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Wednesday, MAY 8, 2019

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Issue 19

\$1.50

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## ISLANDS TRUST

# LTC defers CREST tower answer



PHOTO BY DREW UNDERWOOD

Islanders protesting a VHF radio transmitter monopole proposed for the Salt Spring Legion property rally outside the Harbour House Hotel before heading inside for the April 30 meeting of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.

## Trustees ask for more information and alternate location options

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee has asked for more information before it decides whether to issue a statement of concurrence with a VHF radio tower proposed for the Salt Spring Legion grounds.

CREST, the nonprofit company that delivers radio communications to first responder agencies in the Capital Regional District, has proposed the site as part of a system-wide upgrade and to fill a coverage gap in the Ganges area. The LTC has meanwhile heard from many community members who are concerned about the possible health effects of increasing electromagnetic radiation.

"I'm not prepared today to make a decision on this, and I would like to know particularly what the alternatives are, because right in the heart of Ganges doesn't sit too well with me and it clearly doesn't sit too well with a lot of people," trustee Peter Grove explained during last Tuesday's business meeting. "And I just don't know what those options are, so I would like more

information."

The LTC can give a statement of concurrence or nonconcurrence regarding the site. Approval for the tower itself comes from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. EMF radiation from the tower has been confirmed to meet Health Canada's Safety Code 6, and an independent consultant has verified that power densities will be less than two microwatts per square centimetre.

The Local Trust Committee was met with a morning protest before its April 30 meeting began, and heard from people concerned about the project during the town hall session. A petition opposing the monopole tower garnered close to 200 signatures. Several people urged the committee to act on the precautionary principle, which is specified under guidelines developed by the Advisory Planning Commission.

Chris Anderson said he opposed the tower for multiple reasons, including but not limited to high level security concerns and health risks.

"You can't just not know what you're

getting us into," Anderson said.

Some speakers spoke about the unknown health effects of increasing EMF radiation and their own personal experiences with related illness, stating they had moved to Salt Spring to get away from exposure. Others pointed out that things like cigarettes and herbicides were once deemed to be safe under scientific standards and have now been proven to be toxic and carcinogenic.

The location is especially concerning to some because the area around the Legion is densely populated with seniors and other vulnerable people.

"This place is so magical, and we don't need to start killing the residents. It doesn't make sense," said Brent Talbot.

CRD director Gary Holman said he had personally contacted Lady Minto Hospital and Greenwoods Eldercare and was told they are not concerned about the monopole being located nearby.

CREST continued on 2

**SALT SPRING ISLAND EMERGENCY PROGRAM**

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# RUCKLE FARM Day

PHOTOS BY MARC KITTINGHAM



Marjorie Martin gets up close and personal with a bottle-fed lamb.



Clockwise from top left: Donna Vanderwekken spins wool into yarn at a Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild demonstration; Lily Moon Page hammers her first nail, with a little help from Siobahn Fitzgerald; sheep shearer Pieter DeMooy spreads the fleece he had just finished shearing as part of his demonstration. For more photos from Sunday's event, see gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

## LAND USE PLANNING

# Solid waste issue complicates industrial plans

Public hearing set for May 14

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The issue of how the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee should deal with solid waste planning has become more pressing with confirmation the land use body will need to take on that work by itself.

Island planner Jason Youmans reported to the LTC last Tuesday that contrary to a previous report, the Capital Regional District has no intention of undertaking community consultation on local solid waste services on Salt Spring or of collaborating on a management plan. Salt Spring CRD director Gary Holman reiterated that information, stating the regional district's only responsibility is to license waste transfer operators.

Waste transfer siting and the associated

environmental impacts have been noted as worthy of consideration in relation to the LTC's long-standing industrial lands project, which will go to public hearing this Tuesday, May 14. Part of the project is to appropriately zone sites where waste transfer services are taking place on lands owned by the CRD, such as the recycling depot on Rainbow Road.

Private property owners who are operating waste transfer companies have requested to be part of the process but have been denied at the current stage, as staff and trustees have agreed the scope of the issue warrants a separate community planning process.

The Salt Spring Garbage site at 360 Blackburn Rd. has not been proposed for rezoning because it is located in a Rural Watershed 1 zone.

Laurie and Nancy Hedger of Laurie's

Recycling and Waste would still like to see zoning on their property at 124 Lee Rd. that reflects all the uses taking place there, which were ruled to be legal nonconforming by the BC Supreme Court in 2004. The property is currently zoned as Rural and the waste transfer services are licensed by the CRD.

In addition to the collection and sorting of waste materials and recycling, which would be permitted under a Community Facilities 2 zone, their existing activities include storage of derelict vehicles, storage of commercial vehicles, storage of excavation and construction materials, service and repair of vehicles and equipment, and the processing, sorting, selling and removal of construction aggregates. No such accessory uses are permitted under CF2.

The Hedgers noted that a March 26 Trust staff report did not clarify that those six non-

transfer-station uses already take place and would therefore not be "additional" uses or activities.

The property was briefly included under the proposed industrial bylaws at the Hedgers' request but removed again at the March 26 LTC meeting along with some other amendments.

"If the LTC wishes to maintain a waste transfer station as a permanent use at 124 Lee Rd., it may wish that more research be undertaken regarding environmental impacts and mitigation measures. This has not been within the scope of the LTC's industrial land use project," the March 26 staff report noted.

Community members will have their chance to comment on the proposed zoning changes and permitted uses for a long list of properties during Tuesday's public hearing, scheduled for 7 p.m. at Meaden Hall.

## 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 60 PODs identified on Salt Spring Island with 400 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.

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MAY 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
8	0112	2.7	8.9	12	0003	3.3	10.8
	0522	3.0	9.8		0648	2.3	7.5
	WE 1301	0.4	1.3		SU 0911	2.4	7.9
ME 2124	3.3	10.8	DI 1641	0.9	3.0		
9	0223	2.7	8.9	13	0046	3.3	10.8
	0553	2.9	9.5		0730	2.0	6.6
	TH 1348	0.4	1.3		MO 1119	2.3	7.5
JE 2220	3.3	10.8	LU 1748	1.1	3.6		
10	0358	2.7	8.9	14	0124	3.3	10.8
	0630	2.7	8.9		0806	1.7	5.6
	FR 1440	0.5	1.6		TU 1318	2.3	7.5
VE 2313	3.3	10.8	MA 1852	1.4	4.6		
11	0542	2.5	8.2	15	0156	3.3	10.8
	0728	2.6	8.5		0841	1.4	4.6
	SA 1538	0.7	2.3		WE 1451	2.5	8.2
SA				ME 1951	1.7	5.6	

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## Co-location issues heard

CREST continued from 1

The LTC further heard from CREST manager Gordon Horth that neither monopolies already located on public land nor those on buildings in Victoria have created issues.

"To be honest I've never had a noise complaint, I've never had a light complaint, I've never had a health complaint," Horth said, although he acknowledged local residents have concerns about health issues.

Questions from the public about where else the tower might be located included Moutat Park and the recycling depot. Horth said neither site had specifically been considered. He explained that CREST identified a general area where the tower would be most effective. To communicate it has to be in sight of the other CREST towers located on Mount Bruce and at the Central fire hall.

In the end the trustees decided they wanted more information about the site selection process and whether it was truly the best option.

"I support and believe we need good communication, it's just this is the only location in all of Ganges that it can go? And I haven't been convinced," said trustee Laura Patrick. "I think it's more of a location that's willing to cooperate rather than a consideration of where it can go."

Grove said he was also not convinced the location was the best one and wanted the opportunity to examine other options.

Other public concerns about the CREST tower are that if approved, it could be used to co-locate other EMF transmitters such as fifth-generation wireless internet without needing to consult with the community. The LTC was interested in an idea raised by Shamana Ali during the town hall session as to whether a covenant could be placed on the tower so other companies can't just jump in.

"I can kind of see the VHF requirement. I am concerned about the 5G and what might come down the road, so I think there needs to be some assurance to the community that no cell attachments will be put onto the tower [without public consultation]," Grove said.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Inebriated men held for safety

Salt Spring RCMP responded to two instances of men who were too intoxicated to care for themselves in as many days last week.

On Sunday, April 29, police responded to a report of an intoxicated male who was having difficulty maintaining his balance and located him near the Country Grocer. The male was determined unable to care for himself and was held in cells until sober.

On April 30, police responded to another report of an intoxicated male at the rear of Uptown Pizza. The male was intoxicated to the point that he was unable to care for himself and was held in cells until sober.

Also on April 30, police responded to a single vehicle collision in the 200 block of Wilkie Way. A northbound vehicle appeared to have swung too far right in order to negotiate a left-hand turn into a driveway, which caused the vehicle to exit the roadway and slide down the bank several feet. Both occupants were uninjured, however the vehicle sustained significant damage.

In other RCMP business this week, police stopped a male operating a motor vehicle on Fulford-Ganges Road for a traffic offence on Friday, May 3. The officer formed suspicion the driver had been consuming alcohol. The male was issued a 90-day immediate roadside prohibition for failing to provide breath samples and his vehicle was impounded.

### Locals on MLA podcast

Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen expanded his communication reach earlier this year by turning to the podcast as medium.

The Public Circle weekly podcast features Olsen's interviews with community leaders and constituents to hear their views on current events and issues.

An episode that originally aired on April 28 features Salt Spring resident Janine Fernandes-Hayden, who is a member of the original organizing team of 100+ Women Who Care Salt Spring Island. Olsen and Fernandes-Hayden discuss the impact of the group's fundraising for non-profit organizations on Salt Spring.

To hear the episode visit <https://adamolsenmla.ca/podcast>. Listeners can also sign up for a weekly subscription via email.

## CANNABIS

# Riding ring proposal sent to AAPC

Leaf retail sales request also submitted

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission will have the chance to offer expert opinion on the merits of an application to turn a former equestrian centre into a cannabis production facility.

The application presented by applicant's agent Green City Builders to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee on April 30 outlines a proposal to transform the 2,500-square-meter (27,000-square-foot) covered riding ring to meet federal cannabis regulations by installing a concrete base over the sand floor. The placement of fill constitutes a non-farm use within the Agricultural Land Reserve and must receive approval from the Agricultural Land Commission.

While cannabis is a recognized agricultural product according to the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw and by the ALC, an ALC regulation passed in 2018 requires cannabis production in the ALR to be carried out in a soil base and that it not further diminish lands in the ALR for farming. Planning staff recommended the LTC not forward the application on to the ALC since the use appears contrary to regulations. The provincial body has specifically asked local governments not to forward non-farm use applications that would have little chance of succeeding.

Green City Builders planner Elizabeth FitzZaland requested the opportunity to make the case before the Agricultural Advisory

Planning Commission first. Official community plan policy states the AAPC may support non-farm uses "where local farming or the greater community would benefit."

FitzZaland explained the former Blennerhassett ring was excavated and filled with chemically treated sand. Adding a concrete floor would not impact the property's soil or agricultural capacity because there is no soil there, she said.

"We're looking at ways to use the space to generate income and put the rest of the land into better production," FitzZaland said.

Applicant Rebecca Bloch added that creating an economically viable use for the large building would make it financially possible to farm the rest of the 65-acre property, so cannabis production would actually increase the property's agricultural ability. She and her partner have already created a successful farming operation at their Golden Tree Farm.

The LTC agreed with the applicants that the AAPC should weigh the application's merits before they make a decision.

### Retail cannabis sales proposed for downtown shop

In other business last Tuesday, the LTC also considered a request by Leaf Compassion Inc. to recommend its application for retail cannabis sales to the provincial Liquor and Cannabis Control and Licensing Branch.

The proposal is to sell non-medicinal cannabis products at the McPhillips Avenue storefront between the hours of 9 a.m. and

11 p.m. The applicant reported the business ceased such sales in October and is now just selling hemp-based products and accessories.

At the LCLB's request, the owners will close interior access to the Terp City Lounge, which they operate next door, and separate the two businesses.

The trustees voted to send the application to the Advisory Planning Commission for review and comment, and to schedule a public meeting to gather community input on the proposal.

### Cannabis production facilities proliferate

The Local Trust Committee has seen a growing number of notifications about cannabis production facilities since recreational use was made legal. So far the LTC has not created any policy about how and where such facilities should be sited, although the issue has been put on the long list of potential projects.

Trustee Laura Patrick noted Tuesday that some attention should be given to the matter. During a visit to the San Juan Islands, she and Trust Council chair Peter Luckham heard how warehouses proliferated in Washington state after legalization took place there. Many of those businesses have since failed, leaving large empty buildings behind.

Salt Spring cannabis production sites that have issued notice of federal licensing so far are located at 316 Seymour Heights Rd., 186 Atkins Rd., 533 Skywater Drive, 1867 North End Rd., 235 Musgrave Rd., 244 Hillcrest Drive and 600 Isabella Point Rd.

## ISLAND YOUTH

# GISS targets vaping

Administrators encourage parents to get informed

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary School administrators are cracking down on vaping among students, as incidences of e-cigarette use are increasing in the school and on school property, including buses and water taxis.

Principal Lyall Ruehlen and vice-principal Jude Shugar visited classrooms last month to reinforce the harmful and unknown effects of vaping, and to outline the school's policy: students who are caught vaping or with a vaping device will face consequences.

For a student's first offense, the device will be confiscated and parents will be phoned. Parents will be asked to pick up the device from the school office. Second offenses will involve a meeting with parents and a one-day suspension. Third offenses will warrant longer suspensions and RCMP involvement.

"We recognize that incidences of vaping in the school and on school property are increasing. We take this escalation of harmful behaviour among our students very seriously," read a letter sent to GISS parents.

"We encourage parents to get informed so that meaningful discussion around this topic can be had."

Vaping devices heat a liquid into a vapour, which is inhaled. The vapour is often flavoured, and can contain nicotine or other substances. A Health Canada document explains that nicotine levels in vape pens and e-cigarettes can vary, and flavour compounds often contain chemicals which can be harmful to health. E-cigarettes and vape pens can also be used to vape cannabis.

