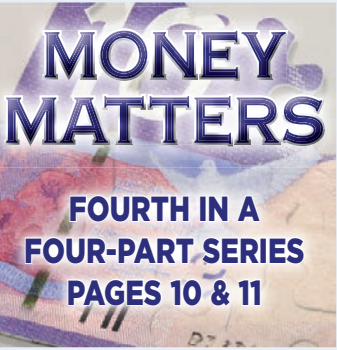


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12 Mindful Vision photo exhibit opens



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Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020

60th year Issue 9

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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

A Salt Spring Cheese Farm goat, one of several does and kids on site, checks out visitors last weekend.

**COURT**

## Fatal car crash leads to civil suit

Supreme Court hears claim from survivor of 2012 Salt Spring incident

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A 2012 tragedy involving two teens on Salt Spring has become the basis for a potentially precedent-setting case now underway in B.C. Supreme Court in Vancouver.

In a civil trial that began last Wednesday, Calder McCormick, 24, is arguing that Stephen and Lidia Pearson are liable for the injuries he sustained in a car crash after leaving a party at their house. McCormick was 17 at the time of the incident and a passenger in the car. The driver, 18-year-old Ryan Plambeck, was killed in the crash.

Court documents filed by McCormick state that on Sept. 15, 2012 he and Plambeck had attended a party on Epron Road, which the Pearsons had hosted for "minor aged guests." The Pearsons' two daughters were teenagers at the time.

The outcome of the case is being closely watched as one that could set the standard for social host liability in B.C. when it comes to underage guests.

McCormick alleges the Pearsons encouraged and facilitated underage drinking, and claims they should have prevented Plambeck and himself from leaving or else ensured they got home safely. As hosts of the party, the lawsuit states the Pearsons "entered into a special relationship with their minor-aged guests and other guests . . . to supervise or alternately arrange for proper or adequate supervision and maintain control of the party and owed a duty of care."

The civil suit further states the Pearsons knew or should have known about an uninsured Subaru parked in the neighbourhood with the keys inside, a vehicle which Plambeck drove away and soon after

fatally crashed on a sharp bend of North End Road.

Neither teen was wearing a seat belt. Plambeck's blood alcohol level was determined to have been well over the legal limit and it is alleged he was texting while driving.

The Pearsons argue in turn that McCormick was old enough to make decisions about alcohol use.

The response states: "At the material date, the plaintiff was 17 years of age and in Grade 11. He was of an age and experience to appreciate the risk of his choice to consume alcohol, and his decision to consume alcohol/other substances was voluntary. His age and experience was such to leave him accountable and responsible for his choices not withstanding his legal standing as a minor."

**CIVIL SUIT** continued on 4

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# TIDE TABLES

## at Fulford Harbour

**FEB/MAR 2020** PST (UTC-8h)  
When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
26	0006	1.2	3.9	1	0223	2.3	7.5
	0715	3.2	10.5		0826	3.0	9.8
	WE 1316	2.0	6.6		SU 1554	1.3	4.3
	ME 1833	2.7	8.9	DI 2352	2.7	8.9	
27	0038	1.4	4.6	2	0315	2.5	8.2
	0733	3.2	10.5		0845	3.0	9.8
	TH 1352	1.8	5.9		MO 1643	1.1	3.6
	JE 1933	2.6	8.5	LU			
28	0111	1.7	5.6	3	0136	2.8	9.2
	0750	3.1	10.2		0439	2.8	9.2
	FR 1429	1.6	5.2		TU 0908	2.9	9.5
	VE 2042	2.6	8.5	MA 1738	1.0	3.3	
29	0145	2.0	6.6	4	0241	3.0	9.8
	0808	3.1	10.2		0652	2.9	9.5
	SA 1510	1.4	4.6		WE 0947	2.9	9.5
	SA 2207	2.6	8.5	ME 1835	0.8	2.6	

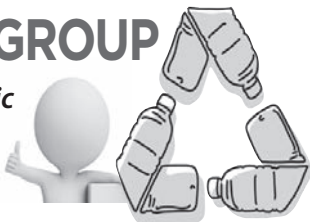
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**BACK TO 1960:** Things were psychedelic at Salt Spring Public Library on Saturday night for the 60th anniversary gala and dance, which saw art and poetry contest winners fêted, including artist Cathie Grindler in her Elvis garb, left, people dancing to Doug & The Thugs, food and refreshments shared, and dignitaries such as provincial librarian Mari Martin speaking. Above, chief librarian Karen Hudson, left, and library board and communications committee member Judy Nurse lead proceedings. Poetry contest winner Natalie Meisner and runner-up Carrie Cogan also read their poems. See page 13 for information about one of the anniversary legacy art projects.

## MENTAL HEALTH

# Psychiatrist shortage felt locally

Two full-time positions unfilled

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

People needing emergency psychiatric services on Salt Spring may be sent off-island as Island Health grapples with a gap in local staffing.

The health authority is currently seeking to fill two full-time psychiatrist positions on Salt Spring, with hours to be shared between Lady Minto Hospital, outpatient treatments at drug and alcohol programs, consultations for the severe and chronically mentally ill, and private office practice. While an in-house job listing highlights the attractions of the island community, a national shortage of psychiatrists means those positions could be vacant for some time.

"Providing access to safe, appropriate care is a priority for Island Health," the health authority told the Driftwood. "Until the positions are filled, patients who require emergency psychiatric care may be transferred out of the community to receive a higher level of care. Patients seeking non-emergency psychiatric care will continue to be supported in the community."

According to the Canadian Medical Association and Canadian Psychiatric Association, one in five Canadians suffer from a mental health problem or illness in any given year. A health needs assessment published by the Salt Spring Island Community Health Society in October 2019 determined mental health was indeed the most pressing health-related issue on the island, with only half the people who need services able to access them at the time of the survey.

Mental health services are provided on Salt Spring by a range of professionals. Crisis support assessment, referral and follow-up by a mental health nurse is available at the Lady Minto Hospital emergency room. A social worker offers support in partnership with a general practitioner to those with challenging or complex health needs, and provides assistance with psycho-social issues related to mental health and substance use. A nurse practitioner provides health care for those with mental health issues who don't have a primary care provider.

A psychiatrist is needed for the assessment and treatment

of people with significant mental health concerns. While Salt Spring will continue to have a psychiatrist in private practice in Dr. David Montalbetti, lack of emergency access at Lady Minto could pose concerns.

One Salt Spring Islander who has experienced mental health crises in the past (who will not be named to protect patient confidentiality) said even with one psychiatrist on staff, wait times were unworkable. He has gone to the hospital in crisis mode after composing suicidal letters, and had to wait six to eight months before seeing a psychiatrist.

"I have a good support system, but for someone who doesn't have that — that is their support system," the man said. "And we have a disproportionate level of people with mental health issues here. So many people are alone. Who is going to advocate for them?"

In his experience, trying to describe his crisis feelings many months after actually having them was not effective toward finding long-term help. As well, his knowledge of people who have committed suicide is they tend to do it not in their lowest points, but when they start to climb back out, because they never want to feel that bad again.

"If you're trying to finally get help and not getting it, that plays into the mental health trauma," he said. "In my opinion we're going to see more violence: domestic violence of all kinds and against strangers."

The Canadian Psychiatric Association recommends a psychiatrist to population ratio of one psychiatrist for every 8,400 Canadians. Since that number was determined by a study carried out in the 1990s and self-reporting of mental health issues has greatly increased in the past decade, the ratio of psychiatrists per population should likely be higher. Island Health's funding of two positions for Salt Spring would meet the desired ratio.

The Globe and Mail reported just last month that 50 per cent of Canada's psychiatrists are over 55 "and there aren't enough young doctors filling the ranks to replace them." The investigation found that high workloads are causing stress and burnout at the same time that requests for mental health care have been growing.



## Lady Minto Hospital AUXILIARY

- **2 CONTINUING EDUCATION BURSARIES** to GISS graduates who have completed at least one year of a healthcare course of study, continuing in a healthcare related field. Applications at GISS Counselling Department or [www.lmhas.ca/bursaries](http://www.lmhas.ca/bursaries). Application deadline is March 31, 2020.

- **3 "BACK TO SCHOOL" BURSARIES** to mature adults who wish to pursue a career in a health related field.

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Application deadline is March 31, 2020.

- **1 JR. VOLUNTEER AWARD** to a graduating GISS student with at least 50 hours of volunteer work in a healthcare facility and with plans to continue healthcare work. Submit to GISS Counselling by March 30, 2020.
- **2 SCHOLARSHIPS** to students presently attending Gulf Islands Secondary School. Completed applications must be submitted to GISS Counselling Department by March 30, 2020.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## SSIWPA tax ask set

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee has settled on a \$75,000 tax requisition request to fund watershed management coordination activities over the next year.

The Salt Spring Island Water Protection Alliance board had recommended a \$98,500 requisition, in line with previous years. However, SSIWPA's 2020-21 operating budget is set at \$75,000 and some \$79,000 in unspent funds are expected to have accumulated by the end of the fiscal year.

Those reserve funds will remain available to the LTC and to SSIWPA for projects or activities that meet the definition of the establishing taxation bylaw, which refers to a "coordinating" function to help determine and implement policies to protect water quantity and quality.

The requisition amount must be approved by Islands Trust Council to be incorporated in the Trust-wide budget. This will be finalized during council's next quarterly meeting, which will be held at the Harbour House Hotel on Salt Spring from March 10 to 12.

## Surveyors at work

Islanders will have noticed personnel from 3D Geomatics, a Nanaimo-based land surveying company, recently working on Fulford-Ganges Road.

The contracted surveyors are on Salt Spring to facilitate the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's plans for future road resurfacing work on the island. A ministry spokesperson said there is no timeline yet for resurfacing of the work. How many kilometres will be repaved is also not yet known.

## Radio course

A Basic Amateur Radio Licensing Course is set to run on Salt Spring for four Saturdays beginning on March 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

Amateur or "ham" radio works when other communications do not and is an essential part of emergency preparedness for any community.

"Although the course is quite intense the success rate is very good for those who complete the course," state organizers.

More details and registration are available through Eventbrite by searching for basic-amateur-radio-licensing-course.

## ISLANDS TRUST

# Channel Ridge home rental denied

## Meadowlane seniors' home clears hurdle; Fields gets TUP

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee has rejected a request to allow occupancy of a duplex show home in Channel Ridge.

A staff report presented at the Feb. 18 business meeting explained Channel Ridge's current owner, the Onni Group, had requested the LTC consider amendments to a covenant in order to allow them to rent out the show home without meeting a number of conditions listed in the document.

A separate but complicating issue is the fact Onni has taken over legal action from the previous land owners against the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, Salt Spring Water Preservation Society, the Province of B.C. and the Islands Trust based on uncertainty of water supply. According to a Trust staff report, the covenant may be significant in legal proceedings.

Staff recommended against proceeding with the request until covenant conditions are met or significantly renegotiated and legal proceedings against the Islands Trust are concluded or dropped.

"A general principle is we don't negotiate with people that are suing us," regional planning manager Stefan Cermak observed.

Conditions of the covenant that would allow occupation of the show home are that Phase 1's development of up to 118 dwelling units and village centre buildings be completed, and that the subdivision plan for Phase 2 be submitted. As a staff report outlines, Phase 1 building plans were not accomplished before the project went bankrupt. Compliance with the master development plan, the natural areas reclamation plan, the stormwater management plan and development permits would also need to be demonstrated after those buildings were constructed and before Phase 2 to meet the covenant's conditions for the show home occupancy.

"I agree with the staff report. I'd like to sit down with these people and find out what their plans are for the future," commented trustee Laura Patrick.

Trustee Peter Grove confessed that he may have been responsible for "stirring the pot" because someone had suggested to him the unused show home would make good housing for RCMP officers, who are among those who have struggled with the island's rental shortage.

LTC chair Peter Luckham questioned whether relaxing the covenant would actually contribute to affordable housing, though, as the company could use the opportunity to rent to the highest bidder.

"It is a big company, and they're choosing the path of obstruction rather than collaboration, it seems to me," Luckham said in regard to the lawsuit.

## Meadowlane housing agreement approved

The Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association cleared another hurdle on its path to constructing a new independent seniors' complex on Kings Lane with approval of a housing agreement and issuance of a development permit last Tuesday.

The LTC also granted a reduced rate for the landscaping security, changing the standard security amount of 150 per cent of projected costs to 50 per cent. The amount is in line with a reduction the LTC previously granted to Community Services' affordable housing project on Bishop's Walk.

Landscaping at the new facility is projected to cost around \$243,000, which would have required GISRA to have \$365,000 in the bank

to back the security — funds it would have had to raise in advance but would not have access to until the project was completed.

"It's one of those bylaws that's kind of biting you in the tail because it's forcing you to plant more grass and less trees," said GISRA president Janet Smith.

The society will now need to have just over \$120,000 reserved.

## Fields granted TUP

Low-cost retail outlet Fields could be making a return to Salt Spring with issuance of a temporary use permit for 804 Fulford-Ganges Rd. conditionally approved last week. Company owner FHC Leasing Inc. has secured a five-year lease on the former Slegg building supply outlet. Staff recommended a three-year TUP for commercial use of the industrial-zoned site, noting the proposed uses are similar to those currently permitted on the property but there is no zone that currently allows all the intended uses together. As well, the company may find it does not want to operate after the lease is finished, so a full rezoning application would be premature, staff suggested.

