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CRIME

Volunteer vehicles vandalized

Witnesses sought for Jan. 15 incident on Fulford-Ganges Road

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Volunteers with the Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue unit were dismayed to discover that several members' vehicles were targeted by vandals during their regular practice session last Tuesday night.

At least five members' cars that were parked in a line across the street from the search and rescue hall on Fulford-Ganges Road were hit on Jan. 15. Most were "keyed" or scratched along their length. It appears that someone ran across and jumped on the full length of another vehicle from tailgate to roof and hood. That vehicle suffered more serious damage, amounting to perhaps thousands of dollars.

SAR search leader Jason Grindler said the incident is the first of its kind for the organization, and was particularly disappointing given the service the volunteer group gives back to the community.

"We're just coming right off that historic wind-storm, and for this to happen when we're training our volunteers to be able to respond in the future is pretty disheartening," Grindler said.

"The community at large is pretty supportive of what we do," he added. "We're getting many comments of support. This was an outlier incident but nonetheless . . ."

Cars that were parked in the hall's parking lot were not targeted. The lot has limited space so members often park on the road.

Grindler said there has been a surge in interest in participating in the group since the storm events, where SAR volunteers did door-to-door wellness checks and delivered medical equipment, among other tasks.

The incidents have all been reported individually to the RCMP. Anyone who may have witnessed the events that took place between 7 and 9 p.m. on Jan. 15 is urged to contact the RCMP detachment at 250-537-9933.

The event comes on top of a continuing pattern of vandalism that targeted Ganges storefronts throughout 2018. SAR intends to install cameras to increase safety of its street parking and parking lot. Some off-street parking nearby has also been offered to the group through their relationship with the Salt Spring Amateur Radio Club.



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

IN THE AIR: GISS Scorpions player Aaron Moise takes a shot during a game against Duncan Christian during the Nairn Howe Memorial Basketball Tournament at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Friday. GISS went on to win the tournament. See story on page 19.

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EDUCATION

Provincial education funding change delayed

Reconfiguration discussions to continue

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Ministry of Education's revised funding model will be imple-

mented later than originally thought, after ministry staff announced they would be taking more time to consult with parents, teachers, students, support staff and school administrators.

The issue was dis-

cussed at the Jan. 16 meeting of the Gulf Islands Board of Education, following release of an independent review panel report in December. The panel identified challenges concerning programs and services for students with special needs or other vulnerabilities. Government and partner groups will work together on those issues.

"While the current system meets the needs of the vast majority of students, there are a number of student populations, such as children in care, Indigenous learners, and other students with unique learning needs, whose educational needs should be better served," the report reads.

These groups will be working with the ministry on key areas and are expected to report back in the fall.

Minister of Education Rob Fleming said in December that "the challenge to us all is to deliver a better funding model that allows

for all classrooms across British Columbia to be the best they can be for the individual learning needs of every student."

The Gulf Islands School District is working on a configuration review, which had been timed to coincide with multiple changes in the district, including the upcoming funding formula review. A configuration review is a common school board practice, and involves looking at the way education is structured in a district and determining whether or not that configuration fits the real needs of the students. The motion for a configuration review was passed by the previous school board since the district would be going through multiple changes over the next year.

Board chair Rob Pingle explained in the Jan. 16 meeting that discussions would continue, but that no changes would occur in the 2019-2020 school year.

"At this time we want to make it clear that although

we are continuing with our configuration study and we are in the beginning phases which will include discussion at our education committee meetings about how to best move forward, we are extending the timeline and no changes to district configurations will occur in 2019-2020," Pingle said. "We don't have a specific timeline for when any configuration changes would be. We know that it's better to be timely than to leave a void. We want to make it clear that we're not going to force anything through without true consultation."

The delay in the reviews were also welcomed by Gulf Islands Teachers' Association president Deborah Nostdal.

"I think [the government] missed a lot of key players at the table. I know that other associations have felt that as well. I think that there are some very concerning elements in the funding review model report that they put out," Nostdal said. "I'm hoping

that this continued consultation will be meaningful because it's very important for us to do everything, in particular in respect for our special needs students and the learning needs that we have."

The school district is still recovering from an enrolment audit that left them with a deficit. Though they are projecting to finish the year with a slight surplus after repaying the deficit, the delay in the funding model's implementation will make that and other business easier to accomplish.

"The fact that they're slowing that process down is beneficial," Pingle said. "It's hard to deal with the unknown, but knowing that it's not going to be sprung on us in three months makes it easier for us to get down to the business at hand."

The current funding format was introduced in 2002 and was designed around full-time student enrolment.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour							
JANUARY 2019 PST Z+8							
DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
23 WE ME	0741	3.6	11.8	27	0250	1.7	5.6
	1302	2.6	8.5		0956	3.5	11.5
	1723	3.1	10.2		SU	1712	1.4
24 TH JE	0032	0.4	1.3	28	0346	2.1	6.9
	0815	3.6	11.8		1029	3.4	11.2
	1406	2.3	7.5		MO	1807	1.1
25 FR VE	0117	0.8	2.6	29	0141	2.7	8.9
	0849	3.6	11.8		0500	2.5	8.2
	1511	2.0	6.6		TU	1103	3.3
26 SA SA	1957	2.6	8.5	30	1857	0.9	3.0
	0202	1.2	3.9		0306	2.9	9.5
	0923	3.6	11.8		0639	2.8	9.2
	1613	1.7	5.6	WE	1140	3.2	10.5
	2140	2.4	7.9	ME	1943	0.8	2.6

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CRD group steps toward arms-length model

Financing and flexibility among projected benefits

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission has started a process that could see the organization transform into a non-profit society with an arm's length relationship to the Capital Regional District by next January.

The commission passed a resolution in November to start the application process with the CRD to transfer the commission into a non-profit society. The society would deliver the same type of programming on a fee-for-service model, similar to how the CRD helps fund ArtSpring and the Salt Spring Public Library.

CEDC chair Francine Carlin made the case for the change after investigating several options last year, arguing that Salt Spring needs "a more hands-on, strategic approach for strengthening and diversifying the economy" and one that is nimble and able to adapt to changing circumstances.

"There's a lot of restrictions when you're under the banner of the CRD when you're doing something creative like economic development," explained commissioner Randy Cunningham, who moved the resolution to support the application. "The major issue is funding — we're not getting enough from the CRD."

Discussion of the 2019 budget at the CEDC meeting last week highlighted some of the concern. The \$56,000 total budget for 2019 contains just over \$32,000 for projects, including \$10,000 to be devoted to strategic planning. Another \$12,260 or nearly 22 per cent of the total is reserved for internal allo-

cations to the CRD and other operating costs.

Speaking at the Jan. 14 meeting, new electoral area director Gary Holman observed the administration portion seemed high when compared to other commissions. Members were quick to point out the high value of staff services as well as the relatively low tax requisition.

"If you want to up the percentage, give us more money," commissioner Darryl Martin quipped.

At the same time as recognizing CRD administration strengths, the commission's research suggests it could act more effectively outside the local government structure. The move echoes one being considered by the Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Sustainability Commission, who accepted a staff report exploring the issue in August.

"There is no 'best' model as both models have advantages and disadvantages and their attributes vary depending upon the local government capacity, local business interest and capacity in the local community," the staff report finds.

An advantage to arms-length organizations is their ability to access other funding sources without relying on the taxpayer. Revenue sources could include business licences, sale of professional services and corporate sponsorships. Further cost savings come from the fact that private societies are not required to hold as many public meetings or pay for the associated staff services. Non-profit societies also qualify for some important granting opportunities which local government commissions do not.

"Being within the CRD is limiting our ability to access these kinds of funding and to fully serve the economic capacity needs of the island," said Carlin. "The

funding has got us kick-started, but it's not sustainable."

Economic capacity building services in other communities, by comparison, are apportioned more on per capita spending. On Gabriola Island (population 4,000), \$65,000 per year is spent and on Denman Island (population 1,165) it's \$43,000. That breaks down to spending of \$16 and \$37 per person on economic development, compared to \$5.39 per person on Salt Spring.

Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce president Li Read has expressed some concern and surprise about the CEDC's plan to incorporate another non-profit society that deals with economic issues in the community. She wrote a letter to Holman after the Nov. 27 presentation asking for more consultation.

Speaking to the letter at the Jan. 14 meeting, Carlin said the existing commission and any resulting society has a broad mandate for supporting the economic well-being of the entire community, while the chamber has a narrower mandate of supporting its business owner members. Carlin said similar organizations elsewhere in the province work with their local chambers, and don't compete with them in any way. A meeting between the two executives is planned.

Next steps are soliciting quotes from a consultant who can work with the commission to establish a constitution and bylaws, and develop the business plan and operational budget required for the CRD separation application.

The commission hopes to have all particulars finalized to a degree that the new society can be included in the CRD Board's budgeting process for next year, which typically begins in August. Ideally the new body will be ready to start work in January 2020, Carlin said.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Sea level rise

A workshop designed to help communities think about planning for the impacts of sea level rise is being offered on Salt Spring this Monday, Jan. 28, 6 to 8 p.m. at Mahon Hall.

Organizers Living Oceans Society say the goal is to share information by presenting a slide show on what sea level rise is, its impacts on coastal communities and the potential adaptation measures available for communities with limited resources.

The workshop is part of a collaborative project created in partnership with Ecology Action Centre and is funded partially by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Real Estate Foundation of B.C. and the Islands Trust.

A second session is set for Pender Island on Jan. 29.

Ferry work overnight Tuesday

BC Ferries has advised that overnight work will be required in Fulford Harbour this week to remove a right angle drive on the Skeena Queen.

The work is scheduled to take place between 9:35 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29 and 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30. The work is being done at nighttime to prevent a service interruption. All efforts will be made to minimize the level and duration of the noise.

FOR THE RECORD

Last week's Driftwood stated the Gulf Islands' economic development commissions were advancing a plan to "become" a Destination Management and Marketing Organization, but should have said the plan is to "create" an independent DMMO.

ENVIRONMENT

Duck Creek: a legacy and a future

Natural and human resource needs seen as equal

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

"Look at that redd right there," Kathy Reimer said, pointing into Duck Creek. "This one, can you see that?... Isn't that perfect?... That is a perfect, perfect redd."

A redd, Reimer explained, is a nest made of gravel that a female salmon builds to deposit her eggs. To an untrained eye, a redd looks just like the bottom of a creek. But Reimer's eye is far from untrained.

"It's horseshoe shaped, the deep spot is right there. That's where she got the gravel from to cover her eggs. She made the deep spot by contorting her body and digging up the gravel," she explained. "I wanted to show you this one because it is the perfect horseshoe-shaped redd."

Reimer is the lead biologist for the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, a position she has held for 35 years. The society is a volunteer-run conservation group that works on maintaining creeks, lakes, wetlands and riparian areas on Salt Spring. They also run school groups and do biological assessment work.

Reimer started working in Duck Creek before the society was incorporated, taking flow rates when she was pregnant with her son in 1984. Three decades later, Reimer is still leading the charge for fish preservation on the island.

Fellow volunteer Michele Layard described Reimer as "the Roderick Haig-Brown of Salt Spring because she's never quit, even through adversity. That's what [we] need, the continuity. She drags us all along in her wake. If she doesn't quit then we can't quit."

Duck Creek is home to a variety of aquatic and semi-aquatic creatures. Reimer and Layard listed frogs, crayfish, otters and different types of insects that live in the area. As for fish, official counts from before the society began their work include cutthroat and rainbow trout, stickleback, coho and smallmouth bass in the creek. Though it may seem a small creek on a small island, the society believes that Duck Creek is an important and unique ecosystem that requires protection.

"Every little creek that gets wiped out by inattention, development or improper logging is one whole biodiverse aspect that is gone away," Layard explained. "That one run is particular to that creek. Maybe they were short and fat, or maybe long and skinny. As soon as they're gone, it narrows the gene pool down."

With the recent trend of hotter, drier summers, keeping the creeks on Salt Spring flowing could prove to be a difficult task. Society volunteers sometimes put fish into buckets



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society volunteer Michele Layard, left, and lead biologist Kathy Reimer survey a rain-swollen Duck Creek last week.

and transport them to artificial ponds to help them survive. Reimer's property near Duck Creek has a number of artificial ponds for that purpose.

"I'm worried," said Reimer about the possibility of further droughts. "I built a huge irrigation pond on my farm that is going to be a habitat pond. I'm going to add more as I can, then I am going to put a protection in place for future generations so that there's a source of water for the creek in the summer."

"Every little creek that gets wiped out by inattention, development or improper logging is one whole biodiverse aspect that is gone away."

MICHELE LAYARD
Salmon enhancement volunteer

Water levels in Duck Creek have been maintained by the weir installed by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District in 2006. The district provides minimum flows out of the weir, which allows the creek to flow year round, explained NSSWD environmental manager Meghan McKee.