While cannabis is legal for adult consumption in Canada, it remains illegal for minors throughout the country. Vaping products are also legal for adult use. The minimum age of access for vaping products is 18 years, according to the federal Tobacco and Vaping Products Act, which was passed into law on May 23, 2018.

According to a Nov. 15, 2018 statement by Health Canada, the country has not seen a spike in the use of vaping products by youth, but the federal government is taking action to prevent youth and current non-smokers from using the products.

A survey conducted by Health Canada last June found around 23 per cent of students in grades 7-12 have tried an electronic cigarette. This number was unchanged from a similar survey conducted in 2014-15.

## NEWS UPDATES

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## TRAFFIC

# Duck Creek parking risks shown

Steep curved road  
and small parking  
lot create dangers

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Residents of the Broadwell Road area are concerned about the safety of people who use the north entrance of Duck Creek Park.

A group of neighbours from the area brought the issue to the Parks and Recreation Commission at their meeting in March. Lindsey Neville lives across the street from the entrance to Duck Creek Park and presented to the board on the issue.

"Both myself and immediate neighbours are very concerned about the safety issues posed by insufficient parking, and consequent dangerous street parking," he said to the commission.

Users of the park have a small parking lot on Broadwell Road that can fit two to three cars. Neville said that his measurements of the parking lot were 14 feet by 21 feet. The roadway into the park also functions as the emergency access to the park, as well

as a driveway access for a nearby property. One of the stall areas in the lot has been eroded, and a deep hole at the edge makes it a difficult place to park a medium- to large-sized vehicle.

Sue Kernaghan owns the property beside the park access. She explained the lot is often filled on Saturdays and in the busy season, which forces other visitors to park on the road.

"The entrance . . . is right at the crux of a steep curve that is also on a down slope," she said. "Cars go down really fast and they can't see who's coming. At the same time, there are a great many people coming in and out of the parking lot, as well as a lot of people parking on the wrong side of the street, forcing cars to go into the wrong lane. It's an accident waiting to happen."

Broadwell Road is a main entrance to the Channel Ridge properties. As such, it gets heavy use from residents. The road is signed as a 30 km/h zone, but Kernaghan said that drivers often either do not see the sign or do not follow the speed limit.

"The main thing is that people just need to be aware



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Limited parking options at the Broadwell Road entrance to Duck Creek Park, as seen this week, have become of concern to area residents.

that it's a blind corner and not to block traffic. If the parking lot is full, find somewhere else," Kernaghan said. "We can see people coming in and out of there. There's a surprising amount of traffic, because the Channel Ridge development is up there and this is the main road out."

Suggested solutions to PARC from Neville included either new "no parking signs" on the road, or a closure of the Broadwell parking area, using it instead as a PARC vehicle staging area with more parking on the

Sunset Drive side.

PARC received a number of emails from residents of the area after the March meeting. The issue was discussed further during the April meeting. Since any updates to the area have not been planned or budgeted for, the commission moved to look at the parking at Duck Creek Park during their capital planning session in June. The commission will also work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to reduce their liability in the area.

## TRANSPORTATION

# Ministry looks at south island congestion

Local officials back transit  
increase first

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The provincial government is turning its attention to congestion in south Vancouver Island, with a year-long study of multi-modal options announced in recent weeks.

The South Island Transportation Plan will look at options for improvement from Sooke to the Duncan area, study current transportation demands and develop a roadmap for future investments across all modes of travel, according to a news release from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

"I know people are frustrated with congestion and we want to find solutions that will get people moving," said Minister Claire Trevena. "I'm anticipating that this will lead to a comprehensive regional plan for all types of transportation."

Consultants at Urban Systems will have one year to complete the report, which will consolidate and update previous transportation studies. In related work, the ministry is reviewing potential detour routes for the Malahat highway and studying the feasibility of commuter rail along the E&N corridor, starting with an assessment of current infrastructure conditions.

The ministry made a presentation to the Capital Regional District's transportation committee about the plan-

ning process on April 24. Salt Spring electoral area director Gary Holman said the committee in turn emphasized the need to focus on modes of transportation besides those favouring single passenger vehicles, such as the highway improvements recently announced for Sooke.

"Building highways does not reduce congestion. That's been demonstrated throughout the world," Holman said.

The CRD has rejected a Malahat detour route suggested to run through Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park and closed watershed lands, while its transportation committee passed a resolution last week stating more convenient bus service and measures such as speed control cameras should be used to reduce traffic on Highway 1.

Holman noted that transit-only lanes are being installed in Victoria, and although not completed have already had a positive impact on commuter travel time. The transportation committee has proposed extending the program into other CRD areas such as Colwood, predicting it would be much cheaper and have a better result than interchange improvements.

Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen said transportation is among the top three concerns for his constituents, along with housing and health care. He observed that in the Gulf Islands, transportation issues are often linked to the crumbling road network, but the province barely has enough resources to maintain the roads it has.

"We cannot afford to continue to build infrastructure as our grandparents did," Olsen said.

In Olsen's view that includes alternate modes such as commuter rail. The E&N railway is estimated to require hundreds of millions in upgrades to make it usable for passenger service. Instead, he believes the focus should be on building a more flexible solution, using the infrastructure that's already in place more efficiently.

"That's why I support using a rapid bus system rather than building rails everywhere," Olsen said. "We don't have enough resources to build our way out of this problem."

Olsen believes other measures such as increasing passenger ferry links and the way freight is shipped up-island also have to be considered, within a complete regional strategy.

"There needs to be a broad planning and governance exercise," he said.

MoTI intends to work with CRD communities through a municipal working group and to have the final South Island Transportation Plan ready by March 2020. The CRD board voted to request that the three electoral areas also be included, as the issues impact them both directly and indirectly.

Holman said it's not known yet whether the ministry will accept this request, but if not, it will not change the electoral areas' ability to advocate.

"We can certainly make our case about the implications. I don't think it precludes us from making recommendations to the study," Holman said.

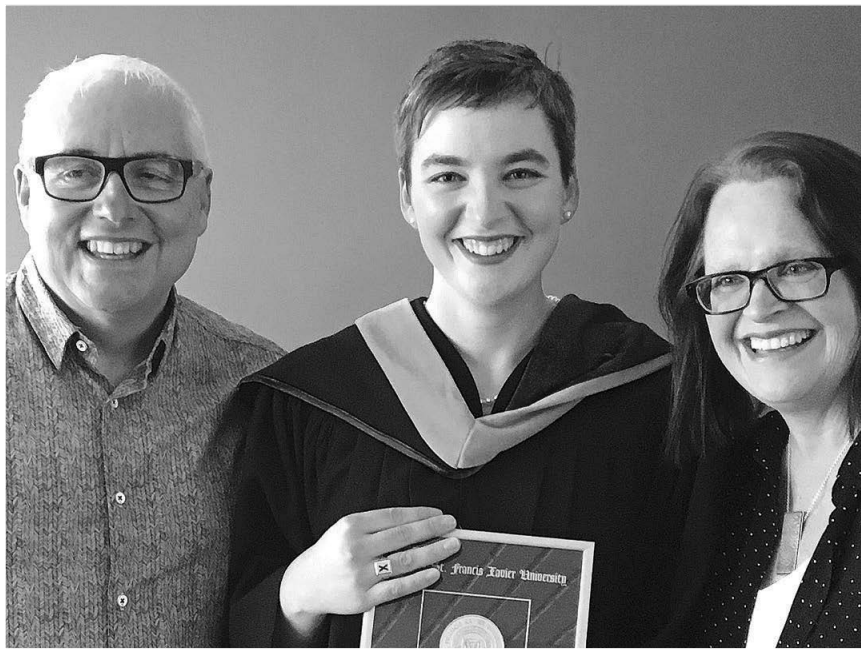


PHOTO SUBMITTED

**GOLD MEDAL GRINS:** Salt Spring's Lauren Dalla Utter, with proud parents Gary Utter and Linda Ramsey, displays a gold medal presented by St. Francis Xavier University for having the highest average in the final two years of her bachelor of education degree at the Antigonish, N.S. school. Utter received the Governor General's Academic Medal when she graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in 2013, then graduated from Dalhousie University with a double major in math and chemistry, receiving the analytical chemistry department's most promising student of the year award.

FUNDRAISER

# Fernwood water walk is today

School commits to 14th annual fundraiser

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Students from Fernwood Elementary School participate in the 14th annual water walk fundraiser throughout the day today.

Every year, students from the school make a 1.5 km trek from school to the edge of St. Mary Lake, fill up a container with water and carry it back to school. The idea is to give the students a chance to experience what it is like to have to fetch water every day, as well as raise money to help drill village wells in rural India.

"This is what the people — mainly women and children in India — do every morning," said retired teacher and event organizer Robin Andison. "We talk about the fact that those water sources are generally not very secure or safe. They're often irriga-

tion ditches or ponds and springs that are of dubious water quality to say the least. The kids get a chance to feel that."

The school tries to fund at least two wells per year, and the students have surpassed their \$1,800 goal every year for the last three years. Students ask for pledges from neighbours, friends and family in the weeks leading up to the event, and donations often come in after the walk, as well.

Thanks to the school's efforts, around 5,500 people in the Andhra Pradesh region of India have access to clean water within a few minutes of their homes. Since the program began in 2005, Andison said that they have supported 34 villages in the central Indian state.

"It costs \$900 to build a well," she said. "The villages rally and put together what they can as well... The \$900 that we raise per well goes mostly to the drilling rig that comes to the village."

Students also learn about the

importance of water as a resource. Water issues on the island continue to be in the public eye, and the water walk gives the students a chance to learn about the importance of conservation. The power outages that came as a result of this winter's wind-storm also helped put things into perspective for the students.

"That's like life in a lot of parts of the world still, people don't have electricity, sources of clean water or taps in their homes," Andison said. "It really does springboard into why we should be thinking more about it here and talking care of a pretty precious resource."

Students will walk along North End Road between the school and the lake starting at 9 a.m. and will be out throughout the day.

People interested in donating to the fundraiser can contact Fernwood School. Donations will continue to be accepted after the completion of the walk, and will be added to the total funds raised.

CULTURE

# Masters student seeks islanders' stories

Recordings to be used in podcasts

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A Concordia journalism student with Salt Spring connections wants to talk to islanders as part of her masters thesis project.

Renita Bangert's grandparents were Wilf and Rene Bangert, who came to Salt Spring Island in the 1950s. Her father Arno Bangert graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in 1977. Renita grew up in Vancouver.

Renita had been fascinated by stories her father told her about life on Salt Spring in the 1960s-1980s period and had prodded him to write a book.

"I think there is so much benefit in putting these stories down somewhere just to have them recorded

because for some of this stuff you are the only person who has this knowledge or has this memory," she said.

From conversations with her father she saw the seeds of an idea for her masters thesis, which would expand on the undergrad work she did at SFU around podcasting, radio and soundscape.

"I knew I wanted to do a sound project but I didn't have a topic."

She chose Concordia specifically to work with professor Andrea Hunter at the Centre for Broadcasting and Journalism Studies.

Renita wants to hear from anybody and everybody who lived on Salt Spring from the 1960s through the 1980s, but especially those who came to the island from either another country or another part of Canada. Her grand-

parents, who were of German origin, moved to Salt Spring from Vancouver in 1965.

"One of the sub-themes and academic parts of the project is how subjective journalism can be used to tell stories surrounding immigration," she explained. "It is a sensitive topic and one that has come up in public discourse now. There's a lot of really harmful ways of describing immigration right now. If you really distance yourself from the people you are talking about and they become like a data set it becomes really easy to dehumanize them, so part of the project is also talking about stories of immigration: how people came to the island and why they chose to stay."

She hopes to get a picture of island life and culture in the 1960s-'80s.

"It's a very unique cultural pocket that happened on the island," she observed.

Renita will be on Salt Spring Island on the May long weekend, and also for a longer period in September, so could potentially record conversations with people at that time. However, as phone interviews might be more convenient, interested individuals should call her at 778-231-2009 or send an email to renita.bangert@mail.concordia.ca to set up a time to talk.

The material will be used to create a full season of podcasts for her masters thesis. An archive will be kept of all recordings, and further podcasts may be made.

"I'm really excited to hear how it comes together as a narrative; what kinds of things people want to share and what they remember."

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



## Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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### EDITORIAL

## Traffic jam

Major traffic planning for Vancouver Island is underway, and once again Salt Spring has been left out of the exercise.

The recently announced South Island Transportation Plan aims to tackle vehicle congestion in the region and study multi-modal possibilities for improvement in an area stretching all the way from Sooke to Duncan. Much of the work will be updating and collating previous studies, some of which were undertaken by the Capital Regional District. But just outside the study's scope are the CRD's electoral areas, and so far we have not been given a seat at the table.

Fair enough, we are not directly connected by a through-road. We're not the ones sitting in the dreaded Colwood Crawl during our daily morning commute and we can usually avoid McKenzie Avenue during rush hour. But there is no question that people on the

### THE ISSUE:

#### South Island transportation

### WE SAY:

#### Electoral area inclusion crucial

the water. We also sometimes deal with the overflow when crashes close parts of Vancouver Island's major highway system: Salt Spring made for an extremely backed up and aggravating detour route when the Malahat portion of Highway 1 was blocked in May 2017.

The Juan de Fuca area is, of course, part of Vancouver Island and connected by highway to the study region. The "back road" to Port Renfrew from Lake Cowichan has likewise been suggested for detour traffic for people living closer to Sooke.

Salt Spring has been successful at lobbying for inclusion when left out of such plans in the past. The local transportation commission secured funding to produce its own cycling and pedestrian masterplan after being excluded from a CRD planning exercise.

This time the electoral areas have the CRD on our side, and it's the province that needs to wake up to the fact that any regional transportation strategy must take us into account.

Transportation issues on the South Island need to be solved. A complete study of all the impacts and solutions is necessary — and the electoral areas are part of both.