Members of the public who spoke during the town hall session on Feb. 18 said they were concerned about increased daytime traffic to the site, which is located off an 80 km/hr highway and on a curve. Trustee Patrick voiced similar concerns.

The TUP was made conditional on the

applicant obtaining the correct access permit for the intended use from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

## Un-permitted accessory building denied variance

The owner of a waterfront property on Mountain Park Drive was denied a variance permit for a workshop that was constructed without a building permit and which exceeds maximum lot coverage regulations.

A staff report explained that 70 square meters of accessory buildings are permitted. The two-story workshop and a separate garage brought the total to more than twice that, or 178 square meters. The owner had been previously told that a variance permit would be required before a building permit could be issued.

The LTC members expressed regret the owner had not come to them for the variance before going ahead with the building, but unanimously agreed against issuing a variance after the fact.

"If you had come to us at the beginning of this process and requested a variance, we would consider some reasonable suggestion . . . we'd come up with some number to accommodate you, quite possibly," Luckham said. "In this case it's already a fait accompli, and the opportunity to have the conversation to facilitate this workshop, we never had that. That makes this very difficult."

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## ISLANDS TRUST

# LTC finalizes rental cottages

### Public feedback contributes to bylaw changes

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee gave third reading last Tuesday to a much-amended version of a bylaw allowing the long-term rental of some 400 seasonal cottages.

The final version of the bylaw rolled back a number of requirements that were previously proposed — including a blanket prohibition against bed and breakfasts in the mapped area — in light of considerable community opposition. The project itself was not scrapped as some had demanded, however, and will now go to the Islands Trust's executive committee for approval.

"Brilliant work; you've nailed it as far as I'm concerned," trustee Peter Grove said after staff recommendations were presented at the Feb. 18 meeting. "You took all the input that's been received and made the changes, so people must feel heard."

The final version prohibits B&B use only for cottages in the bylaw area that are greater than 56 square meters in size. (The bylaw gives owners of properties larger

than two hectares the new ability to build cottages up to 90 m<sup>2</sup>.) Similarly, a requirement that all new cottages in the bylaw area have rainwater catchment installed was changed to affect only those larger than 56 m<sup>2</sup>.

The requirement to register a covenant against subdividing a cottage as a strata unit was dropped as being partly redundant, although staff said that leaves a window where some bare land property owners might build two new units and then create a strata.

Trustee Laura Patrick voted against advancing the bylaw in recognition of housing advocates' opinion that the measure is inadequate to meet affordable housing needs. She suggested putting the project on pause to see what else a new housing working group could come up with, including the potential to increase aging in place opportunities.

"There could be aspects of this that are worth pursuing, but allow it to be examined in terms of what else you could do, and something else might result in more meaningful results," Patrick said.

"This was not the final solution by any means," Grove responded. "This was a small step; it was an attempt to deal with low-hanging fruit. There is a lot more that needs to be done and this will not


interfere with any of that. This will not preclude further development of our plan. It's just a very small step toward where we need to go."

LTC chair Peter Luckham considered whether the cottages bylaw would restrict the ability to do further work on affordable housing and found it would not. He also saw value in advancing the project if it would create just one or two new units.

"Maybe it will even create several, which will provide relief to some in the short term," Luckham said. "And absolutely this housing working group could come up with some new ideas and we could create a new bylaw rather than delay this any further, because it's been such a long time coming."

In other business from last Tuesday's meeting related to LTC projects, trustees voted to amend a project charter for protection of the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem. Patrick asked that public education on the importance of protecting the CDF be moved up the list of priority actions, and that public engagement happen early in the process to avoid the kind of controversy that erupted over riparian area regulations several years ago.

The project charter will come back to the LTC in March for final approval to reflect the updated timeline and budget.



## Bylaw No. 471

# Temporary Use Permits for Residential Uses

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is Bylaw No. 471 about?  
Bylaw No. 471 will amend the Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan to authorize the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to issue Temporary Use Permits (TUPs) for residential uses. It will also establish guidelines the Local Trust Committee can apply when considering issuance of TUPs for residential uses.

What will happen at this Community Information Meeting?

- 6:30 p.m. to 6:35 p.m.  
LTC chair's welcome and opening remarks
- 6:35 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.  
Staff presentation
- 6:50 p.m. to 7:50 p.m.  
Bylaw Workshop
  - Table-based activity where participants can discuss, critique, revise and improve Bylaw No. 471
- 7:50 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Town Hall
  - This is your chance to ask questions and share your opinion about Bylaw No. 471 with the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee

How do I get more information?  
Copies of the bylaws and other information are available on the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area Project webpage: [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/SSIResidentialTUPs](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/SSIResidentialTUPs) and, at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

When?  
Monday, March 2, 2020  
6:30 p.m.

Where?  
Harbour House Hotel (Crofton Room):  
121 Upper Ganges Road, SSI

Who should attend?  
Anyone interested in, or affected by, proposed Bylaw No. 471.

Enquiries?  
Jason Youmans, Island Planner  
250-537-9144

Written submissions are welcome and can be emailed to: [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca) or, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office.

Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

# Tragedy recounted

CIVIL SUIT  
continued from 1

If this was not the case, the response claims parents Mike McCormick and Corrie Jones were ultimately responsible for ensuring their son got home safely. The Pearsons claim they were aware of Calder's previous alcohol use and should have made plans to get him home, and/or followed up when his twin brother arrived home safely without him.

The Pearsons further deny they had any way of knowing that Plambeck and McCormick would take a car that was parked on a Byron Road property.

McCormick claims his injuries have had a life-altering impact including lasting brain damage. They have impaired his ability to make an income and caused pain, suffering and loss of enjoyment of life. Ongoing expenses for medical care and treatment are expected.

The civil suit had initially named Plambeck as well as members of the Coupland family who owned the Subaru and Byron Road property as defendants. The Couplands were removed from the suit before the trial started for an alternate resolution. It was reported last week that McCormick had agreed to a settlement with Plambeck's estate.

The hearing is expected to continue for several more days.

MARINE ENVIRONMENT

# Speakers chart herring plight

Loss of foundation species imperils marine ecosystem, orcas

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A large all-ages crowd turned out last Tuesday night for a talk on herring sponsored by the Salt Spring Arts Council as part of its Against the Current: Orca + Salmon exhibition.

Salt Spring educator and activist Briony Penn and guest speakers Eric Pelkey and Vanessa Minke-Martin reported on troubling management of the Pacific herring fishery by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The trio has been sharing the message at community halls up and down the coast with hopes of inspiring action to save a keystone species that's critically important to the coastal ecosystem, especially the food chain with chinook salmon and southern resident killer whales.

Pelkey is hereditary chief of Tsawout and a member of the WSANEC Leadership Council. He recalled how his great-grandfather kept a longhouse on Ganges Harbour for the herring fishery. Members of the Saanich Nation were taught not to take too many fish and to leave the largest ones because they were breeding mothers.

"My father told me that his grandfather talked about this. He told him without the herring we would have no food, without the herring we'd have no salmon. Once the herring stopped the chain would begin to fall. First if the herring went then the salmon would go. Once the salmon went, so would the killer whales in our territory, along with the other whales," Pelkey said.

According to a press release that Pacific Wild issued on Jan. 30, the herring population in the Strait of Georgia has dwindled by 60 per cent in the last four years. The organization says the management plan for 2020 may ensure a further collapse of the species.

"The last of five commercial herring fisheries regions on the West Coast of B.C. is on course to succumb to overfishing and mismanagement, owing to a 20 per cent quota set by DFO and approved on Jan. 29," Pacific Wild said in the statement, adding the decision is seen widely by conservationists "as a successful push by the industrial fishing lobby, which contradicts precautionary recommendations by DFO's own scientists."

Groups including Conservancy Hornby Island, the Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards and Sea Shepherd Conservation Society plus 53 Vancouver Island municipalities, First Nations groups and the Islands Trust have all called on the federal government to immediately close the fishery and to create a recovery plan. Instead, the 20 per cent quota remains in effect for 2020, "a quota that remains unchanged since 1983."

Federal Fisheries Minister Jonathan Wilkinson has stated in the House of Commons that herring stocks are abundant in the Strait of Georgia and that regulatory decisions are based on science.

Pacific herring officially collapsed from overfishing in 1965 and again in 1993. During the 1970s, the herring roe fishery brought 300 boats to Gan-



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Eric Pelkey, hereditary chief of the Tsawout First Nation, speaks about the region's historic herring fishery during an event at Mahon Hall on Feb. 18. An orca sign installation by artist Paul Burke is seen at right.

ges each spring for several years, but concerning changes were already in evidence. The fishery was temporarily closed in Area 18 in 1977 following three years of steep annual decreases in stock.

Local First Nations have witnessed many changes to the area since commercial fishing began in their territory in the 1880s, Pelkey said. Places that once saw large herring spawns have seen that activity disappear almost completely and resident populations are being extirpated — including from Saanich Inlet and Salt Spring locations such as Ganges Harbour and Long Harbour.

**"The last of five commercial herring fisheries regions on the West Coast of B.C. is on course to succumb to overfishing and mismanagement."**

PACIFIC WILD

"That's why it's so important that everyone take some action. Take some action to show what's being done, show that the herring are being killed off by the commercial fishery," Pelkey said. "Everyone needs to become educated and aware of what happened here."

Minke-Martin is a biologist who has been working on a herring campaign at the nonprofit Pacific Wild organization. She explained part of the problem with the DFO's fishery management is the way it looks at herring populations on the coast as large migratory groups covering five geographical areas. First Nations knowledge and more recent scientific research supports the idea there are also smaller genetic groups within these populations that have adapted to particular locations, and

these are being wiped out by localized over-fishing.

While overall herring numbers may seem high, Minke-Martin said the focus on resident populations paints a different picture. The Strait of Georgia region once had dozens of spawning grounds, almost all of which have now disappeared. The spawn is now mainly found just in the stretch between Parksville and Comox.

Both the roe fishery and the food and bait fishery are problematic, Minke-Martin said. The roe fishery is easier to identify, though, since it happens during the day and is marked by the milky-coloured seawater and the hundreds of commercial vessels that converge on the area. The roe fishery is also frustratingly wasteful in that spawning fish (which can live up to 15 years and spawn up to 10 times) are killed to collect their eggs. The "waste" product is ground up, much of it to feed problematic farmed Atlantic salmon instead of going to herring's natural Pacific salmon predators in the wild.

The human cost of losing the herring species involves economic burden to multigenerational fishing families and First Nations who have traditionally relied on fish as a food source. Pelkey said members of his family have been diagnosed with a liver disease that can be fatal and has been directly linked to the decrease in seafood compared to their traditional diet.

Calls to action coming from Pacific Wild, Conservancy Hornby Island and WSANEC Leadership Council include signing a House of Commons petition currently underway. It asks the Government of Canada to suspend the 2020 Salish Sea herring fishery until a whole ecosystem plan is developed; fairly compensate fishers for economic losses; and ensure that decisions are made with the full participation of First Nations and local communities.

The goal is to get to 5,000 signatures before the petition closes on March 12. Those who wish to participate can find the link at pacificwild.org.

More information about the Pacific herring including high-level summaries of scientific reports can be found at oceanmodelingforum.org.

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# OPINION



**2019 CCNA Awards**  
 Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg)  
 Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

**2019 BCYCNA Awards**  
 Gold - Best Arts & Culture Writing (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best Environmental Writing (Gail Sjuberg)  
 Silver - Best Multimedia Feature (Marc Kitteringham)  
 Silver - Community Service | New Journalist of the Year (Marc Kitteringham)



## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

# Fishy facts

**A**rt and science merged beautifully at the Salt Spring Arts Council's **Against the Current: Salmon and Orca exhibit at Mahon Hall this month.**

Artwork on marine ecology themes and especially orcas and salmon, undertaken by professional artists as well as school children, combined to highlight the importance of the Salish Sea's marine wildlife. The exhibit also brought the possibility of the extinction of the southern resident killer whales into sharp focus. One exhibit showed the lineage and names of all animals in the J, K and L pods. As biologist Alexandra Morton has pointed out, loss of the whales would make it the first species extinction on the planet where each individual's name was known.

### THE ISSUE: Commercial herring fishery

### WE SAY: 2020 fishery should be limited

Other groups and local government agencies have recently called for a cessation of the fishery or at least a reduction in the amount harvested this year.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans consistently states that harvesting of 20 per cent of the herring biomass is a sustainable practice, and it estimates the biomass amount each year. But DFO predicts the 2020 biomass will be only 54,200 metric tonnes, down from 86,000 tonnes in 2019, when it had predicted that number to be 138,000 tonnes. In 2016 the biomass was determined to be 130,000 tonnes, so it is clearly declining, despite contrary claims from the fishing industry last year.

The Strait of Georgia commercial herring fishery is the last of five that once existed on the B.C. coast. Comparisons to the death of the Atlantic cod fishery have been made. Can the destruction of a resource that's economic value is derived from exporting the roe to Japan, and making pet treats and food for farmed Atlantic salmon really be justified? Local salmon fishing and tourism industries are negatively affected as well.

More information and a petition to the House of Commons led by MP Gord Johns is available at pacificwild.org. If we're serious about saving orcas and salmon, it's an important place to start.

A Feb. 18 presentation called Let the Herring Live raised another important issue. If killer whales are starving due to a lack of chinook salmon, is not a lack of herring for the salmon to eat another factor to consider?

Speakers made a compelling case that overfishing of herring is something that needs to stop in order to increase the chance of survival for the salmon and the whales.



