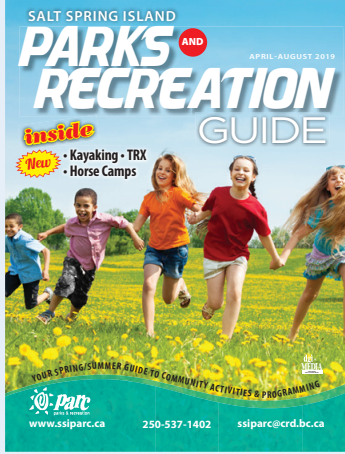


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Wednesday, Apr. 10, 2019

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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

**SOMETHING TO SAY:** Islanders rally for forestry reforms at the Salt Spring edition of Forest March BC on Saturday morning. Organizers estimate about 150 people came out in total for the local event, which featured speakers, music and postcard writing at the library before the march through town to Centennial Park. See the story on page 4 and [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or our Facebook page for a video clip from the march.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

## GISS wins national improv games

Musical twist adds to skill development

**BY ELIZABETH NOLAN**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's gold once again for the Gulf Islands Secondary School senior improv team, who returned from the Canadian Improv Games on Friday as the new reigning champions.

The win marks the third time in three years that GISS has produced a medal, with their first national championship win in 2017 followed by a silver medal finish last year. The core members of the 2018 team — Calla Adufour-Poku, Kahlila Ball, Jo Gaffney and Amelia McCluskey — returned this year and were joined by two musicians, Jacob Culling and Calum Duncan. Another year of developing and deepening their skills, a commitment to their training and the new musical collaboration proved just the right combination to take the lead in Ottawa.

"I think it's not that we did anything that's super different from last year, other than we have two new members that bring a completely different aspect to it," Ball said. "I think the more time you train with a group, the better you can get, and with another year of maturity and another year of training, and more time as friends and teammates, we were just able to reach a higher performance level."

The full week experience included a number of workshops and social events, plus the requisite trip to Parliament and the major museums,

and even a side trip to Montreal. GISS had its preliminary round slot on the first of three nights and scored substantially higher than the other teams, both in that group and on the two following nights, ensuring their place in Thursday's finals.

"We really did some inspired work in the preliminary rounds that scored amazingly well," said coach Jason Donaldson.

The group was getting tired by Thursday and had other pressures waiting at home — all six members are part of the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts and will be performing their final show at ArtSpring from April 17 to 19. (Donaldson is also the theatre director for that program.) The team has learned to rely on their training no matter what else is happening, though, and once again came out on top.

Donaldson said the final was really more like a tie between three great teams, with just eight points separating GISS from silver medalists Luther College (Regina), and then two points between Luther and Vancouver Island's GP Vanier for the bronze.

The strength of the core team is due in part to the relationship between the four girls, who have been friends since elementary school. That's one reason they could achieve such a strong standing last year while still in Grade 10. Their ability to adapt a new musical format

and collaborate with two new members proves there's more than just friendship involved, however. McCluskey, who is the only current teammate to have been part of the 2017 gold medal team, said it feels like she's learned to do improv all over again each year.

"Having dedicated musicians was entirely new — I don't know of any other team that's done that — and it really shifted the way we felt about what was possible, because it's easy to get caught up in what CIG usually does and what usually scores well," McCluskey said. "We started to think more about it as art and ourselves as artists, and I think some really beautiful things came about as a result."

"I think that as a collective we've all sort of grown as artists and performers, and growing together has been a huge part of assembling a form that helps us tell the stories that we want to tell, and tell them bigger and more brilliantly," Gaffney said.

"We're inspired by the world around us and as we mature we realize what's happening more and more, and even if we're telling stories that are fiction, they're grounded in the world that we live in and see every day," added Adufour-Poku. "The world is changing and we changed with it."

IMPROV continued on 3

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**HOMELESSNESS**

# Year-round shelter plan launched

Meadow space use also debated

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A year-round shelter and outreach centre on Salt Spring would serve people experiencing homelessness and help mitigate islanders' concerns about use of Ganges parks, according to initiators of the proposed new project.

Though it will not solve the problem of homelessness on the island, the group hopes that giving people a place to sleep and offering programming will help with some of the issues that arise when community members are unsheltered.

Initiated by leaders of some island church groups, the plan is to raise funds to purchase the Salt Spring Metal Recycling property at 251 Fulford-Ganges Rd., which is listed for \$800,000. While the church organizations themselves still have to sign on to the idea, Salt Spring United Church Reverend Chris Levan hopes that converting the site to a year-round shelter will help address community concerns about homeless people's use of the United Church meadow on Hereford Avenue.

"We have been working at the concerns in the meadow constantly for the last five months," Levan

said. "It is getting better, but it will get more complicated, not necessarily worse, but more complicated when there's no place [for people] to go at night."

The seasonal shelter run by Salt Spring Community Services with provincial government funding provides a spot for people to sleep and an evening meal from November through March each year.

"We got together and felt there was desperation in the community because the shelter was closing, and that's where the idea began," Levan said.

He and other clergy members realized that "come April 1, 20 people who stayed there every night weren't going to have any place to go. It was kind of a desperate thing . . . when the shelter closes, we have to pick up more of the slack because people have nowhere to go."

Looking for a solution, they felt that the metal recycling property recently put on the market could be a potential solution. The building is structurally sound, has access to water and the potential to tie into the Ganges sewer system. It also has a large open area adjacent to the building, which would provide a place for shelter users to gather, opening up parks and other public spaces for other community uses.

"The church owns the meadow. It has been a gift for many years. More recently it has been renovated to be more accessible," Levan said. "We have more to do. I'm going to be talking to the [church] board about adding more facilities. That will be ongoing, giving it more multiple uses so that it signals that it's not just the place for one group."

Some residents have reported being uncomfortable using the park or even walking through it, particularly after someone was bit by a dog there, which prompted a new rule to keep dogs on leashes. Sarah Hamilton, who runs a law practice from an office across the street from the site, said she and others in the neighbourhood have been harassed in the area.

"My dog and I have thrown a ball in that park every work day since I've occupied this



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Church meadow sign with tacked-on note about dogs needing to be on a leash.

office with no problems and it's unfortunate that she now has to be kept on leash," Hamilton said. "I've been harassed by the people in the park, and told that if I enter the park again I would be similarly harassed."

Hamilton agrees with the year-round shelter option and that providing a space for everyone to congregate is in the best interests of the community.

"I'm not advocating for a wholesale ban on people hanging out in the park. It would be really helpful if other people could still use the park," she said.

The new shelter is still an idea, with a long way to go before possibly becoming a reality. The first fundraising effort is to collect pledges of at least \$1,000. Then the building will need to be renovated, rezoned and approved before it can open. Levan thinks the sooner it can happen, the better.

"What happens is when you're without shelter, your ability to make good decisions declines dramatically," he said. "You can't get a shower, you can't get clean, you can't feel dry, you can't settle, and you have no place to recuperate. That's just the start . . . We all recognized that there was a need for a drop-in [program] and for more shelter space. Everybody sees that, that's not the issue. It doesn't solve homelessness. Homelessness is more complex than that, but in the meantime how do we deal with it?"

## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

APRIL 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
10	0206	2.5	8.2	14	0138	3.3	10.8
	0642	2.9	9.5		0755	2.4	7.9
	1416	0.7	2.3		SU 1047	2.5	8.2
ME	2235	3.1	10.2	DI	1822	0.9	3.0
11	0320	2.7	8.9	22	0038	2.3	7.5
	0709	2.8	9.2		0544	3.1	10.2
	1508	0.7	2.3		MO 1253	0.5	1.6
JE	2345	3.2	10.5	LU	2046	3.2	10.5
12	0510	2.7	8.9	23	0142	2.5	8.2
	0744	2.7	8.9		0612	2.9	9.5
	1608	0.7	2.3		TU 1336	0.6	2.0
FR	1608	0.7	2.3	MA	2147	3.2	10.5
13	0047	3.2	10.5	24	0302	2.6	8.5
	0704	2.6	8.5		0639	2.8	9.2
	0856	2.6	8.5		WE 1420	0.7	2.3
SA	1714	0.8	2.6	ME	2248	3.2	10.5

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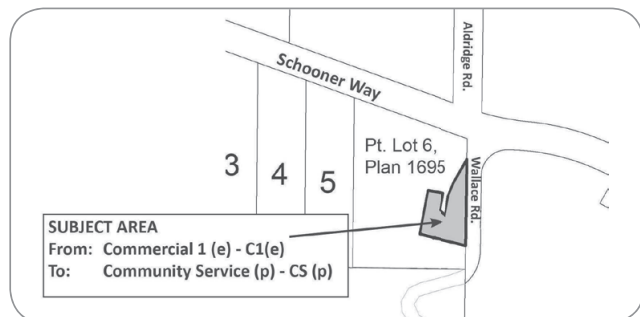
## Rezoning for the Shaw Communications Site

Bylaw 220

### PUBLIC HEARING

NORTH PENDER LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is the bylaw about?  
The bylaw is intended to rezone a portion of the subject property shown in the sketch map (below) to a site-specific Community Service (p) - CS (p) zone to allow the following uses only: "The housing of equipment for the supply and distribution of telecommunications and cable service as a regulated service utility, not to include retail or office uses." The rezoning will permanently allow the uses that have been permitted with Temporary Use Permits since 2011.



Have Your Say

Thursday, April 25, 2019 10 a.m.

Pender Island Community Hall  
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road, N. Pender Island

Who should attend?  
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws

Enquires?  
Phil Testemale, A/Planner 2  
ptestemale@islandstrust.bc.ca  
250-405-5170

How do I get more information?  
A copy of the bylaw and other information is available at the Islands Trust Victoria office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, April 12 to 23, 2019. Or, [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/npender/applications](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/npender/applications)

Written submissions?  
Send by 4:30 p.m., April 23, 2019 to:  
• Islands Trust, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8, or  
• Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, or  
• In person at the Public Hearing

Note: All submissions received become part of the public record

## EMERGENCY preparedness

### SSI Residents are Prepared

Salt Spring Island has a neighbourhood program called POD which connects neighbours to neighbours specifically for emergency preparedness/mitigation. There are currently 58 PODs identified on Salt Spring Island with 350 leaders. If you would like to be a part of the POD program or find out more information please contact [ssiepc@crd.bc.ca](mailto:ssiepc@crd.bc.ca) or leave a message at 250 537-1220.

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



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## Fire board nominees set

Election on April 29

Three candidates have put their names forward for two available seats on the Salt Spring Protection District's board of trustees.

Wynona Cook, Andreas Gedeon and Joanne MacDonald have been accepted as nominees for the improvement district election set for April 29. Cook is an independent candidate while Gedeon and MacDonald are running as a team. The two spaces on the seven-member board are open with term expiry of the positions currently held by Chris Budd and Howard Baker.

The main election date will be held at Lions Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. An advance poll will also be available during the same hours at Lions Hall on Wednesday, April 24. The new three-year terms will begin at the end of the district's annual general meeting, also set for April 29.

Voters must own property within the fire protection district boundaries.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Community compost plan shared

An innovative community composting system is being considered for Salt Spring Island, and islanders are invited to hear all about it at an event on Tuesday, April 16.

Set for the library beginning at 7 p.m., the Transition Salt Spring Education Committee has organized the session, which will start with a couple of short films about ways other communities are tackling the composting issue. Then Mary Richardson of Transition Salt Spring and the Organic Waste Working Group will describe the local proposal.

## Centennial washrooms open

The new washroom building at Centennial Park was finished ahead of schedule and in time for the first Saturday Market in the Park on April 6.

The facility has a number of features not common to other cinderblock washrooms, including four sinks at the back of the building for market vendor use, as well as natural light sources.

Upon opening, PARC was still waiting for the proper lights to be installed, as there was an issue with the lights that had been delivered. The proper fixtures are expected to be installed this week. The porta-potties have been removed from the park.

Artwork for the building's exterior will be discussed at an upcoming Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

## Boulders at Burgoyne

Hikers have noticed that what was once a trail in the Burgoyne Bay area has been turned into a pile of boulders.

The rocks were first noticed by Driftwood staff on March 31 along trail 22/23. The trail briefly exits the park boundary, crosses crown land via a statutory right of way and re-enters the park.

A BC Parks representative told the Driftwood that the work was being done by a private landowner of a strata development off Furness Road near the park and not the Ministry of the Environment.

It is possible to continue past the boulder site along the trail and re-enter Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

# SSIFR called to smoky cannabis plant



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Firefighters respond to a report of smoke in an Atkins Road building on Thursday.

## Atkins Road shut down for one hour on Thursday

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Department responded to a call for smoke in a commercial building at 186 Atkins Rd. on Thursday afternoon.

The smoke was caused by an electrical malfunction in the HVAC system of the building, which is owned by Saltspring Island Botanimed Inc. Fire crews laid down hoses to fight the fire, though Capt. Dale Lundy explained that the fire was mitigated after the occupants shut off power to that part of the building.

"We just cleared the building of smoke and made sure there was no extension into the rest of the building," Lundy said. "The occupants did everything they needed to. The alarm sounded, they shut the power off, evacuated the building. It made our job a lot easier."

