



9 Out & About: Upcoming activities on the island

# Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

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## GANGES HARBOUR

# Beached houseboat holds fast



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

An Island Marine Construction crew communicates the bad news that towing efforts failed to move the Castle Finn off the harbour floor on Friday morning, while community volunteers watch from the Beachside property.

## Jurisdictional quandary and tides leave few options for removal

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community members hoping to dislodge a heavy double-keeled boat from the shoal in Ganges Harbour say they have just a few more days to patch remaining holes in the hull and get the Castle Finn afloat before daytime tide levels drop too low to continue until the end of the year.

Several islanders assembled at Ganges Alley to watch the progress last week, with multiple attempts starting Thursday. For every person there was a unique opinion on how to proceed, but so far nothing tried has succeeded and the ethics of the effort have been called into question.

Community members became involved after the boat's main resident Jay Seagrave made an online appeal for help along with the owners of the Beachside kayak and paddle-board business, whose property fronts the beach where the ship has lodged.

"I grew up on Salt Spring. I want to protect the estuary and the beach," Seagrave said on Thursday, after an attempt to pull the boat with cables attached to a dump truck failed.

Volunteers spent 12 hours digging

trenches in the harbour floor's mud and shell mix on Thursday. Friday's main effort involved an Island Marine Construction crew attempting to pull the boat out with cables during the morning's high tide. When that didn't work, Seagrave turned to blasting material out from under the hull with a pump. Floats and barrels were brought in to increase buoyancy.

More efforts were made with trucks on Saturday, but as of Monday the boat was still on the shore, with "king tides" high enough to float it not due back until this fall.

Seagrave explained that the Castle Finn had been moored in the harbour when she started taking on water last November. The boat was towed to the shore for repairs with help from the Coast Guard and Eagle Eye Marine Rescue. The ship's catamaran-style hull is made of ferro-cement, which can lose integrity when the wire mesh starts to rust out.

While Seagrave believed all the holes had been repaired, new ones were discovered during the digging process on Saturday.


The problems getting the boat moved

have been compounded by the conflicting wishes of the boat's resident and owner. Seagrave's mother Dolores Seagrave-Peel, who owns the boat, has opposed much of the process and eventually put a stop to the weekend's efforts, although she gave written permission for Friday's activity. The Driftwood made several attempts to reach Seagrave-Peel by email, phone and Facebook but did not get a response. According to her son, she is concerned that the vessel is not seaworthy and about pulling it out to the deeper water, especially during storm season.

Meanwhile, community complaints have been made about partying and other activity on the Finn. RCMP Sgt. Ryan Netzer said police have been called to the boat several times. The RCMP has also tried to contact the Coast Guard about possible removal of the vessel from the shore.

"The boat per se is not a policing issue — but the behaviour that goes with it is an issue," Netzer said. "We're regularly patrolling the area."

HOUSEBOAT continued on 5



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## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

# Maker Day helps youth develop design skills

Water conservation solutions in focus at event

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With some hot glue, cardboard, wood and various other materials, grades 5, 6 and 7 students put their designing and building skills to the test mak-

ing water conservation projects on Friday morning.

Kids from Fernwood, Fulford and Pender Island schools teamed up with students from the Gulf Islands Secondary School robotics class to design, prototype, build and test their ideas for water conservation systems. Called Maker Day, it was funded through a \$3,000 Industry Training Authority of B.C. grant, which helped pay for the materials used, as well as items needed for the high school robotics class.

"The idea is to promote design thinking in students and to get them to be critical thinkers and to solve problems," said robotics teacher Rachel FitzZaland. "Today we have a design challenge that we've given them . . . Each group has been tasked with designing a water conservation or reuse system for their school."

The event began at 9:30 in the morning, and students had until 11:30 to design and build their inventions. At 11:30 the projects were put on display and students were able to tour around the gym looking at the different ideas for water conservation. Leading up to the event, teachers got the kids thinking about why saving water is important.

"The building part is definitely the most fun, but if you do some thinking beforehand, you're going to come up with a better solution. They're com-



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Melanie Silva from Fulford school assembles her team's prototype water catchment system, designed to store water to be used later in the garden.

ing up with some fantastic solutions that I would never have thought of," FitzZaland said. "One group just figured that people were wasting water because they thought it didn't taste good. They came up with a solution to build a soda stream machine and add flavour to make it better. Others are saving water from toilets and watering gardens."

For the high school students, Maker Day was counted as part of their final exam. The older students were on

hand to help with any design challenges that the younger kids might encounter, and to assist with harder techniques and the use of power tools.

"We learn about the building process, and now we're going to teach it to them and help them learn it," said Grade 9 student Brody Henneberg. "It's kind of like a recap of what we've done, but we get to teach it to other kids."

Maker Days are held in schools around B.C. every year.

## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019 PST Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
30	0306	2.9	9.5	3	0558	3.4	11.2
	0639	2.8	9.2		1104	2.8	9.2
	WE 1140	3.2	10.5		SU 1439	3.0	9.8
ME 1943	0.8	2.6	DI 2218	0.6	2.0		
31	0403	3.2	10.5	4	0627	3.4	11.2
	0820	2.8	9.2		1138	2.7	8.9
	TH 1222	3.1	10.2		MO 1523	3.0	9.8
JE 2026	0.7	2.3	LU 2252	0.6	2.0		
1	0448	3.3	10.8	5	0653	3.4	11.2
	0935	2.9	9.5		1211	2.6	8.5
	FR 1307	3.0	9.8		TU 1607	2.9	9.5
VE 2105	0.7	2.3	MA 2325	0.7	2.3		
2	0525	3.4	11.2	6	0716	3.3	10.8
	1025	2.8	9.2		1246	2.5	8.2
	SA 1354	3.0	9.8		WE 1651	2.9	9.5
SA 2143	0.6	2.0	ME 2357	0.8	2.6		

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## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

# Pender students attend ocean plastics summit

Salish Sea Stars members off to U.S. in February

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Four student scientists from Pender Island will be taking part in an international youth summit on ocean plastics in California this February.

The students are members of the Salish Sea Stars, a group they created to inform people about the effects of plastics on the ocean. Lauren Ohnona, Meredith Boyd, Taeven Lopatecki and Quynn Stafford were chosen by teacher Steve Dunsmuir because of their interest and work in the area of ocean conservation and research.

"The summit involves 25 teams of students from around the world coming together in Dana Point, Calif. to talk about the issue of plastic pollution in the ocean," Dunsmuir said. "The idea is to train the kids not only with the background information about the problem but also to train them to go home to their communities to spread awareness and aid others in change."

The Salish Sea Stars plan

to invite students from around the Salish Sea to an event about ocean plastics later in the year.

"The girls had the idea of hosting a summit for students here on Pender Island in May. That's what we're working our way towards," Dunsmuir said. "We're hoping that we can almost totally fund that so that participants can come no matter what their financial background is."

**Since the group's focus is on environmentalism, they've even chosen a green method of travel.**

Leading up to the May summit, the group will hold a series of workshops on ocean conservation issues.

Ohnona attended the G7 summit in 2018 to showcase her work on microplastics. Boyd is currently working on a project to see whether biodegradable plastics are actually compostable like they claim to be. Stafford's project involves research into

local sources for algae water pods, which will cut down on waste from disposable water bottles. Lopatecki is looking into ocean acidification and the damage that does to shellfish and coral reefs.

"We also have our school science fair in the first and second week in March. That'll be a good time to share what we're doing," Dunsmuir said. "All of our girls are hoping to get selected to go to the regional science fair at UVic this year."

Funding for the California trip came from the Council for Developmental Cooperation, an international group that promotes environmental awareness in Canada, the United States and Mexico. The group was looking for a student team from the Salish Sea area to send to the summit and gave the students \$5,000 to go towards their travel and expenses. The Salish Sea Stars also received a \$3,000 grant from the CRD given to the Pender Island Conservation Association. Further funds raised beyond the cost of the trip will go to the Pender summit in May.

Since the group's focus is on environmentalism,

they've even chosen a green method of travel. They will be travelling from Seattle to Dana Point by train, which Dunsmuir said is 30 times more efficient than flying. The train adds another element to the trip, as it travels down the coast through Washington, Oregon and California, giving the students the chance to see the different areas of the coast first hand.

"I'm really looking forward to going on a train through all of these different parts of the U.S.A. It'll be really cool to see some of that stuff," said student Boyd. "I've only been to the U.S.A. once and I've never really been on a train before."

For Boyd, one of the highlights will be networking with other students from around the world and learning their points of view and solutions to ocean pollution.

"Some of those people are really experienced and it'll be really awesome to learn stuff about where they're from, what's going on there and the kinds of things that are happening in their communities," she said.

The students leave for their trip on Feb. 19. The summit begins on Feb. 22.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Highland boil water advisory ends

Residents of the Highlands water system were under a boil water advisory from Jan. 23 to 26 after routine tests came back positive for bacteria. The bacteria was able to enter the system after it was depressurized following the Dec. 20 storm.

"Our samples at that point indicated that all was clear and we removed the boil water advisory on Jan. 6. One of 10 samples since then came back with a small amount of bacteria," said Matthew McCrank, senior manager for infrastructure operations for the CRD. "Because of that and the knowledge of the depressurization that occurred, we as a utility needed to put on the boil water advisory until we could confirm that that had been cleared."

The Fernwood system, which shares a water treatment plant and source with Highlands, was not affected by the notice.

### RCMP report

RCMP responded to an attempted break and enter at a repeater site on Mount Tuam on Jan. 19. A locking mechanism at the site was damaged, and there was damage to a door.

In other police news this week:

- While on a routine patrol on Jan. 20, an officer noticed a vehicle that was having trouble driving in the correct lane. The vehicle was pulled over and after conducting a roadside sobriety test, police issued the driver a three-day immediate roadside prohibition.

- RCMP responded to a report of two people arguing near Charlesworth Road on Jan. 21. One of the people involved in the argument was out on bail and was not to have contact with the other individual. He was arrested for breach of bail, kept overnight in a cell at the RCMP station and transported to Duncan court the following morning.

- Also on Jan. 21, RCMP were called to investigate two men fighting in the parking lot of a local liquor establishment. One of the men was arrested due to his behaviour and level of intoxication. He was held overnight in a holding cell and released the next day when sober.

- On Jan. 23, while investigating a separate incident, police came into contact with a man and a woman. A background check determined the man was court-ordered to not have any contact with the woman and he was arrested for breaching several court orders. He was lodged in cells overnight and transported to court in Duncan in the morning.

## CRIME

# Ganges security concerns resurface

Police ask community members to report incidents

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community groups and individuals are expressing concern over the ongoing vandalism in Ganges village that first became noticeable last summer and escalated with the attack on five vehicles belonging to Search and Rescue volunteers on Jan. 15.

A question about how to improve the situation downtown was brought to the town hall session hosted by MP Elizabeth May and MLA Adam Olsen earlier this month. It also prompted a request from a downtown property owner for approval of a caretaker suite and has been discussed at Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce board meetings.

Capital Regional District director Gary Holman said he has received several requests for help from the community, including a grant-in-aid application from the Ganges Visitors Centre so they could do renovations and security camera installation.

"Having more 'eyes and ears' has been mentioned by the RCMP as being helpful," Holman noted.

Holman is also planning the regular meeting with RCMP to set community priorities in the coming weeks. He hopes to bring in the locally elected officials, and bylaw enforcement officers from the CRD and potentially the Islands Trust.

The first step will be to understand what the issues are, and then priorities and strategies for action can be set.

"I think it will be helpful for everybody," Holman said.