Gulf Islands — especially Salt Spring — are stakeholders here. Continuous ferry traffic through Salt Spring's terminals to Swartz Bay and Crofton proves we're adding to the mix. Business, medical appointments, recreation activities and shopping often take us to the larger centres across



## Trust enforces STVR rules

BY MILES DREW

Re: STVRs on Salt Spring Island: This week, Islands Trust Bylaw Enforcement and Compliance Officers issued 15 fines to the operators of unlawful short-term vacation rentals (STVRs) on Salt Spring Island. These fines are part of an ongoing and escalating enforcement strategy to address the community's concerns about unlawful STVRs.

This summer, violating Land Use Bylaw #355 by operating, managing or renting unlawful STVRs might earn fines of \$500 per day.

Unless there is a significant reduction in the number of unlawful STVR operations, fines will also be issued to persons found renting unlawful STVRs. Some renters have already been issued warnings.

The Salt Spring Island community continues to express concern about unlawful STVRs. Among these concerns are the eviction of long-term rental tenants so owners can profit from an unlawful commercial use, impacts on the availability of affordable rental housing, and the over-consumption of water, among others.

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

### VIEWPOINT

#### Unlawful STVR operators are advised to bring their operations into compliance with the island's bed and breakfast regulations.

Unlawful STVRs are those that provide commercial guest accommodation in zones intended for residential use in a manner that does not comply with the island's bed and breakfast regulations. Properties that rent out their entire dwelling, seasonal cottage or suite are not bed and breakfasts.

Last year, Islands Trust Bylaw Enforcement staff sent three letters to operators of unlawful STVRs requesting that they take

steps to comply with the Land Use Bylaw. Only a few did so.

Vacation rental companies have been made aware that property owners using their services to advertise unlawful STVRs are facing fines. These companies have been invited to support the bylaw compliance process.

Salt Spring Island's land use bylaws have long permitted operation of legitimate bed and breakfasts, recognizing the valuable role they play in supporting island livelihoods and the local tourism economy.

Unlawful STVR operators are advised to bring their operations into compliance with the island's bed and breakfast regulations. If this cannot be done, operators can seek a Temporary Use Permit or apply for rezoning. Operating unlawfully with impunity is not an option.

STVR operators are advised to contact Bylaw Compliance and Enforcement at [kkudyba@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:kkudyba@islandstrust.bc.ca) immediately to discuss compliance options.

*The writer is the bylaw compliance and enforcement manager for the Islands Trust.*

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Funded by the Government of Canada



Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837 | International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

#### Should the province provide relief for high gas prices?

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

#### Do you support the CREST tower being sited at the Legion?



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 cannot afford to continue to build infrastructure as our grandparents did.”**

ADAM OLSEN, SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS MLA, ON SOUTH ISLAND TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

### SALT SPRING SAYS

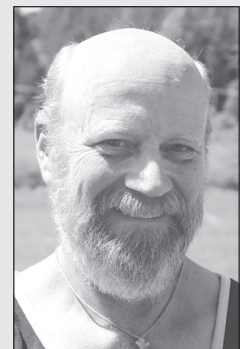
**WE ASKED:** *Why is it important to preserve our farming heritage?*

**MIKE LANE**



It's valuable knowledge. When I started doing this, I thought I would make some money. But it's really a labour of love. The value is the knowledge that is preserved.

**PIETER DEMOOY**



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**DONNA VANDERWEKKEN**



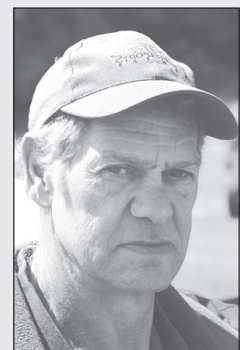
I think it's our source of food, and it's a great way of life. It's really important.

**IAIN WILLIAMSON**



It's a fundamental of humanity.

**COLIN BYRON**



I think it grounds people to the past and gives them their history.

### 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

#### EMF facts

Islanders concerned about the potential health risks of electromagnetic energy are right to be concerned about microwaves.

They can be deadly. Put your cat or a guinea pig in a microwave oven and it is going to fry it. They are dangerous, but it is a matter of degree. Microwave ovens emit very high powered microwaves.

The proposed telecommunications tower at the Legion does not. It is no more harmful than the radio waves all around us all the time.

A good analogy is dihydrogen monoxide. It is a dangerous chemical. If you put your baby's face in it it will expire. But in the quantities that are around us all the time, some days more than others, it is harmless.

It is wise to do a little real research and trust real science not internet fear mongering before going off half-cocked.

**GREG MIDDLETON,**  
SALT SPRING ISLAND

#### Demand more tools for Trust

If you live on one of the many beautiful acreages on Salt Spring, surrounded by similar forested proper-

ties, imagine that you wake up tomorrow morning to the sound of chainsaws.

You look out, and in all four directions crews with chainsaws and excavators are clear-cutting the adjacent properties. What would happen to your property's value if the views in every direction were clear-cut? What would happen to the aquifer you rely on for water supply? Will anyone want to visit your B&B?

I have discovered that this scenario could indeed happen. Current demand for raw timber is high and clear-cutting is profitable. Except in a few areas, no government agency has chosen to regulate tree cutting on Salt Spring.

I live on a forested five-acre parcel, with water supplied by a well on the property. I had believed the Islands Trust development controls protected the surrounding forest and my property's value, but nearby clear-cutting starting in 2018 prompted me to discover I was mistaken. Clear-cut logging on most private lands is unregulated, and even where regulated, enforcement is problematic. I am told that some years ago the local trustees of the day made the decision to not use the regulatory powers available to them to significantly regulate tree-cutting, resulting in the cur-

rent situation.

Salt Spring is a forested island that depends completely on rainwater to make life possible here, so preserving Salt Spring means preserving the forest ecology here.

I favour some selective logging, but believe clear-cut logging no longer has a place on such a small island. A balanced forest preservation plan is needed for everyone who lives here. I ask all residents concerned about ecology, water supply, property values and quality of life to join me in urging our present Local Trust Committee trustees to use all their current powers to remedy the situation. If additional regulatory tools are needed, trustees should vigorously request them from the province.

**DARRYL MARTIN,**  
BEDDIS ROAD

#### Book study group

A monthly gathering of Salt Spring Island feminists has launched a book study and discussion group based on Fifty Shades of Feminism.

The book features essays by 50 of the most significant feminists of our time. Subjects cover a full spectrum of issues of a global nature, stating "There

is no one kind of feminism and no one kind of feminist."

In past eras the feminist movement focused on single matters such as the vote and education. But feminism isn't a single issue any more. Fifty Shades of Feminism covers a long list of issues: pay inequity, objectification of women's bodies in the media, gay rights, reproductive rights, prostitution, rape, abortion and leniency towards abusers in countries from around the world. Male entitlement continues while women's rights are derided.

Feminism, as explained by one of the authors, is the most fundamental shift in human consciousness since Darwin's natural selection — the recalibration of humanity worldwide.

Anyone interested in joining this feminist book study and discussion group is welcome to attend meetings and share their thoughts. Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at the Seniors Wellness Center, 129 Hereford Avenue at 7 p.m. People of all genders and sexual leanings are welcome. For more information contact helani@shaw.ca.

**HELANI DAVISON,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Individuals do have power to make a difference

BY LEA WEIR

I was talking recently with a friend about climate change; what we can do, must do or feel like we can't do personally to address it. She asked me why I was seeming to be so motivated and optimistic when she is feeling more and more a sense of doomsday hopelessness.

I answered like this: I feel that way sometimes too. In fact, it seems to me that if someone doesn't feel that way to some degree, then they probably aren't really paying attention. But over the last year I've become really determined to look at this situation full in the face. I've been reading articles and studying it obsessively, and from all of that I've come to two conclusions.

The first is that it is not too late.

Every major historical political change, from ending slavery to the dissolving of the USSR to the French Revolution felt impossible practically right up until they happened. And then they felt as though they had always been inevitable.

I have been reading that in order for large-scale change to take place, it only takes 3.5 per cent of the population to stand up and fight for it. That is the tipping point at which the general population starts to feel the change in the wind and leans into it. That means there is no reason to get bogged down by all the people who don't seem to care.

### GUEST COLUMN

It's us, those who do care, those who care so much our

hearts could break, that are going to make this change.

The second conclusion is that what you personally do really does matter.

There has been a lot of talk lately that worrying about your individual contributions to climate change, like organizing to ban straws or reducing your flights, just doesn't matter. We say it's only the politicians who can change things, or a handful of rich people hell bent on destroying the Earth who are going to make or break us. Often when I make a positive change, someone shows up to tell me that my small act doesn't matter, that it makes no difference.

But I am convinced that the way you live your life, the everyday choices you make, that each individual makes, is the only thing that matters. History shows us this. Change is bottom up, not top down. It was the cumulative effect of individual people's choices, feeling and actions that brought about all the great shifts in history.

What you do is what will make this change.

It's all the things you already know: buy less, fly way less, buy an electric vehicle and solar panels if you can, write

all the letters, sign all the petitions, eat as local, organic, grass-fed as possible, refuse factory-farmed meat and farmed fish, garden and wild harvest food, go to all the protests. Put your body there, make signs, bring your children and parents and friends, plant trees and donate money to get trees planted, vote for the people who put the environment front and centre.

Do everything you can, do it publicly do it vocally. Be loud. Say it. If you do it, others will see you and do it too. That is your contribution. We are not small and feeling small is an indulgence we can't afford right now. The only reason that things keep going as they are is because we allow them to.

We have two options at this moment in history, try or die. And if we really try, we can do this, not just survive but finally thrive.

Greta Thunberg said we should "act as if our house is on fire, because it is," and I agree. But to be clear, what do we actually do when our house is on fire? Do we shrug our shoulders and give up, or hope someone else will deal with it? No, we grab a hose and try as hard as we can. And that's what we all need to do right now.

*The writer is a Salt Spring Island business owner.*

## Scary equation

A 2017 paper from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration found that the earth's atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are now at the highest levels in 800,000 years (at 405 ppm, when in the past they have never exceeded 300ppm), when sea levels were 20 metres higher than they are today.

Imagine Salt Spring Island with sea levels raised 20 metres. This is where we are currently headed.

Science has shown that temperate forests such as the Coastal Douglas-fir forests on the Gulf Islands are one of the most effective ways to take carbon dioxide out of the air.

These same healthy forests produce oxygen, create rainfall and clean drinking water and give homes to thousands of species of plants, animals and insects. These

forests also help create the beauty that make our tourism industry so vibrant and profitable. Coastal forests even affect salmon populations. These forests are a best chance for hope in a rapidly changing and warming world.

Salt Springer Linda Gilkeson, PhD, an entomologist, recently taught us that most of the world's insect populations have declined by 45 per cent since the 1970s. Few insects equals a further and serious decline in birds, frogs, lizards and crop pollination.

We have the Islands Trust, whose mandate is "to preserve and protect," and who have wisely declared "a climate emergency." We have a Green Party MLA and a Green Party MP.

And yet we have uncontrolled and unregulated clear-cut logging all over Salt Spring. Dwindling

mature local forests are being razed simply for profit and development. A clear-cut forest is complete destruction and waste and if you have never walked around on one I encourage you to do so. It's depressing.

So there is an awfully scary equation here that simply does not add up. Two plus two is not making four. We desperately need a viable, regulated and sustainable logging industry that is about much more than filling the wallets of a few individuals.

If the laws are outdated and ineffective then we must insist on a rapid change to those laws.

We must all stand up, speak up and demand accountability for the future of our forests and the future of, well, everything.

**CHARLEY MILLER,**  
SALT SPRING

## Landlord's view

In response to the April 10 letter published in the Driftwood by Kathy Dryden and other recent letters about high rental costs I would like to present the landlord's financial perspective.

If you had purchased a two-bedroom house some years ago for \$250,000 with a 20 per cent down payment you would be looking at a mortgage cost of at least \$800 a month. Insurance would average about \$100 a month (at a very basic level), taxes are at least \$200 a month and maintenance around \$75 a month. Then there are capital costs like roof replacement and septic upkeep and eventual replacement which over 25 years would average about \$100 a month. Thus, the monthly costs to the landlord are at least \$1,275 a month.

This does not include the cost of the down payment of at least \$40,000. If you made \$200 a month profit on the rental (\$2,400 per year) it would take more than 16 years just to break even on the down payment at a rental price of \$1,425 per month for a two-bedroom house. This is based on a very modest house price and monthly mortgage payment given current costs. If it is to be worth a landlord's investment to have a rental property they have to make some profit on their investment, not just enough to cover costs.

The costs of mortgages and house prices are a main reason that rents are so high but it is not the evil landlord's fault. People complain about the small size and poor condition of less expensive rental housing but this is because the properties have to be old enough for the mortgage to have been paid off and quite possibly the maintenance and repair costs have been skimped on during the time of the mortgage just to make ends meet from the owner's side to keep a rental cost down to \$800 or \$900 per month.

I am not saying this is fair but I am saying that this is the financial reality of owning a rental property. I hope this helps those

who are complaining about rents to understand why they are so high.

I am a long-term landlord on Salt Spring.

**ANNE ZELLER,**  
FULFORD

## Rotary Club has 50th anniversary

At a gala dinner at Harbour House Hotel on Friday night, the Rotary Club celebrated in style the 50th anniversary of the chartering of the club. Family, friends and Rotarian alumni helped celebrate the event along with a few special guests, one of whom was the district governor, Craig Gillis, who travelled from Campbell River for the event. Also in attendance was Dave Toynbee, son of Dick Toynbee, who was one of the charter members of the club when it was formed in 1969. Sadly Dick passed away two years ago, the last of the original charter members.

The newest member of the club, Dennis McCluskey, was inducted by president Chris Cheeseman and governor Craig Gillis, who presented a commemorative certificate from the district to the club.

The Rotary helps support many Salt Spring organizations including the food bank, Salt Spring Literacy, the middle school's Tsunami Circus, Special Olympics, scholarships for graduating GISS students and youth leadership training. Amongst the club legacy projects on island are the helicopter pad at Lady Minto, Rotary Marine Park and the dinghy dock.