# Legal does not mean just

By JAN SLAKOV  
 On Twitter someone asked, if it's OK to block rail lines, isn't it OK then to block abortion services?

Let's see: First, like many others who felt heartbroken when people who have gone to extraordinary lengths to protect their territory were arrested, I'm no fan of blockades. But, given the context of these blockades, it would be very wrong to use violence to bring them down.

Canadian law stipulates that women have the right to seek abortions. It also recognizes that Indigenous people have rights. Indeed, although First Nations were not allowed to hire lawyers from 1927 to 1951, in 1997, the Wet'suwet'en and Gitksan hereditary leadership obtained a court ruling that they never surrendered title to their ancestral lands. An open letter signed by numerous Canadian lawyers explains: "The fact that band councils have signed benefit agreements with Coastal GasLink cannot justify the erasure of Indigenous law or negate the Crown's obligation to meet with the Hereditary Chiefs."

It's especially shocking that the B.C. government would adopt UNDRIP legislation and then support RCMP and Coastal GasLink

### VIEWPOINT

invasion of Wet'suwet'en territory without free, prior, informed consent. Journalist Dirk Meissner explained that Premier John Horgan said the declaration didn't apply to the Coastal Gas-Link project.

Of course, legal does not necessarily mean just. Determining what is right requires honest information, adherence to core principles and dialogue; allowing "might" to determine what is "right" undermines our humanity and ultimately our future.

Is it right to flout Indigenous rights (and Canada's efforts towards reconciliation) in order to allow a climate-disrupting mega-project, owned largely by foreign companies, including three state-owned companies, to proceed? And we know this project would not be viable without substantial government subsidies.

The ecological consequences of fracking and using vast amounts of electricity to make LNG are devastating.

In January I spoke with a senior employee of a mainstream media outlet. They seemed to think my Wet'suwet'en solidarity

walk from Swartz Bay to the legislature was of little consequence; like who would even see my signs? But they recognized I'm not the only one losing sleep over the mess we're in. We were discussing Indigenous resistance when the employee suggested "they" would save us. I was shocked. Only afterwards could I see how the idea that this media outlet would continue to spread misinformation about the crisis we face, while relying on "them" to save us, when "they" have suffered through genocidal conditions, was a bit much for me.

Even as major investors back away from fossil-fuel projects, many politicians speak as if divestment were a cardinal sin. But clinging to devastating industries, especially when other ways to meet basic needs are readily available, makes about as much sense as continuing to pay church indulgences, when unscrupulous church officials were using them as a cash cow.

There is good news. The Teck mine is off the table, divestment is gaining traction, people are flying less (and buying offsets). Still, to quote Adrienne Rich: "So much has been destroyed/ I have to cast my lot with those who [...] reconstitute the world."

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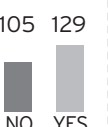
### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

**Are you concerned about COVID-19?**

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Should SD64 consider closing the middle school?**



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

# OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

**"A general principle is we don't negotiate with people that are suing us."**

STEFAN CERMAK, ISLANDS TRUST REGIONAL PLANNING MANAGER, RE ONNI GROUP AND CHANNEL RIDGE

## SALT SPRING SAYS

### WE ASKED:

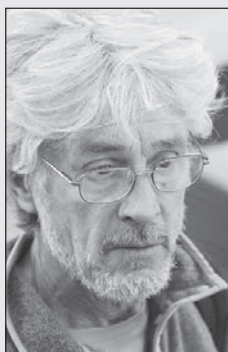
*What do you appreciate most about the library?*

#### ADRIAN AND NICO SELBY



The kids' reading room and play area.

#### BOB BEACH



Free access to the books.

#### DACIA MOSS



The openness, ambiance and the fact that the community room is put to such good use.

#### GABRIEL LEBLANC



The variety, diversity of events, services and materials.

#### IAN FRANNEY



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## 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

### Be frugal

The following was sent to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

1. Your parcel tax and capital construction surcharge amounts are onerous and financially hurting property owners within the NSSWD. How many years are we required to pay such high parcel taxes? I am paying \$687.26, due March 16, for 2020. This hurts.
2. When will the NSSWD merge with the Capital Regional District?
3. Sixty-seven per cent of respondents to the 2019 survey wanted the NSSWD to merge

with the CRD.

4. \$50,000 was paid to a consultant (y the CRD) to study the idea of merging the NSSWD with the CRD. The answer?

5. It is unfair to rely on parcel tax payers for upgrades to the NSSWD system, or to "green" the operation. Please access alternative revenue streams, i.e. grants.

6. It is unfair to rely on parcel tax payers for upgrades to the Maxwell Lake treatment plant, or for a new treatment plant. Please access alternative revenue streams, i.e. grants.

7. Under the NSSWD guiding principles, one more should be added: Fiscal Responsibility, or operating with the "lean and mean" attitude of a small busi-

ness, to ensure that every tax and ratepayer dollar collected is well spent.

**WILLIAM STEINER,**  
SALT SPRING

### Cruelty-free

Helen Hinchliff's piece on Hormone Replacement Therapy on Feb. 12 was interesting and thought provoking, as Helen's columns always are.

I would add one piece of information to what Helen wrote and urge women readers to avoid the drug Premarin (which was once prescribed to me by a Salt Spring physician). It is made from the urine of pregnant mares. These horses are confined to stalls without

exercise, forced to wear a urine collection device, and may be deprived of adequate water in order to concentrate the urine. When the foal is born it is usually sent to the slaughterhouse, and the mare is made pregnant again. There are still some 20 of these pregnant mare operations in Canada, with some 1,300 foals born per year.

Fortunately, there are now many non-cruelty-based estrogen replacement therapies. These may be plant-based or synthetic, and I urge women who choose HRT to choose non-cruelty products.

**JANICE MCLEAN,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Hunger for fake news stories just won't abate

You check your favourite social media site and you read "MILLIONS DYING." Your heart palpitates for an instant and you can feel the hackles on the back of your neck rising. You scroll down a couple more lines to see what disaster is about to threaten our world and you read the rest of the headline "to learn the secret to weight loss."

This is the kind of garbage that now dominates our world of misinformation and fake news. It's really not a novel phenomenon. In the years before the rise of the internet, many will remember standing in the queue at the local supermarket checkout while being affronted by headlines from the various junk tabloids like National Enquirer or The Globe. These paper rags would scream out stories such as "ELVIS FOUND ALIVE IN MELTING ICEBERG" or "PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARILYN MONROE DISCOVERED RUNNING SMALL DINER IN UTAH" or "103-YEAR-OLD MOTHER GIVES BIRTH TO TRIPLETS IN INDIA."

Normally these shocking headlines would elicit groans from ordinary grocery shoppers. After all, you would have to find yourself somewhere on the stupid/ignorant spectrum to believe that any of these exposés was possibly true. In these modern times, however, with so many people getting their news through internet news feeds or social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat, it is often difficult to screen out the fake from the real.

There is no lack of satirical news sites whose main purpose is to amuse and befuddle. Fark, for instance, prides itself on presenting funny, "true" stories like "The true story of Miracle Mike, the chicken that lived for 18 months without a head." The Onion, which since 1996 has been circulating clever satires of the news, has presented us eye-watering tidbits such as "CIA Realizes It's Been Using Black Highlighters All These Years." The Borowitz Report, which was once named the #1 Twitter feed by Time Magazine, has given the world "Trump Furious At Iran For Distracting People From Impeachment For Just Two Days." And News Mutiny, the site that bills itself with "satire for the wise, news for the dumb" has claimed responsibility for "Arizona Depots Thousands of Useless People."

Much more insidious than the satirical sites are the ones that are fake but appear to be from reputable publications and broadcast-



**Shilo Zylbergold**  
**NOBODY ASKED ME BUT**

ers such as Time magazine or ABC news. According to a survey by BuzzFeed News, 75 per cent of adults are hoodwinked into believing that a story has to be true if it comes from a trustworthy source. For instance, the site ABCnews.com.co is completely bogus and has nothing to do with the actual broadcasting corporation, yet many would believe a story that came from this particular feed.

Sometimes the credible broadcasters themselves are tricked into reporting fake news. For instance, in 2019, ABC had to retract a story it ran on the weekend news showing a fierce battle between Syrian Kurds and Turkish forces. Although the video appeared to be authentic, the footage was actually from a night gun demonstration at the Knob Creek Gun Range in West Point, Kentucky.

How weird are these fake news stories? Of course, you can find hundreds of them espousing the verity of all kinds of conspiracy theories, white supremacy racist propaganda, gay bashing and evidence to support flat earth disciples. It's almost impossible to believe that anyone who is not flat-lining on a brain scan could possibly accept this kind of balderdash for the truth, but it is happening all the time.

What are really freaky are news stories that used to be called "urban myths" before the advent of the internet age, but are now reposted and retweeted between both friends and strangers so often that their very ubiquity leads everyone to believe that there has got to be substance to their existence. Most of these are so ridiculous as to be beyond the realm of possibility, yet there must be something in our collective psyches that makes us want to accept them as the truth.

One of these fabricated news items that recently made the rounds contended that the county of Miami-Dade in Florida had created special "texting lanes" for drivers who could not help themselves from texting

whilst behind the wheel. The sides of these lanes were lined with rubber bumpers to keep these vehicles safely away from normal traffic and minimize the damage they would suffer should they collide with each other.

Another one exposes a proposed secret American government policy that would require the poor and homeless to subject themselves to saliva tests in order to prove that they are truly hungry. Only if they pass these tests would they be eligible to receive food stamps.

People seem to want to believe stories involving irony, especially the ones where perpetrators earn their "just desserts." An example of one of these is the item that tells of the terrorist who neglected to put enough stamps on a letter bomb. When it was returned to him for insufficient postage, he forgot what it was and opened it. You guessed it: KABOOM!

Another tale displaying irony involves the aftermath of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989. According to this story, the average cost of rehabilitating each seal that had been damaged by the crude was \$80,000. Apparently, a few months later, two of the saved seals were released back into the wild in front of a celebratory crowd of conservationists and well-wishers. In full view of the horrified throng, both seals were immediately eaten by a killer whale.

My favourite fake news story is the one that tells about the hospital bed curse. It seems that every Sunday at exactly 11 o'clock in the morning, whoever was lying in a particular bed in a particular room in the intensive care unit of a certain hospital was found dead. It didn't matter what condition or disease the victim was suffering from. Experts and specialists were called in and as they stood watching the next Sunday, the mystery was solved when Pookie Johnson, the part-time weekend cleaner entered the room, disconnected the life-support machine, and plugged in his vacuum cleaner.

Nobody asked me, but there's never been a shortage of fake news right here on Salt Spring. Have you heard that the recent analysis of an artesian well discovered directly beneath Centennial Park has found that the source comes from the headwaters of the Ganges River in India? Pass it on.



## No labels

Thanks to Cam Robinson for his thoughtful comments ("Dark Underbelly Showing," Feb. 19 Driftwood).

To answer his question about separating the meritorious from the miscreants in Centennial Park, I would say: "We don't." Labelling behaviours? Maybe. Labelling people? No. Most of us have at one time or another

found ourselves veering into meritorious or miscreant behaviours depending on the day and what life throws at us. Moving folks along who are behaving irresponsibly implies that there is an alternative place to be.

Perhaps it's time for Salt Spring Island Community Services (with their new shelter funding) to open their facility during the day as other year-round shelters customarily do. This could provide a friendly alternative to down-

town by offering laundry, washroom and shower services, access to computers, storage lockers, coffee and snacks. Outreach workers would be able to locate their clients more easily, freeing up police time for other duties.

Although SSICS is a private charity that can choose what it does or does not provide, it is supported by tax dollars as well as generous donations from our community. I think this alternative would be most welcome.

Adam Easter's excellent question about having more garbage cans in the park (Driftwood, Feb. 19) was also discussed at the last ASK meeting with the CRD. One concern expressed was that residents would use the public bins to save a few bucks. Who then would separate the miscreants from the meritorious?

**JO ANN GAINOR,**  
SALT SPRING

## MORE LETTERS

### Living to be too old

Just the other day, I read about a retired British palliative care nurse, Gill Paraoh, who in 2015, at age 75, died peacefully at an assisted suicide clinic in Switzerland.

I read that when in her 30s, after years of helping old people and seeing first hand the health issues that come with aging, she decided reaching the age of 50 was old enough for her. Then as time passed, she thought 60, but after coming down with shingles at 70, Gill got serious.

These days, if you have a serious enough health problem, a number of countries give you the option of an assisted suicide, but Gill had no major health issues. She simply felt that old age was "awful" and that she didn't want to become a burden to her two grown daughters.

My own mother is 96 now and for years has told me she does not want to die in a nursing home as her mother did and many others do, but I believe her present health problems are not serious enough for her to qualify for an assisted suicide in this country. It's not enough that she's been around this long and wishes to pass on in a dignified way.

For about the last 15 years I've felt we're living to be too old and, after talking with a couple of active men who were just over 60 and beginning to notice definite signs of decline, I decided that 60 was old enough for me. I've looked after my health all my life working on small farms, eating mostly farm fresh foods and enjoying lots of exercise, not so I can live to a "ripe old age" but so I can continue to be as active as I love being while I am alive.

Now I'm 60 with no family responsibilities and my wish is that I had the option of passing on as Gill did. Apparently there is a growing number of people everywhere applying for assisted suicides, whom I believe a truly civilized society would and should accommodate by giving them a place they can go to make a peaceful transition to the next adventure. Quality of life; not quantity.

I welcome comments on this topic at optout6t@gmail.com.

