The venue was perfect – the setup and the tables absolutely beautiful...these

individuals from the hotel merit an additional mention: Hans Hazenboom – thank you for the table tops! Brooke & Tyberius from B-Nurtured – thank you thank you for the most amazing food – you truly are the 'kitchen whisperers!' Sarah Peek – thank you for your patience and outstanding customer service.. cool as a cucumber during times of crisis and you delivered top notch services!! The following generously donated items and/or their time to make this event spectacular: Fox Glove – the flowers were beautiful! Bob Twaites – the props were incredible! Dave Bartle – amazing photos! Piper Rod MacDonald – thank you! GISS IMPROV – what a show!!

A big shout out to the SSIFR executive admin – Jocelyne Monette – for putting on another event to remember!!

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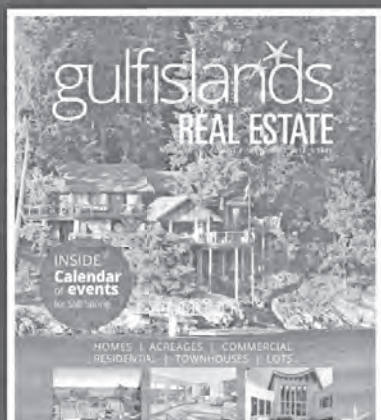
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PARC

Market vendors to pay more

General PARC fees also going up to cover costs of inflation

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Fees for Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission programs and Saturday market stalls will be going up within the year.

The commission voted at its last meeting to increase general fees and usage charges by two per cent to cover the cost of inflation, effective Sept. 1, and market fees by five per cent as of Jan. 1, 2019.

The market currently costs PARC around \$80,000 per year to operate and makes revenue of about \$100,000. Extra revenue is used to offset things like PARC staff charges for Saturdays, administration costs and the market coordinator's salary. PARC decided some revenue should help cover costs of restoring the failing infrastructure of Centennial Park and to contribute to reserves for future park impacts due to heavy traffic on Saturdays.

According to PARC manager Dan Ovington, vendors pay about \$26 per week for a market spot, which is considerably lower than at other similar markets in the province.

"They're private businesses and a lot of them don't have to have the overhead from a storefront. From having a private business and having to pay for it and everything that goes along with it, I think this is ridiculous," said PARC commissioner Jacky Cooper. "I know it's only for a few months out of the year, but I'm

sorry, they're doing it at the cost of Parks and Rec because we're subsidizing them. There's no way that we should be subsidizing them."

Some vendors think raising the fees will make running their businesses more difficult.

"That completely affects me as a market person," said Amy Sandidge of Bareback Leather. "We start our season really early and we end really late. It is already a difficult thing to face a day of low sales. What you do is you average it out over the month, but you add another five per cent and it makes our averages even harder."

The difficulty of running a market stall as a small vendor was addressed at the meeting.

Commissioner Sonja Collombin said, "I think that as much as there are a lot of vendors in there who make a lot of money, there are also a lot of vendors who aren't those vendors. There's a wide variety to the market and not all of them are charging the same thing."

Most markets in B.C. run on a different model.

"It's not typical for local government to be managing or operating markets. In fact, I can't find another example of it in B.C.," Ovington said in the meeting. "We've seen through the strategic plan that there have been a lot of questions about the market operations and I'm hoping that one of the initiatives that comes out of that is for us to look at the overall operating and management. To look at it is quite a large project. We would need to bring in an independent consultant to look at it and make some recommendations."

SPEAKERS

Elizabeth May visits island congregations on Sunday

Activism and faith discussed at two events

Saanich-Gulf Islands Member of Parliament and Green party leader Elizabeth May will explore the connection between theology and ecology at two special events on Salt Spring this Sunday, May 13.

As the Salt Spring Unitarian Fellowship's Mother's Day guest speaker, May will give a morning sermon called Love Your Mother — Mother Earth for a homily based on the United Nations' Earth Charter.

The Earth Charter enunciates 16 principles, many of which resonate with the seven principles of Unitarian universalism.

According to the Earth Charter website, the document "is an ethical framework for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century. It seeks to inspire in all people a new sense of global interdependence and shared responsibility for the well-being of the whole human family . . . It is a vision of hope and a call to action.

"At a time when major changes in how we think and live are urgently needed, the Earth Charter challenges us to examine our values . . . It encourages us to search for common ground . . . and to embrace a global ethic that is shared by an ever-growing number of people throughout the world."

The Unitarian Fellowship meets at the Salt Spring Seniors' Centre, 379 Lower

Ganges Rd. Doors open at 10 a.m., with service at 10:30.

May will move on to All Saints By-the-Sea for her second appearance Sunday, with a talk hosted by the Anglican Church's Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice starting at 2 p.m.

Drawing on her own experience as an activist, politician and person of faith, May will help participants ponder the work of Thomas Berry, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Passionist order, cultural historian and ecotheologian.

"From a background in history of world cultures and religions he developed into a historian of the Earth and its evolutionary processes and what we can

learn from them for our own effective functioning as individuals and as a species. Following Berry's lead, May will also delve into the lively spiritual practice of Indigenous peoples and what we can learn from them," information from Star of the Sea Centre states.

Landmark documents like the Earth Charter will also be part of the discussion, as well as Pope Francis' widely discussed social encyclical of 2015, *Laudato si*. Among other topics, the extensive document discusses environmentalism, poverty, science and modernism and theology.

All are invited to participate in the opportunity to meet with May. Space is limited. Register in advance at www.starofthesea.ca.

HASSI REPORT

Harbours ready for busy season

Painting and more completed

BY PER SVENDSEN

HARBOUR AUTHORITY OF SSI CHAIR

It's finally here. The weather has settled down and given us those long warm sunny days that we expect. Of course our thoughts turn to getting our boats ready for the season. Whether we have a power boat, a sailboat, a fishing boat or maybe a canoe/kayak, let's make sure that it's in proper safe order before we launch.

Your harbour authority has also been busy preparing the docks so that they are safe and ready to use. You may have noticed the "new fresh look" to these docks as the staff have been diligent in power washing and preparing them. Water has been turned back on for the use of our customers and visitors. The sewage pump-out has been repaired with a stand-by unit in case there is a breakdown.

Also, there is an addition near the main office. This remote office will help facilitate visitor sign-ins during the busy times and give the office staff a little more breathing room. It can get very busy during the tourist season. There is going to be a fresh coat of paint applied to this office so that it is part of the existing view.

Improvements in landscaping have also been done to provide easier access to

DOCKTALK

Kanaka dock for our visitors and those needing to access this busy dock head. This also gives the much visited Tree House Café more room for its customers to enjoy downtown Ganges. The CRD and Tree House have extended this work towards the road on the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure property. We are looking forward to future improvements in this area that will mutually benefit the community and our visiting friends.

Safety matters

In preparing for the busy season, we are hoping to encourage the use of proper safety gear and will continue to work with Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue to provide kids' life jackets at the two main Ganges docks.

Living in the protected waters of the Gulf Islands, it is easy to forget that the sea is not forgiving. No matter how much boating experience you have, it is always a good idea to stop and review your safety equipment and refresh your skills.

Please stay safe by always having enough PDFs, operating at a safe speed, checking conditions (tide, weather, wind), never operating a boat while impaired, let someone know where and when you are going and planning to return,

and have proper lighting and signalling devices. Learn how to be a safe mariner. Your crew and others depend on your competency. Check the Safe Boating Guide from the Transport Canada website.

Over 80 per cent of boating fatalities involve recreational and daily life activities. Alcohol is a factor in far too many boating incidents and deaths. Even on our beautiful hot summer days, B.C.'s waters are cold: over 50 per cent of drownings occur due to cold shock response. Wearing a PFD helps you make it through the first few minutes to get your breathing under control.

"Trying to put a life jacket on after falling in the water is like trying to put a seatbelt on while an auto accident is occurring." Canada Red Cross

Given the great environment we live in, a large portion of our local population and visitors head out onto the water. While we are very fortunate to have both a Coast Guard and RCMSAR presence, their expertise, dedication and lives should not be misused by lack of personal responsibility. Regulations have their place but cannot replace our own involvement in making sure we all make it home.

Please feel free to discuss these and any harbour matters with the Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island. Thank you and have a safe and enjoyable boating season.

Water safety tips found on CRD site

HIGHLAND WATER

continued from 1

Bywater explained that soil and sediment can get into the water when there is a break in the pipeline. That type of contamination isn't as serious as fecal matter, or the situation some years back when the district's water treatment plant failed to process toxic blue-green algae from its source at St. Mary Lake.

"To the best of my knowledge,

it's about the sediment," Bywater said. "We still have to boil the water because we don't want to take any chances.

"Hopefully we will hear from Island Health soon and the boil water advisory will be lifted."

Bywater said the incident is yet another reminder of how important it is to be ready for any emergency, including by having stores of bottled water available.

"You can just go into your emer-

gency supplies and then replace it, because you have to do that anyway," Bywater said.

"If you're in a water district and there's any sort of huge emergency, you had better have some water on hand."

Household tap water can be disinfected by boiling it vigorously for one minute.

For more information and updates on the Highland situation, visit www.crd.bc.ca.



Rotary Club of Salt Spring Island

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Tuesday May 15, 2018

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Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood** office will be closed on **Monday, May 21 - Victoria Day** and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, May 22.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday May 24 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline:
Thurs., May 17, 12 noon

Classified Display Deadline:
Fri., May 18, 3pm

Classified Word Deadline:
Tues., May 22, 9am



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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 | Silver - 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 BCYNA Awards
 Gold - Best Cartoonist (Dennis Parker)



EDITORIAL

Expedite process

Anyone who's been in business on Salt Spring Island knows what a terrifying prospect it can be.

Between dealing with a summer crush and a winter drought, trying to figure out what government body to go to for services, transportation challenges and a spate of less-than-rock-solid commercial buildings, any number of pitfalls await the island business owner, whether new to the game or seasoned.

It would be easy to criticize the new owners of Island Escapades, which has been renamed Beachside, for not acquiring a development permit from the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee before undertaking shoreline stabilization work. But as Jason Watkin has stated, the work arose due to an emergency situation that could have put the Beachside building in jeopardy if nothing was done to replace a crumbling retaining wall. Under those circumstances, heading off to a government office might not be one's first thought.

THE ISSUE:

Development permit

WE SAY:

Quicker approval required

That said, this situation is a stark and valuable reminder to others that development permits are required for just about any activity in Ganges village, on shorelines or around lakes and streams, among other areas. It should not be a surprise to anyone

that local government approval is required to undertake changes in accordance with the island's official community plan. And it would be reckless to throw out development permit requirements just because everyone is eager to see a new business get off the ground.

At the same time, it would be unfortunate if something that could be done to facilitate the permit approval was not done. This is especially the case because of the emergency nature of the work required. Perhaps some applicants in the Islands Trust queue could voluntarily allow the Beachside permit jump ahead of them in the line.

Perhaps a contract planner could be hired by the Watkins as occurs in more complicated Trust applications. Perhaps another spot could be used to at least ensure the kayaking part of the business continues.

Of primary concern in this case is the jobs that will be lost if this business does not open this summer, and the overall community benefit that Beachside will provide, as did its predecessor.

When an independent island business can be supported, everybody wins.



VIEWPOINT by Timothy Harvey

Plant medicine farming sustainable

The May 2 issue of the Driftwood marked the launch of a misinformation campaign against the cannabis industry ("LTC to check into marijuana on farmland").