One of the most rewarding programs is the international youth exchange in which the club supports one island student living in another country while a student from abroad lives and studies on Salt Spring for a year. Maya Neufeld-Boucher is currently living in Norway and Anna Bukovszky is here from Budapest, Hungary.

Rotary will continue to support island projects and live up to its motto "Service Above Self."

**SALT SPRING ROTARY CLUB EXECUTIVE**

# celebrating SENIORS

## Home security tips for seniors

Seniors are often targeted by criminals. Though many criminals target seniors from afar via telephone or internet scams, criminals seek to enter seniors' homes. Statistics offer that the ratio of property crime to violent crime was higher for the elderly and persons between the ages of 50 and 64 than it was for younger persons between the ages of 25 and 49.

Home security is important for people of all ages, but especially so for seniors and aging individuals living alone. By following certain safety tips and developing a home security plan, seniors can feel safer at home.

- **Lock windows and doors.** It may seem like common sense, but failure to repeatedly lock windows and doors can, and often does, give burglars easy entry into the home.

- **Think about a smart doorbell.** Technology now enables doorbells to provide a video feed to a person's smartphone or tablet over WiFi. This allows residents to see who is at the door and speak to this person without having to open the door. Some products like Ring® will even register motion activity and record short videos from outside of the house.

- **Don't share or leave keys.** Avoid leaving keys under a mat or in a flower pot. Others may be watching your actions and gain access to your home while you are away.

- **Ask for ID.** When service people or other individuals come to the door, verify their credentials by asking to see some identification.

- **Get a home security system.** The best protection against burglars is a home security alarm, states HomeSecurityResource.org. Such an alarm often deters burglars from breaking in.

- **Install a lockable mailbox.** Locked mailboxes restrict access to sensitive information, such as bank account numbers, sent in the mail. Make sure retirement checks or other payments are deposited directly into bank accounts instead of having them sent by check.

- **Use home automation.** Home automation, or a "smart home," can be utilized to turn on lights, set the thermostat, lock doors, and much more.

- **Adopt a dog.** Dogs can be an asset to seniors. Dogs provide companionship and can bark or alert seniors if someone is around or inside of the home.

Home security is serious business for seniors who are vulnerable to criminals.

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**Rants + ROSES**

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

Thank you to the Salt Spring Arts Council for the funds provided for my work as production stage manager for the Skylight stage play, where I was able to mentor GISPA student Amelia McCluskey, and also for their ongoing support of the wide range of arts on Salt Spring Island. Bravo to ArtSpring for producing Skylight as part of their season. Deborah Osborne, production executive

A large bouquet of baroque roses to Country Grocer for their generous donation to the concession at our recent concert at ArtSpring. We very much appreciate all your support. Thank you also to volunteers, choristers, musicians and audience alike for contributing to the success of the event. Bach on the Rock board

Roses of gratitude and wonder to Wendy, John and the gentleman with the full beard for rescuing me and the shopping cart that tipped over in a pothole in the Country Grocer parking lot on May 3. Salt Springers shine once again! Cherie

# CREST monopole decision must consider harms

**SUBMITTED BY CHRIS ANDERSON FOR GULF ISLANDERS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY**

*The following is a shortened version of a piece submitted by Gulf Islanders for Safe Technology to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee at their April 30 business meeting. The content has not been verified by the Driftwood.*

Gulf Islanders for Safe Technology advises the Salt Spring LTC to delay any decision on the CREST monopole decision while crucial issues are under consideration.

Emergency services are too important to risk a permanently-unacceptable tie-in with U.S. security infrastructure, which is how the P-25 CREST system is designed to operate. We need reliable communications that are safe and secure for first responders and the public, that is independent of foreign influence and intrusion. There are serious problems with the proposed CREST digital P-25 system upgrade as proposed. We need a halt to this process now, so as to allow apparent system flaws to be examined. The Trust has yet to do sufficient research into what this P-25 system actually consists of, and how it opens us up to the scrutiny of our private lives by various and foreign entities, as well as all additional questionable implications inherent with CREST.

tions inherent with CREST.

We recommend the proposal be postponed and re-examined for the following reasons:

1) CREST is not what we thought it was. CREST would seem to be the wrong communication system for this island for reasons of privacy, security and safety. All consequences of adopting this comprehensive, continent-wide system have yet to be assessed and understood by the Trust, by emergency services and the public. CREST is not just simply a way for our emergency services to have great communications. This system is part of an integrated North American and beyond, interconnected voice, image and data system that has capabilities and risks that we do not want or need. It has serious vulnerabilities to cyber attack, and serious uses as part of surveillance architecture.

The U.S. National Security Agency and Department of Defense were key players in the development of the P-25 platform in 1989. It has been now developed as a business by telecom interests — some with a background in surveillance and intelligence-gathering. Consequently security was not a primary concern and adequate protection was not designed into the system, according to many researchers. In Canada, CREST is

aligned with E-Comm of Vancouver, which — although not reported on — is integrated with its U.S. counterpart First Net, with serious vulnerability problems, which are system wide, and include CREST. E-Comm, CREST and First Net share a common technology platform. This continentally-integrated system reaches all emergency and security services and so many other known and unknown agencies and individuals, in North America instantaneously.

2) Location — The Legion site is entirely inappropriate for a facility that emits electromagnetic radiation. This unworkable plan constitutes a violation of the expressed will of Salt Spring citizens to minimize public exposure to EMR from transmitters at close range. The proposal calls for a major telecom array, not simply one transmitter, as misrepresented by this proposal which appears heavily flawed. The monopole and equipment are ugly, unsafe and out of place at the Legion location. Any such facility must be relocated away from frequented areas, for aesthetic and health reasons. This present proposal violates the protective requirement of a 500-metre setback. The inappropriate location can and must be reconsidered and any infrastructure suitably moved away from frequented areas.

3) Co-location issue — massive

EMR increases and consequent health concerns. Additional radiating transmitters would locate on the monopole, surpassing the superfluous Reardon RF intensity estimates by a very wide margin. Numerous studies warn of decreased health being proportional to proximity to EMR transmitters.

A report in Environmental Review warns that “anecdotal reports and some epidemiology studies have found headaches, skin rashes, sleep disturbances, depression, decreased libido, increased rates of suicide, concentration problems, dizziness, memory changes, increased risk of cancer, tremors and other neurophysiological effects in populations near base stations.” Many other adverse effects are available for review in the scientific literature. See the Bioinitiative Report, 2012, with ongoing updates.

The proposed tower, with its proximity to health facilities and people, and the inevitability of other RF transmitters on the tower, threatens now to blow our somewhat protective and somewhat precautionary Trust guidelines to smithereens.

4) Electromagnetic radiation from telecom facilities is harmful. The International Agency for Research on Cancer and the World Health Organization reclassified the forms of non-

natural EM radiation common in 2011 as a “possible” human carcinogen, along with lead, benzene, formaldehyde and other toxic agents. Scientists in IARC, who are working independent of industry influence, are now calling for EMR to be upgraded to a Class 2A category, or “probable” cause of cancer. And many are working to upgrade electropollution to class 1, or definite cancer cause. Because this form of radiation is shown in tens of thousands of studies to cause harm to all species.

5) 5G — Great for a surveillance state. Many scientists see as “insane” the developing 5G technology using super high frequency millimeter waves. This new radiation drench will be on top of already-existing radiofrequency/microwaves already at saturation levels in society, from radar, and 2G, 3G, 4G, Wi-Fi etc. These novelties are to use massive new EMR sources, in addition to the already harmful second, third and fourth generation technologies, along with existing Wi-Fi and myriad other sources.

Millimeter wave technology is especially dangerous. It is designed to deliver concentrated and focussed electromagnetic radiation in excess of 100 times current levels, in the same way as do directed energy weapons, which also employ mm waves.

## Misinformation on CRD budget

**BY GARY HOLMAN**  
CRD DIRECTOR

The May 1 letter by Robin Williams regarding the CRD tax requisition is surprisingly misinformed. As a former CRD commissioner, he should understand regional district service delivery and budgeting.

His suggestion that the CRD administration has “merged restricted and unrestricted funds together” in the 2019 budget is nonsense. The Salt Spring Transportation Commission’s voter approved funding for completion of the North Ganges Transportation Plan ended, as required, in 2018. Former CRD Director Wayne McIntyre, in his provisional budget, and myself in the final budget, approved requisition increases in other specific CRD service areas, each with their own budgets and rationale. All of this was explained in my budget presentation of Jan. 22 (which Mr. Williams didn’t attend) and my budget report in the Driftwood of March 27. There was no “questionable bookkeeping,” “financial manipulation” or “re-purposing” of transportation commission funding.

As I explained in response to similar

accusations by the Driftwood itself, most of the CRD requisition increases for 2019 were put forward by the former CRD Director (who Mr. Williams himself stated “left the books in good shape”), which after a thorough review, I also supported. Based on feedback from my budget presentation, recent severe weather events, and community safety concerns in Ganges, I also proposed additional, modest requisition increases for particular CRD services, not for some vague “administrative” purpose as Mr. Williams suggests.

Finally, Mr. Williams’ suggestion that the 2019 CRD budget will somehow increase the costs of Ganges Hill cycling and pedestrian infrastructure improvements (which will require explicit voter approval), makes even less sense. What may have an impact is the construction cost inflation during the four years of delay in completing the North Ganges Plan under his tenure as chair of the transportation commission.

*Editor’s Note: The Driftwood reported accurately the budget requisition increases were approved by Gary Holman regardless of what the former CRD Director put forward.*



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Islands Trust

Have Your Say

**When:**  
Wednesday,  
May 22, 2019  
CIM: 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.  
Public Hearing to Follow CIM

**Where:**  
Lions Hall: 103 Bonnet  
Avenue, SSI

**Who should attend?**  
Anyone affected by  
the proposed  
bylaw.

**Enquires?**  
Patricia Maloney  
Consultant  
Planner  
ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca  
250-537-9144

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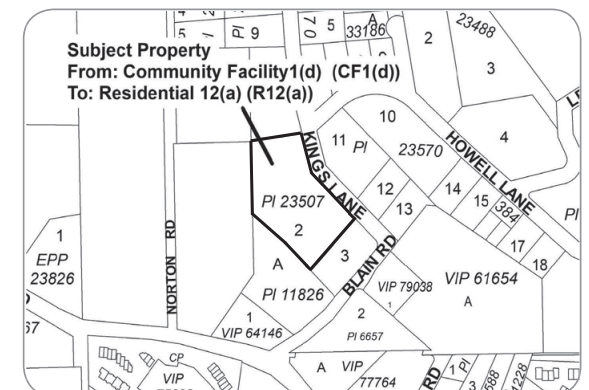
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PID: 003-106-756

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING**  
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaw changes?

Bylaw No. 515 amends the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to:

- Change the zoning of the subject property from Community Facility 1 variant [CF1(d)] to Residential 12 variant [R12(a)] which would permit 48 affordable seniors housing units, 2 dwelling units, a service club, and a dental and medical office with up to 12 medical practitioners.



How do I get more information?

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

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendment will take place at 5:30 p.m. on May 22, 2019. The Public Hearing will commence immediately following the CIM.



# 4th Annual Salt Spring Island Emergency Fair, May 11th 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at SSI Ganges Fire Hall



## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

# New Emergency team welcomed

Emergency Fair at fire hall this Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Emergency Program is following recent tradition in hosting an Emergency Fair this Saturday, May 11 as the anchor event of Emergency Preparedness Week.

While the Capital Regional District organization's commitment to building local ability to respond to emergencies remains the same, some key aspects will be new this year. For one thing, the fair moves to a new location at the Ganges fire hall. But more significant is the changing human faces of the organization, with the retirement of longtime coordinator Elizabeth Zook and her deputy Laurel Hanley this year.

"I am proud to have served our community for the eight years that I have been involved with the Emergency Program," said Zook. "This program with its dedicated volunteers has helped enhance the community's capability in being disaster resilient. It is great to see that the CRD has now provided three part-time positions to support the continued growth of this program."

Coming in to bear the standard are Brian Bogdanovich as the head emergency coordinator and Derek Capitaine and Candice Seagull as deputies. Bogdanovich told the Driftwood he is very happy to be taking up the position and to be working with his new teammates.

"I look forward to building on all the work that Elizabeth has done and engaging with the community to get ideas how we can become more prepared and more resilient," he said. "I look forward to working with everyone to build a stronger and more educated community."

Although Bogdanovich has been away for many years, he grew up with a brother and sister on Salt Spring and his mother has lived here for over 45 years, so he's always considered it to be his home. Bogdanovich graduated with a Bachelor of Physical Education from UBC, where he also played rugby. Following that he pursued many different careers, doing everything from set decorating on The X-Files to operating the rescue boat at Langara Fishing lodge, to a career in mining exploration.

"Most recently I spent 21 years as a member of Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services where I spent five years creating an 18-hour program teaching people what to do in the event of a disaster," Bogdanovich said.

He additionally served as logistics chief for the department's heavy search and rescue unit, worked



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

From left, Candice Seagull, Brian Bogdanovich and Derek Capitaine.

as a medic during the 2010 Winter Olympics and coordinated the Grouse Grind race for the 2009 World Police and Fire Games. Aside from his service activities, Bogdanovich enjoys active pastimes such as trekking and paddling.

Bogdanovich finds a strong match in Capitaine and Seagull, who

offer different experiences but equal enthusiasm for building community resilience. All three attended training in Victoria together last month and have been holding weekly meetings since then to stay coordinated in their individual work areas.

"I think a big goal for the program will be to really focus on training and really keep up to date," Capitaine said.

In addition to overall program management, Bogdanovich will be focusing on strengthening the neighbourhood POD program. Capitaine will be in charge of the emergency operations centre while Seagull is responsible for coordinating emergency social services. Procedures in that area include helping people evacuate in emergencies, putting up emergency reception centres, and offering emotional and other supports to victims of an emergency, whether that's large-scale or on the level of a single house fire.