"It wouldn't be able to be a good fish habitat without the weir. The creek would be dry," said McKee. "The fish flow that we

provide because of the weir makes it a fish habitat."

The weir also has the benefit of maintaining water levels in St. Mary Lake for both human and natural purposes, she said. The threat of further droughts and the tendency for people to value human uses over natural uses has Reimer worried.

"We get minimum flows out, but you can't always count on that. We don't know if the droughts are going to get worse. I'm thinking they might well," Reimer said. "Everybody is always willing to kill the golden goose. They don't realize how important stuff is."

Despite the hurdles, the society has been able to help maintain fish populations in the majority of Salt Spring's creeks.

"All of the creeks that were fish-bearing when we started 30 years ago still are now," Reimer said. "That's a good record."

The park surrounding Duck Creek is one of the more popular places to walk on the island, and people are drawn towards the creek itself, which causes the banks and native plants to erode. The society is working on rebuilding the natural features of the riparian area, recruiting student groups and volunteers to do planting and erosion management.

"All the parks get loved to death. Which is great," Layard said. "Look at how beautiful this creek is . . ."

Reimer agreed, stopping to take a look over the ledge near the waterfall in the middle of the creek.

"Isn't it perfect?" she asked.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

Responsible gambling program hits all forms

Program available to Gulf Islanders affected by problem gambling

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islanders who have been affected by problem gambling can access counselling, outreach programs and education through the British Columbia Responsible and Problem Gambling Program.

The BCRPGP started more than 20 years ago as part of the addiction services system, but has been operating on its own for 16 years. It is not solely focused on traditional gambling and betting, but has been moving towards looking at new forms of gambling. Online video games, for example, have been incorporating gambling-like activities.

Free video games based on phones, online or on social networking sites often include micro-transactions to make revenue. A micro-transaction is a way for players to purchase upgrades or skins for a character to enhance the experience of the game. Even though micro-transactions are not a betting mechanism, they function like gambling in that players are rewarded by spending money through the game. Other games have features like loot boxes, which are randomized upgrade kits that players must purchase keys to open. A 2018 Australian study concluded that loot boxes, which make up a large proportion of the gaming industry's revenue, are similar psychologically to gambling.

"People can find themselves spending an awful lot of time and money on

Screenshot of the online B.C. Responsible & Problem Gambling Program hosted at www.bcreponsiblegambling.ca.

those app-based games now," said Andre Serzisko, the provincial prevention coordinator for the BCRPGP. "We're actually running a pilot project in the Lower Mainland looking at what some of the clinical needs are around gaming issues. We feel that there's a merging of the two industries on a global level . . . Because of that we feel that we need to be taking a hard look at offering services in this area."

In the Gulf Islands, the program is coordinated by David Nickoli, who is based on Pender Island. Clinical work is referred to Victoria, but prevention and education work in the islands is done by Nickoli.

"Statistically we know that, according to the BC Health Officer, about 73 per cent of British Columbians engage in gambling activities and that about 3.5 per cent of these folks may have problems with gambling," Nickoli said. "Anecdotally, on each of the southern Gulf Islands I have met folks who have first-hand experience with either a gambling problem themselves or an immediate family member who has been negatively impacted by gambling."

Though 3.5 per cent of people does not sound like much, provincially it adds up to around 125,000 individuals. Serzisko and Nickoli both hope to get the

word out about the program. Services offered are not just clinical and are available to anyone who is affected by problem gambling.

"This is an issue that affects a lot of people and we just want to make sure that everybody knows about our services so if they are experiencing those impacts we can connect with them and help them out if they need it," Serzisko said.

Community initiatives run by Nickoli in the Gulf Islands include health fairs, educational booths, youth outreach, presentations and school presentations.

"Schools are a very important part of our prevention program," he said. "The curriculum is designed to be used where and when it fits in with lessons the teachers are already offering and is not an 'add-on' to the demanding jobs that teachers already have."

One of the biggest challenges the BCRPGP faces is addressing the stigma attached to gambling problems. People tend to avoid talking about problem gambling, Nickoli explained, and discussion is the only way for the problem to come to light.

"I believed that if I could help one person make a connection to our free and barrier-free services I would have done a 'good job.' I have been able to refer more than a dozen folks to our support services for help in the past year alone, so I know the need is there," he said.

Those interested in the program's services can call the B.C. Gam Info Line at 1-888-795-6111, which will connect them with the outreach counselling provider in their area.

DEVELOPMENT OF A PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Application No. FLNRORD PMP South Coastal 2019-24

Applicant: Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Range Branch
441 Columbia St, Kamloops, B.C., V2C 2T3

Agent: Drinkwater Environmental Services
Telephone: 604 302-2317
Email: invasive.plants@gov.bc.ca

The purpose of the proposed multi-agency Pest Management Plan (PMP) is to manage invasive alien plants and/or noxious weeds on provincial Crown land under the jurisdictions of the Ministries of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Environment and Climate Change Strategy – BC Parks, in the southern interior of B.C. The PMP applies to areas located within the Capital, Cowichan Valley, Alberni-Clayoquot, Comox Valley, Strathcona, Powell River, and Mount Waddington Regional Districts. This includes areas located within the vicinity of the communities of Port Hardy, Port McNeill, Campbell River, Powell River, Courtenay, Comox, Parksville, Qualicum, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Duncan, and Victoria.

The pest management methods proposed for use within the area to which the PMP applies includes mechanical, cultural, biological control, and the use of herbicides. The active ingredients and trade names of the herbicides (in brackets) proposed for potential use under this plan includes: aminocyclopyrachlor (included in Truvist, Navius); aminopyralid (included in Milestone, Restore, Clearview, Reclaim and Reclaim II); chlorsulfuron (included in Truvist); clopyralid (included in Lontrel 360, Lontrel, Transline); dicamba (included in Dyvel DS, Dyvel DSp, Vanquish, Overdrive, Banvel VM, Banvel II); diflufenzopyr (included in Overdrive); flazasulfuron (included in LongRun); flumioxazin and pyroxasulfone (included in Torpedo); fluroxypyr (included in PastureGard, Spotlight, Surmount, Escalade); glyphosate (included in products such as WeatherMax, Vantage Plus II, Vantage XRT, Vantage Plus Max, and RoundUp); 2,4-D (2,4-D Amine 600); halosulfuron (included in Sandea); imazapyr (included in Arsenal, Powerline, Habitat); mecoprop-p (included in Dyvel DS, Dyvel DSp); metsulfuron methyl (included in Escort, Clearview, Reclaim, Reclaim II, Navius); rimsulfuron (included in Elim and Prism); and triclopyr (included in PasturGard, Garlon XRT). Additionally, blue herbicide spray marker dye (Basicid Blue, Hi-Light, Turf Mark) may be used along with surfactants (such as Gateway, Agral, Sylgard 309) to improve herbicide application and efficacy.

Herbicides will be applied using selective application methods such as: wick/wipe-on, injection, vehicle mounted sprayers, and backpack or handheld sprayers.

The proposed duration of the PMP is from May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2024

A draft copy of the proposed PMP and maps of the proposed treatment areas may be examined in detail at: Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6J9, online at www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/pmp.htm, or by contacting the **Agent** listed above.

A person wishing to contribute information about a proposed treatment site, relevant to the development of the pest management plan, may send copies of the information to the applicant (c/o Drinkwater Environmental Services, Agent, listed above) within 30 days of the publication of this notice.



ENVIRONMENT

Sensible brush burning urged

Lingering smoke aggravates

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Stagnant air and low winds made perfect conditions for fog build-up in the Gulf Islands last week, but the fog was not the only thing hanging around.

The lack of wind has also affected smoke from brush piles and wood stoves in the area.

Environment Canada's Ventilation Index is a measure of the atmospheric turbulence and low level winds. It is used to determine how quickly smoke and other air particles are dispersed in a given area. Ventilation Indexes are measured in 25 areas of the province. Though Salt Spring bylaws say that the index is applied only to machine piles, the Salt Spring Fire Department recommends using common sense when deciding whether or not to burn smaller hand piles on non-venting days.

"If you're burning a bunch of wet stuff with neighbours right beside you, it would

be better to do it on a day where it'll vent better," said Salt Spring Fire Rescue Lt. Ken Akerman. "If you can get a good hot fire going and there's no smoke then it's not a problem either . . . We don't want people burning and smoking out their neighbours."

The regulations set out by the Ventilation Index legally apply only to land clearing or machine piles. Burning is only allowed on days where the ventilation category is "Good," and when the forecast category for the next day is either "Fair" or "Good." However, the index is also a good indicator of how smoke from smaller fires will act.

"The venting index doesn't apply to yard burns, it's only for machine piles," Akerman said. "We're complaint driven, so we're going to go check out the complaints and determine whether we feel it's a problem or not . . . If that happens we do go check it out and either request for them to put it out or educate them on better ways to do it, no matter if it's a venting day or a non-venting day.

It's not just about the one person burning, it's about everybody."

Although it is not forest fire season, the air quality can still be affected by smoke. On Jan. 14, the Ministry of Environment and Island Health issued an Air Quality Advisory for the Cowichan Valley due to the conditions, with burning restrictions remaining in place until midnight on the 15th. The advisory did not affect Salt Spring or the Gulf Islands.

The Ministry of Environment recommends disposing of waste through other means before resorting to burning. Recommendations include recycling, composting yard trimmings and mulching woody debris. They also suggest avoiding wet material in both outdoor and indoor fire places, burning only during good venting conditions, and only burning material that has been dried for at least six months.

Information about the current Ventilation Index can be found on the Salt Spring Fire Department website.

POLITICS

May and Olsen answer community questions



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

MP Elizabeth May listens while MLA Adam Olsen takes a turn answering a question during a town hall session the two elected representatives held at GISS on Thursday evening.

Environmental concerns aired at joint town hall

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May and her provincial counterpart, MLA Adam Olsen, met a full house at Gulf Islands Secondary School for a joint town hall session on Thursday evening, where issues relating to pipeline and tanker expansions on the coast remained a top concern.

Questions from the public covered a wide field of federal and provincial issues. Concern about pipeline approvals, the impact on the environment and the unlawful treatment of First Nations people in their own territory at the Unist'ot'en camp framed some of the discussion. In regard to a question about protecting orcas from increased shipping noise, May pointed out that Canada is falling far short of the protective measures recently announced in Washington state under governor Jay Inslee.

Even worse, she said, Environment Minister Catherine McKenna and Fisheries Minister John Wilkinson had reportedly asked for an emergency order of protection for the southern resident killer whale population after the most recent calf's birth, and were denied.

"For Cabinet to say 'no' means their commitment to the Trans Mountain pipeline means they're prepared for the southern resident killer whales to go extinct, which is a violation of their statutory responsibility under the Species at Risk Act," May said.

"Please keep up the level of activism that comes from this community," she added. "I think it would be a very effective thing if Canadians from coast to coast to coast know that the state of Washington is doing more, because we're always told we're doing our best."

To open the evening session, May introduced her new fiancé, John Kidder, and reported on a number of issues she had been working on during the fall, from criminal justice and the electoral process to getting an emergency debate on the climate crisis. One of her projects is sponsoring a bill to end the keeping of whales and dolphins in captivity, which she hopes will be passed before June of this year.

Olsen reported the provincial government spent a busy fall session passing legislation on a number of issues that had been highlighted for action under the NDP/Green party confidence and supply agreement. He was disappointed in the referendum results on the electoral system but praised voters for helping bring the riding the highest return rate in the province.

Olsen said he was also pleased to have the Clean BC plan in place, despite the fact that it will only go 75 per cent toward meeting 2030 emission reduction targets, and about progress toward implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and wild salmon protection.

One question for Olsen was what he intended to do about the Penelakut Seafoods aquaculture application at Booth Bay, with issues of recreational use, environment and potentially toxic product raised. A decision on the license of occupation from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is expected to come this summer.

Olsen said he had talked with Minister Doug Donaldson once and many times with senior staff about the issue and concerns. He had also met with concerned residents together with Penelakut Tribe's economic development officer and seafood company members earlier that day. From what he learned, the plan is to seed shellfish on the beach and then harvest it from the water after two years, without infrastructure or mechanics and without predator netting if possible.

"I will continue to bring forward the concerns of the community, but I will also work with the Penelakut people to be able to find the common ground that's necessary so that they can continue the practice that they've undertaken for millennia, and generations in this area, and do it in a way that is respectful of the neighbourhood they plan on doing it in," Olsen said. "We're going to work together to try to find a space that they can practice ... a cultural practice that they've undertaken, and that the people of Salt Spring Island can continue to undertake the cultural practices that you've come to be comfortable with as well."

In relation to pipeline expansions in B.C., there was discussion of mainstream media coverage in Alberta and elsewhere, RCMP action and priorities in the province, and anti-SLAPP legislation to protect public speech from costly legal action. The recent news that a consortium of First Nations business interests (mainly based in the Prairie provinces) may be interested in purchasing the Trans Mountain pipeline from the federal government also came up.