**BOB BEACH,**  
SALT SPRING



Yat, Communications Manager

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# MONEY MATTERS

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## RRSPS

## Five common mistakes to avoid with your RRSP

Scotiabank provides valuable advice

## SUBMITTED BY SCOTIABANK

The Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) is a Canadian savings program that has been helping us prepare for our post-work lives since it was introduced over 60 years ago.

Make sure you are getting the most out of your RRSP; here are five common mistakes to avoid:

## 1. WITHDRAWING EARLY

One of the biggest mistakes Canadians can make is withdrawing funds (see note 1) from their RRSP before retirement. If you withdraw funds early, you lose that contribution room and the tax-deferred growth with it. While all withdrawals are subject to withholding tax of 10 to 30 per cent (see note 2), you will likely pay a higher marginal tax as the money withdrawn will be added to your income for the year.

## 2. CONTRIBUTING TOO MUCH

It's great to plan for your future, but putting too much into your RRSP can be a problem. Over-contributions to an RRSP can cost you a penalty of one per cent per month on contributions that exceed your RRSP deduction limit by more than \$2,000. You can contribute up to 18 per cent of your previous

year's earned income, up to a maximum of \$26,500 for 2019, plus any unused contribution room from previous years.

## HOW DO YOU FIND OUT YOUR RRSP DEDUCTION LIMIT?

- It's on your most recent Notice of Assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency (you can also find it on your online myCRA account).

- Unused contribution room can be carried forward indefinitely; contributions to your RRSP can be made until the year in which you turn 71 and your spousal RRSP until the year in which your spouse turns 71.

If you have additional savings, also consider a Tax-Free Savings Account, which offers a cumulative total contribution room of \$69,500 starting in 2020.

## 3. STARTING TOO LATE

Time is on your side when it comes to contributing to an RRSP. Contributing early and on a regular basis can help you build your savings easily and automatically. The best news for those just starting out is that you don't need a lot of money to make a lot of money. Monthly contributions — boosted by the power of compound growth — can accumulate significantly over time.

## 4. BEING OVERLY RISK AVERSE

Depending on how old you are, there may be decades before you reach retirement. While volatility can be stressful, especially when reading news headlines, over longer periods, the variance between the highs and lows shrinks considerably and you're more likely to come out

ahead. Maintaining a longer-term perspective and taking a diversified approach to investing aligned to your risk tolerance and time horizon is often the best approach.

## 5. FAILING TO REVISIT THE PLAN

It's not enough to open an RRSP and make a lump-sum contribution. On an annual basis you should evaluate your retirement goal — when you want to stop working and how much annual income you'll need to do so comfortably — and adjust your plan if needed.

To help you avoid these RRSP mistakes and to develop a personalized plan for your retirement years, contact your Scotiabank Investment Specialist today.

**Note 1:** Provided the Home Buyers' Plan or Lifelong Learning Plan rules are compiled with, withdrawing under those two plans will not result in withholding tax and income inclusion.

**Note 2:** Rates in Quebec differ (5%-15%) – Canada Revenue Agency



## RRSP or TFSA

### Which one is best for you?

Choosing the right registered savings plan, or combination of plans, depends on your financial situation and goals.

**Both RRSPs and TFSAs are tax-efficient ways to save for your retirement and other goals. But, there are some important differences:**

**Tax Deductibility** – RRSP contributions are tax deductible and can help lower your taxable income for the year in which you make the contribution.<sup>1</sup> TFSA contributions on the other hand, are not tax-deductible but any amount contributed, as well as any investment returns earned, is generally tax-free.

**Contribution Room** – RRSP contribution room depends on earned income, while TFSA contribution room does not. The TFSA contribution limit is \$6,000 in 2020 for Canadians aged 18 and older.<sup>2</sup>

RRSPs and TFSAs each have their merits, but to maximize their effectiveness, your personal circumstances and goals must be considered.

**Withdrawals** – While both RRSPs and TFSAs allow you to carry forward unused contribution room, if you withdraw funds from your RRSP, you will lose the contribution room forever. With TFSAs, any withdrawals will be added back to your unused contribution room in the following year.

**Maximum Age** – While RRSPs must be converted to income in the year that you turn 71, TFSAs can continue indefinitely to house new deposits and grow your savings, tax-free.



Let me help you make the decision that's right for you.



#### Brian Young, PFP

Investment Specialist  
and Financial Planner

250-216-8159

brianj.young@scotiabank.com



#### Did you know?

March 2, 2020 is the RRSP contribution deadline for the 2019 tax year.

**Scotiabank**

<sup>1</sup> Everyone's tax situation is different. Speak to a qualified tax advisor to discuss your personal situation. Your allowable RRSP contribution room is reported on your Notice of Assessment from CRA.

<sup>2</sup> If you have never contributed to a TFSA, \$69,500 is the limit for an individual in 2020. Contact the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to confirm the amount of contribution room available to you.

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# MONEY MATTERS FOURTH IN A FOUR-PART SERIES

## MONEY MANAGEMENT

# Seniors should aim to maximize tax savings

Chartered Professional Accountants of B.C. group offers tips

Are you turning 65 or older? Here are some tax tips from the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC) to make sure you maximize your tax savings.

### 1. GET YOUR BENEFITS

If you'll soon be turning 65, make sure you have applied to receive your Old Age Security and, if you haven't done so already, consider applying to Canadian Pension Plan (CPP). The default age to claim CPP pension benefits is 65, but you can choose to begin receiving your pension benefits as early as age 60, at a cost of reduced monthly benefits, or you can choose to delay receiving your pension benefits until after age 70 to receive increased monthly benefits.



### 2. START MAKING PLANS FOR YOUR RRSP FUNDS

You must wind up your RRSP by December 31 of the year you turn 71. However, a complete withdrawal at that time is usually not the best option, because your entire RRSP balance will be taxed in the one year. Instead, consider transferring your RRSP funds on a tax-deferred basis to a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF), or use your RRSP funds to purchase an annuity. Either of these options will pay you a taxable income stream over time. Note: There are significant differences between a RRIF and an annuity – you should consult with a chartered professional accountant or investment advisor before making your decision.

### 3. DIVIDE AND CONQUER (YOUR PENSION INCOME)

Consider splitting your pension income with your spouse to allow the higher-earning individual to share up to half of their pension income (excluding the Canada Pension Plan) with their lower-earning spouse. This will help level your income so one person isn't taxed significantly more than the other. Consider consulting a chartered professional accountant early in the year to make sure pension splitting won't affect your income tax brackets.

### 4. RETAIN YOUR MEDICAL EXPENSE RECORDS

In certain circumstances, you can claim a tax credit for medical expenses. For 2019, the tax credit is available only on the portion of the medical expenses that exceeds the lesser of 3 per cent of your net income or \$2,352 for federal tax purposes, and \$2,221 for B.C. tax purposes.

#### The following are considered medical expenses:

- payments to private health insurance plans (e.g. medical insurance for your cruise trip to Alaska);
- fees to optometrists, dentists, and chiropractors;
- the cost of prescription glasses and contact lenses, medical lab tests, hospital services and treatments, prescription medication; and
- medical devices such as artificial limbs and dentures.

The list above is not exhaustive. If you have any questions regarding what is considered a medical expense, consult a chartered professional accountant.

### 5. REPORT YOUR FOREIGN PROPERTY, SNOWBIRDS!

If you spend the winter months living in your vacation home in Maui and then rent it out during the rest of the year, you will be required to file a

U.S. income tax return and report that income on your Canadian income tax return. You must also indicate whether your foreign property is worth over \$100,000. The foreign property reporting requirements are complex, and failure to comply can result in significant penalties.

Contact a chartered professional accountant to help you understand the complications within your income tax return. Learn more at CPABC's RRSP and Tax Tips at rrspsandtastips.com.

The above information was provided by Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC) for use of the content and include the following disclaimer: Tax rules relating to these RRSP tips are complex. This is not intended as tax advice, and you should not make tax decisions based solely on the information presented in these tips. You should seek the advice of a chartered professional accountant before implementing a tax plan or taking a tax filing position.

### ABOUT CPA BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC) is the training, governing, and regulatory body for over 37,000 CPA members and 5,000 CPA students and candidates.

## REVENUE CANADA

# CRA makes process changes

People First idea adopted

The Canada Revenue Agency is launching a new People First approach to guide their efforts to better serve Canadians. The CRA says its goal is to be trusted, fair and helpful by putting people first.

This tax season, the CRA is making the filing process easier, faster and more secure with changes such as:

- Charlie the Chatbot: Charlie the Chatbot will be online in March to answer general tax filing questions.
- Check CRA processing times tool: Canadians told the CRA that it should be easier to check timelines. The Check CRA Processing Times tool on canada.ca uses published service standards to calculate expected completion times for tax returns.

• Personal identification number (PIN): Canadians want better and more secure access to the CRA's services. They can now create a PIN in My Account or with the help of a CRA agent to identify themselves quickly and securely when calling the CRA.

• Tax packages for paper filers: Canadians asked the CRA to improve forms and guides. The paper tax package has been simplified, and packages have been mailed to those who filed on paper last year.

• Telephone wait times: Canadians wanted a better call experience when contacting the CRA. Estimated wait times are now provided both on the phone and on the new contact information web page to help callers decide when is the best time to call.




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**MARKUS WENZEL**  
BBA (Hons), CFP, Financial Consultant  
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.  
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markus.wenzel@IG.ca



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# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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Capital Regional District **CRD**

**Notice of Deadline  
Arts & Culture**

Equity Grants  
 IDEA Grants  
 Incubator Grants

Three funding programs – one deadline! Do you have an idea for an arts project and need funding? Learn more about Arts & Culture programs: [www.crd.bc.ca/arts](http://www.crd.bc.ca/arts).

**Apply by: Mar 26, 2020 at 4:30pm**

CRD Arts & Culture Support Service  
 625 Fisgard Street, PO BOX 1000,  
 Victoria, BC, V8W 1R7  
 P: 250.360.3215  
 E: [artsdevelopment@crd.bc.ca](mailto:artsdevelopment@crd.bc.ca)

FeedtheArtsYYJ  
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**ART REVIEW**

## Eye for image revealed at ArtSpring



Birgit Freybe Bateman photos Tourists on Foot of Grand Buddha , left, and Plastic Yellow Chairs are part of the Mindful Vision solo show at ArtSpring.

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### Birgit Freybe Bateman collection showcases unique style

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

ArtSpring is expanding its community outreach this month by hosting a rare visual arts show in addition to its usual performance calendar. The choice of photographer Birgit Freybe Bateman for the exercise is a good one, with more than 50 of her large photo prints transforming the gallery into museum-worthy space.

The works in the Mindful Vision show were in fact sourced from a previous exhibition by the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg in 2010. Although viewers may recognize one or two images, the ArtSpring show is the first time this collection has been seen together in Canada. It is an excellent opportunity to immerse oneself in one artist's creative oeuvre, and a fine one at that.

Bateman has a distinct way of seeing the world and translating that vision into her expression. Her work is characterized by strong formal aspects and composition. Patterning and repetition is often a focus, whether that is found in nature or in man-made environments and objects. She often takes a close-up view, excluding any distraction from what her eye singles out as of interest.

Although she has the benefit of being able to travel around the world and with no doubt very good equipment, Bateman's eye is such that she could probably produce equally remarkable images from her closer surroundings using just a phone. The trick is seeing the world in a particular way.

Her love of pattern can therefore just as easily focus on a vertical grouping of braided ships' hawsers as on a set of columns at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Line and texture can be revealed in crushed grasses made ragged with hoarfrost or in a flowing bunch of bright yellow extension cords seen backstage.

Silver Bowl with Poppies is a good example of what Bateman can accomplish just by looking. The view is so close to be almost abstracted; the reflective silver bowl at the centre captures the light from windows across the room. Feathery poppy blossoms drape over the top of the frame like billows of red silk, with a fringe of fallen petals at the base completing the framing.

Nature scenes propose a different perspective from the usual, as well. In Curve of Cranes, taken in Rajasthan, India, Bateman completely fills the frame with a portion of a large flock of cranes feeding on the ground. The view emphasizes the patterns created by curved bodies, necks and wings, celebrating this natural phenomena as much as the particular species. Cruising Crabeater Seals, taken in Antarctica, contrasts gleaming white seal bodies heading on a horizontal line left with the dark water's rippled surface. The water is



Fountain at Villa d'Este by Birgit Freybe Bateman.

nearly black with bright highlights of reflected light on each mini wavelet. As much texture is delineated as if sculpted in kiln-fired glass.

Photographs that include humans are less common; when they appear they often reveal a sense of gentle humour, as if to say we are small beings in the bigger picture, after all. Figures are secondary to their environment while still carrying a sense of individual character, such as a group of school children in Bhutan. Looking like tiny monks with their close-cropped heads and dark maroon uniforms, the children are dwarfed by a giant tree that spreads its branches across the entire background, and by the distant view of steep mountain sides dissected by rice terraces glimpsed behind that.

Yellow Plastic Chairs is a lovely composition that contrasts the ancient stone arches and columns of St. Marco's Square in Venice with scores of empty chairs and tables lined up and waiting for the tourist day to begin. The scene is lifted beyond its formal aspects with inclusion of an older waiter in white jacket and bowtie captured at the edge of the seating.