With so much Salt Spring farmland covered by Scotch broom and non-food crops, while a housing crisis demonstrates a need for economic vitality and upward mobility, it defies logic to oppose farming a valuable medicinal crop that stands to provide well-paying jobs and spinoff benefits to the community.

The March 31 letter to the Islands Trust by Farmers' Institute president Bruce Marshall contains the sort of knee-jerk reactionary thinking that prevented legalization during the 20th century and would now impose a local cannabis prohibition on Salt Spring farmland, depriving the community of a magnificent opportunity to demonstrate leadership in the cannabis industry.

The Driftwood article failed to mention that progressive cannabis producers are champions of low-till living soils, organic compost teas and bulk organic soil amendments (which contrary to Tony Threfall's assertion, need not all be imported). The reality is that producing this fast-growing, oxygen-exuding plant allows cultivators to target a net-zero carbon footprint while improving soil conditions.

Those driving the conversation from the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (George Grams) and Farmers Institute (Marshall, Threfall) describe worst-case industry practices that are unlikely ever to characterize Salt Spring. Every sector of agriculture has extremes of poor practice such as heavily medicated feedlots and Roundup Ready crops, but we don't ban farming meat and vegetables locally due to poor practices elsewhere. Rather, we express our island values in our methods of cultivation, and earn our reputation honestly.

Market forces will dictate that local producers compete with a superior product, just as Salt Spring lamb competes with feedlot beef. With the Canadian market to be dominated by a handful of high-volume marijuana producers, Salt Spring's main contribution will come from "micro-cultivation" licensees, a program being implemented by Health Canada in response to public consultation. Micro-cultivators will target niche markets with value-added "craft" products, including organic cannabis, which currently enjoys an average 33 per cent price premium over conventional marijuana.

In years to come, Gulf Islands communities have an unprecedented opportunity to share the benefits of participating in a diversified cannabis economy. We owe it to ourselves to protect our collective opportunity from the fear tactics of hold-out prohibitionists.

As a small-scale goat and duck farmer, I am a big supporter of the Farmers' Institute. But the "reefer madness" expressed by its leadership serves only to rile up opposition to the family-sustaining farming of plant medicine. Especially as the housing crisis highlights social inequalities, we must be vigilant against those who campaign against the greater good. Creating a more just society means placing faith in our island cannabis farmers to demonstrate leadership and responsible practices.

Above all, we must protect the status of marijuana as a valued agricultural crop. History has granted us an opportunity to exercise newfound freedom as farmers: we have earned the right not to allow prohibitionists to take this freedom away.

The writer works for Better Cannabis Genetics on Salt Spring.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should ALR land be used for growing marijuana? Yes No

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

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is your household prepared for a natural disaster? NO YES

Driftwood

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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "If I thought that PR would give the Nazi party power in B.C., I wouldn't be doing this, and I don't think anybody would."

FRASER BYERS OF BC YOUTH FOR PR, ON PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What are you doing to celebrate mother's day?



WANDA AND MALOREY STEWART
Relaxing. It's also her first birthday today.



VANESSA CLARK
I'm a new mom, so hopefully I get some breakfast made. And I'll give my mom some flowers.



HOLLY SHARRATT
I'm going to send something to my daughter because she's gonna be a new mom.



BEV PACE
I'm going to spend the day with my three daughters and seven grandchildren. We'll all be together.



BAY HALE
I'm just going to spend it with my family and my mother.

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

Cannabis concerns

While I share the Farmers' Institute's concern regarding the Agricultural Land Reserve and local food production, I would point out that large-scale industrial production of anything is unsuitable to take place in the Gulf Islands.

However, the way their letter has been worded gives the impression that farming cannabis is extremely harmful to the environment and would hold no other benefits. I think this view is narrow-minded, ill-informed

and ultimately not in the interest of the small-scale farmer and our community at large.

There is no difference between craft beer, wine or cannabis. To make a distinction is plain ignorant or hypocritical. I agree with trustee Peter Grove: "Growing marijuana is farming after all," but putting emphasis on the way it's done.

V. ROBINSON,
SALT SPRING

Gratitude

Regarding your May 2 article on Greenwoods, on a personal note, my husband Bob is in the dementia unit of Greenwoods.

For the past two years he has been receiving TLC from the nurses and caregivers. I'm so filled with gratitude and appreciation to them.

When I visit Bob, the staff greet me with "Hello, Betty, how are you?" They probably don't know how much of a lift it gives me.

Barb Aust, chair of the Greenwoods Eldercare Society, and recently departed executive director Paul Oliphant have given exceptional service. I know Paul's replacement Aletha Humphreys will continue to do the same.

BETTY BALL,
SALT SPRING

Our terminals need attention

The following was sent to Brian Green, BC Ferries' manager of terminal development and to the Driftwood for publication.

It was extremely frustrating to read your account, in the May 2 Driftwood newspaper, of the terminal upgrades at the Swartz Bay terminal.

Swartz Bay terminal has received extensive upgrades over last 12 years. Judging by the descriptions, these upgrades have cost many millions of dollars. Fulford and Vesuvius terminals,

on the other hand, have received very little attention.

Parking at Fulford is difficult to impossible at times. There is no drop-off parking or longer-term parking at all. The parking lot fills up regularly so that cars back up the hill beyond the three-lane section and into the two-lane part.

This means that if you want to drop someone off at the terminal or just get to the village, you have to risk driving the wrong way against oncoming traffic. This is dangerous. There isn't even a sidewalk for pedestrians to get out of the way.

BC Ferries has talked about a terminal upgrade for as long as I have lived on Salt Spring

(11 years). Plans are discussed and announced, repeatedly, but nothing ever happens.

Vesuvius terminal has many of the same problems. Cars waiting for the ferry often back up in the driving lane on Vesuvius Bay Road, creating the same dangerous situation. The facilities at Vesuvius are primitive: an open-air bus type shelter and a porta-potty.

Your account was a slap in the face for residents and travellers of Salt Spring Island. We are just a small island but I think that we deserve better.

DREW BODALY,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Croftonbrook project poses more questions

BY HUGH GREENWOOD AND RUTH PEPIN

In March of 2017, it was announced that funding for a Salt Spring housing project was available from the CRD Regional Housing First Program, BC Housing and Island Health.

Island Women Against Violence then received approval from the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (the "LTC") to build 20 new units for low-to-moderate income seniors (Phase 2 of Croftonbrook).

In October, IWAV submitted a rezoning application to the LTC to place 34 additional units into a Phase-3 development at Croftonbrook. IWAV proposed "mixed-model" housing that would include families, the chronic homeless, persons with social issues (e.g. addiction, mental health, etc.) needing housing prior to receiving social services. IWAV received first reading of the bylaw.

The community, anticipating a project that would provide housing for seniors, some of whom have experienced homelessness, was surprised by the open-ended scope of this new stage.

The proposal for Phase 3 raised questions.

Who will be housed? What criteria are being used to identify the target population and select the new residents? What is being done to ensure that the new residents are positioned to successfully integrate into an existing community? When problems arise, who will manage them?

What about density? There are already a total of 129 units in Croftonbrook, Cot-

tonwood, Roscommon, Pioneer Village and Heritage Place, as well as 10 private homes along Corbett Road. Phases 2 and 3 would add an additional 54 units in Croftonbrook. This high level of density deviates from the kind of growth appropriate for this island.

Are there access issues? Island roads are under the purview of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Corbett is a secondary, single-lane road that was not designed to handle heavy traffic. Corbett Road serves Cottonwood, Croftonbrook and upper Roscommon, the private residences and commercial operations along this road. It is the only exit/entry for vehicles and pedestrians. Corbett Road intersects with Crofton Road, which is the sole access to Lady Minto Hospital.

What about water, sewer and physical infrastructure? Does this proposal have the potential to exceed prudent limits? The Islands Trust mandate is to preserve and protect. They regulate, monitor and oversee the natural systems in this fragile environment. We expect them to live up to that mandate.

Our attempts to get solid answers to these questions highlighted a new problem, namely, a piecemeal approach to social planning. There is no template against which our island can measure potential solutions to housing or other social challenges. There is no authority responsible for ensuring all known issues are discussed

INDEPTH

and properly managed from an island perspective.

We must look ahead to the long-term livability of our island and its people. Without advanced social planning we are setting ourselves up for failure.

To ensure the long-term success of this project, and other well-intentioned developments, they must be subject to comprehensive social planning, including sustainable funding, appropriate maintenance and sufficient human services.

Without adequate forethought, criteria and structure, we simply create more difficult problems. There are solutions but they don't happen by accident.

What are we looking for? We want the same care and attention given to social planning as is given to water management. Islanders must be responsible for making decisions about our future.

The engineering problems connected with such a development will have engineering solutions and, even though they may be costly, they can be dealt with. Social interactions are complex and there are no formulas to solve them.

Quality of life is our touch-stone. That is what we pride ourselves on, why we live here, why we volunteer and why we stay. As a community we have solved difficult problems. We should not walk away from this one just because it is challenging.

The problem isn't simply the Phase 3

development in Croftonbrook. The problem is expecting the LTC to approve any project in the absence of comprehensive planning.

Assimilating homeless and special needs islanders poses problems for any community, particularly when the scale of the project is as ambitious as IWAV's. In the absence of an integrated, inter-agency approach to ask the questions and seek the answers to the many multi-jurisdictional challenges that will surely arise, we need the Islands Trust to play a role that we recognize is somewhat outside the conventional land-use planning arena. We ask that the LTC promote public dialogue and discussion through one or more forums where all stakeholders can feel heard. Participants should include the Islands Trust, CRD, BC Housing, Community Services, IWAV, current residents of Croftonbrook, Cottonwood and Roscommon, and our MLA.

At the forthcoming LTC meeting on May 10, as a condition of moving forward with the IWAV rezoning application we ask that trustees please take the necessary steps to make such an event a reality. This public discussion and analysis should precede and inform any further reading of the rezoning application.

Ruth Pepin is president of Roscommon Strata Corporation and has had a long career in social work. Hugh Greenwood is president of Cottonwood Close Strata Corporation and is a retired geologist and former UBC professor.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Don't increase density

To visualize Salt Spring of the future, one need only listen to the word clues of trustees as they respond to the housing crunch: phrases such as "rezone their properties" (Peter Grove) or "revise standards" and "increase densities" (George Grams). To me, this translates to "carve up the island," without accomplishing much else in the long term.

There is enormous people

pressure on the Gulf Islands, and no wonder: we live between two major cities, one a provincial capital, the other a megalopolis with upwards of three million inhabitants. If things are intense now, just wait a few years!

The Islands Trust has a mandate to preserve and protect "the special nature" of the Gulf Islands, but unfortunately, their digital world does not reflect events on the ground. There are myriad illegal dwellings on the island, including tents, ramshackle huts, unauthorized Airbnbs and other structures not permitted under current regulations.

Trustee Grams hints at increas-

ing densities now and enforcing the rules later. Somehow, I do not find that very reassuring.

It is important to remember that an increased population is already baked into the cake as many lots have yet to be developed. There are also bylaws, passed and proposed, to allow for more secondary suites and cottages.

If the current trend continues, Salt Spring will eventually become just another high-density community with pockets of green space dotting the urban landscape. The rural character of the island will be lost.

And let's not forget the recent referendum in which islanders

voted decisively against incorporation. Their greatest fear was that incorporation would bring more development.

Every time island residents are asked what they want, either by referendum or review of the official community plan, they opt to protect the rural environment and reject the idea of constant growth. So why do planners and trustees not respect this wish?

There is little doubt the housing situation demands attention, but the Islands Trust, while motivated by good intentions, must not compromise the heart and soul of this island.