May called that news shocking. She suggested that it was a "set-up" and the government is actually planning to pay the Indian Resource Council the money it would need to buy the pipeline.

Olsen said he could not criticize Indigenous groups for wanting to improve their economic well-being, but also saw the situation as a classic divide-and-conquer strategy under colonialism.

"My people, the Salish people, have been very clear about how we feel about tanker traffic coming through our territory, and what's being set up here is we're going to warrior-up," Olsen said. "And it's going to be our own people we're looking across at — our own cousins, our own relatives, and the government's going to be standing back saying, 'Get on with it, guys.' So it's pretty ugly, it's pretty sad, and pretty frightening, to be honest with you."

A Salt Spring-specific topic of concern had to do with requests to change the rules for improvements districts so they can access provincial grants and funding not currently available to them. Olsen reported the current government is aligned with the former one in wanting to move away from improvement districts as a tool for delivering services, and certainly won't make any exceptions for organizations like North Salt Spring Waterworks District or the Salt Spring Fire Improvement District.



Islands Trust

Islands Trust Budget 2019/20

Special Property Tax Requisition

Community Information Meeting and Town Hall

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

Have Your Say

Saturday, January 26, 2019
1:00 p.m.



Harbour House Hotel, Conference Room, 121 Upper Ganges Road

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed special tax requisition



Enquires?
Jason Youmans, Island Planner
ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-537-9144

What is this Special Property Tax Requisition about?

In support of collaborative watershed management on Salt Spring Island, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) funds coordination of the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance (SSIWPA) through a special tax raised each year. Consistent with previous years, a \$98,500 Special Property Tax Requisition has been proposed for the 2019/20 fiscal year. This Special Property Tax Requisition will be considered by Islands Trust Council in March 2019.

What is this Community Information Meeting about?

The LTC has scheduled this Community Information Meeting to gather feedback on the proposed Special Property Tax Requisition in order to inform their recommendation to Islands Trust Council ahead of budget adoption for the coming fiscal year.

What will happen at this Community Information Meeting?

1 p.m. to 1:10 p.m.
LTC chair's welcome and opening remarks

1:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Staff presentation

1:35 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Q&A with SSIWPA co-chairs, LTC trustees, and Islands Trust staff

2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Town Hall

How do I get more information?

For more information on the proposed Special Property Tax Requisition, SSIWPA, and the LTC's commitment to water sustainability, visit: <http://islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/salt-spring/projects-initiatives/water-sustainability/>

Jim Pattison
Subaru victoria

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OPINION



2018 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan)
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



Driftwood

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EDITORIAL

Smoke-free breathing

One thing Salt Spring Islanders have oodles of right now is tree branches and other woody debris, following the Dec. 20 windstorm.

While it may be tempting to get rid of every last taunting twig and fir cone as soon as possible by burning them, experts in air quality and environmental issues are advising residents to curb the urge to burn.

People without respiratory-related health concerns may not have noticed, but one day last week an air quality advisory was issued by Island Health and the B.C. environment ministry in the nearby Cowichan Valley. It resulted from a combination of excessive outdoor burning taking place and weather that resulted in a poor "ventilation index" rating. For those with compromised breathing, an official notice was not required. The discomfort was obvious.

THE ISSUE: Open burn piles

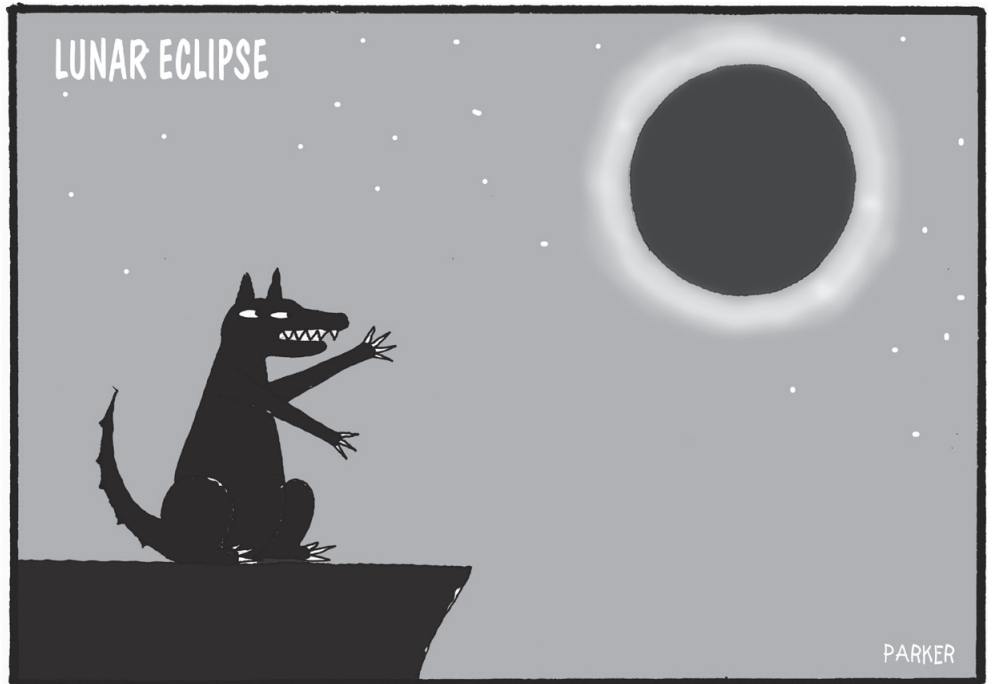
WE SAY: Much to learn about handling woody debris

While ventilation index considerations apply only to "machine piles" in the Salt Spring Fire Department's burning bylaws, every property owner who is planning to burn brush outside should ensure they have a burning permit and comply with Open Burning Bylaw 125 regulations. Brush piles are restricted in size and by a number of other factors. To be considerate to their neighbours, people should only burn on days with a "good" ventilation index. The Salt Spring Fire Department website contains up-to-date index information.

But immediate burning does not always have to be only option for dealing with tree debris. A group of islanders with both fire protection and conservation interests has put together some suggestions in our guest column space on page 7 this week, which may be suitable depending on one's property layout and size.

They range from chipping the wood to building berms, making hugelkultur beds, and bio-char. The latter is a workshop topic at Seedy Saturday, which is coming up on Feb. 9. If burning seems to be the only option, the group recommends drying the branches for 30 days and having a small, hot fire of the drier material.

As our population grows and we learn more about the health and environmental impacts of open burning, it makes sense to do as much as possible to minimize contributing to smoky skies.



New tourist tax not wanted

BY MARGRIET RUURS

Last week's Driftwood announced in a story that a new "tourism tax" is on its way.

The Salt Spring Economic Development Commission came up with the ironic idea to levy yet another tax on Salt Spring's accommodation providers in order to promote tourism.

When we first stayed on the island as visitors, we had a hard time finding accommodations for one night only. When we did, it was \$150, and did not include a real breakfast, and this was more than 10 years ago. When we came to live here, we vowed to do better for visitors to the island. We opened Between the Covers Booklovers B&B, with two rooms, a big breakfast, and charged under \$100 per night. We have been able to host people from all over the world during the past 10 years.

Last October the provincial government applied five per cent PST to accommodations in addition to GST.

Now it seems a new, local tax is being implemented. When we first heard about this through the Accommodations Group of Salt Spring

VIEWPOINT

Island, we and other small accommodation providers voiced grave concerns. The tax, it was explained, would be used to promote tourism. I was pleased to see, in last week's article, that Pender Islanders were as concerned as we are about yet more promotion of tourism.

Ever since Salt Spring was promoted in publications like the New York Times and Forbes magazine, we have all noticed the increase in numbers flocking to our island. Three sailing waits for ferries, no parking and no available beds have already been the result. In theory it sounds good to promote "shoulder seasons" to visitors.

But, realistically, how many of those summer tourists will come when November rains are pouring down? We are not Tofino or Whistler, nor do we want to be. Most residents are relieved when the tourists leave for a while. How many B&B operators actually want to remain open year round?

As a small, home-based accommodations provider

I don't want to pay another tax, do the associated paperwork or even pass more costs on to visitors. It's like shooting ourselves in the foot.

When we opened our B&B we joined the Chamber of Commerce (at higher annual membership cost than real estate and retail businesses pay!) as well as the Accommodations Group because we wanted to show solidarity with other local accommodation providers. Meanwhile, there are now about 140 Air BnB providers on the island, many of whom are, most likely, not members of the Chamber of Commerce. And now the Economic Development Commission wants us to pay yet another local tax to help "create a more sustainable tourism environment."

In our two-room B&B we don't just provide accommodations to tourists, we often host people visiting family on the island who don't have extra space to accommodate them. Perhaps instead of charging a new tax to those of us who provide beds to visitors, we should look at taxing the transportation providers who bring boat and plane loads of visitors to the islands.

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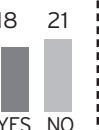
THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you shocked by the Plecas report?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you more prepared for the next natural disaster?



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

OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

“Everybody is always willing to kill the golden goose. They don’t realize how important stuff is.”

KATHY REIMER, ISLAND STREAM & SALMON ENHANCEMENT

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED:
What is your favourite winter comfort food?

CHERYL LONG



Spaghetti, it’s a big time comfort food for me.

JASON BREUKER



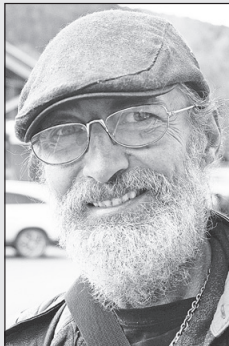
My favourite is my wife’s cooking. She makes a great chicken dish.

ROSEMARY HARBRECHT



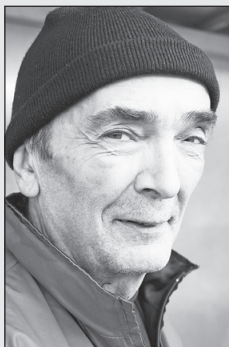
Tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwich. It’s what I grew up with.

BILLY WILKINSON



One of my favourites is a big thing of Spanish rice. Either that or anything to do with potatoes.

GERRY COOPER



Porridge and raisins with my homemade yogurt is a staple for me.

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

Groundwater fractions

I am writing to clarify a statement in the Nov. 28, 2018 “Island groundwater picture shared in study” article about the Golder Associates Groundwater Budget Analysis report.

The third paragraph states that “Since Salt Spring is an island, all of the ground and surface water comes from rain. While some water ends up in the lakes and creeks as surface water, the majority becomes accessible as groundwater through the islands’ various aquifers.”

I wish to clarify the amount of rain that enters “groundwater” reported in this study, and the percentage (not “majority”) that is accessible for use.

The Golder Associates report that was presented

on Nov. 23 to the Salt Spring Island public states in the executive summary that of the total average annual precipitation received by the island footprint, evapotranspiration represents 34 to 36 per cent, surface water runoff represents 54 per cent and groundwater recharge represents 10 to 12 per cent. Current groundwater usage on Salt Spring Island as a whole represents a fraction (0.3 to 0.6 per cent) of the average annual precipitation.

The provincial government will publish the study in its Water Science report series online, as soon as it is finalized. This link will be posted to the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance website and the link will be provided to the Driftwood as soon as it is released.

SHANNON COWAN,
SSIWPA COORDINATOR

New logging policies needed

In these wildly changing times and with the latest warnings of the dangers of climate change, I think we need to rethink some old policies. Allowing any forest clear-cutting should be stopped. We need all the standing trees we have to help our island ecology to survive. Clear-cuts change the island’s ability to save groundwater. With the summers getting hotter and dryer, we need to keep all the water we can.

Greg Middleton’s Jan. 9 letter (“Arboreal menace”) suggesting we cut all the trees near roads, houses, power lines appalled me. If you don’t like trees you could move to a place that has fewer of them. Cutting

them down for fear of them falling is not the answer.

I think the Islands Trust should re-examine their policies. There is already plenty of cleared land for farming, no need as I see it to cut trees for farm land in our current times.

We need to really wake up on this island and, as the saying goes, “You have to be more careful with an island.” More effort needs to be put on the bigger picture, rather than just the individual rights of selfish greedy people.

Trees do not regenerate on Salt Spring as easily as they did in the past when the island was being settled. The climate changing is a deal breaker. We need new policies for our current reality.

DULCY WILSON,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Handle woody debris with the environment in mind

BY JEAN WILKINSON WITH INPUT FROM MITCHELL SHERRIN, LINDA GILKESON, RICK LAING AND OTHERS

With so many branches and trees down from the big storm, it’s important to be “FireSmart” and remove woody debris from areas within 10 metres of our homes before fire season begins.

And since a cigarette butt tossed from a car window will easily travel three metres, it’s also wise to remove drying deadfall adjacent to roadways. Fortunately, we have three months to tackle this before the weather becomes hot and dry, so we can make careful choices about how we clean up.

