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Maia Acevedo-Mallard, left, holds up Nigerian dwarf goat Little Girl shortly before winning Best Pet at the Fall Fair's pet parade on Sunday, with SaDara Reschke and Ben Logan showing goat siblings Buster and Bubba. For more Fall Fair photos, trophy winners and more, see our Harvest Time publication in next week's paper.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

FEDERAL ELECTION

Election race kicks off

Five candidates in riding so far

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With the federal election set for Monday, Oct. 21, Saanich-Gulf Islands candidates for the major political parties are ready to roll.

Green Party of Canada leader Elizabeth May is the riding's incumbent, having served since winning the seat in 2011. So far she is being challenged by Ryan Windsor of the Liberal Party, David Busch of the Conservatives, Sabina Singh for the NDP and Ronald Broda for the People's Party of Canada.

Windsor is the mayor of the District of Central Saanich, elected in 2014. He is taking an unpaid leave from that position to run for the Liberals. He has led the municipality's climate leadership plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, particularly from transportation and buildings.

Singh is a single mother of two who has taught political science at post-secondary institutions, including the University of Victoria and Camosun College. She has worked with her community to push for electoral reform, protect drinking water and get justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

Busch currently works as a lawyer, and has experience working as a critical care nurse. He has been the Conservative party's nominee for a year. He has worked as a litigator throughout the province, and has volunteered politically since he was in high school, including for the Saanich-Gulf Islands Conservative Association and the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Campaign.

ELECTION continued on 2

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DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
18	0108	1.5	4.9	22	0416	1.0	3.3
	0747	2.7	8.9		1303	3.0	9.8
	WE 1302	2.0	6.6		SU 1737	2.7	8.9
	ME 1902	3.0	9.8		DI 2050	2.8	9.2
19	0146	1.3	4.3	23	0520	0.9	3.0
	0855	2.7	8.9		1401	3.1	10.2
	TH 1342	2.3	7.5		MO 1921	2.7	8.9
	JE 1921	2.9	9.5		LU 2209	2.8	9.2
20	0230	1.2	3.9	24	0625	0.8	2.6
	1016	2.8	9.2		1446	3.2	10.5
	FR 1435	2.5	8.2		TU 2011	2.6	8.5
	VE 1941	2.9	9.5		MA 2341	2.8	9.2
21	0320	1.0	3.3	25	0725	0.7	2.3
	1145	2.9	9.5		1523	3.2	10.5
	SA 1549	2.7	8.9		WE 2047	2.4	7.9
	SA 2008	2.9	9.5		ME		

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FIRE DISTRICT

Fire budget poised for increase

Special town hall session on proposed 13 per cent increase scheduled for Oct. 15

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Fire Protection District ratepayers will have a chance to give input on next year's financial obligation, with a special town hall session set to discuss a proposed taxation bylaw of \$3.49 million.

The fire district's board of trustees gave first reading to the 2020 taxation bylaw during Monday night's business meeting. They propose to give final reading at the October session, which will be moved to Tuesday, Oct. 22 because the federal election is occurring on the regular meeting night. The budget town hall will take place at the Lions Hall the previous week, on Oct. 15.

Finance committee chair Rollie Cook explained when presenting the bylaw that staff wages and benefits continue to rise. The committee has also budgeted \$60,000 toward a new support position that would be there to aid the chief administrator and fire chief.

"We have a number of things before the fire department that this person can help us with. Labour negotiations are one, a new fire hall/community public safety building is another," Cook said about the proposed position, which was recommended by the human resources

committee. "We are changing our approaches to purchasing equipment so that we are being more proactive as a department to put money aside, so that's another big expenditure, so we thought we needed a little more support from the front office."

Cook said recommendations coming from the new fire hall committee will also require funds. The preliminary budget includes \$15,000 for referendum costs, with the idea of extending voting locations across more of the island if a borrowing referendum is scheduled next year. Another \$100,000 is planned for fire hall planning soft costs.

"The final item that I think is of note is that we are going to continue the program that we put in place last year, to set money aside for long-term expenditures," Cook said.

Expenditures that have capital reserve fund allocations include a water supply program, a new apparatus program and a fire hall reserve program that will see money set aside for repairs to Central and Fulford halls for the first time. The district is also proposing a five-year program to build up the funding to replace the department's breathing apparatus units, which are 30 years old and reaching the end of their lifespan.

The proposed taxation increase from \$3.085 million to \$3.490 million represents a 13 per cent jump.

Ratepayers will have the chance to discuss the budget in full at the special town hall session, and changes can be made before second reading of the bylaw.

CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Strike Rally at Centennial Saturday

Speakers, music and more on tap

Salt Spring Islanders are joining people around the world this week to make noise about the dire need to address climate change.

Centennial Park is the place for the Climate Strike Rally running on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 12 to 2 p.m.

Local organizers are inspired by calls from youth, including 16-year-

old Greta Thunberg, who are leading events at various places around the world the day before.

"The Climate Strike Rally is the perfect way to kick-start the ongoing work of responding to the climate crisis," said Darlene Gage, a member of the event organizing team. "We all need to respond to this moment with real urgency, and by 'all' I mean individuals, families, communities, businesses, governments and corporations. The changes need to happen fast, and very

few seem to be realizing that."

Saturday's rally activities will include speakers, performers, art displays, demonstrations of carbon-reducing activities and local groups present and/or with sign-up sheets to get people connected to action after the rally.

"The rally is meant to help us all wake up to the crisis, overcome our feelings of overwhelm by reminding us that they are not alone in this, and then move into action together," said Gage.

Official nomination period continues until Sept. 30

ELECTION
continued from 1

Broda is a retired police officer who has worked with the Vancouver Police Department, the Saanich Police Department and with the Canada Border Services Agency, and currently works as a speaker and coach. He is a founding member of Stelly's Community Arts Theatre Society and organizes the annual Westcoast Motorcycle Ride to Live in support of the

Island Prostate Centre.

While campaign periods typically involve signs popping up across the islands, one party has pledged to not use the signs on public property in the Gulf Islands during the election. Busch's campaign will be abstaining from the practice, and instead will only have signs displayed on private property during the campaign period.

"Campaign signs are simply out of sync with the unique 'preserve and protect' culture

that makes the Gulf Islands a unique part of this riding. We have therefore decided not to place campaign signs on public property this election," Busch said in a statement. "We will be advising the other political parties and asking them to follow our lead and not pollute the environment with campaign signs on Gulf Islands public spaces."

Signs for the Green Party campaign are up at various locations on Salt Spring.

Candidates May, Singh,

Busch and Broda made appearances at this past weekend's Fall Fair. The official nomination period is open until Sept. 30, so more candidates may declare their candidacy in the coming weeks.

Voter registration can be completed online at the Elections Canada website.

The Salt Spring Forum will once again be hosting an all-candidates debate at the Gulf Islands Secondary School gymnasium on Wednesday, Oct. 16 starting at 3 p.m.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Nursing group issues advisory

The B.C. College of Nursing Professionals has issued a public advisory regarding Heather Howard of Salt Spring.

In a notice dated Aug. 27, the college states that it is aware of an advertisement in a Salt Spring telephone directory "in which an individual named Heather Howard is holding herself out as a 'Certified Foot Care Nurse' in connection with a business called 'Feet First.'"

The college notes that Howard is not a current registrant of the BCCNP and is not authorized to practise as a nurse in B.C.

Howard, who has operated Feet First for 19 years, explained that in years past, her Lions Directory ad included the correct facts that she was a "retired nurse" and holds a "certified foot care nurse" certificate, which was granted from the Vancouver Community College health sciences department.

After the 2019-20 version of the Lions directory was published, Howard says she was contacted by someone from the BCCNP and advised that she is not allowed to use the word "nurse" in her advertising.

"Anyone not actively belonging to the nurses' union or the association is not entitled to use the word. In retirement I no longer pay into or belong to any union or association. I have acknowledged their now sole ownership rights of this word and will change the ad accordingly in future," she said.

"Feet First is, as always, a foot care business and not a nursing service," she confirmed.

EV seminar

Transition Salt Spring's EV Group is holding an educational seminar on electric vehicles on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

"This is an up-to-date informative presentation and will be followed by a panel of local knowledgeable EV folks to answer your questions," said the group's Jim Standen. "The last offering of EV 101 was in the spring and the room was filled to capacity. All ages are welcome, but if you already own an EV, you probably get it, so best leave your seat for others."

The session will be in the Salt Spring Public Library program room beginning at 7 p.m. sharp.

GREEN TRANSPORTATION

First electric school bus envisioned

Feasibility study lays out issues and economics

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The Gulf Islands School District could have its first all-electric school bus by next spring.

That was the hope shared at the launch of the Electric School Bus Feasibility Study at the Salt Spring Public Library on Friday afternoon.

Salt Spring Community Energy, a group tasked by School District 64 with doing a feasibility study on transitioning from diesel to electric school buses, released its preliminary report at the public event.

"In light of the climate emergency and our need to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as our need to provide a safer, healthier future for our children, the case for rapid electric school bus adoption is compelling," states the study. "We identified the actual buses, the length of the routes, the size of the buses, the fuel consumption and maintenance costs, and we actually got some hard data on exactly what it looks like for our district," explained project lead Kjell Liem at Friday's launch.

School District 64 has 12 buses and a spare in its fleet serving Salt Spring, Galiano and Pender islands. A bus is retired and replaced every two years, the study found, and the next new bus should come on stream in 2020.

Richard Frost, the director of transportation and plant services for SD64, is enthusiastic about the idea of transitioning to electric buses, and has been working with the various stakeholders on the project.

"It's a pretty exciting adventure to be at the beginning of," he said. "It's all fairly new and fresh and we are trying to get everything together and learn this process, and we will see what happens in the future."

Benoit Morin, who is vice president of sales in Canada for Quebec-based Lion

Electric Co., spoke at the event, praising the Salt Spring group's "impressive" report. Morin was in B.C. to discuss how his company can connect with the government's Clean BC program and to meet with BC Hydro reps. He was then able to add a Salt Spring visit to his itinerary. Lion has 300 electric school buses on the road, primarily in Quebec and California, which have logged five million miles to date.

"The timing is pretty perfect because your [provincial] government has a Clean BC program that will help you guys out," said Morin.

SSCE also gathered information from other electric bus manufacturers.

Morin said it takes six hours to charge a bus with a 150-kilometre range, which is more than any Gulf Islands school bus travels in a day. Charging could even occur between the morning and afternoon runs.

While electric buses cost approximately 2.5 times the amount of a diesel bus — a 71-passenger Lion bus would be approximately \$300,000, for example — the feasibility study determined that if the district's fleet was all electric that annual savings of \$50,000 would be realized in

"It's a pretty exciting adventure to be at the beginning of."

RICHARD FROST

Director of transportation and plant services, School District 64

fuel and maintenance costs.

But economics are not the only consideration, the meeting noted.

"Yes we have to be fiscally responsible," said Frost, "but for me personally the bigger picture is what we are going to be doing by lessening our carbon footprint. Back in the day, or even now, the thought is 'Is it cheaper to run this or is it cheaper to run that?' I think those days are gone. We need to change our ways and going electric is a great step forward in that."



PHOTO COURTESY THE LION ELECTRIC CO.