Sgt. Ryan Netzer, senior officer at the Salt Spring RCMP detachment, said police are being deployed to street patrols in the areas where incidents have been reported.

"The plan is to saturate the area where the attacks are happening. The guys are out doing foot patrols everywhere," Netzer said. "When areas are being hit we can concentrate on those areas."

The problem is the RCMP are not being informed of everything that happens, he said. Not all of the cars damaged on Jan. 15 were reported to police, for example.

"While our officers routinely conduct pro-active foot and vehicle patrols, we cannot possibly be in all places, at all times. We depend on the community to be engaged in crime prevention and report crime or



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Boarded-up windows at the Creekhous commercial complex in Ganges, where vandalism experienced over the past year has caused concern.

suspicious occurrences to us," Netzer said.

As well, limited officers on shift at a time and a large area to cover mean that police can be called out of the downtown core.

The Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce sought to address the downtown security problem last fall during a mixer for Small Business Week. RCMP Const. James Elliott gave a talk, with highlights posted to the chamber's website. Key messages were to improve lighting and install more cameras. The chamber's Project Ganges committee is hoping for a return visit with more information.

One thing the chamber has suggested in the past is relaxing zoning and other regulations so that it would be possible to mix residential housing with commercial developments downtown.

"Nobody's living in the village, so you have the tale of two villages: the day village and the night village," said chamber president Li Read.

So far at least, the moratorium on new connections with North Salt Spring Waterworks District has made that solution a non-starter.

Speaking to the vandalism issue at the Jan. 17 town hall session, May agreed with the person posing the question that indi-

vidual officers and the direction taken by the current Salt Spring detachment have been good, but she said the detachment continues to run under its full quota of staff members.

"There is concern about the staffing level on the Gulf Islands in general; I have raised it," May said.

In reply to the same question, MLA Adam Olsen said he had met with the RCMP detachment in Sidney/Saanich to talk about community issues and plans to have a similar meeting on Salt Spring soon.

Sgt. Netzer explained decisions on RCMP detachment levels are determined by the province, in partnership with the RCMP, pursuant to the terms of the Provincial Police Service Agreement. The RCMP delivers the police service as per the contract agreements. Detachments regularly take part in a multi-year planning process that includes local community needs and priorities.

Community leaders with concerns regarding service levels are advised to engage their local detachment commander and the district officer to discuss how to advance their ideas. Any changes in service, particularly additions, would need to have sustained funding in place.

## MARINE SAR

### Porlier search tasked

RCMSAR first on scene

A Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue station 25 crew were just getting underway on the evening of Monday, Jan. 21 from the unit's Vesuvius base on a weekly training mission when they were tasked by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre to search for a capsized boat and a person in the water at Porlier Pass.

Located at the north end of Galiano Island, Porlier Pass can be dangerous because of strong currents, and Monday night the current was ebbing over five knots. Coast Guard assets from Vancouver and Ganges were also tasked to the scene. Led by coxswain David Cassidy, RCMSAR 25 was first on scene, followed by the Coast Guard hovercraft Siyay from Vancouver. RCMSAR 25 completed shoreline searches of both sides of Polier Pass.

After an hour of searching, all units were stood down by the JRCC, which determined the call to be a false alarm.

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## PROVINCIAL POLITICS

# Legislature allegations shake B.C.

Local MLA praises independent Speaker role

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The reason that two senior employees of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly have been on administrative leave since November was finally revealed last week as being the result of alleged fraudulent expense claims, and misappropriation of goods.

Speaker of the House Darryl Plecas shared a report with the legislative assembly management committee on Jan. 21 charting the reasons he had Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Lenz and Clerk of the House Craig James investigated and eventually escorted out of the house by RCMP last fall.

When interviewed last Tuesday morning, Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen was still digesting the contents of the report. What he had read and heard so far convinced him the Speaker took appropriate action.

"The Speaker is responsible for managing the administration of the legislature. This is his house," Olsen said. "To me, he undertook a process that he found was necessary. What he has reported is really quite shocking."

After meeting in camera on Monday, the committee voted to release the full 76-page report to the public, unveiling an itemized timeline of the concerning behaviour that Plecas witnessed firsthand. James and Lenz have denied the allegations, stating they are confident time will prove them to be "completely false and untrue."

Much of the behaviour described by

Plecas allegedly took place on business visits that Lenz and James arranged to places like the U.K. and China. As he recounts, not much actual business took place, but the officials stayed in expensive hotels and had a good time. Plecas alleges that Lenz and James bought gifts and personal items they later charged as expenses. Some personal vacation days were assigned travel costs and meals that were actually provided were expensed.

**"If the Speaker is independent you get a different kind of leadership from that office. They're not just trying to protect the party interests."**

ADAM OLSEN  
Saanich North and  
the Islands MLA

Plecas says there were also attempts back in Victoria to have him authorize large benefit payments. Truckloads of alcohol and a wood-splitting machine charged to the legislature were alleged by other staffers to have wound up at James' home.

"Some of the events discussed below involve payments or liabilities worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. Other amounts ... may appear small in isolation, but their cumulative

effect is substantial," Plecas argues in his report. "As a pattern repeated over the nearly two-year period for which expenses documentation has been reviewed, collectively they amount to, at a minimum, many tens of thousands of dollars of public money, and potentially significantly more."

Olsen said he will not speculate whether the culture of entitlement outlined in Plecas' report might stretch beyond the two senior officers named. One thing that has become apparent to him, though, is the importance of having a House Speaker who is not connected to a particular party.

"The Speaker operates as an instrument of the government party for the most part," Olsen explained. "If the Speaker is independent you get a different kind of leadership from that office. They're not just trying to protect the party interests."

"That to me is astounding, that in B.C. politics the public interest is always the last thing the political class considers," Olsen added.

In addition to releasing the report, the all-party legislative committee voted to have an independent audit of legislature spending and to review its work practices and culture. A separate RCMP investigation into Lenz and James' actions is also underway.

Olsen said that while he will not be inserting himself into the process as it unfolds, he will be assertive on finding ways to improve democracy and to ensure the public interest always comes first.

"I think it would be not a bad development for British Columbia to ask a broader question about political independence," Olsen said. "I think it's important for us to be having this conversation."

## WATER RESOURCES

# Trust hears mixed feedback about SSIWPA

Meeting consensus is that body should continue in some form

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

After five years in operation, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance is getting a thorough check-up.

For those attending a special public meeting held on the subject at the Harbour House Hotel on Saturday, it seems the concept of a publicly funded water resource coordination group is valued, but that tweaking it in some ways could be investigated.

"Five years into this work is a perfect time to have this meeting and have some reflection on how the service is delivered, what the appropriate outcomes are and how it is managed," Islands Trust chief administrative officer Russ Hotsenpiller told staff, elected officials and about 20 members of the

public.

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee will recommend to Trust Council whether or not to continue funding SSIWPA with a tax requisition amount of \$98,500 this year, or potentially a smaller amount.

SSIWPA's purpose is to provide a framework for planning, policy development and recommendations related to Salt Spring's freshwater resources. Where SSIWPA has faced criticism is in its legislative limitation: it can only "coordinate" activities that benefit water quality and quantity on the island; it cannot do actual work, such as technical studies on groundwater resources or surface-water health. Most of the tax funding pays for services of a contract coordinator.

"There are a lot of projects discussed at SSIWPA that could not be done because they only had coordination powers," observed Doreen Hewitt, a Beddis Water Service commissioner and SSIWPA member.

William Shulba, the Islands Trust's senior freshwater specialist, is also a SSIWPA participant.

He pointed out that despite the group's limitations, the island has received funding and support from other agencies to conduct studies, such as the recently presented Golder & Associates groundwater report.

"The amount of other money that has been focused on Salt Spring through SSIWPA has almost rivalled the amount of tax requisition," he said.

As well, he said, provincial government staff are also part of SSIWPA.

"We have a lot of energy and people time put towards SSIWPA from the province."

Newly elected CRD director Gary Holman is one of the newest group members.

"SSIWPA needs to be seen by the community at large as being relevant to the concerns of the day and I think we can be," he said.

Holman also suggested that the CRD could perhaps provide some funds for SSI-

WPA in the future.

Ian Peace is an island resident who has attended SSIWPA meetings.

"It is very difficult to object to this [\$98,500 tax requisition] without some other less expensive alternative that at least has a better chance of doing better," he said.

Water Preservation Society board member Maxine Leichter said the Trust should reduce SSIWPA funding to a minimal level this year and transition to "a more practical and effective organizational and funding model."

Trust staff did create some funding options for consideration by the LTC at its Jan. 29 meeting, which occurred after the Driftwood went to press.

The Islands Trust invites feedback about both the SSIWPA tax requisition paid solely by property owners in the Salt Spring Local Trust Area and its overall proposed \$7.89-million budget for 2019/2020, which is two per cent higher than the previous year's budget.



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# Foreshore jurisdiction a murky area



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Castle Finn vessel that was spraypainted with various messages of defiance over the weekend.

## HOUSEBOAT

continued from 1

In general, the federal government owns the rights to the ocean waters but the Province of British Columbia has jurisdiction over the foreshore. According to a guide published by the province, "the public enjoys a privilege to use the foreshore and other aquatic lands held by the Crown. The only public rights that exist, however, are the right to land boats on and embark from the foreshore in cases of emergency, and the rights of navigation, anchoring, mooring and fishing over lands covered by water."

A licence of occupation is required to undertake any foreshore work or activities. Without tenure there is also no permission to keep the boat on the shore indefinitely, although there does not appear to be legal provision for remov-

ing it, either. Beachside owners Jason and Anna Watkin said they have contacted everyone from the Islands Trust to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for help but were redirected to other agencies at every step. Their efforts have shifted to helping Seagrave make the necessary repairs and get the boat off the harbour floor, whether that's to dry dock or a mooring buoy out in the harbour.

Ironically, the Watkins' own plans for the beach area were put on hold last year when Islands Trust bylaw enforcement stepped in due to unauthorized alteration of the creekside bank and construction of a retaining wall. Applications for a development permit and development variance permit are now underway.

Information from the DFO is the Coast Guard removed the hydrocarbons from the Castle Finn last November and have

been monitoring the situation since then. Any other information about regulations should come from the provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. According to an email from that ministry, no tenure has been issued: "The province is aware of the issue and is investigating the potential unauthorized use of crown land."

Islands Trust has also become involved, bylaw enforcement officer Karol Kudyba confirmed. A file has been opened and the owner made aware of the relevant bylaws for the Shoreline 6 zone.

"Our abilities are limited to the commercial and residential uses of the area," Kudyba explained.

Government bodies will have little power to deal with such situations until new federal legislation to deal with abandoned and derelict vessels is approved, which is expected to take place this summer.

The Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act will prohibit the leaving of a dilapidated vessel in the same place for more than 60 days without authorization; authorize the Minister of Transport or the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to order the removal of a dilapidated vessel left on any federal property; authorize the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to take measures to prevent, mitigate or eliminate hazards posed by vessels or wrecks and to hold the owner liable; and authorize the Minister of Transport to take measures with respect to abandoned or dilapidated vessels and to hold the owner liable, among other items.

For now, natural resource and crown land use violations can be reported to the province online at <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hen/nrv/report.htm>.

## CRD

# CRD lays out expenditures for Salt Spring

Holman proposes adding \$25,000 in new spending to original budget

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community members who attended the town hall session hosted by the Capital Regional District last Tuesday found little to complain about in the proposed 2019 Salt Spring budget of \$6.4 million, which will see property taxes for the average homeowner increase by 1.42 per cent.