Smaller twigs with needles ignite easily and are the bulk of what burns during a forest fire, while living trees and shrubs need extensive fire exposure before they ignite. Dead branches dry out and become fuel if they are left as they fall, thrown into the bush or stacked in piles.

In contrast, logs, branches and tree litter in direct contact with moist soil will safely decompose and provide important habitat for many small birds, animals and insects. Tucking branches close to the ground in natural hollows in the woods, and stomping on them occasionally works well. They remain wet and quickly break down to become humus and feed the forest ecosystem.

Outdoor burning of green woody debris is already causing poor air quality, and adding a lot of carbon-dioxide and particulate matter to the atmosphere. It also produces dioxins, very potent carcinogens and endocrine disruptors which threaten human health, even at extremely low levels of exposure.

Instead, we can gather many of the logs and branches for use as fire-

wood and let it cure over the summer, stacked well away from buildings. Burning it properly in an approved wood stove or appliance reduces air pollution and provides useful heat.

For those who still burn outdoors, a small hot fire with dry branches will produce significantly less particulate smoke and fewer harmful emissions than a big smouldering pile of wet branches and leaves. To achieve this, branches should be stacked, ideally for 30 days, with airflow allowing the wood to dry and a tarp protecting the pile from rain.

To reduce negative impacts on everyone’s health and the climate, alternative methods of disposal, such as chipping, building berms, making hügelkultur beds and creating bio-char exist, all with particular advantages.

Cam Proudfoot has been busy at a number of neighbourhood clean-ups, and can chip large amounts of woody debris in a very short time, if the material is free of dirt and rocks.

Chips and needles are useful for making weed-free pathways, and for mulching trees, shrubs and garden plants to maintain soil moisture during the dry summer months. This results in healthier plants, with much less water needed for irrigation. Chips shouldn’t be used near buildings, though, as they could create pathways for fire.

Branches and logs can be packed tightly into berms to level uneven ground or create low walls. Berms can also reduce run-off and direct water to areas where top-soil is not susceptible to washing away, thereby controlling erosion and sedimentation. It’s important to keep these moist and/or covered with soil.

GUEST COLUMN

Hügelkultur is a method of creating raised garden beds by covering rotting wood with compost and soil. As the wood decays it provides nutrients for plants, increases soil aeration, stores water and sequesters carbon. It can even heat the soil and extend the growing season. Cedar is not recommended, but fir and hardwoods work well. Sometimes rats find hügelkultur beds attractive, so increased rat control measures may be required. Many resources are available outlining how to build hügelkultur gardens.

Woody debris can be used to create biochar, a soil amendment which helps increase soil fertility by making it less acidic, improving moisture retention and providing good habitat for beneficial soil microorganisms. To create biochar, woody waste is burned in an open cavity kiln at a very hot temperature, creating far less smoke than an ordinary burn pile. The burning creates carbon dioxide, but charcoal sequesters carbon in the ground, so overall much less carbon-dioxide and no methane is released into the atmosphere, compared to letting wood decompose.

Brian Smallshaw will explain how to make and use biochar at Seedy Saturday on Feb. 9. He’ll be part of a panel, including firefighter Mitchell Sherrin, providing more details about various methods for dealing with woody debris.

We’re all in this together, and we all need to participate in the clean-up.

We can choose methods that safeguard air quality, human health and the environment, while helping to keep our island safe from fires this summer.

Jean Wilkinson is a member of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy’s stewardship committee.



Women's Walk 2019



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left, Marie Hardisty performs a dance, with Nomi Lyonns, left, and Sue Earle watching in the background, and Bailey Dalton reads heartfelt words at the Salt Spring Women's Walk on Sunday afternoon. They were just a few of several speakers and performers on the plaza at the library in Ganges.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Some of the estimated 250 people participating in a silent walk around Ganges for the third annual event, part of weekend activities held around the world to promote equal rights and the end to violence against women.

RANTS + Roses

RANTS

To the inconsiderate dolts who gas up and then leave their cars parked at the pump while they wander off to get a coffee and chat with the clerk while the lineup for the pump gets longer. You have the pumps blocked so nobody else can use them. Do you think you are more important than anyone else? All you are is a self-centred jerk. Show some consideration and courtesy to others. K. Butler

Roses

Thank you to all the Good Samaritans and the ambulance crew that helped me at the scene of my scooter accident on Tuesday, Jan. 15. James Beardsell

MORE LETTERS

Emergency power

During the recent power outage, don't you wish you had a great big battery, enough to run the fridge, deep freeze, a few lights, sewage sump pump, computer, for days, maybe even as much as a week? Well what if it ran down, how would you charge it up? How about putting wheels on it and rolling it into town where they have power, charging it up at one of the free public charging stations, then bringing it back home to run things for another few days?

Well that's what some resourceful Salt Spring Islanders did during the long power outage, and they did it with their electric cars, which are essentially big rolling batteries.

No standing in line to get gas for that noisy, fuming generator. True, the chargers were busy, and they had to wait a couple of hours, maybe do the shopping and grab lunch, but it worked.

Those lucky enough to have solar panels with battery backup could extend the time between trips to charge up, as they do give some power, even at this dark time of year. For the other three seasons the panels would run the basics in the house and even charge the car, giving a sense of independence and resilience.

Please consider joining us at Transition Salt Spring - Green Drinks on Thursday, Jan. 24 at Moby's at 5 p.m. Our conversation topic is emergency power and communication options during challenging times. Experienced folks will be there to answer your questions.

DAVID ELDERTON,
ELECTRICAL ADVISOR,
EV GROUP

expert ADVICE

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Mechanic

Long defog time in the morning is telling you something



GYLE KEATING

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

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

Drive Safe, Gyle



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

Real Estate

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



JAN MACPHERSON

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

By listing now, your residence will:

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

I sell many homes in February and March that may not have sold at the same price later in the year, due to more supply, hence competition, or better buys coming on the market as the spring progresses.

This old adage is really true for real estate:

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

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C) - GOLD AWARD 2018 (VREB)

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Financial Advice

How do I know when I should ditch my credit card and start shopping around for a different option?



KRISTI REYNOLDS

If you're looking for some telltale signs that it's time to start looking for a new credit card, you're in luck. I'm a bit fanatical about ensuring the credit card in your wallet is always working for you, even when you're not physically using it. First and foremost, although I don't suggest carrying a balance on any credit card, you do want to be sure the interest rate is reasonable. There is a wide variation between low- and high-rate interest options and lower is usually better. Another thing to pay close attention to is the annual fee and what's included for the fee you're paying each and every year. I don't necessarily suggest steering away from cards with a fee, however, be sure the fee comes with some perks; such things as insurance coverage, purchase protection and extended warranty, and high on my priority list, a rewards program. Why? Because a rewards program allows you to earn points on the purchases you make to be redeemed for things such as merchandise, travel, cash back or a combination of all three. Plus, you can optimize the rewards earned by simply using your credit card for many of your expenses, paying it off in full each month and benefitting from the accumulation of points—and more freebies—not interest.

IslandSavings

A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST CREDIT UNION

KRISTI REYNOLDS

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Salt Spring Island Branch | 124 McPhillips Ave.
Salt Spring Island, BC | V8K 2T5

Politicians must act with respect

The following is an open letter to Premier John Horgan and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, filed with the Driftwood for publication.

I sincerely urge the B.C. and federal governments to respect the jurisdiction and decisions of the Wet'suwet'en people and elders to prevent unauthorized access and drilling by TransCanada Coastal GasLink on the unceded lands of the Unist'ot'en/Giltseyu-Dark House.

This kind of trampling by government, the courts and powerful fossil-fuel corporations such as GasLink on both the rights of Indigenous people in Canada and on the natural environment that they are attempting to protect is reminiscent of the past hundreds of years of actions that have led Canada to the present situation of widespread distrust by Indigenous people and others for all levels of government of whatever professed ideology, and for the fossil-fuel industry that seems to only have the interests of the wealthy at heart.

Equally, it is a complete abrogation of the proclaimed intention of both levels of government to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions and reliance on fossil-fuel resources.

To get to where we have to get to, Canada and B.C. must both recognize that the bulk of hydrocarbons must just be left in the ground. There is no present alternative to that course, if we are choosing to survive.

If you are choosing for us not to survive, please do us the courtesy of informing us, your electorate, that this is what you have decided. It is not about jobs, it is not about shareholders, it is about our survival.

It is time for a genuine reconciliation between these cultures.

It is time for both you, Premier Horgan, and you, Prime Minister Trudeau, to actually come through with the respect that you proclaimed for Indigenous and environmental rights while seeking election. It is time for Indigenous leaders, who are on the right side of history in protecting the land, their people, their water, food and air quality, to be given the actual respect and support they deserve.

It is time for both the RCMP to decline to pursue action against those who are preventing access to their lands, and for GasLink themselves to step back from these plans of theirs that do not accord with full, free, prior and informed consent from the hereditary peoples of these unceded lands.

It is time for both provincial and federal governments to revoke the permits for the GasLink project, until those standards of consent set out in the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are fully met.

Thank you for the opportunity to address you regarding this important issue.

RODNEY POLDEN,
SALT SPRING

Long-term financial resilience possible

BY JEREMY MILSON

"New Year Brings Tax Increases" shouts the headline in a recent city newspaper. No one is immune, particularly if you are self-employed, or a person owning a business.

Here on Salt Spring, we have a community of small and mid-size enterprises and many micro-businesses that operate with the additional challenge of high seasonality.

Since most of the tax increase will be on business payrolls, your first thought may be to reduce payroll, downsize, try to sell, or just close the business. The self-employed, such as tradespeople who will be doubly impacted by the CPP tax increase, will likely choose the option of increasing their prices.

Instead, let's look at some creative ways to manage the tax impact and increase the long-term financial resilience of our businesses.

Creative strategies for the non-personnel components:

- Premises; right sized or not? Options might include getting smaller, sharing with another business, diversifying business with different products or services, becoming a mobile service, using home space for storage, or more.
- Recognize the needs of, and cater to changing community demographics, particularly seniors.
- Evaluate cost of goods purchased to sell, reduce slow movers, look for source options and alternatives, volume buying, but remember to manage your inventory and capital; it must turn, for you to earn!
- Examine alternatives for reducing or restructuring cost of loans and unpaid credit card debts.
- Examine shared services concepts in transportation and shipping, storage, office services, com-

INDEPTH

munications, consider a call centre concept or manage messages with diligence and a reliable schedule.

- Minimize need to, or frequency of, travel off island, change schedule or use increased volume buying, buy local when net costs are viable or close enough. Your time is valuable.
- Negotiate lower wholesale pricing from local businesses who can deliver to your business needs. Seek and use 30-day payment terms when offered and always use early payment discounts.
- Go paperless, maximize electronic billing and launch automatic payments to your suppliers from direct debit or, even better, use credit cards that offer a benefit such as "cash-back" and an additional 30 days to pay in full.
- Reduce energy use. There are many options such as LED lighting, motion activation, remote control through internet. Invest in solar alternatives, improved insulation, draft elimination and thermal windows.
- Realize that reducing seven per cent PST expense is a satisfying and valuable component in many of the above strategies.

- Optimize personnel planning and alternatives:
- Re-examine hours of operation. Reducing hours where there is no negative impact on customer service can also lower energy costs in heat, lighting and machinery.
- Small businesses are unlikely to have capacity or ability to employ large technological substitution for labour but have many smaller substitutions such as the paperless options (above). Employing an accounting program may ease the need for office assistance in basic bookkeeping, inventory management, payroll and invoicing tasks.
- Define the needs for employ-

- Grow the value, contributions and future of your employees. Recognize those who exceed the expectations of customers. They will be the ones who will allow you to retire someday!
- Build in feedback and communication mechanisms to ensure that all expectations may be clearly communicated, understood and later evaluated.

The businesses who will fare the best through any change and challenge will be those who face them head on, with creative strategies and the quest for long-term beneficial outcomes and a renewed resilience. Never underestimate the value of an annual budget that realistically defines income streams, the cost of sales, fixed overhead, essential expenses and discretionary spending. Try not to forget your own compensation for enduring the risks and working hours.

Planning will never let you down. Don't speculate your future, create it!

The writer is a director, Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, and a Salt Spring business owner.

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Marriage Commissioner

The Vital Statistics Agency, Ministry of Health, is looking for an individual to serve as a Marriage Commissioner for Pender Island. The individual will perform civil marriages within their community on behalf of the Agency. Applicants must reside on Pender Island in order to be considered for this position.

