



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, September 12, 2018 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 58TH YEAR — ISSUE 37 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

OUT AND PROUD: Married couple Moe Wendt and Chelsea Wendt carry the trans banner at Saturday's Pride parade. More photos can be seen on page 9 of today's paper and at gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE Fire engulfs Wildwood home

Cause undetermined, under investigation

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Fire Rescue crews responded to a fully involved house fire on Sunday afternoon.

Crews from all three fire halls fought the fire on Wildwood Crescent from approximately 2 p.m. until around 9 p.m. The home was engulfed in flames by the time crews arrived on scene. There were no occupants home at the time of the fire, and no injuries reported.

"Smoke was visible very early on from the crews that were responding. It was definitely well-developed upon our arrival," said Salt Spring Fire Chief Arjuna George.

The flames spread quickly, according to Neacol Miller, a neighbour who witnessed the fire. After calling 911, Miller and her family waited for the fire department to arrive, yelling across the street towards the burning house in case anyone was inside.

"It was definitely too hot to even get close to it ... The smoke was so thick. The smell of a house fire is so toxic," Miller said. "I think the fire department was here in less than two minutes, but it just felt like hours because we were watching the fire spread really really quickly. It was a real beast of a fire."

Twenty-five SSIFR members were on scene fighting the fire, and nine pieces of apparatus were used. The call interrupted a training exercise on the north end of the island and those members were able to be on scene quickly. Also assisting were the RCMP, BC Hydro, BC Ambulance and the Salt Spring Island Emergency Program.

Crews were on scene for around seven hours and were able to salvage some contents of the house.

FIRE continued on 2

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Lawsuit filed to protect orcas

Environmental groups attempt to force federal action

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Six environmental groups filed a lawsuit on Sept. 5 demanding that the federal government enact an emergency order protecting the Southern Resident Killer Whales.

Ecojustice lawyers filed the application on behalf of the David Suzuki Foundation, the Georgia Strait Alliance, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Raincoast Conservation Foundation and the World Wild-

life Fund Canada. It asks the government to use a part of the Species at Risk Act (SARA) that allows creation of an emergency order to help push legislation through to protect endangered species.

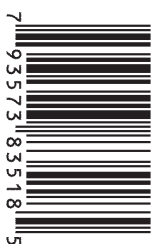
"The level of concern is not matched by the government's actions," said Misty MacDuffee, wild salmon program director with the Raincoast Conservation Foundation. "SARA was designed because you can't foresee all of the circumstances that are

going to arise with endangered species and populations. SARA has this tool that allows them to enact an emergency order to create legislation they need when they don't have anything else. They have not done that and that's what we are seeking."

From 2008 to 2014, around 70 per cent of pregnancies within the SRKW population failed.

WHALES continued on 5

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INSERTS

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- The Local Liquor St.
- Lowe's West

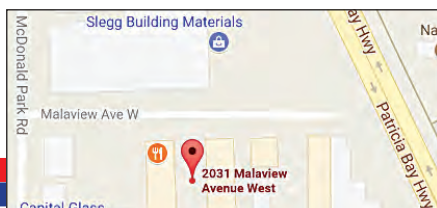
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**FALL FAIR
WEEKEND**

**OPEN AGAIN
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**



**Regular hours:
Tues. to Sat. 10 am - 5 pm**

Rainy conditions aid interface issue



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring Fire Rescue personnel on scene at Sunday's house fire on Wildwood Crescent. See gulfislandsdriftwood.com for more photos and video footage.

"It's pretty tough when it is going that much to save anything, but we did manage to salvage most of the contents in the lower suite," George said. "We took out all of the family's precious stuff that was saveable and the family is very appreciative of that."

SSIFR used around 50,000 gallons to extinguish the fire. Water was shuttled in using tender trucks to due to a lower flow rate in the fire hydrant on scene. The fight was helped by the rain, which kept

the flames from spreading to the nearby brush and trees.

"If this happened maybe two weeks ago we'd have a different story," George said. "There was very close brush and tons of cedar trees nearby. The interface was there, but we lucked out with a moderate fire danger risk and the rain during the fire."

The day after the fire, Miller found burned shingles in her backyard. Though there was no damage to her property,

"The interface was there, but we lucked out with a moderate fire danger risk and the rain during the fire."

ARJUNA GEORGE
Salt Spring Fire Chief

the case could have been very different if there was no rain on Sunday.

"We were really lucky that it was as wet as it was, because those shingles could have been dangerous coming down in our yard had it been two weeks ago," she said. "We're directly across the street, and we definitely had some concerns in the beginning about whether or not it was going to spread. I think we really lucked out."

The scene is currently under investigation and has been barricaded off until the cause of the fire is determined. SSIFR will also help salvage any remaining belongings from the house.

"We can't really access most of it yet, because it is not really safe to enter the premises right now," George said. "We're going to do the investigation and then probably have to mediate the second floor to make sure it's safe to go in there and try to salvage some of the stuff."

The Salt Spring Legion is organizing a silent auction to aid the family, to take place in the coming weeks. Anyone who would like to make a donation should contact the Fran Leask at the Legion.

GOVERNANCE

LCC tagged as best way ahead

Community Alliance working group releases report

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Establishing a Local Community Commission is the best route forward for solving Salt Spring's governance problems, according to a report released today by a group of islanders studying the issue.

Where To From Here: A Discussion Paper on Salt Spring Island Governance represents the findings of Community Alliance Governance Working Group volunteers. Working since February, they analyzed five different options outside of municipal incorporation or provincial legislative change.

The working group used a set of 17 criteria focused upon improvements in democratic decision-making, citizen accessibility and efficient/effective service delivery to rank the five possibilities. Selections were screened to ensure they maintained the role of the Islands Trust, with land use planning separated from local government service delivery, and were something the provincial government could realistically be expected to support.

"While any option will need to be thoroughly discussed and analyzed, working group members were unanimous in their hope that, shortly after the October elections, Salt Spring Island's elected representatives will begin meeting with the community to develop an action plan to improve our governance," committee chair Gayle Baker stated in a press release.

With a total possible score of 135, keeping the status quo in governance was the clear loser at only 59 points, despite past successes such as getting a pool and a top-notch public library under the existing system. In

contrast, an LCC encompassing the entire island achieved not just the highest score at 99.5 points but came in 26.5 points ahead of the next closest option: restructuring Capital Regional District commissions and forming an inter-agency working group.

The LCC analysis was based on adding four locally-elected commissioners who would work with the electoral area director on regional-district matters. In this scenario CRD commissions would become advisory to the LCC, with one or two elected LCC commissioners assigned responsibility for serving as liaison with each advisory commission.

According to the working group's calculations, a Salt Spring LCC had no low-scoring criteria and just a few that received moderate scores, which had to do with feasibility, cost of implementation and cost of ongoing operations. It scored significantly higher on the matrix than having an LCC just for Ganges plus inter-agency working group: that possibility received just 63.5 points.

The LCC's high score came in part from the number of elected representatives relative to population and workload. Other positive-ranking criteria include coordination and priority setting among agencies; potential for dispute resolution among local service providers; decision-making happening at open public meetings; and opportunity for community participation in local decisions.

With their analysis now complete, the working group is ready to share their findings with the community as whole and to start an island-wide exploration of the governance options. They will host a discussion night this Monday, Sept. 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Lions Hall.

The report is available in hard copy at the library or online at sscommunityalliance.org. Printed copies are also available for purchase at Apple Photo.



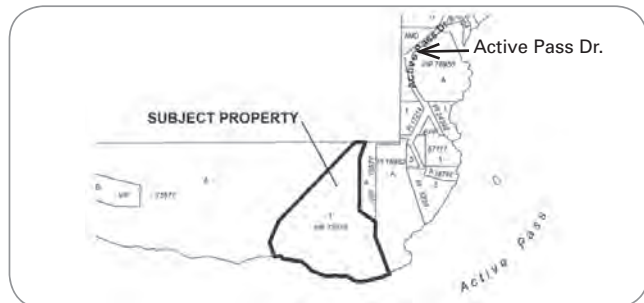
Rezoning and OCP Amendment for
Forest 2 (F2) to Rural 2 (R2)
Bylaws 267 & 268

**Have
Your
Say**

PUBLIC HEARING
GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaws about?

The purpose of the bylaws are to rezone and redesignate the property as shown in the sketch map below in order to bring the use of the land into compliance with the provisions of the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw (LUB). The property is occupied by a single family residence as well as a cottage and an accessory building. Rezoning the property from Forest 2 (F2) to Rural 2 (R2) would legalize the cottage and the use of the cottage as a Short Term Vacation Rental under the home occupation regulations.



How do I get more information?

A copy of the bylaw and other information is available at the Islands Trust Victoria office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, September 5 to 14, 2018 Or:

www.islandstrust.bc.ca/galiano/applications

Written submissions?

Send by 4:30 p.m., September 14, 2018 to:

- Islands Trust, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, or
- Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, or
- In person at the Public Hearing

Note: All submissions received become part of the public record

Monday,
September 17, 2018
12:30 p.m.

Galiano South Hall,
141 Sturdies Bay Rd.

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by
the proposed
bylaws

Enquires?
Kim Stockdill,
Island Planner
kstockdill@
islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5194

NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

PARC meeting:

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 13, 5 p.m.
Portlock Park Portable

EDUCATION

French immersion enrolment grows in Gulf Islands

Around 170 students taking program this year

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Enrolment is on the rise for French immersion programs at SD64, mimicking a province-wide trend.

Interest in the program has risen again this year, though the reasons for the increase are difficult to determine.

"Enrolment numbers change according to how many students are coming up from grade 5," SD64 French Immersion curriculum coordinator Louise Doucet explained. "Typically and historically, French immersion usually attracts a third of the population coming into Salt Spring Middle School. This year there have been more. It is closer to 50 per cent."

One hundred and seventy students are enrolled in immersion programs at the middle and high schools this year, which is up from last year's 140 according to Canadian Parents for French (CPF). A letter sent to SIMS parents at the beginning of the year said that of the 13 homeroom classes at the middle school, five of them are French immersion. Last year across the district 7.9 per cent of all students were enrolled in

French programs.

A CPF press release stated that there were 53,483 students in the province enrolled in French immersion, or 9.5 per cent of students. Enrolment has been rising in B.C. over the last decade, leading to a shortage in teachers.

The release read that "districts around the province are scrambling to find enough qualified teachers and teaching assistants."

While provincially it has been difficult to hire enough teachers to fill the demand for French programming, SD64 was able to hire three new teachers and add one new classroom at the middle school for 2018-19. (New teachers were hired to replace retiring teachers and to fill the additional classroom.)

"We had responses to our advertising, but like any other employer on Salt Spring the School District also faces the housing issue," Doucet said. "Housing is hard to find and it's expensive, even for teachers."

The Ministry of Education gives school districts two options for French immersion programming. The most common option is to begin teaching students French in kindergarten. Students at that age are just learning language and numeracy and introducing French is



PHOTO BY LOUISE DOUCET

From left, GISS students Kaitlyn Lazzaratto, Eric Berendt, Rylan Burnett, Meaghan Plumridge and Emma Thomas relax at the famous Café de Flore in Paris during last year's French immersion intensive semester France trip.

easier. The other option is the late immersion, which begins in Grade 6.