New director Gary Holman scheduled the event as promised during his fall election campaign. Salt Spring's senior manager Karla Campbell and the CRD's chief administrator officer Bob Lapham were also there to answer questions.

The preliminary budget submitted to the CRD Board by previous director Wayne McIntyre was based on a one per cent increase over 2018. Holman elected not to make too many changes his review, but added \$25,000 in order to boost three areas. His changes will re-establish the feasibility reserve fund on Salt Spring with a \$10,000 contribution, and increase the amount for Search and Rescue by \$5,000 to achieve the maximum \$22,000 requisition.

Holman also added another \$10,000 to the grant-in-aid program. McIntyre's budget had already restored funding to the item, increasing from \$6,360 in 2018 to \$22,550. With the additional increase there will be \$32,550 to distribute to community projects and organizations that don't fall under any of the CRD commission areas this year.

In his presentation on Tuesday, Holman reported the 2019 budget includes several administration increases and new items, but stays close to the previous year's amount because a four-year special requisition to the Salt Spring Transportation Commission at \$250,000 per year is now finished.

Holman said the electoral area can expect to find similar relief in the coming years with \$3.25 million in debt from Rainbow Road Pool and the library to be repaid by 2021.

Despite that good news, it is unlikely taxpayers will see their bills reduced since new infrastructure projects will be coming up

to fill the gap. Potential projects include a new fire hall with an emergency program component, Ganges Hill pedestrian/cycling upgrades and on-island liquid waste disposal.

At the same time, some of these project costs may be alleviated by federal gas tax transfers. Holman reported that after accounting for \$250,000 previously committed, total funds available during the 2019-22 election term are estimated at close to \$4 million.

Responding to a member of the public who asked how priorities for future spending will be set, Campbell said staff are currently conducting an asset inventory and will be making suggestions according to the needs they discover through that process.

Holman conceded staff advice would be important, but noted only one person is responsible for the electoral area's budget recommendation, which to date has always been approved by the CRD Board as a whole.

"Ultimately it's up to the CRD director to make those decisions, and I think we need to broaden representation," Holman said, recalling his campaign promise to investigate the possibility of creating an elected Local Community Commission.

Other questions from the community included those on how the budget considers climate change mitigation and adaptation planning, and on the continuing importance of community volunteers as opposed to increasing professional staff to deliver services.

In regard to the first theme, Holman said items that will help improve the island's climate action include active transportation improvements.

"I think the key would be the transportation commission. All the funds are committed to providing alternatives to automobile use," Holman observed.

In regard to maintaining the island's volunteer culture, Holman said that he has heard that some contributors feel frustrated, such as some of the water commissions, and that he would work with staff and volunteers to improve that.

"I still think Salt Spring does rely pretty heavily on volunteers to get things done," Holman said.

Holman's budget recommendation will go to the CRD Board for approval. The full regional budget for the 2019/20 fiscal year will be finalized in March.

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



## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

# Stirring the waters

The Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance was a novel and well-received idea when it was proposed back in 2012 and received funding the following fiscal year.

It was promoted on the basis that it would not cost Salt Spring property owners much money — about \$10 a year for the average assessed residential property — and it would fill a glaring gap in coordination of activities that would lead to protection of freshwater resources in the long run.

Despite the fact that the tax requisition is only \$98,500, compared to a total Trust area budget of more than \$7 million, last year islanders told the Trust that they wanted to be specifically consulted about the SSIWPA tax and not just the overall Trust budget.

### THE ISSUE: SSI Watershed Protection Alliance

### WE SAY: Now's the time to improve it

legs, and last fall its credibility was impacted when the island's largest water utility, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, decided to withdraw from the steering committee.

However, remaining participants feel that without SSIWPA, other grants and government funding and staff time would not have come our way, and that after five years in existence, progress is being made on a number of fronts.

Armed with feedback from a Saturday public meeting and other sources, Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee was poised to make a decision on Tuesday about continuing to fund SSIWPA. Based on comments from committee members Peter Grove, Laura Patrick and Peter Luckham at the meeting, it is clear that the recommendation would be to continue providing taxpayer support for SSIWPA. However, they also heard suggestions that an organization that is limited to only coordination activities is not as useful as one that can actually "do something," and that partnering with the Capital Regional District or otherwise amending what is actually being coordinated should be investigated.

Kudos to the Trust for holding the special meeting and being open to improving a concept and a body that has value for Salt Spring Island.

That a service of such minor scope and cost has attracted so much public attention might be surprising, but it's not. Water is among a handful of consistently major island issues and expectations for SSIWPA were high.

Perhaps because the concept and function were new, the organization seemed to take a long time to get its sea



# MLA facilitates discussions

BY ADAM OLSEN  
SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS MLA

On Jan. 17 I took part in a meeting between Salt Spring Island residents and representatives of Penelakut Tribe to discuss the proposed tenure application for a portion of Booth Bay.

My office has received a volume of correspondence on this issue. I have heard the concerns of Salt Spring residents about aquaculture and access to the beaches at Booth Bay. My facilitation to help coordinate a face-to-face meeting is the first step toward seeking and finding common ground.

It was clarified in discussion that Penelakut intends to develop aquaculture through seeding and manually harvesting clams. They have chosen to pursue an aquaculture tenure, so they can seed the beach with clams and oysters. They are seeking tenure of the area in order to practise the act of aquaculture. This tenure is in addition to their four currently existing tenures, which are adjacent to their reserve lands.

There is a great deal of concern about the use of plastic predator netting, as is described in

### VIEWPOINT

their application. Indeed, I share this concern. In our conversation, Penelakut representatives were clear that they do not use predator netting in their current operations and do not wish to use it at this location.

**I have been advised that a decision on this application will not be made until the summer of 2019.**

Residents were reassured that they would not lose access to the beach. Once it is seeded the clams will take 18 months to two years to grow. When they reach maturity, members of Penelakut Tribe will harvest and depurate the product. As the beach could be contaminated the shellfish will be sent to a company on Vancouver Island to be depurated (cleaned) before they go to sale. This tenure applica-

tion is evaluated and reviewed by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and Transport Canada. I have had a number of exchanges with the senior staff of Minister Doug Donaldson and will discuss this application with Minister Donaldson when we return to the Legislature in February.

I have been advised that a decision on this application will not be made until the summer of 2019.

I recognize the tension that this application has caused for some Salt Spring residents. There are some foundation steps being made to develop a clear line of communication between both communities.

As a member of the WSANEC people I also understand the important relationship the Coast Salish people have with the Salish Sea and harvesting seafood. It has been part of our culture and economy for countless generations.

It is with this sensitivity and open mind that I will facilitate conversations between both communities.

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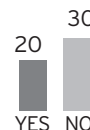
### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Have you become more vigilant about your home security in the past year?

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you shocked by the Plecas report?



Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://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: }

**“The [kids are] just dying to come in here to play with fire, or 3D print or make something.”**

GISS SHOP TEACHER DARRELL WATSON

## SALT SPRING SAYS

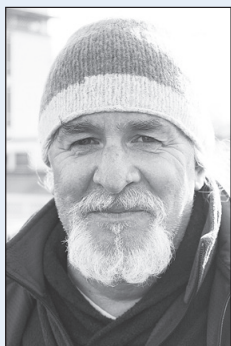
**WE ASKED:** *How have you changed your disaster preparations since the windstorm?*

**JILLIAN REID**



I've given it more thought. I need to get more water and find out how long water will keep in bottles. Accessibility is also an issue. I have a grab list, so I know what to grab if we need to leave.

**PAUL BRYANS**



We stocked up on canned food, batteries, candles and made sure we have a lot of good dry wood. We've also had a bit more communication with the neighbours.

**JACQUELINE THOMAS**



We got our generator fixed.

**PAT DONNELLY**



We've increased our lights with additional flashlights. It was very dark.

**GUS ELLYATT**



We got caught this time, but are glad to have a wood-burning fireplace. We're also going to need a bigger generator.

## 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](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

### Keep dogs out of creek

Thank you for the very informative “Duck Creek: a legacy and a future” article in the Jan. 23 paper.

It is exciting to know that salmon are returning to our island streams to spawn, even in what seem to be small or insignificant streams. There may be 3,000 precious pink eggs — our future salmon — in a single nest. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Kathy Reimer and the volunteers who keep these streams viable and protect our wild fish.

But there was one important message missing, which is the impact of dogs in the creek. This is a popular park for people to take their dogs for exercise, but we are instructed that dogs are to be kept “under control” at all times. This may or may not include keeping our pets

on leash while near the actual creek, but it is very important.

Although most of us enjoy seeing our dogs frolicking freely or even romping in the stream, this can have very destructive results for salmon eggs. Almost everyone is aware of the fragility of a bird's nest with eggs in it, but few of us realize that a salmon's nest (redd) is just as fragile and precious, and the salmon mother has given her life for the life of her babies, the eggs in her nest. We probably don't recognize a salmon redd unless it is pointed out to us, or realize when we or our dogs are damaging it or the stream banks, and the native plants that the salmon habitat needs.

That's why it is so important for all the dogs to be controlled, particularly keeping them out of the water. We must all find a safer place for our dogs to freely run and play.

**NANCY WIGEN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Diversify

I am responding to Margriet Ruur's suggestion in last week's Viewpoint that “we should be taxing the transportation providers who bring boat and plane loads of visitors to the islands.”

The implication of such a tax would be to isolate islanders further, further raising the cost of goods transported to the island, and making travel more expensive.

As I write this from the comfort of the Oystercatcher awaiting a Seair flight to the city, which allows me to conduct business off-island, which in turn generates employment for several young families on Salt Spring, I have to point out that our goal, if tourists are to be taxed, is to do so in a fashion that does not penalize islanders and diminish our local economy. Applying taxes that would increase the financial burden of using ferries, float planes and

proposed inter-island boat shuttles will do less to discourage tourists than it would to make life even more expensive for islanders.

If we want to decrease our island's dependence on tourism, we need to find ways of encouraging lifestyles and business models that do not depend upon the tourist trade. People would be less likely to swamp us every spring, summer and fall if we didn't roll out the red carpet so appealingly.

The argument that we need tourism because it drives the economic engine of Salt Spring is as flawed as the Alberman argument for perpetuating a dependence on the tar sands.

If we seek a more diversified economy, it's up to us, as islanders, to diversify and to create the opportunities we seek.

**TIM HARVEY,**  
WILKIE WAY

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## To use or not to use? The plastic bag question

By **ANNE PARKINSON**

The thin plastic grocery bag is a single-use plastic causing environmental havoc around the globe. Plastic bags were first introduced in 1977 and by 2017 three billion were used in Canada, along with the oil consumed in their manufacture and transport. Each bag is used for less than 20 minutes and less than 10 per cent are recycled.

Landfills create low-oxygen environments in which waste decays very slowly. Therefore, plastic bags in landfills take hundreds of years or more to break down and the tiny particles of degraded plastic can contaminate air, soil and water. When exposed to the elements, solar radiation transforms plastic bags into microplastics more quickly and powerful greenhouse gases such as methane, dioxin and ethylene can be released.

While the numbers vary a little depending on the source, the overall message is clear that the quantity and mishandling of thin plastic bags is creating serious damage to every environment. Bags are floating or suspended in rivers and oceans, filling the stomachs of animals or entangling them, littering the ground and dangling from fences and trees.

So, assuming humans around the globe need some kind of a sac to carry stuff in, what is the best choice of a carry bag from today's alternatives, which are paper, cotton or polypropylene (PP) fibre?