For information and an application form please visit our website at: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/marriages



BRITISH COLUMBIA



Islands Trust

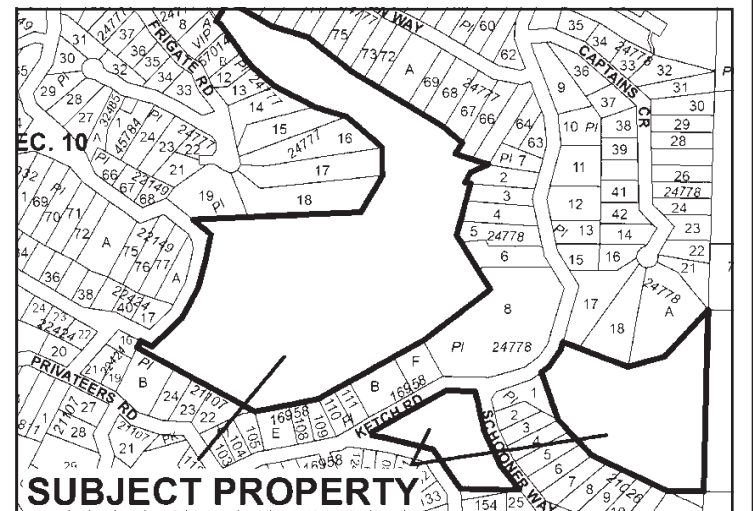
NOTICE NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE NP-TUP-2018.8

NOTICE is hereby given that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit pursuant to Section 493 of the *Local Government Act*. The proposed permit would apply to The South East 1/4 OF Section 10, Pender Island, Cowichan District, Except Parts in Plans 16459, 16958, 17181, 18022, 20805, 21026, 21107, 22149, 24776, 30588 AND VIP53656 (PID: 009-674-241). This property is located at **4710 Buccaneers Road**.

The purpose of this temporary use permit would be to permit two (2) unenclosed shelter structures accessory to the disc park on the property. These are to replace a shelter removed in the spring of 2018 due to safety and structural concerns.

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the permit, including restricting their location to a limited use area of the property and limiting the combined size of all structures not to exceed 28 m² (300 ft²). The permit would be issued for three years and the owner may apply to the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee to have it renewed once for an additional three years. The intent of the applicants is to have the use considered permanently as part of a current rezoning application for the subject property (NP-RZ-2018.3).

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



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing, **January 2, 2019** and up to and including **January 25, 2019**.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Planner, Phil Testemale at (250) 405-5170, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: information@islandstrust.bc.ca, before 4:30 p.m., **January 25, 2019**. The North Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the regular business meeting starting at **10:00 am, Thursday, January 30**, at the Pender Island Community Hall, 4418 Bedwell Harbour Road on North Pender Island.

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

Sharon Lloyd-deRosario, Deputy Secretary



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EDUCATION

SIMS band program gets amped up



ArtSpring Presents

Second City alumni
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February 16, 2019
7:30pm (no intermission, reception to follow)
\$35.00 | \$5.00 18 & under
Part proceeds to SSI's SPCA!

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SIMS band students practise in the rehearsal room with teacher Keith Ollerenshaw (standing in back). From left are Tessa Bain, Elvin Shoolbraid, El Thompson and Liam Walsh.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring FOLK CLUB
www.saltspringfolkclub.com

April Verch Band



Monday January 28
Fulford Hall
Door 6:15 (Pass holders 6:00)
Show 7:00

Tickets \$25
Salt Spring Books
Catering by Three Blind Mice

Best sound on the Island

Students embrace opportunity

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Middle School has a history of great music teachers who have inspired kids, in many cases opening the doors to life-long musical pursuits.

The legendary Bruce Crewick and Mitch Howard, both now deceased, made lasting and positive marks. So too did Michelle Footz and Wendy Milton — who are fortunately alive and well and continuing to mould young musicians at other venues.

The middle school continues to be fortunate with current music teacher Keith Ollerenshaw, and it has recognized that music is an important offering with an increase in allotted teaching hours from very part-time to just part-time. There has been a concurrent surge in enrollment with the adjustment of band scheduling from lunchtime to a mix of school hours and out of school times.

Beginner band or senior band is the base requirement for the program. Some students also choose to deepen their studies in one of two small jazz ensembles, Cosmic Jazz or OG Jazz.

Elvin Shoolbraid, a member of OG Jazz, is continuing a long family tradition of music through generations of playing that includes both his mother and father being musicians. They play all types of music, though "not really

jazz."

"But jazz is really interesting and I thought it would be nice to have that in my life," said Shoolbraid, who plays bass and guitar at school and is getting better at drums with help from his dad.

Tessa Bain went into band with a family connection as well. Her dad plays jazz saxophone and he wanted her to play an instrument, so she chose the flute. Bain is also a member of the SIMS choir.

Liam Walsh took up band as a trade for not having to do piano practice at home anymore, choosing trombone for his school instrument. The outcome was surprising.

"After a few weeks I started to enjoy being in band," he said.

El Thompson already played some instruments and really enjoys music, so joining band at school was almost a given. She plays bass guitar in the jazz ensemble and saxophone in the concert band, as well as guitar for fun at home.

Music enthusiasts like the students above enjoy the opportunity to be part of smaller ensembles as well as the larger concert group, because they can make a bigger contribution to the sound being created.

"You get to feel like you're really making a difference to the band, instead of there being like 10 trombones," Shoolbraid said. "It makes more of a difference if you're there to the group."

"I feel like everyone's kind of on the same page a bit

more," Thompson added, "because in the bigger bands there are some people who know everything and are really bored and other people who are just lost. In a smaller band it's easier to help people."

"If you want to make your own sound, and make a difference to what you are now, just join our band."

LIAM WALSH
SIMS band student

"I enjoy it because you can hear your instrument. It's good to practice when it's your solo — it's nice because there's no other horn instrument playing, so people are actually listening closer to what you're playing," Bain said.

This year a large portion of the band students participated in a weekend band and choir camp organized by Ollerenshaw and his wife, choral director Caroni Young. For two nights students, parent volunteers and expert guest instructors took over a camp on Vancouver Island, where an intensive schedule of workshops and practice sessions unrolled. The students said the experience was "amazing" and helped them to advance quickly.

Ollerenshaw and his jazz band students agree that

more practice time during the school week is needed to help the participants grow. The ensembles practice for just 90 minutes once a week after school. What has helped them focus is working toward a performance goal. All the SIMS band groups and the choir performed together at ArtSpring in December, and they will be working on another show for the end of the school year. Performance trips to Vancouver and some Victoria music festivals are also in the works.

The first experience was good for most of those involved, even if students who were part of more than one group found themselves scrambling in the switchovers.

"It was helpful [for learning], and my dad helped me a lot with practising," Bain said.

"I do like the performance aspect, even if sometimes it's difficult to get a bunch of pieces together. It's nice because it gives you something to work toward," Thompson said.

For others, like Walsh, the show fulfilled a longtime wish to be up on stage.

While travelling to other places to perform can be a stretch, Ollerenshaw and parents have been actively fundraising. (The students could be seen bagging groceries at Country Grocer during the first two days of their Christmas holiday, despite it being the aftermath of the major windstorm.) They received many donations from local businesses and individuals to help with the ArtSpring show. The program received an additional boost from the Salt Spring Foundation that allowed purchase of new guitars.

"We're really feeling a lot of support from the community. I think we're really lucky to be here," Ollerenshaw said.

For those students who didn't join the middle school band program this year, the participants have some insight for those who might be considering it.

"I really think that it's their choice, but it's just a way to express yourself and not be bored. It's something to do," Shoolbraid said.

"If you like listening to rock, pop, nowadays music — most of that stuff is just bass guitar and some tuning. But if you want to make your own sound, and make a difference to what you are now, just join our band, because it's really fun," Walsh said.

Salt Spring JAZZ & BLUES Presents...

Jazzuary
Winter Jazz Fest

Jon Miller Quartet
with Tony Genge on B3

SUN. JAN. 27th
ALL SAINTS BY THE SEA
TICKETS \$20
2:30pm



Doxas Bros Quartet

WED. FEB. 6th
MAHON HALL
TICKETS \$25
7:30pm



Swing Shift
Valentine's Dance

SAT. FEB. 16th
FULFORD HALL
TICKETS \$20
7:30pm



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JAZZ

Concert series livens up winter months on island

Unique opportunity to hear great music

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Putting on a full-blown festival has been a challenge for Salt Spring's Jazz and Blues Society, but the group has hosted a huge variety of performances over the years.

This winter the society is sponsoring three concerts within a three-week period, calling it Jazzuary 2019.

"We have the good fortune to have several events landing on us in a relatively short timeframe, so we thought, 'Hey, why not make a series out of it?'" explained society stalwart John Moore last week.

The first concert sees the Victoria-based Jon Miller Quartet performing at All Saints By-the-Sea on Sunday, Jan. 27 at 2:30 p.m.

The group includes Miller on drums, guitarist Rob Cheramy, saxophonist Monik Nordine and Tony Genge, who plays an electronic version of the Hammond B3 organ. Moore says it will be Genge's first Salt Spring appear-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Drummer Jon Miller, who brings his quartet to Salt Spring on Sunday.

ance.

"He plays all that classic B3 stuff and a lot of Jimmy Smith and Joey DeFrancesco," said Moore.

Then on Wednesday, Feb. 6, the society brings in the exciting Doxas Brothers Quartet. The group features tenor saxophonist Chet Doxas and his brother Jim, a drummer, who are originally from Montreal. The brothers are Juno nominees and have appeared on more than 100 recordings. Chet has released seven albums as a leader and co-leader, and they have worked with artists as diverse as Carla Bley, John Abercrombie, Rufus Wainwright, Maria Schnei-

der, Sam Roberts Band, Ingrid Jensen, Phil Dwyer and Oliver Jones.

They will be joined for this occasion by two Vancouver stars: trumpeter Brad Turner and bassist André LaChance.

Moore said the Doxas quartet is getting a lot of attention for its cutting-edge sound that is also really accessible for audiences.

"This is a unique opportunity to get a group like this on Salt Spring," he said.

The concert is at Mahon Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Jazzuary 2019 concludes with the return of the popular Swing Shift Valentine's Dance, which did not take place last year, to Fulford Hall on Saturday, Feb. 16.

The big band has been busy working on new pieces through the fall, spanning swing, Latin and pop/funk tunes designed to please the most demanding dancers.

"We do more challenging pieces all the time," said Moore. "It's a continuing adventure."

Series or single-event tickets are available now at Mondo Trading.



Out + About is a compilation of items about upcoming events on Salt Spring Island.

April Verch at Folk Club

April Verch and her band grace the stage of the Salt Spring Folk Club at Fulford Hall on Monday, Jan. 28.

While Verch is perhaps best known for playing traditional fiddle styles from her native Ottawa Valley, her performances are said to extend into old-time American and Appalachian styles and beyond, for a well-rounded tour-de-force of North Americana sounds. Verch tours with world-class musicians as a trio, featuring acoustic guitar, mandolin, bass and clawhammer banjo in addition to Verch's vocals, fiddle and foot percussion.

Show openers are The Unfaithful Servants from Victoria, an original band with an exciting approach to traditional Americana, folk, bluegrass and country music.

Montreal Guitar Trio set to thrill

On Monday, Jan. 28, ArtSpring will host what CBC has called "the hottest guitar ensemble" in Canada in a concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Montreal Guitar Trio consists of Sébastien Dufour, Glenn Lévesque and Marc Morin, who have performed in prestigious venues around the world for the past 20 years.

They will also offer a guitar workshop for all levels from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Monday. Contact ArtSpring to register.

ArtSpring raffle launched

Also on Monday night, ArtSpring will launch ticket sales for its hugely successful raffle for a VIP weekend for two in Vancouver plus generous spending money. The getaway for two includes air travel to Vancouver, a suite at L'Hermitage, VIP tickets to John Cleese and tickets to Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's Women Rock show. The prize is valued at \$4,838. Tickets are \$75 and only 300 will be sold.

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Thank you to Kim Young for 25 years of blood, sweat & tears.

Wishing you well on your next adventure. You will be missed by your Mouat's Family.

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Here's How.

what's on this week



Wed. Jan. 23

ACTIVITIES

Chronic Pain Self-management Program. Six-Wednesday course begins today at Seniors Wellness. 2 to 4:30 p.m. Register via www.selfmanagementbc.ca or 1-866-902-3767

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program. Join Nomi and Hannah on Wednesday mornings in the Salt Spring Public Library program room. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. For parents and children ages 0-6. Sign up at the info desk, by phone at 250-537-4666 or email to info@saltspringlibrary.com.

Tech Tutoring with Peter. Free training and assistance for tech issues including Windows, Mac, iPads, eReaders, tablets and more with Peter Freeman. Salt Spring Public Library. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign up at the info desk, by phone at 250-537-4666 or email to info@saltspringlibrary.com.

Electric Vehicles Talk. Hear about electric cars and bikes given by enthusiasts Barbara Dempster and David Elderton. Fulford Hall OAPO Seniors Annex. 2:45 p.m. (Preceded at 2 p.m. by the Fulford seniors group's meeting.)

Music Bingo. Wednesdays with Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.



