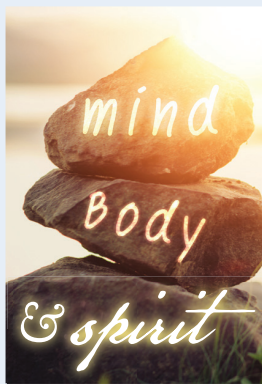


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Wednesday, May 11, 2022

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Issue 19
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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

SPEAKING OUT: Indigenous students at Gulf Islands Secondary School lead a march through Ganges on May 5 to mark National Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Day. They were followed by most of the student body after a moving student-led ceremony at the school, and an opportunity to place heartfelt messages on a giant red paper dress in the school. May 5 is also known as Red Dress Day in Canada.

CONSERVATION

Creekside Rainforest campaign launched

Critical salmon habitat in area

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Conservancy (SSIC) has launched a community fundraiser to acquire and protect 15.5 acres of rare lowland coastal temperate rainforest dubbed the Creekside Rainforest.

The land is home to a wide and unique range of plants and animals and Cusheon Creek, one of the few salmon-bearing streams on the island, flows through the intact forest.

Along with fundraising partner TLC The Land Conservancy of B.C., the SSIC aims to raise \$440,000 by this fall to complete the land purchase.

SSIC says local conservation groups have been working to protect Cusheon Creek for almost 40 years. It was a community-led project

that in 2008 resulted in protection of the 19.5 acres — now Jarrod's Grove Nature Reserve — that adjoins Creekside Rainforest. Concerned neighbours initiated the new conservation effort.

The late Susan Bloom, who was a supportive neighbour and project donor, said of Creekside Rainforest in 2021, "We must save this precious jewel."

"If acquired by the conservancy, Creekside Rainforest, with the adjoining Jarrod's Grove Nature Reserve, will protect 35 acres that include western redcedar up to 250 years old, enormous bigleaf maples draped in moss and lichen, and creek banks lined with maidenhair ferns," states a press release from the conservancy.

"The land's deep ravine, higher than normal rainfall, and northerly aspect combine with the continuous forest canopy to create an exceptionally cool and moist microclimate that is

home to numerous species associated with older rainforests, including many at risk, and also other island wildlife that use this property as a corridor and water supply."

Tree canopy helps salmonids swimming upstream to spawning and rearing habitat, explains Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society director Kathy Reimer in the press release.

"Cusheon Creek flows through Creekside Rainforest and Jarrod's Grove Nature Reserve that together represent the largest section of pristine riparian habitat on Salt Spring Island," Reimer said. "It is vitally important that this unique, irreplaceable riparian property is protected for the future."

People can learn more about what makes Creekside Rainforest unique and how to help to protect it by visiting saltspringconservancy.ca/creeksiderainforest.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ruckle rescue succeeds

Collaboration the name of the game at two Gulf Islands incidents

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue (SSISAR) members were out in force last week, conducting two rescues together with ambulance, fire and coast guard crews.

As more people venture out into nature carrying their cell phones, SSISAR manager Conrad Bowden explained that SAR groups across the province are seeing fewer searches for missing people and more rescues. One such example was the rescue of a hiker with a significant lower leg injury out of Ruckle Provincial Park on Thursday, May 5.

RESCUE continued on 3

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NSSWD

Waterworks incumbents returned

Meeting hears lack of housing impacts district personnel

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) voters stuck with familiar faces in re-electing incumbent trustees Sandra Ungerson and Michael McAllister.

Results of a mail-in ballot election were released at the NSSWD annual general meeting last Thursday night with Ungerson topping the polls with 373 votes, followed by McAllister with 364, Leigh Large with 293, David Wardlaw with 157 and Richard Swann with 89.

McAllister and Ungerson are the current chair and vice-chair of the board, respectively. McAllister chaired Thursday's AGM held at Community Gospel Chapel and virtually through Microsoft Teams.