An Australian study compared many stages of the “life cycle” of several types of carry bags to determine their environmental impact. Often termed “cradle to grave,” the study examined many factors, such as production/shipping, re-use per year, life span and the end point as both litter and waste. The PP fibre bag came out having the lowest environmental impact due to the fact that, even though it is formed using oil, it can be reused so many times. On the other hand, paper bags and cotton/canvas bags, even though formed from renewable

### GUEST COLUMN

resources, use the most energy in production and shipping. Cotton bags use additional energy when washed and dried, plus cotton plantations (non-organic) use 10 per cent of the world's pesticides and 25 per cent of the world's insecticides.

A 160-page report commissioned for Recyc-Quebec compared footprints of eight bags: three types of thin plastic, two types of paper, two types of PP reusable and one cotton. The study looked at four impact criteria: human health, ecosystem health, use of fossil fuels, abandonment in the environment, at each life cycle stage: production, distribution, end of life.

The lowest footprint overall was again the PP reusable bag, and more specifically, the non-woven type made from PCR-PET (post-consumer recycled polyethylene terephthalate), one of the easiest plastics to recycle. To manufacture PE non-woven bags, the fibres are glued together into sheets, rather than individually woven, which consumes more energy. Studies vary, but if a PP/PE bag is reused over 15 times and up to 110 times, then its footprint is lower than any other type of carry bag.

There are many factors to consider when choosing the lowest footprint PP/PE bag, including the non-renewable oil, inks and dyes used in production, the release of microfibres during washing/drying, including the energy used to clean, the release of toxic byproducts, and the potential end-of-life recycling options.

Even though some studies support the fact that single-use plastic bags can be reused as garbage bag liners, isn't the goal to reduce garbage, shop wisely, recycle/compost responsibly, and aim for substantially less garbage?

Perhaps the best summation comes

from a recent article in Verge: “What environmental impacts am I most interested in mitigating?” Reducing my use of a non-renewable resource such as oil? Or micro-plastics and gases released from plastic? Or litter?

Overall, if you reuse your bags many times, that is best for the environment. So, keep your PP bags by the door or in your car. And if you forget to bring them into the store, when you are asked, “Do you need a bag?,” just say no thanks! ... even if it means retrieving your bag from the car, asking for a paper bag instead or even doing without a bag.

If you are still using single-use plastic carryout bags, beware of ones labelled degradable, oxo-degradable, oxo-fragrmentable or oxo-biodegradable. These bags are typically conventional plastic with metal salts added to cause them to break down faster than normal plastic. They still take years to fully degrade and, in the meantime, the resulting fragments of plastic, which remain in the environment, can be more harmful as the fragments can more readily be transported by wind, precipitation or flowing water onto soil or into marine habitats, where they can endanger more and smaller animals than would a single plastic bag. They also cannot be recycled because the metal salts contaminate the recycling stream. Degradable bags can usually be identified as plastic by small print in the corner of the bag and are also used as produce bags.

In Canada, Montreal, Victoria and some smaller municipalities have banned thin plastic carryout bags, but they are still being used in other places in Canada, including Salt Spring Island. Isn't it time that the use of these bags be discontinued in our community as well?

*The writer is a member of the SUPER (Single Use Plastic Elimination and Recycle) group, which has a page on Facebook.*

# Referendum failure cripples green revolution

BY FRANTS ATTORP

The air has been let out of the Green balloon; it escaped into the atmosphere with the defeat of proportional representation.

The Greens were the party that stood to gain the most with a yes vote, and lose the most with a no vote. In the last provincial election, the Greens won three seats whereas, proportionately, they were entitled to 15. They have been severely short-changed from the beginning and will continue to be so in the future.

There is no question the big referendum winner was the Liberals. They must be laughing until their sides hurt. Had a proportional system been adopted, they would have had to cooperate with other parties forevermore or face political isolation. Now they can look forward to a bright

## INDEPTH

future of false majorities with steadfast support from about a third of the voting public.

Is it any wonder Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson and his cohorts launched a vigorous campaign of fear and misinformation? Their word of choice was "confusing." Who would have thought democracy could be so difficult to understand!

Those who fought for the status quo are more than happy to deprive others of their fair share of seats, providing those stolen seats go into their column. Politics truly is war without bloodshed.

New Democrats, like the Greens, have nothing to celebrate. Their coalition government hangs by a thread.

Given the narrow wins and losses in many ridings and the wild unpredictability of first-past-the-post, anything can happen in the future. But one fact remains — our current electoral system has put the Liberals and their predecessors in the driver's seat for most of the modern era.

One has to wonder if the NDP borrowed a page from Justin Trudeau's play book. Did they dangle the electoral reform carrot to win the election, and then sabotage the whole thing by adding a complication — this time a referendum? Why not just do it, and then ask the electorate what they think after a couple of election cycles?

The NDP may feel emboldened by their short term in office, but that situation is unlikely to repeat itself anytime soon. Statistically, it is

much more likely that the Liberals will be back behind the wheel in the near future with full dictatorial powers.

The Greens may pick up a few more seats in future elections, but that would likely come at the expense of the NDP, since the political right is more often seen as a last choice for people with an environmental bent.

Which brings us to vote splitting and riding up the middle. Green voters will once again face the usual dilemma — vote strategically or listen to the heart and risk electing a corporate, anti-environment government.

Whether the Greens win three, four or five seats is largely irrelevant. They are likely to remain a minor player on the political stage thanks to an electoral system specifically designed to shut out

smaller parties and prevent the rabble from taking control. The last election, despite all the fanfare, was a fluke. False majorities are the norm rather than the exception.

Winning under first-past-the-post has always been about distribution, and unfortunately, Green voters are scattered across the province with insufficient concentrations for representation in all but a handful of ridings. The divide and conquer strategy rarely fails.

As the environmental crisis deepens and hopes for a political solution fade, one can only ask: Where is the revolution? Given the results of the referendum and the lamentable voter participation, it's going to be a long time coming.

*Frants Attorp is a writer living on Salt Spring Island.*

## MORE LETTERS

### SSIWPA must evolve

*The following statement was read at the special Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting held regarding the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance on Jan. 26.*

In its six years of existence, Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance leadership has made a good faith effort and has had some moderate success at providing information related to water issues on Salt Spring.

However, in my opinion, the SSIWPA has not produced results commensurate with a cost of around \$98,000 a year. The current structure has been burdened with an overabundance of bureaucracy but has taken little positive action. An exception is the SSIWPA technical working group, whose volunteers have produced useful work and done this for free.

We need to accomplish more. We need an entity whose mission and tasks do not overlap with existing agencies, supports the participation of Salt Spring community groups and volunteers, and is more action oriented.

Some positive steps have been taken in this direction already. To continue with this progress, SSIWPA needs a new funding model that can raise and spend funds on tasks beyond "coordination." Various options could be considered, including making use of CRD authorities.

Given these considerations, my request is that Islands Trust reduce its funding to SSIWPA to a minimal level with the objective of making an orderly transition to a more practical and effective organizational and funding model.

**MAXINE LEICHTER,**  
SALT SPRING

### Runoff values

I am writing to comment on the Groundwater Fractions letter written by Shannon Cowan in the Jan. 23 paper. The number attributed to surface water runoff was 54 per cent, which is an extremely high value for Salt Spring Island considering our rural nature.

I would expect this value to be representative of the Ganges area where there is a well-defined surface water drainage system. In the majority of the island's rural

areas I would expect a value closer to 10 per cent for surface water runoff. Simple observations of little to no water flowing on the ground surface even during heavy rainfall supports the lower value for the surface runoff component of the hydrologic cycle and water balance of the island.

Perhaps there will be additional information contained in the pending report that will shed light on this topic.

**JIM DUMONT, P.ENG.,**  
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALIST,  
SCOTT POINT DRIVE

### Feminist group forming

As a result of the feminist march of Jan. 20, I am prompted to pursue further action.

I am proposing a monthly gathering of feminists to explore ideas. Those who are interested are encouraged to contact me at helani@shaw.ca. Let's keep the energy alive!

**HELANI DAVISON,**  
SALT SPRING

Capital Regional District

CRD

### Notice of Employment Opportunity

#### Community Liaisons for Galiano Island, Mayne Island & Saturna Island

The CRD is seeking three (3) contract Island Community Liaisons for Galiano Island, Mayne Island and Saturna Island to work closely with the Manager and to assist with community economic sustainability activities for the Island, support counterpart colleagues on other Southern Gulf Islands, and to provide miscellaneous administrative responsibilities for the Island on behalf of the CRD. Key duties and responsibilities include: representing the CRD and providing information and education on CRD services and programs on the Island and across the Southern Gulf Islands; answering inquiries and provide general information to assist the public in locating services provided by local and governmental agencies on the Island; providing meeting support for Island commissions; assisting with the coordination of workshops, open houses, and public engagement events; providing administrative support for new and ongoing projects; and other related activities.

For more information on these exciting contract opportunities, please visit our web page site at [www.crd.bc.ca](http://www.crd.bc.ca) "Careers" (opportunities 19/005, 19/007 and 19/008).

*Make a difference and become a part of the Capital Regional District's vibrant future! Located in one of the world's premier places to live, work and visit, the Capital Regional District (CRD) strives to create liveable, vibrant communities, practice exemplary environmental stewardship and build a prosperous and sustainable economy. We are an outcome driven, high performance organization respected for its commitment to the citizens we service and the services we provide.*

## No easy answers provided in Styx film

BY THERIN GOWER

A holiday sailing trip down the coast of African turns into a profound moral dilemma in Salt Spring Film Festival's next Best of the Fests presentation.

Styx is a powerful drama. The opening scenes introduce us to Rieke, a skilled German emergency physician, highly competent in her big-city work. Her organization and forethought are equally obvious as she prepares all the equipment needed for a holiday alone, cruising solo from Gibraltar to a park on Ascension Island in the Atlantic.

We seem to perch on her boat, enjoying her precise routines and sharing the beauty and tranquility of the journey. Then, in what would be the climax of an ordinary sailing film, Rieke copes brilliantly with the enormous challenges of sailing alone through a major storm. (Amazingly, the whole film including the storm scene was made without CGI.)

Just as Rieke seems to have survived unscathed, the true crisis starts to unfold. Rieke sees a large fishing trawler drifting aimlessly nearby, crowded with people. She reports this disabled refugee vessel to the coast guard by radio. They instruct her to stay away from it. They will send help.

It is clear that there are far too many people for Rieke to take onto her own small boat, but driven by their pleas she tries to sail close enough to throw some bottled water to them. Immediately, refugees start jumping off their boat and trying to

swim to hers. Most drown, but Rieke manages to save one unconscious boy by taxing all her considerable strength, and flees further away from the sinking refugee ship with him aboard.

When the boy Kingsley comes to, he begs Rieke to return to rescue his sister. Tension mounts as Rieke becomes convinced that really no help is on the way, Kingsley becomes more desperate, and the cries from the vessel become weaker. The allegory hinted at in the film's title becomes clear.

Here is a healthy, wealthy, fully-equipped and well-trained white European. Can she do anything to help the sick, sinking, overwhelmingly large number of dark-skinned refugees who will surely die without her aid? Or will action on her part just cause her to join them in disaster? How will she live with her decision if she just sails away?

Is saving one boy enough, for her or for him? Could more of the refugees be saved if they accepted that most would not, and somehow peacefully selected a few lucky ones that would match the space and food that Rieke has to share? Will the coast guard eventually come, and if it does, will that encourage more refugees to risk their lives in the future?

There are no easy answers in Styx. This beautifully made, thought-provoking film will be shown at ArtSpring on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m.