FRANTS ATTORP,
SALT SPRING

Tiresome mantra

I bet that if Salt Spring Island were told it had to accommodate 2,000 Syrian refugees by the end of May, it would be accomplished, with all levels of governance and respective bureaucracies working collectively towards a solution.

What's different with finding solutions on Salt Spring Island for our people living in non-compliant accommodations? Instead of relying on the tiresome mantra: "Affordable housing is a provincial responsibility."

ROSS KING,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 9

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

Make exercise fun to get the most of it

Exercise benefits both the mind and body. Study after study indicates how physical activity can reduce the propensity for illness, boost mood, lower stress levels, and much more. Still, certain people find it difficult to muster the motivation to get up and move.

Lack of time and inspiration may be to blame for disinterest in exercise. Boredom with routine and being unaware of alternative fitness regimens also may be contributing factors. Increasing the fun associated with workouts could lead to greater success in or outside of the gym.

1. Do what you enjoy.

Wasting time on activities that you don't enjoy may cause you to throw in the towel prematurely. Don't base fitness choices around what worked for others; find things that work for you. Exercise physiologists at John

Hopkins Weight Management Center say to start with an activity that you already enjoy, even if it's aligned with the trend of the moment. Chances are you can find a class or make up a routine that works for you.

2. Tweak your playlist.

Music can improve performance during a workout and may actually take your mind off of strenuous or repetitive activity. Also, tailor songs to coordinate to the beats per minute of different activities. Strength activities and endurance activities can feature songs with higher BPMs.

3. Exercise with friends or a group.

Having other people around can make workouts more enjoyable, and that interaction may spur competition that can make you more inclined to stay the course. People who were in the competitive groups

in a study of 800 graduate and professional students at the University of Pennsylvania went to 90 per cent more classes than those who exercised independently or were not competitive.

4. Head outdoors.

You may be more inclined to workout if you do so outside. Activities such as hiking, swimming, and cycling on natural courses can be inspiring and burn calories.

5. Try sports or another activity.

Exercise regimens do not have to include running on a treadmill or lifting weights. All types of activities can work, and some may be more enjoyable to you than traditional exercises. Everything from martial arts to dance classes can offer cardiovascular and muscle-building benefits in a fun atmosphere.



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Shot on location at Peninsula at Norgarden

Contracting Lyme disease from coastal B.C. ticks is rare

BY REUBEN KAUFMAN

I read with interest Frants Attorp's April 11 story about his tick encounter in Ruckle Park and subsequent fears of perhaps contracting Lyme disease (LD).

Many misunderstandings about LD arise because the standard literature almost invariably refers to the eastern and middle areas of the continent, whereas on the Pacific coast, climatic (and other) conditions differ significantly.

For my research here, I depend on local residents bringing me ticks that they find on their pets. People here are surprised to learn that I begin to receive ticks sometime in October, with donations rising progressively to reach a peak in February or March. The number I receive thereafter declines throughout the spring, and I am given literally none from June through September. In the rest of the country the season differs by 180 degrees! Consequently, here we have to take the greatest care for tick avoidance at precisely the season that the literature from the east indicates the minimum risk.

How long does it take after tick attachment for the LD spirochaete (a type of bacterium) to be transferred to the victim? The tick first has to secrete saliva into the host. (The LD spirochaete enters the host via this route.) But salivation begins only after quite some hours during the first day of attachment, the rate of salivation increasing significantly over the next five or six days. Moreover, it takes at least a few days after initial infection for the disease to begin to manifest itself, and antibiotic therapy is effective for at least some weeks (or longer) after diagnosis. Advising one to seek medical attention "within the hour" (as Mr. Attorp was) might instill needless fear, something that the average person does not need more of.

Of course it is usually the patient who informs the clinician of how long a tick has been attached. Although one would imagine that this estimate would be reasonably accurate, my experience here is telling. Frequently I have been told by a tick donor that the beast had been feeding on the pet only

IN RESPONSE

since the night before. But I can estimate approximately how long a tick has been attached by weighing the tick. (Yep, I have a very fine balance!) Often, I can tell from the weight that such a tick had been feeding for a good four to five days, and not merely 12 hours. Most people do not realize that a tick can go unnoticed for days, especially on a long-haired pet.

The standard wisdom in the public health community is to prescribe a course of antibiotic therapy for 28 days, especially if the attached tick was from "an endemic area." Coastal B.C. is about as far from an endemic area as one can get. According to the BCCDC, the percentage of ticks infected with the LD spirochaete along the coast is only a fraction of one per cent. Is it really wise to treat more than 99 people out of a 100 with such a long course of antibiotic when they don't need it? Surely it would be more rational to determine

whether the partially fed tick (if it is brought in by the patient) is infected, and only then treat with antibiotics? The problem is that the medical community is not generally aware of the feeding dynamics of ticks, and that salivation by the tick increases with feeding time.

The so-called "bull's-eye rash" is a good sign that transmission of the LD spirochaete has occurred. But one often gets an inflammatory reaction in the skin because of the attached tick's mouthparts and various components of the secreted saliva. The question arises: How often is such a reaction misinterpreted as a bull's-eye rash? I don't know the answer, but I'll bet it's at least "sometimes," and here on the Pacific coast, perhaps most of the time.

At Lady Minto Hospital, Mr. Attorp was offered a single dose of antibiotic to be used as a prophylactic measure. From his reading of the literature, Mr. Attorp was concerned that a single dose falls way below the normally recommended 28-day course. The physician told him that this protocol

"is based on scientific research." The mutual confusion here is interesting. First, the single-dose protocol is very much supported by scientific evidence. But it is not pretended to be a "cure" for confirmed LD, but as a prophylactic measure to be taken only under very particular circumstances (see Nadelman et al, 2001, New England Journal of Medicine 345: 79-84). I don't pretend to know whether it was appropriate for Mr. Attorp.

I applaud Mr. Attorp for concluding his article in a positive way. He expressed gratitude for the treatment he received at Lady Minto. We are indeed fortunate on Salt Spring to have access to such a facility. And he continues to walk in the woods, but now taking a few extra precautions since his experience. So I toast him from afar as he enjoys his post-walk glass of wine!

The writer is professor emeritus from the University of Alberta's Department of Biological Sciences and conducts research with tick specimens.

RANTS *and* Roses

Rants

To the driver of a vehicle that broadsided a small deer at 5 p.m. on May 3 on the corner of Lower Ganges and Booth Canal roads: You must have known you had badly injured an animal; it struggled to our front yard. The Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre's phone num-

ber is 250-537-0777 and they responded quickly to end the helpless young deer's suffering. My call was the only one they received. Shame on you. Kathy Thomas

Roses

An everlasting supply of deep purple tulips for the nurses at the Home and

Community Care Clinic, especially Maureen, "wound specialist" extraordinaire. We feel so grateful for your tender and skillful care. My burns are healing each day. Don't know what we would have done without you! Wendy (and Corrie, too)

Pick-up trucks full of roses for the Good Samaritans who helped me with my pick-up truck-clutch-pickle in Vesuvius Bay last week. So much appreciated! I wish I had thought to ask your names! Laura Dafoe

MORE LETTERS

continued from 8

Great concert

The Salt Spring Singers concert Hooray For Hollywood over the weekend was fantastic. Everyone loves to hear those songs from movies that last forever and bring back many memories. They were so well presented, and who can forget Moon River, The Way We Were and It Had To Be You?

Congratulations to all who took part. I hope we can enjoy another concert of familiar music like this soon.

MARY FRASER,
MOUNTAIN PARK DRIVE

Change

Remember the story of how Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis found that if doctors washed their hands the rates of "childbed fever" deaths could be drastically reduced?

Initially, some doctors were offended at the suggestion that they needed to change their ways, and it wasn't until after Semmelweis' death that the practice became widely accepted.

That story seems like a cautionary tale for our times. Sci-

entists have been warning us for decades that we need to stop burning fossil fuels and to protect the earth's carbon sinks, such as forests, wetlands and oceans. But when we look at the politics behind support for shipping coal through the Lower Mainland, for the Kinder Morgan pipeline, for LNG, we see such terrible reluctance to change.

As Canadian author and social activist Naomi Klein has pointed out, in a way the Trudeau government's plan to bail out Kinder Morgan is good news. It shows that when our governments perceive a crisis, they are capable of acting quickly. The bad news is how misguided we can be about what the real crises are.

JAN SLAKOV,
SALT SPRING

Mothers' love

A gift from God came to me in the form of mothers. Yes, I was fortunate to have two mothers; both related to me at birth.

My first mother was 32 years of age when I was born. She was tired and weary, having already given birth to six children before me.

God granted Mother much

love. She loved each one of us separately as well as together. Mother kept the food on the table and clothes on our backs, even though they were hand-me-downs from our older siblings. At Christmas and on our birthdays, Mother made particularly sure that each of us received one present.

When Mother grew ill and passed away I was spoken for by my second mother, who was my aunt and sister to my birth mother. This mother, too, imparted amazing love, leaving me with many gifts of memories of love.

E. MYRNA BOYD,
SALT SPRING

Heads & hearts

Written at the April 19 SSI Local Trust Committee meeting.

Trust sitting
Across the table
Capacity crowd
200 ears
plus a dead cat
A community in crisis.

Arms crossed
One voice
from the chair
listening
thoughts concerning

waiting to share.

Family man
Stands & speaks
Calm & clear
Numbers & emotions
Mentions cars and boats
that people live in.

Take a breath
Two minutes left
individual words
speak for the collective
for those without a voice
insecurity breeds
without their basic needs
met
a threat to sue,
Freak out,
and never come back!

Let's use our heads
with open hearts
we each have hands to hold.
Unless our might
is used just right
to wield unyielding
raise the height
of human standards of living.

Evictions & convictions
A hard choice to make
Someone's home's at stake.
Can we find a creative solution?
to Salt Spring Island's evolution?

NATE POETKER,
SALT SPRING

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IMPRESSIONS

Wedding colour palettes set the mood for special day

Season and desired ambiance to consider

Some brides may feel beholden to the colour white on their wedding days, at least in regard to their gowns. Those who do often embrace the opportunity to showcase their personal styles and set the mood for their nuptials by embracing various colours throughout their ceremonies and receptions.

Colour can be a critical component when establishing the ambiance for a wedding. Colour can evoke certain moods and set the tone for the day. Some colours work better together than others, so while choosing a colour scheme may seem like an easy undertaking, some couples may find it requires more careful consideration than they first imagined.

According to the bridal guide *A Practical Wedding*, wedding colours can give couples a starting-off point

for all of the other details of their weddings. This ensures the wedding ultimately has a cohesive look. Colours need not necessarily match, but borrowing on similar hues can make it easier to plan wedding party wardrobes, flowers, table linens, and much more.

Colours can come from anywhere, but many couples try to coordinate their colour schemes with the season in which the wedding takes place. In fact, couples who are finding it difficult to decide on a palette can look to seasonal colours for inspiration. For example, pastels and blooming flowers can set the scene for spring weddings, while jewel tones and rich reds and greens may be fitting for winter ceremonies.

Some couples opt for more loosely defined colour palettes, such as neutral and natural colours. Country and garden weddings can borrow ideas from the landscape, with natural linens paired with wildflowers.

Using whites, greys and beiges enables couples to add a pop of colour without overwhelming the setting.

Brides magazine suggests that couples avoid choosing too many colours. A maximum of three with one metallic can ensure that things look cohesive without being over-the-top. Also, brides and grooms needn't feel pressured by the "hot" colours of the moment. As with clothing and hairstyles, trends change. It is better to select colours that will stand the test of time and look good for years to come.