Thur. Jan. 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic Night at the Legion. Thursdays at the Legion. 7 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners. Talk and demonstration by fibre artist Ulrike Benner of Art You Wear, including felting, applique, embroidery and more. ArtSpring. 10:30 a.m.

Library Book Club. Share a non-fiction book you have read at today's meeting at the Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

Green Drinks. Transition Salt Spring monthly meet-up at Penny's Pantry on the Green. 5 p.m. Today's topic is emergency power and communication options during challenging times.



Fri. Jan. 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Mateada Friday Night Shakedown with DJ Sealux. DJ night at the Mateada Nitro Lounge. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

StoryTime. StoryTime is a great way to build early literacy skills, read new books and old favourites, and have fun with games, crafts, and more. Salt Spring Public Library children's area. 11 a.m. For ages 3 to 6 and their caregivers.

Fri. Jan. 25

ACTIVITIES

Robbie Burns Supper. At the Legion. 6 p.m. Tickets through the Legion bar.

Friday Games Night. Free weekly drop-in evening of board games and other interactive games facilitated by Bryan Dubien at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room beginning at 6 p.m.



Sat. Jan. 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Apex Breaks. Funk band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Islands Trust Community Information Meeting and Town Hall on SSIWPA. Learn about the proposed \$98,500 property tax requisition for the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance, SSIWPA's work and share thoughts ahead of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee's final recommendation to Islands Trust Council. Harbour House Hotel. 1 p.m.

Peace Class – Sample Class. First class in 10-week session at the Salt Spring Public Library program room. 4 p.m.

Burns Night Dinner & Dance. Salt Spring Scottish Country Dance Club evening at Fulford Hall. 5:30 p.m. Tickets from Peter at 250-537-8544 or email peterdging@gmail.com.

Sat. Jan. 26

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Forum: Miriam Golden. UCLA professor Miriam Goldman speaks on Corruption: What Everyone Needs to Know, which is also the title of the book she co-authored in 2017. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. She will provide a deeper understanding of why corruption is so damaging politically, economically and socially.



Sun. Jan. 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jazzuary 2019: Jon Miller Quartet. Jazz concert at All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:30 p.m. Quartet includes former Salt Spring Islander Monik Nordine, Jon Miller, Tony Genge and Rob Cheramy.

Tiny Islands. Jazz, funk, dream pop music at Moby's Pub. 7 to 10 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

Perspectives on Parenting: Managing Screen Use – Models for Change. Don McGinnis gives a presentation on screen use for children and families as part of the parenting series at the Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m. Childminding available with pre-registration at the library desk.

Mon. Jan. 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

April Verch Band. Fiddler-singer-stepdancer April Verch and her band perform at Fulford Hall as part of the Salt Spring Folk Club season. Doors at 6:15 p.m. (and 6 p.m. for season's pass holders), show at 7 p.m.

Montreal Guitar Trio. Concert at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Regarded by the CBC as the hottest guitar ensemble in Canada. Made up of guitarists Sébastien Dufour, Glenn Lévesque and Marc Morin.



ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring With Conrad. iPad, Tablet, eReader and basic Mac tutoring with Conrad Koke at the library. Sign up at the info desk, by phone at 250-537-4666 or email to info@saltspringlibrary.com. Sessions are available every Monday from 12 to 3 p.m.

SSI Transportation Commission Meeting. Public welcome to attend regular meeting session. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 to 6 p.m.

Mon. Jan. 28

ACTIVITIES

Sea Level Rise Workshop. Learn about impacts and what communities can do. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.

Tue. Jan. 29

ACTIVITIES

SS Local Trust Committee Community Info Meeting & Public Hearing for Bylaws 510 + 511. Info meeting and hearing for a rezoning application to permit commercial uses at 155 Rainbow Rd. for Dragonfly Art Supplies. Harbour House Hotel. 9:30 a.m.

SS Local Trust Committee Business Meeting. Regular business meeting follows conclusion of the community information meeting and public hearing for Bylaws 510 and 511. Harbour House Hotel. 10:30 a.m.

Kids Empowerment Club. For ages 7 to 11 led by Chantal Michelle. Kids Empowerment Club is a safe space to support each other through challenges encountered at school or at home. SS Public Library. 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Tue. Jan. 29

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild. Spin on a wheel or a drop spindle. All skill levels welcome. GISS resource room. 7-9 p.m. See saltspringweaversandspinners.com.

Trivia Tuesday. Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.



Wed. Jan. 30

ACTIVITIES

SS Film Fest presents: Styx. Salt Spring Festival's Best of the Fest series presents Wolfgang Fischer film about a woman sailing alone on the Mediterranean who is confronted by Europe's refugee crisis. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program. See last Wednesday's listing.

Tech Tutoring with Peter. See last Wednesday's listing.

get noticed board

Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office.

Published in the first Driftwood of each month!
BROUGHT TO YOU BY PATTISON SUBARU.

see horoscope on page 13

THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **Can You Ever Forgive Me** (Melissa McCarthy) runs Wednesday, Jan. 23 to Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. each night.
- **Nothing Like a Dame** runs Friday, Jan. 25 through Sunday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m., with an additional 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday.
- **Green Book** runs Monday, Jan. 28 through Thursday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Fault Line Projects** presents *Eidolon*, sculpture and paintings by **Michael Robb** and photographs of their creation by **Michael Wall**. Show continues until Feb. 9.

- **Salt Spring Photography Club** members hold their annual show in the ArtSpring lobby through January. Always an impressive event, it features stunning portraits, landscapes, abstracts, macros/close ups, and still lifes by the club's 80 members. Included in the show is the work of the newest member of the club, internationally renowned architectural photographer **Richard Booth**.
- **Lucky and the Inquisition** is an exhibit of work by **Lucky McEachern** and **Jason Newport** at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room through January.
- **Salt Spring Gallery** artists have work hanging in **Island Savings**.

Salt Spring Film Fest Screening Styx

Wed., Jan. 30
ArtSpring • 7:30 p.m.

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ISLAND LIFE

- Star of the Week
- Remember When
- Streets of SSI

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



BEEKEEPING

Island NGO buzzes with activity

Program helps build independence and sustainability in Haiti

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring-based NGO is working to promote resilience, sustainability and development by building a beekeeping and permaculture collective in Haiti.

In late 2012, David MacDonald and Brian Coombs travelled to Haiti to help with relief efforts following the 2010 earthquake that devastated the Caribbean country. While their first trip was to help deliver food to those in need, they would return with a way to have a more lasting impact on both the people and the environment in Haiti.

It was MacDonald's background in beekeeping that led them to the idea of teaching sustainable apiculture to a community in Haiti. After their 2012 trip, MacDonald and Coombs started Hives for Haiti, an organization with the goal of assisting Haitians to build organic, sustainable apiaries using permaculture practices.

"Brian and I were looking for something that we could do that could be long term, that wouldn't promote dependency and that they could actually take and use to build a life for themselves," MacDonald explained. "We want to teach people the skills they need to be able to run a small-scale apiary and be able to feed their families."

MacDonald and Coombs met with a few beekeepers as they were researching their project. They learned that in 1995, bee populations in Haiti were all but wiped out by an outbreak of Varroa mites. Varroa mites are parasitic mites that attach themselves to the bees and feed on the bees' fat deposits. Varroa infestations can lead to the death of colonies. The outbreak caused most of the beekeepers in the country to stop keeping bees and almost all of the beekeeping knowledge was lost.

"[The mites] just wiped out the population across the island . . . they didn't know what it was that caused it," MacDonald said. "There was only a very small amount of people who were keeping bees in Haiti. We met with one of the ones in Cerca-Carvajal [a village in Haiti] and . . . with the town elders to share the idea with them."

The project was envisioned to be more of a partnership than an aid program, and designed with independence in mind. MacDonald and Coombs wanted to share their knowledge and help the Haitians adapt it to their local community structure.

"I asked, 'If I was to come back and teach you the skills of beekeeping, would that be something



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Beeper David MacDonald explains the features of Langstroth hives, which are more complex than those used in Haiti. For more photos on this project from both Salt Spring Island and in Haiti, see the story link at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

that would interest you?' A couple of the elders were almost crying, they loved the idea," MacDonald said. "Their only question was how much we would charge them. It made a shiver go up my spine that they thought I would charge them for that. I told them that we wouldn't charge them anything and that we would only ask that what we gave them they would share freely. That's how it started and they stuck to it."

Hives for Haiti now operates nearly independently, with Haitian beekeepers taking the reins and MacDonald providing support and advanced workshops for experienced beekeepers. After Coombs retired from the organization due to an illness, MacDonald wanted to begin the next step of their work in the country.

"We want to teach people the skills they need to be able to run a small-scale apiary and be able to feed their families."

DAVID MACDONALD
Salt Spring apiarist

The program has gone through numerous changes in the last few years. MacDonald has been focused on teaching advanced beekeeping techniques to Haitian beekeeping instructors to help move the program forward. He has also been working on building the Haitians' communications and business skills, which will help foster more independence from the Canadian side of the organization. Finally, with the help of Brandon Bauer from Permaculture B.C., teaching per-

maculture practices has become a major part of the program.

"Permaculture is really more important than beekeeping. Without permaculture, without them being able to preserve the land and utilize it in a sustainable way, there won't be anything for the bees," he said. "With permaculture they will be able to slowly recoup the gift that the land has to offer."

MacDonald said he is hopeless at fundraising. The program is funded almost entirely by his beekeeping work on Salt Spring. All of the proceeds from the work in Haiti go towards the local economy and administration costs are zero as the work is done by volunteers. MacDonald will be teaching a beekeeping course on Salt Spring that begins in February. Course admission fees will help build a youth beekeeping program in Haiti.

"I live for beekeeping. I just love bees so much and I just get so much from the Haitian people, they just fill my heart," he said. "This project belongs to the Haitian people and they grow it the way grow it, not how we say they should grow it."

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Sage and Rue are a bonded pair of male kittens who came to us late in the season. They will be available as soon as they are neutered.



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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

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TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

The effects of the Solar and Lunar Eclipses on January 6 and 21 are now underway. These synchronicities will be quite evident for those destined to undergo the added push and activation for change that they represent. The usual manifestation is that of both inner changes of perception, attitude, and interpretation as well as actual events. These are only regarding as arbitrary and circumstantial when the deeper realities of destiny are dismissed or unacknowledged. Interestingly, all the planets are currently direct, as in none or retrograde. This is actually rarer than it may seem. As well, this will continue until March 5 when Mercury turns retrograde. Positively, this produces an impulse to accelerate and push forward. The transiting planets, however, are not the whole story in astrology. Every 'person' (includes individuals, nations, states/provinces, cities, companies, and any other 'legal' entity, which does include illegal immigrants) has their own destiny subject to the many overlapping time cycles. As the worlds turn . . .

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Mars in your sign is fast approaching conjunction with Uranus. This will activate a revolutionary push. Changes in your financial approach could manifest as new occupations or stimulating new streams of income. Whether by inspiration or circumstance, your attitude is sober and determined yet may also be recognized as revolutionary.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Getting more attention is important to you now. Whether this recognition is linked to earned rewards, cashing in on favors owed or simply as your determination to be seen and heard, you will be. This could manifest as a pioneering determination to enter new territory. It is not simply that things are changing; it is that you are changing.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

An expansive cycle is underway. It includes a mind-opening and even revolutionary impulse that has already been active all month, yet has suddenly risen to the next level. Satisfying social interactions are indicated. Expansion and increase are featured and it includes creative offspring, whether literal or figurative in terms of inspirations to express yourself creatively.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

A blend of determination to be more assertive and a disturbing wave of hesitation characterizes some of your core feelings lately. What is required is more faith and spontaneous action and less analysis and deliberation. However, be careful that this inner challenge is not negatively displaced and directed at others. Just do it!

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Increasing your social outreach is indicated now. The ball is in your court to take the initiative. Creative opportunities abound and you are wise to be at least engaged in a brainstorming process to generate new ideas. Change is an inevitable feature of this process so preparing for it mentally and emotionally is ideal prior to the actual outer process.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Something special is brewing in you. After many months and, in some respects, years of cultivation of a deepened sense of individuality and independence, the time has come to advance to the next level. Expect your ambition levels to rise over the coming weeks and months. If you do not already know how to respond or have an action plan, deciphering it is it.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

As is true of all great stories, the plot must thicken for it to be exciting and epic. Fortunately, this is exactly what is happening. As well, you are eager to play along and rise to the occasion. This will include new designs and strategies, at least eventually. For now, your best approach is to keep an open mind and improvise as is required.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

You might wonder sometimes if others feel as deeply different as you do. The answer is that many probably do not. You have the unique distinction of sometimes feeling like you are from another planet. The twist is that while you are busy regarding others as alien, they too feel the same about you. It is this very mutual sense of individuality that is your common ground.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Waves of opportunity to gain fresh perspectives on familiar realities are rolling in. How can it be that what is much the same as it was before seems so different now? This is what is meant by personal transformation. The change is internal and is directly linked to your perceptions and priorities and invariably to your attitudes and behavior patterns.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

A new phase of development is underway. You are very much in a foundation building process. Yet, it has as much to do with awakening to latent skills and talents. These may be your own yet may also include those of others. Harnessing the skills and abilities of others is a feature of your destiny. Yet doing so is its own skill. Either way, creative planning is indicated.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

A fresh impulse to express yourself in new ways has begun. This will likely require significant moves and measures close to home. This could literally manifest as moves to new locations. Otherwise, the movement indicated could be described as mobilizing your efforts to new modes of participation in the world.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

Stepping back even further than before for a while is likely now. Yet, it is not necessarily an idle time. Rather, you are gestating a whole new wave of thoughts and ideas. In fact, this process which began in spring 2018 is becoming the new norm. It can be described as a process of re-invention and/or one of a steady flow of innovation.