Atkins Road was blocked off to traffic both ways for about an hour. Lundy said the department would be conducting a further investigation into the cause of the fire, but the building itself did not appear to have sustained any damage.

"I think that was a textbook call for us. The occupants did everything they should — closing doors and shutting down power — it just saves a lot of potential [trouble]," he said.

Nobody was injured in the incident.

## Third medal won



PHOTO COURTESY GISS IMPROV

Winning moment for the GISS team at the Canadian Improv Games in Ottawa on Thursday, April 4.

IMPROV  
continued from 1

For their part, the two musicians enjoyed a different experience related to the theatre, in which they were partners in shaping the stories rather than accompanists.

"I thought it was a cool new way of looking at the relationship between theatre and music . . . because in a setting where everything's improvised, we influence each other in ways we don't see in other settings. It's very interesting," Culling said.

Going to nationals offers the bonus of bonding time with the improv community. GISS was happy to meet up again with their good friends, the Newfoundland Battledogz, and to hang out with Vancouver Island regional champions Vanier.

"There's a remarkable legitimate camaraderie between teams, even though they're ostensibly in competition," Duncan explained. "We're all making art, we're all seeing each other's art at the same time. It's not about beating anyone else."

According to a letter sent to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee last month by Saltspring Island Botanimed Inc. president Chris Schmah, the company has received a three-year licence from Health Canada under the Cannabis Act to propagate, cultivate and harvest cannabis at the site.

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**NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT**

**NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT**

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given to the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, that nominations for TWO trustees will be received in the District office between:

**8:00 am March 27, 2019**  
**12:00 noon April 17, 2019**

Nomination of candidates for these positions must be made in writing, duly signed and seconded, by two duly qualified electors of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the District Office at or before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

#### NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR

The Trustee positions are for a three year term commencing at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 beginning at 2:00 pm at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road. Voting for the Election will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Community Gospel Chapel on April 27, 2019. Results will be announced as soon as they are available.

To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, and entitled to be registered as a voter under the *Elections Act*.

Visit the "Who We Are" and "Becoming a Trustee" pages on our website for more information about the role of a Trustee.

Nomination forms are available at the District Office and online in the Documents/Forms section of the District website.

### NOTICE OF 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC. Voting for the Election will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

[www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca) 761 Upper Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1 (250) 537-9902

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## ACTIVISM

# Islanders rally for forestry reform



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Briony Penn, left, talks about lacks in provincial legislation at the Salt Spring Public Library Saturday morning as part of Forest March BC.

## Carbon audit urged

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Islanders joined communities across the province who took to the streets Saturday morning to call for reforms to forestry practices and a more sustainable industry.

Jean Wilkinson, who was one of the community members involved on Salt Spring, said initial estimates are that 150 people turned out for some portion of the morning, whether that was for the speakers in the library, the march itself to Centennial Park, or both. Organizers had readied 216 postcards addressed to MLA Adam Olsen, Premier John Horgan and Forests Minister Doug Donaldson, and all

were filled out by the participants at the event.

"I think the fact that there are a multitude of communities throughout the province basically saying the same thing might be helpful in convincing the government they actually have to do something," Wilkinson said.

Many of the marches taking place in other parts of British Columbia had a local issue driving community concerns, but all were united in asking for better legislation and oversight when it comes to the forest industry. Salt Springers were partly motivated by the recent upswell in clear-cutting of private acreages on the island.

"We're just liquidating our natural heritage, really," Wilkinson said, adding individ-

ual private land owners may profit from selling their timber, but their neighbours have to pay the costs through noise disturbance, long-term drainage issues and loss of property values. "And the ecosystem impacts are huge."

Some amendments to the Forest and Range Practices Act were announced on April 1, which the government said would "support the health and sustainability of B.C.'s forests and range lands, while strengthening public confidence in how these vital resources are managed."

Speaking at Saturday's march, environmentalist Briony Penn said the new NDP government has not done anything really different than their Liberal predecessors when it comes to sustainable forestry or ecosystem protection. She pointed to a few potential bright spots in new requirements for public consultation related to forest stewardship plans and operation planning, including the proposed location of cut-blocks and roads but not the bigger changes needed.

Penn recalled how islanders had gone to the province almost exactly 20 years ago during a private land logging dispute and asked for more tools and regulations, and that the government integrate forestry plans into biodiversity and climate change plans.

"The province has got to set some regulatory benchmarks

on how we value old growth, how we value ecosystems, how we value our waters, how we value all these things they call externalities in the economic world. That's the problem: these things are free and we haven't valued them in any kind of way," Penn said.

Penn said the true cost of forestry also needs to be assessed through carbon accounting, noting that commercial logging carries a double blow to the climate crisis: forestry reportedly produces more emissions than any other activity in the province, and it removes the biggest resource for absorbing carbon from the atmosphere.

Wilkinson said postcards from Saturday's march have been delivered to Olsen, who promised to pass on the ones addressed to the other officials. Penn also had a meeting scheduled with Donaldson to discuss the issues more fully.

Islanders are also campaigning for new tools and commitment to forest protection on the local level from the Islands Trust. Although much work will have to be done to adapt land use regulations, Wilkinson said she feels that public support will be on side.

"I think that things have changed as people are gradually waking up to the fact that we're not in the same situation we were in even 20 years ago. It's time to safeguard the forests because there's not a lot left," Wilkinson said.

## FERRIES

# Ferry act changes emphasize public

## Delivery model change not proposed

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Legislation introduced by the provincial government last week intends to amend the Coastal Ferry Act to prioritize public interest in decision making.

"British Columbians deserve a ferry service model that puts people first," said Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Claire Trevena. "People living in coastal communities depend on the vital service provided by BC Ferries, but for many years they experienced service cuts and climbing fares. Our amendments to the Coastal Ferry Act will put people at the heart of decision making."

Amendments are based on recommendations in Blair Redlin's report on the Coastal Ferry Act review and are meant to signal an emphasis on public interest as well as capturing the NDP government's policy goals, such as implementing CleanBC targets.

Harold Swierenga, who chairs Salt Spring's ferry advisory committee, said that the independent BC Ferries commissioner is currently tasked to consider three things when setting fare caps: taxpayer interests, the sustainability of the company and the interests of ferry users. The amendment directs the commissioner to also prioritize public interest in general.

Swierenga believes that in doing so the government is hoping to avoid another situation such as the "disaster" that resulted after the BC Liberal government eliminated a ferry route based solely on short-term financial concerns. The summer route connecting Port Hardy to Bella Coola and the mid-coast was axed in 2014 as part of cost-saving measures the government imposed on the ferry company. The ocean-going Queen of Chilliwack ferry was then deemed surplus and sold to Fiji.

While Route 40 was only available seasonally and cost the ferry company money, it provided a crucial link for tourists and other people travelling on a loop through the province each summer.

The loss affected communities throughout the Cariboo and Chilcotin as well as the mid-coast hamlets.

"It had huge economic implications that I'm sure should have crossed their minds when they cut that route," Swierenga said. "They realized within a few years they'd made a big mistake. There's no question that route did not make revenue for BC Ferries, but it did have a positive impact on the provincial economy, and that's what they lost."

That route is now being restored but BC Ferries had to purchase and refurbish another boat, delaying the 2018 return date to 2019.

Swierenga noted with interest the amendments don't propose returning BC Ferries back into a crown corporation. Pressure to take that course has been mounting since the NDP took power. Local MLA Adam Olsen and the Green caucus stated in February that the public interest would be best served that way.

Swierenga, for one, believes the current model is better because it means the body responsible for operating ferries can make some business decisions, rather than acting solely from political motivations. A change to a crown corporation would also require the province to take on the company's \$1.3 billion in long-term debt.

Swierenga does like the fact that Trevena recognizes coastal ferries are part of the marine highway system, since the previous government, starting with Gordon Campbell's leadership, seemed to be moving toward full privatization and user pay. Users themselves tend to see the service more like an extension of public transit, he said.

Other aspects of the act's amendment make changes to the BC Ferry Authority, an appointed body that represents the government's interest, and to the BC Ferry Services Board. The legislation further expands the definition of BC Ferries executives to include vice-presidents in order to provide greater transparency and oversight of executive compensation.

EDUCATION

# Nursery project set to branch out

Tree planting considered prime tool to fight climate change

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Middle School students are taking part in a project to combat climate change that has a potentially global reach.

Each student at SIMS will be taking home three tree saplings at the end of the school year. The trees were planted in a nursery over the last week, and will be growing through to the end of the school year when they'll be ready to take home and plant. The project was thought up by permaculture instructor Michael Nickels, who was inspired by Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old Swedish activist who has inspired worldwide action among students against climate change.

"I was pretty impressed that she was doing this and I thought it was a great thing to be doing. I wanted my children to get involved, but I didn't really want them going on strike and protesting that way," he said. "I thought why don't we start a tree nursery, and that way we could actually do something positive with that instead."

In addition to taking their trees home, each SIMS class will also be reaching out to 10 different schools around the world and asking them to participate. If the idea catches on, Nickels estimates that by the third round, over 2 billion trees will have been planted worldwide.

"I think it is going to be the beginning of the kids' connection to kids all over the world and coming up with new ideas. 'Let's address water this year, let's address oil now, let's address whatever it is.' It's just the beginning of a conversation."

The trees will grow in a nursery set up on the school grounds. Over the last week, classes have been going out to the nursery and planting the big leaf maple trees with Nickels. Kids plant three seedlings in each pot to ensure at least one of the seedlings survives. Those who do not have a place to plant their trees at home will still have a tree planted. Nickels said he would either take the leftover trees himself or that other members of the community with land could plant them.

"Many kids were very thankful and appreciative. Some were talking about the climate change and knew about the importance of it," Nickels said. "In the assembly it seemed like most kids were aware of the fact that there was an issue with the climate and that something had to be done. There was a pretty great response."

Nickels has spent the better part of two decades planting trees around the world and has seen the effect that reforestation can have on a particular area. He explained that planting trees is one of the best ways to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

"If trees are planted everywhere in the world over the next 15 or 20 years continuously, we might be able to turn this thing around before it gets completely out of control," he said. "You just see after one or two years that the whole atmosphere just changes, the environment changes... It's our only hope to seriously address climate change before it takes over."

Nickels reached out to students because they have the most to lose when it comes to climate change. By getting the kids out of the classroom and into the dirt, he hopes that they will learn to be stewards of the natural world. Getting them to reach out to other youth around the world will also give the students the idea that climate change is occurring all over the planet.

"The adults are doing nothing. It's the kids and their future."



PHOTOS COURTESY MICHAEL NICKELS

From top, Michael Nickels works with SIMS students to plant big leaf maple seedlings; a cluster of pots waiting to be filled with seedlings.

The more that they're aware of what can be done to address climate change, the better," he said.

Nickels would also like to spread his idea to other schools in the area. He is looking for help from people in the community to donate one-gallon black plastic pots for the trees. Pots can be dropped off at the nursery at SIMS, located behind Salt Spring Elementary. Nickels can also be contacted through his website at <https://seven-ravens.com/>.

ISLANDS TRUST

# Trust stewardship award nominees needed

April 22 is deadline for Islands Trust program

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Islands Trust is seeking nominations for their Community Stewardship Awards Program with a deadline of April 22.

The awards are given out every two years to people, groups and businesses who demonstrate exceptional stewardship of the environment, and who take part in protection activities in the islands and in the Salish Sea. The awards were started in 2002 and ran annually for several years before being changed to a biennial program. Winning projects

have addressed topics ranging from land, water and marine conservation to agriculture, cultural heritage and other initiatives.

Recipients are recognized for their leadership in environmental stewardship and helping achieve the Islands Trust's mandate of preserving and protecting the environment of the area.

"The program recognizes individual islanders and organizations for their commitment to preserving and protecting the islands in the Salish Sea, and celebrates all the energy, time, resources, and creativity community members and organizations invest to ensure the health of island environments and communities is protected now and into the future," said Islands

Trust Council chair Peter Luckham.

Since the awards started, over 80 individuals or organizations have been recognized for their contributions to the environment in the islands.

The Trust Programs Committee will seek input from local trustees on the nominees and evaluate the nominations in a closed meeting based on a number of factors. Winners will be announced at the Trust Council meeting in June and awards will be presented by local Trust committees later in the year.

Nomination forms are available by request by emailing [csa@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:csa@islandstrust.bc.ca). Projects must be either completed within the last two years or must be ongoing to be eligible.

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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

# Taxpayer disrespect

It might be absurd to expect a drop in taxes paid to a local government body, but should it really be such a wild fantasy?

In 2014, Salt Spring residents authorized the Capital Regional District to increase property taxes by \$250,000 per year for four years for a specific purpose: to fund Rainbow Road-area pedestrian safety improvements. If taxpayers' wishes were respected, they should have seen their CRD property taxes reduced by \$250,000 this year once the borrowing authority for the (still-to-be-completed) transportation project had expired.