Electric school bus, manufactured by a company from St. Jerome, Quebec, is charged.

Health benefits of switching from diesel to electric are another factor dissected. The report cites various studies in concluding that "Diesel buses generate significant air pollution through exhaust particulates, which impact all residents and visitors to the island and especially those vulnerable to the poor air quality. The public health costs arising from this air pollution and the resulting impact on taxes are important factors to be considered in any comparison of diesel and electric buses."

The report can be accessed online at saltspringcommunityenergy.com.

AUTHORS

Islanders up for Victoria prize

Kathy Page and Aidan Cassie named finalists

Salt Spring authors Kathy Page and Aidan Cassie have been named finalists for book prizes handed out by the City of Victoria.

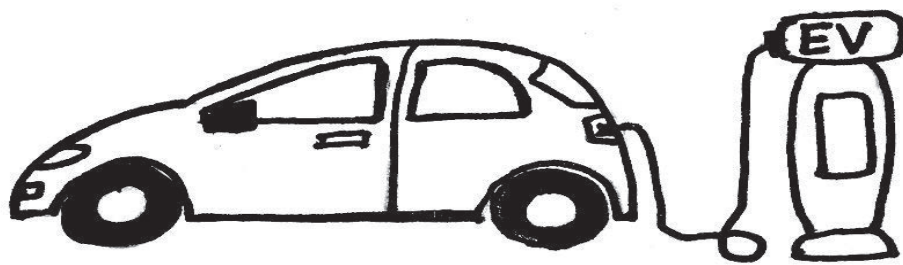
Page's novel *Dear Evelyn* is a contender for the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize, which is awarded to a Greater Victoria area author for the best book published in the preceding year in the categories of fiction, non-fiction or poetry.

Dear Evelyn won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize in 2018. The other finalists are Robert Amos, Lorna Crozier, Esi Edugyan and Darrel J. McLeod.

Cassie is one of three finalists for the Victoria Children's Book Prize for her first book, *Sterling, Best Dog Ever*. She goes up against Jenny Manzer and Kit Pearson/Katherine Farris. Cassie was previously a finalist for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize at the 2019 BC and Yukon Book Prizes.

Winners of the Victoria Book Prizes will be announced at a gala event on Oct. 9.

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CRD

Safety service takes next step

CRD Board recommends preparation of alternative approval process

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A plan to establish a taxpayer-funded community safety service on Salt Spring passed through the first two levels of government necessary to start the process last Wednesday.

The Capital Regional District Board accepted a recommendation from the Electoral Areas Committee, which the committee had approved earlier that day, to give an establishing bylaw first, second and third reading. The recommendation also directs staff to prepare the alternative approval process to create the new tax requisition.

The bylaw will be sent to the provincial government next to ensure the CRD is acting within its authority. Salt Spring director Gary Holman reports he hopes their positive answer will come within four to six weeks in order to start the alternate approval process by early November.

Unless 10 per cent or more of Salt Spring voters register their opposition, the new service will begin in 2020 with a preliminary requisition of \$35,000 and an eventual maximum requisition set at \$65,000. The service is expected to cost the owner of an average-priced home around \$10 per year at the maximum requisition rate.

"That's less than a dollar per household per month, at the maximum, and what I'm proposing at first is around half of that," Holman told the Driftwood. "It's a fairly small requisition and it would be filling a fairly significant gap in our services."

A staff report on the proposed service was presented to the Electoral Areas Committee on Sept. 11 by the CRD's manager of legal services, Steven Carey. Carey described how Holman and Salt Spring senior staffers Karla Campbell and Dan Ovington had talked to community members and the RCMP about how the CRD could assist public safety concerns.

"Kind of the best thing we've come up with is to establish a fund through a service that can be used and administered by CRD staff, working with the electoral area director, to do contract for service-type arrangements with local non-profits [and] individuals, and potentially through the province with the RCMP for enhanced policing, to provide additional services," Carey said.

Services could include things like additional police patrols on summer evenings, a Citizens on Patrol group, equipment like security cameras and radios, speed watches near schools and street outreach programs.

Carey said the CRD team had investigated whether services could be funded through the grant-in-aid program, but found that wouldn't be appropriate for things like an enhanced policing agreement.

"That's a multi-year, \$5,000-a-year kind of program," he said.

"Looking at some of the community safety services that exist, I think this will address some of the unique concerns of the community in that you're going to have flexibility year to year as to what you do with your money, and you're also going to be able to enter into multi-year service agreements, which you can't really do with grants-in-aid," Carey concluded.

Holman told the committee he wanted to start with less than the maximum requisition because the service would be new to the community.

"I think we need to get experience with the service and then if we can demonstrate success we can gradually increase the requisition over time," Holman said. "We kind of did the same thing with transit where we started at a very low level, we demonstrated that the bus was viable, and then we increased the requisition over time and in fact went back to voters to expand the service."

Holman said he is not proposing to establish a formal CRD commission to provide oversight if the service is approved. Instead, an advisory group would be formed with stakeholders such as the RCMP and Salt Spring Community Services to advise what the spending priorities should be.

"I think we need to get experience with the service and then if we can demonstrate success we can gradually increase the requisition over time."

GARY HOLMAN
Salt Spring CRD director

EDUCATION

SD64 starts new school year free of deficit

Future planning to deal with enrolment reality

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands School District started the 2019-20 school year in a positive financial position, having successfully cleared a deficit and accumulated a surplus by the end of the previous school year.

Audited financial statements for 2018-19 approved at the school board's Sept. 11 meeting showed the district had retired its remaining operating deficit of \$250,498. It reduced operating expenses through the year by \$363,152 and ended with an operating surplus of \$165,976.

District secretary treasurer Jesse Guy recognized the strong work of her predecessors, Rod Scotvold and Cindy Rodgers, and the whole district for pulling together to achieve the shift.

"This is a huge feat that the district did, and that really includes the sacrifices of CUPE; and GITA worked hard and had sacrifices as well," Guy said. "It's something to be proud of and it puts us in a better position for this year because we're not working to come out of deficit."

School District 64 ended the 2017-18 school year with a \$524,000 defi-

cit after an enrolment audit by the Ministry of Education resulted in anticipated funding being rolled back. The first \$270,000 in debt was retired at the end of that year using operating surplus funds.

The remaining deficit was cleared through operational savings that included reductions to schools' flex budgets and a "non-replacement" policy that saw CUPE employee positions remain uncovered by substitutes for the first two sick days.

Because the district closed the Windsor House program last year there was an additional drop in this year's operating grant representing around 200 fewer students. It received funding protection from the ministry, which is granted whenever there is a drop of more than 1.5 per cent. Guy explained funding protection will be used to assist a gradual realignment of the budget with the new enrolment figures.

"We will be under funding protection until the operating grant reaches parity with what we should be getting for the size of our district. It's a way to allow districts to make thoughtful and considered choices instead of cutting districts off at the knees," Guy said.

Currently there are less than 1,500 students registered. Superintendent Scott Benwell said the

board and staff will have to design a system that is not expecting more revenue than it will receive, and is based on the new enrolment realities.

In other business at the Sept. 11 board meeting, Benwell reported that high school graduation rates are expected to increase by 15 per cent this year thanks to hard work by Gulf Islands Secondary School principal Lyall Ruehlen and staff. The rate had been significantly lower than the provincial average in recent years.

"[Graduation] transfers to a credit that we're in the business of ensuring each and every student gets," Benwell said. "I am cautiously excited and optimistic about moving in that direction."

Consultation on SD64's configuration review is continuing through November. The review is meant to see if the configuration of school and grade groupings is working well as-is or if a different model might work better. A web page on the sd64.bc.ca website contains information on the exercise, a short video and a feedback form. Information collected will be reviewed in December with resulting action from the board possible by January 2020. Any changes recommended would have to align with the provincial funding commitment.

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust consults on policy update

Islands 2050 to acknowledge First Nations, climate change

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The Islands Trust has launched an initiative dubbed Islands 2050, a major public engagement process designed to help the Trust plan for the challenges and opportunities that the Islands Trust Area will face in the next 30 years, particularly as it prepares for the realities of climate change.

As a press release explains, the first part of the process, running from now through November, sees the Islands Trust consult with the public and First Nations through open houses, community events, onboard BC Ferries and in online conversations. Opportunities to provide input on questions relevant to climate change and the public's vision for the future of the Islands Trust Area will be available through www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands2050. The goal is to give everyone with an interest in the Islands Trust Area an opportunity to have their say.

The Trust had a booth at the weekend's Salt Spring Fall Fair, and will also be on the following Gulf Islands ferries to meet with islanders: Swartz Bay-Fulford Harbour on Sept. 20; Swartz Bay-Southern Gulf Islands, Sept. 27, Oct. 3 and Nov. 22; Vesuvius-Crofton, Nov. 4.

An open house is set for the Galiano Lions Club on Sept. 30 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and at the Mayne Island Agricultural Hall on Oct. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. Other events have yet to be confirmed.

Findings of the Islands 2050 engagement process will help the Islands Trust update the Policy Statement, the foundational document that guides the preserve and protect mandate of the special-purpose government. The document directs policy decisions about island landscapes and the waters surrounding them, with all islands' official community plans and land use bylaws needing to heed the Policy Statement. The statement also includes recommendations to other levels of government.

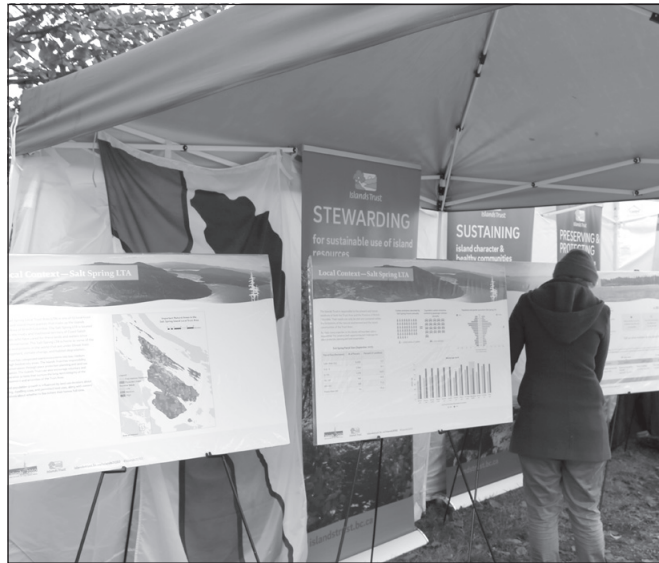


PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Islands 2050 information booth at the Salt Spring Fall Fair.

"It's been 25 years since the Islands Trust last reviewed the Policy Statement," explained Peter Luckham, chair of the Islands Trust. "That was a generation ago and the world has changed dramatically. Globally, we're confronting a climate crisis; locally, we're experiencing changes in island demographics. The Salish Sea, which unites all the islands in the Trust Area, is at increasing risk from pollution and industrial uses, including increased numbers of freighters and oil tankers. These changes will have impact on the environment and our way of life. So, the question we're asking now is: Are the policies of 1994 the right ones to guide us into a changed world?"

The Trust notes that the current Policy Statement contains no mention of the climate crisis and does not appropriately acknowledge First Nations or the Islands Trust Council's commitment to reconciliation.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Provincial negotiations pause teachers' deal

CUPE agreement ratified

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Teachers returned to classrooms across British Columbia this year without a new contract in place, as their last collective agreement expired on June 30.