*The writer is a board member of the Salt Spring Film Festival Society.*



# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## SALT SPRING INN

Open for Breakfast every day at 9am  
Sunday Brunch served until 2pm  
"Where Islanders & Friends Start their Day"



PHOTO BY RICK NEUFELD

**HARMONIZED:** April Verch Band members, from left, Cody Walters, April Verch and Alex Rubin sing harmonies and play upright electric bass, fiddle and guitar at a Salt Spring Folk Club concert on Monday night. Verch is also a step-dancer and hails from the Ottawa Valley.

## CONCERT

# Sunny Siders brighten stage

African American singers and composers honoured

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, Salt Spring's own Sunny Siders jazz band will mark Black History Month for the Tea à Tempo concert at All Saints By-the-Sea.

The Sunny Siders program will feature works by black American composers, lyricists or singers, ranging from the well-known Nat "King" Cole to the less-well-known Irene Higginbotham.

Featured also will be songs by Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Bill Withers, Alberta Hunter and Canada's own Oscar Peterson.

Extremely talented singer Nancy Wilson, who died in 2018, will also be honoured, and the band will play a favourite song of Queen Elizabeth's that was presented by Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber at her 89th birthday party: Miss Otis Regrets.

Sunny Siders are singers Hannah Brown and Suzanne Gay (who also plays piano in the

group); Alan Kerr, bass; Randall Miron, percussion; John Moore, saxophones; and Keith Ollershaw, trombone.

Black History Month, formerly known as Negro History Week and now known as African-American History Month in the U.S., has been celebrated since the late 1920s in the United States. It was introduced by Carter G. Woodson, a historian whose intention was to familiarize white Americans with the history, background and contribution of black Americans.

It was introduced by the Ontario Black History Society in 1979 and it was Toronto that proclaimed February as Black History Month there, well before it became officially recognized in 1995 throughout Canada. In December 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month in Canada following a motion introduced by the first black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, the Honourable Jean Augustine.

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

## ARTISTS WORK

# SSNAP and Photofest calls go out

April 1 and May 31 deadlines set for two major events

Two arts events taking place on Salt Spring this year have put out calls for participation.

First up is Salt Spring Photofest, which seeks photographers and exhibition venues for its inaugural June 13-26 event.

All island photographers are invited to open their studios or plan an exhibition of photography during the period of the festival. Gallery owners are encouraged to feature the work of island photographers at the same time, along with cafes and other exhibition spaces.

Photofest is a collaboration of the Photosynthesis group and the Salt Spring Photography Club.

Photographers and galleries are asked to sign up by April 1 via saltspringphotofest.com. Information is also available from Pierre Mineau at pierre.mineau2@gmail.com and Judy McPhee at jhmcphree@shaw.ca.

The third biennial Salt Spring National Art Prize finalists exhibition runs this fall at Mahon Hall.

Submissions of two and three-dimensional work are being accepted from Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada until May 31.

Finalists are eligible for nine awards, six selected by jurors and three selected by public vote. Finalists' works are exhibited and for sale at Mahon Hall on Salt Spring from Sept. 21 to Oct. 21, with the award winners announced at the Gala Awards Night on Saturday, Oct. 19.

SSNAP's 2019 jurors are David Balzer, editor-in-chief and co-publisher of Canadian Art; Sandra Meigs, professor emerita at the University of Victoria; cheyanne turions, the curator at SFU Galleries in Vancouver; and Ian Wallace, former professor of art history at the University of British Columbia and the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design.

Submission information is available at saltspringartprize.ca.

## Out + ABOUT

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

## World-class jazz

The second event in the Jazzuary 2019 series runs next Wednesday, Feb. 6 at Mahon Hall.

That's when the hugely acclaimed Doxas Brothers Quartet performs beginning at 7:30 p.m. The group features tenor saxophonist Chet Doxas, whose base is New York City, and his brother Jim, a drummer, from Montreal, where the musical Doxas family is from. Vancouver-based trumpet player Brad Turner and bassist André LaChance will play with the Doxas brothers on their West Coast tour.

The musicians' work has earned them several nominations and awards, including Grammys, Junos and Academy Awards.

## The Moaning Yoni

Fans of physical theatre won't want to miss the next event presented by the Festival of Fools and Phylax Theatre.

The Moaning Yoni is a solo-show creation of Joylyn Secunda showing at Mahon Hall on Friday-Saturday, Feb. 8 and 9 at 8 p.m.

The Moaning Yoni is summarized as: A millennial Alice in Wonderland meets her anthropomorphic vagina in a yoni-healing circle. From Tinder to tantra they cross a sexual battlefield in a psychedelic journey.

"I have been wanting to bring this show to Salt Spring for a long time," said Bob Twaites of Festival of Fools. "It's a wonderful, fresh clown show, with a perspective that is very much needed in our community."

## Spiritual series

Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice is offering three monthly Tuesday evening series beginning this week.

On the first Tuesday of each month (starting Feb. 5) will be Sacred Chanting from various traditions, led by Elaina Hyde and Usha Haywood; on the second Tuesday (Feb. 12) a Discussion Group relating to spiritual interests, facilitated by Heather Martin; and on the third Tuesday (Feb. 19), a Sacred Poetry reading and group reflection led by Lottie Devindisch.

All Tuesday evening events are by donation and are drop-in, taking place in St. Mary's Church, Fulford, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

For detailed information, go to www.staroftheseassi.ca.



ArtSpring Presents

**Worlds of Puppets**  
(formerly Figura Theatre)  
**Metamorphosis**

**February 21, 2019**

Suitable for mature audiences ages 14+

7:30pm (no intermission)

\$25.00 | \$5.00 18 & under

Generously sponsored by  
**Victoria Olchowecki.**

artspring.ca | 250.537.2102

# TIDE GUIDE

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# ISLAND LIFE

- Star of the Week
- Remember When
- Where is this?

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

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



## EDUCATION

# Sparks fly at high school shop class showcase

Techniques from blacksmithing to CNC machining offered

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Students at Gulf Islands Secondary School demonstrated their work over the past year at the GISS shop class showcase event on Thursday.

Tables were laden with handmade knives, metalwork and woodworking projects, all made by students in the shop class at GISS. The showcase was a chance for local trades workers to see the skills and projects of the students in the class, as well as to meet the students and talk about their projects in an informal setting. The event was facilitated by the Construction Foundation of B.C.

"All we try and do is bridge the gaps between educators and employers and young people," said Jimmy Roney, a careers catalyst who works with the foundation in the Vancouver Island area. He added that the showcase is "a really good way of having people connect with potential employers, and also for the employers to come in and see the incredible things that young people are doing."

The event takes place during exam season every year and gives

students a chance to show off what they've been working on for the past year. Typically, only completed projects are showcased at the event, but this year was the first year to have a live blacksmithing demo. Blacksmithing was introduced to the program last year, after more space opened up in the shop expansion.

"We got the forges going this year, so we thought it would be a good idea to give everyone a live example," said Jelera McMullen, one of the blacksmithing students at the demo.

McMullen and Nadia Sadouski are Grade 12 students who have been working in the blacksmithing side of the shop program since the school got its first forge last year. The two are already selling their work online and at local markets, and are planning on collaborating together after graduation.

"We kind of already have a plan to start a shop together," McMullen said.

McMullen has had a lifelong interest in blacksmithing, and Sadouski has been smithing for just over a year.

"I've personally been interested in blacksmithing since I was a toddler. I saw it on TV and it interested me," McMullen said. "I like that you can just make something without having to buy things



PHOTOS BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

From left, Jelera McMullen jammers the red-hot tong of a Medieval-style sword while Nadia Sadouski works on a knife project in the blacksmithing area.

## We want your input! 2019/20 Islands Trust Budget



The Islands Trust Council is looking for your input on the proposed 2019/20 budget. Your comments will help the trustees make their decision when they set the budget in March.

Learn more about the budget and how to express your opinions (including via our online survey) at:

[islandstrust.bc.ca/budget](http://islandstrust.bc.ca/budget)

Deadline for comments is February 11th, 2019.

If you would like paper copies of the survey or any of the budget documentation, please call us at 250.405.5151 or via email, [budget@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:budget@islandstrust.bc.ca).

from other people like tools, utensils and knives."

The high school program gives students the chance to hone skills they will later use in the real world.

"Knives take me a long time to make," Sadouski said. "I made two knives this semester, and they both took me two and a half months to make. In the interim I make things like jewellery and whatnot. It's really fun."

"Often we get told by the employers that they wished they had this when they were kids," Roney added. "They come into the shops and the teacher has done such an amazing job in creating this atmosphere where kids can feel creative and know what it's like to apply the skills that they're learning with these projects."

The shop room is not just for kids who are interested in working with their hands. It has two CNC (computer numeric control) machines, one for cutting metal and one for plastics and other materials. Combined with 3D printing, these machines allow students who are interested in programming and design to create prototypes of their work.

"There's a little something for everyone if you're more into hammering away or if you're more into sitting and programming stuff," said shop teacher Darrell Watson. "The life is back in here, you can really see it. The [kids are] just dying to come in here to play with fire, or 3D print or make something."



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

A collection of handmade knives built by students from various materials and displayed at the Gulf Islands Secondary School shop class showcase held on Friday.



Islands Trust

Preserving and protecting the islands in the Salish Sea. Learn more about what we do at [islandstrust.bc.ca](http://islandstrust.bc.ca).

# what's on this week



## 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.

### 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.

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

## Thur. Jan. 31

### 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.

## Fri. Feb. 1

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Blue Moon Marquee.** With Ryan McNally at Mateada Nitro Lounge. 7 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**StoryTime.** Stories, games and crafts for ages 3 to 6 and their caregivers on Fridays at the Salt Spring Public Library. 11 a.m.

### Family Movie Matinee.

Family-friendly movies every Friday at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room until March 8 at 2:30 p.m. Today's movie is Happy Feet 2.



### Indian Dinner Cooking Class.

Salt Spring chef Naomi Singh lends her reputation and culinary skills for creating mouth-watering gourmet Indian food cuisine in support of the Salt Spring Island Peace Class. All Saints By-the-Sea. Cooking class runs from 4 to 6 p.m. (followed by a dinner served at 6:30 p.m.) Register online at www.ssi-peace.com.

### Gourmet Indian Dinner.

Salt Spring chef Naomi Singh holds a gourmet Indian meal dinner as a fundraiser for the Salt Spring Island Peace Class. All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 p.m. (with doors open at 6 p.m.)



## Sat. Feb. 2

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

### GISS Improv Invitational.

GISS and Ladysmith, junior and senior, Improv teams will perform Theatresports and Canadian Improv Games events in this spectacular show. Both Ladysmith & GISS Sr teams will perform and record their submission for the CIG Online Wildcard tournament. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.

### Boomshack.

Dance to Nanaimo band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

### Small Flock Poultry Health Workshop.

Learn how to keep your poultry healthy. Farmers' Institute. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration deadline is 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 31. Enquiries and registration at windrush4669@shaw.ca or Eat Drink Ferment.



### Met Opera: Carmen.

Mezzo-soprano Clémentine Margaine reprises her remarkable portrayal of opera's ultimate seductress, a triumph in her 2017 debut performances, with impassioned tenor Roberto Alagna as her lover, Don José. Louis Langrée conducts Sir Richard Eyre's powerful production, a Met favourite since its 2009 premiere. ArtSpring. 10 a.m.

## Sat. Feb. 2

### ACTIVITIES

### Saturday Art Makers Lab.

Weekly workshops to inspire and introduce new mediums to youth ages 6-12 years. Today's session is Dreamscapes w/ Ink & Collage led by Salt Spring mural artist and painter Talia Peckel. Mahon Hall. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pre-register at ssartscouncil.com.