Instead, that \$250,000 in freed-up funding was quickly subsumed by a wishlist of three new part-time staff positions — two within the CRD and one at the library — and other bits and bobs. This was part of the preliminary budget supported by CRD director

**THE ISSUE:**  
CRD use of referendum funds

**WE SAY:**  
Taxing authority abused

authority was ever given to continue spending a further \$250,000 year after year ad infinitum. So our true 2019 CRD tax increase is more than five per cent and should be presented to us that way.

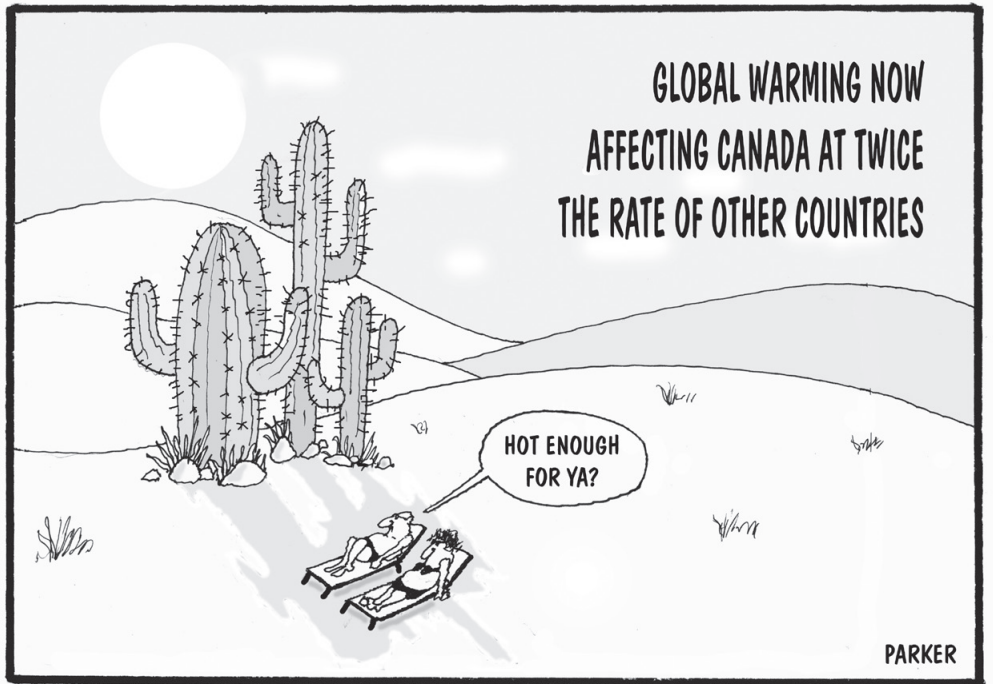
The dollars in question for the average-assessed residential property may be relatively small, but the amount is irrelevant. What is stunning is that rather than respect the legal wording, intention and spirit of referendum borrowing — for a specific purpose for a specific length of time — the CRD has assumed our approval in 2014 to contribute \$250,000 to pedestrian safety on Rainbow and Lower Ganges roads can be transferred to whatever projects or departments it feels could use some cash.

And as Holman hints in his March 27 budget report in the Driftwood, the same fate could await the \$580,000 in annual debt-retirement costs we are presently carrying for the pool, library and liquid waste facility.

It really calls into question the rationale for referenda. Or perhaps it's time to change the wording of all CRD referenda so that voters know they will be paying that authorized amount forever and ever — on whatever the CRD, not taxpayers, deems is necessary.

If you'd like to see this practice changed in the future, let your CRD reps know how you feel.

Gary Holman's predecessor Wayne McIntyre, so it's not a new phenomenon. It is also not hidden, except when the CRD tells us how little our CRD property taxes jumped between 2018 and 2019. The final figure touted is a 1.8 per cent increase. But \$250,000 of last year's budget was only there because of the 2014 referendum. No



PARKER

## Nature volunteers thrive

BY NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA

We've all been there and felt the negative effects of stress. With the pace of the world today, stress is a familiar companion for many of us.

Though stress is a normal physical reaction, it can have negative effects on your health, especially when it lasts for long periods of time. Whether it's fatigue, anxiety, irritability or social isolation, stress symptoms can affect your body, thoughts, feelings and overall well-being.

In a world where information comes at us from every direction, expectations are high that we'll be able to keep up. Yet too often, we're left feeling like we have no breathing space. So how do we manage stress in a modern world?

Cue the birdsong, babbling brook and soft scent of pine trees.

Nature may not be able to solve all of our problems, but the benefits of getting outside cannot be denied. A growing body of evidence shows that spending time outside can reduce stress, improve blood pressure, reduce anxiety and support our overall physical health. When you throw volun-

### VIEWPOINT

teering into the mix, the benefits increase — not just for ourselves, but for nature too.

That's why the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is encouraging Canadians to be "healthy by nature," by getting outside this year and contributing to hands-on conservation work through our Conservation Volunteers program.

Studies have shown that volunteering can help you feel more socially connected and that using your skills and talents in support of a cause can improve your self-esteem. In a 2013 health and volunteering study conducted by UnitedHealth Group, 96 per cent of participants said volunteering enriched their sense of purpose in life.

NCC's Conservation Volunteers program, which is in its 12th year, brings people from all walks of life together in support of a shared cause.

With a wealth of volunteer events taking place in all 10 provinces throughout the year, we are showing that we are not only committed to land conser-

vation but also to connecting people to that land and fostering a love of nature.

"The personal experiences we have with nature help us form a life-long connection to the environment," says Erica Thompson, NCC's director of conservation engagement. "Through our Conservation Volunteers program, we work to provide hands-on opportunities for people of all ages and fitness levels to get out and contribute to nature's health, while reaping the personal, mental, physical and social benefits of being outside."

Whether it's cleaning up plastics and marine debris at a shoreline cleanup in Newfoundland, improving fence-line visibility for endangered greater sage-grouse in Saskatchewan or planting native wildflowers as part of local restoration efforts on Vancouver Island, NCC's Conservation Volunteers program offers many opportunities to get outside, get (or stay) healthy and give back to nature this year. In the process, you might just find the breathing space you need.

To view the Nature Conservancy of Canada's full calendar of events and find one in your area, visit [conservationvolunteers.ca](http://conservationvolunteers.ca).

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Does Salt Spring need a year-round homeless shelter?  Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should beach fires be banned on Salt Spring?  
58 YES 77 NO

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: }

**"We got together and felt there was desperation in the community because the shelter was closing, and that's where it began."**

SS UNITED CHURCH MINISTER CHRIS LEVAN

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**WE ASKED:** *Why do you think we need to reform B.C.'s forestry practices?*

**CATHY LENIHAN**



Trees are our oldest living guardians and we're clear-cutting them at an astounding rate.

**VERA ROBINSON**



I'm a strong believer that we need to work with nature to sustain this planet, its plants and animals.

**DAMIAN INWOOD**



Trees are our lifeblood because of the oxygen they put in the air, the water they capture and how they protect the environment.

**DORA PRIETO**



When you put forests in danger you're putting a double cost on the environment. Keeping them intact helps absorb carbon; cutting them produces more emissions.

**ALEX SMITH**



I want my kids and grandkids to have the same experience in the forest I can now, and at the current rate of cutting my kids won't see the old growth I can.

## 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

### Stop private land clear-cuts

Those of us living on Kitchen Road, as with the folks on Beddis Road, have watched in horror for many weeks now as one of our neighbours has clear-cut his five-acre property.

The waste and devastation must be seen to fully comprehend what clear-cut logging looks like in a rural neighbourhood. A clear-cut of this nature creates a wall of trees on every side of the clear-cut and exposes all the remaining trees on nearby properties to blow-downs and wind damage.

We must demand our Islands Trust protect our beautiful island from logging on private rural acreages because the damage from clear-cut logging is irreparable.

Further, to give folks an idea of how lucrative logging can be, even on a five-acre parcel of land, our neighbour needed to pay us \$770 for one single tree that was taken from our land during the logging process. From that we can deduce how much money can be made by clear-cutting a five-acre par-

cel of land.

When we look at a tree do we see something to be cherished or do we see money? That is the question and that is why the Islands Trust must stop clear-cut logging on private land.

**PATRI JANYK,**  
KITCHEN ROAD

### Protect trees

As a resident of Salt Spring for the past 48 years, I have witnessed the loss through logging of most of the large coastal Douglas-fir trees on the island and have witnessed huge changes in the tree cover/canopy that helps retain our water supplies.

I have personally been impacted with clear-cut logging adjacent and behind the five-acre property I am privileged to own and steward. We have experienced flooding and a landslide on our property, as well as road slippage and a nine-month loss of use of Walker Hook Road.

Right now in our forest I have counted 26 red cedar trees that have died over the past year and one very large fir in addition to the trees we lost in the windstorm (one large arbutus,

three large fir and numerous red alder). Our forest has been affected by the loss of water uptake and retention in the adjoining logged areas as well as by climate change. Our neighbours experienced similar losses.

Going forward, climate change is going to continue to take a toll on our forests and it is imperative that we do what we can to preserve the forest canopy to mitigate the loss of moisture in the soil. The Gulf Islands as part of the Islands Trust area have been mandated to be preserved and protected for all British Columbians. We need your help to suspend logging on non-forestry lands to protect the few remaining trees so that we can continue to be a place that has and protects the rare coastal Douglas-firs.

A Ministry of Environment brochure states: "Nearly every type of old-growth Douglas-fir forest on B.C.'s coastal plain is now rare or endangered." The ministry suggests we "Discuss the importance of protecting old-growth coastal Douglas-fir forests with municipal, regional, provincial and federal agencies, and ask for their help." This is what I am doing.

Please help us retain our coastal Douglas-fir for all British Columbians and to help mitigate climate change for everyone.

**DONNA MARTIN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Spelling it out

As Volunteer Appreciation Week kicks off this week, I am tasked with finding an appropriate, meaningful and truly heartfelt way of expressing thanks to our volunteers.

Words that come to mind are versatile, optimistic, lovable, understanding, nice, talented, energetic, enthusiastic and resilient — that is the kind of amazing VOLUNTEERS we have at Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding.

On behalf of the Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association, we would like to add our wholehearted and loudly shouted "thank you" for all your hard work and help. You are always willing to be there for us whenever we need you. We appreciate the time and effort you provide to us and to this community.

Great job!  
**ERIKA PONSFORD,**  
SS THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION

## Don't stand in the way of housing solutions

**BY RON COOKE**

I would like to respond to Frants Attorp's Viewpoint in the March 27 paper, as it is symptomatic of a certain mindset that some islanders still carry, and which proves detrimental to the integrity of our community, and perhaps even to Mr. Attorp himself.

I am admittedly an affordable housing advocate — a volunteer with no skin in the game except to be concerned about what I see as a crisis that should concern us all here. I am also retired, own a home and live comfortably and could easily close my mind to the struggle of others. But I have also looked beneath the surface and realized that we all stand to lose a lot if we do not open our minds.

A well-rounded community is made up of not just those who can afford the high costs of buying property and building a home to retire to here. I seldom even meet these folks. They are often off to Mexico for the winter or they just come to town to get groceries and then it's back to their estates. They are not the islanders I rub shoulders with.

The folks I know are the ones I meet every day in town: the folks behind counters, office workers, nurses and teachers, small business owners, artists and musicians, our sons and daughters who collectively give our community its unique fla-

### IN RESPONSE

our and keep our economy chugging along. And these folks are facing a BIG problem. Talk to them, and you will quickly learn that most of them live here tenuously, making just enough to get by and facing a real struggle to find any kind of suitable housing at all.

Or ask their employers about how hard it is to find and keep staff as more and more employees are forced to move away due to our lack of housing stock.

And this brings us to the "evil" developers. Yes, there are outside forces who would love to buy up property here to build condos and bedroom communities, and I fear them as much as Mr. Attorp. But our official community plan is also supposed to look after not just our unique environment but those who live within it. We are doing pretty well on the first count but poorly on the second one.

What I have learned through my working with the affordable housing groups here is that we are blessed to have a fair number of community-minded individuals and organizations that are not in it for any monetary gain at all but rather to see our island remain healthy and viable. The housing developments that they are spearheading are

not for the wealthy, who need no such help. They are offered up to meet the needs of young families and our working-class and elderly pensioners who are slowly, almost invisibly being forced off the island, to the detriment of all.

It is also important to say that none of these folks are wanting to change the rural landscape of our island. They think very carefully about location, home size, impact on the environment and the community.

Unfortunately, these projects all continue to fall victim to the rules and attitudes in place, and struggle to make progress. Every month or year wasted on red tape sees the costs rise and the problems grow. Fortunately, all three of our newly elected officials see the problems clearly now, and do what they can to be on board, but they too are dealing with the very set of rules they are sworn to uphold, and with the unrealistic drawbridge mentality of the comfortable minority.

Added to this whole sham-ozzle is the water moratorium, which has perhaps done the most damage to all of these new projects. It is heartbreaking to watch. I do understand the position that NSSWW finds itself in, and even empathize. And yes, we do need to carefully look after our resources, but not to the detriment of those who live

and work in our community.