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association is one group that has come to an agreement on the local level, with negotiations successfully concluded with the Gulf Islands Board of Education. However, provincial-level negotiations are threatening to derail the process, as GITA president Deborah Nostdal reported during the school board's first meeting of the year, held last Wednesday.

Information provided by the BC Teachers' Federation explains that a 2016 Supreme Court of Canada decision returned teachers' right to negotiate class size, composition and specialist teacher ratios, which resulted in better funding of those positions.

Not all districts included language in their collective agreements that specifically outlined class size and composition, though. The B.C. Public School Employers' Association has proposed reallocating funding, which could mean the loss of teaching positions in some districts to cover others.

Nostdal explained that GITA does have "very good" language in place

around class size, composition and specialist teachers, and that teachers forewent salary and benefit improvements in return. While local partners on both sides worked hard to get there, the agreement has yet to be ratified and is now at risk because of the provincial situation.

"What's on the table now from the employer [BCPSEA] would result in higher class sizes by a considerable margin in this district and our class composition agreement would be thrown out," Nostdal told the Driftwood.

BCTF and BCPSEA requested the Labour Relations Board appoint a mediator after their negotiations failed to produce a new agreement by the end of June. They had eight days of talks in August before going on a break. The two sides are scheduled to bring their requests back to the mediator on Sept. 23.

BCPSEA states it has proposed a process allowing local teachers' unions to examine the package as a whole and to opt in or out prior to any final settlement. The employers' association also tabled a proposal in July that included a clause guaranteeing staffing stability for school districts.

Salary is another major issue on the provincial scale. British Columbian teachers have the second-lowest rates amongst the 10 Canadian provinces. Nostdal said there are cur-

rently some 400 people in B.C. teaching through a "letter of permission," meaning they don't have teaching certificates. BCTF believes better salaries would attract more qualified people to come from other jurisdictions, as well as supporting existing teachers with fair pay.

"We want certified teachers in front of students," Nostdal said.

BCPSEA says the general wage increase proposed for teachers is the largest wage offer for public sector employees since 2006 and the second largest in the past 20 years that is available under the government compensation mandate for public sector bargaining.

Elements of the 2019 mandate include three-year agreement terms, general wage increases of two per cent in each year, and the ability to negotiate "conditional and modest funding" to address chronic labour shortages.

The union local representing school district support staff meanwhile ratified its next three-year contract in August. According to a B.C. government press release, SD64 and CUPE Local 788, representing 160 employees, negotiated to modestly increase the wage rate for heavy-duty mechanic positions to support service delivery, as well as provide in-service skills upgrades and training opportunities for CUPE employees in the district.

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OPINION



2019 CCNA Awards
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 Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

2019 BCYCN Awards
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 Silver - Best Multimedia Feature (Marc Kitteringham)
 Silver - Community Service | New Journalist of the Year (Marc Kitteringham)



Driftwood

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EDITORIAL

Traction and action

This week the world rallies for the planet with climate action events initiated by youth leaders such as Greta Thunberg.

Salt Spring Island is among communities mobilizing to address the climate crisis, with a Climate Strike Rally set for Centennial Park this Saturday. Organizers hope that participants will come away from the event both inspired and with information they need about how to effect positive change.

In the meantime, the Salt Spring Community Energy group, School District 64 and others are working towards making a tangible difference in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Last Friday SSCE delivered its Electric School Bus Feasibility Study at a public event, outlining infrastructure needs, initial costs and health benefits of ditching diesel school buses in favour of cutting-edge electric ones.

THE ISSUE: Electric school buses

WE SAY: SD64 should make the leap

As SD64's director of transportation and plant services Richard Frost indicated, the days of making decisions solely based on capital outlay considerations are over. If the world is to have any hope of reaching GHG-reduction targets, transitioning from diesel to electric buses, for school and public transit systems, is a no-brainer.

The district's 12 buses consume 40,213 litres of diesel fuel per year with mileage of about 3.5 kilometres per litre or 10 miles per gallon. Annual maintenance costs are factored in at 18 cents per kilometre.

While a specific provincial government program to fund electric school-bus purchases has not yet been revealed, the SSCE report indicates the Ministry of Education is expected to start funding some electric school buses in the 2020-21 school year. The government's much-touted Clean BC program has embraced zero-emission public transit buses, and will hopefully give specific targets for school buses as well.

Provincial government subsidies are possible under the Specialty Use Vehicle Incentive Program, but a corresponding program does not exist at the federal level — yet it should.

Even if governments have not yet announced major funding commitments for electric school buses, SD64 may well make the leap for its first bus purchase. It would likely find strong community support in the form of donations, which receive charitable tax receipts through its Gulf Islands Educational Trust. Supporting the concept and pressing for government subsidies to purchase electric school buses is one action with a lot of impact islanders can take following a week of focus on climate change.



AAP math causes concern

By PAUL R. MARCANO
 Alternative approval processes, when used as a form of referendum, have two main problems. Spoiler alert, it's the math!

A) Everyone eligible need not participate and is presumed to vote yes unless some extra effort is made by individuals to publicly declare their no vote.

This in itself, presumes undeclared assent and for no voters, it violates the sanctity of one's privacy and anonymity when casting a democratic vote.

B) Yet, the math is more concerning, with the 10 per cent threshold needed to defeat these AAPs being based on reaching 10 per cent of 100 per cent of the total eligible property votes on the island!

As an example of real-world turnout; one of the worst we saw recently in an actual property tax referendum was for the \$8.4-million North Salt Spring Waterworks District St. Mary Lake treatment plant, which drew out a dismal yes vote of 359 versus 310 no votes out of a pool of close to 2,600 eligible property owners in

VIEWPOINT

2015. This represented a ridiculous 26 per cent turnout with barely 14 per cent of property owners voting yes for what is now an increasing March water parcel tax of over \$700 a year for the next 20 years!

As a taxpayer, I simply point this out to illustrate how sorely stacked the odds are when an Alternative Approval Process presumes 100 per cent eligible voter participation. Voter turnout is rarely even close to that 100 per cent threshold and, indeed, substantially less for these mid-term tax proposals we often see floated.

Think about the task at hand: to defeat a property tax proposal when the total yes vote is automatically pre-inflated to presume that all eligible property owners are participating in the vote. It is simply never the case, yet it remains the legal bar that any no vote effort is up against. Incidentally, it is made far worse in unincorporated districts like ours because no minimum quorum of votes is even required.

In my opinion, the threshold for defeating an AAP is completely unrealistic, making AAPs the most mathematically unfair advantage a politician can utilize to add money to the tax requisition, and they know it, despite claiming they are an expedient form of a referendum or cost the price of yet another "cup of coffee." I personally find any politician or organization's use of these AAPs unconscionable for the obvious reasons I have pointed out. They are clearly stealthy and grossly miscalculate a vast pool of undeclared yes votes, many of whom are property owners who never vote anyway or are non-resident on the island to participate after Labour Day.

The answer? Meh. I typically encourage people to make the extra effort to declare their no vote whenever these AAPs crop up, just on principle because they are so transparently unfair and are typically based on poorly designed tax proposals with questionable parameters to contain the expenditure once it is on the tax requisition.

Watch for the next one!

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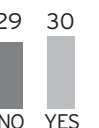
THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should SD64's next bus be electric?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you support the Salt Spring LTC's cottages bylaw?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Tuesday at 9 a.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

“Yes we have to be fiscally responsible . . . but the bigger picture is what we are going to be doing by lessening our carbon footprint.”

RICHARD FROST, SD64 TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED: *What do you think about changing to full-time Daylight Saving Time?*

JORY MILLER



“If it’s like it is in Australia, it’ll be rough for someone with young kids because they naturally get up with the sun.”

PETER BARR



I think the issue will be how dark it will be at 10 o’clock in the morning. Will people be able to take it being dark?

EDDIE SINGH



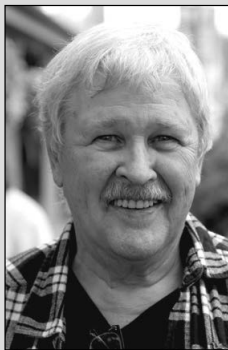
I’m for it. We shouldn’t have to switch, and people should just learn to adjust.

HAMISH BUNTAIN



I absolutely love it. I think it simplifies life and that’s a good thing.

BRENT TREFTLIN



I would support that, just for some more daylight.

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

South end is popular

David Fullbrook, erstwhile proponent of The Vortex development, wrote in last week’s Driftwood, “Simply, people won’t come to the south end.”

This must come as quite a surprise to the Salt Spring Folk Club, which has been putting on six sold-out shows a year at Fulford Hall for as long as I can remember.

MURRAY REISS,
FULFORD

Personal responsibility

I have a problem with the new proposed CRD tax for safety services.

I support providing additional services to the disadvantaged in our community, including better

homeless services and more mental health and addiction services. But one major effort of the new initiative is to provide support for crime prevention and security services to the Ganges business core. Why should the less well off pay to protect the buildings of wealthy business owners?

I think it is time to stop for a minute and reflect on the idea of personal responsibility. At the bottom of the wealth ladder, personal responsibility means able-bodied (and able-minded) individuals are responsible to support themselves and not be a public nuisance and damage businesses in our community. Admittedly some, using the Ganges core as their “residence,” have mental health and addiction problems and need help. But there is something wrong with people coming to the island specifically for drinking and taking drugs and thinking the food bank is here for their free meals. They are welcome

to come to our community, but their personal responsibility is to support themselves and create something positive here without damaging our community. If some insist on continuing their negative behaviour, then laws against disturbing the peace need to be enforced.

On the other end of the spectrum, personal responsibility means something different for those of us lucky enough to be nearer the top of the wealth ladder. Wealthy individuals have a responsibility to provide employment to others on the island. We have responsibilities to operate our businesses to provide the goods and services that our community needs. For those of us lucky enough to own a business we need to recognize that we are likely wealthier than the average islander. We therefore don’t need a handout from those less well off to hire security services to watch over our businesses. We have insurance

to pay for substantial broken window replacement costs and security cameras are relatively inexpensive if needed.

Responsibility is a two-way street and Ganges core businesses can pay for their own security services without those who are less fortunate being taxed.

BRIAN SWANSON,
SALT SPRING

Return bowls

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion would really appreciate it if those who have borrowed equipment from the LA kitchen could return the items. We particularly need the large, clear plastic bowls which are marked LA on the bottom, as we are now cooking on Friday nights at Meaden Hall.

PAT O’NEILL,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

To fly or not to fly . . . that is the question

I had a realization a few months ago. It was this: it’s summer and I live in paradise. Somehow I had managed to let the weight of these facts escape my awareness and I had been spending most of my time in my house, cooking and cleaning on repeat.

Since then I have tried to spend some part of every sunny day on the beach; toes in the sand, the sound of waves crashing around me. I’ve been calling it my Jamaican summer, because I’ve been asking myself, “Why did I want to go to Jamaica again?” when I have all this right in front of me.

This experience has me reassessing flying — this constant desire I feel to jump in an airplane and see the world. It’s always whispering in the background of my mind, talking about Thailand’s elephants and Italian cafes. Although I haven’t flown in eight years, which is a big deal for me as I’m a born traveller, we are considering an epic family trip to Spain and Morocco this winter.