Couples may have to incorporate colours already at their wedding venues into their style. Fortunately many reception sites are outfitted in neutral tones to enable customization.

The wedding resource *The Knot* also says having a basic knowledge of the colour wheel can help. Typically, colours that pair well together are those that are opposites on the colour wheel. Also, colours that share proximity on the colour wheel will have



METROCREATIVE GRAPHICS

Magenta and white create a dynamic yet simple contrast at an outdoor reception venue.

similar tones and play well together. Examples of opposite colours include purples and yellows, reds and greens, and oranges and blues.

Couples should not be afraid to take some chances with their colour palettes, especially if they want to make a bold and modern statement.

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WEDDING PLANNER

MENUS

Creative options available for wedding reception food

From upscale to food carts

One of the more memorable aspects of wedding receptions is the food. Whether it was fun, tasty or something entirely new for guests, food tends to leave a lasting impression.

Bite-sized bursts

Tapas and a movement toward small bites has started to take hold at wedding receptions. Such a choice allows guests to try many different flavours without filling up too quickly. From sliders to mini grilled cheese to soup shots to bite-sized pizzas, many of these small bites feature flavours borrowed from familiar comfort foods — just presented on a miniature scale.

Comfort stations and bars

Couples who love comfort food can put it on display with a crostini station, a mashed potato bar, a chicken and waffles station, a gourmet popcorn snack station, or a ramen noodle bar.

Food trucks/carts

Outdoor weddings can be enhanced with the addition of trendy food trucks. These restaurants on wheels can inject burgers, sandwiches, international delights, crêpes, noodles, and so many more flavours into a wedding.

High-end options

Couples can give guests a taste of the lavish with olive oil and vinegar tasting stations, whiskey bars, French hors d'oeuvres, Kobe beef sliders, lobster tails, risotto stations and more.

Childhood favourites

When it comes time for dessert, some couples opt to avoid or downplay wedding cakes in favour of something simpler. A cookie-and-milk bar, doughnut holes, soft pretzel stations, pie pops, or dessert shot jars push creativity and sweetness to new levels. Do-it-yourself dessert stations, such as s'more-making and ice cream sundae stations, can also be big hits.



METROCREATIVE GRAPHICS

Tastes reign supreme at a wedding.

MEMORIES

All kinds of ways to preserve those precious memories

Special crafts and more

Weddings can be amazing, but they only last a few hours. Memories can be forever if they are effectively documented. The following are some ways for couples to permanently memorialize their wedding days.

- Create a custom locket. Brides can wear a piece of their wedding gown day after day with a custom necklace or locket. All they need to do is trim a small piece of the lace or other embellishment from the gown and enclose it in the locket.
- Purchase a special bottle of

- wine or champagne and ask guests to sign the label or the bottle itself. Store the bottle until a special occasion, such as a memorable anniversary, and then toast to a happy marriage.
- Teddy bear transformation: Have tuxedo fabric or wedding

- gown material turned into a keepsake teddy bear.
- Frame the invitation. Display the wedding invitation in a beautiful frame with custom matting.
- Make an invitation ornament. Cut the wedding invitation into strips and place it inside of a hol-

- low glass ornament. Seal the top and hang with a ribbon.
- Design a greeting card scrapbook. Turn all of those special handwritten messages and well-wishes into a scrapbook so that memories can be revisited time and again.

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YOUTH PROGRAMS

Spectacular Tsunami Circus show set to fly at SIMS

Program teaches camaraderie, confidence and physical skills

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Middle School's Tsunami Circus will present their year-end show called *Beyond Your Wildest Dreams* at the middle school gym this weekend.

The group has been putting the show together since October. It follows a series of dreams and waking moments in a teenager's life on Salt Spring Island, and includes clowning, juggling, aerial work, unicycling and other circus skills.

"They're athletes," Wightman said. "They've been training for this for eight months. If you put eight months and a minimum 10 hours per week into kids, they're going to come up with something



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Lila Manz rehearses an aerial silk routine for this weekend's Tsunami Circus show at Salt Spring Island Middle School.

spectacular."

SIMS is one of the only schools in the country to offer a circus

program. There are a few private circus schools in places like Quebec, but since they're private the

tuitions are much more expensive.

Wightman had the idea for the program after an Australian high school circus group came through for a visit. With a background in yoga and aerials, Wightman was inspired to create the program and has been putting on shows for the last three years with a team of six coaches.

"I'm so grateful to have this team of people. I feel like a family. I completely love them," she said.

The circus program is an extra-curricular activity at the school. Students who sign up are required to learn how to juggle on their own and go through an application process. Once in the program, they are encouraged to take on an aspect of circus performance they love. Wightman explained that in addition to learning circus skills like juggling and contortion, the students gain camaraderie, support and confidence.

"What it pulls out of each indi-

vidual is always surprising. You're guaranteed that there will be some massive change in each of these kids' lives and you never know what it will be," she said.

Along with Wightman, the coaches are community members who are inspired to see the kids grow and succeed. Those individuals are James Cowan, Jenny Redpath, Jekka Krayenhoff, Ben Velthuisen, Dave Manz and Carmen Colleran.

Krayenhoff also said that watching the students grow is inspiring.

"The best part is watching the growth of the students," Krayenhoff said. "Their first year they can be super shy and discouraged and then by their second year they're doing amazing things. It's really gratifying."

The show runs Friday and Saturday night at 7 p.m., with a matinee on Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and in advance at SIMS and West of the Moon.

EXHIBITIONS

David Wisdom photos reveal scenes of a vanishing world

Gallery soundtrack also part of show

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

David Wisdom will bring his two major creative spheres together for a unique show at Fault Line Projects this month, where a photo exhibition opening this Friday will have the ultimate background music.

The host of CBC Radio's much-loved alternative music programs *Nightlines* and *RadioSonic* has focused on photography and multimedia arts since retiring from radio in 2007. His upcoming show *In the Way: Photographs of a Lost World* will include between 40 and 50 images. Most of them have never been printed before, although Wisdom has shared many in his signature "slide shows" — a format he perfected with collections of images set to music in a series of sold-out special events at the Vancouver Art Gallery and the PuSh Festival.

"These are pictures I just personally wanted to see, because they're pictures I've always liked," Wisdom said.

The show's title refers to the fact the photos contain things that may no longer be around, perhaps because they were in the way of progress or in the way of nature. Ephemeral events are also represented, including some works from an ongoing series of British people sitting on benches.

"So it's not all doom and gloom — there's some encouraging pictures as well," Wisdom said.

People visiting the gallery will also

experience a linked project, in the form of a soundtrack that Wisdom curated from his own music collection. He put together the setlist that will be playing on rotation throughout the show period after a suggestion by gallery owners Nigel Harrison and Amy Jones.

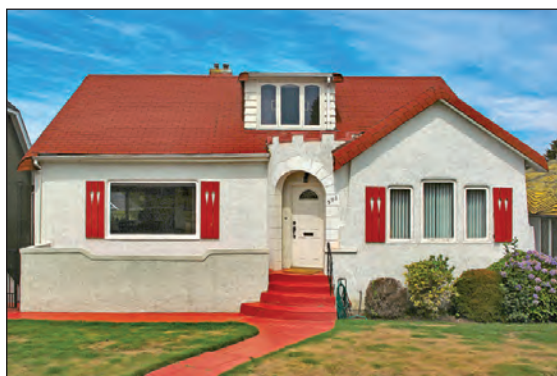
"I had never done that before, but I thought it was a good idea," Wisdom said. "But I decided to make it a real project, not just a bunch of songs I liked."

The 1,000 tracks that Wisdom has assembled as *Music for Art Galleries* are intended to enhance viewing of art without distracting from it, and can be imported to any contemporary gallery setting. While Wisdom's slide shows are based on the collection and how images work together, the soundtrack is arranged in alphabetical order by title, creating only arbitrary or accidental connections.

The songs selected should arouse interest and curiosity in the listener in ways that help them interact with visual art. And many of them will be new to listeners, since Wisdom has many albums that aren't available anymore.

"The alphabetical order is important because that introduces that random chance factor," Wisdom said. "I'm hoping people come more than once because it will be a different sound every time. There's over 60 hours of music."

The printed playlist will be available for viewing at the gallery, along with a computer screen showing which song is playing at the moment. A special printing project might also be in the works.



COURTESY DAVID WISDOM

King Edward Avenue Red and White House, a photograph from Vancouver by David Wisdom.

Fault Line Projects will have an opening reception starting at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 11.

People can also hear more about some particular aspects of Wisdom's work during a special event set for the Legion on Saturday, May 26. As part of the

crowd that includes mega-photographers Jeff Wall and Rodney Graham, Wisdom's talk will include a slide show on Vancouver street photography. There will also be a music trivia quiz with prizes. Wisdom promises he will make this quiz a little easier than ones he's created in the past for the Salt Spring Arts Council and Southend Grooveyard.

"I do like to see people happy and winning," he said.

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Keith Ollershaw, Music Director

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MUSIC

Concert band spring show takes on planetary theme

Music of the Spheres this Friday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Concert Band and music director Keith Ollerenshaw will present a celebration of planets and stars with their spring show Music of the Spheres, which takes place this Friday, May 11, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring.

The theme arose from a desire to perform selections from Gustav Holst's well-loved suite The Planets. The band will perform two favourite movements from the suite: Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity and Mars, the Bringer of War. With its epic themes and instrumentation that would

inform John Williams' score for the Star Wars film franchise, it's easy to understand why The Planets would inspire the winds and woods ensemble.

"I think for concert band there's certain composers you've got to play, and Gustav Holst is one of those guys you always have to do something from, because he's really iconic. So that just kicked it off," Ollerenshaw said.

With those two anchor pieces in hand, the music director dove into the band's library to assemble a program that would allow listeners to experience a wide range of music in a journey through space and time.

"I like the idea of convergence, and how the universe created the stars and planets," Ollerenshaw

said. "I just started seeing all these interesting repetitions. To me that's very important: creating a theme that audiences can relate to."

Program choices offer the audience the audible means to variously travel to the sun, soar through the sky over Earth or enjoy a morning sunrise on the African plain. Sun Dance, by renowned wind ensemble composer Frank Ticheli, evokes a sense of joy in a western town on a warm, sunny day.

Traditional concert in the park music is evoked with Transit of Venus by John Phillip Sousa, written to celebrate the 1882 event of Venus crossing the face of the sun. Earthdance by Michael Sweeney immerses the listener in a rainstorm, exciting world drumming,

and concludes with a dance of jubilation.

A celestial concert would not be complete without the aid of a science fiction movie theme. Aside from the connection to Holst already noted, Ollerenshaw felt the Stars Wars theme was a good introduction for the new Salt Spring Middle School band to learn, and then included it in the concert band's repertoire as well.

Two junior outfits that Ollerenshaw is directing — the SIMS band and the newly relaunched beginner band for adults — will join the concert band on stage for two songs: Soaring Through Ionian Skies and Planets in Motion. This will bring close to 60 people on stage for a truly impressive sound.

"The middle schoolers have been working really hard. Most of them are in their first year," Ollerenshaw said. "We're hoping in the future the middle school will have multiple bands. Part of building momentum will be showing support for their efforts."

Indeed, all of the above musical ventures, established and new, are intended to build a new era of appreciation for playing music on Salt Spring.

"We're really hoping to bring back a culture of excitement for concert music," Ollerenshaw said. "It doesn't matter if you're a teen just picking it up or a mature person who wants to pick it up again, we want to demonstrate there's a community and environment for it."