Capitaine has been a member of Salt Spring Ground Search and Rescue for seven years. In addition to its regular call-outs, the volunteer organization was heavily involved in responding to last December's historic windstorm and the aftermath. Members did door-to-door wellness checks, advised residents about water supply and helped deliver emergency medical supplies.

"It's so great we can be called on to fill those roles," Capitaine said. "Many of our members are trained as first responders or have the operational background."

Seagull moved to Salt Spring around a year ago, after spending three seasons as a ranger for Alberta Parks. Before that she was taking her degree in environmental studies and spent a season

fighting wildfires in Ontario.

Public education about how to prepare for a disaster will be a big focus going forward. Living on an island, residents should have enough food and water reserves for 72 hours at the very least. Experts are predicting that with climate change, more environmental effects such as the heavy wind and snow storms of the past winter can be expected.

"Awareness and education are big things we want to bring to Salt Spring to build that resilience," Seagull noted. "When something does happen we want people to be ready and have some supplies on hand, like a grab and go bag."

Another goal for the group is to bring more awareness to the CRD's Public Alert Notification System (PANS) and get everyone signed up. For example, it's not enough to have only one member of the household registered. Ideally anyone with a mobile device should be included because there's no telling when and where a disaster might hit.

Islanders can learn all about the island's Emergency Program during this Saturday's fair at the fire hall, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Anyone who is interested in getting involved should make contact with the team there, as they will be actively recruiting in all areas.

"The three of us are pretty excited," Seagull said.

"We make a good team," Capitaine added. "And we don't want to carry the whole load on our shoulders. We need a strong volunteer base."

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### BELLYDANCE

## Shimmy Mob headed for island

Worldwide event raises funds for victims of abuse

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

World Bellydance Day is celebrated on the second Saturday in May every year, but 2019 will offer a special opportunity to appreciate the art form on Salt Spring and in the Duncan area.

This Saturday, May 11, Salt Springers led by Sarah Allen will join with Vancouver Island dancers for Shimmy Mob, a "flash mob" style event that sees people from all over the world bellydance in public places as a way to raise awareness and collect funds for victims of domestic abuse.

Allen has been learning and dancing bellydance for over 20 years and teaching it on Salt Spring since 2016. She has participated in Shimmy Mob events in the Cowichan region for the past three years.

"I've been wanting to do one on Salt Spring," Allen said. "There were just six of us for this first time, so we've joined forces with the Cowichan Valley team."

Shimmy Mob is billed as "the largest bellydance event of its kind by the total geographical territory covered in one day." It was started by Vancouver bellydancer Francesca Anastasi in 2011 and soon spread to an international phenomenon. Teams around the world dance using the same song and the same choreography, wearing the same T-shirt (a different colour each year).

"The choreography is fun and really simple," Allen said. "They make it that way very specifically so anybody can



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY SARAH ALLEN

The 2018 Cowichan Valley Shimmy Mob team dances in Duncan.

learn it and dance it. You don't have to already be a dancer or even a bellydancer. And anyone can join in."

That includes men and children, Allen said, although so far the local group is all women.

Participants wear their colourful T-shirts partly to broadcast the event but also to show respect to the culture where bellydance originated, by not showing off too much skin. The beautiful artistry of the dance is being showcased as much as the worthy cause that Shimmy Mob supports.

Local residents will be dancing with the Cowichan team at three Duncan locations before the entire group heads to the Crofton ferry terminal. After a performance on the nearby green space, the combined team will head to Salt Spring to shimmy. Performances are planned at the Saturday Market busk-

ing area around 2 p.m. and then at the boardwalk outside Shipstones around 3. Donations are collected in a bucket and all go to support local organizations serving victims of abuse and/or working to prevent domestic violence. On Salt Spring the funds will go to Island Women Against Violence and the Salt Spring Transition House. Funds collected on the Duncan side will go the Cowichan Women Against Violence Society and Somenos Transition House.

Anyone who can't attend and would like to make a donation can contact Allen at ssisarahlouise@gmail.com. She is also interested in hearing from people who would like to practice for the Salt Spring Shimmy Mob team next year, or would like to take a bellydance class in the meantime.

"I'm hoping it will be an annual thing," she said.

### ISLAND ARTISTS

## Equine art show and project on at library

Islanders invited for interactive component to Susan Gordon's show

Salt Spring resident Susan Gordon has launched a new solo art show featuring two unique aspects.

The Horses That Were My Teachers runs through the month of May at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room.

As an artist who typically paints in series, this collection of acrylics represents the horses that were a big part of Gordon's life from the age of 12, into adulthood, and ultimately leading to a professional career in training and teaching. After moving to Salt Spring in 2012, she met well-known veterinarian Dr. Allen Schoen, with whom she co-authored *The Compassionate Equestrian* in 2015.

The cumulative knowledge acquired from decades of hands-on experience working with many breeds of horses, and apprenticing with top trainers in multiple disciplines, amounted to the collection of stories and concepts Gordon presents in her book.

"This series of paintings is a visual essay of those years of horse stories, with each horse being highly valued and respected for their generous gift of teaching humans," she said. "If those humans are willing to listen, of course."

Along with the set of artworks is a booklet describing the primary lesson learned from each of the horses in the exhibit. She will also include some older pieces indicative of a life-long interest and practice in creating art for commercial works, private collectors and juried exhibitions.

The idea for the series came about during a workshop with the Salt Spring Island Painters Guild in 2017, of which Gordon is a member. She decided to paint one of her early horses, the young Appaloosa filly appropriately named Miss Demeanor. The piece, "Mom and Missy" is on display at Lady Minto Hospital until May 15, but will be transferred to the library at that time. Once completed, Gordon realized she had painted many horses in the past, but none of her own. With *The Compassionate Equestrian* completed, she had a desire to focus on paintings again, and decided to bring a visual aspect to much of what she had written into the book.

Gordon is also inviting everyone who has ever learned something from a horse to participate in the interactive digital version of the show by sharing photos, drawings, paintings and a few words on social media platforms using the hashtag #TheHorsesThatWereMyTeachers.

"You don't have to consider yourself an artist, just keep the theme in mind and draw, paint or write whatever your feelings are about having a horse that has contributed to your life, no matter whether it was enlightening, fun, frightening, or anything in between. It's all part of the journey of our lives, and many of us have had the amazing opportunity to create and share memories based on our connection to animals."

The exhibit runs through May 30 during regular library hours. The "virtual exhibit" is available for interactive participation via social media platforms at #TheHorsesThatWereMyTeachers.

Gordon's artwork has been exhibited in Santa Fe, Phoenix, Flagstaff and Sedona, and on Salt Spring. She has won awards in B.C. and Alberta for both symbolist and equine art.

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CONCERTS

# SS Singers prepare to present A Joyful Noise

Full sound experience for May 11-12 shows

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Audiences will be seeing — and hearing — double at ArtSpring on May 11 and 12 when the Salt Spring Singers give their spring concert with a little help from some friends from Edmonton.

As a well-subscribed community choir of around 50 members, the Salt Spring Singers have no trouble filling the stage or an auditorium with sound at a regular concert. The upcoming Three Bs program is no regular event, however, as the Singers will be joining with A Joyful Noise to bring 100 voices together in song.

“For the audience it will be a little unusual to have a massive choir like that,” observed Salt Spring Singers director Don Conley. “It will be fun.”

A Joyful Noise is conducted by Eva Bostrand in Edmonton. Bostrand is well-known to Salt Spring as an esteemed voice coach who has given several summer workshops on the island in the past with Conley as her accompanist. The idea for a joint show came about, though, through two siblings who belong to the different groups and thought it would be fun to sing together.

“Eva was delighted with this concept because she adores Salt Spring and coming from the Prairies to be surrounded by the oceans and mountains,” Conley said.

Bostrand and Conley got together last summer to put together the program and talked about a whole list of potential composers before narrowing it down to three big ones: Beethoven and Bach from the classical canon and Leonard Bernstein from the contemporary era.

While both the Salt Spring Singers and A Joyful Noise will sing a couple of

individual songs at the start of the concert, most of the show will feature the full combined strength, with Conley and Bostrand taking turns to conduct. Conley flew out to Edmonton earlier this year to work with the other group.

“Being a vocal coach, Eva Bostrand has created a really beautiful sound with her choir, very balanced. So when we combine forces it will be quite wonderful,” Conley said, “I was really pleased with their sound.”

The first part of the program will include Bach’s Magnificat and some different chorales, as well as the Hallelujah Chorus from Beethoven’s Mount of Olives oratorio. The second part is devoted to Bernstein, including many selections from his Mass: Theatre Pieces for Singers and Chorus, which was written for the dedication of the Kennedy Center in Washington. The combined group will also be doing a piece from West Side

Story and Make Our Garden Grow from Candide — a song that was particularly close to Bernstein’s heart.

“It’s a big piece and it requires a big choir to do it,” Conley said.

The big choir sound will be deepened further by guest percussionist Kris Abney from Swing Shift and solo tenor Callum Adler, who is in voice studies at McGill University. Adler is flying in especially for the shows and will have three solos in the Mass.

Conley noted both the Singers and A Joyful Noise make a practice of supporting young artists in their musical development.

“We’re happy to do that, and I think people will really enjoy it too,” Conley said.

The ArtSpring shows are at 7:30 p.m on May 11 and at 2 p.m. on May 12. Tickets are available through the theatre box office.



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

## Tsunami Circus goes Beyond Time

Islanders are invited to travel through time with the Salt Spring Island Middle School Tsunami Circus Troupe as they present their year-end show this weekend.

The show promises a little something for all the ages, complete with music, costumes, dance and pizzazz. Students will show their talents at juggling, high flying aerials, dancing and some bendy acrobatics.

The show runs from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11, with a Sunday matinee from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are sold at West of the Moon and the door.

## Gifted violinist and band at All Saints

Former Gulf Islands band teacher Wilf Davies returns to Salt Spring with world class Syrian violinist Sari Alesh for a concert at All Saints By-the-Sea this Sunday, May 12.

A gifted violinist who arrived in Victoria as a refugee from Syria just over three years ago, Alesh has been winning hearts and ears ever since. Before the war, Alesh was a member of the Syrian National Orchestra and performed with well-known artists in the Middle East and Europe.

Alesh will be playing Salt Spring with his new band. He is joined by Davies on keyboards, as well as Barrie Hughes on bass and mandolin, Dave Conway on guitar, and Sherry Williams on vocals. They play a wide range of styles, from Arab pop and traditional melodies through Western pop and jazz standards to Celtic fiddle music, from tangos and tarantellas to Beatles and Willie Nelson.

Concert time is 3 p.m. Admission is by donation.

## Astounding European trio performs

Acclaimed European baroque trio Contrasto Armonico comes to Salt Spring to play a fundraising concert for Bach on the Rock on Tuesday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Contrasto Armonico is Marco Vitale (Italy) director and harpsichord, Enrique Gomez-Cabrero Fernandez (Spain) baroque violin and Romeo Ciuffa (Italy) on baroque flute and recorders. This renowned ensemble based in the Netherlands focuses on the performance of baroque music using copies of original instruments, and historical performance practices.

Tuesday’s concert at ArtSpring will include works by Boismortier, Handel, Matteis, Purcell, Draghi, Telemann and Rameau. Contrasto Armonico will bring with them a beautiful single-register harpsichord, based on a 17th-century Flemish instrument and built by Fabrizio Acanfora in Barcelona.

This is a fundraising concert for the Bach on the Rock Music Society, with Bach on the Rock receiving 50 per cent of the ticket sales.



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What’s the point of TFSAs?  
It would be great to be able to max out your allowable contribution amount to both your retirement savings plan (RSP) and your tax-free savings account (TFSA).

However, due to life’s other financial obligations, this is not usually possible. If you must choose, here’s a simple guide: if your income is higher now than it will be when you are going to use the money, an RSP might be the best choice. If your income is lower now than it will be when you come to use the money, a TFSA might be the best choice.

There are numerous reasons to open a TFSA. Perhaps you are too “mature” to contribute to an RSP. Also appealing is the fact that there is no mandatory withdrawal age or amount. The earnings and withdrawals are tax-free—there is no impact on government benefits. You can choose from a wide variety of investments to hold within the TFSAs, which means that if you don’t need the money for some time, you might look at something that has higher growth potential in order to take full advantage of the tax-free growth aspect.

It’s usually best to tackle any high-interest debt first, but incorporating a TFSA account into an overall financial strategy is very good advice, if I do say so myself. And, I do.



SCOTT HOWE

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### Mechanic

#### Why are vehicle repairs often more expensive than advertised on TV and radio?

A wide range of replacement parts are now available on the market. Prices can vary as much as several hundred percent. As a rule, you get what you pay for. When you receive estimates that seem either high or low, ask what you are getting for your money. Labour prices are determined by flat rate guides (an industry-wide standard). High quality parts installed by qualified professionals will give you the best job and peace of mind.