### Book Launch: Freeing Your Child from Self-Criticism and Perfectionism.

With author Colleen Adrian at the SS Library. 11 a.m. to noon.

### Art Show Opening: From Seed to Canvas.

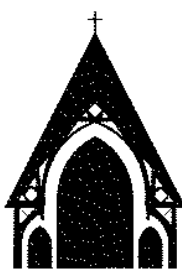
Opening event for an exhibit of work by Margarite Sanchez in the program room of the Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

## Sun. Feb. 3

### ACTIVITIES

### Singing Service With Barb Slater.

Family-friendly sacred song circle at Salt Spring Unitarian Fellowship service at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m.



## Mon. Feb. 4

### 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.

### Monday Night Darts.

Every Monday at the Legion. 6 p.m. (Sign-ups and warm-up starts at 5:30 p.m.) Drop-ins welcome.

### Salt Spring Toastmasters.

Group meets every Monday at Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 7 p.m. Public welcome to attend and observe a meeting.



## Tue. Feb. 5

### ACTIVITIES

### Portals Into Consciousness – Science, Shamanism and Real Magic.

Workshop presented by anthropological researcher, writer and professor emerita Marilyn Walker, from Mount Allison University, who now lives on Salt Spring, at Star of the Sea (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register at starofthesea.ca

### Sacred Chanting.

First of a monthly series with sacred chanting from differing traditions — including time for reflection in between chants — led by Elaina Hyde and Usha Haywood at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). Sessions will be held on the first Tuesday of each month. 7 to 8:30 p.m.



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

## Wed. Feb. 6

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

### Tea a Tempo: Sunny Siders Jazz Band.

Group marks Black History Month with songs by African American singers and composers. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

### Jazzuary 2019: Doxas Brothers Quartet.

Quartet with players from New York, Montreal and Vancouver bring their acclaimed brand of jazz to Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

### 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](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or drop them off at the Driftwood office.

Published in the first Driftwood of each month!  
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## see horoscope on page 12

### THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **Green Book** runs Wednesday-Thursday, Jan. 30 + 31 at 7 p.m.
- **The Wife** runs Friday, Feb. 1 to Sunday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday.
- **Beautiful Boy** runs Monday, Feb. 4 to Thursday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

• **Margarite Sanchez** shows new work in an exhibit called **From Seed to Canvas** in the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room through February. Opening event is on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 1 to 3 p.m.

- Thursday, Jan. 31 is the last day to see **Lucky and the Inquisition**, with work by **Lucky McEachern** and **Jason Newport** in the library's program room.
- **Fault Line Projects** presents **Eidolon**, sculpture and paintings by **Michael Robb** and photographs of their creation by **Michael Wall**. Show continues until Feb. 9.
- **Looking Up 5**, a co-show of photography and art by **Bill Underwood** and **Suzanne Prendergast**, hangs in the **ArtSpring** lobby from Feb. 1 to 27.
- Work by **Salt Spring Photography Club** members can be seen in the **ArtSpring** lobby for the last two days of 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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and get all the news first by following us on Twitter.

## THIS WEEK'S by Michael O'Connor HOROSCOPE

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

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

Month two of the last year of the second decade of the new millennium begins. This timeline is not absolute. Yet, the Gregorian calendar has become the global standard. What is especially significant about it is that it is very precisely aligned with the cycle of the Sun. Of course, it is Earth that orbits the Sun, but that is not how it is experientially observed. Western or Tropical Astrology is based on this intimate relationship. Regarding the experiencer, the observer, it is important to remember that, according to science, our experience is not simply that of a subject/object relationship with existence. Interestingly, it is a subject/subject relationship. In this regard, the notion of objectivity is ultimately an illusion. Spiritually, this means that we each and collectively share an intimate relationship with existence. Purely linear interpretations cast us as small and insignificant in the universe. Yet, qualitatively, life is and we are the conscious experience and expression of what can simply be described as miraculous. Yes, life is a miracle and you and we are each and collectively an essential feature of it.

### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

A revolutionary impulse continues to rise within. It will also likely synchronize with personal choices and perhaps even outer events. It will feel like you want and need to break through to break free. Stimulating new streams of income or ways to earn money is highlighted. The prospect of making investments is on your mind as well.

### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

This week's Aquarius New Moon will activate some fresh starts for us all. For you specifically, it will activate new initiatives in your public and professional life. You yearn to engage your creative abilities more fully, to work smarter than harder. Traditional approaches no longer work or satisfy and you are ready to explore new options.

### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The turn of the New Year synchronized with a deep purge of some kind. Breaking with tradition is one example. While this metamorphic process will continue, there has been a break in the clouds and the sunlight shines through. Your mind has been opened and you have a brighter outlook on the future. Allow the inspiration to flow with optimism.

### Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

A preparation process preceding a big push forward is underway. It can be described as a systems check. Discerning between essentials and non-essentials are featured. Circumstances require you to give more than you might usually to feel confident. Simply listening and observing more and analyzing and communicating less will help.

### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

A playful and exciting cycle has begun. It does include a change in your career and/or social status in general. More social interaction now is likely. A push through the gates may be required, however. It could come about as much by way of inspiration than anything else. This can come about if you nurture a larger vision for your life or at least the year.

### Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

A summons to participate in a larger process of making meaningful contributions to humanity continues. In the short term, it is activating you to make changes in your usual routine. Whatever you can do to break patterns and feel more confident is ideal. This can even include getting away for a while, as with a mini-adventure.

### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Like your Leo friends, a playful and social cycle is underway. This does come within the larger context of a heavier workload of late, or at least more responsibility, but quite possibly both. A rich exchange of communications is also indicated. At worst, you feel pulled in many directions and, thereby, stretched and scattered. Be selective.

### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

A whole new awakening of your sense of individuality has begun. It is also linked to changes on relationship fronts. These have likely been brewing for many months. Dynamic interactions on relationship fronts require additional effort. Yet, you likely have reason to feel more abundant and optimistic that you have for some time and in ways that come as a surprise.

### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

You are beginning to see the world as with new eyes. Of course, the metaphor refers to perceptions. You feel expansive and elated in some regards, even giddy. There are some more sobering themes underway as well. These indicate deep changes and various kinds of ending. In this regard, surrender to larger realities may be your best response.

### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

You have felt more serious and sober of late, perhaps more mature too. At worst, you have been feeling the weight. It does often come with this time of year. Fortunately, that has begun to change. Laying the ground of a whole new foundation has begun. Still, you are challenged to dig deep into your reserves of faith and optimism.

### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

The Sun in your sign, along with Mercury, indicates that you have begun to take new initiatives. These are linked to very real changes close to home. Circumstances are pushing you to dig deeply and possibly do some early spring cleaning or even renovations of some kind. The urge to do so will increase over the coming weeks.

### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

A cycle of retreat is underway. With Neptune in your sign, this feeling has likely been lingering for some time. Yet, during this mini cycle, which will last a few weeks or so, it is even stronger. Fortunately, Venus and Jupiter in Sagittarius are supporting you to feel confident and enthusiastic. Venus will soon enter Capricorn so act on this window now.

## FAMILIES

# Family fundraises for Iceland trip

### Recycling activities also bring pair together

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A grandmother's dream of sharing her ancestral homeland with her family is coming to fruition, thanks to a few hours of work every week.

Every Friday, Lisa Sigurgeirson Maxx and her grandson Jordan Krayenhoff hop in Maxx's van and drive around the island collecting people's recycling for \$5 per blue bin or equivalent. They call their initiative JÁ! Recycling Initiative. JÁ! works because it means both means "yes" in Icelandic and also is a combination of Jordan and "amma," which means "grandmother" in Icelandic. All of the funds raised are going to a future trip to Iceland to give Krayenhoff the chance to experience the country his family comes from.

"I'm third-generation Icelandic-Canadian and Jordan is fifth," Maxx said. "I've been to Iceland twice now, and I really really want to go back and take my grandchildren."

Maxx estimates that the cost of the trip will be around \$5,000. Maxx has wanted to take her grandchildren to Iceland for years, but the cost was too much of an obstacle after living for years on a disability income. The two originally planned to save the money by returning bottles, but the small refunds from bottles and cans meant that the work would take years to complete. Instead, Maxx's daughter suggested that they pick up all of their family's recycling, not only the returnables. The idea spread and soon Maxx and Krayenhoff had a dozen customers and a bi-weekly pick-up route.

"People basically put their stuff at the end of their driveway. Then we come in. We've got the van all organized with our bins and boxes for sorting it onsite. We pick their stuff up, sort it there and leave their bins and boxes for them," Maxx said. "Some people have \$15-\$20 [worth of recycling] every week, some people have \$5 every week, some might even have \$35 one week. It totally varies."

The two started working in June 2018 and have raised approximately half of



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Lisa Sigurgeirson Maxx and her grandson Jordan Krayenhoff at the Salt Spring Recycling Depot.

their goal. They visit homes on the south end of the island one week, and alternate to the north end on the next. They work about three or four hours each Friday. The demand grew to the point where Maxx had to purchase a van to be able to fit all of the recycling.

"I had a borrowed car for a while before I bought the van," Maxx said. She explained that on one particularly big pick-up day, they "couldn't fit another thing in the trunk and the backseat was filled to the roof. It was crazy."

Raising the money for the trip is only one benefit of the system they have set up. The weekly work has also brought the two of them closer together.

"We may have even gotten closer," Krayenhoff said. "For a while I wasn't going over to her house to hang out very much, and recently I've been going over there a lot more."

"We've been pretty close for Jordan's whole life, but they lived away for six months last year. We got out of our sync," Maxx added. "Sometimes Jordan hasn't been overly pleased about doing recycling. It's not the sweetest job right? . . . When we actually counted our money a couple of months ago for the first time, that was exciting. We realized that we are actually making money here. Something happened and now we're listening to tunes and having good conversations and

that kind of thing."

The initiative benefits more than just Maxx and Krayenhoff. Their customers also appreciate the service.

"People are really grateful. A bunch of the customers are super nice and sometimes they even help when we're loading up at their houses," Krayenhoff said. "One of our pick-ups this morning, she's said that she's always hated and tried to avoid recycling and that she's really glad that we're doing it for her."

If demand picks up, Maxx said she would be willing to figure out a way to do the extra work and raise more money. She also helps those interested in visiting Iceland plan their trips for a small fee that will go towards the big trip.

Maxx and Krayenhoff aim to visit Iceland sometime in the summer of 2020. Their trip will include renting a van and driving around the island camping along the way. They plan to take advantage of Iceland's geothermal hot pools and waterfalls.

"It'll be a grand adventure. It's amazing there," Maxx said. "We're a good team."

Those interested in their services can contact Maxx at lisasigurgeirsonmaxx@gmail.com. They also have an account at the Return-It centre under "JÁ! Recycling & Returnables Initiative" if people would like to donate their empty bottles to the cause.

SALT SPRING **Star** of the **WEEK**

**Deb McGovern**



Deb loves books and it shows! She has co-chaired Salt Spring Literacy's Giant Book Sale for the past two years and with husband Pete oversaw book collection and sorting — a mammoth task. A retired human resources professional, Deb has been on the boards of SS Literacy and the SS Therapeutic Riding Association, and has also volunteered with the SSI Conservancy, the sailing club and the fire district.

## What is this? Where is it?



Can you identify 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:** Hans Hazenboom was the first person to identify the lamp standard in the parking lot behind the Creekside complex/Barb's Bakery + Bistro. Perhaps he recognized it so quickly because his company installed it!