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Step outside yourself, outside your life. Take a relaxing walk, smell the flowers, listen to the birds singing and feel the warmth of the sun on your body.

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Marketing

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AMBER OGILVIE

According to the American Marketing Association, marketing is the activity, set of institutions, and processes for creating, communicating, delivering, and exchanging offerings that have value for customers, clients, partners, and society at large. In other words, marketing involves both a conversation and a contract with your customers.

The conversation starts with media, whether it's paid or native advertising, social media or word of mouth. Include your signage, labels, the way your staff interacts with customers and the integrity of your offers. Conversations also extend to the point of sale — racking, stacking, even the convenience of your parking lot. It's your website and whether it's user-friendly (does it load quickly? Does it provide useful information?)

The contract part involves meeting the expectations set by your "conversations." In a nutshell, did you deliver what you said you would? Is the product as good as you promised? Was the service? Did the customer experience meet the expectations created by you?

Businesses in this area operate in a very competitive market that includes all the Gulf Islands, Vancouver Island and to a lesser extent, the Lower Mainland. It's really all one market. To stay on top, it's important to manage every aspect of your conversations with your customers.

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ARTSPRING

Treasure Fair team welcomes new volunteers

Diverse and fun roles to fill

BY DIANA LUNDINE
TREASURE FAIR COORDINATOR

ArtSpring. For those who know and love it, there's no need for introductions or reminders of its value.

For the uninitiated, the arts and culture soul of Salt Spring Island was officially opened by Robert Bateman in April 1999 and has been provoking creativity and inspiration ever since. The beautiful building boasts a theatre and exhibition rooms that allow everyone from school children to budding and accomplished artists to meet, develop and showcase their work.

This facility hosts roughly 300 events from far and wide each year and approximately 75 per cent of those are community created and presented. You won't see higher calibre entertainment at a more affordable price anywhere.

This fine cultural hub needs you. Let's break it down: ticket sales comprise less than 40 per cent of the revenue required to operate the theatre. Fundraisers make up the difference, and the annual Treasure Fair is hugely important. Businesses and individuals donate an exciting array of items and experiences then it's all up for bidding during the three-day event in July.

Here's where you come in. Every year dozens of hard-working volunteers rally to make Treasure Fair the huge success and community-builder that it is. You can become part of the action. We have jobs for every personality and schedule. Tasks are diverse: make phone calls, pick up items, monitor the silent auction and more. You would be welcomed and supported by the veteran volunteers who are already underway.

Susan Eide, Wendy Herbert, Candace Brochmann and Carole Eyles are a few of the legion of outstanding people who lend their time and efforts to this event, and they've done so for many years. Their reasons for coming back each year are numerous, but mostly they appreciate the camaraderie and the fun. They're also involved with ArtSpring through community theatre or as patrons and realize the value of the space. Eyles is a member of ArtSpring's board and knows first-hand the importance of Treasure Fair to ArtSpring.

If you're keen to meet new people and contribute to your community, we would love to have you on our team. Please call me, Diana Lundine, at 250-537-1215 for more information. Treasure Fair happens July 19, 20 and 21 this year.

what's on this week



Wed. May 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Krapp's Last Tape. Chris Humphreys presents Samuel Beckett's comic and richly engaging play. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday through June 29.

Salt Spring Historical Society AGM & History of Ganges Presentation.

Historical society AGM is at Central Hall at 2 p.m., with vote on revised bylaws required. A presentation called A History of Ganges and Remaining Old Buildings by Bob Rush will follow. Open to the public.

Mental Health Week: Introduction to Mindfulness.

Marcia Burton will provide an overview of the benefits of a mindfulness practice in maintaining good mental health before leading participants in a meditation. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 to 5 p.m.

Songwriting Workshop and Potluck Dinner with David Francey.

At Tracy Harrison's Mandala Yurt Studio beginning at 4:30 p.m. Email tracy@artbyharrison.com to register or for more info.

Film: For Dear Life. Part of End of the Reel film series for Hospice Month, sponsored by SS Hospice. SS Public Library. 7 p.m.

Thu. May 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Sparkfest. Pass It On's year-end party and fundraiser with music and entertainment from Hey Ocean!'s Ashleigh Ball, Luke Wallace and island youth, plus sweets and treats and silent auction. Barb's Bistro. 7 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

Birding in Burgoyne. Peter McAllister leads a birding walk in Burgoyne Bay Park beginning at 6 a.m. Meet at the road, near the barns. Wraps up by 8 a.m.



SSI Local Trust Committee. Regular business meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. with reports and town hall session at 12 noon. Lions Hall.

Mental Health Week: Mindfulness-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Workshop.

Dr. Nicholas Sladen-Dew will hold a workshop on using Mindfulness-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy skills. Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Move For Health Day Story Walk. Story for this self-led free program is The Yoga Game in the Garden by Kathy Beliveau. Follow the story from the Salt Spring Public Library through Mouat Park to the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thu. May 10

ACTIVITIES

Self-guided Scavenger Hunt Wrap-up Party.

Wrap-up for people who did PARC's Move for Health Day Scavenger Hunt. Bring lists and pictures to the Rainbow Road pool to be entered for prizes. 3 to 6 p.m.

Women in Trades Meet-up. Creating space to chat about the trades in an environment that is women-centered. Come foster connections. Penny's Pantry. 5:15 to 7 p.m. Info or RSVP to miranda.caterer@gmail.com No cost. Food and beverages available to purchase.

Fri. May 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tsunami Circus – Beyond Your Wildest Dreams. Salt Spring Island Middle School's Tsunami Circus presents their spectacular year-end show. SIMS gym. 7 p.m.

Salt Spring Concert Band: Music of the Spheres.

Salt Spring Concert Band presents music that takes the audience on a journey through space and time. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Everyday People. Dance/rock band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

StoryTime for Mental Health Week. Mental Health Week is commemorated with a "Feelings" StoryTime as part of the weekly StoryTime program at the Salt Spring Public Library. 11 a.m.

Fri. May 11

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Transit 10-year Anniversary Celebration. 10th anniversary celebration for Salt Spring Island Transit at Centennial Park from 1 to 2 p.m. and customer giveaways at the SS Tourism bus stop from 2 to 3 p.m.

Family Movie Matinee. Kids movies shown every Friday in the Salt Spring Public Library program room except for statutory holidays and school-in-session days. 2:30 p.m. See event site for schedule.

Art Show Opening: Daina Deblette. Daina Deblette is artist of the month for May at Hedgerow House. Opening reception runs from 4 to 6 p.m.

Art Opening: David Wisdom. David Wisdom presents photo show In the Way: Photographs of a Lost World, along with curated soundtrack Music for Art Galleries. Fault Line Projects. 5 p.m.

Sat May 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tsunami Circus – Beyond Your Wildest Dreams.

See Friday's listing.

PitchFork Social: Pharis & Jason Romero.

Concert at Bullock Lake Farm. 7:30 p.m. Preceded by farm-to-table dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. Check for ticket availability at www.pitchforksocial.com.

La Familia. Latin/dance band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Sat May 12

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at famous event in Centennial Park. Every Saturday through to end of October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Invasive Plants Drop-off. Bring invasive plants such as broom, gorse, blackberry, spurge laurel and holly to Fulford Fire Hall from 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. By donation to cover chipping costs. For more information please call 250-537-0880.

Salt Spring Forum: Robot Futures – Artificial Intelligence & Humanity. Guest speaker is Lucy Suchman, Lancaster University professor of anthropology and a world-leading expert in artificial intelligence. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Sun. May 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tsunami Circus – Beyond Your Wildest Dreams. See Friday's listing, except time is 2 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

SS Unitarian Fellowship: Guest Speaker Elizabeth May. MP Elizabeth May speaks on "Love your Mother — Mother Earth" for a homily based on the Earth Charter. Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 10:30 a.m.

Sun. May 13

ACTIVITIES

Reiki Share: Group Energy Healing Sessions. Open to those who have any level of training in Reiki, or just a keen interest. By donation. South Salt Spring Seniors (Fulford Hall annex). 12 to 2 p.m.

Star of the Sea Centre hosts Elizabeth May. Star of the Sea Centre welcomes Elizabeth May to All Saints By-the-Sea. She will share and explore the connection between theology and ecology and draw on her own experience as an activist, politician and person of faith. 2 p.m.

Mon. May 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Constantinople. Performers bridge Eastern and Western musical traditions. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

SSI Parks and Recreation Commission. Regular business meeting takes place at Portlock Park Portable. 5 p.m.

SSI Fire Protection District. Public welcome to attend trustees' meeting. Ganges Fire Hall. 7 p.m.

Poetry Reading with Charlotte Erlandsson. Charlotte Erlandsson presents My Story is Long, in concert with art exhibition now showing at Salt Spring Gallery. 7 p.m.

Tue. May 15

ACTIVITIES

Rotary Shredder Day. Get rid of confidential paper records securely at Rotary Club event at the Lions Hall parking lot. Boxes accepted from 8:30 a.m., with shredding done from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: ssirota-ryshredderday@gmail.com.

Salt Spring Probus Club Meeting. Guest speaker is Keith Picot on the history and making of silent movies. Lions Hall. 10 a.m., with speaker beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Charcoal Kilns Interpretive Panels Unveiling & Booklet Launch. History panels about Japanese Canadian charcoal kilns unveiled at Mouat Park entrance at 12:30 p.m., followed by launch of related booklet with authors Steve Nemtin, Brian Smallshaw, Chuck Tasaka and Suzanne Fournier from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Wed. May 16

ACTIVITIES

Film Screening: Hippocratic. Part of the End of the Reel film series presented by Salt Spring Hospice, Hippocratic centres on Dr. Rajagopal, an Indian palliative care doctor. Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 7 p.m.

Central Community Hall Society Board Meeting. Public welcome at board of directors' meeting. Central Hall. 7 p.m.

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BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
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Music of the Spheres
Salt Spring Concert Band Concert

Friday, May 11th
ArtSpring • 7:30 pm

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CINEMA

- **A Wrinkle in Time** — A high-school girl is transported through time and space with her brother and friend to rescue her father, a gifted scientist, from evil forces that hold him prisoner on another planet.
- **Avengers Infinity War** — The Avengers and their allies must be willing to sacrifice all to defeat the powerful Thanos before his blitz of devastation and ruin puts an end to the universe.
- **National Theatre Live: Julius Caesar** — Caesar returns in triumph to Rome. Alarmed by his popularity, the elite conspire to bring him down. After his assassination, civil war erupts on the streets. One show only: Thursday, May 17. 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Fault Line Projects** presents In the Way: Photographs from a Lost World by **David Wisdom**, accompanied by the soundtrack Music for Art Galleries, beginning with an opening reception on Friday, May 11 at 5 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Duthie Gallery** shows Observations: Woodlands - paintings, drawings and photographs by **Susan Benson, Sibeal Foyle, Rosalie Matchett and Janet Dwyer** on Thursdays through Mondays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until June 5.
- Well-known folk musician **David Francey** holds a pop-up art show at the **Mandala Yurt Studio** at 144 Sarah Way today, Wednesday, May 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Charlotte Erlandsson's** show My Story is Long — painting, photography and poetry inspired by the Nordic creation myth and female Viking ancestry — shows at **Salt Spring Gallery** until May 16.
- **Catherine Tam** shows her artwork at the **Salt Spring Public Library Program Room** through May.
- **Rolando and Kisumi** show ceramics and paintings through May at Kizmit galeria and cafe. Open Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Jeanne Lyons** Exhibit: Exiles, Witnesses and Guardians, including works on paper using graphite and coloured pencil, shows in the **ArtSpring** lobby through May.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Hedgerow House** shows paintings by **Daina Deblette** of Ocean Art Studio through May, with an opening reception on Friday, May 11 from 4 to 6 p.m.
- **Venter Gallery** exhibits work by **Kathy Venter, Deon Venter and Wim Blom** in its new Grace Point Square premises.
- **Vivienne Challandes** shows her artwork of all-recycled materials in **Island Savings** through May.