Of the 776 ballots received by the April 27 deadline, 95 were spoiled or rejected. NSSWD financial officer/office manager Tammy Lannan said about half of the spoiled ballots saw people not follow instructions to only put an X in the space next to a candidate's name. Check marks or filling in the space were not acceptable, she explained.

The other main problem was that voters did not have someone witness their signature on the ballot envelope, or the witness may have signed a name but not provided a legible, printed version of their name or a phone number as required.

Lannan said 3,146 ballot packages were mailed to NSSWD property owners. Five ballot envelopes were received in the NSSWD office after the April 27 deadline.

The AGM also included questions from the floor, a motion initiated and passed by ratepayers that increased trustees' honorariums by \$100 per month, board chair McAllister's report and financial reports and statements.

McAllister reported that NSSWD was losing its district manager Don Pickle, who had just commenced his position last July, because he could not find suitable/affordable housing. Waterworks technician Jason Ough also resigned in December for the same reason. Three other positions are open at the district.

"Recruitment has to be our number one priority over the next several months as the burden on existing staff is not sustainable," McAllister's report stated.

McAllister also said a public meeting is planned for June in order to discuss a ratepayer survey done late last year and the future of the district.

All AGM documents, including McAllister's report, are available on the northsaltspringwaterworks.ca website.



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Salt Spring Island Firefighter's Association



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FERRIES

Ferry meeting floats issues

Increased service currently not possible, say senior staff

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ferry terminal congestion and cancelled sailings won't likely be eased anytime soon, a May 3 Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) heard, as BC Ferries officials provided insight into challenges facing the corporation.

Staff shortages are one of the reasons that increased sailings between Vesuvius and Crofton (Route 6) or Fulford and Swartz Bay (Route 4) are not on the table this year as BCF has struggled to keep existing ships running.

Both regional marine superintendent Capt. Hardeep Grewal and Brian Anderson, vice-president, strategy and community engagement, said that a lack of marine-industry employees has been a long-term persistent problem worldwide, and BCF has ways to mitigate resulting impacts to its operations, but Covid has proved to be an insurmountable challenge some days.

"There's been a mariner shortage for 25 years," said Anderson. "What is different is you go back and look at Christmas onwards, Omicron has been a huge factor. It's not as severe in terms of the illness and the time you are taken out, but if you contract Covid then you can't work."

Even an exposure to Covid results in absenteeism, he said.

"I'm not going to say that everything will right itself once the pandemic goes away, but I can certainly tell you that if people stopped getting Covid and being pulled out of work for five or 10 days at a time, it's certainly going to revert back to a more normal period of time, where our mitigations will deal with those underlying risks. And solving the global mariner shortage is going to take a lot longer than solving this pandemic."

Hardeep added that a lack of accommodation was also an issue for crewing Salt Spring-based ships.

FAC member Catherine Samson suggested connecting to Gulf Islands Secondary School to recruit future mariners. Rob Pingle, the FAC member representing School District 64, said he would be happy to facilitate that.

Anderson confirmed that BCF is committed to upgrading both Vesuvius and Crofton terminals by 2028, which will help alleviate the traffic congestion in those communities to some degree.

"Now what would be even better would be introducing some new ships on the route at the same time... but that means retiring or potentially finding a new home for the Quinsam some eight years sooner than [the end of] its economic life."

There are currently no plans to increase the parking lot space at Fulford terminal, he said.

Anderson added that the next performance term runs from 2024 to 2028 and is an opportunity to look at the overall system and potentially make changes to service levels, such as having two ships run on Route 6 or 4.

The meeting heard that replacing the Quinitsa with the larger-capacity Quinsam had reduced overloads on Route 6 so far. However, Grewal shared that the Quinitsa would be temporarily returning when the Quinsam goes in for refit from Oct. 24 to Dec. 12.

FAC chair Harold Swierenga asked about the possibility of adding a sailing every day to Route 4 in summer months rather than only on Saturday, but was advised that would also be a challenge for the corporation.

David Courtney, who has spearheaded a Change.org petition called The Fix for Route Six, which had 2,106 signatures as of Monday, was given time at the end of the meeting to address the group and also talked to BC Ferries staff and FAC members at an open house time before the formal meeting.