It has been said that we don't have a water problem, we have a water collection, storage and distribution problem. I see it as being somewhere in between. I would also say that my friend Rhonan Heitzmann, who Mr. Attorp is so quick to dismiss, is one of the leading lights on our island on this front, looking for ingenuity in alternative water collection and storage.

And very importantly, I would also add that the people who these projects are designed for are already living here, using water and flushing toilets. They will not be adding much new draw on our water supply, if at all. In fact, all these new affordable home projects are designed with water conservation and recycling in mind, and they all have stringent guidelines in place to ensure preference to those who already live here.

So I would ask my fellow islanders to suspend your complacency for a moment and poke around a bit. Educate yourselves on our housing crisis and think about what you can do to be part of the solution. At the very least, don't stand in the way.

*The writer is a board member of the Salt Spring Housing Council, Salt Spring Community Services, Wagon Wheel Housing Society and Dragonfly Commons Housing Society.*

## Rants + ROSES

Send your submissions to  
[newsgulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://newsgulfislandsdriftwood.com)

### Roses

Roses and kudos to Dan Ovington and Kirk Harris from PARC and Gary Lehman, a Salt Spring Transportation Commissioner and Partners Creating Pathway volunteer, for championing the cause of all mobility scooter users and folks that want to get around Ganges easier by fixing the spot in Centennial Park that we have wanted fixed for a long time. Good job and it will make a difference. Island Pathways board

We came together on March 30 to run the Fabulous Flea Market to benefit our grand old Fulford Hall. Special thanks go out to Brian, Ranji and Hafiz for set-up and crowd control, Barb for advertising, Maggie for connecting us to social media, Peggy and her wonderful cooks and servers of the 653 Cafe for delicious lunches and treats, Brian, David and Ed for work below stairs, and the hall committee for take-down and clean up! My sincere thanks to you all from Jan.

Bunches of roses to Country Grocer and the Harbour House Hotel for their generous donations to the Legion Ladies Auxiliary's "Salt Spring Basket," which members of the group will be taking to our convention in Penticton. From the Ladies Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #92.

Clean green roses to everyone who has so far signed up for the Driftwood's Greening Salt Spring campaign!

# Garbage history details disputed

By TOM PICKETT

As a direct neighbour of Laurie Hedger and someone who once worked in his business, I think it's in the public interest to write and give some of the missing history/perspective and perhaps attempt to clarify some of the information given in the last four vague paragraphs appearing at the end of the otherwise well-written March 27 article romanticizing the "Hard work on the farm and beyond" about old island pioneer Laurie Hedger.

While I have differing opinions, I also think there has been a political effect on Laurie's business. But contrary to Laurie, I believe this "political interference" he refers to has greatly assisted the Hedgers. After all, where else in Canada can a local government like the Islands Trust ("preserve and protect the environment") somehow ignore the limits of its municipal jurisdiction on Lee's Hill to claim alleged violations of a provincial mines site could somehow be magically transformed into legal non-conforming land uses under the Local Government Act? Perhaps officials were misinformed. Hard to say what goes when private claims can be adjudicated behind closed doors.

According to a previous Driftwood article dated Feb. 12, 1992, titled "Second waste service for hauling to Hartland landfill," Laurie started his Ganges garbage business sometime in 1992, not 1986. Regardless, this appears to have been a clear violation of Salt Spring's existing bylaws and zoning for that site at that time.

Almost 30 years later, his one truck, two days a week "only temporary," "only parking" garbage operation has metastasized into an ever-expanding operation of six days a week, which now has added scrap metal recycling with more employees, and a fleet of vehicles and equipment.

Now the Hedgers come crying the blues seeking community support for some backdoor legitimacy through an after-the-fact official community plan amendment.

A previous version of events from Mr. Hedger appeared in the Barnacle newspaper in Sept. 26, 2000, where his tale of rescuing Salt Spring from its garbage problems due to the closing of the Blackburn dump was taken to task by Sheila Twa.

The Twa family started the Blackburn dump sometime in the 1960s. Unlike Laurie Hedger, who was allowed to cut some kind of secret back-room deal with the Islands Trust, the Twa family was taken to court and they proved in Supreme Court before a real judge that they were legitimately a legal non-conforming operation that actually predated the Islands Trust's presence on Salt Spring Island.

In that Barnacle article, Ms. Twa also pointed out that the Blackburn dump shut down on

## INDEPTH

Dec. 31, 1991 and the Blackburn transfer station opened the very next day on Jan. 1, 1992. She further stated that there was no discontinuation of service. She also said that Laurie Hedger had simply taken advantage of the confusion at that time, set up an old garbage truck at the GVM and intercepted garbage that would have been picked up by Blackburn's residential collection trucks or have normally gone to their Blackburn Road location.

Freedom of Information requests have revealed that the Ganges Village Residents Association complained to the Islands Trust about Laurie Hedger's garbage operation violating zoning at the GVM site shortly after he started. However, the Islands Trust of the day did nothing and said these operations were only temporary. Similar excuses of "he's only parking, it's only temporary" were later made in response to complaints around Hedger's industrial activities and zoning violations in my rural-zoned neighbourhood on Lee's Hill.

Later on, when the Trust/CRD were favouring Laurie with a recycling licence, a Driftwood article titled "Duped neighbours attack planners and politicians" included the statement "a Fulford-Ganges Road resident and lawyer Anthony McEwen believes the Trust acted on poor legal advice to allow the waste transfer to proceed at all. 'Our disappointment with the Trust is that you folded and didn't take the challenge. You caved to the blackmail of the court instead of protecting the public interest.'"

The Islands Trust at that time told neighbours their decision was now a result of a Supreme Court decision and trustee George Ehring is quoted in a Driftwood article of May 24, 2006 as saying words to the effect that the courts had already decided that the waste transfer could continue at Lee's Hill. I know of no Supreme Court which adjudicated the validity of Mr. Hedger's many claims, although many FOI processes undertaken by neighbours finally uncovered a consent order arranged between the Trust and Hedger. A consent order is entirely different than a Supreme Court judgment, which would have involved an impartial look at the evidence, credibility and legality of these claims and decisions.

If the Hedgers truly wished to avoid the difficulties Laurie claims they find themselves in, they should have at least considered playing by the rules and respected the letter and intent of this island's clear zoning laws, as well as the Local Government Act.

*The writer is a neighbour of the Hedgers on Lee Road.*

# celebrating SENIORS

## Protect against age-related vision loss

As we age, we come to appreciate the simpler things in life whether it's playing with grandkids, taking up a hobby or finding more time for a good book. Whatever activity brings you joy, don't let the loss of vision affect your independence.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the most common cause of poor vision in Canadians over the age of 60 and one of the leading causes of vision loss. While peripheral vision is usually unaffected, people with AMD lose the sharp, straight-ahead vision used for driving, reading, recognizing faces and looking at detail. Though AMD doesn't always lead to complete blindness, it can sometimes significantly impair simple daily activities. Over time, the areas of vision loss may grow larger or denser or you may develop blank spots in your central vision.

If detected at an early stage, there are treatments that can decrease AMD's rate of progression. You can take steps to prevent or reduce vision loss with these tips from the Canadian Ophthalmological Society:

- Get regular comprehensive medical eye exams. People over age 65 should get an exam at least once every two years.
- Quit smoking. Smokers are twice as likely to develop AMD compared with a non-smoker.
- Know your family's eye health history. Before you go in for your next eye exam, speak with your family about their eye health history, as it may prompt your ophthalmologist to recommend more frequent eye exams.
- Eat well. Studies show that people who

have a reduced risk of AMD have diets rich in omega-3 fatty acids, such as salmon and walnuts, and omega-3 enriched foods like yogurt and eggs.

- Stay active. It's important to maintain regular exercise to not only keep a healthy weight but to also reduce the risk of developing AMD.

Leading an active, healthy lifestyle and getting regular eye exams are important to saving your long-term vision, especially after age 60. Speak to your eye doctor about your eye health and the steps you should take to ensure healthy eyesight for years to come.

Learn more at [cos-sco.ca](http://cos-sco.ca).

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# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## SALT SPRING INN

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PHOTO COURTESY GISPA

**INTENSE:** Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts students rehearse One-by-One: A Crucible Story for their upcoming show at ArtSpring on April 17, 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. One by One is a resetting of Arthur Miller's The Crucible in the modern day, making an eerie but apt comparison between the Puritan Salem witch trials of 1692 and today's high school gossip and back-stabbing in the age of social media and reality TV. GISPA shows include theatre, dance and music components.

### CHORAL MUSIC

## Prince George singers visit

Well-travelled teen group at All Saints

The Anglican Parish welcomes a vibrant youth choir to present a concert at All Saints By-the-Sea on Friday, April 12.

Led by Carolyn Duerksen and accompanied by Maureen Nielsen, the senior group of the District 57 Tapestry Singers is comprised of grades 8 to 12 students from Prince George.

Their Circle of Friends concert, which begins at 7 p.m., includes selections ranging from contemporary to traditional genres. Repertoire includes familiar melodies such as By the Rivers of Babylon, And So It Goes, A Thousand Years, We Rise Again and Vivalda Musica.

According to press material, singing a wide range of musical styles is a focus of Tapestry's program, along with the development of music skills and musical understanding.

The District 57 Tapestry Singers also performs as a larger group with its younger members. They sing at sporting events, collaborating with local choirs, performing together with the Prince George Symphony Orchestra and drumming with The K'hastan Drummers.

The senior group members have also travelled to music festivals in other provinces and in the U.S. These experiences have allowed Tapestry to sing with their peers in many different venues and to work with well-respected choral clinicians, resulting in many awards.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
 Admission is by donation.

### THEATRE REVIEW

## Light-hearted fun found in dark comedy

Arsenic and Old Lace continues April 11-13

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

People looking for an evening of light entertainment will find more than a few reasons to laugh in Salt Spring Community Theatre's production of Arsenic and Old Lace.

A send-up of the murder mystery genre and the theatre world in general, the classic play by Joseph Kesselring finds its humour in a set of increasingly absurd situations. With a large cast who have quite different characters and stage time requirements, the play directed by Suzanne Rouger provides a zesty bundle for the community theatre setting.

Arsenic and Old Lace revolves around the Brewster family and their historic house in Brooklyn. Set decorator Susannah Devitt and the designers and builders led by Al Lehman have gone above and beyond in their detailed creation of the Edwardian home. With mentorship by Academy Award-winner Jim Erickson, the set may indeed be the true star of the show. It definitely grounds the action in a fully realized fictional environment.

The nominal hero is theatre critic Mortimer, who's forced to deal with a whole range of disasters just as he decides to get married to the minister's daughter from next door. Daniel Squizzato takes a turn as the anxious, sarcastic writer, with Brian Box his opposing force, his sinister brother Jonathan. Both Squizzato and on-stage love interest Metta Rose put in the consistently solid performances they are known for, while Box hams up his character's Boris Karloff connection with real B-movie villain flair.

While everyone in the Brewster line is a little bit insane, as the title suggests, the two elderly sisters are the real key to the comedy. Both are completely calm and sweet even while discussing their murders of lonely



PHOTO BY DREW UNDERWOOD

Salt Spring Community Theatre players, from left, Mary Lowery, Ken Lee and Ann Stewart perform in Arsenic and Old Lace at Mahon Hall.

old men as charity and the 12 graves filling up space in their cellar. Ann Stewart and Mary Lowery therefore play jointly pivotal roles as Aunt Abby and Aunt Martha, and they do a very fine job. Their serene devotion to their task is very funny and the dithering after their nephews well done. If a few lines were missed on opening weekend, the actors were so quick to recover in character it seemed like part of the script.

Another good bit of casting was to have Ken Lee as the third brother Teddy, who believes he is President Teddy Roosevelt. Despite playing a character that is some 30 to 40 years younger than himself, Lee is totally natural in the role, displaying all the quirks and arrogance of an important man while driving the neighbours crazy with his constant bugle calls.

Scott Merrick has played a huge range of characters in both comedies

and dramas, but the part of Dr. (Herman) Einstein is probably one of the best suited to his gifts so far. He gets to use a campy German accent and act as sidekick to the nasty Jonathan, frequently expounding on the situation as a one-man chorus.

One of the main values of community theatre is its inclusivity, and Arsenic and Old Lace has plenty of small roles for islanders developing their craft. A nice find this time around comes with Dustin Van Wyck in the role of Lieutenant Rooney, a character who only appears late in the last act. Audience members may find themselves wishing the part was bigger, or at least to see Van Wyck in a more prominent role in future productions.

Audiences still have three opportunities to see the show, which runs at Mahon Hall at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 11 to 13.

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# SALT SPRING BLOOMS IN APRIL

Here are some of the special events taking place during Salt Spring Blooms in April. For more details, see the Driftwood's Calendar of Events at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com)



## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

6:30 pm: Bouge de la dance. ArtSpring.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11

7 pm: Sarah Cox Author Event. SS Public Library.

7:30 pm: O-Celli Concert. ArtSpring.

7:30 pm: Arsenic & Old Lace play. Mahon Hall.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

7 pm: District 57 Tapestry Singers. All Saints.