I’m on the fence. Or, more accurately, I’m holding the decision in my hands and allowing it to be the really big deal that it actually is.

The question of flying is a prime example of our culture’s split personality when it comes to the environment. We are increasing our consumption and pollution at the same rate as we increase our understanding of how dire the environmental situation actually is.

On the one hand we are flying more than ever. Last year a new record was set for the most flights in a single day (202,157) and all estimates are for continued exponential growth. Prices are astonishingly low and it is pretty much as easy to get to Seattle by bus as it is to fly to Mexico City or London, England.

On the other hand we are becoming more and more aware of the harm of our culture’s airplane obsession.

Like, it’s really harmful.

This thing that we treat so casually is probably the most environmentally destructive action we can take as individuals. As our



Lea Weir

CLIMATE: CHANGE

understanding of the interaction between airplanes and the environment increases (meaning as the calculations become more accurate and more honest) the estimated contribution of aviation to global carbon emissions has risen from an underestimated two per cent to as much as four or five per cent. And if that still seems small, remember that only about three per cent of all the people in the world fly in a single year. This is a scourge of the elite. Meaning you and me, my friends.

And yes, biogas and electric airplanes are beginning to make an appearance, with Harbour Air’s De Havilland Beaver being the world’s first commercial electric airplane leading the charge. Airplanes are becoming more efficient, carbon-offsetting schemes continue to increase in popularity and more and more people are joining the global no-flying movements and pledging to never take a flight again. Which is all hopeful, but, at least so far, none of it is alleviating the impact of aviation almost at all. It takes little weight out of stepping on that airplane to Spain.

Because, really, getting on that plane is a pretty big vote in favour of business as usual. It is yet another “yes” and money paid to the system that is destroying our planet. As the Amazon and the Arctic burn, that is a hard thing to keep on doing.

And let me say, I don’t judge you for your choices. Well, at least I’m trying not to. I hope you will try not to judge me for mine.

The world is large and utterly beautiful, and we want to go see it, as well as our far-flung loved ones and friends.

The issue with us is that we want so much of it, of everything, all the time.

We live in a culture where something as amazingly destructive as flying is completely normalized. Even though we know and care about the state of the world, we congratulate each other constantly for our travels. Again it’s that split personality showing itself. So many of our Facebook feeds intersperse articles on melting Arctic ice and erratic weather patterns with pictures of our latest trip to Bali, or Montreal. We don’t seem to be connecting the dots. And if we aren’t, it’s because we don’t want to.

It’s easy to feel that our actions are small, and that it is unfair to ask individuals to change, since it is corporations who are doing the most damage. Agree that our most important job is to hold the biggest polluters accountable, to hold their feet to the fire and force them to change. But somehow the idea of doing that while freshly back from another European vacation feels hollow. If we aren’t willing to take less, then it’s unlikely we will be able to change before it’s too late.

I’m not saying I will never fly again. My father lives in Spain and my mother in Ohio and I will likely go see them at some point.

But what I am asking of myself is the same thing I am asking of you: to hold your flight in your hands and weigh it with honesty. To own it without shrugging off the consequences of your choice. Weigh it with the deep understanding that the damage done can never be undone. And admit that when someone brings it up. This is my choice, and I have really thought about it. The world will take a permanent hit because of this.

And if it still feels right, then go ahead. But if it doesn’t, then don’t.

This seems to be what these times are asking of us. A species whose main thrust has always been getting more, learning how to need less.

It’s a lot to think about.

And it’s a beautiful day outside. If you are looking for me, I’ll be at the beach.

Elder encourages us to 'Listen to our youth'

BY DENNIS LUCARELLI

Let's face the truth: we're in a climate emergency. That's why youth around the world are insisting we adults step up to the plate. They deserve our support.

I admire 16-year-old Global Climate Strike founder Greta Thunberg who wrote: "I don't want your hope. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act!" Join students and young parents, who'll be speaking and performing this Saturday (Sept. 21) at noon in Centennial Park, for the Climate Strike Rally.

If we don't act decisively to reduce carbon dioxide to pre-industrial atmospheric levels, climate change feedback loops will intensify. We have only a decade or less before greenhouse gas emission effects spin hopelessly out of control. Resourcing of Indigenous ways and leadership is long overdue: thousands of years of land stewardship and enhancing natural systems for a thriving culture in a healthy natural environment. Instead, today's "busi-

GUEST COLUMN

ness-as-usual" and its consumption, extraction-based mindset have brought us to the brink.

Hard scientific facts tell us we need to focus on the "emissions curve" that must be brought downward, sharply, and soon; and as Greta suggests, to consider the carbon-dioxide implications of our every action, over all other factors, including dollar costs, and put survival first.

Did you know that land use (forestry, farming, housing, etc.) accounts for 23 per cent of human greenhouse gas emissions? No wonder Greta Thunberg "wants us to panic" given how slowly governments are acting to reform forestry, farming and construction practices. No wonder youth are striking as they see all the influence exercised by oil companies, big banks, defence and drug industries to promote their profits over public concerns about environmental destruction and tragic social dysfunction.

Our government budgets just a fraction to Environment Canada (\$1.4 billion) compared to \$32 billion for military and defence costs. No wonder students around the world are striking when they see big institutions, especially governments and media, fail to tell the truth about runaway climate change and make fixing that an urgent, decisive priority.

Natural landscapes and the oceans absorb CO₂, filter toxins, and make Earth habitable. Today's extraction-based, consumption economy plunders and trashes the planet and people. In order for humanity to survive, this has to stop.

We could look backward and imagine Alberta, decades ago, having switched to solar technology instead of doubling down on the tar sands; then workers today would be looking back with pride at a successful transition; instead, some of them will need support as legacy-industry employment goes down. Overall, the transportation sector is a huge greenhouse gas contributor. Yet people in places

with good public transport easily do without their cars, and can rely as well on bike paths that go everywhere.

Remember moments when historical events took a sudden turn? Within a year the Soviet Union fell, Apartheid ended, and one night the Berlin Wall came down. A body of research shows that mass movements succeed more readily, about twice as often, when they use peaceful methods: when roughly 3.5 per cent of a nation or city has joined a movement that creates a tipping point, a critical mass of unstoppable public action that either forces a political system and/or its leadership to either act, or be replaced.

Entrenched interests are a target of the student activists, who ask every one of us to take personal action. Social transformations happen after someone, then a few more, take the first steps until individual actions add up and accelerate serious change. The LGBTQ++ movement started with a few brave souls who risked arrest or their very lives by coming out.

Daffodils for the hard work of those who started Island Pathways for more safe walking and bike paths, and to those who started Salt Spring Community Energy, got solar panels installed at the high school, and have just completed an electric-school-bus feasibility study. And darts for those hot-air complaints that government spending benefits only cyclists and transit riders. Every one of us benefits from investments that reduce traffic, cut GHG emissions and promote public health and safety.

Pogo the comic-book character said, "We have met the enemy and he is us" but climate catastrophe is no joke, so let's get real. Find climate-change info at TheClimateMobilization.org and join in support of young people fighting for a better future. Show up and show you care at the first Salt Spring Climate Strike Rally this Saturday.

The writer is past chair of Transition Salt Spring and a co-organizer of the Climate Strike Rally.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Book worth sharing

Thank you for the great review of Briony Penn's *A Year on the Wild Side*, in the most recent issue of *Aqua* magazine. I just bought three copies of Briony's book from one bookstore, and two from another, for myself, my children and friends.

Twenty years ago I bought the earlier version for my family, and it's been a favourite for all these years. It is a timeless book, full of wonders to learn about and appreciate throughout the year. *A Year on the Wild Side* has particular merit for me as part of my science tutoring collection, especially if I want to focus on seasonal topics.

I was particularly delighted that you chose the tent caterpillar essay in your review; despite the fact that this is not one of those verminous years! I shared this essay yesterday with one of my students after returning from a walk around the neighbourhood to examine the skeins of webs in a few of the deciduous trees. It was satisfying to have a conversation

about how and why the nests we observed were not those of tent caterpillars, but fall webworms.

As you point out, Ms. Penn always starts her essays with a hook that pulls the reader in to whatever topic is at hand, be it barnacles or bats. Just as catchy are the complex biological solutions that spell doom for such "odious little vermin" whose incursions we don't appreciate. Thus the conversation with my 11-year-old student yesterday went directly from the ominous "white dot on the caterpillar's head" to similar endings involving parasitic wasps and their body-snatching larvae.

Biological control is an easy concept to learn when told by a naturalist whose passion for the natural world practically leaps from the printed page; and of course the illustrations accompanying each essay are alluring too. Next week I'll be reviewing the September essays, looking forward to the ones I might share, and remembering that my younger daughter will likely be using *A Year on the Wild Side* too, for some of her Grade 4 lesson plans.

SUSAN YATES,
GABRIOLA ISLAND

Donnelly memories

I read of the passing of Roger Donnelly in the recent *Driftwood* obituary.

I knew him in the 1970s. He was the finest carpenter I ever worked with. He was trained as a joiner in England before emigrating to Canada with his brother, Erik. The first year of his five-year apprenticeship was devoted entirely to learning to sharpen his tools.

He arrived on Salt Spring Island about the same time as I did in 1970. The brothers lived in the old forestry building on Ganges Hill before buying acreage from Gavin Reynolds. The brothers were successful contractors, building some of Hank Schubart's early Salt Spring Island houses. Roger and Erik each bought property on Reynolds Road.

I think this was an interesting micro-historical period on Salt Spring when there was an influx of young adults wanting to "go back to the land." I count myself in the phenomenon; my wife and I bought bare land on Bulman Road. We all built crude houses using natural and locally sourced materials. We bought rough lumber from the sawmill Gavin Reynolds had in his farmyard and used field stone for foundations.

We all tried our best to grow our own food and to be as self-sufficient as we could.

This occurred mostly on the south end of the island. From what I can tell, this quasi-homesteading period lasted only a few years on Salt Spring. Within a few years, it seemed that newcomers were less connected to the land, and perhaps more affluent. I've pondered what it was about that time when our niche of a generation drove us all to want to be so self-sufficient, but I haven't been able to pin it down.

Roger had a down-to-earth, straight-forward character, in my experience. He had no patience for foolishness. I admired him for his business-like approach to work, and for his outstanding carpentry abilities. After he stopped contracting, he worked for me on several occasions, and he built the Claus Andress house for which I had the contract on Beaver Point.

I look back on my experiences with him as being personally valuable to my understanding of the carpentry craft and of the approach to work in general. I was sorry to hear of his passing at such an early age.

CHRISTOPHER SECOR,
BEND, OREGON

of their day on my behalf. I thank you most sincerely.

Thanks and armloads of rainbow-coloured fragrant roses to those who created the rainbow crosswalks in Ganges. The colour addition to town is fabulous. Too bad they are not permanent. Thanks for persevering. HB

Grateful roses to whoever found my wallet and to the great tourist centre volunteers who kept it safe and made sure I knew where to find it. Nothing like losing your wallet to make you appreciate living here! Jan S.