SD64 offers a late French immersion option to students entering middle school. This allows the district to offer French immersion to all students equally, since students from Saturna, Pender, Mayne

and Galiano come to Salt Spring for middle school.

"One of the reasons that SD64 hasn't offered the early French immersion is because of the equitability of offering it on Salt Spring and not one of the other Gulf Islands," Doucet said.

"At the later level, we depend

on students already having strategies for decoding, writing and reading. They use their first language skills to acquire a second language."

Beginning a new language later is more difficult at first for the students, but both programs are considered equivalent in terms of success rate. Doucet explained that the first few months of the Grade 6 year are for re-learning vocabulary and language in order to continue into more difficult courses like sciences and social studies.

"We introduce those a little bit later on, once students have the language to speak about events or concepts at least minimally," she said. "The first part of the term is usually devoted to language acquisition. Even math at a Grade 6 level you need to be able to say the numbers."

French immersion students are able to participate in exchanges with students from Quebec. They also are able to go on field trips to French-speaking parts of the world later in their school careers. As students get older and courses get more specialized, the district mandates less immersion. French immersion graduates take an additional provincial exam and can be awarded a bilingual diploma upon graduation.

NEWS BRIEFS

Officials oppose pipeline

The Islands Trust along with San Juan County elected officials have sent a letter to the Canadian federal government asking them to abandon the expansion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline.

The letter, dated Sept. 5, was written in response to

the Federal Court of Appeal ruling that the National Energy Board's review was flawed and that Ottawa had not engaged in meaningful consultations with First Nations before green-lighting the project. Since the ruling, the federal government re-affirmed its commitment to the project.

The letter was signed by 22 elected representatives from the Islands Trust, including Salt Spring Island trustees Peter Grove and George

Grams, and three from San Juan County in Washington state. It reads that the pipeline exposes the Salish Sea to "unacceptable levels of risk," and that this risk compelled them to write the letter.

Ring located

A smaller woman's ring was turned in to the Salt Spring Island RCMP detachment on Aug. 23.

The ring was found on Madrona Bay Trail off Long Harbour Road around the

beginning of August. It has a personal inscription written inside it.

To identify the ring, contact the RCMP with details of the inscription by calling 250-537-5555 with reference file number 2018-2331.

Lady Minto gets Wi-Fi

Lady Minto is one of five hospitals with Island Health that introduced public

Wi-Fi this month.

People can use the new service, which began on Sept. 6, by searching for and connecting to the wireless network "IslandHealth-Guest."

The network supports basic internet browsing, but not the large bandwidths needed for high definition video streaming.

Other hospitals launching the network this month include Victoria General, Royal Jubilee Hospital,

Cowichan District Hospital and West Coast General Hospital. Nanaimo Regional General Hospital launched the service earlier this year, and the North Island Hospital campuses in Campbell River and Comox included the service when they opened in 2017.

The program is available due to financial support from the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary and the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

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FULFORD WATER

Fulford water main project deferred

Community Works Fund contribution softens blow

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ratepayers with the Fulford Water System are relieved that a water main replacement project has been dropped for the time being and hopefully won't wipe out the district's small capital reserve when it does go ahead.

The Capital Regional District's Electoral Area Services Committee voted last week against a staff recommendation to push the project through immediately, contrary to the wishes of the Fulford Water Commission. Salt Spring electoral area director Wayne McIntyre's alternate proposal will have the CRD wait on replacing the exposed main until Weston Creek is dry, and re-tender the project at that time.

To add further relief to the ratepayers, McIntyre said he would commit \$50,000 from the Community Works Fund.

"I think if Murphy was to have designed a project, this is the one Murphy's Law would have been named after," McIntyre said. "It's been one thing after another."

McIntyre acknowledged the project's financial impact on the small base of 100 water district users. Staff have esti-

mated it will cost more than \$70,000 to complete, and users already pay \$2,000 per year each. The amount is available in the capital reserve but would leave the district vulnerable to other emergencies.

McIntyre also referenced a history of CRD gaffs with Fulford system upgrades.

At issue currently is an asbestos cement pipe that runs along Morning-side Road and passes under Weston Creek. The section of the pipe that passes through the creek is no longer covered by fill material and must be reburied at a deeper level to avoid impeding water flow and fish passage.

The Fulford Water Commission has opposed the project based on several factors, starting with the surprise jump in estimated costs from \$32,000 in 2016 to \$102,000 as of July. News that the CRD had already spent nearly \$32,000 on the design and project management phase was an additional source of contention.

"It's an ongoing saga of CRD staff doing what they want and the ordinary people not being able to pay the bills. And it's about common sense," Fulford Water Commission chair Carol Eyles said on Thursday.

"For them it's all about liability and being risk adverse."

The commission voted in July to defer the project in hopes of hitting a less-

heated construction market and thus reducing costs. CRD staff in turn recommended the EASC direct transfer of the needed funds from the commission's capital reserve, citing a potential public health risk if the exposed pipe were to fail. A staff report to the EASC included an intention to award a \$53,100 contract to Ecklundson Construction Ltd.

Fish salvage costs accounted for an additional \$12,000 to the budget on top of the construction contract. A permit and monitoring field work through the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development would be required if the work were to take place during full creek flow.

Eyles attended last Wednesday's meeting to make a last plea to the committee to defer the project. She said the promise of \$50,000 will certainly help ratepayers, as very little may need to be transferred from the reserve fund in the end. As well, McIntyre's motion specifically states the work should take place when fish salvage costs won't be incurred.

"Ironically, it's essentially what we already asked for because the creek's already flowing, so they can't do the work this year," Eyles said. "This pipe has been exposed for several years. It can wait another year ... So it's back to the drawing board, more or less."

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Housing project looks at spring start

Besides funding, project ready to go

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One of Salt Spring's new housing projects is nearing completion as it looks to close its funding gap.

Salt Spring Commons affordable housing project is submitting an application for a BC Housing grant to help meet its funding requirement by the end of the year. The application deadline for the grant is Sept. 17. Financing is the only major hurdle remaining for the project, which has been in the

works in one way or another for the last 20 years.

Rob Wiltzen, operations manager at Salt Spring Community Services, said the project "is about as shovel ready as it can get. It's just a matter of getting that final piece of funding. If all goes well we should be able to start in the spring of 2019."

The project located at the end of Bishop's Walk is intended to be a 24-unit mixed rental and home ownership model. The project dates back to 1990 when Community Services first started discussions about the need for affordable housing on the island, according to

the project website. Salt Spring Commons stagnated for a few years but was renewed in earnest in 2001. The ownership of the land was transferred to SSICS by the previous owner in 2010. By early in 2014 the project planning was underway for its current iteration.

The three-bedroom units will be for families on Salt Spring who are lacking in affordable housing opportunities. Wiltzen observed the project's proximity to the Ganges townsite will make it more viable for alternative transport to and from town.

"It is close to Ganges, within walking distance," Wiltzen said. "We're trying to build it as sus-

tainably as possible. It is meant to be a family community."

The project has faced multiple delays in the last few years, which have driven the cost up. Wiltzen said that the higher cost might mean an increased proportion of rental units to help with additional funding.

"Whatever [funding] we can get... is a mortgage that we don't have to carry," he said.

Apart from funding, the project still needs to go through the building permit process with the CRD, but Wiltzen does not expect any major issues in that process.

See saltspringcommons.ca for more information.

Day of Action events set for this Saturday

WHALES continued from 1

Since 2015, there have not been any viable calves born to the population. In addition to a lack of births, members of the population who should be healthy and productive are dying. MacDuffee believes that the measures enacted this year by the government have come too late, and that if they were in place a decade ago the SRKWs might be in a better place.

"This is not the first time we've had to go to court for these whales. We went in 2008, 10 years ago, and the government has been dragged along kicking and screaming the whole way," she said. "This is the first year they've done anything for these whales in terms of reducing the threats."

Part of the emergency action the groups are demanding is to put a closure on marine chinook fisheries and on SRKW

whale watching.

"So much of the disturbance of these whales and the pressure that they're under is coming from whale watching," MacDuffee said. "The public needs to know that those are the kinds of measures that need to be put in place if we're going to recover these whales."

MacDuffee hopes that the court action is enough to get the public's attention, and that other organizations echo the call for the emergency order.

"I think that the time is now for the public to raise their voices for appropriate measures if we have any hope of recovering this population," she said.

Local orca activists are also taking up the cause. On Saturday, Sept. 15, Salt Spring Island will be taking part in the Salish Sea Day of Action.

The event is to celebrate the recent legal decision about the Trans Mountain Pipe-

line, as well as other events across the Salish Sea area. Orca pod signs will be paraded through the fall fair and the Saturday Market. The event begins at 10:30 a.m. at the bandshell in Centennial Park. Paraders will receive a whale to carry from the park to the fall fair. Kinder Morgan arrestee Briony Penn will also be speaking about the SRKW pod. The parade will be followed by an open mic at the bandshell.

On Saturday evening, the event wraps up with a concert at Beaver Point Hall by Buckman Coe from Vancouver and Shaina Devlin from Salt Spring Dance Temple. The evening will begin with a welcoming ceremony and water blessing at 7 p.m. and music beginning at 9 p.m.

The event is for all ages and tickets are available at the Salt Spring Island Wellness Centre. More information can be found at the Orca Parade for Salish Sea Day of Action page on Facebook.

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OPINION



2018 CCNA Awards
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Bronze - Best Local Editorial | Bronze - Best Front Page | Blue Ribbon - Best All-Round

2018 BCYCNA Awards
Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best All-Round | Bronze - Best Editorial



EDITORIAL

Watershed Moment

Salt Spring's biggest event of the season gets underway Saturday morning with a simple yet meaningful change to operations.

The annual fall fair regularly sees 10,000 people pass through the gates of the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute over two days. Many of those people become thirsty after a few hours of music, trophy hall visiting and demonstrations, but this year they won't find individual water bottles on the menu at any of the vendor stalls. A new water station will have its official debut at this popular event, and everyone is urged to remember to bring their refillable bottle.

The Farmers' Institute is one of the island's most venerable organizations, dating all the way back to 1895. But while its board members may sport the grey hair common to many island volunteers, and they promote crafts and industries many people no longer do themselves, that doesn't mean they are stuck in the past. In fact, they may just be the most forward-thinking organization there is on an island known for its creative culture.

The Pacific Institute found that in 2006, bottled water production required the energy equivalent of 17 million barrels of oil and emitted 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide. Recent estimates propose some 480 billion plastic water bottles are purchased globally every year, and many of them wind up in the ocean. Plastic in general accounts for between six and 10 million tonnes of ocean garbage every year. Canada enjoys a relatively high recycling rate, but water bottles that don't get recycled and instead go into landfills have little chance of biodegrading, and could take up thousands of years to break down completely.

In the past, Salt Spring's fall fair may have accounted for as many as 4,000 single use water bottles being used over the course of two days. The Farmers' Institute imposed its ban in part because too many bottle were not making it to recycling and played havoc with lawn cutting machinery.