Stick to a regular maintenance schedule and do repairs as they become necessary. In the long run, your maintenance bill will be lower and you won’t have the headaches of breakdowns.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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# what's on this week



Wed. May 8	Thur. May 9	Fri. May 10	Sat. May 11	Sun. May 12	Tue. May 14	Wed. May 15
<p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Jeff Warner in Concert + Fundraising Dinner.</b> Concert by New Hampshire folk musician and Sweetgrass Food Co. dinner at Beaver Point Hall. A SS Abattoir fundraiser. Dinner at 6 p.m. and show at 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>ArtSpring Presents: Michael Kaeshammer.</b> Award-winning singer-songwriter and pianist performs at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. (Check for ticket availability in advance as concert may be sold out.)</p> <p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Parent-Child Mother Goose.</b> Free drop-in on Wednesdays for parents, caregivers and young children, birth to 6 years old, to focus on the pleasure and power of sharing rhymes, songs and stories. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.</p> <p><b>Bittancourt House Museum.</b> Open Wednesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., until June 28.</p> <p><b>Music Bingo.</b> Wednesdays with Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Early Morning Birding.</b> Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club hosts Burgoyne Bay outings with expert birder and naturalist, Peter McAllister, who will lead people through the meadows, forests and out onto the shore of the bay every Thursday through May 23. Meet at 6:30 a.m. in Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park, parking on the road, near the barns.</p> <p><b>Bittancourt House Museum.</b> See Wednesday listing.</p> <p><b>Book Launch: At the Wilderness Edge: The Rise of the Antidevelopment Movement on Canada's West Coast.</b> Launch of book by local author Jack Little, professor emeritus in the history department of Simon Fraser University, examines five popular protests in the wider Howe Sound area during the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Fri. May 10</b></p> <p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Rock Bottom.</b> Salt Spring Centre School play about a Stone Age family called the Cobblestones. Mahon Hall at 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Friday Shakedown with Matsya.</b> Mateada Nitro lounge. 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Beyond Time.</b> Tsunami Circus Show at Salt Spring Island Middle School gym. 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Karaoke.</b> At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Ange Hehr.</b> Live band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Bittancourt House Museum.</b> See Wednesday listing.</p> <p><b>Family Movie Matinee.</b> This week's movie at the library is Mr. Peabody and Sherman. 2:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Art Show Opening: INSIGNIA.</b> Opening reception for exhibition by Anh Le at Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sat. May 11</b></p> <p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Shimmy Mob.</b> Fundraiser for IWAV and other anti-violence groups. See bellydancers in the Saturday Market busking area around 2 p.m. and the boardwalk outside Shipstones at around 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>Rock Bottom.</b> Salt Spring Centre School play about a Stone Age family called the Cobblestones. Mahon Hall at 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Salt Spring Singers: The Three Bs – Bach, Beethoven and Bernstein.</b> Salt Spring Singers and guest choir A Joyful Noise from Edmonton perform at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Ange Hehr Band.</b> Live at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>SALT.</b> Salt Spring band plays at Moby's. 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Tsunami Circus: Beyond Time.</b> See Saturday's listing.</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Salt Spring Saturday Market.</b> Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Salt Spring Island Emergency Fair.</b> Demos, information, door prizes and booths on all things to do with emergency preparedness and response. Ganges Fire Hall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>10th Annual Invasive Plant Drop-off.</b> Residents can dispose of invasives like broom, gorse, lamium, daphne, and more. Central Fire Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations requested to cover chipping costs.</p> <p><b>Blossom Picnic.</b> Salt Spring Japanese Garden Society event of demos, music, booths, food and more is at Heiwa Garden in the Peace Park. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>Braehaven Mocktail Party.</b> Guest speakers and lively discussion on seniors' relationship with alcohol. With Gulf Islands Secondary School students as special guests. Braehaven Assisted Living Residence. 6 to 8 p.m. Please RSVP to Denise Devlin: 250-537-5530 ext 6 or denise.devlin@greenwoodseldercare.org.</p> <p><b>Sun. May 12</b></p> <p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Salt Spring Singers: The Three Bs – Bach, Beethoven and Bernstein.</b> Salt Spring Singers and guest choir A Joyful Noise from Edmonton perform at ArtSpring. 2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Rock Bottom.</b> Salt Spring Centre School play about a Stone Age family called the Cobblestones. Mahon Hall at 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sari Alesh and Friends In Concert.</b> World class Syrian violinist Sari Alesh with former Gulf Islands band teacher Wilf Davies on keyboards, Barrie Hughes on bass and mandolin, Dave Conway on guitar and Sherry Williams on vocals. All Saints By-the-Sea. 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>Tsunami Circus: Beyond Time.</b> See Saturday's listing, except time is 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Family Adventures in Nature.</b> This Sunday's program is The Bees Knees - How are the Pollinators? Make mason bee homes and have a bee scavenger hunt. Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Drop-in program for ages 6-12 and adult caregivers. 1 to 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Mon. May 13</b></p> <p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Vetta Presents Take Five.</b> Vetta presents Mozart Clarinet Quintet in A major, K. 581 and Schubert Cello Quintet in C major, D 956 for the final concert of the season. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Check for ticket availability in advance as show may be sold out.</p> <p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Salt Spring Community Theatre AGM.</b> Annual general meeting at the Croftonbrook meeting room. 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Rising Appalachia CD Release: Leylines.</b> Stowel Lake Farm. 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Contrasto Armonico.</b> Acclaimed European baroque trio Contrasto Armonico performs at ArtSpring at 7:30 p.m. Fundraiser for the Bach on the Rock musical group.</p> <p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Discussion Group on Spiritual Interests.</b> Facilitated discussion group sees participants explore a variety of topics related to spiritual interests and practices on the second Tuesday of each month at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 7 to 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Salt Spring Island &amp; Tourism.</b> Community information session presented by the Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Partnership Society. Salt Spring Public Library. 5 to 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Islands Trust Industrial Lands Project Public Hearing.</b> Formal public hearing to provide input on proposed bylaws 488, 489 and 490. Meaden Hall. 7 p.m. Info at islandstrust.bc.ca/ssindustrial</p> <p><b>Trivia Tuesday.</b> Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p><b>Sacred Circle Dance Workshop.</b> Facilitated by Gale Hingston and assisted by Lolla Devindisch, the workshop explores the oldest form of dance known. At St. Mary's Church in Fulford, home of Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice, which is the event sponsor. 2 to 4 p.m. Preregistration required at staroftheseasi.ca.</p> <p><b>Central Community Hall Board of Directors Meeting.</b> Meeting at Central Hall. 7 p.m. Public welcome to attend.</p> <p><b>100+ Women Who Care.</b> Meeting of women in philanthropic group at ArtSpring. Orientation and social from 6 to 7 p.m. Meeting from 7 to 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Parent-Child Mother Goose.</b> See last Wednesday's listing.</p> <p><b>Bittancourt House Museum.</b> See last Wednesday's listing.</p> <p><b>Music Bingo.</b> See last Wednesday's listing.</p>



Rising Appalachia releases their new CD at Stowel Lake Farm on May 14.

## THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **Dumbo** shows Friday-Tuesday, May 10-14 at 7 p.m, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Rated PG. 112 minutes.
- **Avengers End Game** starts Friday, May 17.
- **Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest.** National Theatre Live event shows Thursday May, 16 only with two screenings at 3 and 7 p.m. For more movie info go to [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca).

## EXHIBITIONS

- **Anh Le presents INSIGNIA**, her first solo exhibit of work on Salt Spring, at the **Salt Spring Gallery** beginning on Friday, May 10, when Anh Le presents INSIGNIA, comprised of more than 20 works of drawing and painting exploring the artist's interest in typography, calligraphy and tattoos as insignia. Show opens with a reception running from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday and continues through May 29.

## EXHIBITIONS

- Woodturner **Bob McKay** and painter **Chintan Bolliger** have a show at **Kizmit Galeria** this month.
- **Gallery 8's Symbolically 8** exhibition and **10th anniversary celebration** continues in the Grace Point Square gallery until May 11.
- **Karin Millson** and **Bernadette Mertens-McAllister** present **In/From/Of - the Forest** in the ArtSpring lobby for the month of May.
- **Paula Ann Van (Smith)** exhibits **Tides of Time** at **Salt Spring Gallery** until May 8.
- **The Horses That Were My Teachers**, an exhibit of work by **Susan Gordon**, is at the **Salt Spring Public Library Program Room** through May.
- **Nikki Menard** shows work in her **Beyond Edges** exhibit at **Fernwood Road Cafe** until May 11.

## Blossom Picnic

SS Japanese Garden Society event in Peace Park  
Demos, food, music & more  
**Saturday, May 11**  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**THRIFTY FOODS**

Ganges, Mouat's Centre • 7:30am to 9pm • Customer Service 250-537-1522

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[www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com/events/](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com/events/)



# ISLAND LIFE

- Adopt a Pet
- Horoscopes

**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)



## ISLAND HISTORY

# Family marks 100 years on island



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Photo taken in May of 2008, when Ellen Bennett, at right, who died last year, and family members dedicated the Raconteur's Bench in front of the Ganges Post Office to Ellen's husband Johnny Bennett, who had died in 2007. Members of the Bennett family will gather at Cedar Beach Resort this weekend to mark 100 years since their ancestors – Jack and Alice Bennett – first came to Salt Spring Island.

## Dukes Road farm was focal point for five generations

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It is hard for anyone to imagine staying in one place for a hundred years.

Stories of multiple generations living in the same place used to be common, but in recent years, deep place-based roots have become rare. For the descendants of the Bennett family, these roots are a reason to celebrate.

"We're having a family reunion or celebration because it's the 100th year that our family has been on Salt Spring," said Lisa Kawalaskas.

Kawalaskas is one of 13 grandchildren of Johnny and Ellen Bennett. She organized the reunion that will take place this weekend at Cedar Beach Resort. Kawalaskas will be coming to Salt Spring from Okotoks, Alta., a trip she made many times as a kid to see her grandparents.

"Our whole family feels really grounded on the island, even though many of us don't live there. Our grandparents lived there our whole lives and we went back to visit often."

The Bennett clan can trace their roots back to John "Jack" Bennett Sr., who was an Australian who worked in northern B.C. at the onset of the First World War. He met Alice in England during the war and the couple were married and had a baby. The Bennetts first set foot on Salt Spring Island in April of 1919 when their baby Evelyn was only nine months old. The young family were part of an influx of

war veterans to the island who took advantage of the federal Soldier Settlement Act of 1919 to purchase land. Their 30-acre farm on Dukes Road was eventually expanded to 42 acres. They raised their four children — Evelyn, Mary, June and Johnny — on that farm.

As an adult, Johnny worked as a logger, a trucker and on the ferries. He ended up in Colonel Belcher Hospital in Calgary during the war, where he met his future wife Ellen.

"I think they were married two weeks later and he brought her home to Salt Spring. She was there for the rest of her life as well," said Kawalaskas.

Johnny purchased the farm from his father in 1946 and he and his wife Ellen built a new house on the land to raise their own six children. The farm would become a focal point for family gatherings and provide a sense of home for five generations.

"We don't just have roots on the island, but roots on Dukes Road," said Kawalaskas. "I had an upbringing where we moved around a lot, so that was my steady. For many of the children, that home is a steady for them. The decor never changed, there were no renovations, Grandma and Grandpa were always there. They were very steady people."

Though it is still in the family's name, the house will not be the same without grandma and grandpa. Kawalaskas explained that the family reunion over the weekend will both be a celebration and a mourning, since the force that drew everybody back to Salt Spring year after year is gone.

"It'll be a fun get together,"

**"The cousins used to get together all the time when we were kids. We all used to meet at Grandma and Grandpa's."**

LISA KAWALASKAS  
*Bennett family member*

a book written on the history of the island.

"He was a great storyteller. He would chat your ear off," Kawalaskas said. "I think my grandfather did a lot of fishing and hunting and telling stories and all those old-fashioned things."

"There's a story about Grandpa in the Driftwood, where [he] was driving through Ganges with a cow in the backseat of his car," she added. "If you think about growing up and doing those sorts of things, and then going to the city... I believe that Salt Spring was just a little bit behind. It was remote and not quite caught up to the world yet."

After five generations, the family still maintains strong ties to Salt Spring. The rest of the first generation of Bennett children lived on Salt Spring their whole lives, and some of their children and grandchildren still call the island home. Mary Bennett married Leslie Mollet, and they lived in the Fulford area for years. June Bennett married Peter Stevens, of another long-time island family. Evelyn Lee (who married into the Lee family, also with a long history on the island) is the oldest of the Bennett children and will be 101 years old in July. She lives in the Greenwoods Complex Care Facility. Johnny passed away in 2007, and was followed by Ellen last year.

"The cousins used to get together all the time when we were kids. We all used to meet at Grandma and Grandpa's," Kawalaskas said. "It's really special, and it's all coming to an end. It's a celebration and a mourning at the same time."

she said. "One hundred years is quite a thing. Now that my grandmother has passed away, it's the end as well."

Johnny and Ellen were integral to the community on Salt Spring. They helped found the Rod and Gun Club, Ellen worked as one of the first telephone operators on Salt Spring, and Johnny was interviewed for

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

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

Last week's auspicious Cazimi New Moon in Taurus is racing towards full speed right now. Mars in Gemini is helping the otherwise slow-but-sure pace remain steady. Venus in Aries is, at worst, a bit problematic in terms of staying focused. But Mars in Taurus is contributing to that factor so the end result of these three key players is steady progress. As well, Venus in Aries is at least sparking inspirations to take new leads and initiatives. Since Venus will be in Taurus by next week, now is the time to get projects started as the inertia of sensual Venus in Taurus does not rank high in terms of pioneering actions. And since Venus rules Taurus, she will have the final say. Because she will be conjunct Uranus, we can expect some unexpected rises. These may be understood as the mood of Beltane finally kicking in.

### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

You are beginning to dig deeper regarding your plans. Deciphering where home is or where and how you can feel at home continues. Yet, you may be dealing with the pullback to 'business as usual'. The result is you feel a bit torn between objectives and perhaps somewhat confused. You do feel expansive and the prospect of adventure is attractive but practicality is keeping you sober.

### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Bringing your larger visions and ambitions for the future down to earth continues. This implies a creative lead. Yet, as great as is creativity, it has to balance with practicality. In fact, practicality is the reality that you must honor first. However, doing so at the expense of creativity and authenticity is the balance point you must decipher.

### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Sometimes forging ahead occurs behind the scenes. This is the likely scenario of late. Of course, behind could amount to your backyard. It could also amount to catching up on things, like reading a good book or social media exchanges. Yet, there has also been the prospect of initiating new friendships. These may still be in their germination phase but look promising.

### Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

Hopefully, the big changes linked to Saturn and Pluto mixing it up in Capricorn which is happening for, or is that to... everyone, are going your way. Of course, others are experiencing the changes according to their own personal destinies. For you, they are linked to family relationships especially. As well, these changes have been rolling in for a while. The focus now is shifting to where to best invest.

### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Recent changes are leading you to adapt creatively. This can mean artistic expressions. Producing works of beauty is indicated and these are likely business related. Fortunately, recent influences indicative of invention and innovation has come about. As well, Venus and Mars working together, if on different fronts, reveal adventure and breakthrough.

### Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

You have begun to see yourself and the world and in the world in new ways. This implies the breaking of old patterns. In turn and at a more foundational level, this implies the need for new self-concepts and perspectives. The key now is to engage consciously and make every effort to follow through so that the great vision does not dwindle away.

### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Financial dealings are gaining your full attention. It is tax time after all and this is usually when the money goes out. The question is: how are you paying yourself first? Rationalizing that taxes paid are retirement funds saved, in a manner of speaking, as with old age pension can help. Yet, it can also manifest as key investments, however small, that contribute to your life now.

### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Things continue to shake on relationship fronts. These likely imply the need to give to the situation, perhaps more than you would like. Yet, your ambitions are running strong and you are determined to break through the old and make way for the new. So, give you must. Yet you are also in a good position to negotiate for hidden benefits and the prospects look good.

### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

You are in both an expansive and an industrious mood. Success now requires that you be willing to take a few risks that you would not usually. While these do not have to be big, you are in the mood to go that way. Convincing significant others of your dreams, visions, and plans may be where the real work must happen. Yet, you are unlikely to be idly dismissed.

### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Creating a more beautiful living environment continues. To succeed, you will have to make some sincere efforts. This trend began a few weeks ago so it should be clear by now. If you have been procrastinating but still want positive results, you are wise to take action now. Make that big action because it is late in the game in this regard.

### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Big shifts close to home can feel like an earthquake, of sorts. In other words, some unexpected events have arisen to shake you awake. Positively, you are responding in such a way as to not only make lemonade but to actually make a profit from it. This is one of those moments when the best attitude is to ask: "how can I respond to make this be happening for me?"

### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

It is said that all great works begin in the mind. This is one of those times, to be thinking creatively. Financial goals, interests, and pressures perhaps are the mother of invention that has arrived to shift you into action. In some respects, you have been wanting an extra push, and this is probably it. Digging deep to make some core changes are featured.

## ADOPT A PET TODAY!



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# What is this? Where is it?



Can you identify this spot on Salt Spring? Send your answer to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto: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:** Dan Olson was the first person to recognize this spot as part of the Vesuvius Bay ferry dock structure.

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

### Tania Aguila

Tania is from El Salvador and has worked for many years with peace and human rights organizations in Canada. She moved to Salt Spring Island 13 years ago and helped revive the District Parent Advisory Council, as well as being chair of DPAC for various years. She was also chair of the GISS, SIMS and Fernwood PACs. She now works in administration at SIMS.

Tania is mother to Marcello and Andrea, and is married to Cuban musician Jose Sanchez. Their family has also hosted many international students over the years.

She also loves gardening!



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

### SALT SPRING ISLAND & TOURISM

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 14

**TIME:** 5 – 6:30 pm

**PLACE:** Salt Spring Library

**PRESENTED BY:** Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Partnership Society (SGITP)

**Towards community based & sustainable destination management & marketing for Salt Spring and the Southern Gulf Islands.**

## DANCE WORKSHOP

### Sacred Circle Dance on offer

Registration open for May 15 event

Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice is offering an afternoon workshop with Sacred Circle Dance on Wednesday, May 15.

Facilitated by Gale Hingston, assisted by Lolla Devindisch, they will be inviting participants to celebrate spring in all its fullness: the casting out of darkness celebrating the increasing light, the fertility of the earth, birth, new growth, new beginnings, beauty and colour, increasing warmth, energy and vitality, love, and commitment.

According to workshop information from Star of the Sea, circle dance is the oldest form of dance known and has been a part of community life in many cultures throughout the world since the earliest of times.

"Dances were used to mark special occasions like weddings, births, deaths, times during the agricultural cycle, for ritual and worship; to connect humanity with nature and the divine. The drum was one of the first instruments used to accompany the dance, the heartbeat of life.

"At the end of the 19th century people were becoming aware that many of the traditional dances were being lost and forgotten. However, a resurgence of interest to remember these dances and keep them alive has begun.

"Sacred Circle Dance is inclusive of age and gender. It is meditative. It is simple steps and movement around a focal centre point. It is intentional attentiveness, an offering. We usually hold hands during the dance and afterwards stand in silence to reflect on images and feelings produced ... the essence of the dance."

Gale Hingston studied contemporary dance at Simon Fraser University and participated in contemporary and improvisational community classes in Nelson and Salt Spring. She has attended Sacred Circle Dance with June Watts and Sacred Circle Dance on Salt Spring, and on Vancouver Island.

"I have found the dancing to be personally and spiritually fulfilling, prayerfully healing, and sometimes revealing," she said.

The event takes place at St. Mary's Church, Fulford, home of Star of the Sea, from 2 to 4 p.m. Please bring soft indoor shoes or socks. Registration is required at [starofthesea.ca](http://starofthesea.ca).

## ISLAND HISTORY

### JD Cusheon leaves long legacy



*D.W. Salty*

STREETS OF **SALT SPRING**

For someone who didn't stick around very long, John Ducie Cusheon left a lasting impression on Salt Spring geography. His surname is found on Cusheon Lake Road and Cusheon Place, as well as the lake itself, a creek and an ocean cove.

Cusheon came to the island soon after the first rush of settlers in 1859 but left just a couple of years later after the government refused to let him pre-empt 1,000 acres of land. A number of Cusheon's letters to the Surveyor General for the Colony of Vancouver Island are filed with the BC Archives collection.

Cusheon had come from Victoria and pre-empted the 200 acres permitted to pioneers. His letters to the the surveyor explained that he had also acquired the lands pre-

empted by four other settlers and wished to purchase them from the government. At that point he had put in \$3,000 toward land development, built fences and buildings, and cleared five kilometres of roadway. The current state of Cusheon Lake Road — narrow, twisting and close to the shore — is understandable given it would be one of the oldest roads on the island, and was originally a farmer's cart track.

Cusheon married the daughter of Dr. James Hogg, a retired physician who came to Canada from England. He was ultimately denied his request to purchase the full 1,000 acres of land that he'd been developing and so he left Salt Spring for the Cariboo gold rush in 1861. One of the old farm buildings, a small log cabin, can still be spotted from the road that bears his name.

An interesting twist to the story is that Cusheon's abandoned farm was used as the location to post the 1863 Colony of Vancouver Island election voters' list. Many would-be voters in the second colonial election failed to register by signing the list because the farm was too far away from the main settler locations both in the north and south ends.



Islands Trust

**Have Your Say**

Community Information Meeting

Tuesday, May 7th, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Public Hearing Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. onward

Both Meetings at Meaden Hall (Legion Basement) 120 Blain Road

## INDUSTRIAL LANDS PROJECT

Bylaws No. 488, 489 and 490

### Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are the bylaw changes about?

Bylaw No. 488 amends the Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan to:

- Replace the "Industrial and Commercial Services" Land Use Designation with a "General Employment" Land Use Designation on a number of Island properties;
- Establish policies for future "General Employment" growth near the junction of Rainbow and Atkins roads, near the junction of Long Harbour and Upper Ganges roads, and near the junction of Fulford-Ganges and Beaver Point roads.

Bylaw No. 489 amends the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to:

- Replace existing "Industrial" zones with new "General Employment" zones;
- Expand the range of uses permitted on land zoned for "General Employment";
- Align "General Employment" zoning on a number of lots with the actual uses taking place there;
- Introduce new site coverage and setback regulations for a number of existing and new "General Employment" uses.

Bylaw No. 490 amends the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to:

- Ensure that CRD-owned solid and liquid waste disposal sites on the Island are appropriately zoned.

How do I get more information?

Copies of the bylaws and other information are available at the Islands Trust office from Wednesday, May 1, 2019:

- #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2N8
  - Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. excluding statutory holidays.
- Written submissions are welcome until the end of the Public Hearing.

Visit the project webpage at [islandstrust.bc.ca/ssindustrial](http://islandstrust.bc.ca/ssindustrial)

Enquiries?

Jason Youmans, Island Planner



[ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)  
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**Obituaries      Obituaries      In Memoriam      In Memoriam      In Memoriam      Coming Events      Coming Events**

**KATHLEEN STEVENS**



Kathleen, (Kit to all who knew her), died at Lady Minto May 3rd, 2019. Mum and Dad found loving, supportive communities and developed many deep and lifelong friendships here on Salt Spring. We also became part of that family. Thank you. Thank you as well to Dr. Ryan, Braheaven friends and the nursing team. Lesley, Amanda & Tom, Jim & Bev and Kay & Brian survive Mum as well as 8 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Dad to us, Don to you, Mum's loving spouse, died in 2015. We love you Mum. You are ours forever. We will return in the fall to say goodbye.


*Celebration OF Life FOR*  
**Valerie Ann Perry**



Tom and Jackie cordially invite you to join us in a Celebration of Life for our Valerie.

Saturday May 11, 2019  
 Meadon Hall - Legion  
 1:00pm - 4:00pm

We would like to invite friends to gather for the **CELEBRATION OF LIFE** for **Dale Elvin Johnson** on Saturday, May 11 2019 at the Salt Spring Lions Hall - 103 Bonnet Ave from 1:00 - 3:00 PM.




*Dale's family and friends hope you can join us to gather together to show our respect, share some stories, and remember the good times we had with Dale.*

**artist in the class**  
 proudly sponsored by the salt spring arts council


**The Artist in the Class Program** is looking for literary, performing and visual artists who have the passion and skill to share their knowledge with students in our school community. Our purpose is to give the arts a stronger presence in the everyday lives of students by bringing the artists of Salt Spring Island into the classroom to share their skills and to create an awareness of arts in our community. Interested? For more information go to <https://ssartscouncil.com/artist-in-the-class/> and fill out our new online form to apply. Note: all returning Artists in the Classroom need to fill out our new online form. **Deadline for applications is May 31, 2019.** For more info please contact [class@ssartscouncil.com](mailto:class@ssartscouncil.com).

*Queenie Haddow*



On April 16th Queenie passed away at the age of 103, the last of 9 siblings. Born and raised on the Prairies, she left school after grade 8 to help with the struggles of the depression. After moving to Victoria she had quite a varied career from welder at VMD during the war, ending as matron at the Royal Jubilee Nurses Residence. Throughout her life she enjoyed gardening, sewing, her projects, animals, friends and family. She will be remembered by her son Trevor (Shirley) and granddaughters Kim and Erin (Jesse). Many thanks to all her care givers, as she could be quite at test. There will be a family service.

**Anna Warrington**  
 1915-2009



Lovingly remembered by Linda, Elizabeth, Barb, family and friends.

*You are always in our hearts and a reminder of A Life Well Lived.*

**Salt Spring Hospice**

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**Coming Events**

**THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY**

on Wednesday 15th May, 2019 at 7.00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road. **PUBLIC WELCOME.**

Salt Spring Recreational Holdings Ltd



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 2019 annual general meeting of shareholders of Salt Spring Recreational Holdings Ltd will be held as follows:  
**Date: May 29, 2019**  
**Time: 2:30 PM**  
 Location: Salt Spring Golf and Country

**JOSEPH CHARLES AKERMAN**  
 May 4, 2019

Joseph Charles Akerman (Joe) was born in Powell River BC and spent his early years on Salt Spring Island. His island connection runs deep as he was one of the 3rd generation of Salt Spring Island Akermans. Nearing the end of his 87th year, Joe passed away peacefully at Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital. Joe was a beloved father of 4 children, Joseph Jr., Shawn, Chantal and Thomas, as well as the loving husband of 45 years to Yvonne and her 2 children, Doug and Marlene. Together they retired to Salt Spring Island and enjoyed many years here. A welding fabricator by trade, Joe opened his own shop on the island and provided welding services, a cup of tea and a few laughs. In the more recent years Joe's short term memory became challenged but he never forgot stories of his youth on Salt Spring. Joe also served 3 years in the Canadian Army. Joe is survived by his wife, Yvonne, 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren, sister Colleen and brothers Laurie and Doug. A gathering of family and friends will be held at 2401 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island on Sunday May 19th, at 2:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family graciously requests donations be made to Greenwoods to ensure those in need have the gracious care they deserve in times of memory loss.

**Education/Trade Schools**

**APPLY NOW:** A \$2,500 Penny Wise scholarship is available for a woman entering the Journalism Certificate Program at Langara College in Vancouver. Application deadline June 30, 2019 Send applications to [fbula@langara.ca](mailto:fbula@langara.ca). Details at <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/journalism/scholarships.html>

**Help Wanted**

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**The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held on June 12th from 5-7pm at the Salt Spring Lion's Hall. Refreshments to follow. Check [www.saltspringchamber.com](http://www.saltspringchamber.com) for more information.

*Celebration OF Life*  
**ELLEN LORRAINE BENNETT**



To be held at the Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club, Long Harbour Road May 10th, 2019 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Please join us as we celebrate the matriarch of our family, the Bennett Family and descendants

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**SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 15**

**Help Wanted**

**An island women's organization** is seeking a treasurer for the board. If you have experience in finance and would like to be part of a volunteer organization, please send in your expression of interest to: [admin@iwav.org](mailto:admin@iwav.org)

**Help Wanted**

**Part Time Caregivers Needed**

Must be experienced and reliable. Duties will include taking care of client and light house-keeping for client. Only those considered will be contacted for interviews. No phone calls please. **Please email resume with references to [dtarrabain@yahoo.ca](mailto:dtarrabain@yahoo.ca)**

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# Remember WHEN

## Five years ago

• A Salt Spring family set a new library record, topping 1,700 check-outs in 2013. On a typical visit, Bob Laycock, Colleen Irwin and their sons Freddy, Maxwell and Jasper checked out a selection of graphic novels, picture books, the latest in whatever series the boys were reading at the time and a stack of new novels. The family's voracious intellectual appetite saw them devour no fewer than 1,718 books in 2013. That works out to nearly 345 books per person, or one book for every day of the year.