Courtney also advocated for a schedule adjustment that would eliminate the big gap between the 6:05 and 7:55 p.m. sailings from Crofton, since the 6:05 run is so often overloaded.

"If we had a sailing at 7:10 or 7:20 p.m., it would make our day."

His questions also revealed that a porta-potty had been installed by the Crofton ticket booth for public use when the nearby community centre washroom is closed.

BC Ferries staff said website improvements are always being done, a new mobile app should be available soon and it had created a new customer experience team to help deal with public concerns about ferry travel.

Volunteers respond on birthdays

RESCUE

continued from 1

The injured man and his group were well-prepared and were able to keep him dry and warm, Bowden said. Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue and BC Emergency Health Services ambulance personnel were unable to walk the man out, so the SAR team was called in around 11:30 a.m.

Coincidentally, SSISAR's specialized rope rescue team was doing rope training when the call came. These skills came to good use as the man was wheeled, and in steeper sections belayed, down the trail in a basket stretcher with a wheel attached.

It took a few hours for the 10 SAR members to get the man to the nearest road, about a mile away, in rainy and slippery conditions.

"You're on quite a rough trail . . . lots of bumps and you're trying to stabilize the person," Bowden explained. "You have to keep focused on their medical needs . . . at the same time you're trying to move efficiently."

Fire and ambulance crews assisted. "We work with other agencies a lot and we're fortunate that we have good relationships with them on the island," he said. "We do tend to work well together."

The hiker was transferred to a waiting ambulance and onto a hospital.

At 12:45 a.m. on May 7, SAR crews were called out again to attend to an injured person on a small island off



SSI SAR PHOTO

Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue volunteers, assisted by fire and ambulance personnel, carry an injured hiker the last stretch out of Ruckle Provincial Park to a waiting ambulance May 5.

Galiano Island. The exact location of the rescue isn't being disclosed due to privacy.

SAR volunteers headed to the island with the Canadian Coast Guard crew based out of Ganges Harbour, aboard the CCGS Cape Naden.

"They took three SAR members . . . two of the SAR members, it turns out, it was their birthday. So that's how they spent their first few hours on their birthday," Bowden said.

The person's injury was initially thought to be grave enough to require transport to Swartz Bay. Yet after SAR and Coast Guard members assessed the person, it was determined they could stay on the island. Crews were back home by 5:30 a.m.

The May 7 call-out was the seventh this year, which is fairly busy for the professional volunteer organization. Bowden, who is also president of the SSISAR Society, emphasized that their service extends across the Southern Gulf Islands and is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week operation.

Bowden also stressed that the service SSISAR's volunteers provide does not cost anything for people that need them. Fear of cost should not keep people from calling in. The sooner people can make the call the better.

"We often get donations after people are rescued by us, but certainly there's no cost. So people shouldn't delay," Bowden said. "We'll even come on our birthdays."

SSIFPD

CAO hired

Rodney Dieleman takes fire post

BY GAIL S. JUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) will have a new chief administrative officer (CAO) as of June 1.

According to a fire district news release, Rodney Dieleman is from Manitoba where he was the director of finance and administration for both the Department of Environment, Climate and Parks and for the Department of Natural Resources and Northern Development. In those roles, he administered contracts with 11 municipal fire departments, working with operating budgets exceeding \$200 million.

"Dieleman has 25 years of practical experience managing complex financial systems with diverse stakeholders and is a graduate of business administration," states the SSIFPD. "Having worked in an executive capacity for the Manitoba government, Dieleman is well qualified for the position and will be a tremendous asset to our community. We are lucky to have him."

Dieleman replaces Andrew Peat, who was the most recent fire district CAO. Peat had already retired when he came back to fill the position for a second time on a temporary basis.



**NORTH
SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT**

Election Results

Congratulations to Sandra Ungerson and Michael McAllister for their successful re-election, and thank you to Leigh Large, David Wardlaw and Richard Swann for their interest in becoming a Trustee.