# Remember WHEN

## Five years ago

• Opponents of the plan to expand a Kinder Morgan pipeline between Alberta and Burnaby gathered on Salt Spring to spread word of the project's upcoming deadline for public comments. Nearly 40 people attended the two-hour event at the Lions Hall where speakers and participants shared the stage to oppose the project and encourage further resistance. One audience member equated the federal government's apparent support for the fossil fuel industry to the rise of fascism in early 20th-century Germany, saying "Hitler got into power because too many people looked the other way, but we did defeat Hitler and we can defeat this."

## Ten years ago

• The new Salt Spring CRD director planned to curtail funding for the island's water council, with a formal announcement coming at the end of the month. The water council was formed under the previous director, and was the site of information exchanges between water districts, government organizations and non-profits for the preservation and conservation of the island's water supply. Director Garth Hendren said at the time that the group's approximate \$10,000 in yearly funds could have been better spent on other initiatives.

## Twenty years ago

A rain storm damaged multiple roads on the island, including Lower Ganges, Stewart, Mount Baker and Charlesworth roads. Most of the road washouts were caused by culverts that couldn't handle the volume of runoff from days of rain. Workers attempted to clear the culverts of blockages, but were unable to find any actual blocks. JJM foreman John Charlton said, "It's the most water I've ever seen." As crews were finishing off minor road repairs, heavy winds reported at up to 140 kph knocked out power to most of the island.

## Thirty years ago

Concern was voiced by island groups who were opposed to the possible chlorination of water from Maxwell Lake. "The lake is in pristine condition, the water is very good in its natural state and this would be an affront to it," said Tom Gosset, who was the past president of the Water Preservation Society. "It's a shame to chlorinate this lake when it really isn't needed," he added.

## Forty years ago

The Islands Trust was firmly opposed to raising the three cent gasoline tax on the islands. The original plan of the CRD was to exclude the Gulf Islands from the tax, but that changed in later drafts. The estimated cost was about \$8 or \$9 per resident per year, or \$40,000 to 50,000. The tax was approved with no local consultation and when the director for the outer islands was away on holiday.

## Fifty years ago

Extreme cold did not stop people from coming out to see Pacific Hovercraft's flagship vessel arrive in Ganges. The new hovercraft landed on the beach, bringing then Liberal party candidate Eric Winch, along with other members of the Liberal party to Salt Spring. It was the first time in Canada that a hovercraft had been used in a political campaign. The majority of the crowd were school children let out of school for the occasion. Before continuing on its tour of the Gulf Islands, the hovercraft took several youngsters for a ride.

## GARDENING

# Rainbow gardens add amenities



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Rainbow Road Park Allotment Gardens photographed last spring. Three plots have become available for rent.

## Rainwater tank, gravel floor among improvements

BY JANE PETCH

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

If you ever long for your own little patch of land to grow organic vegetables but don't have the garden space, check out the allotment gardens behind the pool.

The Rainbow Road Park Allotment Gardens (RRPAG) currently has three plots available for rent. Like other allotments around the world, these plots are affordable, at \$25 a year rental, and \$27 for water.

Opened in 2012, the 38 plots are up to 250 square feet in area, about the size of a small living room.

To a gardener used to more space it is astonishing to see the amount and variety of plants that such a small garden can produce, including organic vegetables, herbs, berries and flowers. Kale, cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and greens are grown year-round.

In 2019, RRPAG will open the growing season with two new resources to benefit the garden and the community.

First is a new 2,500-gallon tank to collect rainwater off the aquatic centre roof. Thanks to support from PARC and the NSSWD, a garden donor and a large grant from Transition Salt Spring, this second tank will bring RRPAG's rainwater collection to over 5,000 gallons to supplement the use of village water.

With climate change, and longer summer droughts, RRPAG gardeners have been successfully experimenting with conservation techniques such as watering more deeply every four days instead of the

allowed two days, intensive planting, mulching, etc.

At the end of 2018, RRPAG was also fortunate to secure a \$500 Neighbourhood Small Grant from the Salt Spring Island Foundation. With this grant, volunteers were able to add a new level gravel floor to the sheltered gathering space, a display trellis wall and a pollinator garden.

Not only does this provide a safer place for the gardeners (the oldest is 95 years old), but it will also enable RRPAG to offer community open houses dealing with water conservation practices for small backyard gardens, and other topics like pollinator-friendly plants.

For more information, drop by the Allotment Gardens booth at Seedy Saturday on Feb. 9 at the Farmers' Institute, when RRPAG fees can also be paid to Anne Macey at the Island Natural Growers booth.

To apply for a plot, contact Cecilia at [cecilia@saltspringwellness.com](mailto:cecilia@saltspringwellness.com).

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# Gourmet Indian Dinner

by chef  
**Naomi Singh**  
a fundraiser for  
SSI Peace Class



Location: All Saints by-the-Sea  
Friday Feb. 1, 6:30 pm

Reservations and info:  
[www.ssi-peace.com/dinner](http://www.ssi-peace.com/dinner)  
or call 250 538-6254

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## We Can Help

### Grant applications invited

The SSI Foundation is now accepting spring grant applications. This year, as well as supporting our regular granting priorities, we have additional funds available to benefit children's and youth recreation programs. Application deadline is March 31, 2019. For complete information, visit [ssifoundation.ca](http://ssifoundation.ca).



## SSNAPY Saturdays



## AWARDS

# CESO vet to receive Governor General's medal

Susan Wetmore recognized for volunteerism

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Susan Wetmore is known on Salt Spring as an indomitable force who gets things done, with an unstinting willingness to contribute her time to community goals and organizations.

A newly announced honour pays tribute to Wetmore's equal willingness to represent her country while aiding people around the world to better their lives. She will receive the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers from the Governor General of Canada this year for her work with the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO), an international economic development body.

"Needless to say I'm chuffed beyond belief," Wetmore told the Driftwood. "It's such an honour to be recognized."

The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers recognizes the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country in a wide range of fields. Candidates must have demonstrated exemplary commitment through their volunteerism.

Wetmore, who turns 71 this year, happened to be on board a trans-ocean container ship when she got the news



PHOTO COURTESY SUSAN WETMORE

Susan Wetmore on board the container ship where she learned she will receive the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

from the Governor General's office in December. She was one of just a few passengers on the trip from Barcelona to Shanghai. There was no wireless internet and communication by email was spotty.

"Needless to say I was floored," she reported.

The nomination came from a fellow CESO member. The organization's website explains Wetmore "has made outstanding contributions to sustainable development, in Canada and globally, having completed more than 40 CESO volunteer assignments within 15 years. Her considerable experience in hospitality makes her an ideal asset for small business owners looking to improve their operations."

Wetmore works primarily with restaurant and hotel owners helping them with things like building cafés, staffing hotel kitchens, or creating new take-out services. She has shared her expertise in the business of tourism and hospitality in Central Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Of course, her volunteering started much earlier than her CESO ambassadorship. Wetmore has done lots of fundraising and event planning in her time, supporting everything from orchestras to women's shelters and food banks.

"I come from a family of volunteers," she said. "My mother and father volun-

teered their whole lives, and you incorporate that into your lifestyle."

Her next CESO mission will involve teaching English to hospitality providers in the Ivory Coast. She is quite comfortable speaking French, if not perfectly fluent.

"It's fun and I've taught English before. It's a good challenge and I look forward to doing it," Wetmore said.

The medal recipients have yet to learn when and where their presentation ceremonies will take place. Wetmore is hoping she can attend a ceremony at Government House in Ottawa since her children live in Ontario. As well, her mother was honoured there in the past for her work with St. John's Ambulance.

In addition to having an official medal with rules for display regulated by the Canadian Honours System, Wetmore's award includes the ability to preside at citizenship ceremonies. When citizenship judges are not available, certain volunteer officials can administer the oath of citizenship and present certificates.

Wetmore finds this aspect of her news especially exciting.

"I was just deeply honoured because I've worked for so many years with immigrants in London, Ont., as well as here. It's just a brilliant fit for me to be able to do that," she said.

## HORTICULTURE

# Garden club offers new bursary for Salt Spring residents

Group encourages 'regrowth'

In honour of its 65th year, the Salt Spring Island Garden Club is introducing a new bursary for a resident of Salt Spring Island.

Called the Salt Spring Island Garden Club Regrowth Bursary, it's an award of up to \$3,000 for a Salt Spring resident who wishes to further their education in a horticultural field.

"The members of the garden club employ many young

people on Salt Spring Island to help them with their gardens and we want to assist candidates who wish to become more knowledgeable about gardening," states a press release about the bursary. "We realize that further education can be expensive, so we hope that this amount will be enough to help someone return to school for post-secondary studies or training which leads towards credentials recognized by a horticultural profession or trade."

Application forms and criteria are posted on the club's website, [ssigardenclub.ca](http://ssigardenclub.ca), under "Bursary." The deadline

for applications is March 31.

The garden club also supports a student at GISS with an annual \$1,000 bursary given to a student who will be studying biology or environmental sciences. Money for these bursaries is obtained from our twice-a-year plant sales and from our members.

The Salt Spring Island Garden Club started in 1954 as the Salt Spring Island Chrysanthemum Society, becoming the Salt Spring Island Garden Club in 1966. More information about our club and how to join is on the website.

## Spirit OF Salt Spring



**SWOVA's Boys Pass-It-On program was thrilled to receive a \$3,000 donation from Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 on Jan. 18. From left are Legion president Klaus Mortensen, SWOVA acting executive director Janine Fernandes-Hayden and Boys Pass-It-On program facilitator David Norget.**

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.

CALL DRIFTWOOD EDITOR GAIL SJUBERG FOR DETAILS.

DRIFTWOOD

250-537-9933

## GISRA

GULF ISLANDS SENIORS RESIDENCE ASSOCIATION

**Join the team who will build Meadowlane – a new seniors residence on Salt Spring Island. Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association (GISRA) is in need of a part time Chief Financial Officer (CFO).**

GISRA is a not for profit with registered charitable status that owns and operates Meadowbrook retirement residence and is in the process of adding a second residence – Meadowlane.

The CFO oversees the daily accounting operations of GISRA and prepares information to help with strategic financial planning for GISRA, Meadowbrook and Meadowlane. The CFO plays a key role in making Meadowlane a reality.

### Duties:

- Attends all Board meetings and reports on monthly financial results, trends and areas of concern.
- Works with the Project Director and the Executive Director to establish accounting systems for GISRA including Meadowbrook and Meadowlane.
- Liaison with the bank on GISRA'S behalf.

### Educational Requirements:

- Certified Public Accountant or equivalent and relevant past experience.

Please submit a letter outlining your qualifications by email or mail by February 15 to:

**Janet Smith, President, GISRA**  
100 - 121 Atkins Road  
Or [jrsmith@shaw.ca](mailto:jrsmith@shaw.ca)

## WHAT'S ON

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**Women's Outreach Services**  
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**Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women**  
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**Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling**  
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**Obituaries      Obituaries      Obituaries      Obituaries      In Memoriam      Lost & Found      Business Opportunities**

## Mona Doris Colly



Mona Doris Colly passed away January 19, 2019 in Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring.

Predeceased by her husband Ron D Colly in 1993. She leaves her family, Dawne (Brad), Leslie, grandchildren Colby (Celine), and Zach. She was born into a very large family of 12 children, 3 brothers and 8 sisters to walk through life with.

Ron and Doris had an adventurous life together, travelling all over the world, a lot of it on a motorbike. They visited, lived and worked in countries from all over Europe, New Zealand, Australia, and home in Canada.