7:30 pm: Arsenic & Old Lace play. Mahon Hall.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

9 am - 4 pm: Saturday Market in the Park.

10 am - 4 pm: Noelle Hamlyn Open Studio at 175 North View Drive.

6:30 pm: Swing Into Spring Dance with Swing Shift. SS Public Library.

7:30 pm: Arsenic & Old Lace play. Mahon Hall.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

7 pm: National Poetry Month Earth Songs at the library.

7:30 pm: GISPA Presents One By One: A Crucible Story. ArtSpring.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 18

7:30 pm: GISPA Presents One By One: A Crucible Story. ArtSpring.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show - Homage. Mahon Hall.

10 am - 5 pm: StoryWalk: The Odd Egg. SS Library + Mouat Park.

5 to 8 pm: Opening reception for Symbolically 8 Exhibition at Gallery 8.

6 - 9 pm: Easter Art Show Opening Reception. Mahon Hall.

7:30 pm: GISPA Presents One By One: A Crucible Story. ArtSpring.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

9 am - 4 pm: Saturday Market in the Park.

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show - Homage. Mahon Hall.

10 am - 6 pm: Celebrate the Arts! ArtSpring.

2 - 5 pm: Demo-Observation - Painting with Josephine Fletcher. Mahon Hall.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21

10 am - 4 pm: Salty Flea. Fulford Hall.

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show. Mahon Hall.

10 am - 2 pm: Easter at the Cheese Farm.

## MONDAY, APRIL 22

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show - Homage. Mahon Hall.

10 am - 2 pm: Earth Day Ganges Clean-up. Meet at Ganges Fire Hall.

7 pm: SS Folk Club's Gumboot Gala. Fulford Hall.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 23

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show. Mahon Hall.

12 - 1 pm: Artist Talk with Gillian McConnell. Mahon Hall.

1 pm - 3 pm: Rainbow Road Pool Re-opening and Open House. Free swim, prize draws and booths.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

9:30 am - 12:30 pm: Life Drawing with SS Painters Guild. Mahon Hall.

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show. Mahon Hall.

7 pm: Eve Lazarus Book Reading. SS Public Library.

7 pm: A Tribute to Birds in Word & Song. Mahon Hall.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 25

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show - Homage. Mahon Hall.

12 - 1 pm: Artist Talk with Bob Leatherbarrow. Mahon Hall.

7 pm: SS Trail & Nature Presentation by Lo Camps: Going Wild: Rafting Yukon Rivers and Trekking Remote Vancouver Island. SS Public Library.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 26

10 am - 5 pm: Easter Art Show. Mahon Hall.

12 - 1 pm: Artist Talk with Kenna Barradell. Mahon Hall.

7 pm: StageCoach Theatre Presents Eldritch Manor. ArtSpring.



**Catch my daily blog**  
at [adamolsenmla.ca](http://adamolsenmla.ca)

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Saanich North & the Islands

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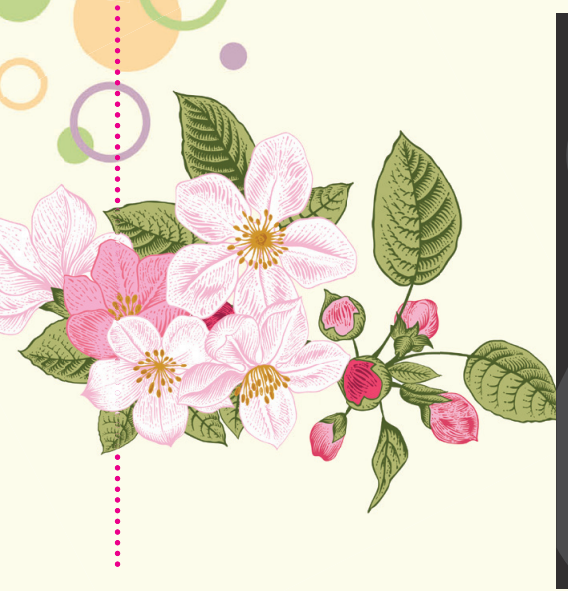
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# Here comes the BRIDE

## GULF ISLANDS WEDDING PLANNER

- Wedding parties, venue choices and terminology you'll need
- Local supplies and services to ensure a fantastic celebration



### TRENDS

# Modern wedding parties look beyond gender

Supporting roles don't need to be all male or female

Couples are increasingly bucking long-established trends to make weddings uniquely their own.

One of today's more popular tradition-busting trends is not adhering to gender lines when couples select friends and family members for their wedding parties.

Until recently, the vast majority of wedding couples selected members of the same sex to fill the roles needed for the ceremony and reception. For example, grooms would choose fellow males to serve as their groomsmen while brides choose other females for their bridal parties. The wedding resource The Knot says the days of having



METROCREATIVE CONNECTION

Wedding parties can have males in the bridal party and females in the groom's party.

men on one side and women on the other are gone. Coed wedding parties enable brides and grooms to have their favourite people by their side, regardless

of gender.

According to The Daily Mail, over the past year, weddings across Australia and other areas of the world have seen a rise in

"groomswomen" and "bridesmen," blurring the lines of wedding traditions. Couples have often said that choosing whomever they desire to stand beside them during the wedding is more authentic than separating people simply because of gender.

Take for example a groom-to-be who is especially close to his sister. Such siblings may serve as bridesmaids, but grooms may want to have their sisters by their sides on their big day.

Foregoing gender roles may make for a unique, customized wedding. However, it does create the question of what wedding party members will wear. Again, there are no firm rules, but coordination can make for better photos. A woman standing on the groom's side can coordinate with the colour of the bridesmaids dresses, but wear a different style. Or she can wear a dress that matches the colour

of the groomsmen's suits. A man standing with the bride can have accessories, such as tie, vest and pocket square, that match bridesmaid dresses.

One of the areas where mixing and matching genders may get a tad sticky is with older, more traditional guests. They may not understand the freedom of choice in the wedding. However, couples can discuss their bridal parties to select people who they think might prefer couples adhere to tradition.

Another possible snag is with bachelorette parties and bachelor parties. A solution to this dilemma may be to simply organize a getaway weekend for the entire bridal party, and not separate parties for each side.

Couples are increasingly deviating from tradition for their weddings by looking beyond gender when picking wedding party members.

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# WEDDING PLANNER

## WEDDING PLANNING

# Knowing the terminology makes planning easier

### Glossary of wedding terms

Couples about to embark on their wedding journeys will likely learn a thing or two about party planning once their engagements are over and they are newly married. Wedding planning can seem overwhelming and a tad confusing at times, but a crash course in wedding terminology can help couples make more informed choices along the way.

- Blusher: A short, single-layer veil that covers the bride's face before the ceremony.
- Boutonnière: A single flower bud worn by the men in the bridal party.
- Canapés: Bite-sized appetizers served during the cocktail hour of a reception.
- Civil ceremony: A marriage ceremony

conducted by a council official or justice of the peace at a municipal location rather than in a house of worship.

- Cocktail hour: Typically an hour-long interlude between the wedding ceremony and the main dinner of the reception. Guests have time to arrive and mingle before being seated.
- Corkage fee: A fee some establishments charge to allow guests to bring their own wine.
- Dais: A podium or platform raised from the floor where the bride and groom are seated.
- Deposit: A percentage of the total cost of service given to a vendor to secure a date for their services.

• Dragées: Round, small edible balls of sugar that appear on wedding cakes.

- Escort (seating) cards: Printed cards that direct reception guests to their seats.
- Fondant: A sweet, pliable product used to decoratively cover layered cakes. It can be used in lieu of straight buttercream.
- Handle wrap: Ribbon or fabric that wraps around the stems of a bouquet the bride and wedding party carries.
- Maid/matron of honour: The title given to the woman who assists the bride and stands closest to her at the altar. "Maids" are those who are unmarried, while "matrons" are women who are.
- Master of ceremonies: An individual who will work with the DJ or band to announce

the various components of the wedding reception.

- Nosegay: A small bouquet or flower arrangement typically given to the mothers of the bride and groom before the ceremony.
- Processional/Recessional: Musical pieces that mark the entrance and exit from the wedding ceremony.
- Receiving line: A line of the key people in the wedding who welcome and greet guests.
- Stationery: All of the paper products used at the wedding, including invitations, programs and enclosures.
- Tablescape: A word that describes the multiple components of centerpiece designs. Learning some basic wedding terminology can simplify wedding planning.

## HOME WEDDINGS

# Getting married at home can be appealing if the space is right

A number of things to consider in choosing a venue

Many couples preparing for their trip down the aisle follow the familiar sentiments expressed by Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. Such couples feel "there's no place like home" when hosting a wedding ceremony or reception.

There are many benefits to hosting a wedding at home. Homes often hold couples' most cherished memories, and hosting a backyard celebration or an intimate indoor ceremony at your own home or the abode of a loved one can be

a cost-effective way to have a good time.

Here are some tips to help couples navigate hosting an at-home wedding.

**Assess the space:** The average home is not equipped to handle hundreds of guests, wait staff, caterers, and parked cars. Concessions in regard to comfort and safety will have to be made when drawing up the guest list. The wedding resource *The Knot* advises the general rule is six- to 10 square-feet of floor space per guest for row seating. You'll probably need even more space for buffet tables, seating and a dance floor.

You will likely need to temporarily move furniture to com-

fortably fit everyone indoors — or rent a large enough tent for a backyard wedding.

**Hire a cleaning service:** It's important to present a clean, inviting space when hosting a wedding at home. A cleaning service will conduct a thorough cleaning before and after the festivities, freeing up your time for last-minute tasks or to embark on your honeymoon.

**Book an officiant early:** Confirm with an officiant that they can oversee the wedding proceedings at your home. Many religious officials are not able to perform ceremonies outside of a place of worship.

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# what's on this week



## Wed. Apr. 10

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Bouge de là – The 26 Letter Dance.**  
Choreographed by Hélène Langevin, The 26 Letter Dance is a bold and playful work that invites children to take part in a unique experience in which they not only see a dance performance but actively participate! The show starts with A, of course, with Z the last to take his leave. In between, the letters embody a plethora of words, meanings, emotions, and tones of voice. 6:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Shakespeare, Milton and Canadian Confederation.**  
Prof. Gary Kuchar is guest speaker at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 2 p.m.

**Xwaaqw'um: Healing Relationships to the Land and Each Other.**  
Salt Spring Historical Society hosts Quw'utsun Elder Tousilum (Ron George), Sulsameethl (Deb George) and Tuwa'xwultun (Joe Akerman) to present a program on Xwaaqw'um (Burgoyne Bay). Central Hall. 2 p.m.

**Rest & Recharge: Restorative Yin Practice.**  
Working with a sequence of yin yoga poses that open the body and the energy channels within, participants will move towards stillness and guided meditation for deep relaxation. With teacher Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest hot yoga. 6:30 p.m. Info/register: thenesthotyoga.com

## Wed. Apr. 10

### ACTIVITIES

**Windsor Plywood Spring Soccer League.**  
Ten-week league for youth and adult teams begins today at SIMS field. Info: mallegg@shaw.ca.

**Rest & Recharge: Restorative Yin Practice.**  
With teacher Sarah Jane Smith at The Nest hot yoga. 6:30 p.m. Info/register: thenesthotyoga.com

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

## Thu. Apr. 11

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Community Theatre Presents Arsenic and Old Lace.** Salt Spring Community Theatre presents Joseph Kesselring's 1939 farce about murder. Runs to April 13 at Mahon Hall. 7:30 p.m. Doors at 7 p.m.

**Ô-Celli.** A cosmopolitan ensemble of eight cellists presents works by Piazzolla, De Falla, Turina, Antonio Marquez, Chabrier, and Oriol Cruixent. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

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

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Forum: The Journey of an Astrodynamicist: Science, Space Junk & Environmentalism on the Final Frontier.** Professor Moriba Jah, the U.S.'s leading expert on space junk, is the Salt Spring Forum guest speaker at GISS in the Multipurpose Room. 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Thu. Apr. 11

### ACTIVITIES

**Where Have All the Insects Gone?**  
Join Linda Gilkeson for a riveting presentation on the loss of insects and why it matters. Meaden Hall. 7 p.m.

**Journalist/author Sarah Cox Presentation.**  
Award-winning author of Breaching the Peace: The Site C Dam and a Valley's Stand Against Big Hydro is at Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club, Transition Salt Spring and the library.

## Fri. Apr. 12

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**District 57 Tapestry Singers.**  
Prince George youth choir brings Circle of Friends concert to All saints. 7 p.m.

**Mad Riddim.**  
Live at the Mateada Nitro Lounge. 7 p.m.

**The Long Haul.**  
Country band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

**Community Theatre Presents Arsenic and Old Lace.**  
See Thursday's listing.

### ACTIVITIES

**Art Show Opening: WaterBodies.**  
Opening event for exhibit of landscapes by Cheryl Long at Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.



## Sat. Apr. 13

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Blanky.** Live band at Moby's. 9 p.m.