- Sandra Ungerson – 373 (re-elected)**
- Michael McAllister – 364 (re-elected)**
- Leigh Large – 293
- David Wardlaw – 157
- Richard Swann – 89

Thank you to everyone who voted.

www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

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308

The number of fire calls SSIFR responded to in 2021.

287

Medical emergencies responded to in 2021 — in many cases as the first on scene.

98

Percentage of BC communities that have comparable International Association of Firefighters wages, including Salt Spring Island.

36

Percentage reduction in space for the proposed firehall from 2013 to 2022 (18,000 square feet to 11,500).

Number of BC building code regulations required for post-disaster structures like the proposed new firehall.

21

The number of earthquakes that have occurred in the first two months of 2022 in Canada, half in Western Canada.

13

The amount of new taxes required to build a new firehall based on current budgeting.

0

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LOCAL NEWS MATTERS

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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

2021 BCYCA Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)



EDITORIAL

Lessons to share

One aspect of the recent North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) election process bears a cautionary tale.

While the mail-in ballot system used saw a healthy 24.6 per cent of eligible voters complete ballots to fill two seats on a five-seat board, 12.2 per cent, or 95, of those ballots could not be counted because the voters did not correctly follow the instructions included with the package. To be fair, it was not the most straightforward process, requiring witness certification on one of the envelopes, and only an "X" written in the circle next to a candidates' name was accepted.

The caution in this case is directed to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD), which has also chosen a mail-in ballot process for the fire hall referendum in June.

THE ISSUE: Mail-in ballots

WE SAY: Fire district must stress voting directions

The in-person 2013 fire hall referendum saw a turn-out rate of about 30 per cent and of a much higher number of people since the fire district covers most of the island and the NSSWD does not. It would be unfortunate if anywhere near 12.2 per cent of the ballots cast for the fire hall referendum were rejected.

Hopefully the SSIFPD can avoid that scenario by either having the witness requirement waived or making it abundantly clear in advance that it is required, along with stressing the type of voting mark needed.

SSIFPD trustees could also learn from the NSSWD experience of having their remuneration set by ratepayers, which is one of the features of an improvement district. Fire board trustees receive nothing for their volunteer work, because ratepayers at past AGMs have not passed a motion to change that. NSSWD trustees, on the other hand, will now receive \$350 per month, and the chair \$400 per month, thanks to 11 of 17 ratepayers participating in last Thursday's AGM. A mere 20 months ago, their stipend jumped by \$100 per month after a trustee's wife initiated the motion to raise it. At least this time she only seconded the motion made by another ratepayer who suggested that remuneration should be raised \$100 per month due to the rising price of gasoline. A question that perhaps should have been asked is how much gasoline trustees actually burn in the course of their duties. Sometimes democracy works better than at other times.

In the meantime, we hope the SSIFPD can benefit from the recent experiences of its NSSWD cousin.

Driftwood

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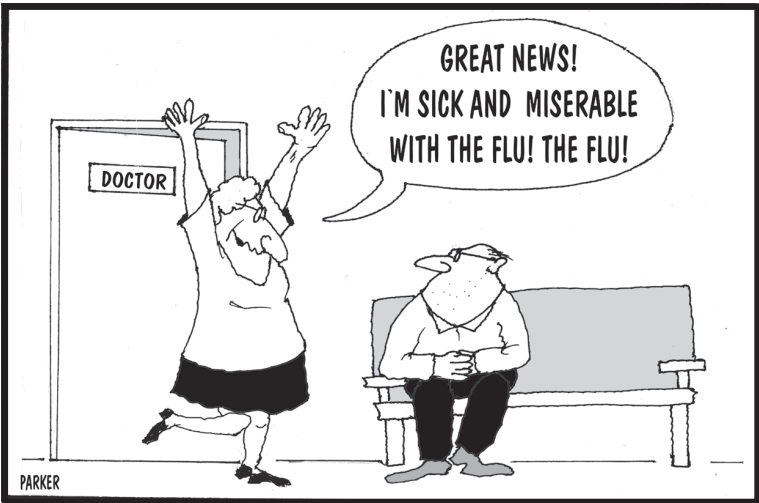
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Bylaw 530 input solicited

BY LAURA PATRICK
SSI TRUSTEE

VIEWPOINT

Land-use planning can be as boring as a two-sailing ferry wait and as fraught with drama as a high school musical. Today I'm writing to help you understand the draft land use bylaw 530 for accessory dwelling units that just had its first reading at the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC).