## Ten years ago

• Owners of missing thrones, Cleopatra beds and canvas flats had a few days to retrieve their items from the Theatre Resources building before it closed. Bob Twaites, community theatre veteran, explained that the old bus shelter at the Middle School had stored the materials, but during seismic upgrades officials determined that the building was no longer safe for human use and too expensive to upgrade. Twaites said the best of the props would be salvaged, but others would be destroyed if not claimed quickly.

## Twenty years ago

• A media development and marketing expert wanted Salt Spring to be a part of the Millennium Television Network broadcast that would reach more than three billion people worldwide as they rang in the new millennium on Dec. 31, 1999. Allan Shedlock saw something similar to a Centennial Project, 1967's nationwide designs that even today remain a community focus. "We need a team of business people to get together to create something to leave behind and commemorate the millennium," he said. "Not everyone on Salt Spring is privileged, and I think we need the accomplished, the well-heeled, the retired people with government or business contacts to give something back that can help provide jobs to keep people on the island."

## Thirty years ago

• Nearly 10,000 gallons of a liquid bleach solution was swept into the ocean from the Crofton Pulp and Paper Mill after a tank holding the liquid ruptured and spilled the solution into an outfall system. Dave Haywood, the mill's industrial relations supervisor, told the Driftwood that the solution was a mild bleach sodium hypochlorite mixture. "It's very similar to household bleach," he said. "There is no health threat involved to either humans or wildlife."

## Forty years ago

• The Salt Spring Recreation Commission decided to put aside all thoughts of building an outdoor swimming pool, after receiving a report detailing the cost. The requirements for an outdoor pool would cost an estimated \$7,000, with an extra \$1,000 for changeroom construction and operating costs of \$32,000 for the five months the pool would be open. As a result, the commission decided to go ahead with providing facilities at Stowell Lake. Rod Pringle suggested that the commission look for advice from someone with experience in human-made beaches before dumping sand on the edge of the lake.

## Fifty years ago

• The annual conference of Voice of Women was held in Sidney. Eve Smith wrote in the Driftwood that "V.O.W. has been called too respectable, too communist; too feminist, too non-conformist; too nationalistic and parochial, and too international in outlook; and V.O.W. just carries on regardless, and grows in size and influence, and gets abuse for all sorts of things that it isn't, and occasionally praise for what it is." Discussed at the conference were the chemical and biological research being done in Suffield, Alta., the pros and cons of newspaper and radio bias, and liberation of women.



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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)



## SAILING

# Salt Spring Sailing Club turns 50



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Salt Spring Sailing Club members take a celebratory lap around Ganges Harbour on Sunday morning as part of their 50th anniversary events. The boats above were just a few of the 40-50 members who participated.

## Community sailing school among offerings

**SUBMITTED BY GREG SLAKOV**

The Salt Spring Island Sailing Club turned 50 this year and was celebrated in style on Sunday, May 5 on the water in Ganges Harbour and in the clubhouse at the foot of Douglas Street.

You may have noticed the armada of about 40

or 50 sail and power boats milling about between the club and Goat Island before noon. The bagpipes celebrating the anniversary and the club's first commodore, Lawrie Neish, could be heard all over the harbour as members marched from the docks up to the clubhouse for lunch. After lunch, 11 boats set out on a fun race from the club, up into the inner harbour near the Coast Guard dock, all the way out to a buoy near Prevost Island, and back.

Over 50 years ago, Lawrie

and Aileen Neish started the ball rolling on what would become our local sailing club. They mentored students to build small sailing boats called Sabots in Lawrie's shop at the school where he was the shop teacher. When the boats were made, the students learned to sail them, and as soon as they were sailing around together, they began to race. This was very successful and popular at the local level, but to race in formal regattas, one needs to belong to a sailing club.

Hence the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club was born. For these services, and others too long to list, the Neishs received three rousing cheers from the entire club membership at Sunday's lunch.

Several of the students who learned from the Neishs still live on the island, Karen Truscott and Rob Cannon among them. And true to its heritage, the club still teaches children and youth to sail and race during the summer in its very popular sailing school.

## RUNNING

# Twenty-two islanders complete TC 10K

## Variety of ages and placements

**SUBMITTED BY SS SNEAKERS**

Salt Spring Island was well represented in the Times Colonist 10K on April 28 with 22 competitors.

Leading the pack were Adam and his father Pat Peron pushing their pre-school children/ grandchildren in strollers in chip times of 48:25 and 48:47 respectively, the latter time earning Pat 16th of 121 in his age group. Pat's partner and Adam's mother, Doreen Peron, finished a bit later, pushing another selection of grandchildren in 1:04:35.

Carly Stubbs finished in the top 10 per cent of her age group (F 20-25) in a chip time of 50:42 followed three seconds later by Dave Toynbee in a personal best time by three minutes of 50:45 in the top 20 per cent of his age group.

The next group of Salt Springers all finished in the 57-minute chip time range. (Most races are timed both by the interval between when the starting gun fires and when the runner crosses the finish line, AKA gun time, and the interval between when a computer reads a computer chip on the runner's bib first crossing the start line and when it again reads the chip

at the finish line, AKA chip time. In big races that interval can be as long as 10 minutes, the gun time not being a fair measure of a runner's actual effort unless they are an elite runner and get to start at the front of the pack. All times reported here are chip times.)

Jennifer Kerrigan was the fifth Salt Springer to cross the finish line, her time of 57:22 being a personal best time for this distance by 10 minutes, and earning her a top 15 per cent finish in her F 40-44 age group. Kathy Kendall and Kecia Levie finished in identical chip times of 57:54. This earned Kendall a top seven per cent ranking in her F 60-64 age group and Levie a top 20 per cent ranking in her F 35-39 age group.

The next three Salt Springers to finish all finished as the timer reached one hour and one minute on the chip timer. Wayne North finished in 1:01:17 in the top 25 per cent of his M 60-64 age group. Billy George finished in 1:01:33 in the top half of his M 20-24 age group. Aliah Hart finished in 1:01:36 in the top 50 per cent of their age group.

The next Salt Springer to finish was Linda Binding in a time of 1:07:17, a remarkable time earning her a fifth place (and top five per cent) in her Women's 70-74 age group, the age group being remarkable for fielding

95 competitors.

Alexa Matheson finished in a chip time of 1:06:35, but after Binding because of the six-minute wait she had to endure to actually cross the start line. Her chip time placed her in the top 50 per cent of her F 25-29 age group. Fiona Foster finished in a personal best time by 27 minutes of 1:12:55 in the top third of her F 55-59 age group. Emma Webber finished in a time of 1:18:33 in the top 50 per cent of all women.

Bill Slade was the 16th Salt Springer to finish. His finish time of 1:26:01 ranks him in the top two-thirds of his age group. Chris Malcolm was the next Salt Springer across the finish line in a time of 1:41:02, earning him a top two-thirds ranking in his age group.

Shawnee Labonte finished in a personal best time by three minutes of 1:37:33 after enduring a nine minute wait to reach the start line. This time places her in the top 70 per cent of all finishers. Michele Severn finished in 1:51:12, earning a top 75 per cent ranking of all women finishers. Carol Bremner finished one second later in a time of 1:51:13, earning virtually the same ranking.

Trish Hoffman and Tracey Cornwall also managed to finish within one second of each other at 2:07:31.

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**CLASS OF 2019**

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**Driftwood** GULF ISLANDS

## BASEBALL

# Island squad gets team-of-the-year honours

B.C.-wide award bestowed for 2018 season

**SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING A'S**

On the evening of April 17, the Salt Spring A's Mosquito baseball team of 2018 was presented with the B.C. Minor Baseball Team of Year Award at the Coaching Caravan.

The following story describes part of their magical season and is a shorter version of the piece that was put in the program at the B.C. baseball awards banquet:

In early April of 2018, 30 players came out to play AA Mosquito-level baseball on Salt Spring Island's only diamond. Riding high from a provincial bronze medal from the year before the boys were excited for the season ahead. However, with many players from that team now in the PeeWee league, it was thought that it

would be hard, if not impossible, to top last year's success as many of the first year players were playing hardball for the very first time. That being said, right from the first practice it was evident that they were a keen and dedicated group ready to learn and have fun playing the great game of baseball.

As the house season wrapped up, try-outs were held for the Salt Spring A's summer ball team. As the summer rolled along, it was noticeable that this was a special team that worked for each other and had some magic within them. With the dream of making provincials, the boys made their way to Ladysmith for the zone championships. It almost seemed as if it wasn't meant to be.

The A's lost to the powerful Ladysmith team and therefore had to run the table to qualify for the provincials. But with determination, effort and many highlight reel plays, the boys went on to win

their next three games and qualify as the second seed from the island for the provincial championships in Comox.

The boys were excited to reach the B.C.'s again and were ready to show the province what they had. They ended up beating the heavily favoured Ladysmith team to face Burnaby for a B.C. championship.

The Salt Spring A's played with nerves through the first five innings as they made many uncharacteristic errors and could not get any timely hits. They found themselves down by four runs going into the bottom of the fifth. But the "Come-back Kids" didn't quit and ended up scoring four runs in the fifth to tie it up heading into the final inning. After shutting them down in the top half, the boys did what they had done all year and scraped out a run to win the B.C. championships. As the winning run crossed home plate, the players and coaches raced out of the

dugout as they knew they just achieved what no one thought they could.

It was an amazing run and something that these 12 young men (six second year and six first years) and four coaches will never forget. They were able to do something that no other Salt Spring team has done before and raise the banner at their local diamond. Without the support of the amazing community, Salt Spring Minor Baseball, the Coaching Caravan and the parent group, this dream would not have happened. They want to thank all of these people for allowing a dream to come true.

Easton McDougall, Flynn Shugar, Nolan Boivin, Boone Harris, Antoine Gonzalez, Sisaye Patterson, Nolan Langdon, Jackson Lange, Tegel Hoover-Paulker, Nick Dawson, Nate Kray-Gibson, Sean Anderson, and their coaches Colin McDougall, Tom Langdon, Jude Shugar and Tom Boivin will never forget the summer of 2018.

## GOLF

## Tournament season opens with triple event

Fun schedule ahead this spring

The gentlemen of the Salt Spring golf club kick off their local tournament season this weekend with the Morris, Mouat, and Matson triple event opening Saturday, May 11. Defending champion of the Morris Cup Low Net competition is Brian Watson while Stephen Elwes defends his Mouat Cup Low Gross 2018 win.

Golfers should mark their calendars for their favourite Saturday tournaments. Choices opens the season on June 1, the Legion playday follows on June 8 and the Lady Minto tees it up on July 13. These fundraising events benefit the island and are open to all Salt Spring golfers.

### GOLFTEES

For those whose game needs a tweaking, Salt

Spring Golf Club provides free introductory lessons each month. The May 13 and 27 sessions are registering now at [sunbirdgolf@gmail.com](mailto:sunbirdgolf@gmail.com).

The next big FUNraising event for members and guests will convene at Penny's Pantry on May 24 for a drop in Trivia Night. Check in is at 5 p.m. and the game begins at 6. The restaurant and bar will be open. There is an optional nine-hole scramble at 2:30 p.m. which finishes just in time for the trivia game. Pre-registration is available at the clubhouse.

The new cream-coloured rental carts have arrived. Carts are now permitted on the course with the 90 degree rule in effect.



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING GOLF CLUB

Lesson time at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club. Sessions for 2019 get going soon, with registration now open for May 13 and 27.

## Salt Spring Sailing Club

### Registration

for 2019 Summer Sailing School

Visit: [saltspringsailing.ca](http://saltspringsailing.ca)

for full details.

Contact Jim Raddysh 250 538-8237



## VETTA CHAMBER MUSIC

Joan Blackman  
Artistic Director

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## DRAGON BOATING

## Dragons off to wet and windy start

First regatta of the season

BY DONNA COCHRAN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

In spite of the high winds and whitecaps, Spirit Point Dragons came home from their festival season opener with a bronze in their mixed recreational division.

The Inlet Spring Regatta took place in beautiful Rocky Point Park on the Burrard Inlet on April 27. With high winds and waves, the 16 mixed and 20 women's teams were up for the challenging conditions to tackle four 200-metre races.

Paddling out to the start line against the wind and waves was the first indication of how rough the conditions were. With the boat pitching against very choppy waters, the cold ocean spray from the waves anointed the paddlers with each stroke, ensuring they were good and wet before the race even started. The organizers worked very hard each race to get the boats aligned and off the start line together.

In the first race, Spirit Point raced their best time ever for a 200-metre race, squeaking in under a minute at 59.9 seconds. In the second race, the tide had changed and the whitecaps had multiplied, making their final time a respectable 1:01.27.

After all the teams had raced twice, the organizers called in the coaches and steerspersons for a talk

about safety concerns. It was agreed that the conditions weren't getting any calmer so the remaining two races were called off and the times were tallied to determine the medal winners.

It was a memorable day for the whole dragon boat team, but an extra exciting start for three new paddlers racing their first time: Susan Ahn, Brian Campbell and Val Clark. The other paddlers in the boat included Lorraine Ekelund, Donna Cochran, Robyn Huntley, Shirley Julien, Lesley Grott, Shari Macdonald, Wendy McEachern, Jeanne Delparte, Carmelle Labelle, Christa Wohlfahrt, Sam Goddard, Lisa Coles, Serena Mullen, Loren Ekelund, Mary Lou Cuddy and Andrew Okulitch.

Mary Rowles and Lynda Green alternated drumming for the team for one race each and paddling for the other. They both managed to hang on and keep their balance while shouting directions for the fast-paced races. The star of the day was steersperson Tom McKeachie, who skillfully kept the boat on course in some of the most challenging conditions we have faced: changing tides, high winds and whitecaps.

Spirit Point Dragons give a season-opening "paddles up" thanks for the generous sponsorship of Country Grocer, Harbours End Marine, Moby's and Royal LePage. New paddlers are always welcome. Contact coach Mary Rowles at [onthewater181@gmail.com](mailto:onthewater181@gmail.com).