Huge roses and many thanks to the person/people who loaded all the chairs and chesterfield at the corner of Blackburn Road and the highway and took them to the dump. You have helped restore our island to its beautiful self. Kishori Hutchings

Thank you to Nancy, Howard, Harry and Hafiz for your contributions to the Fulford Hall over the years. We couldn't have come this far without you.



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THEATRE REVIEW

Time Piece show thrills crowd

Final shows this Wednesday-Saturday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's often noted that Salt Spring seems overly blessed with talented artists, but few events have showcased islanders' prowess in the rock and pop music genres quite like the show currently on at ArtSpring.

Written and directed by Suzanne Rouger, *Time Piece* is in some ways like the ultimate rock playlist, except instead of listening to the songs at home with your headphones, you get to see it all performed live. Indeed, *Good Company* bills the production as a "thematic rock concert." But the story Rouger has written to link those songs together is much more than just a theatrical device, and works as a complete and complex fictional world.

The story follows a soul named Elle (Shyla-Rae Lloyd-Walters) as she struggles to stay connected to her heart and her counterpart Guy (Dustin Bragg-Van Wyck) through various incarnations on Earth. Because time is an illusion and all the incarnations are happening simultaneously, Rouger has chosen not to depict the various time periods in a linear fashion. Instead, the action weaves in and out of the unique settings — including the Roman Empire, the Old West, the 1960s or so, and a bleak future where people are known by alphanumeric codes.

This makes for a far more interesting narrative. Somehow the story works very well, perhaps because of the exposition by the angels and spirit guides who are watching and help shape the action. The device of the Timesteppers — dancers Metta Rose, Kathryn Luttin and Leanna Boyer, who move the actors through time and space and costuming between scenes — works perfectly to make the transitions part of the story.

The souls' journey toward understanding and love is satisfying, but the music brings real heart to the show. The opening number sets a thrilling expectation this will be an impressive performance. Stark drumbeats shift to the opening chords of Pink Floyd's *Time*, and then Marcel Rouger, an incredibly versatile musician and singer, belts out the opening verse while playing electric guitar. I felt actual chills when tenor Dion Hackett, a member of the angelic choir, took over for the lighter verse.

Lloyd-Walters is the perfect choice to lead the production. She's a pleasure to watch and to hear, with her rich, full tones balanced by clear sweet notes. From her opening vocals, audiences will be waiting to hear her next song. She particularly shines in the big numbers like *Never Tear Us Apart* (INXS) and *The Chain* (Fleetwood Mac).

Lloyd-Walter's real gift for singing does not overpower her acting abilities, however. She gives Elle believable emotions the audience will be drawn into.

Bragg-Van Wyck makes for a very natural partner, with great ability to express different personalities in the different eras. Though perhaps more of an actor than a singer, he completely holds his own leading songs like Neil Young's *Old Man*. On some songs where the range is a bit higher, he gets back-up through an excellent pairing with Bruce Grey.



PHOTO BY SCOTT MERRICK

Time Piece performers in scene, from left, Dustin Bragg-Van Wyck, Moss, Shyla-Rae Lloyd-Walters, Dion Hackett and Christie Roome, with Marcel Rouger seen playing violin in the background.

The story has some light and silly moments in the first half. Metta Rose is a hilariously ecstatic joint smoker during one group song, Tom's Petty's *You Don't Know How It Feels*. *Personal Jesus* (Depeche Mode) features more of the supporting cast, and although these members might not be the strongest singers, they pull off a very funny and complex step dance in their Western tavern (kudos to cast member and choreographer Rosita Larrain for this work).

The plot gets more serious after intermission, and the performers seem to get even deeper into the music at the same time, including a show-stopping rendition of *Hallelujah*. This is a piece that should be impressive and the cast completely delivers. Rouger and Hackett begin with simple vocals, and by the end the chorus has swelled the sound for a rich, moving performance that inspired sustained cheers on Saturday night.

Time Piece was written in memory of Pierre Rouger, and it feels like the love his family and friends brought with them helped produce a truly fitting tribute. Music director and company cofounder Karen Arney has assembled a terrific group, many of whom play multiple instruments, and all of whom are impressive talents. Jim Shultz's electric guitar is a stand-out but he also thrills with harmonica, banjo and mandolin, while Ben Arney's slide guitar (learned just for this show) is another highlight. Less showy but providing crucial elements are Karen Arney's keyboards, Dave Milutinovic's percussion and Daniel Miller's guitar.

Supporting cast members who fill in the the Karmic Group of recurring incarnations include community theatre stalwarts Scott Merrick and St. Clair McColl, and more recent enthusiasts Larrain and Drew Underwood. Recent Shakespeare in the Park lead Adam Morris once again shows strong acting and vocal chops. (His part as Titus and *The Chain* is especially powerful.)

The angels meanwhile get beautiful representation by Christie Roome, who winningly argues for love as the sweet-voiced Jophiel, and by Moss as the charmingly diplomatic Gabriel. The trio of Roome, Hackett and Moss singing *Livin' Thing* (ELO) with violin by Rouger is another bright moment in the second

half.

Time Piece has its final run at ArtSpring starting tonight (Wednesday, Sept. 18) and ending Saturday, Sept. 21.

FOR MORE SALT SPRING
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS,
SEE OUR
WHAT'S ON CALENDAR
ON PAGE 12.

BOOK LAUNCH

with Diana Hayes

WHEN: Saturday Sept. 28 @ 7:30pm

WHERE: SSI Public Library Community Program Rm



LABYRINTH OF GREEN

Diana Hayes, author of 6 books, presents her newest collection of poetry & photographs, sharing maps & narratives for the inner journey, a labyrinth that leads to wholeness, to our own centre & back again out in to the world. Diana was born in Toronto & has lived on both coasts of Canada. Her narrative photography has been featured in galleries in coastal BC & commissioned for book covers.

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READING ROOM

Q&A with Aidan Cassie

Aidan Cassie has lived on Salt Spring for more than a dozen years. She's known to many of us as a community contributor, a mom and (full disclosure) a friend, but she's also the author and illustrator of celebrated picture books that are packed full of loving moments and hilarious details. Her book *Sterling, Best Dog Ever* is one of three finalists for the 2019 Victoria Children's Book Prize. Her latest, published this summer, is *Little Juniper Makes It Big* (Farrar Straus, and Giroux), about a feisty little raccoon who just can't wait to grow up.

Q. What's your writing process? How did Juniper evolve from an idea to a book?

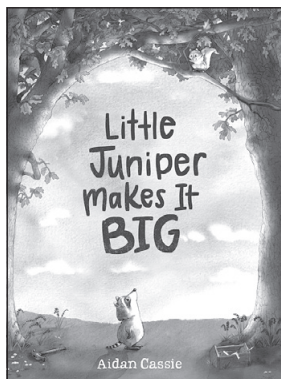
A. Originally Juniper emerged from a character I invented while building my illustration portfolio to show more narrative storytelling. As I drew these funny image-sequences of Juniper struggling, they evolved into the story itself. This "art first" way of telling stories is often how I work, with a lot of back and forth with the writing. My sketchbook's covered in words, and my notebook's covered in drawings. It's messy, but somehow it works for me!

Q. Tell us about the place where you work on your books. Do you have a dedicated space?

A. If you work from home, Salt Spring is a grand place to do it! I have a studio that looks out over a forested creek. If I work with the windows open, I hear tree frogs sing, barred owls call, and the "whomp whomp" of raven wings. My shelves are buried in picture books and art supplies, and my walls are covered in sketches and notes to myself. I have two desks: one for computer work and one for messy artwork. I do most of my preliminary pencil sketches using references on my computer, so my larger art desk often sits idle, mostly used by my daughter while she keeps me company writing and drawing too.

Q. All of your books so far have been about animals. Any reason for that?

A. Animals are my favourite! I've always had jobs



with animals: worked as a trail guide, at the pound, at the aquarium, and at Wildlife Rescue. I studied to be an animal behaviourist, but biochem and physics are not my strengths. I knew I'd eventually work with animals. I just didn't think they'd be fictional ones.

The best part of using animals in my books is their ability to stand in for people. It's easier to see ourselves in them, no matter our gender or hair colour. With animals, we suspend disbelief enough to allow them to speak, or wear backpacks. But animals can break all the parenting rules too. In their world, baby bats can stay out all night, bunnies can start campfires and young foxes can cross raging rivers alone.

Q. Picture book authors you love and can recommend?

A. Many of the authors I love are author-illustrators. My list, with ladies first: Birgitta Sif, Amy Dyckman, Holly Hobbie, Isabelle Arsenault, Emily Gravett. And Chris Riddell, Carter Goodrich, Ryan T. Higgins, Dan Santat and Shawn Tan.

Q. What's your next project, and how is it different from Juniper?

A. My next book, *The Word for Friend*, was inspired by my experiences living in France for a year. Beautiful as it was, I could barely speak the language and was often embarrassed to try. The main character Kemala and I have a lot in common, except she's a bit braver. This story is about making new friends in a new place, with gentle themes of immigration and English-as-a-second-language. I'm just finishing up the cover artwork for it now, and it will be out next year.

Q. If you could tell your childhood self anything about becoming an author-illustrator, what would it be?

A. Though it was a long and circuitous route getting here, I wouldn't suggest any short cuts; all my side-roads lead to where I am. But I would give myself permission to consider being an author earlier on. I made my living as an artist, but always wanted to tell stories too. I was (and still am) a slow reader, and I felt I couldn't possibly be a writer. Author-illustrator, however, seems a perfect fit.

CONCERT

PitchFork hosts Foucault

Ticket contest too

The last show of this year's PitchFork Social concert series is slated for Monday, Sept. 30 and features one of the most distinctive voices in Americana music.

Jeffrey Foucault will be taking the stage at Fulford Hall at 7:30 p.m., after an optional dinner beginning at 6 p.m.

Foucault has spent two decades on the road, refining a sound instantly recognizable for its simplicity and emotional power, a decidedly Midwestern amalgam of blues, country, rock and roll, and folk. His music has caught the attention of big names in the business, and he can count Van Dyke Parks, Greil Marcus and Don Henley among his fans. The latter regularly covers Foucault in his own live set.

Foucault is touring to promote *Blood Brothers*, his sixth album. Described on Foucault's website as a "deep breath and a step inward," *Blood Brothers* explores the places where the mundane and holy merge like water using country, gospel, rock and roll and folk themes, but the show will touch on his vast repertoire of roots influences. Folks will recognize Foucault's music from TV shows like *Sons of Anarchy* and *Nashville*.

PitchFork Social and the Driftwood are giving away pairs of tickets for the show. To enter to win, send an email to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com with your name by Thursday, Sept. 19 at noon, and you'll be entered to win a pair.

Tickets are also available on the PitchFork Social website.



JEFFREY FOUCAULT



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ISLAND LIFE

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

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



FUNDRAISERS

Islanders turn out to support IWAV programs



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Left: \$10,000 for Change supporters enjoy a farm-to-table dinner by chef Haidee Hart at Stowel Lake Farm. Right: Event MC Julie MacKinnon listens to IWAV's interim director Kisae Petersen.

Best total yet for \$10,000 for Change

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community members once again pulled together to support and celebrate the work of Island Women Against Violence on Thursday, when the third annual \$10,000 for Change fundraiser exceeded its goal to become the best one yet for the organization.