Planners call them "accessory dwelling units" but regular folk call them cottages and suites, and they're not a new thing here on Salt Spring. But the bylaw is new, and with it we're attempting to provide a policy that will grow our on-island compliment of resident landlords: people with a primary residence who are willing to let either a secondary suite, a suite associated with an accessory building or a cottage.

Your LTC gave first reading to the draft bylaw at our April 19 meeting. I supported first reading because I wanted to start the process and I'm serious about increasing the availability of long-term rental housing in our community.

Community information meetings and a public hearing will be scheduled before third reading. These will provide us, as your elected representatives, with input from the community and from the

people who will be impacted, and gives us a chance to make minor tweaks or major revisions, accordingly. It's also your opportunity to ask questions and get information.

Following third reading and prior to adoption, the bylaw must be approved by the Executive Committee of Islands Trust to ensure that it conforms with the existing Trust Policy Statement.

So what happens now that we gave this bylaw its first reading? Staff will continue to research a number of items to inform possible revisions to the bylaw. We want to hear your suggestions about accessory dwelling units as a form of long-term rental housing. We want to hear from potential landlords as to what they may need from the Trust in order to step up and provide that housing.

As we progress through the bylaw's phases, we can anticipate refinement of measures included in the bylaw to manage environmental impacts, prove sufficient quality and quantity of potable drinking water, and prove the ability to accommodate an increase in onsite sewerage capacity. As well, staff are exploring various mechanisms, such as cov-

enants, that can be used to ensure that these units designated for rental are specifically used for long-term rental.

Allowing accessory dwelling units as rental housing will not solve the critical housing shortages we are experiencing here, but it will begin to expand the housing options. The vast majority of housing on Salt Spring consists of expensive single family homes, many of which have a large environmental footprint. We need a better mix of housing types to address the needs of our community. I believe we can increase the quality and quantity of housing options, while ensuring preservation and protection of the island's biodiversity and freshwater, marine and forest resources.

Affordable, appropriate, accessible and attractive housing should be available for Salt Spring residents of all abilities, incomes, lifestyles and livelihoods.

For information about this draft bylaw and the Housing Action Program use this link: islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/salt-spring/projects/. Submit suggestions to improve the draft bylaw to ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca. Contact me at lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca or 250-537-6822.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you looking forward to a busy Gulf Islands visitor season?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you donated to humanitarian aid for Ukraine?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

ISLAND VOICES

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. For details about deadlines, and word limits for the Viewpoint and other longer opinion pieces, contact the editor at the email address below, or phone 250-537-9933. All submissions may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are asked to provide a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign letters with their full name. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of Driftwood Publishing Ltd., its staff or advertisers. Send letters to: news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

FROM THE BACK ISSUES

Selected items published in past issues of the Driftwood during the same week of the year noted.

1972



Results of Harbour House Hotel renovations under new owner Walter Herzog were set to be unveiled. A modern "Condor Inn" wing was added to the hotel, with a number of rooms, an executive suite, beer parlour and new cocktail lounge. Murals by Alfred Temmel (like the one seen above) depicting historical Salt Spring scenes were another feature.

1982

Lady Minto Hospital faced an 11 per cent budget cut due to B.C. health ministry cuts. To cover the shortage, the hospital was looking at closing six acute care beds, four extended care beds and reducing surgery from three days to one day per week.

1992

About 60 Salt Spring residents attended a CRD regional transportation strategy meeting at Mahon Hall, discussing the possibility of BC Transit bus service, bicycle paths and passenger-only ferries.