Bateman's formalism does not reduce the human to just another part of the pattern, however. There is a good deal of warmth in her images as well. To Market - Girl with Chickens has many interesting components. First of all there's the cheeky-looking little girls at the heart of the image, who is looking up at the camera. The brightly dressed girl and her cargo of red chickens — being towed in an open trailer behind a pushed bicycle — provide colourful contrast to the surrounding scene, a tight shot of dark bicycle frames over a dusty flagstone street. There is also pleasing formal contrast between the bicycles' rigid angles and large wheels, and the softer organic forms they surround.

Mindful Vision continues at ArtSpring daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to Sunday, March 8. Bateman will give an artist's talk this Friday, Feb. 28 from 12 noon to 1p.m.

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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**ART FOR THE LIBRARY:** Some of the kids taking part in a tile-design workshop Saturday for an art project called 60 Years of Reading for the kids' section of the Salt Spring Public Library are, clockwise from top right, Molly Powers, Hannah Rowthorn, Alii'a L'e and Bryn Piper, with instructor Tracy Harrison. The project continues with children aged six to 14 invited to draw a 4.5- X 4.5-inch picture of themselves reading a book and submit it to the library by March 16. Pictures should have the child's full name, age/grade, a parent's name and either email address or phone number written on the back.

RECITAL

# Lively group at next Tea à Tempo

Hann, Walker and BackStage

Tea à Tempo on Wednesday, March 4 features lively Irish, Newfoundland, folk and gospel music courtesy of Edgar Hann, Em Walker and BackStage on the All Saints stage.

According to press material from Music Makers, Hann is also known as "the button accordion man from Newfoundland," while Marilyn Walker — who performs as "Em" — gives workshops in drumming, shamanism, consciousness studies, ethnobotany and other topics. She contributes the Newfoundland ugly stick to the group, along with guitar and sometimes lead vocals. Between Hann and Walker they have recorded four CDs that include traditional Irish and Newfoundland music as well as original jigs, waltzes and ballads.

BackStage consists of Michael Aronoff, OJ Clarke and Adam Huber. Aronoff is a long-time Salt Spring musician who wears many hats. He plays bass as well as mandolin, mandola and drum, and sings harmony.

Clarke is a successful transplant from Detroit's Motown sound but he can play just about anything on his keyboard and is now a convert to Newfie music.

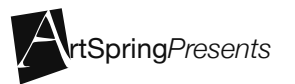
Huber is a musician, author, carpenter/inventor and energy healer currently offering bi-weekly crystal bowl and tuning sessions on Salt Spring. He plays with many other Salt Spring musicians, contributing guitar, harmonica and lead and harmony vocals.

Music by donation begins next Wednesday at 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and treats.



DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER | WAGNER

SAT MAR 14  
10:00AM  
\$22/\$19 Senior  
\$13 Youth



artspring.ca

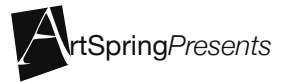
## CHORAL FESTIVAL WORKSHOP

with Morna Edmundson

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\$130, AFTER FEB 6 \$160

REGISTER

Early bird starts JAN 6 \$130, after FEB 6 \$160. Registration closes March 12. Includes music packet and 2 tickets to Sunday show plus Saturday dinner and snacks.



artspring.ca

# World-renowned pianist performs at ArtSpring

Janina Fialkowska has new release of French music



JANINA FIALKOWSKA

A concert pianist who has enchanted audiences and critics around the world for more than 40 years will perform at ArtSpring next Thursday, March 5.

Janina Fialkowska has been praised for her musical integrity, her refreshing natural approach and her unique piano sound.

According to ArtSpring, Fialkowska is celebrated for her interpretations of the

classical and romantic repertoire and is particularly distinguished as one of the great interpreters of the piano works of Chopin and Mozart.

Fialkowska made her debut as a soloist with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra at the age of 12.

Studies in Paris and New York City ensued. Then she almost went to law school. Though she dreamed of being a

career pianist, as a woman in the 1970s she found barriers to achieving that dream. Then in 1974 she entered a piano competition in Jerusalem sponsored by Rubinstein. When Fialkowska won the competition, he made a commitment to ensure that she would have a future on the stage.

At age 68 she is still going strong with a wonderful new album of French music called Les sons et les parfums.

Showtime next Thursday is at 7:30 p.m., with the bar open at 6:30.

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

### Mechanic

#### Winter does seem to be holding on



GYLE KEATING

With the recent return of colder weather and snow it is setting our regular maintenance back a bit.

Let's be optimistic and say we will probably only be a couple of weeks behind last year by the time we are into the last week of March.

So take your snow tires off the middle to end of March along with your spring check over and plan for any major work to be done in time for summer holidays.

If your vehicle is due for an oil change don't put it off just to fit the weather. If you are hearing odd noises or feeling something different in your car get it checked out before it becomes a major problem.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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### Financial Advice

#### I'm worried about my savings, especially with all of the negative headlines. Can you help?



SCOTT HOWE

If you're looking for some reassurance when it comes to your investments, I always recommend going back to the original objectives you set for the money you invested. Have those objectives changed? Do you need the money sooner than you expected? No? Do you have a plan in place? Short-term market fluctuation is normal and corrections do occur, producing all manner of headlines including some negative ones. However, if you have a solid plan in place, you can usually remain confident about the long term outcome. That's not to say you can't also make adjustments to your investment strategy along the way, of course. But if you've done the groundwork in the beginning, it's often just a matter of doing regular reviews and updates as your life changes. If you haven't yet built a solid plan, or if you feel it's time to review your original plan, a professional financial advisor can help. Then when you're tempted to panic, remind yourself: this too shall pass.



Scott Howe BA, PFP®, CFP®, CPCA®  
Senior Wealth Advisor / Senior Investment Advisor  
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### Real Estate

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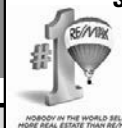
has it's advantages. My seller clients receive key information and services that assists them in making decisions designed to optimize their pricing and presentation that include:

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- Learn about lead generating proprietary websites and how to position for optimum results.
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# what's on this week



## Wed. Feb. 26

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Mic at the Mateada.**  
At the Mateada lounge. 7 to 10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Garden Club.**  
Gary Lewis from Phoenix Perennials in Richmond will speak on Hellebores: Jewels of the Winter and Spring Garden. Meaden Hall. Meeting opens at 6:30 p.m. for the parlour show, followed by the presentation.

**Mental Health & The Road Not Taken.**  
Naturopathic Physician Rigobert Kefferputz gives a free presentation on mental health-related topics, including the polyvagal theory and how the autonomic nervous system acts as the foundation of all our experiences; the reasons that we call our guts the second brain and the importance of healthy digestion; the connection between hormones, stress and neurotransmitters (brain chemicals) and more. Lions Hall. 5:45 p.m.

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

## Thu. Feb. 27

### ACTIVITIES

**Tech Tutoring with Jim Watkins.**  
Thursdays at Salt Spring Public Library. 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Library Book Club.**  
All welcome to attend. This month's pick is Larry's Party by Carol Shields. Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 3 p.m.

**A Call To Prayer.**  
First of four weekly sessions led by Rev. Elaina Hyde-Mills runs at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice. 2 to 4 p.m. Registration is required at staroftheseassi@gmail.com.

**Emergency Prep Series: Generator Safety and Maintenance.**  
Generator Safety and Maintenance. Is your generator ready for an emergency? Presented by Mid Island Marine. Salt Spring Public Library program room. 5 to 7 p.m.

**Open Mic & Jam.**  
Thursdays at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.

## Fri. Feb. 28

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Caleb Hart.**  
Reggae roots band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**ASK Salt Spring.**  
Thrifty Florist Shop from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Harold Swierenga, chair of the Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee, will join volunteers to answer ferry questions from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Artist Talk – Birgit Freybe Bateman.**  
Bateman speaks about her photography as part of the Mindful Vision show at ArtSpring. 12 noon to 1 p.m.

**State of the Arts Workshop.**  
Filmmakers Patricia Marcoccia and Maziar Ghaderi discuss their film The Rise of Jordan Peterson. SS Public Library. 2 to 5 p.m.

**Salt Spring Film Festival Opening Gala.**  
21st annual Salt Spring Film Festival opens with the screening of The Biggest Little Farm. GISS. Doors at 5:30 p.m.; film at 7 p.m.

## Fri. Feb. 28

### ACTIVITIES

**Art Show Opening: Deon Venter.**  
Reception for Pentimento at Venter Gallery. 5 to 8 p.m.

## Sat. Feb. 29

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Leap Day With The Seiche.**  
Original rock-punk pop at the Legion, with special guest Vargo - Denny & Ron. Doors at 7:30 p.m.

**Tumblin' Dice.**  
Country band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Film Festival.**  
21st annual documentary film festival and Social Justice Bazaar. GISS. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Met Opera: Agrippina.**  
Handel's tale of intrigue and impropriety in ancient Rome receives its first Met performances, with star mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato as the controlling, power-hungry Agrippina and Harry Bicket conducting. ArtSpring. 10 a.m.

## Sun. Mar. 1

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Film Festival.**  
See Saturday's listing.

## Mon. Mar. 2

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Community Information Meeting.**  
Learn about proposed Bylaw 471, which would allow temporary use permits for residential uses. Harbour House Hotel. 6:30 p.m.



## Tue. Mar. 3

### ACTIVITIES

**Grandmothers to Grandmothers Scrabble Fundraiser.**  
Regular and competitive players welcome to play Scrabble games and raise money for the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Salt Spring Inn. 2 to 4 p.m.

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

## Wed. Mar. 4

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo: Edgar Hann, Em Walker & BackStage.**  
Edgar Hann (the button accordion man from Newfoundland), Em Walker and BackStage — Michael Aronoff, OJ Clarke and Adam Huber — whose lively repertoire includes Irish, Newfoundland, folk and gospel music perform at All Saints. 2:10 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

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

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL: [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)



Tumblin' Dice, an alt country band from Victoria, can be heard at Moby's on Saturday night.

### THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **Parasite** — Oscar winner for Best Picture runs Friday, Feb. 28 to Tuesday, March 3, 7 p.m. each night plus a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. Rated 14A. 133 minutes. Greed and class discrimination threaten the relationship between the wealthy Park family and the destitute Kim clan.

• For more movie info, visit [The Fritz website at www.thefritz.ca](http://TheFritz.ca).

### EXHIBITIONS

• A new group of large-scale drawings titled **Pentimento** by **Deon Venter** will be shown at **Venter Gallery** beginning on Friday, Feb. 28 with an artist reception from 5 to 8 p.m.

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

### EXHIBITIONS

• **Birgit Freybe Bateman's Mindful Vision** exhibition of photographs is at the **ArtSpring gallery** daily through March 8. Bateman will also give an artist's talk on Friday, Feb. 28 from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

• **Thrust: A Visual Celebration of Human Sexuality** by multiple artists runs at the **Salt Spring Gallery** until March 18.

• **Brushstrokes & Bookshelves**, a juried exhibition of work in celebration of the **Salt Spring Public Library's 60th anniversary**, is in the **library program room** for the months of February and March.

• **The Salt Spring Painters Guild Lobby Show** runs in the **ArtSpring lobby** from March 2 to 31.

• **Looking Up** - a joint show of **Bill Underwood's** photographs and **Suzanne Prendergast's** art is in the **ArtSpring lobby** until Feb. 28.

### EXHIBITIONS

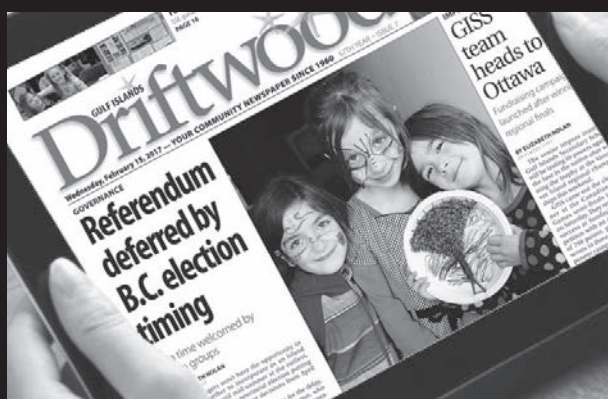
• **The Group of Six Photographers** — **Simon Henson, Larry Citra, Bruce McPhee, Kahsia Hartwell, Ross McLeod and Judy McPhee** — exhibit at **Fernwood Road Cafe** through mid March.

### Grandmothers to Grandmothers Scrabble Fundraiser

March 3 + 5 at SS Inn  
March 7 at Penny's Pantry



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



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# ISLAND LIFE

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

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

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



## PHILANTHROPY

# Phoenix class donates to hospital

Group won story contest honours

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Phoenix Elementary School's intermediate class was the winner of a special prize in the Driftwood's 2019 Christmas story contest, as one of the cohorts to achieve 100 per cent participation in the event.

After winning a draw from the six classes that had that accomplishment in 2019, Phoenix received the honour of getting \$100 to donate to the charity of their choice. They selected the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation and presented their cheque to LMHF business administrator Karen Mouat last Wednesday.

"We wanted to give the donation to the Lady Minto because many of us and our families have had care at Lady Minto, and it's a service that affects the whole community," said student Raazi Ahmadi, whose story was one of the contest winners as well.

"This is a really special donation coming from you guys. I hope you realize that this is an amazing thing you've done to choose the hospital foundation because I know there are a lot of areas that you could have brought your money to," Mouat said. "Thank you on behalf of our board of directors and our executive director, who would have loved to have been here."

Mouat explained the foundation could use the funds to purchase things like medical equipment, dressings for wound care or even a specialized pillow, which retails for \$78.