Removing those bottles from the system entirely is of huge benefit to the island and the world at large. Let's hope other island institutions will take the good example and jump on bottle reduction the same way so many have successfully banished straws.



VIEWPOINT by Gary Holman

Let's work together on priorities

For 30 years, as a community activist, CRD Director, and MLA, I'm proud to have joined with many islanders to preserve and protect this special place. I'm honoured to have played a role in many of this community's successes, like building affordable housing at Murakami Gardens; establishing B.C.'s most successful rural transit system; constructing our pool, library, water treatment plants, and kilometres of pathways; and protecting thousands of hectares of land. I know what our community can accomplish when we work together.

I did not support incorporation, but during the debate acknowledged my responsibility to help find other ways to improve governance on Salt Spring. I've been working with community groups on options like formalizing coordination and strategic planning among various agencies, and holding public town hall and budget meetings. I believe that CRD must respect and fully utilize the remarkable skills of commission volunteers and community groups. However, rather than reinforcing the "silo" nature of our service delivery, I will advocate for voter approval of a Local Community Commission to broaden local representation and take on more operational authority from the CRD through an elected "council" representing the public interest.

Improving governance must not take the focus away from issues like affordable housing, Salt Spring's top priority. The good news is that there are at least seven affordable housing projects (with land already secured), and that senior governments are providing unprecedented levels of funding. My top priority as CRD Director will be to support completion of all of these projects, including the CRD's own housing proposal on Drake Road. I've worked on affordable housing for years on Salt Spring, as an elected official and proponent. I know CRD can play a stronger role, for example on related water issues and by better supporting our existing housing council.

Other longstanding issues have been stalled and require greater focus. Despite voter approved funding in 2008, we still haven't found an on-island solution for our liquid waste, costing taxpayers hundreds of thousands every year, trucking 95 per cent water off-island. Similarly, the North Ganges pedestrian and cycling plan remains unfinished, despite funding approval in 2014. Voters expect completion of this project before supporting similar improvements on the increasingly busy and dangerous Ganges Hill.

We need to build an earthquake proof fire hall that can house our emergency operations centre and search and rescue (both receiving CRD funding), and perhaps local government offices. The fire district has secured land for a new fire hall, a significant accomplishment. I will advocate for voter approval of a sound business plan for a new building and retaining community ownership of the Ganges fire hall site. Progress is being made on the Ganges Harbour Walk, but we must be prepared to secure the marine right-of-way from the province, separate from controversial upland zoning. BC Transit funding will help expand our community bus system, already the most successful of its kind in B.C.

I will renew the cost-effective partnerships between the transportation commission (which I established), Partners Creating Pathways and Island Bus Shelters. I will also work with other community groups on issues like climate action; a plan for Ganges village; completing The Root food processing centre; health and seniors facilities; a public laundromat; and community radio station.

Please let me know about your priorities and if you can help at gary4crd@gmail.com or at gary4director.org. I look forward to working with all of you.

The writer is a candidate for CRD Director on Salt Spring.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

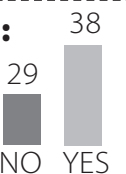
Is it time to reconsider an island bridge?

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:

Should Canada walk away from NAFTA?



Driftwood

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

Front office:
Johanna Walkner

Advertising:
Shirley Command



Amber Ogilvie
PUBLISHER
aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Lorraine Sullivan
PRODUCTION MANAGER
production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



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ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I think if Murphy was to have designed a project, this is the one Murphy's Law would have been named after."

CRD DIRECTOR WAYNE MCINTYRE., ON FULFORD WATER SYSTEM

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Why is Pride important to you?



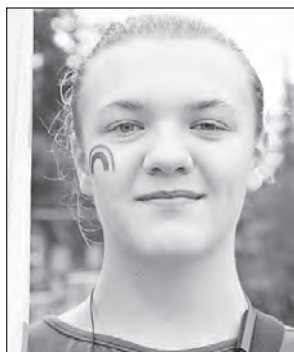
DANIEL COLLINS

It's important because I get to come and hang out with my tribe. It's also important to keep active in the first world in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in other countries.



VAIL PATERSON

It's a great fun festival and I believe diversity is a strength, not a weakness.



ZAMA SZAKACS

It's a way to celebrate the fact that we're making progress towards equality, even if we're not perfect.



SUE NEWMAN

Inclusivity is the only way to go!



URI COGAN

It celebrates diversity.

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

Transit needed

As election fever starts to heat up for Salt Spring Island with the choice of a new CRD director and new local trustees for the LTC, I would like to ask to see a new vision of the island that has not been achieved yet: one that can deal with the traffic congestion in Ganges.

The reason we are not fixing this is not the complicated relationship we have with the CRD, rather the fact that those who have been in advisory positions see the perfect island from their

own points of view, that is from their homes outside of Ganges and from their cars. For the island to move forward, we need proper bus service all around the island with extensions to new areas added each year. Not everyone can live in Ganges. The best thing is for people to keep in their own homes as long as possible as there is not enough land in Ganges to enable every single person who outgrows their driver's license to live in town.

I do appreciate that the transportation commission under Robin Williams has tried to address a varied amount of problems

here.

However, the reason we don't have the results is because of the amount of time spent figuring out how to create the new park that may be built near the turn-off to Moby's, or the traffic circle we still don't have. There are many side issues that SSITC spent time dealing with.

Many things they did were well appreciated and I know they have helped the town deal with some major infrastructure issues. However, true transportation is about getting people from A to B. There are way more serious issues than the same patch of ground

just outside Ganges that has been mulled over for the last 11 years.

The outdated North Ganges Transportation Plan has to go. It did not fulfill its mandate that it promised with the 2014 tax increase. And there was confusion among people about what they were paying for. The bus and the NGTP are two separate streams of taxation, so the 2014 increase did not go to the bus or the bus shelters.

Just adding to the conversation, as it is at election time when new promises and visions are made.

JENNY MCCLEAN,
SALT SPRING

Therapeutic Riding finds new home

Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association is very excited to announce that after many months of pursuing various farm offers, we have finally found a suitable property to operate our program from. The new owners of 700 Upper Ganges Rd. have generously offered their property as our new location. Their facility is fully equipped for all of our needs.

SSTRA has worked incredibly hard for the last 17 years

to improve the lives of individuals who are physically, intellectually or emotionally challenged. During this time, hundreds of individuals from kindergarten aged children to seniors have benefitted from the program. We believe it is important to continue this absolutely life-changing work and to ideally grow the program so that we can help even more individuals in the community that need us.

At the fall fair on Sunday, Sept. 16 at 11 a.m., SSTRA will be holding an information session in the riding ring. Please join us in celebrating a new chapter in therapeutic riding!
SSTRA



by HELEN HINCHLIFF

she'd told him before that squeezing her knees hurt like hell.

But who could blame him? There they were on a lazy summer afternoon, sitting on my loveseat, wearing shorts, and she was draping one of her well-tanned and amazingly shapely, 78-year-old legs over his 85-year-old lap.

Well, I was hard put to keep a straight face; nevertheless, I had to cheer them on. The last time I'd seen Fran she was still depressed over the loss of her husband. Chuck and Murray had been best friends back in Winnipeg, but Murray's been gone for six years and Chuck died two years before that.

About a year ago, Fran hooked up with the widowed father of one of her daughters-in-law and they're still

AGING with GRACE: Please, Don't Squeeze!

"Please, don't squeeze," she said for what I'm guessing was the umpty-eleventh time. Instantly, he let go, acknowledging with an embarrassed grin that somewhere in his fading

memory of such things, he recognized

acting like a couple of love-sick teenagers. At one point earlier that afternoon I even wondered whether they might repair to my spare bedroom for a quickie under the guise of a nap.

If her relationship is troubled by her need for new knees, a condition made worse by his inability to remember he's not supposed to squeeze them combined with her inability to avoid tempting him, no one would guess it.

I've been there myself. "Please don't play with my thumb," I remember begging more than once. Donald and I would be holding hands and then he'd start fondling my arthritic left thumb, unable to resist or remember. What's a woman to do?

My symptoms started back in the 1990s. I'll never forget the day when I asked Uncle Carlo why a knuckle on the pinkie of my right hand was so rosy. My uncle was not only an internist

but also our extended family's go-to doctor for diagnosing teeny little ailments we didn't want to bother our own doctors about. With a disconcerting degree of nonchalance, he replied, "That's arthritis."

"Arthritis?" I thought, "that's not even possible! Grandma and Mom have arthritis, but I'm only 55, so how could I have it? I'm too young." I decided to ignore my pinkie, it being relatively useless anyway. But then my left thumb started going wild with pain every time Donald came near it. "Oh well," I thought, "a right-handed person doesn't need a left thumb. I just have to keep it away from my husband."

Osteoarthritis, which is more common in women than men, creeps up on us in stages, beginning when cartilage meant to cushion the surface of our bones wears away. Eventually, bone rubs against bone, causing pain, swelling and stiffness. I could have sworn the arthritis that disabled my right thumb last winter had just started.

Suddenly, I couldn't turn a key, press the button on my electric toothbrush, or shuffle cards. I couldn't even hit the space bar on my keyboard. Oh, and did I mention my knees were either locking up or buckling, threatening me with a fall? But years ago, X-rays on my hands and knees were showing symptoms. I guess I ignored them.

It turns out I'm not the only one wandering around with a "What, me worry?" attitude. In 2009, Karen V. MacDonald, and others at the University of Calgary, conducted a study of 4,565 Canadians over the age of 20. In Symptom Onset, Diagnosis, and Management of Osteoarthritis, they reported the average age of first symptoms was around 47 years, but those afflicted had waited an average of almost eight years before seeking diagnosis.

So what to do? First, I'd say we need to take arthritis symptoms more seriously. My left thumb is grossly misshapen, but I have high hopes for my right thumb because, for me,

going gluten-free seems to have been the key to reducing the inflammation that had caused it to resemble a well-stuffed and completely immovable sausage. Now, it's back to normal size and at my constant beck and call.

The Arthritis Foundation recommends maintaining a healthy weight. I've managed to shed 10 pounds since February. Mind you, I eat whatever I want, but if isn't gluten-free I don't want it. They also advise regular physical activity. Well, hear this: my knees are working much better since I started walking four or five kilometres a day. The other evening, my knees carried me up and down the stairs at ArtSpring with surprising ease. I've even gained the confidence to enter my very first Terry Fox Run. You might want to help sponsor my walk!

I hope I can continue managing my arthritis. After all, when I lop my knees over some 85-year-old guy's lap, I don't want to shriek, "Please, don't squeeze!"

EV challenge issued to local candidates

BY JIM STANDEN
TRANSITION SALT SPRING - EV GROUP

I read with interest the July 25 Driftwood where Gary Holman indicated he would run for CRD Director (and now Robin Williams) and Peter Grove and Darryl Martin would run for trustees. I also read on Aug. 22 John Borst's excellent In Depth column on the need for immediate local action on climate change (reducing emissions globally, but especially in our own backyard).