2002

Discussions leading up to a June referendum on incorporation for Salt Spring Island were well underway. The Salt Spring Local Government Restructure Committee had issued an updated four-page mailer that stated the tax increase associated with incorporation was estimated at between \$13 and \$24 per year for the first eight years.



2012

A Salt Spring family launched the "Slow Down. It's Salt Spring" campaign with a slug logo designed by Andrew McKeachie. Jan and Cindy Rabson, along with sons Adler and Hayden, hoped to raise awareness of the perils and pointlessness of speeding on island roads.

LETTERS to the editor

Doctor rally

On Thursday, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. there will be a rally on the lawn at the B.C. Legislature in Victoria. Stories of how the family doctor shortage crisis is impacting B.C. residents will be shared. Legislature members from all parties have been invited.

The press reports that almost one million B.C. residents are without a doctor; 3,000 of these "orphan patients" live on Salt Spring Island. Three local doctors have closed their medical offices in the last 16 months and no Salt Spring doctors are taking new patients. Patients without a GP must use the emergency room for routine care.

Outpatient service availability is a provincial crisis with no permanent solutions in sight. Now is the time to be part of the solution. Join the rally; learn; speak up.

BC Health Care Matters is the rally sponsor. Camille Currie is the organizer and founder. She

has become an advocate for the change we need: health-care access for every single person matched with excellent health care.

CURT FIRESTONE,
SALT SPRING

Oppose bylaw

Proposed Bylaw 530 could add thousands of secondary residences of up to 968 square feet all over the island, with no guarantee that this housing would be rented by locals.

This bylaw would contribute to the growth in Salt Spring's population, adding to environmental stress and putting the rural character of the island in jeopardy. All future housing measures should be prudent and prioritize local residents.

Additionally, the Trust should do all it can to address the demand side of the housing problem, for instance by lobbying that the provincial government extend the speculation tax to the Gulf Islands.

I encourage people to write to the Trust, asking that they reconsider this bylaw: ssinfo@island-trust.bc.ca.

RILEY DONOVAN,
SALT SPRING

Gratitude

Heartfelt gratitude to our island community for their support of the April 30 Help Ukraine fundraiser held at Fulford Hall.

A sincere thank you to everyone who donated items and money, those who bid for treasures, the many who gave of their time to volunteer and the musicians and singers for sharing their talents. To all who came, your moral support was welcome.

And appreciation to our corporate donors: Country Grocer, Island Savings, Fulford Seniors, TJ Beans, Home Hardware, Thrifty Foods, Windsor Plywood, Mid-Island Co-op, Ganges Pharmacy and the Driftwood.

Thanks to personal contacts in Ukraine, Winnipeg and Vancouver, the funds raised for

humanitarian relief are being sent directly to provide medical support for civilians and the military, a children's hospital serving cancer patients, transport from orphanages to safety in the West, school and art supplies for children, personal items, supplies for new mothers at a maternity hospital, and help for women with children seeking safety at the border.

Donations continue to be welcomed by e-transfer at helpukrainessi@gmail.com. A recent message from my late husband's nephew who is a priest in Ukraine says his and adjacent parishes are trying to raise funds for an ambulance to take injured civilians out of dangerous places, and a minibus to transport food, water and clothes to civilians who are at the battlefields and, if possible, to transport them to safety. It is a difficult time.

I am grateful to be living on Salt Spring in such a caring community. Thank you, everyone.

VICTORIA OLCHOWECKI,
HELP UKRAINE COMMITTEE

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Solving the global mariner shortage is going to take a lot longer than solving this pandemic."

BRIAN ANDERSON, VICE PRESIDENT, STRATEGY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, BC FERRIES

Don't take the bait from phishing expeditions

BY HELEN HINCHLIFF

"Are those real stores?" she asked. My American cousin had phoned my brother because my line was tied up for hours.

He didn't know if London Drugs or Shoppers Drug Mart were real, but he told her this: "Someone was phishing and you got hooked!" She wasn't the only one. When phishing, a hacker usually pretends to be a brand name; here, he was phishing for people that "Helen Hinchliff" might persuade to buy \$200 worth of Google Play cards.