The event aims to raise at least \$10,000 through sponsorships and tickets to the farm-to-table meal, which was hosted for the second year at Stowel Lake Farm, plus a silent auction and raffle. Organizers reported near the end of Thursday's dinner the total was in fact approaching \$18,000. This will support community programs and housing for women and their children fleeing abuse, as well

as people who are experiencing poverty.

IWAV's interim director Kisae Petersen reported Thursday the non-profit society now has 24 staff members working at five work sites on Salt Spring, which include the Transition House, second stage housing and the Croftonbrook affordable housing development.

"Over time we've really expanded the work that we do, the services that we're able to do and the impact we're able to have in our community," Petersen said.

She described how IWAV's programs are necessary to help women who are trying to escape violence and abuse. Women can find initial support through IWAV's 24-hour crisis line and from there talk to staff, who can connect them with resources and help come up with a safety plan so they can leave their situation.

The Transition House can provide a refuge for women in crisis for up to 30 days, and is staffed 24 hours a day. Food, accommodation, transportation and childcare are all provided.

"Above all, IWAV staff provide experience, a caring ear and a calm presence in this shared house," Petersen said.

IWAV is not given sufficient provincial funding, Peterson explained, to run all of its programs for women. The Transitions Thrift Store helps to boost operational funds. Community support through fundraisers like \$10,000 for Change and other donations are also crucial.

"As all of us know as islanders, housing can be a big barrier, especially for women leaving abusive partners," Peterson said. "The housing crisis has a disproportionate impact on women who have few financial resources and are

in immediate need of housing. As a result, IWAV has become the owner and developer of housing."

"The housing crisis has a disproportionate impact on women who have few financial resources and are in immediate need of housing."

KISAE PETERSEN
Interim director, IWAV

The organization created second-stage housing for women in 2012 and took over operations of Croftonbrook affordable seniors' housing in 2015. The organization is currently working on expanding housing at that site to meet other affordable housing needs.

The \$10,000 for Change fundraiser is the brainchild of Chental Wilson and is supported by Wilco Construction, the company she runs with her sister Sharon and their husbands, brothers Trevor and Ian Wilson. Chental had initially offered to donate her services as a life coach to IWAV's clients, but heard from the previous executive director that what they really needed first was safety, accommodation and food.

"I thought, 'Of course!' so I scrapped the idea of coaching and

thought, 'Okay, how can I help?'" Wilson explained.

This year's fundraiser offered several levels of sponsorship as well as individual tickets to the dinner by chef Haidee Hart. Wilson said the farm-to-table meal with B.C. wines is a winning combination for local contractors, many of whom are "foodies." It's also an excellent opportunity to support a good cause in their home community.

"I can't turn anyone away who's a woman in need, and that's what this is," Wilson said. "It's just about making sure that door's always open for the person who knocks at it."



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250-537-0735 or
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Women's Outreach Services
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toll-free 1-877-537-0717

Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
250-538-5568

Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
250-538-5569

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www.iwav.org

Funded by BC Housing and the Ministry of Justice

ISLAND HISTORY

Methodist minister behind Dean Road name

The short Dean Road off Ganges Hill is named for an important community figure who made his home in that location during the early part of the 20th century.

George Walter Dean was a Methodist minister who served some of Salt Spring's most prominent settler families, such as the Mouats, the McLennans and the Harrisons. He performed the wedding ceremony for Ella Ruckle and George Harris in 1915, and for Theodore Le Page and Emily Parlett in 1926. Salt Spring's Elizabeth Georgeson married Duncan McKay of Langley in a ceremony that Dean intriguingly performed at the Active Pass Lighthouse in 1919.

The Methodist Church was originally centred in the Burgoyne Valley. Records from the period of 1910-1920, when Dean first started practising on Salt Spring, have disappeared, but the 1911 Census lists the family, including their three adult children.



D.W. Salty
STREETS OF
SALT SPRING

An obituary for daughter Helen Dean explains the Dean family came to Salt Spring after meeting the W.M. Mouat family in Banff in the 1890s and hearing about the community from them. George Dean required a better climate for his health, so apparently after 20 years of thinking about it, in 1910 "the entire Dean family bought a farm on Ganges Hill, neighbours to William and Effie Mouat."

Dean's youngest son Charlie was killed in the First World War. His wife Sarah

An obituary for daughter Helen Dean explains the Dean family came to Salt Spring after meeting the W.M. Mouat family in Banff in the 1890s.

then died in 1928. After he retired as minister, Dean sold the farm on Ganges Hill and moved closer to town, with his daughter (who was trained as a nurse) helping to take care of him.

Dean was still on the Ganges voters' list for 1941, at which time he would have been 87 years old.

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what's on this week



Wed. Sept. 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Time Piece.
A thematic rock concert featuring the music of Pink Floyd, Sting, Barenaked Ladies, Tom Petty, Fleetwood Mac, Cindi Lauper, Neil Young and more. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.



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

ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring with Peter Freeman.
Every Wednesday at the library in three 50-minute sessions between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Bittancourt House Museum.
Museum on the Farmers' Institute grounds open Wednesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission.

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

Thu. Sept. 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Time Piece.
See Wednesday listing.
Open Mic & Jam.
Every Thursday at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.
Vaughn Fulford.
Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Open Mic at Moby's.
Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum.
See Wednesday listing.

Thu. Sept. 19

ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring with Jim Watkins.
Every Thursday at the library. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Maximum of 15 minutes per patron.
Art Show Opening – "Relate(d)"
Opening event for show by 2017 SSNAP winner Judy Anderson and her son Cruz Anderson. The Point Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.
Foundations of Insight (Mindfulness) Meditation Class Series.
Second in a series led by Heather Martin at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 7 to 9 p.m. Preregistration required at staroftheseassi@gmail.com.

Fri. Sept. 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Time Piece.
See Wednesday listing.
Brent Shindell.
Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Sam Kirmayer Trio.
Montreal guitarist Sam Kirmayer performs with drummer Dave Laing and Ben Paterson on organ at All Saints By-the-Sea. 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Salt Spring Jazz and Blues Society.
Doug and the Thugs.
Live at the Legion. 8 p.m.
Salt Spring Underground.
Live at Moby's. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt House Museum
See Wednesday listing.

Fri. Sept. 20

ACTIVITIES

Story Walk.
A self-led program where participants walk from the library, through Mouat Park to the pool, following the story along the path. Third Friday of every month. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Family Movie Matinee – Night at the Museum.
Kids and families welcome to library screening with free popcorn. Kids under 10 must be signed in and out. 2:30 p.m.

Sat. Sept. 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Time Piece.
See Wednesday listing.
Tom Hooper.
Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
DJ Kemal Evans Dance Party.
At the Legion. 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Saturday Market.
Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Climate Strike Rally.
A call from the youth of the world to join them in responding to the climate crisis. Centennial Park. 12 to 2 p.m.
The Kids R STILL Alright!
All-ages, two-day block party in Ganges hosted by the Chuan Society and featuring live music, DJs, late night silent disco, speakers, talking circles and workshops. Island Savings parking lot. 12 noon to 12 midnight.

Sat. Sept. 21

ACTIVITIES

Westcoast Workboat Weekend.
Public welcome to view vessels at Kanaka Dock from 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Ham Radio & GMRS Radios.
Amateur and GMRS Radios presented by Jon Healey and Gary Morrison, SSI Amateur Radio Society. Part of the Emergency Program workshop series. SS Public Library. 5 to 7 p.m.
SSNAP Opening Night Gala.
Opening event for third biennial Salt Spring National Art Prize finalists' exhibition. Mahon Hall. 6 to 10 p.m.



Sun. Sept. 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Terry Fox Run.
At Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre. Registration at 9 a.m. and start time at 10 a.m.
Westcoast Workboat Weekend.
Watch sailpast of historic vessels as they leave Ganges Harbour beginning at 11:30 a.m.
Pool & Snooker.
Free pool and snooker every Sunday at the Legion from 12 to 7 p.m.
The Kids R STILL Alright! See Saturday listing.

Mon. Sept. 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Crystal Journey – Fall Equinox Celebration Concert.
Celebrate the arrival of the fall equinox with David Hickey at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. David uses paiste planet gongs, Persian santours, quartz crystal bowls and harmonicas in two 40 to 50-minute sets. Each set and performance is sonically pure, unique and completely improvised. 7 to 9 p.m.
Live Music at the Tree House Cafe.
TBA. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring with Conrad.
Tablet, iPad, eReader and basic Mac tutoring with Conrad Koke at the library. Sessions are available every Monday. 12 noon to 2 p.m..
Darts.
Free darts played at the Legion every Monday from 6 to 9 p.m.
Salt Spring Community Alliance Society AGM.
First annual general meeting of the society at Lions Hall. 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and find out more about the Community Alliance.

Tue. Sept. 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic with Richard Cross.
Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.



Tue. Sept. 24

ACTIVITIES

SSNAP: Noon-hour Artist Talks Series – Klehwetua Rodney Sayers.
Ahswinis (Port Alberni) artist Klehwetua Rodney Sayers speaks on Traditional Artwork in a Contemporary World. Mahon Hall. 12 to 1 p.m.
Tuesday Farmers Market.
Food-only market with all homegrown or handmade goods. Runs June through October at Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.
EV 101.
People are invited to bring their electric car questions to this free education session. Presentation followed by a Q&A panel of local experts. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.
Trivia Tuesday.
At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Yael Wand.
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tech Tutoring with Peter Freeman.
Every Wednesday at the library in three 50-minute sessions between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
SSNAP: Noon-hour Artist Talks Series – Dennis B Del Torre.
Duncan artist Dennis B Del Torre speaks on Swirling in the Amnesia of History has Defined my Art. Mahon Hall. 12 to 1 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 25

ACTIVITIES

Parkinson's Support Group.
Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 to 3:30 p.m.
100 Men Who Care Salt Spring Info Session.
Learn about the new chapter of 100 Men Who Care philanthropic group being created for Salt Spring Island. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Garden Club.
Robert Bateman is the guest speaker. Meaden Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for social time and parlour show, followed by the speaker.
Insight/Mindfulness Meditation.
A guided session of meditation in the Buddhist tradition by Heather Martin at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 7 to 9 p.m.



Film: Kimiko Murakami: Triumph Over Internment.
Screening of 23-minute film plus celebration of the 65th anniversary of the Murakami family's return to Salt Spring and the 115th anniversary of Kimiko's birthday. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 9 p.m.
Bittancourt House Museum.
See last Wednesday's listing.
Music Bingo.
See last Wednesday's listing.

THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **Dora & the Lost City of Gold** — shows Friday, Sept. 20 to Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. each night plus a Sunday 3 p.m. matinee. Rated PG. 1 hour 42 minutes.

For more movie info go to www.thefritz.ca

EXHIBITIONS

• **The Salt Spring National Art Prize (SSNAP)** finalists' exhibition opens with a gala at Mahon Hall on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 10 p.m. Outdoor cafe area and music is also part of the evening. The show continues daily through Oct. 21.
• **The Point gallery presents RELATE(D)**, work by 2017 SSNAP grand prize winner Judy Anderson and her son Cruz Anderson. Opening reception on Thursday, Sept. 19 from 5 to 7 p.m.
• **Salt Spring Potters Guild** members present **Harvest** at the Salt Spring Gallery beginning with an opening on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 5 to 7 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Thursday, Sept. 19 is the last day to see Ripple Effect 3** - Art for the Orca at Salt Spring Gallery. Part proceeds benefit the Georgia Strait Alliance.
• **Friday, Sept. 20 is the last day to see Juxtaposition**, featuring the artwork of Donna J. Hall, Morley Myers and Pieter Molenaar, at Gallery 8.
• **The Venter Gallery showcases work by Deon Venter** from the Mythos/Logos and Avatar series and pieces from Kathy Venter's Immersion series.
• **KiZmit Galeria hosts a show of ceramics by Denys James** and photographs by Michael Wall until Sept. 29. Open hours are Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• **Charles Breth** shows work in the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room through September.