Although our community faces many challenges, my personal belief is that climate change should be kept very close to the top of your agendas. It is especially evident that as I write this, as reported on CBC radio, a portion of the haze we are currently experiencing is from auto-exhaust from the lower mainland — yuck! Honestly, I am tired of breathing smoke from forest fires. Climate change has been scientifically identified as a key component in creating those fires. Within that climate change topic, my own interest is electric transportation, so I will restrict this dialogue to that topic.

I am writing this letter for myself, but I feel confident my commentary and questions would also reflect the interests of the close to 200 electric vehicle owners on Salt Spring, the 200 "my next car will be an EV" potential owners, the company owners of higher use EV vehicles (Silver Shadow Taxi and Tour SSI) and our local tourism industry, which continues to benefit from our EV reputation. Together, this is a significant and influential voting population.

We all know by now, that the easiest way to personally achieve substantial climate goals is to reduce our transportation emissions. That could mean adopting manual

(walking, biking) or electric transportation within your household or organization. We islanders do walk and bike, all good. But specifically in the car department, as a fleet, we have estimated we have reduced our annual green house gas emissions by 665 tonnes and the need for fuel by 200,000 litres. To bring that into perspective, we believe that to be about eight fuel delivery trucks. We also estimate about 100 new electric cars could be added during the next year.

So, for those of you who have announced (or will announce) that you are seeking positions within our local government, I have a few questions. Some of you may have direct control over budgets and decision-making, but others will be strong influencers. It is my belief that all our trusted community leaders should be aligned in their universal support in transitioning our community to a lower carbon emitting environment. If we start to act strategically, we should make decisions that will be seen as wise five, 10 and ... 100 years into the future.

First question: As more commercial (higher use) vehicles come to Salt Spring, would you consider investigating the creation of a charging park in or near Ganges? This would likely be a pay for (cost recovery) service that would provide additional needed parking, as well as Level 2 and Level 3 (very high speed) charging services for business.

Second question: Salt Spring is becoming known as a leading edge EV adoption island. EV tourism writers are visiting from as far away as Europe. With our high density advantage and acceptance of the new transportation technology, we could

be an ideal test bed for new innovative transportation systems. Would you support the testing of such systems (neighbourhood electric vehicles, air, ferries, buses and others) in our location?

Third question: How will you support the transportation needs of your own organization?

Fourth Question: Please mention your highest priorities where you would support EV charging. An example is the administrative buildings at Portlock Park. It could be used for locals or off-islanders coming to enjoy the fields, tracks and courts and with a short walk, or a movie at the Fritz.

Final Question: Personal commitment. I like my local representative to have, as per one of my favourite expressions, "skin in the game." Examples? Your investment advisor: "do you personally own this stock you are recommending" and your auto salesperson: "what car do you drive?" If you are serious about your new role being supporting of reductions of carbon emissions, do you personally ride a pedal bike, an electric bike or drive an EV, or are you planning to purchase and use those in the near future? Your personal image and commitment should reflect the role you assume and provide an example on an island with a reputation of leadership in EV transportation.

Bonus Question. The EV Group cannot think of everything. This is a chance to display your own creativity. Please create your own question and response. Push your imagination to the limit.

Eagerly awaiting your response.

Please consider responding via the Driftwood.

CRD Director letter

While I have advised those who have asked that I don't intend to run for elected office in the forthcoming local government elections, I felt it was timely to release something more formal.

First of all I want to thank the community for giving me the opportunity to represent Salt Spring as the CRD Director for the last two terms. It has been an honour. Like many decisions this was a difficult one for me. I have had decades of experience in local government matters and have always been involved in some capacity wherever I have lived, including 10 years in elected capacities: three years in a municipality as a councillor and seven years as the CRD Director for Salt Spring Island. While the experiences were very different, based in part on the difference in governance, both were challenging, gratifying and at times frustrating and in both systems community volunteers were an essential element of the heart and soul of the communities.

While volunteerism is certainly not unique to Salt Spring, the passion and skills of Salt Spring volunteers and their level of commitment is in my experience without equal. I thank all of you for challenging the complexities and frustration of our system and moving our many committees and commissions forward on projects that have and will continue to impact our community positively. Volunteerism is a key strength on Salt Spring and needs to be supported at all levels.

Going forward I plan to focus more time on family and friends as a priority, re-engage in some of my past business pursuits, and participate in Salt Spring volunteerism, as well as finding time for leisure activities.

I wish all candidates for Salt Spring local government positions in the forthcoming local election the best of luck!

WAYNE MCINTYRE
ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR, SALT SPRING ISLAND

RANTS and Roses

On Thursday evening many islanders were treated to a walk down memory lane at Central Hall. Thank you to Louise Nye for putting together the slide show, to Lukas Booy for the music, and to all the patrons and donors in attendance. We hope to see you all again on Oct. 4 for another slide show. Central Hall Society.

A bocce court full of rainbow coloured roses is presented to Tim and John at TJ Beans, for again hosting the Special Olympics Bocce pizza party and awards ceremony. You guys make our community a better place! The athletes also present an extra large "special thanks with everything on it" to Uptown Pizza for their generous contribution to the party. The awesome coaches Bob Elsea and Ross Harvey, along with great volunteers Alfie Luke, Drew Stotesbury, Richard Dick, and Emmerson Hayden are each awarded individual rose appreciations. Another Special rose is presented to the Driftwood newspaper for their continued support for our Special Olympics BC organization. Salt Spring Special Olympics athletes.

Randomly blooming sweet roses to the man who paid for my groceries as a surprise, when I dashed off to find something I had forgotten at Country Grocer. Let's see how I can pay it forward! Jan S.

TJ Beans would love to give a huge bunch of rainbow coloured roses to our team that managed the lines and the blower that kept our giant arch erect for the Pride parade. They were Will, Trish, Victor, Sarah and Brett. And to Alicia for coming in on her day off to keep everything running smoothly. Well done and thanks. John and Tim.

The high school shop would like to send many wooden roses to Mark and the gang at Slegg Lumber for their generous and continued donations that keep our shop thriving and well supplied. Thanks from Darrell, Chip and many happy students.

Tenaciously beautiful roses for the amazing team of people bringing information to voters about the upcoming referendum on proportional representation. People are overcoming all manner of hurdles to be there, whether it's behind the scenes or at the pro rep table at Country Grocer or other places. Jan S.

NEWS UPDATES

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/GIDriftwood>



Islands Trust

Have
Your
Say

Rezoning & OCP Amendment for Waste Transfer Sites

Bylaw 214 & 215

PUBLIC HEARING

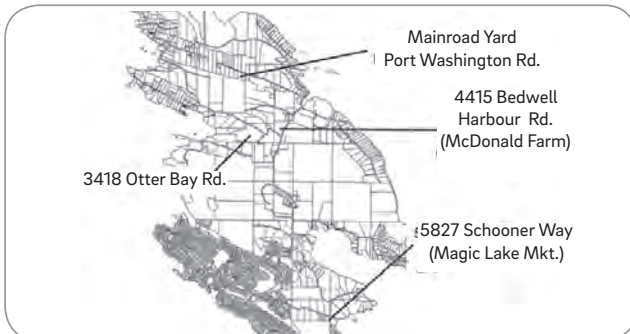
PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaws about?

Bylaw 215 will rezone four properties (shown on the map sketch below) to allow a range of waste transfer uses on North Pender Island. The bylaw proposes:

- One property zoned for public drop only
- One property zoned for limited waste transfer (no public access)
- Two properties zoned for full service waste transfer (waste transfer, compost and commercial recycling facilities)

Bylaw 214 will amend the Official Community Plan by introducing new policies and a new Development Permit Area for managing potential impacts from waste transfer facilities.



How do I get more information?

A copy of the bylaw and other information is available at the Islands Trust Victoria office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, September 5 to 21, 2018. Or visit:

www.islandstrust.bc.ca/npender/waste-management

Written submissions?

Send by 4:30 p.m., September 21, 2018 to:

- Islands Trust, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, or
- Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, or
- In person at the Public Hearing

Note: All submissions received become part of the public record

Saturday
September 22,
2018
10:00 a.m.

North Pender
Anglican Parish
Hall

Who should attend?

Anyone affected by
the proposed
bylaws

Justine Starke,
Island Planner
jstarke
@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5189



Pride

CELEBRATION

Salt Spring's 14th annual Pride festival once again attracted widely diverse and inclusive participation, with members of the LGBTQ community from Salt Spring and beyond joined by supportive friends and allies during events that ran from Sept. 5 to 9. The annual parade and after-party in Centennial Park on Saturday brought forth colourful rainbow costumes plus a moving opening address by Tsawout elder Earl Claxton Jr., and inspiring words by the parade's co-m Marshals Janet Clouston and Chi Chi Small Wolf. See you next year!



For more photos, visit gulfislandsdriftwood.com or the Driftwood's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

2018 Fall Fair Entertainment & Events Schedule

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- | | |
|--|---|
| 7:30 Admission gates / open Indoor judging | 10:00-10:30 <i>Local Indigenous Songs & Stories</i> |
| 8:30 Start of livestock judging continues all day | 10:30 Demo Tent TBA |
| 9:00 Commercial vendors & exhibitors open | 10:40-11:10 <i>Vaughn Fulford</i> |
| Horse Show-Breed display all day | 11:00 Indoor sections open in the Main Building / Sawmill Demonstration |
| 10:00 Free bus shuttle from town to/from the fairgrounds / Food concessions open | Blacksmith Demo ongoing |
| Games of chance open | Horse show begins |
| 11:20-11:50 <i>Susan Cogan</i> | 1:40-2:20 <i>David Carl</i> |
| 11:30 Sheep Dog Demonstration / Demo Tent TBA | 2:00 Tractor Pull Demo Tent TBA |
| 12:00-12:30 <i>GISPA Music (GISS Performance Band)</i> | 2:30 Sheep Dog Demonstration |
| 12:00 Livestock judging continues | Sawmill Demonstration |
| Chicken races | 12:35-3:15 <i>Synergy</i> |
| 12:30 Threshing Demonstration | 3:00 Chicken races Demo Tent TBA |
| 12:45-1:25 <i>Kaizenjammers</i> | 3:30-4:10 <i>Sunny Siders</i> |
| 1:00 Zucchini Races Demo Tent TBA | 4:25-5:05 <i>Yael Wand</i> |
| Horse Show cont. | 5:20-6:00 <i>Buck Dodgers</i> |
| | 6:00 Gates closed |

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7:30 Admission gates open | 12:05-12:35 <i>The Regulars</i> |
| 9:00-10:30 Admittance to the Main Building. Open only to people with special needs and residents of Senior Facilities | 12:30 Threshing Demonstration |
| 9:00 Commercial vendors & exhibitors open | 12:50-1:30 <i>Alvaro Sánchez and José Sánchez</i> |
| 9:30 Demo Tent - Judging the Sweetest Apple | 1:00 Zucchini Races / Rooster Calling Contest in the Show Ring / Demo Tent TBA |
| 10:00 Pet Parade registration | 1:45 Longest lasting rose bloom & dahlia announced |
| Free bus shuttle to/from the fairgrounds | 1:40-2:20 <i>Dan Smith</i> |
| Food concessions open | 2:00 Tractor Pull / Demo Tent TBA |
| Games of chance open | 2:30 Sheep Dog Demonstration |
| 10:00-10:30 <i>Alan Moberg</i> | Sawmill Demonstration |
| 10:30 Demo Tent - People's Choice Award for Best Tasting Apple | 2:40-3:20 <i>Marianne Grittani Quartet</i> |
| 10:45-11:15 <i>Ric Proctor</i> | 3:00 Rotary Club Muffin Madness |
| 11:00 Pet Parade / Sawmill Demonstration | Chicken races |
| Blacksmith Demo ongoing | 3:00-5:00 Prize money may be collected behind the main building |
| 11:25-11:55 <i>Hoochie Coochie Men</i> | 3:30-4:10 <i>Kathy Stack & Friends</i> |
| 11:30 Sheep Dog Demonstration Demo Tent TBA | 4:30-Close <i>Doug and the Thugs</i> |
| 12:00 Chicken races | 5:00-6:00 All entries must be removed (not earlier) |

Gates closed for another year

Enjoy the Fair!