We hear about scams, but we think they happen to other people. Not so! I started getting phone calls from friends and relatives around 4 p.m. Saturday afternoon, April 30. A few were warnings, including a former Salt Springer who got my number from 411. Having only Salt Spring in common, we started searching for email contacts we might share. We soon gave up.

I escaped my phone for two hours at the Ukraine fundraiser in Fulford Hall; nevertheless, someone sidled up to warn me. "I know," I replied, not fully comprehending what it would mean for me. But back home again, the phone didn't stop ringing. Two hours later, I pulled the plug, so I could get some sleep. Two days of dealing with it taught me some things you can do to keep phishing scams from hooking you.

Beware of "email me back" requests for favours. The phisher opened with "Checking in. Hope you are well? I need a favour from you. Email me back when you get this. Thanks. Helen." If you emailed back, you were hooked because the phisher had

GUEST COLUMN

rerouted all my incoming mails to his Yahoo account. (I had no incoming email for almost two days; more about that later.) If you can't bear to delete such requests, you could reply thus: "Hi, Helen. I'm busy now. Call me." Not knowing whom to phone, the scammer gives up. But if you were among the dozens who got hooked, here's what to do next time.

Analyze pleas for caring. A few who replied said something like this: "Gee, Helen, I'm not 100%, but how can I help?" Phishers fasten in vulnerable people, so he said, "Thank you so much for your kind response. Please I need you to help me get a Google Play gift card for a friend who is down with cancer of the liver."

Analyze pleas for plausibility. His plea continued, "I'm currently out of town and my efforts to purchase them online proved abortive. Can you get them for me at a store near you? I'll reimburse you when I arrive." Knowing I was going to the Ukraine fundraiser, one neighbour assumed "town" meant Ganges and wondered if I'd arrived in Fulford yet, later realizing this conversation assumed a cell phone, which I don't own. Another friend saw me at the fundraiser, but didn't approach me, "because you were with someone, and I thought it might be your friend with cancer." But why would I have said I was out of town if I was right there? And wouldn't I have said "off island if I'd really gone somewhere afar?"

A California cousin thought "arrive" meant I was coming to California and called my brother to ask how soon. When another California cousin thought "London Drugs" and "Shoppers Drug Mart" sounded fishy, she called him for advice.

Beware of pleas for immediacy. The Google Play cards were for "Pat" at an iCloud address. If you overlooked implausibility, and wrote, as one cousin did, "My son-in-law died this week. Can you wait?" the scammer replied, "I heard that, but I really need them today or tomorrow." Why? Is the cancerous friend near death's door? Or would the real Helen be taking steps to get her email account cleaned up, even on a Sunday? A friend chose to wait until after church to buy them. When she saw me in the choir, she was relieved she hadn't acted sooner.

What if your email account gets hacked? Stress and lost time await you. Shaw techs Saturday night and early Sunday afternoon assured me that my account was now okay. It wasn't. I complained to a third tech that my inbox remained empty. He suggested deleting excess emails to speed up my system. But when I opened my trash folder, two days of unopened emails were awaiting me. When I started to reply, they vanished! It took forever for the fourth tech to find the filters the scammer created to make that happen.

Most of us have no idea how interlinked we are, so if you got hooked, you've got homework: Check your contacts for that Yahoo account and delete it. If you use it by mistake, you could find the phisher and wouldn't that be fun!



PHOTO COURTESY SSI SAR

ON TASK: Participants in a B.C. Tracking Association course hosted by Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue over the weekend get into the dirt as part of the course work. The session was attended by 22 students at different levels of training and six instructors. Organizers say everyone enjoyed a weekend of training without rain and delicious meals provided by Sweetgrass Food Co. One student, Dave Marshall, advanced to the next training level.

LAND-USE PLANNING

Ganges 'character' dissected in study



LTC/GANGES VILLAGE AREA PLAN ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY PHOTO

Residents lend their feedback about Ganges at one of three interactive pop-up stations positioned around the village during a public engagement process that will feed into a future area plan for the village.