"Your donation would cover a pillow. And it might seem like a pretty normal object, but it's patient comfort," she explained.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Driftwood Christmas story prize-winning Phoenix Elementary School intermediate class members Raazi Ahmadi, left, and Ando Foo with Lady Minto Hospital Foundation business administrator Karen Mouat at a presentation made on Feb. 12.

"Some of you may have family members or know people who have gone into the hospital for extended care. One of the things that is important to the hospital foundation is patient comfort and making sure those residents are comfortable at the hospital, because that's their home."

Mouat said the foundation also provides a book about caregiving to people whose families have gone into extended care and disperses funds so that hospital staff can buy plants for the garden outside the unit.

## FUNDRAISER

# Word play helps tackle HIV/AIDS impacts

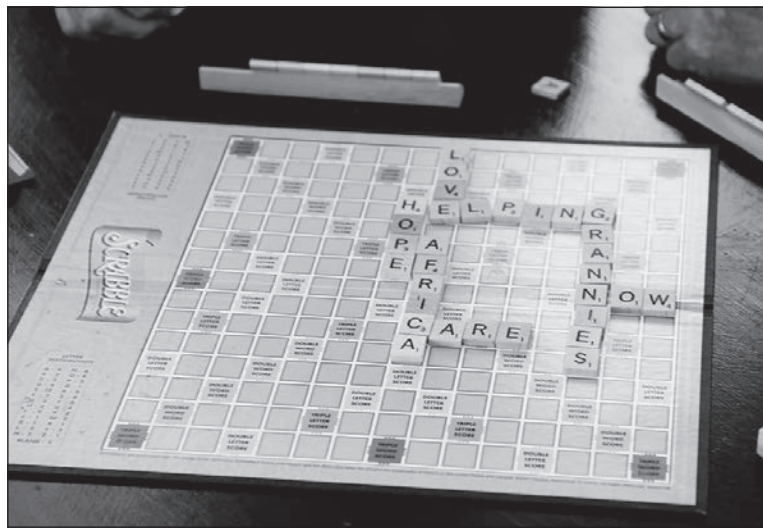


PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Salt Spring Grandmothers to Grandmothers group members spell out some key words in their Scrabble fundraiser for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Annual Scrabble fundraiser just around the corner

SUBMITTED BY SS GRANDMOTHERS TO GRANDMOTHERS

The month of March brings the promise of spring and for our Salt Spring Grandmothers to Grandmothers group it means holding our 12th Annual Scrabble Fundraiser in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which promises hope to African grandmothers and the children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in their care.

The Stephen Lewis Foundation supports community-based organizations who know what their

communities need. Some of these community groups are now being led by orphans, HIV positive youth as well as the grandmothers. These programs provide education about AIDS and support to help children and youth adhere to their medication regime and cope with the stigma of being HIV positive.

Programs continue to support grandmothers as they raise their orphaned grandchildren and provide home care to those who need it. They promote positive living, increase awareness, educate about getting tested and advocate for access to anti-retroviral medicines. In many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, LGBTQ communities are under attack and the foundation partners with 16 organizations that reach

out to those targeted to provide testing, counselling and hope.

To quote Stephen Lewis: "The 2019 report from UNAIDS was a sobering recognition that HIV is far from over. Incredibly, 610,000 children were infected last year, the majority of them during the birthing process. We thought that the availability of drugs for the mother would reduce the number to nearly zero . . . we were wrong. Further shocking was the information that there are 6,200 new infections every week amongst young women and girls. But the worst revelation in the UNAIDS report was the decline in international funding." Between 2017 and 2018, money for care, prevention and treatment of HIV declined by a billion dollars.

There is still much left to be done to Turn the Tide Against AIDS in Africa and we invite you to come to the Scrabble fundraiser to support the African grandmothers as they work to rebuild their communities, families and the future.

Join us to play Scrabble for fun or competitively on one or all of these days, March 3 and 5 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Salt Spring Inn, and at our gala and silent auction on March 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Penny's Pantry on the Green at the golf club. If you cannot attend and wish to support us, you can visit <http://grandmotherscampaignpledges.ca/> and click on donate, then TEAM, and type in Salt Spring Scrabble for Africa and go from there. Our group is grateful for the ongoing support the community has given us.

## ADOPT A PET TODAY!

Angel is a community cat that came in quite frightened but is now accepting affection from staff and visitors and rewards us with purrs. She is approximately 7 months, spayed and should be ready for a forever home in the next few weeks. If you would like more information about Angel, please give us a call.



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### Notice of Review

### 2020 Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel

Notice is hereby given that the annual sitting of the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel, pursuant to Sections 204 and 205 of the Community Charter will be held.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020  
**Time:** 12:15 pm  
**Place:** CRD Headquarters, Room 651  
625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

The panel will consider any complaints respecting the parcel tax roll and authenticate the roll in accordance with legislation for the following services:

- ▶ South Galiano Island Fire Protection & Emergency Response Service
- ▶ North Galiano Island Fire Protection & Emergency Response Service
- ▶ Sticks Allison Water Service (Galiano Island)
- ▶ Small Craft Harbour Facilities (Southern Gulf Islands)
- ▶ Fernwood Dock Small Craft Harbour Facilities (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Fernwood Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Ganges Sewerage Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Highland Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Highland and Fernwood Water Service
- ▶ Beddis Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Fulford Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Disposal Service
- ▶ Cedar Lane Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Magic Lake Estates Water Service (Pender Island)
- ▶ Magic Lake Estates Sewer Service (Pender Island)
- ▶ Lyall Harbour/Boot Cove Water Service (Saturna Island)
- ▶ Surfside Park Estates Water Service (Mayne Island)
- ▶ Skana Water Service (Mayne Island)
- ▶ Gossip Island Electric Power Supply Service

The Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel will hear only those complaints or appeals filed in writing with the undersigned at least 48 hours in advance of its sitting.

A copy of the complete roll will be available for inspection at the Capital Regional District, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm M-F; the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Office, #108-121 McPhillips Ave., Ganges, BC, from 9 am to 4 pm M-Th; commencing February 26, 2020.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

Nelson Chan, MBA, CPA, CMA; Chief Financial Officer  
Capital Regional District

# Remember WHEN

## Five years ago

Salt Spring Fire-Rescue evacuated and closed the Harbour House Hotel for nearly three hours to investigate a chemical spill that sent eight people to hospital. Firefighters said the smell was caused by the accidental mixture of drain cleaner containing sulfuric acid with a bleach-based cleaning agent. Firefighters neutralized the toxic mixture with an alkaline solution and ventilated the building with high-powered fans to clear any remaining toxic gas from the site.

## Ten years ago

Members of the Halalt First Nation blocked Chemainus Road in an effort to raise awareness about a dispute between the band and the District of North Cowichan. The blockade was to remain in place until the district stopped work on the controversial Chemainus Wells project and entered into a consultation with the Halalt group. The project placed the Chemainus aquifer and the area's freshwater resources at risk, said councillor Tyler George of the Halalt First Nation. Drivers had to detour to access the Crofton ferry terminal.

## Twenty years ago

A steel-tipped arrow that struck the ground 10 feet from students on a lunch-hour break had Fernwood Elementary School taking no chances. "We called the police in to investigate and we'll be talking to parents about it tomorrow," principal Bruce Stewart said, adding that the arrow hit the basketball court pavement in front of the school's entrance at about 12:35 p.m., just before students were to resume classes. It was a target arrow with a fibreglass shaft and a removable steel tip. Teachers kept students away from the building's perimeter as they waited for buses to take them home.

## Thirty years ago

Ganges RCMP blocked off Fulford-Ganges Road for approximately 10 minutes while three hand grenades were exploded at the Horel pit. The hand grenades were removed from the attic of a Scott Point residence by two bomb disposal members of the Esquimalt Armed Forces. Two of the grenades were found when a B.C. Tel employee undertook a wiring job at the residence. A third was found the following day. Two of the hand grenades were of World War I vintage and the third was from the World War II era.

## Forty years ago

A former Gulf Islands ferry was being rebuilt with the intention of turning it into a floating school. According to a report in the Feb. 6, 1980 issue of the Comox District Free Press, the Cy Peck was tied up at April Point on Quadra Island, where she was being rebuilt by her owner, Ronae Theabeau. The Cy Peck was purchased by her owner in 1979, and he planned to make her a training centre for teaching underwater skills, with emphasis on underwater harvesting of marine foodstuffs.

## Fifty years ago

It is always a pleasure to go to the Parliament Buildings to the session, and a greater pleasure to have tea with the Islands member, said Mary Backlund, of Galiano. She called on MLA John Tisdalle and asked him about the future of the islands. He said that he saw "a good future not in housing unlimited, but in limited housing with a reasonable programmed development." It is not possible to hold the line on residential growth, he told the correspondent. "In these days of communication, no place as beautiful as the Gulf Islands should be expected to remain in a deep freeze for long."

## FILM FESTIVAL

# Documentary films on tap

Film festival unfolds this weekend

### SUBMITTED BY SS FILM FESTIVAL

Award-winning documentaries from around the world and filmmakers from across Canada will be featured at this weekend's 21st annual Salt Spring Film Festival.

"This year's selection of films is particularly strong," says festival president Therin Gower. "In addition to hard-hitting documentaries on hot-button issues, we have an unusual number of really celebratory films which will have audiences cheering."

The much-anticipated annual event kicks off at Gulf Islands Secondary School with an Opening Gala Dinner prepared by Farm's Gate Food & Catering at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28, followed by the award-winning film *The Biggest Little Farm* at 7 p.m. The challenges of restoring biodiversity to depleted farmland are vividly brought to life in this charming crowd-pleaser, which has won multiple audience awards and was shortlisted for the Oscars.

The Saturday-Sunday slate of 50 films is preceded by a public workshop on the polarizing effects of the internet, featuring Toronto filmmakers Patricia Marcocchia and Maziar Ghaderi, whose controversial film *The Rise of Jordan Peterson* screens twice at the festival, despite having been barred from several theatres in other parts of the country for fear of backlash. Moderated by local filmmaker Ian MacKenzie,



PHOTO BY RON WATTS

A view of the social justice bazaar and cafe seating at the Salt Spring Film Festival, which returns to Gulf Islands Secondary School Feb. 28 to March 1.

the workshop is from 2 to 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28 at the Salt Spring Public Library.

National Film Board producer Selwyn Jacob returns to the festival to present a powerful collection of short Canadian films on the theme of transformation and rebirth, including Haida filmmaker Christopher Auchter's *Now Is the Time* (Waaydanaa), which was a surprise hit at the recent Sundance Film Festival.

Gulf Islands Secondary School is transformed into a seven-screen multiplex for the festival, with the dance studio and six classrooms re-named after local geography. Local nonprofits and community groups will set up display tables in

the common area in an interactive social justice bazaar.

Festival passes can be purchased either at the door or in advance from the ArtSpring box office. With the exception of the opening gala, tickets aren't sold to individual films. Instead, passes are available at the door, which is cash-only, for various segments of the weekend. Subsidized passes are available courtesy of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Festival-goers are encouraged to bring their own portable mugs, water bottles and seat cushions; otherwise cushions can be rented from the Grandmothers to Grandmothers group for a donation to the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

## TRAIL & NATURE CLUB

# Club members hit the trails in March

Brant Festival on Walkers' agenda

### Hikes

March 3: Carron Carson will lead a hike from the parking lot at Burgoyne Bay. We will walk to the south side of the bay and take the #20 trail and on to the #23 trail, which our group made about three years ago. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to carpool or at the parking lot at Burgoyne Bay at 10 a.m.

March 10: Jack Little will lead a moderate Channel Ridge hike departing from and ending at the end of Sir Echos Way, which is off Sunset. Bring a lunch. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. or at the Sir Echos trailhead at 10 a.m.

March 17: Moderate hike from Beaver Point into Ruckle Park with Barry and Sheila. Hike will include "trimming of the green" on a short stretch of trail near the beginning. Please bring clippers, secateurs or a folding saw if you have one. Meet at ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to carpool or Beaver Point Hall at 10 a.m.

March 24: Charles will lead a tough hike from Mill Farm to the top of Mount Bruce. Meet at ArtSpring by 9:45 a.m. to carpool or at Drummond Park at 10 a.m.

March 31: Join Ashley Hilliard on a moderate hike in John Dean Park in Saanich, where getting there will be half the fun. Meet at ArtSpring at 8:40 a.m., earlier than usual, in order to get to Fulford in plenty of time for the 9:50 a.m. ferry. South-enders, please email Ashley at ahilliard@shaw.ca if you plan to come so that a south-end carpool can be arranged. We should be on the 3 p.m. ferry coming back.

### Walks

March 3: Lorrie Storr will lead a walk from Beaver Point Hall to Kings Cove. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or Beaver

Point Hall at 10:20 a.m.

March 10: Wendy McLean will lead the Daffodil Walk in Burgoyne Bay. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool at 10 a.m. or at Burgoyne Bay parking lot at 10:20 a.m. This is a relatively easy walk with some hilly sections.

March 17: A full day outing in nature, up-island, to the Qualicum Beach area. For an early start, meet at Portlock Park at 7:45 a.m. to carpool to catch the 8:20 a.m. ferry. More information can be found on the SSTNC website under the Nature Outings tab.

March 24: A walk in the Bryant Hill Park trail and Andreas Vogt property led by Waltraud Kiel (Wally) and Betty Ann Kruger. Meet at ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or at 10:15 a.m. at the concrete median, across from Arnell Park on Stewart Road, to carpool for the drive up Jasper and Jennifer to Sarah Way.