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ART REVIEW

Fletcher oils satisfy in painterly style



Beddis Road Barns by Josephine Fletcher.

face dominated by a forest fence. Ruckle Farm, Rain Washed with Telephone Lines is full of lemony fresh yellows and greens, the new clean grass bursting with light that is framed and contrasted by black tree silhouettes.

When it comes to her locations, Fletcher mused on her abiding love for her home island landscape of fields, the sea and warm light.

"I think it has to do with memory. I love going to the parking lot at Ruckle — it's something about Hornby Island and fields and plums," she said. "You're always looking for childhood memories; you're always looking for something familiar."

Other paintings are not so much about location as joy in the rich beauty cultivated in the islands, such as two small and very lovely paintings of honeysuckle blossoms. The honeysuckles were painted in Duthie's garden.

"They're little tangible things that you know so well that you want to put them down, and that's what I'm about," Fletcher said.

A magnolia tree and its broad pink petals brim with reflected light and fill most of a secret corner against deep lush green in Magnolia in the Garden. In another work, a black and white cat licking itself on the path is suggested by just a simple arrangement of colour blocks, overwhelmed by a riot of colour and life-force in a row of poppies or roses.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday.

what's on this week

FOR MORE SALT SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS, SEE OUR **WHAT'S ON CALENDAR** ON **PAGE 14.**



Salt Spring FOLK CLUB
 www.saltspringfolkclub.com

Oct. 29 Irish Mythen
Nov. 19 Barney Bentall and the Cariboo Express
Jan. 28 April Verch
Feb. 25 David Vest and Blue Moon Marquee
Mar. 25 Shari Ulrich
Apr. 22 GuMBoOT GaLA

18/19 SSFC Season Passes can be purchased for **\$125** at the Fall Fair and Fulford Hall on Oct. 28
 info: festival@saltspring.com

Best sound on the Island

Duthie Gallery show on to Sept. 17

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Paintings of Salt Spring done in a deeply satisfying impressionist manner are available for viewing at Duthie Gallery this month, where a solo show by Josephine Fletcher puts the focus on light and colour in local nature.

Fletcher's artist statement explains she grew up on Hornby Island amidst a dedicated enclave of artists.

"Encouraged by her family and Jack Shadbolt and other painters of the Hornby

set, she attended the Banff School of Fine Art, continued on to four years at the Emily Carr College of Art and Design in Vancouver and has been painting seriously and full time for more than 40 years."

Fletcher has had numerous solo shows and group shows in Vancouver, Hornby and Vancouver Island. Her work demonstrates her enthusiasm for and mastery of colour with a strong, gestural hand. Landscapes reflect her abiding love of nature, in the transcendentalist tradition. Her travels have also inspired her, and artists from the Fauves to Pierre Soulages have been

influences.

"I loved to see the Impressionist painters, and I thought, 'Ooh, I think I'll paint outside,'" Fletcher said about her early days of painting. "And I love the real paint sliding around together. The more I get used to it, it's like composing music across the whole canvas. You're building up all these lights and shadows."

Landscapes in the current show are personal and evocative yet instantly recognizable with the slight prod of the name tag. A deeply shadowed curve of Southey Point Road with over-arching tree canopy lines the road in bars of light, the man-made sur-

MUSIC

Community bands welcome new members

Beginners and experienced players have two groups to choose from

BY GAIL SJUBERG
 DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Band director Keith Ollerenshaw took up the baton again this week, with two concert bands meeting for the first time in a new season of music making.

Ollerenshaw and members of both the long-running Salt Spring Concert Band and the one-year-old beginning band are excited to be meeting this fall and invite other wind instrument players to join them.

Concert band meets on Mondays in the middle school band room from

7:15 to 9 p.m.

Beginning band meets in the same place but on Tuesdays, also from 7:15 to 9 p.m.

The Salt Spring Concert Band has a long history on the island, originated by Wendy and Derrick Milton in 1992. Ollerenshaw took over last fall from long-time director Dawn Hage, who moved to Edmonton, and also initiated a beginners' band.

"The beginners' band is for people who would like to play, or maybe did it for a year in the past," he said.

The concert band is currently at about 30 members and the beginning group at 15.

Ollerenshaw notes that Salt Spring has a number of new residents due to the turnover in property ownership and he knows some of them must

have some level of musical experience, or would like to learn an instrument and play it with others.

"We'd like to see new people in the bands," he said, noting that anyone can just show up and check it out to see if they want to join either band.

"It's a no-pressure environment," he stresses.

Both groups will be working towards performing at a Nov. 30 concert at ArtSpring, and then another one next May, although he notes beginners who don't want to perform can opt out of that part of things.

The Salt Spring Concert Band and beginners' band are part of the Bandonium Music Society, along with Swing Shift Big Band.

For information, contact Ollerenshaw at keith.ollerenshaw@gmail.com.

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CONCERT PREVIEW

Luke Wallace holds Salt Spring fall equinox concert

Young musician noted for positive energy

BY FRANTS ATTORP
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Has the weight of the world got you down? Are you feeling totally bummed out by the constant flow of bad news about the environment? Then take heart, for there is an antidote. His name is Luke Wallace and he will be performing on Salt Spring on Sept. 21 at Westcott Farm.

Wallace is just 25 years old, but has already made a name for himself as an up-and-coming folk musician and leader in the environmental movement. His music is noted for its positive energy, undy-

ing optimism and ability to stir people to song.

The native of Vancouver, who now makes his home on Salt Spring, developed his first musical skills on the piano and trumpet, with forays into jazz and blues, but soon picked up a guitar and discovered folk music as the perfect vehicle for the song in his heart and the message he wants to share with the world.

Wallace's love of nature, and attachment to coastal B.C. in particular, was something he became aware of at an early age, and which only grew stronger as he pursued his musical talents.

At UBC, he studied environmental geography, a discipline that fits perfectly with his interests and core values. His studies gave him more

insight into Earth's natural systems and the forces shaping our modern world.

Although he sings about hot-button issues such as pipelines and the Site C dam, he does not view himself as a protest singer, insisting, rather, that his music is about standing up for the living world and the systems that keep our communities going. And this is indeed reflected in his lyrics: there is more celebration of nature than condemnation of those who seek to destroy it, more support for cooperation than living in conflict, more love than anger and, above all, infinitely more hope than despair.

In various interviews around the province, Wallace has revealed his ideas for a sustainable future. He is

convinced that significant change can only happen from the bottom up and that we need more democracy, by adopting proportional representation, for example, and becoming politically engaged. But he also believes music is a key component of any social movement as it can reach people's emotions and motivate them to work together to solve social and environmental problems.

On a more philosophical note, he says revolutions start internally, within each individual, and then spread to communities and entire countries. His song, Little Rivers Matter Too, is a metaphor illustrating how small streams (i.e. individuals) around the world can join together to form one large river of

change. Wallace displays an amazing ability to energize his audience and impart a sense of empowerment. Nothing puts a broader smile on his face than hearing people sing along.

His most recent album, entitled Us, features a collection of songs recorded in eight B.C. communities facing a variety of social and environmental challenges. Each song was recorded live with audience participation. One of them, Turning the Tide, was recorded at Ruckle Park with the help of about 100 islanders. It can be seen on YouTube.

Joining Wallace will be special guest Corrina Keeling. The venue is located at 162 Westcott Rd. Concert start time is 7 p.m.

BOOK LAUNCH

Poet launches 17th book

Levitt translates legendary Chinese hermit poet

Peter Levitt will launch his newest book *The Complete Cold Mountain: Poems of the Legendary Hermit Hanshan* at the Salt Spring Public Library on Sept. 22.

Levitt is an award-winning poet, translator, writer, and the guiding teacher of the Salt Spring Zen Circle. The original author of the poems, written more than 1,200 years ago, was called Hanshan, whose name means Cold Mountain.

According to the poems, which Levitt co-translated with his old friend Kaz Tanahashi, Hanshan took the name of the place he chose to settle down in as a way of saying that who he was, where he was, and what he was were just one thing. Levitt calls this "a beautiful expression of interdependence that shows the intimacy that he felt entwined his own life with that of the natural world."

Levitt explains, "Hanshan left behind what he called the dusty world of getting, spending and delusion, in order to live surrounded only by nature, with his heart and mind uninterrupted by what he considered wasteful distractions. The poems reveal that his deepest wish was to put an end to what he called the 'useless mixed up thinking' that caused harm in his life and in the lives of those he'd encountered."

"With monkeys and tigers as neighbours, and a constantly swirling mist far up a mountain path of twisting switchbacks where no horse or cart could travel past his cave, Hanshan would occasionally sit outside in the rare sun, winter and summer alike, in his only clothing, a loin cloth or a simple robe, and spend his time reading a few passages of Laozi, or playing his simple lute. At other times he would discuss the meaning of life with a passing white cloud, though there were moments when he would find himself grasping his knees with his back against the walls of a treacherous cliff as sudden storm came on, and wonder how his life had become no different from that of a lone flying crane."

Levitt says the 315 extant poems that Hanshan wrote on cave walls, rocks, and stalks of bamboo reveal "the wise and compassionate understanding, profound tranquility, unexpected insight, and Hanshan's occasional outrageous or scathing humor," which touched the vein of life that both translators deeply appreciated and shared. "We believe readers will be delighted with these poems, which speak for many of us even today."

The book launch is free and will start at 7 p.m.

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- Sept. 14 - Dec 15 - 5:00 pm - Youth Stroke

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BRENDA AKERMAN

Funeral Planning


What tips would you give someone who is scattering ashes?

We have all watched a movie that romanticises a seamless farewell where the main character poetically disperses a loved one's remains amidst breath taking scenery in a meaningful celebration. The movies have a way of making things look so easy. Although it is possible to achieve the same result there are several factors that need to be considered before your farewell will come anywhere close to those seen on the big screen.

The term ashes make you think of fluffy camp fire ash, when in reality they are comparable to the consistency of kitty litter and weigh between 6-8lbs. This knowledge can help you be prepared when the time comes to release.

Ashes are messy! Always consider the direction of the wind and that ash sticks to skin. When your hands are covered in your loved one's ashes, wiping them on your jacket or seeing them stuck to your clothing could have a negative effect. If you're releasing ashes somewhere without access to water, bring wet wipes for clean-up.