Terry Fox Run

Sunday, Sept. 22

Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre

Registration from 9 a.m.; event starts at 10 a.m.

Info: www.terryfox.org

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PHILANTHROPY

100 Men group gets going

New organization aims to help others with significant donations

BY JOHN HOWE

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Part of being alive is the desire to help others through action, and one common way is to give generously of our wealth and abundance.

However, most of us wonder what difference our individual donation is really making? What if there was a way to multiply our giving tenfold without having to bake anything, join a committee, or attend endless meetings? Well, there is a simple way to multiply our giving while at the same time hugely benefitting our island not-for-profit organizations. And what if doing so would also greatly benefit our own lives here on Salt Spring Island?

Perhaps you have already heard of the 100 Women Who Care group started here on Salt Spring last fall. This group of dedicated women have single-handedly raised in one year over \$49,000 for three island not-for-profits. Through generous donations these organizations were able to provide services that were not funded through their usual operating grants. There is also presently a new chapter of Queers Who Care underway.

It is my belief that island men can make a similar difference. Coming together with other like-minded men there will be opportunities for networking and new friendships. Plus, members will

learn about many of Salt Spring's not-for-profits, their goals and services.

If the idea of joining other men three times a year to both learn about island not-for-profits and donate \$100 appeals to you, then I encourage you to join our newly formed 100 Men Who Care Salt Spring island. It's that easy: 100 men x \$100 = \$10,000 at each of the three annual meetings a year. Your yearly donation is \$300, for which you will be issued a tax receipt.

Our first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 16 at the Harbour House Hotel at 7 p.m. The only thing that people need to do now is become a member of our organization at www.100mensaltspring.org. No money is paid until the first meeting on Oct. 16 when the group decides which of the nominated not-for-profits will be awarded the \$10,000.

For those not quite ready to join the organization and wanting more information, two orientation meetings will be held at the Salt Spring Public Library from 5 to 6 p.m. on Sept. 25 and Oct. 2. At these brief meetings, attendees will learn all about the concept behind 100 Men Who Care. There will be an opportunity to learn how not-for-profits are nominated as beneficiaries. With over 350 chapters of Men and Women Who Care successfully operating in Canada, this simple concept of helping others and at the same time helping ourselves has been consistently proven.

For more information find us on Facebook at 100 Men Salt Spring or at www.100mensaltspring.org.

ISLAND HISTORY

Film screening honours Murakamis

Library event marks anniversaries

Islanders are invited to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Murakami family's return to Salt Spring and a film presentation about the late Kimiko Murakami with a special event at the library on Wednesday evening, Sept. 25.

The celebration in the library program room will mark the 115th anniversary of Kimiko Murakami's birthday and the 65th anniversary of her family's return to Salt Spring after being forcibly removed and interned during the Second World War.

Kimiko's children Mary Kitagawa and Rose and Richard Murakami will be present as guests of honour for the film *Kimiko Murakami: Triumph Over Internment*. The screening will be followed by a talk by Kitagawa, who narrates the 23-minute film. It was produced in 2005 as part of the television series *Mother Tongue: A Woman's History of Ethnic Canada*.

The event is sponsored by the Salt Spring Public Library and the Japanese Garden Society and was organized by Jan Slakov. Phil Vernon will perform his song *Ganbaru* to introduce the film.

The event runs from 7 to 9 p.m. Treats will be provided.



PHOTO BY BARBARA WOODLEY
Late islander Kimiko Murakami, whose story will be told in a short film being screened at the library next Wednesday night.

GARDEN CLUB

Robert Bateman shares visions of place

New garden club season begins

Salt Spring Garden Club will host an extra special guest next Wednesday, Sept. 25, when Robert Bateman is the featured speaker at Meaden Hall.

Bateman and his family are well known to Salt Springers as they have resided on the island since 1985. Bateman was born and raised in Toronto where he taught school for several years.

Art and nature have always been an integral part of his life. Since the early 1960s he has been an active member of naturalist clubs and conservation organizations.

He started pursuing his art full-time in the '70s. His paintings appear in many art museums and personal collections around the world. The Bateman Centre in Victoria is a showcase for his art and has an education department involved

in active outreach to reconnect people to the world of nature.

Bateman has earned numerous awards, including being an Officer of the Order of Canada, the Order of British Columbia, the Rachel Carson award, Human Rights Defender Award from Amnesty International; as well as 14 honorary doctorates from Canadian and American universities. Three schools in Canada have been named after him.

During his presentation next week, Bateman will focus on "place."

"Our gardens are our canvas and we have a palette of plants with which to create beauty," explains club press material. "Come and be inspired to create something beautiful with your unique 'place' on Salt Spring."

The evening begins with social time at 6:30 p.m., followed by the parlour show and the presentation by Bateman.

Remember

WHEN

Five years ago

Testing of local seawater for cesium-134 came back negative, indicating that radiation from the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan had not infiltrated nearby ocean waters. Salt Spring resident Karen Clemson had collected the sample from Vesuvius Beach earlier in 2014 as part of a large-scale citizen science project initiated by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. The independent research institution was testing the waters off North America's west coast to monitor and track the presence of radionuclides that might have travelled from Fukushima after the 2011 reactor meltdown. Other samples taken in the immediate region, including those from Bamfield and locations in Washington state, similarly came back without detecting any Cs-134.

Ten years ago

Cuts to the B.C. Gaming Commission grant program for environmental programs and schools left local groups scrambling to keep projects running. Parent advisory committees saw their annual grant cut in half, from \$20 per student to \$10, while the Salt Spring Conservancy's Stewards-in-Training program was trying to see how it could proceed without \$15,000 of the grant funding it had expected. The hardest hit, though, were environmental groups, which had their gaming grants cancelled completely. The grants had been awarded retroactively in the third quarter of the year, so budgeted funds were already largely spent. Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre was facing possible closure with the news, and the disappearance of \$60,000 or one third of its budget.

Twenty years ago

Fall Fair weekend meant chaos for Vancouver Island ferry passengers when the Howe Sound Queen developed engine problems on the Saturday afternoon, causing BC Ferries to suspend service on the Vesuvius-Crofton route. No replacement vessels were available, resulting in massive overloads in Fulford. On Sunday afternoon the cars in line to leave that terminal stretched all the way to the Fulford Inn, with 261 vehicles counted. The Skeena Queen's schedule had recently been reduced by two runs per day, but extra sailings were put on Saturday and Sunday nights to clear all waiting traffic. The ferry corporation reported 5,800 people were transported off the island from Saturday afternoon through Sunday.

Thirty years ago

Victoria lawyer and controversial Salt Spring Island property developer Louis Lindholm collapsed and died on his way into Victoria court. Lindholm was to answer charges that his company — Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. — had breached a 1986 contract between it, the Islands Trust, North Salt Spring Waterworks and the Salt Spring Water Preservation Society. Lindholm had allegedly clear-cut a swath of mature trees located on a steep slope over the line from Channel Ridge in the St. Mary Lake watershed. The 63-year-old was Lindholm was a founding member of the law firm Pearlman and Lindholm.

Forty years ago

Ministerial Affairs Minister and local member of the legislature Hugh Curtis visited the Salt Spring Elementary school grounds for the fall fair and promised the Farmers' Institute \$25,000 of provincial lottery proceeds if and when they decided to purchase their own property. The acquisition of property to host the fair and other agricultural activities through the year was already under discussion by the institute, which had funds coming through the sale of a warehouse property in Ganges.

Fifty years ago

Islanders were set to wave farewell to the Sechelt Queen ferry and say hello to the smaller-capacity Queen of the Islands. "Allocation of vessels is a vexatious problem with the ferry authority as various larger vessels are being taken out of service in order to become yet larger," a front page story explained. "They will undergo the same successful operation that has made the Queen of Esquimalt the largest in the local fleet." The Department of Highways announced that one ferry would be modified to become larger that coming winter, and forecast that future work on the provincial fleet would probably be undertaken at the rate of one ship per year.



PHOTO COURTESY SS ROTARY CLUB

MUFFIN MIRTH: Salt Spring Rotary Club community director Kevin Ross, right, holds the winning ticket stub and congratulates Muffin Madness winner Perusha (Terry) Plain at the fall fair grounds on Sunday. Plain was on the field when the cow did her business in the grid square whose number corresponded with the one on his ticket, and was reportedly blown away when he realized he had won the \$1,000 prize.

HISTORY

Pride expressed in earlier times

Islander shares cruise ship history

BY KEN MUGRIDGE
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The popular thinking is that gay pride parades originated in the 1970s. They actually existed in various forms long before that time.

Throughout the '50s and early '60s, a great many British Merchant Navy passenger liners were sailing the oceans. A large portion of the mainly catering staff on these liners were gay. The same went for other European shipping lines, boosting the total gay seafaring population at that time to probably thousands.

The gay presence, of course, was due to the stringent U.K. and European moral laws that existed at that time. Aboard, they found companionship and a sense of safety together, without having to keep a constant heads-down low profile as they would have to when residing ashore. Cunard, together with many other shipping companies, felt that as long as they did a good job it was okay. A remarkable openness existed aboard and homophobia from shipmates was relatively rare.

I sailed as a junior radio officer on a Cunard cruise liner, RMS Caronia, in the early '60s. One 42-day North Cape cruise took us from New York to explore Scandinavia and the Baltic and back to New York via the U.K. Out of the crew of about 650, probably a third of the 300 catering staff were gay. They certainly made great, conscientious, caring stewards and waiters. Some of the wealthy regular cruise passengers insisted on being looked after by them before they would re-book. As Caronia carried more crew than passengers, they had a lot of influence.

On every cruise, the gay element would always put on a drag review in the main theatre. Some of them were very talented and the passengers loved it. Similar shows for the crew were also held in their recreation areas. These reviews were a bit more adult in nature and certainly off-limits to passengers.

The great crowning event on our annual regular North Cape



PHOTO COURTESY KEN MUGRIDGE

Cruise ship line nurses and staff in Bergen, Norway in 1963.

cruise was visiting Bergen, Norway. Since the mid-50s, a football game had always been arranged at the local stadium between the catering staff of the ship's two restaurants, Balmoral and Sandringham. Not only was it an enjoyable match but it involved a big build-up before the game. The gay community and other participants, assisted by the Cunard cruise director, would hire a couple of horsedrawn carriages. Dressing up in all their drag finery, a sort of mini gay pride parade grand entrance to the stadium was celebrated, accompanied by the ship's band — years before it became accepted as the norm. The event was always attended by many passengers and other crew members.

A lot of the local population also attended the annual event. At that time Scandinavia had a much greater tolerance of the gay community and existing laws were usually ignored.