March 31: Jacqueline Thomas leads a walk in Ruckle Park — up the road to the farmhouse and on the trail through the woods to Bear Point, then walking south, mostly along the water. Carpool from ArtSpring at 10 a.m. or meet in the parking lot on the right after the farm buildings at 10:20 a.m.

### Rambles

March 3: Laura will lead today. Leave Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 10: Marjie will lead today. Be at the Burgoyne Bay triangle at 10:15 a.m. or leave Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 17: Stirling and Maureen will lead. Leave Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 24: Ann H. will lead today. Be at the Burgoyne Bay triangle at 10:15 a.m. or leave Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 31: Bryan will lead off island. Leave Portlock Park at 9:40 a.m.

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**Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries**

**ANN RICHARDSON**  
 December 15, 1923 to February 15, 2020



Ann was born in Detroit, Michigan, where she spent her early years. She earned a BA in Social Work at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. After graduating from college, she served as a Medic in the US Navy and as an Executive Director of Girl Scouts USA in a Detroit chapter of the organization. Ann was an excellent administrator and membership almost tripled under her leadership. She also developed a successful outdoor camping programme. She left the scouting organization in 1963 to complete a Ph.D. in Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania and subsequently held a teaching position as Professor of Social Work at Wayne State University in Detroit. During this time, Ann, an avid sailor, spent many happy hours sailing on nearby lakes.

At age 50, Ann decided to change her life. She spent a lengthy time in retreat at the International Meditation Center in Barre, Massachusetts, a meditation center she returned to many times throughout the rest of her life. She bought a VW camper van, and a Coleman stove and embarked on a solitary odyssey to Alaska. There she worked with Native Bands in the southeastern part of the state. She took up flying and passed her private pilot's license exam, and then enjoyed all of the outdoor activities Alaska offers throughout the seasons.

During that time Ann stopped to visit a friend on Salt Spring Island and fell in love with the island. She sold her land in Alaska and with friends Sharon McCollough and Maureen Bendick, jointly purchased a lot on Upper Ganges Road, where she hand-built a pole house. At that time she became a proud Canadian citizen. Later they bought acreage on Ford Lake. After remodeling an historic cabin, she kept several sheep and established a vegetable garden. Her potatoes won a ribbon at the Fall Fair. She also did her own vehicle repairs. On any given sunny afternoon, she could be found sitting cross-legged next to her blue camper, reading the manual on how, for example, to repack the brakes. She also commuted to Duncan where she worked as a Provincial Social Worker in a mental health clinic and did counselling for the local community center. Later, Ann purchased her last property, a Paul Burke hand-made house on King Road.

Ann brought her prodigious intelligence to numerous Salt Spring endeavours including Voice of Women. She was a founding member of the Salt Spring Vipassana Group and became an active participant in the Island's Buddhist community. This and her yoga practice sustained her through the years.

Ann loved to sing. Because of her early years in the Girl Scouts she would sing traditional camp songs and rounds such as "Fires Burning" or "Dona Nobis Pacem". In later years these got intermixed with three-part harmony and rousing renditions of "Country Roads", "Delta Dawn" and the classic barbershop rendition "Molly Malone". She also played recorder and the flute in an island early music group.

Ann was an enthusiastic sailor and kayaker, water colourist, devoted naturalist and avid birder. She kept meticulous notes of bird sightings and, with specialized equipment, recorded many hours of bird sounds that she sent to the Cornell Ornithology Laboratory.

In 1994 her interest in the natural world led her to join the steering committee that ultimately created the Salt Spring Island Conservancy. Ann was instrumental in establishing the Conservancy as a viable legal entity. She helped to research and write the Conservancy's Constitution and successfully applied for society status for the organization, making SSIC the third legally approved Conservancy in the province. She also applied for the Conservancy's Conservation Covenant Status and in 1997 successfully registered the first covenant on private land on the island. She later placed a covenant on her own land on King Road, thereby protecting three endangered species on the property. She continued to serve for many years on the Conservancy Board, helping to write conservation grants and working to establish conservation stewardship guidelines.

Ann was fortunate to be able to spend the last nine years of her life in Greenwoods where she received incredibly good care. The Staff in all departments were professionally competent while always extending the extra personal dimension to the relationship. It was clear how much they truly cared, which was a special blessing to her and to those of us who loved her.

Ann is remembered by her niece Jane Leonard of Ann Arbor, Michigan and her many friends on Salt Spring Island, especially Rosamund Dupuy. In particular, Sharon McCollough and Maureen Milburn wish to thank Dr. Crichton for his many years of excellent medical attention and thoughtful care; Dr. Crichton's office for their assistance; Sandi Muller, who won Ann's respect and trust during her six years at Heritage Place Senior's Home, and the staff of Greenwoods Long Term Care Facility for their kindness and compassion. Our special appreciation to Christie at Haywards for facilitating personalized arrangements that honoured Ann's spiritual and environmental practices. To Lama Shenpin, we are grateful, as well as to Heather Martin and the Buddhist community of Salt Spring for continuing to hold Ann in their hearts.

To Ann's caregivers throughout the years, particularly Geraldine Lewandowski, for her gentle care over five years, we extend our sincerest thanks. Our deepest gratitude to Jean Brown who for 15 years was Ann's professional caregiver and compassionate companion who gave physical and emotional comfort and a genuine friendship. Jean understood Ann's Alzheimer's affliction and she had the knowledge and patience to maintain an unwavering connection with the authentic Ann, the unique woman struggling with the disease.

A celebration of life for Ann will take place this spring. Donations in Ann's memory may be made to Greenwoods Eldercare Society or the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

To Ann, life was an incredibly complex, exciting journey and she welcomed intellectual, physical and spiritual challenges. Our Ann lived an unusually varied life and she did, indeed, have a great ride!

**AVERY KENNETH BARNES**  
 January 29, 1933 - February 6, 2020



It is with great sadness that the family of Ken Barnes announce his passing, after a brief illness, at Lady Minto Hospital, on February 6th. He was 87. Ken is survived by his wife, Patricia Mackenzie Barnes, his former wife, Joyce, the mother of his 8 sons and 2 daughters, 3 stepsons, 29 grandchildren, 40 great grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. Ken was predeceased by his second wife, Donna Wilson Barnes, in 1992. His help, care, and guidance will be missed by many friends & family in the Salt Spring Island Community.

Ken was born in Vancouver and raised on Majuba Hill outside of Chilliwack. He worked with BC Tel from 1955-1992. He was also a part time paramedic for many years. His dream was to retire on Salt Spring Island and when he moved here in 1984, that dream became reality.

Ken thrived on helping others. Whether it was his involvement with the Salt Spring Lions club for 30 plus years, serving two terms as president, driving seniors to their off-island appointments, or sewing badges on his granddaughters guide sash, he looked for the little things that would enhance his community. He is remembered for bringing community members and neighbours to family gatherings so they knew they were valued.

As a young father, he encouraged his children to experience life and enjoy every second and do the fun things, clamming when the tide was coming in, Ooligan fishing along the Fraser in the dark, jumping into the water, then learning to swim, earning money by selling firewood, wielding an axe and chainsaw. He was there guiding and teaching them to be self-sufficient and instilling a strong work ethic in each one, coaching ball teams and swim club. He loved them and was so very proud of them.

Oh how he enjoyed his family coming to invade his home over the summer months! Fishing with his 'buddy', showing off his latest woodwork project, yard work with his sons or reminiscing about the PNE and the Dal Richards Orchestra. Those were treasured moments.

Ken will be greatly missed. Thank you to Dr. Ian Gummeson for his guidance and compassion and the caring staff at Lady Minto Hospital.

A gathering will be held for Ken in the summer to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

*"When someone you love becomes a memory the memory becomes a treasure"*

**In Memorium**

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**RECYCLE THIS NEWS PAPER.**

**MICHAEL LOWREY HOGAN**  
 July 15, 1945 - February 15, 2020



It is with great sorrow that we share the news of Michael Hogan's passing. Michael was born in Fresno, California in 1945. In 1968 Michael left Southern California as a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War. He found sanctuary on Salt Spring Island while coming to visit a friend. He also found a home.

Michael was a master tradesman, working largely with stone, brick and tile. He was passionate about his community and was always volunteering in some form. From coaching little league baseball 30 years ago to his recent years contributing to sustainable agriculture through the Farmland Trust and Farmers Institute, he advocated for local and ecologically sustainable farming and community projects. Michael passed away exactly 5 weeks from the day his love Donna Martin left this world. He put off his own health concerns to care for her and after her passing the severity of his illness became clear. She was the focal point of his life and he was destined to join her.

We are heartbroken and stunned by the loss of our parents in such a short period of time. Both contributed tirelessly to our community and helped to make this island an incredibly special place to live. We thank our friends and community for their generosity, support and love throughout this enormously sad and challenging time for our family.

We will hold a celebration for Michael and Donna at their home on June 21st and will be announcing a community project in due time to contribute to in their memory.

*With love,*  
 Bron, Karelia, Mikaila and Tara

**Coming Events** **Coming Events**

 **The Annual General Meeting**  
 OF THE **salt spring arts council**

**Sunday March 15, 2020 at 10 am**  
**will be held at Mahon Hall**  
**114 Rainbow Road, Ganges**

Everyone Welcome. Memberships available. Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

Join us find out about SSAC accomplishments in 2019, and plans for 2020.

**250-537-0899 • [www.ssartscouncil.com](http://www.ssartscouncil.com)**

**SSI Grand(m)others to Grandmothers**

**SCRABBLE**

**ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

**Tues. Mar. 3 & Thurs. Mar. 5:**  
**2-4 pm, Salt Spring Inn**

**Sat, Mar. 7: 6-9 pm**  
 (with Silent Auction)

**Penny's Pantry on the Green**  
 (at the Golf Course)

*Proceeds to Stephen Lewis Foundation*

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

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**Lost & Found**

**LOST CAT**  
  
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Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District invites qualified individuals to apply for the position of Administrative Assistant.  
Reporting to the Finance/HR Specialist, you will be responsible for a variety of clerical, secretarial, administrative and reception functions to support the Chief Administrative Officer and Fire Chief and to contribute to the efficient and effective operation of the SSIFPD.  
Your core responsibilities will include:  
• preparing routine and correspondence, forms, letters, agreements, guidelines, tender documents and reports;  
• responding to enquiries from staff, other departments, outside agencies and the public on general information issues;  
• receiving calls from the public on non-emergency requests for assistance and re-directing to appropriate SSIFPD Officer or agency;  
• receiving and redirecting emergency calls from the public (as required)  
• assisting in the development, editing and publishing of the SSIFPD Annual Report;  
• create and maintain detailed procedure manuals related to the duties of the position  
• maintenance of the SSIFPD filing system  
• issuing fire permits on behalf of the Fire Chief's office;  
• maintaining an electronic database of all permits issued;  
• maintaining and updating the website as required;  
• act as back up to the Financial/HR Specialist for preparation of accounts payable and payroll as required  
• carries out additional duties and functions as may be assigned by CAO, Fire Chief or Finance/HR Specialist.  
You are the ideal candidate if you have a Certificate related to Office Administration. You also have a proven ability to undertake research, communicate effectively, and manage frequent and changing deadlines. This position works scheduled shifts 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Monday to Friday and flexible hours including regular evenings and/or split shifts for meetings not to exceed 30 hours a week.  
This exempt position offers a competitive pay rate commensurate with qualifications and experience, as well as an attractive benefit and vacation package. Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a letter of interest, detailed resume, and a list of references by 4:00 p.m. on March 6, 2020 to:  
**Laurie Taylor CAO**  
Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District  
105 Lower Ganges Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T1 [ltaylor@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ltaylor@saltspringfire.com)

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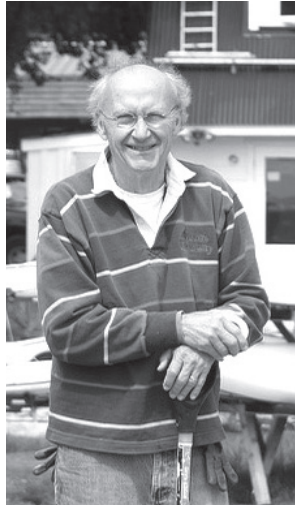
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**THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE** *Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer*  
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**TIP OF THE WEEK:** READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.  
Of the 12 signs, Pisces is...unique. It is the most spiritual and non-attached of all the signs. Imagination, communion, and compassion are central to this archetype. The two fish apparently swimming in opposite directions is the lower, linear interpretation, can be better understood as one following the other in circular, rhythmic unity. This symbol reveals the essence of fish in a school united and moving as one, sharing in the same field of consciousness. As is true of all signs in duality, there is also the other side of the story. Negatively, Pisces can prove too otherworldly, escapist, hopelessly addicted, irresponsible, self-pitying, self-deceptive, over-imaginative, overly-idealistic and delusional. It should be noted, that we are each a unique synthesis of all the 12 signs and the characteristics of a sign can be prominent in any other sign, and even dominant, at times. So, deciphering who is strongly influenced by any of the 12 signs is not simply a matter of knowing the sun sign.