Releasing fresh flowers in tandem with ashes or taking photos can help create a memorable ceremony. Need ideas for a simple scattering ceremony? Haywards will help and assist for no charge. Closure is important to healing.

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CHRISTIE DOYLE
Owner

Real Estate

What Should Buyers Do BEFORE Viewing Homes?

Set Your Priorities – BEFORE you view homes and while you are thinking intellectually and not responding emotionally.

Determine Your Price Range – Speak with a mortgage broker or lender and have yourself "prequalified" so that your mortgage limit is predetermined. Establish what your down payment is (who is assisting you, or when the down payment will be "liquid" if it is locked into a term deposit or other financial instrument.)

Find A Realtor To Represent You - Most buyers just "happen" to connect with a realtor who has a house listed that they are inquiring about. Savvy buyers will seek the opinion of their lawyer, mortgage broker or others and determine whom they would like to represent them in obtaining what is likely the largest asset in their lives. Experience and strategic negotiation skills are great attributes. This is the person who will provide **guidance as to offer price and subject conditions to protect ... YOUR BEST INTERESTS.**



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Mechanic

Where are we service-wise at this time of year?

Most people are now back from holidays and busy getting the family ready for school. Another group is just getting ready to head out for trips to usually warmer and dryer climes.

Either way, you may be due for service and repair after a long trip, or check ups to avoid problems before heading out. The days are getting shorter and lighting systems need to be working their best. Heaters will soon be used to keep the windows clear and wipers will be working overtime. If you are on a 6-month oil change schedule you will need to take care of winter servicing soon. It's a little early to think about snow tire installation but give a thought to what tires you will use and possibly buy early to avoid the rush later in the fall.

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GYLE KEATING

what's on this week



Wed. Sept. 12

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Painters Guild Registration Day. Taking new and old membership for the Salt Spring Island Painters Guild, which means every Wednesday morning at ArtSpring from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info: 250 537 9225 – ssipp@gmail.com.

Bittancourt House Museum. Museum open at the Farmers' Institute. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Every Wednesday through Friday until Oct. 31.

SD64 School Board Meeting. First board meeting of the school year takes place at the school board portable. Public portion starts at 1 p.m.

Salt Spring Historical Society. Chris Arnett (UBC Anthropology) presents Hwtse'lumun "Place of the Fir Poles": Overland Indigenous Canoe Travel on Salt Spring Island at the SS Historical Society meeting at Central Hall. 2 p.m.

Book Reading: Kathy Page. Kathy Page reads from her new novel Dear Evelyn. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

Thu. Sept. 13

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

Stay and Play Drop-In. Parents, caregivers and children 0-6 yrs. welcome. Family Place. 12 to 3 p.m.

Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association AGM. Annual general meeting at the Meadowbrook main lounge. 3 p.m.

SSI Parks and Recreation Commission. Public welcome to attend commission meeting. Portlock Portable. 5 p.m.

The Foundations of Insight (Mindfulness) Meditation. Five-class course led by Heather Martin begins today at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice at St. Mary's church in Fulford. 7 to 9 p.m. Register/info: staroft-heseassi@gmail.com.

MP Elizabeth May Town Hall. MP Elizabeth May gives report to constituents and answers questions at fall town hall session at GISS multipurpose room. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Fri. Sept. 14

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday's listing.

Family Movie Matinee. Family-friendly movies every Friday at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room from September 14 through November 9 at 2:30 p.m. (except when school is in session). See <https://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop/> for the schedule.

Art Opening: Adoration. Opening reception for show featuring Lisa Lipsett & Ruby Egger-Lipsett with Kuno Egger. Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m. Show continues to Oct. 3.

Youth Games Night. Weekly drop-in games night is a great chance to meet up with friends over a board game. Salt Spring Public Library. 6:30 p.m. until late every Friday (except holidays).

Sat. Sept. 15

ACTIVITIES



Salt Spring Fall Fair. Annual two-day celebration of rural island life. Salt Spring's biggest community event! Salt Spring Farmers Institute. Gates open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Salish Sea Day of Action. Orca parade and party with Buckman Coe to celebrate Federal Court of Appeal victory and continue actions to protect the Salish Sea. Parade from Centennial Park to the Farmers' Institute and back runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open mic in the park bandshell is from 1 to 3 p.m. Then a biodiversity blessing ceremony and traditional Coast Salish welcome takes place at Beaver Point Hall at 7 p.m., followed by desserts and RAVEN talk at 7:30 p.m., then music from Vancouver soul-funk troubadour Buckman Coe and special guests at 8:30 p.m.

Fault Line Projects Art Opening. Opening reception for The Importance of Small Things: Krystina Jervis. Fault Line Projects. 5 to 7 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 16

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Fall Fair. See Saturday's listing, except gates open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chronic Pain Support Group. Islanders invited to first meeting of new group, which will meet every second Sunday at the Senior's Wellness Office, 129 Hereford Avenue, at 1 p.m.

Tue. Sept. 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic With David Jacquest. Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Probus Club. Guest speaker is Gary Allen with a presentation on the values of wolves in ecosystems and show why the social stability of the pack is vital to maintaining those healthy ecosystems. Lions Hall. Doors open at 10 a.m. and the speaker runs from about 10:40 a.m. to 12 noon.

Stay and Play Drop-In. Parents, caregivers and children 0-6 yrs welcome. Family Place. 12 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday Farmers Market. Food-only market that specializes in authentic, local, fresh and seasonal products. Runs every Tuesday June through October at Centennial Park from 2 to 6 p.m.

Awakening the Goddess. First of a three-part series (attend one or all) where dance, ceremony and sitting in circle are used to ignite and awaken the divine Goddess nature. Led by Shauna Devlin at Stowel Lake Farm. 7 to 9 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Vargo. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Mother Goose. Join Nomi and Hannah Wednesdays in the program room for Parent-Child Mother Goose, with songs, rhymes and playtime. Salt Spring Library. 10:30 a.m. to noon.



Book Launch: Peter Freeman. Peter Freeman launches Cape Horn Birthday, the non-stop round-the-world journey of a lone sailor and his thirty-two-foot sloop. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.

Thu. Sept. 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic at the Legion. Thursdays at the Legion Lounge. 7 to 9 p.m.

Open Mic Night. Every Thursday at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.

Fri. Sept. 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Brent Shindell. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 p.m.

Soul Shakedown. Live at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Sat. Sept. 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SALT. Live at the Tree House Cafe, 7 to 10 p.m.

Marianne Grittani and Brent Shindell. Live at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Buck Dodgers String Band. Live at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Famous market of locally made, grown and baked goods runs every Saturday in Centennial Park through the last week of October. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mon. Sept. 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Harry Warner. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Island Infants Discussion Group. A drop in for parents and babies with weekly speakers. Family Place. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Community Alliance Governance Working Group Workshop. Session to discuss the report of the Community Alliance Governance Working Group at Lions Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

SSI Fire Protection District. Public welcome to attend regular monthly board meeting. Ganges Fire Hall. 7 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

K-Tones. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Musica Brasileira. Amelia Thomas and Moby's Pub present a night of some of Brazil's best music, from enchanting bossa novas to heart racing sambas. 7 to 10 p.m.



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Sun. 3pm matinee & 7pm

THREE IDENTICAL STRANGERS
118 min Rating: PG
Sept. 21 to 25 Fri. to Tues. 7pm
Sun. 3pm matinee & 7pm

CINEMA

• **Mamma Mia Here We Go Again** — Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again doubles down on just about everything fans loved about the original. How can fans resist it?

EXHIBITIONS

• **Salt Spring Galley** presents Adoration with Lisa Lipsett, Kuno Egger and Ruby Egger-Lipsett, a show of vibrant paintings and top notch ceramics inspired by a family's shared love for colour, textured surfaces, spontaneity, surrealism and magical creative moments. The show opens at this Friday, Sept. 14 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. and continues to Oct. 3.

• **Fault Lines Projects** presents The Importance of Small Things by Krystina Jervis from Sept. 15 to Oct. 6, with an opening reception happening this Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **Duthie Gallery** shows Paintings of Salt Spring Island by Josephine Fletcher until Sept. 17.

• **Auntie Pesto's Cafe** shows new work by Gabrielle Jensen beginning this Friday, Sept. 14.

• **Mel Williamson** has paintings and **Julie MacKinnon** has ceramics on display at **Kizmit Galeria/Cafe** this month. Open Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Doug McMillin's Transmutation and Fragmentation** (socio-digital landscapes) photo art exhibit is in the **Salt Spring Public Library's** program room through September.

• **WILD**, a photographic exhibition by **Shari Macdonald** and **Amy Melious**, is the final Showcase exhibition of the Artcraft season at **Mahon Hall**, running daily through Sept. 16.

• Today, Sept. 12, is the last day to see **Water & Clay: Paintings & ceramics** by **Rolando** and **Kasumi** at the **Salt Spring Gallery**.

• **Bob Fenske** shows street photography in the **ArtSpring** lobby through September.

• **Ulana Switucha** is artist of the month at **Hedgerow House**.

• **Artcraft** show and sale of work by some 100 Gulf Islands artisans is open daily at **Mahon Hall** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sept. 16.

• **Dragonfly Fine Art Supplies** shows new work by illustrator **Sarah Penhale**.



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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



EDUCATION

SIMS gets school year rolling with Community Week

Activities get students comfortable with new environment

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Students at Salt Spring Middle School spent their first week back to class playing music bingo, running obstacle courses and learning theatre sports.

The first week of school is traditionally one of uncertainty, as numbers and classroom lists are still being finalized. For the past six or seven years, SIMS has spent that time moving students through a range of activities devised by the teachers. Though most of those activities aren't part of the regular school curriculum, the fun at Community Week masked a surprising number of outcomes that greatly enhance a comfortable and successful learning environment for rest of the year.

"Formally they did busy work with their last year's home room teachers until we figured out the numbers. We decided we wanted to make that week more worthwhile," explained SIMS principal Keiko Taylor.

Students are put into groups that mix up all

the grades and programs, and are guided by student leaders in Grade 8. Although the kids themselves might not always see it, there are many advantages of the Community Week structure. The activities are located so that students will visit every classroom and every teacher in the school over the course of a couple days, getting to know people and places outside of their regular daily schedule.

"It's a good way to get to know the teachers because I normally never get to see the French teachers. And the new students," said Grade 7 student Finn Hughes.

Taylor observed middle school is a transitional environment by its nature, and this year one-third of the population is new. Community Week activities may be particularly useful for new students, but they provide opportunity for the school's most experienced cohort, as well.

"When we do our bridging day with Grade 5 students each year and ask them what they are worried about, they invariably say Grade 8s," Taylor said. "Our Grade 8 are in the leadership year and they're specially trained to help the new students. They're learning to be good leaders, and the Grade 6s are seeing these Grade 8s are not so scary."

Incoming students may also have the idea that the school is a large and busy place where



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Leadership student Yuli Roehlig, left, guides Harper Pingle on the slack line during SIMS Community Week.

it's easy to get lost. Moving through the activities in 14 different stations indoors and outdoors gives them an easy familiarity with that space. The teachers that lead the different activities meanwhile become familiar with the overall student body, and can make note of students

who seem like they may need extra support.