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FAMILIES

New Year's baby arrives Jan. 5

Nur Solay Admoni welcomed with morning light

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It may still have been dark outside when the first baby born to a Salt Spring family in 2019 was introduced to the world, but her name captures both the coming dawn and the loving atmosphere into which she arrived at 7 a.m. on Jan. 5.

Nur Solay Admoni is the second child for Maria Robins and Asaf Admoni. Her first name comes from the Turkish spelling of a name meaning "morning light." Part of the reason Robins chose the name was the energy she felt during labour from her young son Luca, whose name also means light. He seemed to be radiating light in ways that helped her along.

"I could really feel his happiness and support, which was amazing," Robins said.

Robins awoke just around midnight after having a dream that her water broke. When she checked the real life situation that turned out not to be the case, but she had begun to labour.

Unlike some New Year's babies of the past, the birth took place exactly where Robins and Admoni hoped it would, at their home on Wilkie Way and delivered by island midwife Erin Price. The birth had stalled after five hours of labour because the baby was facing the wrong way to get through the birth canal. Luca was a help at that time,



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Maria Robins and Asaf Admoni with their one-week-old daughter Nur Solay Admoni and son Luca on Jan. 11.

implicitly encouraging his mother while she was walking up and down the stairs trying to get Nur turned the right way. "He gave me the strength to do it," Robins said.

Robins was further helped by four very close female friends who stayed through the night and acted as doulas, bringing their drums, chanting, essential oils and encouragement to the environment.

"The women were the ones who helped me get through it," Robins said. "Three of them had never given birth

before but they knew what to do to help."

Admoni was with Robins at the early stages but knew his role for this birth would be different than their first child's. He stayed out of the way with Luca after the little boy woke up at some point during the night.

"While I was there I tried to be as helpful as I could, and also invisible," Admoni said. "In some moments there was such a harmony between Maria and all her friends. I felt it very lucky just to be there and witness it."

Remember WHEN

Five years ago

- The CRD asked Salt Spring residents about their wishes for walking and cycling capacity on Ganges Hill. The CRD held an open house to get community input, which included the results of a feasibility study on the possibility of developing cycling and pedestrian trails along Fulford-Ganges Road between Seaview Avenue and Beddis Road. Islanders were also asked to suggest other options not covered in the report.

Ten years ago

- The 2009 Salt Spring pothole count registered nearly 1,600 potholes in just four days. Volunteers were asked to count potholes in their neighbourhoods, with results to be forwarded to Mainroad South Island Contracting Ltd. and the Ministry of Transportation to show the seriousness of the local pothole problem.

Twenty years ago

- Ganges Coast Guard members were called out by a report that occupants of a boat in Porlier Pass were shooting seals with high-powered rifles. The Coast Guard and RCMP sped to the scene and chased the boat onto shore on Galiano Island where two men ran into a nearby log house. The men emerged a few minutes later, still carrying their guns. RCMP and Coast Guard did not witness any firearms violations, and the men were let go with a lecture on firearm safety.

Thirty years ago

- The Galiano Island Visitors' Association decided to shy away from aggressively promoting tourism. The association said they would not promote summer or off-season visits to the island and would work to discourage "undesirable" tourism, which included cyclists and unruly campers. Instead, GIVA stressed the importance of a locally controlled industrial economy providing incremental gains to the island.

A Jan. 14, 1989 report included attacks on tourism and the problems it creates. The association also planned to develop a program listing Galiano's limitations for visitors and any hazards that visitors might face on the island.

Forty years ago

- The CRD board of directors worked towards passing a bylaw that would crack down on dog owners in unorganized areas of the capital region. The bylaw would include the enforcement of dog licences, as well as a kennel licence implementation. This bylaw allowed for the region to pay compensation to the owners of animals killed or injured by stray dogs. The owners of offending animals would be required to cover the district's costs.

Fifty years ago

- A young man coming to Salt Spring Island from Victoria was sent back from the Swartz Bay ferry terminal after bringing a book of tickets with him to board the ferry. The ticket agent thought that a change to the fare for light commercial vehicles had already taken place, but in reality the new rate had not been introduced. The incident was the first time any islanders had heard of an incoming change to fares. Fares were raised for small commercial vehicles from \$1.75 per trip to \$1.85 per trip.

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students shine under the lights



Reign Ackerley
THIS MONTH @
GISS

Performing and visual arts activities impress

The first few weeks of the new year at GISS are often stress-filled. Teachers try to cram in a month's worth of material into two weeks. Projects that have faced procrastination for weeks are hastily being thrown together by stressed-out students.

But this is also the time of year where there is a different show at ArtSpring each night. Amidst the pressure that comes with the semester's end, huge turnouts were present at GISS' theatre, dance and art shows, with music still to come when this column was being written.

Starting the show season off was GISS' senior acting class. Performing at ArtSpring for three nights, the class presented the classic story of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

"It is an ambitious undertaking" admitted Izak Donnelly, who played Randle McMurphy.

And he is right, Ken Kesey's story is a difficult one to bring to life, but the senior acting class proved to be up to the task. Although it's a rather grim tale, the actors provided a layered performance and were able to find the balance between morbid monologues and obscenity-filled one-liners.

Less than a week later, GISS dancers performed their show, *Rewind*, also at ArtSpring. It was a success by all accounts, with a large turnout on both nights. This could be because of the fresh choreography and more varied styles of dance. The majority of the pieces were choreographed by the students, and it showed. Dances displayed risks and contemporary moves that created a dynamic show.



PHOTO BY JANE MACKENZIE

Hanna Fraser walks the runway in a reusable garbage bag dress made by Yoko Kikuchi in the finale to the GISS show *Please Touch the ArtWork* at Mahon Hall Friday night.

As per usual, the stage saw large group dances, yet, in contrast to past dance shows, *Rewind's* group work was seamless and fun. The dancers effortlessly switched from ballet pieces to a hip hop mashup and back again, further proving their growth as choreographers and dancers.

At Mahon Hall, the gallery exhibition for *Please Touch the Art* was a success. The closing party was also a hit with the hall jam-packed with students and community members. The night started off with a sample performance from GISS music students, where they played three songs from their term-end show called *GLOW*, which ran at ArtSpring on Monday night.

It was followed by the main event, the fashion show. Emceed by Ezra Watson and Reed Goddard, the runway saw everything from

silk-screen shirts to body-painted models. The evening was closed by the Goodnight, Moon band, who performed a short set that had people going wild.

The show brought a bittersweet end to the semester, as it marks the end of Emily Goodden's term as the visual arts teacher. Goodden has transformed GISS' art studio from a rigid art room into an inspiring creative space and organized an entire gallery exhibition displaying over 60 student artists. Needless to say, her presence in the studio will be missed.

Now that the show season is over, the second semester will be in full swing. The stress will fade away but soon the cycle will repeat itself. Students will procrastinate and teachers will cram, but there will be a second round of shows to provide respite from it all.

SALT SPRING **Star** of the **WEEK**
Margaret Mackenzie

PHOTO BY DIANA HAYES

Margaret Mackenzie has been the volunteer coordinator for the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary for more than 20 years.

"She is definitely a star in our eyes," says auxiliary president Ann Muller, adding that when Margaret retires soon the auxiliary will have big shoes to fill.

One of Margaret's passions has been bringing live music to residents of the hospital's extended care unit and writing about its positive impact.

What is this? Where is it?

Can you identify what and where this is on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop off a paper copy to the Driftwood office at 328 Lower Ganges Rd. The first person to submit the right answer gets their name published in this space.

LAST WEEK: Gwen Davies was the first person to identify the petroglyph rock at Drummond Park. Honourable mention goes to Alan Hoskins for remembering that it has been called Cudmore's Rock because the late Gordon Cudmore found it.

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BUSINESS BITS

- Ownership changes
- Anniversaries
- Exciting news

LOCAL BUSINESS

Chamber hires Harkema as ED

Island businesses move and change hands

BY AMBER OGILVIE
DRIFTWOOD PUBLISHER

Many changes have been happening in our business community on Salt Spring Island.

- A new executive director has been hired by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce. **Jessica Harkema** will replace former executive director Janet Clouston. We look forward to seeing and working with Jessica, who begins her new duties on Feb. 4.

- **Sarah and Nino Barrette**, the owners of the recently opened store **Inspired**, bring many years of retail experience to this new business. They are looking forward to working with local artisans and offering quality products to their customers. **Inspired** is located in the former Fever Tree location.

- **Becka and Bryan Heck and Geordie Gordon** are the new owners of **Café Talia**. After three and a half years as owner, Aletha Humphreys has moved on to focus on her executive director role at Greenwoods Eldercare Society.

- Merchants Mews news includes the new arrival of **BE Design**, which moved its location in December and is all unpacked and ready to serve up the same great products and service you received in the Ganges location. **Jana Roerick**, owner/operator of **Jana's Bake Shop** in Merchants Mews, tells us that effective April 1st (no fooling!) she will no longer sell a daily showcase and coffee, and will close her doors to walk-in traffic. However, showcase products will continue to be available at **Café Talia**, with new owners Becka, Bryan and Geordie, and at **Bean Drinkin' Café**, Jana's Bake Shop's newest partner, with owner Taylor Booth.

- On Jan. 31 after 25 years, we will have to say goodbye to **Kim Young**, a long-time manager at **Mouat's Home Hardware**. Kim's wonderful and audacious sense of humour made her a joy to be around for staff and customers alike. Kim will be heading back to join her family in Port Hardy, where she grew up.

- Congratulations to **Salt Spring Marina**, whose dock replacement project is underway after more than 13 years of planning. The old structure was due for replacement about 20 years ago.

- **Gulf Island Organics**, a new cannabis dispensary, has opened across from Mahon Hall.

- **Island Savings**, a division of First West Credit Union, has announced the winners of the **2018 Fan Choice Awards**. Among them are three Salt Spring Island businesses: **Twang & Pearl**, **Auntie Pesto's** restaurant and Salt Spring's fitness hub **North End Fitness**.



PHOTO COURTESY ISLAND SAVINGS

Twang & Pearl store manager Teile McDonald, left, receives a Fan Choice Award from local Island Savings business banking advisor Alicia Herbert.

- **Transition Salt Spring Enterprise Co-op (TSSEC)** could offer financial assistance to many green businesses in 2019. TSSEC is an investment co-op that was created to allow islanders to invest in local projects that are both environmentally and economically sustainable, offering access to affordable financing.

TSSEC celebrated Co-op Month in late 2018 by providing its 16th loan, thereby passing the \$100,000 milestone of microloans issued to green projects and businesses on Salt Spring.

Five transportation-related projects have been provided with loans, including Salt Spring's first electric vehicle charging station at **ArtSpring**, two loans to **Island Pathways**, **OutSpokin Bike Shop** and **Coast Alive Ecological and Recreational Services** for an electric bicycle and trailer. These projects help Salt Springers reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Other businesses that have benefitted from the co-op loans include the **SSI Agricultural Alliance** for the community abattoir, **Black Horse Apiary** and **Salt Spring Sea Salt**, **Bohemia Consignment**, **Axe & Reel Outdoor Emporium**, and **Shepherd Shoes**, which each received a co-op loan. For more details or to find out how to join the co-op or to apply for a loan, please email TSSEnterpriseCoop@gmail.com or call 250-537-2616.

Independent businesses help give our community its distinct personality. Studies show each dollar you spend at local businesses returns three times more money to our local economy.

ISLAND HISTORY

Development and ancient roots inspire road names



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF
**SALT
SPRING**

Chock Road and Ch-An Drive

Chock Road is up next in our list of local street name history.

The Salt Spring Archives reports it was named by logger-developer Gordon Cudmore, "possibly after the wedge used by loggers."

Cudmore's family settled on Salt Spring in 1927. He owned a logging business among other concerns, with a log dump at Fulford Harbour, and subdivided a large acreage from Mount Belcher down to the area between Drake and Charlesworth roads.

A Driftwood report from 1988 outlines Cudmore's attempt to swap densities on the 72-acre parcel, which had formerly belonged to forestry giant MacMillan Bloedel. A logging term for the small side road that is located near the junction of Mount Belcher Heights and Wilkie Way therefore seems entirely appropriate.