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**  
Sometimes the urge is to go big, while at others it is to go home and then at others yet we feel pulled in both directions. It is this latter complex that produces the inner conflict seeking resolution. How you go about it is relative to you and your situation, yet it is there now and for you to reconcile. With awareness and strategy, you can probably have it all.  
**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)**  
Okay, so some dreams are...dreamier than others. You may be having this experience now. However, having a dream at all is already wonderful, if you can simply allow for it to exist without attachment or feeling pressured to take immediate action. This is not to say you will not take action at all. Take your time and enjoy the dream as an end in itself.  
**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)**  
It's okay to be an idealist. Yet, it can prove especially helpful to be a realistic idealist. This means that you are fully aware of what aspects of your perspectives lean towards the ideal, towards that 'should' word. You can feel proud that you see it at all and inspired by it too and even inspire others with it. Just make extra efforts to realize what leans toward the ideal and what towards reality.  
**Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)**  
Sometimes the circumstances of our experiences lead us into the wilderness, into feeling a little lost within it all, even though the setting is familiar. At such times, it is good to keep an open mind and to play along, more than try to assert a strong lead. This can also amount to simply observing without judgment or reaction. Such are paths to feeling peaceful despite the drama.  
**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)**  
Some rather deep changes are brewing within. The implications of these may be quite evident, all a part of the larger flow. Perhaps your perceptions and/or your interpretation or your attitude is changing. Maybe you are doing renovations of some kind. In any case, the time is right for such feelings and actions.  
**Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)**  
Yearning for peace and harmony in your relationship life is extra strong now. The challenge, however, may not so much be how you are engaging others but how they are engaging you. As eager as you are to bring about peace which may include attempts to pacify the situation with lovely words and even noble actions, you are challenging to adhere firmly to what you deem to be true and wise.  
**Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)**  
Feeling as whole and healthy as you would like is in the spotlight. Whole healthy includes a weave of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual balance and flow. How you define these terms is the bigger question. Each must be translated into the reality of your life. Making efforts to clarify each will help you to know more precisely how to proceed.  
**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**  
You are in a creative cycle. It may be that the activity is more in your mind as you dream and scheme about what is possible and the best ways to achieve your goals. However, this is probably not the best time to take full action. You are may still be in the preparation stages. The start date is probably after the next New Moon in Aries, in later March.  
**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**  
You have entered an interesting cycle. On one hand, you may feel more peaceful within. On the other hand, you may be contending with your confidence levels of vacillating especially du to unsettled emotions. This is actually a good time to quiet your mind and to be receptive to guidance coming both from within and without.  
**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**  
Mercury is now deep into its retrograde cycle in Pisces. For you, it is possible that it is proving to stimulate your imagination to see things with a whole new quality of clarity, actually. However, this will not be the case if you find yourself feeling sorry for yourself. If so, you may be dealing with depression. An attitude of gratitude is the key to liberate you from that prison.  
**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)**  
Your focus is strong, yet your confidence may be wavering. This complex influence will continue for about another week. Then you should experience a break in the clouds and see the blue sky through it. This peek of inspiration and hope may not last long, just enough to restore your confidence. So, be on the watch for it and any other such synchronicities.  
**Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
Although you may still be in the early stages, you have begun to take some initiatives towards activating a healthier flow. This could pertain to your energy levels and lifestyle rhythms as well as to stimulating new streams of income. This trend will continue and will increase throughout March. For now, direct your focus on breaking through inner blocks and resistances.

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**Last Week's Answer:**  
Meghan MacFarlane was the first person to recognize accountant Jim Fogarty's office building in Fulford Harbour when we posted the photo on our Facebook page.

**SALT SPRING Star of the WEEK**  
  
**Donald McLennan**  
Donald McLennan has built benches for the Partners Creating Pathways paths, plus map kiosks for Vesuvius and Long Harbour Ferry terminals and other spots along the pathway. He was also instrumental in acquiring and installing all of the bicycle way-finding signs on the island.



# AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

- Vehicle tips
- EVolution column
- Local auto deals

**EVS**

## Electric transportation in 2020 and beyond

Where everything is at as the new year unfolds

A lot is happening in the electric transportation world. The purpose of this month's article is to bring you up to speed.

It also provides an answer to the question "Where is the smart money going?"

This was intended to be my first submission of 2020, but I had to wait till some of the key information was available. I have made reference to many supporting resources from the Internet. For easy access, the links are listed at: <http://www.ssiev.ca/feb-26-2020-driftwood-article-links.html>. An {L} symbol indicates that a link is available.

### Large Corporate — and other — Directions

Elon Musk is currently developing semi-tractor trailers that are rumoured to be used initially to deliver his own Teslas (at greatly reduced cost) before ramping up production for external sales {L}.

Rivian has an order of 100,000 delivery trucks from Amazon {L}. Norway and Denmark are operating fully electric ferries on some runs.

The ferries have lowered their emissions by 95 per cent and their operating cost by up to 80 per cent {L}. (No fully electric ferries here yet — pity).

Locally, our own Harbour Air (Salt Spring Air) is being a world leader by heading to electric {L} and, courtesy of the Salt Spring Community Energy Society, a demonstration electric bus visited Salt Spring in January {L}. The world's first electric fire truck just arrived in North Vancouver {L}.

On a smaller scale, there is both a taxi company and a premiere tour company in Victoria now operating 100 per cent with Teslas {L}.

And if you can believe it, there's an ice rink Zamboni {L}, JEEP {L} and Boomer-buggies {L} in the electric mix.



**Jim Standen**  
**EV**  
**OLUTION**

### Charging Infrastructure

There were already thousands of Level-2 (medium speed) and Level-3 (fast) chargers in North America. Tesla just opened a cross-Canada supercharger network {L}. Petro-Canada has installed a high-speed charging network across Canada {L}.

### Personal Vehicles 2020 Makes and Models

Car companies can be very cagey with specifics about what will arrive and when it will arrive. That said, the largest companies like Ford, BMW, GM, Volvo, Volkswagen, Mercedes, etc. are making big investments in personal electric transportation models. Technology improvements continue to provide greater performing batteries, providing longer range and faster charge times. It seems that just about every company is introducing models for this and upcoming years. {L}

Although some models like the Chevrolet Bolt and Nissan Leaf have models available on the lot today, some highly desirable models like the Kona and Kia Niro are so popular that they have several month wait lists for delivery.

### Definition and Current Status on Salt Spring

We now have an estimated 260+ electric vehicles on Salt Spring. B.C. has the highest ownership of EVs in North America {L} and we have known for years that we have the highest density (by population) in B.C. We win!

We now have 11 charging stations with 17 charging wands for your use. (Sorry, taxis, and other commercial vehicles, not for you). More free charging stations are planned by individual companies and the CRD. Reminder: You are advised to install a Level-2 charger where you live {L}.

### Purchasing Help

To encourage the transition to emission-less transportation, governments and local organizations (TSSEC) are providing a variety of incentives or loans {L}.

For B.C. residents, there is: \$3,000 for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle or \$1,500 for purchase of a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. The federal government will also provide \$5,000 for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle.

And if you have an eligible junker (like my old Subaru), there is a scrap-it program for most vehicles, which is \$6,000 for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle and \$3,000 for the purchase of a used battery electric vehicle.

There are also incentives for installing chargers. These incentives are in very high demand so people should check ahead for availability.



### The Bottom Line

The B.C. government is mandating for manufacturers to no longer sell internal combustion engine vehicles by 2040 {L}. But why wait till then? Today there are more choices and incentives. You get to be part of the clean air movement, and get invited to local clever events and parties. Time to make the switch?

I encourage your respectful comments. I can be reached at: [jstanden@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jstanden@ucalgary.ca).

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# SPORTS + RECREATION

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

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



## TENNIS

# Island hosts comp



PHOTO COURTESY SS TENNIS CENTRE

Salt Spring tennis coach Marjorie Blackwood with Dawson Reid, runner-up, left, and Charlie Murray, winner of the U-12 division.

## Boys battle it out on the court

The Salt Spring Tennis Centre hosted a Tennis BC 2-Star-sanctioned event for boys over the weekend, with Victoria's Murray brothers in the two winner's circles.

Players from Vancouver, Vancouver Island and Salt Spring competed in the event with under-14 and under-12 divisions.

In a hard-fought Boys U-12 final, Charlie Peter Murray of Victoria took the title over Dawson Reid of Richmond in a third-set tiebreaker, winning 2-4, 4-2, 7-4.

Older brother George Leith Murray defeated Keaton Chan of Vancouver 6-3 6-2 in a solid performance, taking home the Boys U-14 title.

Salt Spring's Scott Goddard and Nate Kray-Gibson both went out in the first round to tough opponents, but acquitted themselves well in the consolation rounds, with Goddard winning two matches and Kray-Gibson one match.

Centre Court officials thanked the local Goddard family for their immense help with running the event, as well as volunteer referees Blair Carley and Colin Ross. Chief cookie and muffin bakers Tish Vogel and Mary Grove, who kept the troops fuelled and happy through two days of competition, were also acknowledged.

The Salt Spring Tennis Centre is a facility with two indoor courts located at the back of the Salt Spring Golf Club property, and runs junior and adult leagues, lessons and programs throughout the year.

## TRAINING

# Running programs: Just keep going



**Susan Gordon**  
THE PERENNIAL  
**RUNNER**

## Getting through injury times

It's one thing to "just do it" as per the famous Nike tag line, and yet another to "just keep going."

I was inspired watching my cousin, Rick Tkach, one of Canada's most seasoned triathletes, as he completed the Subaru Ironman Penticton in 2007 with a nasty hamstring strain. He hobbled through the final miles of the marathon, determined to finish. My brother, also a triathlete, and I, along with Rick's immediate family and thousands of strangers, cheered him on. The energy at the iconic finish was electric!

At the age of 47, I had retired from the more dangerous aspect of equestrian sports, and wondered how well I could do as a runner. Two issues came to mind. Could I even run three miles/five kilometres? Would I enjoy running in a crowd of people?

I learned the value of people who support you in your endeavour. Even though I trained solo in a small town without a big running community, I had my brother back in Vancouver, an enthusiastic partner and riding students whose parents were runners.

Not every workout goes well, nor does every race if you decide to go in that direction. Something in your mind will suggest reasons why you shouldn't continue. That is the primitive brain, seeking the potential

danger in everything. Don't listen!

On the other hand, being sensible about your training is also important. In my over-achieving competitive mind, I had to train hard and do my best to run a stellar first race.

I began running while already fit as a result of working with sport horses. However, running uses different muscles, and it did not occur to me how much building up of those muscles and tendons was necessary in order to run injury-free.

I felt a tweak in a calf muscle on a training run, but it seemed minor. I went to the track the next day anyway to begin a scheduled speed workout. After half a lap, I felt a severe tightening in my left leg. The next moment, that pulling sensation turned into a snap and I found myself limping badly. It was three months to race day.

Disappointed, I began a course of recovery and wasn't sure if I could still race. My brother assured me that I was on track to be recovered enough to get through a 5K.

I nervously awaited the starter's gun on a chilly February day in the beautiful red rocks of Sedona, Ariz.

I pushed just enough to maintain a steady pace and puffed my way up the final, tough climb to the finish. My calf held up. That was a relief. After all was said and done, I had won my age group, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Curiosity is a key motivator for me, rather than winning medals. The questions keep me going, as they did at the beginning. Could I run five kilometres? Yes. Did I enjoy running in a crowd? Much to my surprise, I did! Would my torn calf muscle hold together for the race? Yes. Could I improve my speed and maybe even win another race sometime?

You never know what might be around the next corner for you. Just keep going.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Local boys make mark at tourneys



PHOTO COURTESY SIMS  
SIMS Grade 8 boys basketball team with coach Rowan Hughes after winning island championships.

## SIMS takes top spot

Salt Spring Island Middle School's Grade 8 boys basketball team won the mid-island championship tournament earlier this month.

The boys won all three games at the event hosted by Duncan Christian School, including the final game against Frances Kelsey by a 43-25 score.

SIMS athletic director Tom Langdon credited the team's coaching by Rowan Hughes and the efforts of the athletes.

"Every player contributed throughout the season," he said.

The boys were undefeated in the regular season.

"They have grown a lot and definitely have a bright future ahead of them at the high school," said Langdon.

Meanwhile, the Gulf Islands Secondary

School senior boys Scorpions finished their season in a tie for fifth place at the Vancouver Island AA championships on Saturday, Feb. 22.

After winning their first game of the tourney over St. Andrew's by an 86-58 score, GISS fell to Lambrick Park by 86-59 on Friday.

Facing Pacific Christian on Saturday, GISS lost any chance to get to the provincial championships with a 69-62 loss and finished in a tie for fifth place. Player of the game honours for GISS at the tournament went to Matthew Schure, Aaron Moise and Gavin Donaldson. Schure also made the second all-star team.

Tourney hosts Brentwood College became island champions after beating Lambrick Park 75-73 in the final.

One week earlier, the Scorpions finished second behind Brentwood at the north island championships held at Kwalikum Secondary School.



## Official Notice Annual General Meeting MID ISLAND CONSUMER SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE

Meeting will be held Wednesday May 27th, 2020  
at Cavallotti Lodge, Nanaimo at 7:00PM

Any Special Resolutions regarding changes to the rules of association must be received in writing no later than April 12, 2020.

c/o Resolutions Committee  
Mid Island Consumer Services Co-operative  
#103 -2517 Bowen Road  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 3L2  
OR via email to:  
[resolutionscommittee@midisland.coop](mailto:resolutionscommittee@midisland.coop)

Board of Directors nomination application packages are available online at [www.midisland.coop](http://www.midisland.coop) or in hardcopy at the Administration Office, and must be received no later than April 1, 2020.

*Members on the record date of April 12, 2020 will be eligible to vote at the AGM.*

Administration Office:  
#103-2517 Bowen Road, Nanaimo  
Phone: (250) 729-8400  
Fax: (250) 729-8426