The activities often contain some connection to the learning year ahead, in ways that are both obvious and less-so. For example, this year students got a taste of how the Home Ec. room works, cooking and eating their own quesadilla and then cleaning up afterwards with teacher Marianne Allan. Richard Lee had students complete a set of obstacle courses and balancing exercises. He said communication, team-building, trust, problem-solving and being comfortable with physical proximity to others are just some of the skills or values such activities can help boost. Martin Thorn worked on community building by showing a slide show from the past year and inviting students to write down some words that could be part of a new school song.

Peri Lavender's station was centered on the theme of "diversity and inclusion" in honour of the weekend's Pride festival. She talked to students about host organization Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island and the Pride events as a welcoming place for all people in the community, whether identifying on the LGBTQ spectrum or not. Students then created art based on the theme, decorating long ribbons and cut-outs for large mobiles that SD64 members would carry in Saturday's Pride parade.

AUTHORS

Page returns to novel with Dear Evelyn

Family history inspires portrait of a long marriage

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The publication of any new work by Kathy Page is cause for excitement, but readers who enjoy sinking deep into a story will be thrilled with this fall's release of *Dear Evelyn*, her first novel since 2010.

Having seemingly mastered the short story, with each of her two latest collections achieving the finalist stage for the Giller Prize, Page has returned to the longer form to more fully explore her subject matter — a 70-year marriage between two very different people.

Dear Evelyn is rooted in family history, namely the marriage of the author's own parents. It was inspired by set of love letters written by Page's father to her mother during WWII, which her mother handed over to her children during a time of advanced age and marital strife.

The marked gap between what Page read and what she witnessed in her parents' later years led her to wonder how such a wide gulf between the two had formed.

"At the end of their lives they were often at loggerheads," Page said. "It was upsetting to watch and impossible to influence."

Page usually composes her stories around completely imaginary people and situations, so *Dear Evelyn* is a departure for her in the fictionalization of memoir.

"It was a little bit different to be starting with personal material because I

hadn't done that before," she said. "To make people you know into characters — I guess it's familiar territory for many writers, but the closer to home it is the more difficult it is."

Dear Evelyn begins with the birth of Harry Miles, a working class boy who makes the most of an opportunity in a scholarship to a good public school. He meets Evelyn as young adults in the exciting days leading up to the war. Though she comes from the same background and neighbourhood, he recognizes in her a keen ambition for better things and decides at once that he'll do what he can to give it to her.

The war section in *North Africa* provides an interesting glimpse into an under-written part of the time and the scenario for separation during which the love letters are written. Harry's education and his love of poetry come through in his sometimes bleak but often beautiful musings. The letters in the book include much of what Page's father actually wrote (used with his permission), but Page has recombined and edited these as needed, as well as writing new ones in his style.

Evelyn is left alone during the war to raise a young daughter amidst the bombing and rationing. Her parents are more aggravation than help; her mother is overly critical and gives her devotion to the dissolute father — who is alcoholic and tubercular.

The post war years bring Harry and Evelyn back together along with two more daughters and a comfortable middle class lifestyle, but also see disappointment and personal sacrifice. Page alternates between the two character's viewpoints and later brings the three daughters in as well for a well-rounded

examination that considers all sides of the situation.

The novel is unusual in that the most traditionally dramatic parts come at the beginning with Harry's action as an artillery captain in North Africa. The historic sweep of the story details cultural changes mainly as they occur in domestic and intimate settings. One of the challenges of the writing — which Page has fully met — was to develop the story of the long decades afterwards in an engaging way.

"Because the timeframe is so long, I had to be selective in what to show, and I had to find a way to pass through long period of domestic life without being boring. So that was fun, to select those moments and to sew in all the clues as to what's happened over that time," Page said.

Another fun challenge for the writer was the historical aspect. Though sections of different time periods may be brief, it was essential to have all the details right. Page researched everything from the inception of contraception in the early 20th century and the resulting impact on birth rates, to the mathematics of artillery, the exact geography of the Tunisian hills where her father served and the way those battles were reported in the English newspapers of the time.

The result is a richly textured story that feels authentic to each period, without ever getting bogged down in too many details or historical facts. The marriage in all its many facets remains the heart of the narrative. Relayed with compassion and incisive writing, it is journey well worth taking.

Page will read from *Dear Evelyn* tonight (Wednesday, Sept. 12) at the Salt Spring Library starting at 7 p.m.

Town Halls

Salt Spring Island
Thursday, September 13
7:00—8:30pm
Multipurpose Room
Gulf Islands Secondary School
232 Rainbow Road

Pender Island
Friday, September 14
7:00—8:30pm
Pender Island Community Hall
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Our information regarding our program will be available at the SSI Fire/Rescue booth. Unfortunately we will not be physically there this year. Hope everyone does drop by to pick up some information.

For more information on SSI Emergency Program go to:

<http://crd.bc.ca/service/fire-burning/salt-spring-island-fire-and-emergency-services>



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STAR OF THE SEA

Meditation courses and Olsen talk on offer this fall

Programs at Fulford church spiritual centre

Fall programming gets underway at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice with a meditation course beginning on Thursday, Sept. 13.

Heather Martin will offer a series of five classes at St. Mary's Church in Fulford called The Foundations of Insight (Mindfulness) Meditation on four consecutive Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Sunday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The course will consist of information, short practice sessions and time for discussion.

"This series will serve as a basis for those newer to meditation, as well as provide a refresher for anyone who would like to re-inspire her/his spiritual life," explains centre press material.

Registration is required at staroftheseassi@gmail.com.

Then the following week, the first of single

events to be held at the centre is a two-hour interactive session with Adam Olsen, the MLA for Saanich North and the Islands.

On Friday, Sept. 21, beginning at 12 noon, he will give a talk called Relating to the World Around Us, with time for discussion and questions after.

Elected in May 2017, Adam has a deep love for his home in the Salish Sea. Born in Victoria, Adam has worked and played his entire life on the Saanich Peninsula. He is a member of the Tsartlip First Nation, where he and his wife, Emily, are raising their two children, Silas and Ella.

Olsen will speak for roughly 45 minutes and will be open to a discussion around the topics he has raised after that. He will ask questions, such as: What is our relationship with the world around us? What is our responsibility? Are we one part of a complex web of life? Or, are we the masters of a hierarchy with humans at the top?

The centre notes that "the answers to these questions have never been more important. As we look ahead to economic, social and

environmental disruption, we are faced with many existential threats including climate change, political extremism and collapsing financial systems.

"What can we learn from the WSANEC people who have lived in the Salish Sea for countless generations? How can their ancient teaching help us create a more resilient, sustainable world for today and future generations?"

Registration at staroftheseassi@gmail.com is required.

The Star of the Sea Centre is also the place to find a free introduction to Zen meditation practice, offered by the Salt Spring Zen Circle from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 23.

Participants will get instruction in how to meditate with the traditional Zen approach, and will have an opportunity to practice this on cushions, chairs or meditation benches as wanted. In the spirit of Zen, there will be an enjoyable conversation about this ancient practice and how it may apply to our current lives, and people can plan to have a

good time overall.

Leading this session will be Salt Spring Zen Circle's founder and guiding teacher, Peter Levitt, who founded the SSZC in 2001 as a direct response for peace after 9/11. Levitt has studied and practised Zen for 50 years. He was authorized as a Zen teacher in the lineage of Shunryu Suzuki-Roshi, author of Zen Mind Beginner's Mind.

Known for the warmth, humour, clarity and depth of his teachings, Levitt is also the author of 15 books of poetry and prose. He was the translation and associate editor of the Zen classic, The Treasury of the True Dharma Eye: Zen Master Dogen's Shobo Genzo. Most recently, he published The Complete Cold Mountain: Poems of the Legendary Hermit Hanshan with co-translator Kaz Tanahashi (see story on page 13).

Participants are asked to bring water and wear loose fitting comfortable clothing. There is no admission charge for this event and the teacher is not paid. However, a donation for the teaching may be given and will go entirely to the teacher.

SALT SPRING

FOCUS ON SENIORS

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Building and maintaining strong bones to aid aging

Osteoporosis, a disease that causes bones to become weakened and brittle over time, affects millions of people across the globe. The International Osteoporosis Foundation says an osteoporosis-related fracture occurs roughly once every three seconds, accounting for more than 8.9 million fractures a year.

Younger individuals typically heal from fractures more quickly than older adults, who often discover that fractures greatly impede their mobility and quality of life.

Bone health is important at any age, but it is particularly crucial as a person gets older. Without a strong framework of bones, the body collapses on itself and rates of fracture increase. Fortunately, there are several ways to keep and maintain strong bones.

Bones are largely made up of a protein called collagen, which is bound together by calcium and other trace minerals. Vitamin D and calcium work in concert, with vitamin D helping the body to absorb calcium so it can find its way into bones. Experts advise getting the right ratio of calcium, protein and vitamin D to safeguard against osteoporosis. The Institute of Medicine suggests that adults get between 600 and 800 international units (IUs) of vitamin D every day, and between 1,000 and 1,300 milligrams of calcium daily. Dairy products, such as low- and nonfat milk, yogurt and cheese, are high in calcium. Dark green vegetables and almonds contain calcium in smaller amounts. Obtaining calcium and vitamin D through natural sources is always preferable,

but doctors may suggest supplementation if foods are not providing what a person needs to meet the minimum recommended levels.

Exercise is another important component of building strong bones. The National Osteoporosis Foundation says 30 minutes of exercise each day can help. Higher-intensity exercises should be mixed with lower-intensity workouts for the best results. Weight-bearing exercises, such as hiking, dancing and stair-climbing, can build between one and three percent of bone. An exercise

regimen also should include lifting weights or using resistance bands.

Activities that promote good posture and flexibility can help improve balance and alignment of the body. Perform stretches smoothly and slowly after exercising to maintain your range of motion.

Quitting smoking also can promote strong bones. Smoking has been linked to poor skeletal health in both men and women, and the longer one smokes, the greater one's risk for fracture.

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GOVERNANCE

Community Alliance lends focus to election

Public invited to submit top questions for candidates

The Salt Spring Community Alliance is inviting members of the public to submit their most pressing questions for candidates in this fall's local elections.

During the group's next meeting on Monday, Sept. 24, the focus will be on compiling a selection of very specific questions that the alliance will submit to all CRD director and Islands Trust candidates.

Everyone who attends the September meeting will have a chance to propose a question, and also to vote for their favourite questions,

so that participants can come up with a short list as a group.

Alliance members will then ask each candidate to answer the questions from the group in writing, and will publicize their responses prior to the election in various media.

"We hope to get a good cross section of questions on a variety of issues (housing, environment,

governance, economics, health, infrastructure, etc.) – so come on out and ensure your issues make the list," the group proposes in a press release.

The meeting runs from 7 to 9 p.m. at Lions Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with light refreshments served.

For more information, contact ssispeaks@gmail.com.

HEALTH SUPPORT

Chronic pain support group convenes on Salt Spring

All invited to Sept. 16 opener

Salt Spring Islanders are invited to check out a new bi-weekly chronic pain support group during its first session this Sunday, Sept. 16.