**www.gulfislands
driftwood.com/events/**

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



COMMUNITY GROUPS

Special Olympics marks 25 years on Salt Spring Island

May 27 event set for Lions Hall

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring Special Olympics is celebrating 25 years of activity on the island and inviting all past and present athletes, coaches and other volunteers to join the party.

A dinner event will be held on Sunday, May 27 at Lions Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m.

"We have invited as many people as possible from over the 25 years," said current local program coordinator Merv Anderson.

Salt Spring's Special Olympics chapter was set up in 1993 thanks to a solid group of volunteers. Several of the people involved in the earliest years are still active with the organization today, including Carol Newmeyer, Christa Wohlfahrt, Yolande Leger, Gloria McEachern and Walt Swing.

Special Olympics has come a long way on the island, and since 2013 has seen phenomenal athlete success with bocce, bowling and swimming teams at regional, provincial and national levels.

Swimmers Debbie McNaughton and Dawn Hadler are the most recent athletes to qualify for national championships based on their B.C. final results last



PHOTO COURTESY SS SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Enjoying a Special Olympics Club Fit session are, from left, Mahjor Baines, Joan Gunn-Allard (swim coach), Jason Newport, Judie Wilson (coach), Debbie McNaughton, Tom Wilson (coach), Pam MacDonald and Carlos Manzano.

year. They will be flying to Antigonish, NS at the end of July to compete as part of Team BC.

"On July 29 we fly out and it goes until Aug. 5," said McNaughton.

Success at the national level could mean qualification for the international event in Abu Dhabi in March of 2019.

"I'd be pretty excited if I make it because I've never been outside of the country," she said.

Fellow athlete Jason New-

port has already had national competition experience, when he and Carlos Manzano won a silver medal as part of the B.C. team in Vancouver in 2014. He had also represented Ontario in soccer nationally before moving to Salt Spring in 1998.

Newport has chosen to grow this year through a leadership program that has seen him deliver speeches about Special Olympics to various island groups, such as the Rotary and Lions clubs.

"He is making more people

aware of what Special Olympics is and his story," said Anderson.

Salt Spring Special Olympics is continuing to grow, with a new track and field program coached by Judie and Tom Wilson now underway, and some athletes enjoying Club Fit, which helps them maintain the level of physical fitness they need for competition purposes.

"None of these things would exist without volunteers," said Anderson.

READING

Book topics range from ukes to physics

Library open to book title suggestions

BY MAGGIE WARBEY
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's the library's mandate to ensure there are books on the shelves to interest every member of our community. Whether you like to read poetry, essays, erotica, self-help, how-to, science, politics, arts, music, biography, cook books, medical information, or anything else, there should be at least one title to strike your fancy. If not, we are always happy to receive patron requests, suggestions and donations. This month's new books include a wide variety of topics and interests, for example:

Ukulele: the World's Friendliest Instrument is a wonderfully complete paean to the Uke, including its history and its builders. The book is full of vintage and contemporary photos of the building process and the instrument in use, as well as many pictures of historical interest. The authors have included chord charts and basic playing tips for beginners. Intertwined with the story of this unique instrument is the tale of the joy that it has

brought, and continues to bring, to thousands around the globe.

If you favour historical gore, **The Butchering Art: Joseph Lister's Quest to Transform the Grisly World of Victorian Medicine** is the one for you. This book leads readers through the hell of 19th-century surgery to the most important moments in the history of modern medicine leading to the slow rise of sterile surgery. Gripping and gory, no details too vile to share, the story is one well worth telling and reading.

Real Quanta: Simplifying Quantum Physics for Einstein and Bohr brings readers the knowledge of how modern science is changing our perceptions of the world and how it works. Look no further than your smartphone for technology made possible by quantum theory. The author makes this knowledge accessible and understandable to the learned and not so learned. He

convinces us that quantum mechanics, far from being some airy fairly scientific theory, is part and parcel of our daily lives.

Sorry, I couldn't resist: **One Nation After Trump: a Guide for the Perplexed, the Disillusioned, the Desperate, and the Not-Yet Deported**, is a well-written and very convincing argument for the rise of a true "conservative" party and against the "Republicans who have steered Congress off a cliff." The authors write, "American democracy was never supposed to give the nation a president like Donald Trump... the citizen activism he has inspired is the antidote." As well as an unsparing assessment of the perils facing the United States, the book offers an inspiring roadmap for how Americans can reclaim their future.

The Fiction shelves, too, always stock the latest titles by the best authors. **The Cat of the Baskervilles** is the third in the Sherlock Holmes Bookshop mystery series by Canadian author Vicki Delany. In true Holmes fashion, the devil is in the details and the details are hiding in plain sight. This book is a lighthearted and delightful romp with a twisty plot and an engaging main character that will entertain readers on a rainy afternoon or on a hot beach.

ON THE NEWSHELVES

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BOOKS

Hiking guide moves to fourth edition

Updated maps, trails and more in Charles Kahn staple

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If beautiful weather and extended daylight hours are tempting islanders to expand their daily walks onto more ambitious trails, the release of a new update to Hiking the Gulf Islands couldn't come at a better time.

Salt Spring's Charles Kahn is back on the B.C. bestseller list with his ultimate guidebook to the area, which encompasses 14 islands from Bowen to Thetis, the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve and six other marine parks. As someone who's often on local trail, he's also made time to revisit the full geographic scope of the book to ensure details are in order for the fourth edition.

"It's been a tremendous experience — really rewarding," Kahn said. "I've made some good friends from this. That's a big plus, and just going to visit the other islands. Each one really has a unique environment and culture."

Hiking the Gulf Islands was first put out by Orca Book Publishers in 1995 and then moved to Harbour Publishing for later editions. Though with each edition the page count has gone up — more trails are created and discovered than are decommissioned — it is still easy enough to slip into a knapsack.

In its fourth rendition, minor changes to the layout compared to previous editions include a more reader-friendly typeface for the headings. There are also much better maps, Kahn says. The basic function and lay-out remains the same, with islands listed in alphabetical order and handy bits of history and trivia included alongside the technical bits that hikers will need to know before setting forth.

Offset by a good number of quality black and white photos, it's hard to believe just how much really is packed into a book that's only two centimetres

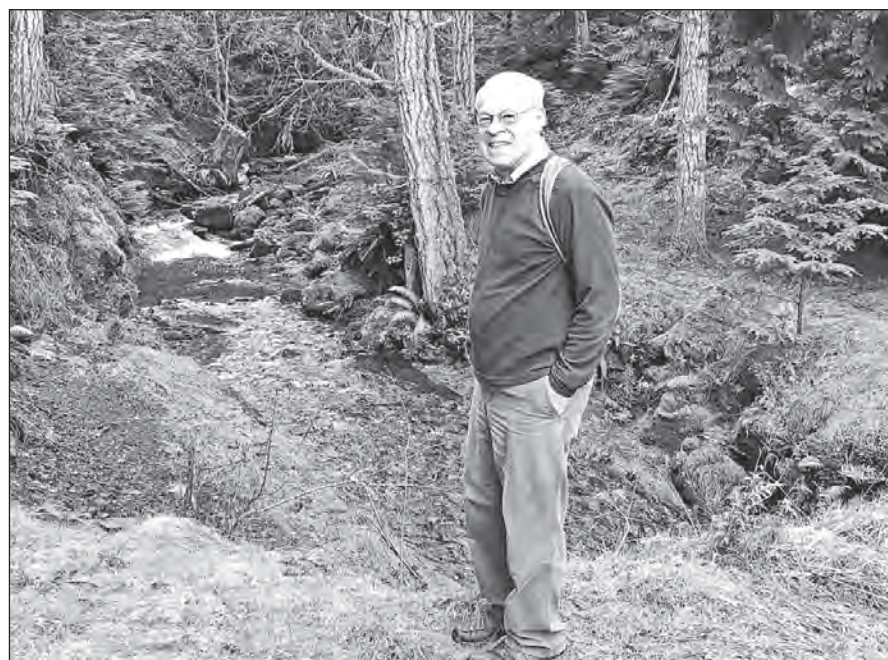


PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Hiking the Gulf Islands author Charles Kahn enjoys one of his favourite Salt Spring trails near Mount Erskine.

thick. Each island heading includes info on getting there and services available, with in-depth descriptions of major hikes rated by a star system, with crucial details such as time needed and degree of difficulty. Shorter sections on roadside walks and tips for kayakers are also included. Keeping everything as up to date as possible is a major task with so many different locations involved.

"You can get a lot of information from the internet, but I don't like putting things in that I haven't done. Things can be a little different," Kahn observed.

Kahn has kept informed through the contacts he's made on every island, who share local knowledge and also check over his written material.

"You can't really do a thing like this on your own, and this gives them some buy-in as well," Kahn said, noting all of his consultants are listed in the book.

While Kahn said the fourth edition is not hugely different from the third, he

has included a couple of new trails. One favourite is located on Quadra Island and offers a view of the currents caused by the remains of Ripple Rock — an infamous underwater mountain in Seymour Narrows.

Some trails have meanwhile become better mapped and marked on the ground, such as signage at trail forks that make Salt Spring's Mount Erskine and Mount Maxwell easier to navigate without getting lost.

Speaking of getting lost, Kahn is good at doing that, so he includes information on where that's most likely to happen. Hikers would be smart to pay heed to Kahn's advice, based on his ample experience, with best practices, safety tips and trail etiquette all part of the package.

Hiking the Gulf Islands is available at Salt Spring Books, BC Ferries gift shops and other locations throughout the region.

INTERNATIONAL AID

Island generosity boosts Kenya schools

Goat herd also growing

BY LYNDA TURNER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Mary Beckett and I returned last month from a four-week mission to Kenya after disbursing goods raised through fundraising on Salt Spring Island.

This time, 142 uniforms and 155 hygiene kits were given out. Forty layettes were given to new mothers at Kakamega County Hospital, and clothes and hygiene items went to the Shianda Maternity Clinic.

Ten goats were given to HIV+ mothers, making a total donated herd of 360. Through births this herd has now grown to over 1,500.

The big project this year was the installation of a permaculture garden at Maraka Primary School. (Permaculture is the design of agricultural ecosystems intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient.) We were introduced to Maraka last year when they handed out uniforms and hygiene kits at the school. We contacted Michael Nickels of Seven Ravens Farm on Salt Spring, who introduced us via e-mail to Josephat Barassa, aka JB, head of the Kenya Permaculture Institute. JB vetted the school and agreed it was a good choice, and also brought five students and graduates from the institute. They plus the school children, teachers, parents and community members worked hard and brought about a miracle in only 17 days. Each day all the workers, both adults and children, were fed a typical Kenyan lunch of rice or maize plus stewed beans and cabbage. During that time they re-fenced the whole school compound, about three acres, turned a slough into productive land, and

fenced and cross fenced inside the perimeter.

In addition, a 62-foot well was dug by hand for water. Rain collection tanks were fixed and new ones purchased. The original cookhouse had been condemned so a new one was built along with a chicken coop, rabbit hutch and a place for the three sheep and one cow. While leaving the soccer field and play areas for the children, the rest of the land was planted with beans, maize, peas, tomatoes and watermelon. More than 1,000 fruit trees were planted, including banana, papaya, mango, orange, avocado, and apple as well as 1,200 climbing passion fruit plants. Trees for firewood were also planted.