**Community Theatre Presents Arsenic and Old Lace.**  
See Thursday's listing.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Saturday Market.**  
Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Visiting Artist Open Studio With Noelle Hamlyn.**  
At Blue Horse Folk Art Gallery. Drop in between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

**Plato's Spirit: Personal + Social Change – Ancient Greek Paths of Self-Transformation.**  
UBC professor Michael Griffin presents a workshop exploring lost ideas of Greek philosophers at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church). 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pre-register through www.starofthesea.ca.

**Swing into Spring: Fundraising Dance.**  
Celebrate spring with a unique fundraising event at the library with beloved local Swing Shift big band. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Dancing from 7 to 10 p.m.

## Sun. Apr. 14

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Fawkes & Hownd and Chris Ho.**  
Double bill of singer-songwriters at Moby's. 7 p.m.

## Sun. Apr. 14

### ACTIVITIES

**Art Show Opening: Beyond Edges.**  
Meet artist Nikki Menard at the opening of her exhibit at Fernwood Road Cafe. 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

## Mon. Apr. 15

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Island Toastmasters.**  
Guests welcome to Monday night meetings at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room. 7 p.m. (Please plan to arrive at 6:50 p.m. to get oriented and find a spot at the table.)

**SSI Fire Protection District.**  
Board of trustees' regular monthly business meeting. Ganges Fire Hall. 7 p.m.

## Tue. Apr. 16

### ACTIVITIES

**Grief Support Group.**  
Multi-week session led by Salt Spring Hospice begins today. Info/register: 250-537-2770 or saltspring-hospice.org.

**Salt Spring Probus Club.**  
A speaker from InDro Robotics will speak on the advancements in the unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) industry brought on by recent technology and changes to regulations to expand flights beyond visual line of sight and autonomous flight. Lions Hall. Doors at 10 a.m. and speaker at about 10:30 a.m.

## Tue. Apr. 16

### ACTIVITIES

**Tech Cafe: Excel Part 2.**  
Merv Anderson leads a Tech Cafe session on Excel Part 2 at the library. 1 to 4 p.m. Pre-registration required at the library info desk, by calling 250-537-4666 or emailing info@saltspringlibrary.com.

**Sacred Poetry.** Sacred Poetry, facilitated by Lottie Devindisch, sees participants share a favourite poem with the group and take time to listen, reflect and consider their impact and meaning for personal journeys in the search for spiritual insight. On the third Tuesday of each month at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church). 7 to 8:30 p.m. By donation.

**Community Composting on Salt Spring.** What's up with community composting on Salt Spring? Videos on community composting, a talk and discussion on community composting at the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

**Salt Spring Hospice Society AGM.** Annual general meeting at the Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 7 p.m.

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

## Wed. Apr. 17

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**GISPA: One by One: A Crucible Story.**  
The Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts presents One by One: A Crucible Story. A resetting of Arthur Miller's The Crucible in the modern day, One by One makes an eerie but apt comparison between the Puritan Salem Witch Trials of 1692, and today's high school gossip and backstabbing in the age of social media and reality TV. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

**National Poetry Month Reading.**  
Salt Spring poets Christine Smart, Diana Hayes, Lorraine Gane and Murray Reiss read at the library for a National Poetry Month celebration. 7 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Scott Point Waterworks District AGM.**  
Annual general meeting at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club pavilion on Scott Point Drive. 7 p.m.

**Music Bingo.**  
See last Wednesday's listing.



Swing Shift big band performs at the library — yes the library! — in a fundraiser on Saturday, April 13. Tickets are at the library desk.

## THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **The Mule** runs Wednesday-Thursday, April 10-11 at 7 p.m.
- **How to Train Your Dragon 3** is on from Friday, April 12 through Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m., plus a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee.

## EXHIBITIONS

- **Cheryl Long** shows **WaterBodies**, landscapes that resulted from being inspired by her travels, at **the Salt Spring Gallery** beginning Friday, April 12, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. The show runs until April 24.
- **Nikki Menard** shows work in her **Beyond Edges** exhibit at **Fernwood Road Cafe** from April 14 to May 11, with an artist's reception on Sunday, April 14 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Today, April 10, is the last day to see the **Resurgence** show of work by 10 gallery members at **Salt Spring Gallery**.

- The first exhibit of the 2019 season at **Kizmit Galeria & Cafe** features acrylic paintings by **Mikaela Morgan** and assemblage pieces by **Marianne Campbell**.
- **Timothy Gibbon** holds a photography exhibit in the **library's program room** through April.
- **Jeremy Witmer** shows **Inspired Landscapes** in the **ArtSpring** lobby until April 29.
- From April 2 to 29, **Rea Zogia** shows **Nova Luna** in the Jankura Lounge at **ArtSpring**. The lounge has now been made available as an exhibition space exclusively for new and/or young Salt Spring artists (those 25 years and younger, or those who have never held an exhibition at ArtSpring).
- **Herb Otto** shows paintings at the **Country Grocer Cafe**.

**see horoscope on page 15**

**www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com/events/**

**One By One: A Crucible Story**  
A GISPA production at ArtSpring  
Wed.-Fri., April 17-19  
7:30 p.m.  
**THRIFTY FOODS**  
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# ISLAND LIFE

- What/Where is it?
- Star of the Week
- Streets of SSI

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

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



## FUNDRAISER

# Girls lose locks for cancer funds

Snipping takes place at middle school assembly

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Middle School students took a little off the top to raise money for cancer research on April 3.

Grade 8 students Yuli Roehlig and Trish Griffiths got in front of the entire middle school during their Tuesday morning assembly to get their ponytails cut as part of a fundraiser organized by the school's Social Justice Team. Cutting was done by Keith Picot, with styling by Mary Lynn Devereux of the Local Barbershop in Ganges.

"I wanted to donate my hair for a really good cause," Roehlig said. "We have been doing social justice since October and we came up with the idea of donating money for cancer research. Tiff [Wightman], our social justice manager, decided that we should have people in the school donate their hair."

Abigail Guedes, one of the student organizers, said that instead of having students bring in their hair to donate, having the deed done in front of the school gave the other students a chance



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Abigail Guedes, left, and Yuli Roehlig pose with the money they raised for cancer research. Roehlig's hair was cut off during a middle school assembly as part of the fundraising event initiated by the school's Social Justice Team.

to witness the event.

Guedes is particularly interested in raising money for cancer research. In 2013, her father, Salt Spring Fire Rescue Lt. Travis Guedes, passed away due to brain cancer.

"I am very passionate about the topic of

cancer; how to find a cure," Guedes said. "I've been wanting to talk about it for so long, so knowing we're able to do this is pretty amazing."

The students raised \$100, all of which will go towards cancer research.

## PHILOSOPHY

# Griffin presents fresh ideas from old manuscript

'Lost philosophers' dissected on April 13

SUBMITTED BY STAR OF THE SEA

Last month, 1.4 million children skipped school for an unprecedented global "climate strike."

Greta Thunberg, the teenager who launched the movement, said, "Our house is on fire . . . I want you to act as you would in a crisis." Many of us agree.

The question is: what can we do about it?

One graduate of Gulf Islands Secondary School — who went on to study philosophy at Oxford, and returns to Salt Spring for a public talk this week — has an unusual answer: Learn from our past.

"When the Roman Empire collapsed," Michael Griffin writes from Vancouver, "climate change actually played a big role. But there was more to it."

"In those days, policy-makers attacked 'expertise.' They demolished libraries, defunded universities. They set religions and sciences against each other. Some people argued that there's no such thing as 'truth.' That sounds a bit familiar, doesn't it?"

Griffin, who is now a professor at the University of British Columbia, has spent the last decade studying a previously lost manuscript of ancient philosophy. Written in the library of Alexandria during the 6th century AD, the parchment pages

contain a series of unexpectedly lively conversations on the politics, ethics and science of the Greek philosopher Plato.

Why should we care about such an old book now?

"I think there are some ideas there that we need to reconsider today," Griffin explains.

"First, they're claiming that real solutions for a social crisis are inside us. That we have to change, before we can change the world — that we have to discover how to think and feel authentically, how to make healthy, kind decisions again.

"They also argue there's a single truth underlying science and religious mythologies — so they plead for peace. They even discovered techniques for mindful introspection and compassion, which look interestingly like contemporary Buddhist practices.

"They recognize the importance of the women who taught Socrates and Plato, like Diotima, people who haven't always been given the credit for 'kickstarting' Greek thought. They credit those teachers for appreciating that nature is sacred, one reason they argued for a more sustainable society."

Griffin is introducing these lost philosophers at the Star of the Sea



MICHAEL GRIFFIN

Centre (St. Mary's Church in Fulford) on Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"I'm hoping to show that some of their ideas are current today. We'll talk about their interpretation of the Greek myths as a guide to psychological and political change, especially respect for nature. And we'll look at the mindful methods, almost forgotten today, that they relied on to get there."

Pre-registration is through [www.staroftheseassi.ca](http://www.staroftheseassi.ca).

## ADOPT A PET TODAY!



**Chaplin** has been living on his own for over a year and is now ready for a home to settle down in. He is a friendly guy with a very unique personality. He'll be available to adopt once he is neutered Wed April 10.

**BCSPCA**  
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS  
Contact the BCSPCA at 250-537-2123

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Serving Salt Spring's Community for 48 Years

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

[www.sunstarastronomy.com](http://www.sunstarastronomy.com) | [sunstarastronomy@gmail.com](mailto:sunstarastronomy@gmail.com)

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

Although the Sun has entered the third period of its march through Aries, Mercury and Venus remain in Pisces in close alignment to Neptune in Pisces where they have been for weeks. This has contributed to spring 2019 feeling like it is having a hard time launching into full expression. Yet, this delay will diminish this week as Mercury enters Aries on April 16 and Venus on the 20. Soon after, each will form a conjunction with Chiron which will serve to activate it into fuller expression as well. Briefly, Chiron in Aries is synchronizing with a 'clean-up-the-planet' revolution. Mars currently in Gemini has been serving to spread the good word. Yet, Mercury and Venus in Pisces have perhaps been more focused on the ideal than the action. Yet, as enter Aries and pick-up speed, we should see more synchronicities revealing an increase in activity and pro-active measures. The 29-degree Full Moon in Libra on the April 19th, which suggests a theme of overcoming, will provide its own boost to this focus as well.

### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

While the planetary line-up does not indicate a big physical energy output for you, it does suggest that your mind is working overtime. Ideas, thoughts, imaginings, and epiphanies are all vying for your attention. Positively, these are inspiring creative interests. However, you may feel just as happy to think and dream, for now. But this mood will shift this week.

### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Deciphering who are and are not your friends is on your mind. The important question is: are you your friend? Now, as your own friend, are you able and willing to tell yourself things that are true? As well, are your ideals of friendship realistic? This is where the plot deepens. These and other such questions are leading you to reflect on who and what is true and real.

### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The sky used to be the limit, now it is the stratosphere for you, at least currently. Lofty thoughts and ideas are mingling with ideals and realities. Either way, you want to enter new territory, to break free of any restrictions. At least this is true in your mind. If you are able to exercise a more practical approach, you will be focusing to make dreams reality.

### Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

Last week's Aries New Moon has served to activate your Yang, your proactive assertiveness, that is. In some respects, you remain in a whimsical and philosophical mood that has been lingering for weeks. But this will shift gears as the week progresses. If you feel the need to get in some last hibernation snoozes, get them in this week because this is the last all for such slumbering.

### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

As if suddenly, you are on a roll. Last week was slow but the momentum is building quickly now and this will continue. The time is right to venture a highway if the opportunity is there. Adventure is the keyword and it does include a revolutionary impulse. As long as the rebel in you has a cause, you should be able to stay out of trouble and make progress.

### Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

While others are getting out, you are diving in. This could manifest as spring cleaning or getting into the corners of a project that has been waiting for its time. Either way, you do feel quite passionate and intense could even apply. This focus includes learning and teaching. Doing research is also indicated. Yet get ready, the effort required could be more than you thought.

### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

You are in the mood to explore and you would like someone to join you. If a significant other is not available, your focus could turn to an inner discovery process. Both approaches could produce good results, as long as you do not get lost in too many details, which is quite possible according to the planetary line-up. Spring is in the air and you want some.

### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

The changing weather is inspiring you to take new initiatives. Some of these include artistic pursuits. While appreciating the creative talents and expressions of others is possible, you especially want to be the performer and not simply a spectator. Your ambitions are also coming back to life. Your biggest challenge now likely includes deciding which of your many inspirations you want to realize.

### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

You are in a playful mood. It can also be described as feisty. In other words, you are in the mood to cross swords with others. Whether by choice or circumstance, this can manifest as a bit of debate. This momentum will build as the week progresses. Subtle words and gestures directed your way early on could fester, then heat up and ignite into a blaze.

### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Your resolve is steadily building. Already, you are working hard to make things happen. Many ideas and plans are inspiring you to action. At worst, you have doubts and have to dig deep to access your faith and inspiration. Otherwise, you could be caught in a vortex of depression. Focus on those activities that are aligned with your gifts and talents for best results.

### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Circumstances of late continue to alter some of your perspectives. At least you want to engage with some fun in the sun. This mood will increase steadily all week. Do what you can to attend to unfinished business this week because you will want to direct your focus to new initiatives and perspectives by the weekend.

### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

Many new projects and ideas have been surfacing. While you have probably already taken the initiative, this is more a time of preparing and building momentum than trying to bring things to completion. Yet, you are willing to dig deep and uncover what treasures are there. Of course, this also implies the need to remove the debris and waste.

LOCAL HISTORY

# Creekside stream revered



D.W. Salty

STREETS OF  
**SALT  
SPRING**

Rare protected rainforest part of Creekside story

The short Creekside Drive is located off the end of Beddis Road and is named for its proximity to Cuseheon Creek, which runs alongside it.

This street is perhaps best known for being the access point to the Creekside Rainforest, a unique piece of island ecosystem that was protected in 2008 after a concerted community effort. The property was purchased by The Land Conservancy and was transferred to the Nature Conservancy of Canada in 2015 as part of a bankruptcy agreement.

Information from The Land Conservancy is that the community became concerned about the potential development of the property after it was

sold by its long-time owner in 2005. Neighbours used to walking the land were aware it had sensitive features not found in many parts of the island, and impart special status to Cuseheon Creek as well. The creek for which Creekside Drive is named has salmon-bearing potential and has been the site of projects and hatchling releases by Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society members and the Salt Spring Centre School.

“Unlike most areas on the relatively dry Gulf Islands, the Creekside Rainforest contains life that is representative of the old-growth hemlock and cedar rainforests on the west coast of Vancouver Island,” the TLC website explains. “The deep ravine and continuous tree cover keep the land and creek at lower temperatures with higher levels of moisture compared to the rest of Salt Spring Island. As a result, at-risk species such as the coastal cutthroat trout, red-legged frog and Pacific sideband snail can survive here.”

After an initial subdivision and development proposal for the land was rejected by the Islands Trust, an ad-hoc group of concerned islanders championed by Maureen Moore started the campaign for the Creekside Rainforest’s purchase and protection. The community raised just over \$1 million in pledges, with donations coming in from across Canada, the United States and Europe.

LITERARY EVENTS

# Library holds Earth Songs poetry night

Part of National Poetry Month celebrations

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Public Library will host a reading celebrating the wonders of nature on Wednesday, April 17 as part of National Poetry Month.

The evening features local poets Christine Smart, Diana Hayes, Lorraine Gane and Murray Reiss, who will share words focused on nature, including forests, oceans, birds, butterflies and all that sustains people on planet Earth.

Smart is the author of two books of poetry, and

is currently working on a new collection of poems. Hayes has published four books, with a fifth to be published next spring. Gane is completing a new poetry collection to add to her shelf of accomplishments, as well as a book about writing. Reiss is also an accomplished writer, and brings his words to life both on stage and on the page as a climate action performance poet.

The four poets all delve into the natural world in their works, touching on everything from the beauty of nature to conservation and climate action. The event is part of a League of Canadian Poets program that helps promote local poetry.

The event is free, and will be held in the library community program room. It runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

## What is this? Where is it?



Can you identify what and where this is on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or send a note to us on Facebook. The first person to submit the right answer gets their name published in this space.

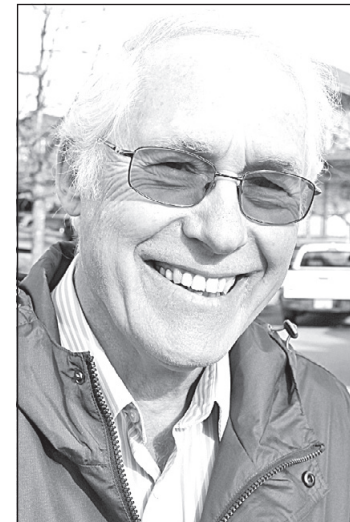


LAST WEEK: Melanie Casler was the first person to correctly identify the fairy door in the arbutus tree at the Vesuvius ferry terminal.

Do you have a photo or an idea to submit for this feature? Email it to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

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

Kees Ruurs



Kees is the chair of the Salt Spring Island Foundation, which provides funds to numerous island charities and worthwhile projects on a regular basis. Kees and his wife Margriet came to the island in 2008 when Kees became the Salt Spring Parks and Rec manager and then the CRD Salt Spring senior manager. In retirement he has time to volunteer, and since it's National Volunteer Week in Canada, it's a perfect time to salute Kees and the foundation for their support of the island's many volunteers!

# expert ADVICE

CALL 250-537-9933  
TO BE A PART OF THIS POPULAR FEATURE!

### Real Estate

#### How Should I Prepare My House For Listing? Part 3

DOCUMENT PREPARATION - Simplify the buying process!

The following documents will assist the buyer and their agent in understanding your home: title search documents (including any easements, rights of way, restrictive covenants, building schemes), building, septic system, wood stove permits, septic pump out & maintenance records, well log & water test, water leases or licenses, survey map & or certificate of location, home owner warranty etc, (where applicable).

If you don't have these documents your realtor can assist. By having all of your paperwork in order you set the stage for ease of negotiations for your property. A buyer will have more confidence in making an offer on your home when they can review paperwork that is readily available upon request.

*Document preparation will help you to obtain the best price possible!*



JAN MACPHERSON

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### Financial Advice

#### Retirement revisited

Could you go over the financial implications of retirement again?

Well done for considering the financial side of retirement before you hand in your notice.

Today, retirement is more of a transition, rather than the end of something. Think about what you want the last 30 years of your life to look like. What will you do with your time? Who will you interact with? Do you have any hobbies or interests that you might want to pursue? Are you living where you want and is it practical to make changes in that area? What is your health like? Are you regularly exercising? What is your financial situation and do you have enough resources to fund what you want to do? Is there some debt? Is it important to leave a legacy? Are you willing and able to work or volunteer? Do you know what, if anything, you might expect from a pension plan or when it might be best to start taking your Canada Pension Plan? Will you qualify for Old Age Security? (Answer: most likely, yes.)

How you see your retirement and how you want to spend it is different for all of us. With so much to think about, it makes sense to speak to someone who may have the answers, or at least be a willing listener to help you wade through these questions.



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### Mechanic

#### I need to be able to jump in my car and go without worrying about breakdowns.

While there will always be breakdowns that can't be anticipated, reading your Owner's Manual and sticking to the recommended maintenance schedule supplied by your vehicle's manufacturer should give you worry-free driving.

Conditions you operate your vehicle in can have a dramatic effect on how often it needs service, possibly more often than recommended in your manual. Talk to your service provider and make sure you are getting your vehicle in often enough to avoid costly and time consuming breakdown repairs.

If at any time you feel something doesn't feel quite right or has changed, get it attended to as soon as possible.

Remember, maintenance is cheaper than breakdown repairs.

*Drive Safe, Gyle*



GYLE KEATING

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**Obituaries**

*Christine Vine*  
 1945 - 2019




Our much loved and greatly missed "Chrissy" passed away in her sleep in the early hours of March 3, 2019, after a long illness. Chrissy is survived by Roger, her husband of 54 years, son Stephen (Devon), daughter Samantha, grandsons James, Connor and Maclean, granddaughters Kayla and Connie and great-grandsons Jacob, Waylon, Jasper and Dayne, also, her sister Carol and extended family in the U.K. She remains forever in our hearts and minds.

**Obituaries**

**In Memoriam**


**HAROLD J PAGE,**  
 P.Eng.  
 January 19, 2019



*The Page family extends a warm invitation to join them in a celebration of Harold's life on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 1:30 pm in the gallery at ArtSpring.*

**In Memoriam**

Please join us at the Royal Canadian Legion at 120 Blain Rd. on Saturday April 27th from 1:30 onwards to remember **BLAINE PHARIS**



**Information**

**The Annual General Meeting** of **Scott Point Waterworks District** will be held **Wednesday, April 17 at 7pm** in the Pavilion at RVYC - 241 Scott Point Drive

**TROUBLE WALKING?**  
 HIP or KNEE REPLACEMENT, or other conditions causing restrictions in daily activities? \$2,000 tax credit. \$40,000 refund cheque/ rebates. Disability Tax Credit. 1-844-453-5372


**WHAT'S ON**  
 page 14

**Legal Notices**

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

**Celebrations**

APRIL 10  
*Happy 90th Birthday!*



**IAN STURGESS**  
 Love Mom (Jay), Leigh (Julie, Zack), Cydney (Don, Jason, Aaryn, Tami, Ashley), Jeffrey.

**Coming Events**

Salt Spring Hospice

**SALT SPRING HOSPICE AGM**  
 Tue., Apr. 16 at 7pm at Seniors Centre  
 All members cordially Invited

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



**In Memoriam**

Salt Spring Hospice

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**  
 STARTS TUESDAY, April 16, 2019

Call Hospice to register or for info  
 250-537-2770  
[saltspringhospice.org](http://saltspringhospice.org)



*Words are few, thoughts are deep. Memories of you we will always keep.*

**Information**

**SAY NO to FAKE NEWS!**  
 63% of Canadians can't tell the difference between real and fake news. Support reliable LOCAL journalism. Join the list [www.newspapersmatter.ca](http://www.newspapersmatter.ca).

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**Help Wanted**

**SALT SPRING ISLAND TRANSIT SYSTEM**  
 Are you an experienced bus driver looking for part-time work?  
 Now is your opportunity to join SS Transit! Must have at least a Class 4 Unrestricted Driver's Licence. Clean driver's abstract. Good interpersonal skills and teamwork ethic important. Must have flexibility to work ANY shifts, ANY day of the week including split shifts.  
 Call: 250-537-6758 or Email: [sstransit@telus.net](mailto:sstransit@telus.net)

**Coming Events**

Capital Regional District **CRD**

**NOTICE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

All meetings will be held in the CRD Electoral Area Office Meeting Room Located at Suite 108 121 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island


- Liquid Waste Service Commission - Monday, April 15, 2019 from 10 am - 12 pm
- Beddis Water Service Commission - Monday, April 15, 2019 from 1pm - 3 pm
- Fulford Water Service Commission - Tuesday, April 16 from 1pm - 3 pm
- Highland Fernwood Water Service Commission - Wednesday, April 17, 2019 from 10 am-12 pm
- Maliview Sewer - Wednesday, April 17, 2019 from 12 pm - 1 pm
- Cedars of Tuam Water Service Commission - Wednesday April 17, 2019 from 2-3 pm
- Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission - Thursday, April 18, 2019 from 10 am-12 pm
- Cedar Lane Water Service Commission - Thursday, April 18, 2019 from 1 pm-3 pm

**INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED??**  
 We are seeking volunteers for a term which begins on January 1, 2020. These Local Service Commissions advise and make recommendations regarding the supply, treatment, storage and distribution of water and or sewer within the service area. These volunteer positions are open to a resident or property owner within the Service Area and have a two year term. The Commissions include the CRD Regional Director and are supported by local CRD Staff Members. Nominations will be accepted at the Annual General Meetings as shown above for two year terms beginning in January 2020. Contact 250.537.4448 for more information or email: [saltspring@crd.bc.ca](mailto:saltspring@crd.bc.ca)

**Coming Events**

**Coming Events**

**Notice of Annual General Meeting**



Salt Spring Island Golf & Country Club  
 Wednesday, Apr. 24, 2019 • 5:30 p.m.  
 Upstairs at the Clubhouse, 805A Lower Ganges Road

**Coming Events**


**Community Newspapers**  
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**Information**

**Salt Spring Island Seniors Services Society (Seniors Centre)**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
 379 Lower Ganges Road  
 Wednesday April 24th, 2019  
 2:00 p.m.

**Coming Events**



**Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Meeting Notice**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) will be held on **April 29th, 2019** at the Training Room, Ganges Fire Hall 105 Lower Ganges Road Commencing at 7:00pm

The election results will be announced, as well, the District auditor's report, Fire Chief's report & Trustees annual report.

*Fire District ratepayers and the general public are encouraged to attend.*

**Coming Events**

**MISC. FOR SALE**

**FISHING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

- 2 stainless steel crab traps
- 4 Scotty Puller prawn traps
- Various spoons & lures
- Cannon Downrigger
- Salmon & halibut rods & reels

Phone: 250-537-5471

**MISC. FOR SALE**

**FISHING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

- 2 stainless steel crab traps
- 4 Scotty Puller prawn traps
- Various spoons & lures
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# Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office** will be closed on **Friday, April 19 - Good Friday** and will reopen for usual business hours on **Monday, April 22.**



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

**DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEADLINE:**  
**Tuesday April 16, 12 noon**

**CLASSIFIED DISPLAY DEADLINE:**  
**Tuesday April 16, 12 noon**

**CLASSIFIED WORD DEADLINE:**  
**Tuesday April 16, 12 noon**



# Remember WHEN

## Five years ago

• Lucian the cat was able to get some much-needed dental work after staff and volunteers at the Salt Spring BCSPCA exceeded their fundraising goal to help pay for the surgery. Islanders contributed \$1,200 to help Lucian recover from a bad case of tooth decay. Funds in excess of the surgery's \$700 cost were used to help other cats in need.