Chu-An Drive

Chu-An Drive represents perhaps the most important name in island roads, being a term First Nations people gave to part of Salt Spring that was adopted early on by the colonial government.

The Salt Spring Archives reports: "The first written mention of [the island] appeared in a letter written by Governor James Douglas in 1853, a year after he explored the east coast of Vancouver Island by canoe. Douglas believed that his discovery of salt springs on the island 'would be of the greatest importance and become a wealth to the country.' His report was published with a map of the area, on which Salt Spring is labelled Chuan."

Chuan means "straight down to the sea," and was the name given to Mount Tuam by the Cowichan people. Over time, English speakers transformed it to Tuan and finally Tuam.

Chu-An Drive is located off Booth Bay, not on Mount Tuam, but it does head down toward the sea from Vesuvius Bay Road, so the meaning applies to some degree. It is also one of the only Salt Spring street names to honour aboriginal history on unceded territory.



Spirit of Salt Spring

The Friends of Kenya group's tree was declared the winner of the Festival of Trees at the Harbour House Hotel by Annika Lund of Salt Spring Community Services. The annual event sees donations for the Salt Spring Food Bank put under decorated trees, as well as donations for the Copper Kettle placed under that group's tree.

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations. First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

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SPORTS + RECREATION

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

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SAILING

Pursuit style excites sea race

Seven roundings and head wind add to colour for sailors

BY GREG SLAKOV
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The Salt Spring Island Sailing Club's second race of the year was conducted in good weather and a building northwest wind on Sunday, Jan. 20.

It was a new race, with a serpentine course from the start/finish line in front of the sailing club in Ganges Harbour, out to Batt Rock near Beddis Beach, then back and forth between Welbury Spar, Horda Shoal and U62 (near Prevost Island), before finally heading back to Ganges for the finish. Six club boats took part: Deryn Mor, Skeena Cloud, Radiant Heat, Second Wind, Evangeline and Shingebiss.

The race was conducted in pursuit style. In this format, the boats start one by one, from the "slowest" to the "fastest," with start times calculated using each boat's handicap. This sets up an exciting finish, where the boats cross the finish line in order, from first to last.

The seven-knot breeze at the start allowed most boats to carry their colourful spinnakers down the harbour. Greg Taylor on Skeena Cloud and Kevin Vine on Deryn Mor were single-handing, so one can imagine the excitement when these big sails had to be doused at Batt Rock in order to head to Welbury Point.

The remainder of the boats had more hands to help, which was a big bonus considering the number of mark roundings in the race, a near record seven!

To further illustrate the point, single-handed Taylor was struck by his boom, and sustained a cut, which eventually required a few stitches, but not before he gamely finished the race.

As the race continued, the wind built until it was around 20 knots on the way back up the harbour. This allowed all the boats to thunder along at hull speed, and then some. In the end, Radiant Heat with Brogan and crew took line honours and won the race, followed in order by Keating and crew on Shingebiss, van Soeren and crew on Second Wind, Vine on Deryn Mor, Sutton and crew on Evangeline, and Taylor on Skeena Cloud.

Practically everybody assembled after the race on Second Wind for tall tales and libations. There was common agreement that a really fun part of the race was that all boats were in touch with each other and sailing "in the same wind and water as each other."

It seems new Fleet Captain Taylor has found a winning formula with this kind of race, so expect more of the same in the future.



PHOTO COURTESY SSI SAILING CLUB

Enjoying some post-race socializing on the Second Wind vessel are, from left, John Gauld, Kevin Vine, Ben Sutton, Lance Anderson, Mia Curley, Eric van Soeren, Nicky Arnoldus, Gyle Keating, Tony Brogan and Greg Taylor.



PHOTOS BY JOHN GAULD

Crews of Evangeline, above, and Second Wind, below, during Sunday's sailing club race off of Salt Spring.



MEN'S SOCCER

'Veganuary' provides little meat for Old Boys

But keeper Steel offers "wall" Trump would die for

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Regular readers will be glad to know that the technical "hack" that prevented last week's report from being published has now been corrected.

A bogus fake news report on Twitter, BuzzFeed, WhatsApp, Instagram plus an unofficial Facebook page purported to record a 10-0 win for Old Boys. Management saw it as an attempt to undermine team morale and disrupt the Golden Boot Award statistics. Old Boys and local publishers wish to decry this attack on the integrity of professional journalism.

Game analysis immediately after and during the week raised several points of concern about the Old Boys' performance. The failure of the Yucatan training camp; the new stationary resistance harness (newer bungee cords) seemed to leave the Old Boys more stationary than normal, especially in the second half. The improved dietary changes outlined by Health Canada/ World Health Organization to increase the proportion of healthy grains and simultaneously reduce Salt Spring's carbon footprint (remember that the Old Boys are deeply influenced by community concerns on the environment) saw Greggs the pâtisserie of choice and vegan sausage rolls flown in from the UK, but they had no obvious effect. The irony of reducing the carbon footprint with transporting a plane load of food more than 8,000 kilometres across the

Atlantic did not go unnoticed.

Medical staff continue to be concerned that blood and urine lab work shows that few Old Boys would pass WADA testing due to the quantity and quality of the prescriptions, both medical and recreational.

What to do? "Hoof it to the Big Yin up front" was the general consensus, and just as importantly, a return to a Clemson diet of burgers, pizzas and fries. Some players opined that they wanted the diet Manchester United players are consuming under Solskjaer, who surpassed the Great Matt Busby's record start of five wins in a row as manager in 1945 with his sixth consecutive win. Meanwhile, this reporter is gradually going off vegan sausage rolls!

With the return to the attack of Mike McCormick, the Golden Boot Award leader in goals and assists, hopes were high that the Old Boys' temporary slide would be reversed with a win against Juan de Fuca "First Footers," no easy task considering the 5-1 defeat to JDF in October. Old Boys started as if they were determined to wipe out any memory trace of that October debacle.

True to form, Juan de Fuca roared down field and, presto, were one goal up in the first couple of minutes. It seemed to be deja vu all over again, but an assistant referee's flag singled offside and fans sighed with relief, only to see a late penalty call against Donny Brown on the shooter, who managed to fall over as his shot went wide to safety. A TSN Turning Point! The crowd was hushed as the player stepped and shot low to Richard Steel's left but erupted with joy as Steel turned the ball around the post for a corner.

Surely the gods were with us!

Buoyed by the save, Old Boys attacked with vim and vigour. Steel was less than steely with a poorly directed goal kick that gave JDF an opportunity, but it was soon annulled by the defence. A corner kick to the Old Boys' Rainer Funk headed into the keeper's arms.

Gradually, JDF mastered the slippery ground conditions and began to make ever-increasing incursions into the final attacking third of the pitch. Ominous signs!

Second-half success would seem to hinge on which team could take advantage of a mistake.

A free kick saw a powerful, goal-bound header miraculously saved one-handed by Steel. It was a second TSN Turning Point!

Counter attack after counter attack saw JDF lay siege to the Old Boys goal. Would The Wall survive? Steel had shown his mettle (metal!) and it became known over social media that he was being headhunted by an organization from south of the border down Mexico way (Gene Autry, 1936.)

The half-time whistle gave the Old Boys a sense of success in holding the most powerful team in the league to a scoreless draw.

Second-half success would seem to hinge on which team could take advantage of a mistake. Old Boys had their chances, including a Mark Aston free kick on the edge of the box, a Toynbee flash past the near post and

a Funk header straight into the arms of the keeper, but JDF provided a third TSN Turning Point when after a series of five corner kicks in a row, Steel had to tip a dropping shot over the bar to deny the visitors the lead.

As the final five minutes of the game wound down it seemed the Old Boys had rode their luck and outstanding goalkeeping on the part of Steel to a well-earned draw when an inevitable fourth and final TSN Turning Point saw JDF sneak in between a tired defence to give Steel no chance and a visitor victory, which has to be said they deserved, given their dominance.

Team consensus was that without Steel's goalkeeping heroics the visitors might have provided a similar result to the earlier season game. It was remarked on how Steel obviously screwed up because now he would be in goal for the rest of his Old Boys career.

The JDF pressure-and-possession game meant the attacking defenders were unable to bring their speed and skill into the attack. Ben Cooperman's cape did not unfurl once on a zany meandering rush out of defence.

Talk of January transfer list acquisitions was just talk as Old Boys management had been warned by FIFA and UEFA that their approaches to player and potential assistant coaches for Graham Tweddle was infringing the Financial Fair Play Regulations. So it looks like Old Boys will have to soldier on with the squad till the new season, but Klopp and Pochettino, we have our eyes on both of you.

Old Boys will try to stop the rot versus Cordoba 48s on Sunday, Jan. 28 at Lochside Turf at 2 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Scorpions win Howe tournament

Close games for boys at GISS

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Secondary School senior boys basketball team took the top spot at the 14th annual Nairn Howe Memorial tournament held on Friday and Saturday.

The Scorpions played through a competitive weekend, with close scores in all of their games. On Friday, GISS first played against Duncan Christian, winning by a score of 66-50.

GISS won their second game with another close score of 84-73 over Pacific Christian from Victoria.

Saturday began for the local team with a game against Victoria High, where they won by only four points, netting 67 to Vic High's 63.

Their final game wound up going into double-overtime against Parkland Secondary from Sidney, where they were defeated by a score of 88 to 85. Parkland, Pacific Christian and GISS ended the tournament with the same record, but GISS took the top spot based on average scores.

Coach Myles Wilson said the final was "a very exciting game from start to finish."

Top Scorpions from the four

games were Gabe Harrison, Nick Van Bagel, Colton Archer and Ezra Watson. Archer also won the Nairn Howe sportsmanship award for the GISS team.

"This was a very competitive tournament with most games being

pretty close," said Wilson. "Overall the GISS players played really well and represented their school and community with pride and sportsmanship throughout the tournament, as did the visiting teams."

PLAYSAFE:
Don't Let It Happen to You

The War Amps new "kids-to-kids" safety video, featuring stories from young amputees who have lost limbs in accidents, delivers the hard-hitting but positive message: "Spot the danger before you play!"

Visit waramps.ca/playsafe for the video and safety resources.



Islands Trust

Have Your Say

Tuesday, January 29, 2019
9:30 a.m.



Harbour House Hotel, Conference Room, 121 Upper Ganges Road



Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.



Enquires?
Jason Youmans, Island Planner
ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-537-9144

Bylaw Nos. 510 and 511

Rezoning to Permit Commercial Uses

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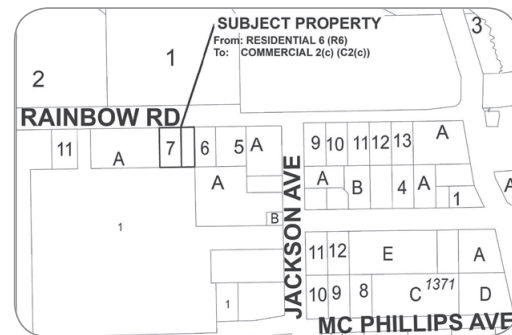
PUBLIC HEARING

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaw changes about?

- Bylaw No. 510 amends the Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan to:
- Change the Land Use Designation of one of the subject properties from "Agriculture" to "Ganges Village Core"
 - Include both subject properties in Development Permit Area 1 (DPA1)

- Bylaw No. 511 amends the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to:
- Change the zoning of both subject properties from Residential 6 (R6) to Commercial 2(C)
 - Permit buildings and structures in the rear and side lot line setbacks



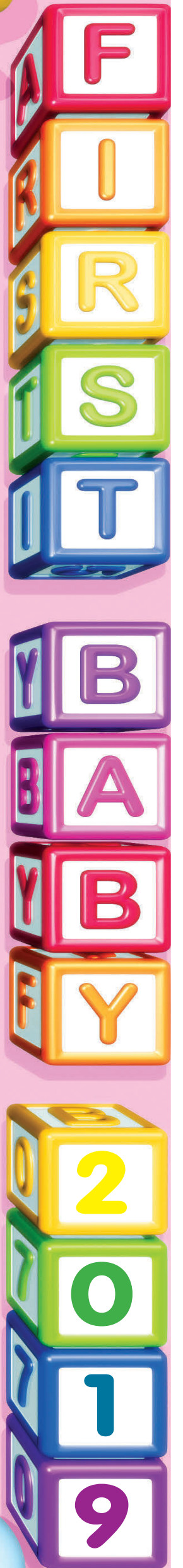
How do I get more information?

Copies of the bylaws and other information is available at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays from January 15, 2019. Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendment will take place at 9:30 a.m. The Public Hearing will commence immediately following the CIM.

Salt Spring's first baby of 2019

Nur Solay Admoni was born at home on Wilkie Way on January 5, 2019, at 7 a.m. weighing 8 pounds. Happy parents are Maria Robins and Asaf Admoni. See story on page 14.



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