Security and sustainability were dealt with by the exterior barbed wire fence, a night watchman and a farm manager. Teachers and students were assigned tasks to keep the garden going.

The garden should be providing daily nutritious lunches for the 380 students and 24 teachers by July. After that, excess produce will be sold off to pay for the upkeep of the garden and to pay the farm manager. The site will also be the location of a tree nursery to provide fruit and firewood seedlings for Kakamega County.

Maraka is a model showcase garden for Kakamega County. Many representatives from other local schools visited the site and took back ideas for their own schools.

In 18 visits to Kenya, Maraka was the poorest school I had ever seen. As a result of the generosity of Salt Springers, Maraka is no longer a "have not" school. It is now very much a "have" school.

Thank you, Salt Spring!

VOLUNTEERISM

Kempling delivers onboard training



PHOTOS COURTESY DAVID KEMPLING

Above: David and Betty Kempling in Colombia with the missionary ship Logos Hope at dock, where they volunteered for six weeks this spring. Below: Kempling, left, and his 2018 class of engine room students.

Islander teaches engine room skills to ship volunteers

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Retired BC Ferries engineer David Kempling is back home on Salt Spring after six weeks imparting his specialist knowledge in the waters off Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia.

Kempling and his wife Betty have become familiar faces aboard the motor vessel Logos Hope, a ship where he's worked on multiple occasions. The Logos Hope is a former car ferry built in Germany in 1973. It now sails on a continual mission as a floating bookstore with an entirely volunteer crew representing 55 to 60 nationalities. Its Christian-based organization is currently on a two-year mission focusing on Latin America.

A volunteer crew of 400 people stays on for two years, but every six months one quarter of the crew leaves the ship and a new cohort joins. Kempling's recent work on the ship has been to teach young people a short, intensive course on all the tasks they need to help in the engine room, although he was once a permanent member.

"Previously I was part of the regular crew as an engineering officer, now I go for only six weeks, once a year to train the new engine room workers. Some other engineer does the training six months later," Kempling explained.

His latest training session started in February from a base port in Cartagena, Colombia. Kempling said the engine crew cares for the ship's four main engines of 4,000 hp each and three generators of over 1,000



kw, plus all the auxiliary equipment. Engine room helpers might be alone on an overnight shift and have to know what to do if an alarm sounds on any of the ship's many systems.

"I had to get them from knowing nothing about the engine room to being able to help out in that situation," Kempling said. "It's not that I'm a gifted teacher, but I have a lot of knowledge that I can impart to these young people, and specifically on this ship in order to help the whole humanitarian effort to work effectively."

Kempling had seven students from seven different countries this time: four young men and three young women who hailed from Britain, Germany, France, Russia, Finland, Denmark and Holland. Other volunteers on board came from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Mongolia as well as from all over Europe, North America and South America.

For that reason the ship's visits to ports offer the chance for remarkable

cultural exchanges. Although some countries don't wish to have religious preaching directed at them, they do welcome speakers of other languages to attend their universities and events. As well, hundreds of people can be counted on to line up and visit the ship's book fair. The stop in Vera Cruz, Mexico attracted an astonishing 13,000 visitors in a single day.

Other means of interaction are also welcomed.

"One of my passions is stargazing," Kempling said, describing how he set up his telescope on quaysides so that local people could look into it and see the moon's craters, for example.

Kempling has been working on his Spanish, so he's interested in perhaps pursuing the next opening as engine room trainer in 2019, which will be based out of Valparaiso, Chile.

"I think it would be intriguing to go to another Spanish-speaking place. I also find it invigorating to work with young people and interact with them," Kempling said.

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SPENCER, DOUG

August 26, 1949 – May 3, 2018



Doug received his boarding pass for his final flight home to take his place as the brightest star in the night sky. Doug's, passing has left a gap that only memories can fill and he will be forever missed by his wife and best friend, Judy of 38 years; his daughters will always treasure their memories with their Dad, Corlyn (Carey) Decerni and Cheryl Spencer; their mother Jean Spencer; step-daughter Sherry (Sheldon) Anderson; grandchildren Marco & Carlo, Victoria & Genevieve were so special to him and he loved every minute he had to spend with them. Doug will be missed by his brothers and sisters Cal (Carol) Spencer, Ron Spencer (Sue), Julie Matthews and Sandra (Alex) DeBoeck; Sister and brothers in law Diane (Herb) Neuls, Barry (Mary) Russell, Garry Russell, Ross Russell. Doug will also be remembered by many special nieces and nephews. They always chuckle when they talk about how much he could eat and then go outside and run and play with them for hours. He always had encouraging and positive words for them and wasn't afraid to say "I love you" accompanied by a big hug! His pride in his native heritage was profound and he loved sharing stories of his memories of the family living on a houseboat, fishing and logging before they moved to Saskatchewan when he was very young. He loved the prairies and never wanted to move back to B.C. He was a walking commercial with so many experiences from his trucking days and he was always encouraging people to travel Saskatchewan from North to South to see how beautiful and diverse it is. Next to family and friends, Doug's value and joy was his career at Credit Union Central. He went to work every day with the attitude that he would make someone's day better! His smile was contagious and he always had an encouraging word for everyone he met. He loved the cottage, fishing, golfing, old cars and going out in the boat. He was a very loyal friend and was always willing to help anyone in need whether it was friends, family, neighbors or total strangers.

When Doug's life was altered with a stroke and later a diagnosis of cancer, he was extremely positive that he would overcome this challenge as he had overcome many others in his life. He faced each day with gratitude, faith and courage. We would like to thank Dr. Kazmi, Dr. Kahn, the Palliative Care Doctors and Nurses that were involved in this journey. A special thank you to all our friends and neighbors for their kindness and support. Thank you to Wade Bender for all your funny little texts to Doug and all the silly, off the wall projects you guys planned over coffee at the mall, and to Bev Bender for your thoughtfulness and encouragement.

As Doug wished there will be no formal funeral. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Carmichael Outreach Inc. 1925 Osler Street, Regina, SK S4P 1W3, STARS Ambulance, 141 Aviation Park NE, Box 570, Calgary, AB T2E 8M7 or to the Palliative Care, 3rd floor, 4101 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, SK.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online obituary and tributes page at www.reginafuneralhome.ca. Arrangements entrusted to Regina Funeral Home and Cemetery (306) 789-8850.

Perhaps they are not stars in the sky, but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy.

Patricia Maud Barclay-Estrup
1935 - 2018



Patricia was born in Duncan on March 16th, 1935, the second child of Dorothy and Albert Norman Westwood and died peacefully at Lady Minto Hospital in Ganges on May 1st, 2018, surrounded by family and friends.

Patricia was educated in Victoria at St. Ann's Academy, later attending the University of British Columbia (and later Berkeley), where she met and married Paul Barclay-Estrup, subsequently a Professor Emeritus of Plant Ecology at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. Pat received her MA from Lakehead University in 1992. She raised her children with Paul in Thunder Bay, Ontario, where they lived for 26 years, before returning West in retirement. Once a protegee of George Woodcock, Patricia was a published novelist (Buy Canadian, Simon and Schuster 1976) and well-known literary critic; her weekly CanLit column was syndicated across the country for more than fifteen years and she appeared frequently on the CBC and in Books in Canada. She often carried on lively correspondences with many of the prominent authors whose work she reviewed.

In later years, Pat became politically active and worked enthusiastically for several campaigns, including those of David Orchard and Briony Penn.

Pat was instrumental in helping to preserve the Creekside Rainforest and her name appears on the plaque by the little bridge in the park. Pat devoted the last years of her life to spiritual pursuits, touching the lives of many with her newsletter. She is predeceased by her husband Paul, brother Peter, and son-in-law Tenzing Tsewang.

Pat is survived by her daughter Kirsty, of Kitsilano, and her son John, of Salt Spring Island.

A service will be held June 20th at 10:30 am at the United Church at 111 Hereford Ave in Ganges, with reception to follow. An informal, outdoor celebration of life is TBA. If you'd like to donate in Pat's name, you have a plethora of options. She loved many: the SSI United Church, Our Place (Victoria), Salt Spring Hospice, the Ancient Forest Alliance, David Suzuki Foundation, or Green Peace.



FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

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on Wed. 16th May, 2018 at 7.00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road.
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Dorothy Dickie (Armstrong)
1924 - 2018



Dorothy, 93, of Salt Spring Island, BC, passed away May 4th, 2018, with family at her side.

Dorothy was one of a set of twins, born in Long Beach, Calif, August 8, 1924. As a student she loved sports and excelled at track, volley ball, bowling, and tennis. She majored in Physical Education in college and graduated to become a physical education teacher, coach, and health instructor in Chowchilla, Calif in the high school, middle school, and elementary school systems until her retirement from teaching.

In 1975 she moved to Salt Spring Island, BC where she submerged herself in her yard and her love of gardening, watching deer, and feeding the hummingbirds. One of her favorite memories was rescuing and hand feeding an abandoned baby humming bird that she named "Twerp" and raising him to healthy adulthood when he was released. Each year Twerp would migrate back and visit her in her yard, calling out to her as he darted among the feeders, danced through the sprinklers, and perched in the beautiful flowers in her garden.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Kenneth Armstrong. She is survived by her sister, Elizabeth Dickie Pellett, daughters Sylvia Ann Armstrong Key (husband Thomas) and Kathleen MacInnis, and her son, Dan Richard Armstrong (wife Lan), 8 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was a kind loving woman who impacted so many lives and will be terribly missed
No services will be held per her request.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

Capital Regional District **CRD**

NOTICE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

All meetings will be held in the CRD Electoral Area office located at 108 121 McPhillips Ave, Salt Spring Island

- Fulford Water Service Commission** - Monday, June 4, 2018, from 10 am-12 pm
- Beddis Water Service Commission** - Monday, June 4, 2018, from 1 pm-3 pm
- Liquid Waste Service Commission** - Tuesday, June 5, 2018, from 10 am-12 pm
- Cedar Lane Water Service Commission** - Tuesday, June 5, 2018 from 1 pm-3 pm
- Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission** - Thursday, June 7, 2018 from 10 am-12 pm
- Cedars of Tuam Water Service Commission** - Thursday, June 7, 2018 from 1pm -3 pm
- Highland Fernwood Local Water Service Commission** - Monday, June 11, 2018 from 1pm -3 pm
- Maliview Sewer Commission** - Monday June 11, 2018 from 3-4 pm

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??
These Local Service Commissions advise the CRD and make recommendations regarding the financial obligations of running their local area water or sewer treatment facilities. These volunteer positions are open to a resident or property owner within the local Service Area and have a two year term. The Commissions include the CRD Regional Director and are supported by local CRD Staff Members. The CRD is seeking nominations for volunteers which will be accepted at each of the Annual General Meetings and throughout the year for two year terms beginning in January 2019.

Contact 250.537.4448 for more information or email: saltspring@crd.bc.ca

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PHOTO BY PAUL ZOLOB

TRAFFIC JAM: A gaggle of Canada geese and their offspring block a Salt Spring driveway on Monday morning. Young birds of all kinds are appearing across the island this month.

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

**DEADLINES
TUESDAY 9:00 AM**

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION
HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED

Island Return It Full-time & Part-time **Worker Wanted**
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Island Return It - Salt Spring seeks dynamic team player, able to work weekdays and Saturdays. Must excel in fast paced environment.