## Ten years ago

• The third report of illegal dumping in less than three months had some islanders concerned the practice was becoming a common occurrence without consequence. However, CRD bylaw enforcement officer Wolfgang Brunnwieser explained that the amount of dumping on the island had remained the same over time. "I guess some people are just too cheap to pay to get rid of their garbage," he said. Brunnwieser was authorized to fine dumpers up to \$100 and present them with a clean-up bill. The offence could also be reported to the Ministry of Environment or the Ministry of Transportation, and carried minimum \$2,000 fines from those bodies.

## Twenty years ago

• A human skull found on a Fulford Harbour beach in March of 1999 remained unclaimed after at least a month. "The provincial government doesn't want it, and we can't identify which native band to contact about it," said RCMP Const. Shane Savinkoff. "The coroner looked at it and said it was likely a native American, about 200 years old. We have no evidence that says it was from a burial ground so we're sort of in a quandary." The Tsawout tribal council had not responded to police inquiries about the skull.

## Thirty years ago

• A South Salt Spring Residents Association meeting was held, recognizing the problems faced by Fulford and Isabella Point residents when it came to transportation. The group present at the meeting agreed with the Islands Trust's transportation policies outlined in the OCP, and denounced any planning decisions made without proper consultation. The status of the Fulford Harbour ferry terminal was discussed, with many Fulford residents opposing expansion because they believed the terminal would engulf the village. "The terminal will come so far back, it will wipe us out," Bruce Patterson said. Patterson said the Fulford Business Association shared a number of concerns with those opposed to construction of a terminal at Isabella Point, but noted: "If it has to be them or us, we'd prefer it was them."

## Forty years ago

• Twenty navigation students and two teachers from Len Shepherd High School in Burnaby were caught in an embarrassing situation when their 50-foot chartered sailboat Solskin went aground on Danger Reefs just north of Thetis Island. The students were on a three-day practical training cruise as part of a seamanship course. They miscalculated a tack and slid onto the reef at around noon. The skipper, also a teacher at the school, radioed for assistance and was answered by Gulf Islands Emergency Program volunteer Horst Klein in Otter Bay. The vessel was freed without serious damage.

## Fifty years ago

• A group of islanders made appeals to the Pollution Control Board in Victoria against the issuance of a permit to discharge sewage into Trincomali Channel. "On the Gulf Islands we do not want sewage in our water, treated or untreated," said Mrs. G. M. Baker. The concern was that the shallow water of the channel would bring some of the effluent back to the beach. Municipal Affairs Minister D.J.R. Campbell responded, asking Baker: "You contend that all sewage disposal should be by septic tank at all times?" Mrs. Baker agreed. In a brief summary of the applicants' stand, T.P. O'Grady stated that the company had no quarrel with the objectors. "Maliview is quite content to abide by any decision reached by this board," he stated. "We ask only for a decision and we are in your hands."

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### Legal Notices

### Legal Notices

### Legal Notices



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Section 20 NOTICE

Date of initial publication of this notice: Wednesday April 10, 2019

TO THE OWNERS OF THE FOLLOWING VESSELS

WITH the following descriptions, LOCATED AT Pender Island, Galiano Island, Gonzales Bay, Victoria BC, Capital Regional District

ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERED TO BE ABANDONED:

NPP FILE NUMBER	VESSEL DESCRIPTION
2019-500014	Sailboat Kittiwai, Fibreglass White 28 x 10 ft Bedwell Harbour Pender Island Beached
2019-500015	Sailboat Fibreglass Red/White 28 x 10 ft Port Browning, Pender Island Beached
2019-500016	Sailboat Fibreglass White / Green 26 x 10 ft Port Browning Pender Island Beached
2019-500017	Sailboat Fibreglass Poco Lento White 30 x 9.5 ft Port Browning Pender Island Beached
2019-500019	Sailboat Fibreglass Sea Sprite Blue / White BC 1063155 26 x 8 ft Port Browning, Pender Island, Floating
2019-500021	Sailboat Fibreglass Spell Bound White 30 x 10 ft, Gonzales Bay, Victoria, Floating
2019-500023	Sailboat Fibreglass Dispatch 26x8ft White / Blue 26 X 8 ft Montague Harbour, Galiano Island Floating
2019-50018	Sailboat Cili White 28x9.5ft fibreglass, Port Browning Pender, Beached

A request for authorization to take possession of and remove these vessels under section 20 of the Navigation Protection Act has been made. If the owner(s) does not contact Transport Canada to demonstrate ownership and reclaim these vessels by May 11, 2019 the Minister of Transport may authorize the undersigned, to take possession of, permanently remove and dispose of the vessel.

If you are the owner(s) or if you have any information about the owner(s) of these vessels, it is important that you contact Transport Canada, Navigation Protection Program at 604-775-8867 or [ppnpac-ppnpac@tc.gc.ca](mailto:ppnpac-ppnpac@tc.gc.ca) and reference the file numbers listed above.

### Medical Health

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### Auctions

**1 PARCEL REAL ESTATE** - Kelowna, BC. Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers Unreserved Auction, May 1 in Edmonton. 0.44 +/- title acres, 2017 built 1200 +/- sq ft home, Lake Okanagan & mountain views. Jerry Hodge: 780-706-6652; Realtor - Tom Moran PREC: 250-784-7091; Brokerage: Re/Max Dawson Creek Realty; [rbauktion.com/realstate](http://rbauktion.com/realstate)

### April 13/14 Huge Restaurant Equip Auction

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# 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)



## REC FACILITIES

# Pool shutdown begins



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Partly drained Rainbow Road pool as annual maintenance gets underway.

April 23 open house planned once all the work is done

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Rainbow Road pool is closed for its yearly shutdown, which will allow necessary repairs and preventative maintenance to take place.

The pool is closed for a few weeks of every year, but this is the first time the facility has been under CRD control for the year leading up to the shutdown.

"When we came in last year, there were a number of repairs that we had to make. This year we've had the whole year to plan for what we want to do," CRD Parks and Recreation manager Dan Ovington said last week.

Much of the work will be done by local contractors, with the exception of pump maintenance, since there are no contractors on Salt Spring who do that kind of work.

"A lot of the contractors are quite busy, so we wanted to book them well in advance to make sure we could meet the schedule."

Most lifeguards are not working through the closure period, but some of the more senior guards will be helping with things like cleaning and basic maintenance.

PARC's office at the pool will still be open during regular office hours to allow for program registration.

The first stages of a pool shutdown include draining the main pool, a process which takes three days. Once the pool is empty, issues like broken tiles,



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

A spare 400-pound pump sits under the pool facility. The main pump that runs the pool was shipped to Victoria for maintenance.

grouting and drains can be addressed. Emptying the pool also allows for work to be done on the ceiling above the pool itself.

"Then there's a lot of stuff that happens underneath the pool that a lot of people aren't aware of as far as pool maintenance and operations go," Ovington added. "There are a lot of mechanical components and we need to make sure we are maintaining and repairing all of those."

The shutdown also gives workers the chance to remove mechanical components that need to be serviced off-island. The 400-pound pumps are lifted out of the building using a crane and transported to an off-island location. Other items like chlorinators, filters and electrical equipment are maintained to ensure they do not break down while the pool is in operation.

"A lot of pool components don't just sit on a shelf somewhere. They're quite expensive, so when you order them is when

they start making them . . . We need to be planning well in advance of that component failing to make sure we have a replacement here and then the ability to do it."

Pool environments are hard on equipment. The chemicals used and the humidity cause rust and corrosion to build up. As the pool has been in operation for over 10 years, certain components are starting to reach the end of their life cycle. Planning for their eventual replacement is standard as a facility reaches a certain age, Ovington explained. The corrosive environment also causes rust to appear in lockers, and they will be repainted sometime before April 22.

The next day, the CRD will hold an open house event to celebrate the pool's 11th year of operation. Events include a free swim from 1 to 3 p.m., a prize draw and booths from different sports teams and other community groups.

## SOCCER

# Spring league kicks off in Ganges



Malcolm Legg  
**SOCCER**  
ROUND-UP

## Teams formed tonight

April is here and for the Salt Spring United Soccer Club it means time for the Spring League and all the fun that goes with the 10-week program for youths and adults.

Once again we are fortunate to have Windsor Plywood as our sponsor for the league that runs every Wednesday from April 10 to June 12 at the Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) field for all 10 weeks.

The times by age groupings are as follows:

- 4:45 p.m.: Boys 7 to 10 years old and girls 7 to 10 years old
- 5:45 p.m.: Boys 11 to 14 years old and girls 11 to 14 years old
- 6:45 p.m.: Co-ed youth (15 and up) and adults, and a women's/girls division, if enough interest is shown.

The first Wednesday (April 10) will see us form the teams and do a series of trial games to ensure we have balanced teams. On April 17, all T-shirts will be handed out and the league schedule begins.

We are offering a women's and girls division, but it will depend on numbers. It is good for girls and ladies, whether they have played the game or not. Our technical director Josip Bratanovic will help this group along with his coaching staff.

The Muddy Cleats Cafe (also known as Maggie's Place) will have food and refreshment starting April 17. She hopes to have burgers, hotdogs, drinks and more, so everyone can enjoy something for a snack or even dinner at the field.

If you have not signed up you can register online at [www.saltspringsoccer.com](http://www.saltspringsoccer.com) under Spring League. Fees are \$50 for youth and \$60 for adults.

If you have questions about the spring league, email me at [mallegg@shaw.ca](mailto:mallegg@shaw.ca), or just show up at SIMS field on Wednesday night.

Looking for Fraser Hope's Old Boys soccer report? See our sports section at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com).

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# GREENING Salt Spring



## Island joins Canadians who are alarmed by waste

Volunteers needed to help clean up Salt Spring

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Driftwood's Greening Salt Spring campaign received great support last year from islanders who put on their gloves and gumboots and headed out to gather up an astonishing accumulation of items discarded onto our beaches and roadsides.

Perhaps most astonishing — aside from the fact that people litter widely and liberally in this day and age — was that much of what was collected could easily have been deposited at the recycling depot, free of charge. And since much of the waste came in the form of bottles or cans, it could have actually generated money instead of litter.

While the majority of islanders do their best to recycle and dispose of their garbage appropriately, there's no doubt that we're being overwhelmed by mountains of waste on a global level. An Angus Reid poll conducted for CBC last week found that 90 per cent of Canadians are concerned about plas-

tic waste, and 82 per cent want the federal government to do something about it. Environment Minister Catherine McKenna has promised a federal strategy on plastic packaging will be ready by June. Meanwhile, yet another whale has washed up dead and been discovered to have a stomach full of plastic. A pregnant sperm whale found in Sardinia last month had ingested 22 kg of plastic, including plastic bags, fishing nets and lines, and other objects.

One of the benefits of our hands-on approach to garbage and recycling in the Gulf Islands is it's easy to grasp just how much waste goes through our households on a weekly basis. Seeing how much other waste isn't making it into the recycling chain through volunteer clean-ups helps add another layer of awareness, and that can lead to more permanent change.

Some of the heroes of our inaugural 2018 campaign have always been litter conscious and they've continued on as year-round neighbourhood champions. Nick Hunt has taken stewardship of all of Churchill Road. Kit Lewis is still active in the upper Ganges village area, despite being in her mid-90s.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Jason Charlebois with oodles of trash picked up from Southey Point beach at the end of the Jack Foster Trail. Charlebois used a patented ocean-garbage picker-upper, i.e. a stick, to do the job efficiently.

Among her most recent concerns is a hope to see community-wide withdrawal from single-use foodware plastics and plastic bags as per San Francisco.

Our first people to sign on officially for the 2019 campaign are Suzie Gagnon, who will cover Sunset Drive from West Eagle to Mountain Park Drive, and Viv Nielsen, who's doing Vesuvius Bay Road from Chu-An Drive to the ferry terminal.

Also on the list are: Melissa Cutshall and family, Lower Ganges Road from Wildwood Crescent to Norton Road; Gretta Hildebrandt, Long Harbour Road between Quebec and Eagle Ridge; Jim Standen, Baker Beach; SS Sneakers, route to be determined; Jérôme Dupuy, Rosamund Dupuy, Caroline Hickman and Jordan Soames, route to be determined; Hanna family, neighbourhood of McAllister, Stark's and Acheson roads plus Dunbabin Park; Anglican Parish, Lower

Park and Lower Ganges from Kingfisher to Mahon Hall; and Fiona Wolfe-Milner, Long Harbour between Old Scott Road and the ferry terminal. Driftwood staffers are set to tackle a number of areas, including North End Road between North Beach and Fernwood; Cranberry Road from Fulford-Ganges to Blackburn; and Charlesworth and Reid roads.

Please let us know if you wish to participate and we'll add you to the list. And please be safe out there! Bright clothing and reflective gear is encouraged.

Also, once you've signed up by emailing me at enolan@gulfislandsdriftwood.com, or phoning me at 250-537-9933, remember to come in to the Driftwood office to pick up your special tag that identifies you as a Greening Salt Spring participant so you can take the trash you pick up to Laurie's Recycling and Waste Services for free.

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Salt Spring Island chamber of commerce

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