Doris could make life long friends on a bus ride, so she has made and kept so many friendships over her lifetime. She leaves a lot of heavy hearts. We will cherish the time we had with her and keep her memories with us always.

Doris requested that her family lay her ashes to rest with her husband Ron, and no service afterwards.

## LINDA LEE WARDROPER

Born August 14th 1944 Prince Albert, Saskatchewan  
 Passed away January 4th 2019 Salt Spring Island, BC



Linda (Oma) moved to Salt Spring Island in 2013 with the intention of creating a garden/nature retreat. She was a passionate lover of nature. Birds, trees and flowers all thrived under her care.

Linda cherished and stewarded the land both on Vancouver Island where she lived together with Stanley for 40+ years and again here on Salt Spring where together with her family, her creative energy transformed 134 Douglas. Linda volunteered endlessly throughout her life, always willing to lend her huge energy, positive, practical, nature and eye for detail to a good cause. She delighted in new friendships made on Salt Spring as well as the fellowship and warmth of the Salt Spring United Church.

During her illness she was lovingly cared for by her daughter Shannon, Shane Barclay, Susan Grace and Grandson Ronan. Heartfelt appreciation to all the compassionate friends and loving relatives who filled the last months bringing food, flowers and friendship. Your kindness and compassion brightened each day.

Linda died peacefully, supported with love by her family and with the assistance of MAiD. Many thanks to Bobby Crichton and Clark Saunders.

A small memorial will be held at the United Church on Saturday, February 9th, 2019 at 2:00  
 A larger celebration of life garden tea will be held in her garden at 134 Douglas on August 17th 2019.

*To live content with small means;  
 To seek elegance rather than luxury,  
 and refinement rather than fashion;  
 To be worthy...not respectable  
 Wealthy not rich. To study hard, think quietly  
 Talk gently, act frankly. To listen to stars and birds  
 To babes and sages with an open heart  
 To bear all cheerfully, do all bravely  
 Await occasions, hurry never.  
 In a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and  
 unconscious grow up through the common.  
 This is to be my symphony.*

Salt Spring Hospice

### Want to become a SSI Hospice volunteer?

Training starts in March. Register now by leaving your name and phone number at **250-537-2770**.

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



**MISSING** from a boat in Long Harbour - late Dec. - A Firman Model PO1-01  
**Yellow and Black Generator.** \$50 Reward if located.  
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### Legal Notices

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## SAM CHAN

January 6, 2019



It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Chi-Sham (Sam) Chan, who left us on January 6th, 2019 in his home on Salt Spring Island.

Grieving his loss are his wife, Jane Chan, and his two sons David and Andrew.


Sam will also be missed by his brother Richard Chan & wife Cindy Chan, brother Ming Chan and Katherine Chan, sister Winnie Kwong & husband Ted Kwong, sister Terry Tse & husband Michael Tse, sister Ida Chan & husband Gary Kiner, as well as his many nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his father, Lam, mother, Kawai, and older brother Charles.

Sam was born and raised in Hong Kong, and later immigrated to Canada alongside his brother Charles to attend the University of Victoria in 1972. He was a part of the first graduating class of Computer Science students at UVIC, something he was extremely proud of. Later he worked with his siblings in the Golden Island Restaurant for over 30 years where he oversaw the front of the house. Over the years, he had the wonderful opportunity to interact with and get to know the many members of the community. Above all else, he cherished the many relationships he made with the locals through his work.

Mischievous, witty, caring and smart, Sam managed to make a positive impact on the lives of many. Known for his impeccable memory, he also offered a helping hand to whoever might have needed it whether it was with his time or wisdom.

A celebration of his life will be held on February 16th at 1pm at the Legion.

## Celebration of Life for Tom Martin



Music and Memories  
 Saturday, February 2  
 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
 All Saints By the Sea

*Bring a picture, a memory and a pot luck snack to share.*

### PROTECT OUR PLANET...




**RECYCLE THIS NEWS PAPER.**

## WHAT'S ON

page 11

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**Coming Events      Coming Events**

**artcraft**

### CALL FOR REGISTRATION AND NEW APPLICATIONS

Artcraft is BC's longest running, juried arts and crafts show, proudly presenting the best of the Southern Gulf Islands. In 2019 Artcraft runs from June 7th to September 15th.

The registration deadline for returning exhibitors is May 10th. This year all jewellers and new applicants will be juried. The deadline for the jury is May 13th.

Registration and information forms are available on the "Artcraft" page at [www.ssartsCouncil.com/artcraft/](http://www.ssartsCouncil.com/artcraft/) or please contact the Artcraft manager at 250 537-0899 or [artcraft@ssartsCouncil.com](mailto:artcraft@ssartsCouncil.com) for more information.

### In Loving Memory

### Place of Worship

The Sabbath Day shalt thou keep holy. Remember; Sanctify and rest. For God, has hallowed to His glory, The Sabbath worship, which He blest. The Canadian Lords Day Association. Chilliwack auxiliary.

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### Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

**6 Feb. 2019 beginning at 5:45 P.M.**

Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District have scheduled a special meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held February 6, 2019 at the Training Room Fire Hall No. 1 beginning at 5:45 P.M. The business of the meeting will be to set a date for the Annual General Meeting, appoint a Returning Officer and deal with Human Resource matters in an In-camera session.

**Board of Trustees  
 Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District**

### Information

**Pianist looking for musical accompanist.**  
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### Misc. Wanted

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*For those who love,  
 time is not.  
 Missing you today  
 and always.*



# SPORTS + RECREATION

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

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



## SOCCER

# Salt Spring United club looks to busy spring

Turf field project also on radar

A new year begins and with it comes the second half of the Salt Spring United Soccer Club season.

With the weather looking good and fields in reasonable shape our youth and adult soccer players have eagerly returned to action, playing games.

SS United has an extensive program for all our members in the spring, a lot of which I will highlight here.

1) Full field and eight-a-side travelling teams: All our youth and adult teams have restarted league play and many are competing for league honours. League pay will wind up in mid-February for adult teams, and late February for 11-a-side youth teams, and then they compete in cup play with the hope of bringing silverware to Salt Spring.

The eight-a-side teams play league play into March and then can enter tournaments to wrap up the month.



**Malcolm Legg**

**SOCCER ROUND-UP**

### House Program

The House Program started up Jan. 26 in the GISS gymnasium. (Program will be posted on our website at [www.saltspringsoccer.com](http://www.saltspringsoccer.com).) The gym program will run through February and then move back to Portlock on March 2. The outdoor program continues until April 27.

### Spring League

The Windsor Plywood Spring League will once again be offered by Salt Spring United every Wednesday from April 10 to June 12. At present the field space being used is to be announced, as Portlock is not available.

Registration will be available

for these five-a-side leagues on our website as of April 1. Fees will remain the same (\$50 for youths, \$60 for adults) and every player will receive a T-shirt.

One new division will be offered for girls and ladies, ages 15 and older. The division allows women to play soccer in a more relaxed atmosphere than the co-ed division and having played the game is not mandatory. Josip, our technical director, will teach you all you need to know.

### Referees Course

The SS United Soccer Club will be offering a small-sided referees course in April. This course is open to all youth age 11 and older and any adults interested and the cost covers the course, referees uniform, equipment, rule book and badge.

The course will teach young referees how to officiate small sided games (U-13 and younger), as well as how to be an assistant referee by running the touch lines.

To register for the course, please

contact me, Malcolm Legg, head referee, at [mallegg@shaw.ca](mailto:mallegg@shaw.ca) so we can see if we have enough numbers to run the one-day course.

### SS United Academy

The academy did not run this past season due to low numbers, but will be back under a new format to offer our youth players extra training and games.

The first session will be with the technical director of LISA, who will run a one-day course for different age levels, so watch our website for the date it will be offered.

Next season will see a series of training sessions offered by guest coaches for members who sign up for the academy. Academy players will also have games against other academies and out of district clubs (Nanaimo, Comox, etc.).

Josip will highlight these details over the spring and into the summer.

### Turf Field Project

As many of you may have seen in a past Driftwood article, SS United is attempting to get a turf field built on Salt Spring. The reasoning is three-fold. It would give us a surface that can be played on in any weather conditions; one with lights for the winter that would get us out of school gyms; and one that does not require watering, a problem that has severely restricted available playing surfaces.

Step one was to apply to School District 64 to have a project happen at the Salt Spring Island Middle School field and the school board approved this application. In particular, it will assist the school with sports activities also.

Step 2 will be doing a feasibility study detailing the project and costs, something our turf field committee is working on. We hope to have a report in six months.

It is a big project for our little club, but our executive is fully committed to seeing this project happen for the benefit of soccer youth and adults on Salt Spring.

Jan 31 to Feb 10

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LFCC22426S

### SAMSUNG

**Stainless Steel Ceran-Top Electric Range**

- 5.9 cu. ft. Capacity
- Steam-Clean Oven

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MSRP \$1000

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## OUTDOORS

# Experts address trail club events

### Survival tips and bugs

The Trail and Nature Club annual general meeting is set for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 31 in Lions Hall.

Lunch at noon, AGM at 12:30 p.m. and then Linda Gilkeson will present Where Have all the Bugs Gone? at 1:30 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m., Tudor Davies will speak on Survival in the Wild. Members of the public are welcome.

### Hikers

Feb. 5: Sharon Sullivan will lead a moderate hike up and down Reginald Hill (some steep and slippery sections). Then we will do the triangle trail on the Tsawout lands, with lunch on the beach overlooking Russell Island. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to carpool or at 10:05 a.m. at the parking area at the end of Morningside Drive by the mailboxes and before the gate into Reginald Hill.

Feb. 12: Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to carpool to Burgoyne parking lot or meet us there for 10 a.m. for a lovely hike on the trails with Carron Carson. It is quite muddy in places.

Feb. 19: Ashley Hilliard will lead a moderate hike from Beaver Point to Fulford. Some slippery sections expected. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to carpool to assembly point on South Ridge Drive (first road to the right off Beaver Point Road after Fulford). Important: bring extra vehicles so we can carpool from South Ridge to start of hike at Beaver Point. South ends meet at South Ridge at 10 a.m.

Feb. 26: Lynn Thompson will lead a moderate hike to Christie Falls (Ladysmith) and possibly beyond to an old mine. Meet at Portlock Park at 8:40 a.m. to carpool on the 9:25 a.m. Vesuvius ferry.

### Walkers

Feb. 5: Dick and Patsy Tipping will lead us on a round trip walk through the Tsawout First Nation Reserve, starting at the trail head at the end of Menhinick Drive. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to carpool and then meet at Beaver Point Hall at 10:20 a.m. From there we will drive to the trail head at the end of Menhinick Drive with the fewest possible cars.

Feb. 12: Andrea will lead a walk around one or two of the loops on the south side of Burgoyne Bay. These trails have recently been cleared and marked so it should be fresh terrain. There might be wet, muddy patches depending on prior weather. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or at the Burgoyne Bay parking lot at 10:20 a.m.

Feb. 19: Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. to pick a leader and a walk.

Feb. 26: Lorrie Storr will lead a walk, place yet to be determined. Please meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or check website. Location will be determined by what is open.

### Ramblers

Feb. 5: Meet at Centennial Park, and then Ann will lead us around Mouat Park and back to town for lunch.

Feb. 12: Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m. to carpool to Drummond Park. Paul and Donna will take us to the waterfall, and back to their house for soup. Bring a sandwich if you like.

Feb. 19: Meet at Centennial Park, and then Sterling and Maureen will take us from there.

Feb. 26: Bryan Adderley will lead a ramble in the valley between Mount Belcher and Mount Erskine, with lunch at Penny's on the Green. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.