Two things changed for seagoing gays during the mid-'60s. Affordable air travel grew by leaps and bounds, which eventually decimated ocean passenger liners, leaving few ships to sail on. By this time however, the gay population was already drifting back ashore as in 1967 the U.K. introduced legislation basically giving a start to legalizing same sex relationships. Other countries, including Canada, eventually followed.





Where is this spot on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or watch for the photo to appear on our Facebook page.

Last Week's Answer: Astaire was the first person to identify the carving next to the Salt Spring Inn.

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

Marguerite Lee



Marguerite Lee's name goes hand in hand with the Salt Spring Fall Fair, the island's biggest community event of the year. As the office coordinator and volunteer liaison, and a long-time Farmers' Institute board member, Marguerite is an essential cog in the Fall Fair wheel.

Marguerite, who has deep island roots, is also a driving force behind the Island Comfort Quilts organization and annual community quilting bee.

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com

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

Autumn Equinox 2019 occurs on September 23rd at 8:50 am GMT and Libra time begins! Equinox this year holds within it a seed of exploration and awakening linked to new interpretations, perceptions and even new paradigms altogether. In this revolutionary time of accelerated awakening, occurring on a global scale, we are all challenged to adapt. What not long ago was regarded as solid facts, have in many instances been overturned and turned inside out, rendering them old and worn out theories as opposed to the solid and sacred truths that they were deemed to be not so long ago? These include academic, philosophical, religious and scientific revolutions and each is also influencing the others. Consequently, outer social, cultural, political and economic changes are also underway. Destiny for each of us individually remains a reality, yet it includes the natural necessity of adapting to the changes occurring without. This is where the profound insights and guidance that astrology affords can prove invaluable.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Despite a rather busy time tending to practical concerns and considerations, your focus has been steadily turning to matters of the heart. This trend will continue well into October and will progressively deepen in more ways than one. Are you ready to take a plunge into deeper and perhaps hotter water? Ready or not...

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Some cycles are all about making improvements, refinements, and repairs, like this one. This focus will include various stages and the first of these already began about a week ago. Creating beauty in your home and lifestyle, in general, is likely. Focusing on creative projects and other works of art is also featured.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The change of signs and seasons should prove to have an uplifting effect on you. There may remain some final touches on deep clean and renovation projects of one kind or another. Yet, you have already entered a more playful cycle and you are all in. Socializing is one expression of this while the other includes interests in larger cultural events.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

deep and powerful changes have been unfolding on relationship fronts. Looking back, you will notice that certain key people have exited the stage and perhaps your own social and professional status has also changed. Now the immediate focus is on home and family and establishing a whole new and improved and beautiful atmosphere.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Entering the last quarter of the year is bringing with it some fresh perspectives for you. There are indications that you have been focused on establishing new foundations and momentums on practical and/or professional fronts. Now you are about ready to make these more public. Yet, these may be deemed soft launches with the grand event a couple of weeks away.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

It is likely that you have been busy taking new leads and initiatives. Now you are ready to receive some returns on your investment. Beyond finances alone, the reward stands to be increased creative confidence and inspiration. The emphasis overall is upon establishing a whole new base of power supported greater depth and diversity.

Hopefully, you were able to take a little time out or at least sleep in a bit more than usual these past few weeks. Now that window is pretty much closed and you might be realizing why it might have been a good idea. Positively, you are eager to enter new territory. In fact, there are indications that you are feeling extra assertive.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

The time is right to work behind the sciences. This can also be understood as inner work which includes clearing resistance blocks and limiting beliefs. If so and you don't know how I can help. Otherwise, this represents both a process of breaking through walls and building strong new foundations. There is an expansive theme at play and it does include the prospects of more... returns.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

If you have wanted to be more social and/or meet new people and make new friends, then this is your golden opportunity. Combined with an expansive urge linked to Jupiter in your sign, where it will remain until December, Sun, Mercury, and Venus in Libra is like a magical portal which, should you choose to walk through it, will open your world to new associations.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

If you have been waiting for your moment to make your move to get more attention or to be seen and heard and to ask for earned rewards, this is it. This window will remain open for the next several weeks so you have plenty of time. This cycle can also be used to enter into deeper, more intimate and meaningful dialogue with loved ones.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Libra time generally indicates a philosophical and cultural time for you. This stands to be especially true this year. It is likely that you are in the mood to be entertained. Gaining new knowledge is one feature of this attraction, but you also want to be moved, impressed and inspired and to have reason to laugh more... and louder... too.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

Ever since Mercury entered Libra on September 14 and Venus on the 15th you have been in a rather deep cycle. Now the Sun there too is energizing and amplifying this urge. It can prove extra useful for research, tending to unfinished business, and paying closer attention to the details, generally. Positively, it could also indicate a deepening of passions in your love life.

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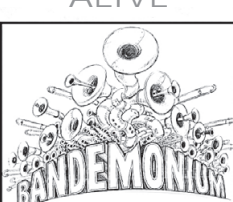
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Thank you to IWAV Board and staff, volunteers, MC Julie MacKinnon, Chef Haidee Hart, and a special thanks to Chental Wilson.

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Coming Events

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PHOTO COURTESY MARCIA JANSEN

ON THE TRAIL: Salt Spring's Marcia Jansen runs during the Dodge City Off-road Triathlon in Cumberland on Sept. 7. Jansen finished first in her age group, earned a provincial championship for her age group and qualified for the Canadian national championship team for her age group at the 2020 World Multisport Championships in Almere, Netherlands.

MEN'S SOCCER

Old Boys roll to win in Carnarvon clover

Ringer Barreto has impact

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Concerns voiced at the pre-season awards night and amplified further at the last practice were still palpably worrying the Old Boys as they faced their opening game of the season.

Would those carrying various injuries break down under the pressure of competitive football unlike the fun stuff of summer? Would enough team members turn up at Fulford? Would anyone be left behind by BC Ferries overloads? Could coach Graham Tweddle find a winning formula with the highly strung prima donnas that make up the team?

In fact, last-minute text messages and cell phone calls utilizing the improved coverage at Fulford sent out the frantic call that ferry traffic was almost up to the junction. Hurry! Hurry! Needless to say, one Old Boy did not make the cut even before the first kick off.

Prematch nerves were calmed as the team settled down in the exclusive state room kindly supplied by the BC Ferry Corporation for team transit for off-island fixtures by discussing a wide range of subjects,

such as: Would the new Sunday gas station operating hours leave people stranded? Did Old Boys hope to aspire beyond the annual winning of the league's "most sporting team" award as voted by the other participating clubs?

It was a blessing when the ref blew the whistle to start the season on a pitch so full of clover that the players were surprised there was no "natural" fertilizer to be seen. The grass was so lush it makes one wonder if Oak Bay is in a different climate zone from Salt Spring. It was obvious that the Old Boys' main tactic of close accurate passing would need a bit more oomph if the ball was intended to reach its target.

The new goal-kick rule came into immediate effect as goalkeeper Richard Steel and the back defensive core were forced back into their own penalty area in trying to overcome a high offensive line by Castaways. Things were looking ominous, but a quick breakout using a more traditional long ball saw Mark Aston with assists from Rainer Funk and Ronaldo Barreto gave Old Boys an early lead.

Virtually straight from the centre circle, Castaways responded with a goal that happened as the Old Boys were still congratulating themselves on their own first goal.

By the 15-minute mark, the Old Boys had sussed that Castaways may be big and speedy but not fit, so using their well-honed skills the Old Boys easily moved the ball into scoring position. From one such sweeping move, Mike McCormick set up Barreto outside the box where a lashed shot hit the underside of the bar to regain the lead. Who is Barreto, you ask? Is he the surprise signing hinted at in a pre-season press meeting?

Old Boys were in cruise control as David Toynbee, set free by Aston and McCormick, nutmegged the goalkeeper to take a commanding 3-1.

But with only one sub, Old Boys began to show early season lack of stamina and Dennis Shaw after off-season knee surgery commendably called regularly for substitution so as to not impair the efficiency of the

defence. Suddenly they were bolstered by the appearance of the "Malahat Cavalry" in the person of Scott Howe, who had missed the Fulford ferry, ready to increase the pressure on the home side. Howe was obviously desperate to reply to Tweddle's implied reprimand of "You only had one thing to do . . ." with a sterling effort in the second half.

Whether it was overconfidence or lactic acid build-up in the legs (but more probably in the brain), a defensive mix-up allowed a Castaways big cannon to narrow the score to 3-2. A certain amount of anxiety, fear or inevitability could be sensed in the Old Boys as they fought to retain the dominance of the first half as a resurgent Castaways pressed for the equalizer.

Gradually, however, the Old Boys regained composure with a fourth goal from Aston to more or less seal the victory. The only note of interest was a throw-in infringement where Shaw, famous throughout the league for his long throw-ins, reminiscent of Rory Delap of Stoke City, was called for lifting his leg (maybe I should edit this statement) much to his consternation and the amusement of his teammates. "The heavy load of the waistline can cause an involuntary lifting of the non-supporting leg." - Third Principle of Levers, Archimedes 3 BCE.

The final whistle gave Old Boys a well-deserved victory in the clover of Carnarvon Park, but caution was the main topic of post-game conversations around the cooler.

Winter is coming north of the wall and as the fields get muddier and the cold Siberian winds of Finlayson, Lochside and Tyndall parks all bring a sense of anxiety to the team dressing room. For the next few games our "ringer" Ronald Barreto and his representative would make no firm commitment to the team as California and Florida were beckoning.

But a win is a win and Old Boys are tied for the imaginary first place in the SVIC-SA league, the league with no standings.

Old Boys now face Cordova Bay 48s next Sunday, Sept. 22 at 10:30 a.m. on an island at a place yet to be decided.

GOLF

Golf club champions earn cups

Sharp and Elwes top fields

BY MARCIA BURTON
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The ladies' and men's leagues of Salt Spring Golf Club competed for the club championships, low net champions and senior club champions on Sept. 7 and 8.

For the second year in a row, the 2019 ladies club champion is Carolyn Sharp, winner of the Wilson Cup. Scoring 87 on Saturday and 84 on Sunday, Sharp carded a low-gross score of 171, just one over her winning score of 2018. In second place, also for the second year in a row, Jenny Pickering shot 81 and 92 for a total of 173. Third place went to Dora Reynolds with 181.

For the second time in three years, Stephen Elwes hoisted the Crofton Cup as the 2019 men's club champion. Elwes shot a blistering 67/71 for a total low gross score of 138, 15 shots less than his closest competitor. Ian

Shopland secured second place with a smooth 77/76 for 153. Ted Grand captured the third spot with 156.

Mary Lou Bompas earned the Bramhall Trophy in the ladies low net competition. She demonstrated her ability to go low with net scores of 73 and 68 for a total of 141. Linda Tremblay was runner up with a net 144, closely followed by Darlene Wellington with 145.

Elwes also claimed the men's low net Humphries Cup with a total of 134. Randy Cunningham matched the winning score but ended in second place based on the count-back.

Ian Shopland picked up his third title of the year when he won the Captain's Cup for the men's senior club championship. Mary Lou Bompas won her second cup of the event, the La Belle Trophy, to hold the ladies senior champion title.

Dora Reynolds won the ladies long drive contest with a 237-yard bullet onto number 7 fairway. The KP winner was Karen Davies.

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