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DENTAL ASSISTANT

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Phone: 250 537-2846 to arrange for an interview. (Do not reply by e-mail)

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE	MERCHANDISE FOR SALE
AUCTIONS	AUCTIONS

23 GOLF COURSE LOTS - Cranbrook, BC. Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Unreserved Auction, June 13 in Edmonton. 23 parcels of recreational/residential real estate in the River's Crossing Golf Course Community. Jerry Hodges: 780-706-6652; Brokerage: Ritchie Bros. Real Estate Services Ltd.; rbauction.com/realestate.

May 12th Restaurant Equipment Auction
Featuring: Entire Restaurant Equipment Dealer Location - All NEW Showroom & Warehouse Inventory! Stainless Fixtures, Commercial LPG & NG Cooking Equip, High-End Bakery, Meat, Deli & Coffee Shop Equip, Lrg Stainless Brewing/Fermenting Tanks

9am Start - Live & Online
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GARAGE SALES

109 MEYER RD., Saturday, May 12, 7:30am - 1pm. lots of household, tools, freebies, etc.

401 MUSGRAVE ROAD, Lavender farm barn. 8am to 12pm, Saturday May 12th. Household items, blinds, horse equipment, drapes, gas burner, hammocks, weed eater, etc. No early birds.

172 JUNIPER PLACE (off Rainbow Rd.), Sun., May 13, 10am - 3pm. Garden furniture; pet stuff; linens; jewelry; clothing; kitchen; household; books (of course) and much more. Early birds will be fed to my fearless chihuahua.

225 WILDWOOD CRES. Saturday, May 12, 9:00am - 2:00pm. Moving Sale.

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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/4000T
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This Week's **Horoscope**
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TIP OF THE WEEK

This is a big week astrologically because Uranus enters Taurus on the same day of the New Moon, just hours later. As mentioned last week, this includes a lead up with Mars in almost exact square to Uranus. The exact square technically occurs on May 16th when Mars enters Aquarius. In other words, the exact Uranus/Mars Square occurs at 0 degrees of Aquarius and Taurus, respectively. That the lead up hosted both planets at 29 Capricorn and Aries respectively remains significant. 0 and 29 are the alpha and omega degrees. The takeaway: something major will begin by destined appointment. The outer synchronicities will reveal this in various ways and evidently too.

On May 13th, Mercury enters Taurus followed shortly thereafter by the Moon, as if to announce Uranus's arrival a couple of days later. By May 19, Venus enters Cancer and the Sun enters Gemini on the 21st. The close planets do not make a major impact but the synchronicities that arise reflective of these movements are there all the same. These all occur in the flow and are seldom recognized in terms of their astrological significance. Not that they should be, per se, but that they can be is the secret sauce because that they can be is a testimony to a multi-dimensional universe that operates by what might be described as divine intention, the proverbial plan which is supported by a rich tapestry of spiritual, cosmic and natural laws.

So, phase two of spring is extra eventful this year. As we head into the 3rd period of the season, most of the major movements will have already begun. Thus it will largely host the developmental processes and aftermath of the initial launches. For example, the synchronicity shortly after Chiron entered Aries revealed North Korea announcing its commitment to disarm its nuclear arsenal! On a final note, in the Universal 11-Year, May is a 16/7 month. In the Tarot, 16 is the Tower which can be described as a renovation process of some kind so keep a watch out for some heavy hitting aimed at a positive outcome.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Your curiosities have been peaking for a while now and this trend will not only continue, it will deepen this week. Like arriving at the top of the mountain, however, you will likely be ready to begin to make your way home again. With so many responsibilities brewing and family affairs to attend to, you will be glad to have scratched some itches.

Taurus (Apr 21 - May 21)

Uranus entering your sign this week will prove eventful, or at least historic. If the activation of your sense of identity, purpose and mode of expression does not undergo a noticeable shift this week it will probably do so soon. Changes in your public and professional life and social status, in general, are especially likely.

Gemini (May 22 - Jun 21)

A revolutionary impulse is pushing you to assert yourself. This trend will continue for well into summer. Positively, it could manifest as inspiration and activation of your imagination. One way or another, you could be very expressive before the week is out. This includes sharing your thoughts openly, perhaps assertively and possibly with hyperbole.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

You are stepping out with a clearer and stronger sense of individuality. This could manifest as a dramatic push and assertion of skills and talents. Your ambitions will rise noticeably before the month is over. A full display of your abilities, charms and graces are part of the plot. Investments of time, energy and probably money too are featured.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)

Big changes in your public and professional sphere will become even more evident this week. Fortunately, there are indications that your energy levels and a no-nonsense attitude will rise to meet the challenge. Your ability to focus on practical matters will be stronger too. This could prove to be a very important and advantageous surge forward.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)

Your worldview will undergo an expansion over the coming weeks. This could include visiting new places and meeting new people. To this end, circumstances will push you to be on best behavior. As well, the focus could shift to new the process of acquiring new skills and tools, a process that began a few weeks ago. Get ready for a heavier workload than usual.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

A shift is coming that will bring changes and deepen your position on things. Finances are a central theme in this plot. You are in the mood to entertain new possibilities. This could include travel, especially now, but you may not be in the mood as much as the month progresses unless it includes family. Either way, your mood will shift from animated to sober.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Shakes and quakes on relationship fronts are in the forecast. You may well already be feeling the tremors. These may prove to be in your favor, opening doors that were previously closed and perhaps apparently stuck. Engaging with others whose talents complement your own is featured. This will prove especially true later and into June.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Changes in your lifestyle and usual routine and habits are an important focus now. These will call for more discipline on your part. It could be the perfect time to embark on a fitness program. Simply walking more can add up noticeably. Cooperative efforts are highlighted and ideal. Such a focus should also include a healthier diet. Go greener!

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

A creative and inventive cycle is poised to begin and it is destined to last a while, years in fact. In the short-term, the emphasis will be on relationships and perhaps a healing focus. It is possible that you have been challenged to decipher your best direction of late, even over the past few years, so this could help.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)

Shifts and changes close to home should be quite apparent by now. If not, they will be soon. These will push you out of the gates like a racehorse. Your focus will center on the home front for the next 3-4 weeks especially. Given the season, this flow could work perfectly to enjoy domestic chores and activities in the spring air.

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Changes in your perspectives and priorities will become more evident this week. These are linked to your home and family and will continue for the remainder of the season. At deeper levels, circumstances will push you to face and overcome possible fears blocking a fuller expression. The first step is acknowledgment and you may need external support to prevail.

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

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



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

BATTER UP: From top, Salt Spring Storm player Lucie Luke bats while Elida Heck gets ready in the on-deck circle, and Ryen Dunbar pitches in a game against Lakehill at the Fulford ball field on Saturday. The U12 girls split their double header with Lakehill, losing the first game 15-11 and winning the second by a 14-8 score. Perfect weather and a fundraising BBQ put on by parents made for a great day at the ball park.

TRAIL RUNNING

Park trail run mixed with First Nations cultural day

Storytelling, weaving and more at multi-course runs

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The fifth edition of the Ruckle Park Trail Run is set to take place on Saturday, May 26.

Hosted by the Run Salt Spring group, the trail run is part of a weekend cultural event that will help connect the land with its traditional cultural history.

Saanich First Nation elder Earl Claxton Jr. will be cooking a traditional salmon dinner and Saanich weaver John Williams will be offering cedar weaving classes and storytelling.

There are three courses for runners at three, 10 and 16 kilometres each. The shortest course will be ideal for people who are looking to try trail running for the first time, or who want to simply hike in the park along a marked route. The 10-km course is reserved for runners and fast hikers, and the 16-km event is for runners only.

An approximately one-kilometre kids fun run that is free to all children will also be held.

All courses will be in Ruckle Park and will explore the different environments and countrysides of the park. Start and finish lines are in the group camp area at the south end of the park.

The event begins with race day registration at 9:45 a.m. A welcoming ceremony led by Claxton and Williams takes place at 10:30, followed by the kids run at 11. The starts for the runs begin around noon, depending on the distance of the course.

Those who do not want to run but still want to take part in the cultural experiences can register for different events to ensure their spot is saved. Everyone is encouraged to bring a donation for the Salt Spring Food Bank.

Camping and dinner will be available at the park.

Registration closes on May 21, and participants can register www.race-roster.com/events/2018/17622/ruckle-park-trail-runs.

RUNNING

Island runners challenged

BMO Vancouver and Mount Tzouhalem courses

SUBMITTED BY SS SNEAKERS

Salt Springers were busy in many places and running disciplines this past weekend. On Saturday, 274 runners gathered at Mount Tzouhalem near Duncan in the second of six events in the Vancouver Trail Running Series. This event sponsors three races: a 13-km race involving 750 metres of climbing, a seven-km race involving 360 metres of climbing and a kids' event.

Two Salt Spring Sneakers entered the 13-km event. Janice Dickie finished in 1:57:10, finishing fifth of 20 in her women's 50-59 age group, 24th of all 76 women and 70th of all runners enrolled. Jeanne Cameron Leeson, in what was likely her first official trail run, finished in 2:25:31, 19th of 21 in her 40-49 age group, 62nd woman and 123rd overall. After finishing, she was quoted as saying, "Woo, hoo! That was fun!" Her daughter subsequently ran in the children's run.

Two other Salt Springers entered the seven-km short course. Stephen Craig finished that course in 50 minutes and 20 seconds for third place of 11 runners in his 40-49 age group, 10th of 40 males and 14th of 134 total racers. John-Philip Ritson crossed the finish line in 52:29, earning a second of six in his 50-59 age group, 15th of 40 men and 29th of 134 runners.

On Sunday, Salt Spring was represented by eight runners in the BMO Half Marathon in Vancouver. Although the course was predominantly downhill, which usually produces faster times, rising temperatures appeared to slow competitors.

Sneaker affiliate Janine Fernandes-Hayden was the first Salt Springer to cross the finish line in 1:45:42, earning a 13th place of 561 runners in

her 45-49 age group, 227th of 5,173 women and 828 of 9,235 runners overall. She was one of three Salt Springers who managed to improve their pace as the race progressed. Marcia Jansen was the second Sneaker to finish in a time of 1:50:59, earning a 26th place in the same age group, 422nd woman and 1,363rd finisher overall.

Sneaker affiliate Duncan Elsey was the third Sneaker to finish. His time of 1:52:04 was 25 seconds faster than his time in this race last year. This time earned him 83rd place of 482 in his 45-49 age group, 996th of 4,062 males and 1462nd place overall. The fourth Salt Springer to finish was Lynn Steiner in a time of 1:53:05, her second fastest of five previous performances in this event. This time earned her a 14th place of 281 in her 55-59 age group, 515th woman and 1,588th overall. She also managed to quicken her pace through the race, a sign of an experienced runner.

She was followed by Karen Madro, who finished in 1:57:53, having four previous faster finishes of six previous performances on this course. This time earned her a 22nd place in the same age group, 720th woman and 2,044th place overall.

The sixth Salt Springer to finish was Sneaker Marion Young. Her time of 1:58:07 was considerably off her best time for this event and other half marathons she has run. It did earn her a 23rd place (top 10 per cent) of 281 in her 60-64 age group, 732nd woman and 2,066th overall.

Lara Coelho was the next Salt Springer to finish. Her time of 2:28:23 was seven minutes off her best time at this distance at Banff last year, but earned her a 637th place of 985 in her 25-29 age group, 2,805th woman and 5,591st overall.

Mandy Upshall finished in 2:46:27, earning a 451st of 985 in her 35-39 age group, 3,583rd woman and 6,712th overall. She managed to improve her pace over the course of the race despite her inexperience with the distance.

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