Meetings will take place every second Sunday at the Senior's Wellness Office, 129 Herford Avenue, at 1p.m.

Participants are welcome to talk and share their experiences or simply be present in this peer-led group. Participants can drop in to any meeting free of charge. The group is intended for those currently living with chronic pain.

Chronic pain is categorized as any persistent, everyday pain that has lasted more than six months. This happens usually when pain persists after an injury or illness has passed.

Chronic pain differs from acute pain, which comes with an injury or something specific, like a broken arm, that can last up to six months but then heals.

Research shows one in five adult Canadians is affected with chronic pain, which is most prevalent in women and seniors.

For more information, see www.ssichronicpain.com.

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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

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Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)
In large measure, your focus has turned to duties and responsibilities. These likely include paying closer attention to your finances. While returns of various kinds for past efforts are flowing, which can include inheritances or prospects of them, you may need to clearly identify them. Meanwhile, you yearn for love and affection and the desire levels are rising.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)
Paying closer attention to the details regarding creative projects is now in focus. Your aim is to achieve harmony, symmetry and balance. If this is not available or happening, you may feel the need to start over. Yet first, you must try all other solutions. A renewed interest in learning implies new innovations and methods.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)
Getting things organized close to home is likely now. To succeed, you may have to give more. Yet, circumstances may not be leaving you feeling entirely optimistic regarding the outcome. Neither will it help to reactively throw money at problems in hopes of solving them. You may need professional help but it will work best if they help you to actually do the work.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)
You have entered an extra busy cycle. It includes a long to-do list and a good deal of short-distance travel. Attending to errands is likely, yet you could as easily be sightseeing. Either way, you are determined to squeeze as much out of it as you can. While this is generally a pretty positive cycle, it may come with some unexpected and quirky twists.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)
Slowly but surely you find yourself taking a new turn. Positively, it is one that will help you secure a more solid foundation. A learning curve is implied and will continue for many months. Circumstances have been contributing to a steady rise in your confidence levels. This stands to produce a whole new flow of inspiration.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)
The new has come to take new leads and strides. Initiatives launched now are likely to succeed. Your focus is sharp yet your mind is open and your perspectives are more balanced than they used to be. This is affording a new level of confidence and determination. The going may seem slow and the learning curve is steady but the way is clear.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)
Balancing duties and responsibilities with rest and retreat continue. Already you are experiencing the push to bring your awareness to the forefront or down to earth. So, you do what you must but no more, not yet. Do what you can to allow the momentum to build slowly, progressively over the course of the month. It may take until mid-October to reach full speed again.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)
Mars re-entering Aquarius will be evident for you. It will manifest as dynamic and measurable changes close to home. These could come about quite unexpectedly and shake your world over the next couple of months. While this is an expansive time in your life, a rather steep learning curve of some kind is implied.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)
Securing the footings of your life continue. Looking back over the years, you have likely come through a lot, either within you or in your immediate family status. Now the work focus is directed toward establishing a new sense of security. Flexibility is a key component and can come in a variety of forms. The greater the scope and range of flexibility built in your foundation, the better.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)
Many changes have unfolded over the past 12-18 months for you. If this is true, then you can be sure that they are features of your destiny. They are not necessarily the result of what you did or did not do. Neither is anyone else to blame. If you are leaning on either of these your overall mood will be negative. The real question is: how can and will you adapt?

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)
New waves of change, transformation and regeneration are flowing in. These could manifest as a new round of focus on health and fitness. In your public life, opportunities for expansion are surfacing, albeit slowly. For almost the past year, circumstances have pushed you out of prior positions of power and authority and into new expressions.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)
Things have taken a definite turn on relationship fronts. These are probably for the better and include new involvements. Yet, you are cautioned to exercise full diplomacy and to keep your ego in check. Focus on exercising extra measures of empathy instead. This means: be more aware of others and interested in their objectives with win/win goals in mind.

Fall Fair Focus

Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute

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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



RIDING

Wins all round for Pringle Farm equestrians, horses

Local riders take awards at Canadian nationals

Five horses, their riders and trainers from Pringle Farm competed at the prestigious Canadian Nationals Arabian and Half-Arabian Championship Horse Show in Brandon, Manitoba last month. All came back with awards, two of them championship wins.

Second only to the U.S Arabian Nationals in size and importance, Canadian Nationals marks the peak of the year's show calendar for many Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian show horse competitors.

More than 770 horses from across North America competed during the seven-day event in a broad range of disciplines, totaling more than 270 different classes. They represent the crème de la crème of Arabian show horses. Their riders and handlers train rigorously for years in order to acquire the qualifications necessary to compete at this level. Pringle Farm, owned and operated by John and Andrea Pringle, has established a consistently successful track record of training horses — and their riders — able to meet the challenges of national level show ring competition.

This year, the equine stars were the eight-year-old purebred Arabian mare, Island Tempest, and a yearling Half-Arab gelding, Je Suis Fini (barn name Finn). Island Tempest, a striking grey with a look-at-me presence, partnered with 17-year-old Gulf Islands secondary School student Grace Schure to win the championship spot in the western pleasure, junior owner to ride 14-18 class.

"I cried," said Schure. "It was very emotional for me."

Tempest's trainer, and Schure's coach for 10 years, Andrea Pringle said: "Tempest is so special with her beautiful expression, her willingness to try every time and her natural athletic ability." She added that Schure and her mother, Lynn Vanderweken, have been in love with Tempest ever since the mare arrived at the farm as a youngster.

Schure's other awards included a top 10 in western pleasure, junior to ride 14-18, a top 10 in showmanship and horsemanship in her age group, plus another top 10 riding Catharine Fraser's horse, National Treasure, in the Half-Arabian hunter pleasure class 14-18.

Tempest also earned a top 10 placing for Stellamaris Trimmingham in the western pleasure junior to ride 13- and under class.

Finn, handled by John Pringle, brought home a Reserve Championship in the yearling Half-Arabian gelding halter class. This was the ultimate triumph for the young horse, after championship wins in two Regional Championship shows earlier in the year.

Catharine Fraser won two top 10s showing National Treasure in the Half-Arabian sport horse hunter pleasure and dressage in-hand classes. National Treasure also earned a top 10 placing in the Half-Arabian hunter pleasure adult owner to ride 18-39 class.

In addition to coaching her students throughout show, Andrea Pringle rode two horses to top 10 placings. Island Prince Johari, a purebred Arabian gelding, owned by Karen Laprade of Whistler, was shown in the sport horse dressage type geldings class and Raizen Kain, a junior (under six years of age) Half-Arabian gelding owned by Lucy Austin of Salt Spring, was shown in the sport horse and hunter pleasure junior horse classes.

Andrea Pringle pointed out that each of the horses competing in Brandon started their under saddle work, or halter training, on Salt Spring.

"So, to see them rise to their best was really satisfying and made this year's Nationals a very memorable one for Pringle Farm. Everyone came home with a top 10 or better."



PHOTO COURTESY PRINGLE FARMS

National champions Grace Schure and Tempest.

GOLF

Sharp and Horan take crowns



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Brad Morris takes a swing in the long drive competition at the second annual Salt Spring Pro Golf Tournament on Monday.

Club championships played Sept. 8-9

Salt Spring Golf Club Ladies' and Men's leagues hosted their annual Club Championship on Sept. 8 and 9 under a grey sky and a steady drizzle. In addition, on

Sunday, players were surprised by billowing smoke and popping sounds from a nearby house fire. Large black ashes and smoke settled over the fairways as the ladies finished their round.

There were three trophies at stake in both the Ladies' and Men's leagues: Low Gross, Low Net and Senior Champions. The winners played exceedingly well under the challenging conditions.

The 2018 Ladies Club Champion is Carolyn Sharp, winner of the Wilson Cup, with a blistering Low Gross score of 170. Defending champion, Jenny Pickering, picked up second place after shooting 181.

The Men's Club champion is first time winner, Mike Horan, who carded an outstanding 146. Last year's winner, Stephen Elwes, took second place with 150.

Sharp also won the Bramhall Cup for the Ladies Low Net competition with a score of 150. Sara Bowden was in second place with a net 151. That score also earned Bowden the La Belle Cup as she was the senior ladies Low Net winner. Linda Tremblay was the La Belle Cup Runner Up with a net score of 155.

In the Mens' Low Net competition, Tony Faulkner won the Humphries Cup with a total of 133. Horan and John Johnston tied for second place with scores of 140. Randy Miron was the first time winner of the over 55 Captain's Cup with a Low Gross score of 156. Just one shot behind was 2017 winner, Jim Charlton.

Two eagles were seen on the course over the weekend. Jordan Brown holed out from 100 yards on Hole #1 for an eagle 3. Eric Beamish holed out from 130 yards on Hole #7 for an eagle 2.

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RUNNING

Island women take on rain, rocks and mud at races

Runners compete in Cumberland and Lower Mainland

SUBMITTED BY ERIC ELLIS

Sunday was a big day for Salt Spring running competitors.

At Cumberland, just south of Courtenay-Comox, was the inaugural running of the Dodge City X, an off-road triathlon whose organizers billed it as Canada's toughest off-road course. Marcia Jansen and Marion Young went to Cumberland planning to do the standard version of the event: a 1.5-km swim in the local lake fed by the Mount Washington snow cap, a 23-km, single track mountain bike course of rocks and roots with 746 metres of climbing and a 9-km trail run with 312 metres of climbing. Out of respect for Jansen's still recovering calf injury from the Super-League triathlon three weeks ago, they made a fortuitous last-minute decision

to switch to the sprint version of the race: a 750-metre swim, a 12-km bike trail course with 347 metres of climbing, and a 5-km trail run with 187 metres of climbing.

"Glad we dropped down to the sprint. It poured throughout the whole race," Jansen said. "Biking was fun. Roots, rocks and rain but no crashes (although skinny Marion had problems to warm up during the bike portion). Took it easy in the run, skipping through ankle deep puddles the whole way. Happy my calf held up through it all! Great last race of the season."

Jansen finished the course in one hour, 49 minutes and one second for seventh of 32 overall, second woman, and first in her age group, along the way ending up first female in the swim portion, fourth female in the bike portion and ninth female in the run portion.

Young finished 28th of 32 overall in two hours, 23 minutes and 33.4 seconds, 15th

woman, first in her age group, 12th woman who finished the swim, 14th woman in the bike portion and 10th in the run portion.

Meanwhile over on the mainland, Susan Gordon, Salt Spring Sneakers coach, entered the Forever Young 8k, an out and back flat course along the Fraser River from the Richmond Olympic oval, along with her brother, who lives on the mainland. The event is limited to runners 55 and over. Gordon finished the 8-km course in 34:22 for fifth of 255 overall; first of 146 women, and first of 32 women in her age group.

In Gordon's own words, "There was quite a push-back from the strong wind on the way back but I'm pretty happy with an overall win."

It is believed, pending certification, that Gordon's time set a course record. (By the way, she beat her brother in the same age group by four places and two minutes.)



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING SNEAKERS

Susan Gordon finishes the Forever Young 8k in first place of all women Sunday at the Richmond Olympic Oval.



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