Diverse views shared about village

Second of two parts

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

What people think about Ganges village now and changes they would like to see are detailed in the Ganges Gathers report recently received by the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC).

In addition to the concepts detailed in last week's story, another valued part of the village people identified is the waterfront and the boardwalk, with many stating they wanted better access to and along the waterfront. Completing the boardwalk was mentioned by many people, said Jennifer Fix, consultant on the project. "People want better views, and more opportunities to linger and spend time at the water."

The value of businesses in the village was noted, and the interest in having more and more diverse business activity. Some want to see more public art, creative spaces and venues for arts and artists, food culture and market opportunities expanded and overall a "sense of inclusivity and welcome to all."

Keeping the village clean was a priority. People who took part in the public engagement process noted the need for more improved seating, garbage bins and maintenance, as well as washrooms open 24 hours a day. Another theme was the need for an improved sense of safety in the village, especially for children and families.

Better climate mitigation and adaptation was another idea touched on, and specifically preparing for sea level rise.

"That came up quite frequently," Fix noted.

People want more support for the library. "They see it as a vibrant, inclusive community asset," Fix said.

People also noted the potential of a community hub being established on the Ganges fire hall site after the new hall is built.

Generally, people value the character of Ganges, although Fix noted they were not in agreement about what that character is.

"Some people describe it as historic, small-scale, having a small-town atmosphere. Others describe it as quirky, whimsical, organic and for these reasons it feels authentic and unpretentious," she said. One survey respondent wrote they cherish the village "for its shabbiness and complete lack of charm.

Look anywhere, gravel in the gutters, chaotic sidewalks, the unfinished boardwalk, the faded road markings, cars parked [helter] skelter . . ."

The feedback will form part of a future area plan for Ganges, which trustee Laura Patrick explained does not have a set timeline for completion.

"My goal is a good plan for Ganges . . . that works for whoever is in charge," she said. "Time is not the driver, it's 'Let's do a good plan,' and it's really hard in our current system of governance but yet still important to do."

An official community plan is a document for the whole community and an area plan is a plan for parts of the community that hold particular importance, Patrick explained. Area plans guide future development and change, and such a plan needs to include implementation and monitoring, especially with the divided method of governance on Salt Spring. The plan has to, as Patrick put it, "deal the cards" and assign who does what in the Village into the future.

The theme of "genuine reconciliation, decolonization, and increased presence of Indigenous people and knowledge" in Ganges was noted by participants.

Planner Louisa Garbo explained that the Islands Trust is in conversations with First Nations with treaty and territorial interests at the government-to-government level continuously, yet normally results are not published as it involves shared work at the policy level.

"So we are working with them continuously, it's just that we don't publish that information," she said.

The efforts ongoing with the public and First Nations are parallel, Garbo said. Patrick said she wants to see more of a ladder approach, where there are touchpoints at which First Nations and Salt Spring residents can share and learn from one another.

Garbo added a community-to-community conversation could be arranged, at the elected level with chiefs and councils.

The Trust's senior intergovernmental policy advisor Lisa Wilcox, who normally would advise on such events, has moved on from this role and is now Truth and Reconciliation Lead for Arc'teryx Equipment, according to her LinkedIn page.

To view the 106-page engagement report, visit islandstrust.bc.ca/islandplanning/salt-spring/projects and scroll down to Ganges Village Planning and find the Ganges Gathers Engagement Summary.pdf in the Document Library.

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gov.bc.ca/vaccineforkids



MIND, BODY & spirit



Two-plus years of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on islanders' physical and mental health. Our stories and advertisers in this special section aim to help improve people's health in the three main areas of mind, body and spirit.

NATURE THERAPY

Forest bathing benefits get further research

UBC researcher gives talk on May 27

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Most people know that spending time in nature can make them feel better, but the practice of "forest bathing" — or shinrin-yoku — takes it one step further.

Shinrin-yoku originated in Japan in the 1980s, and there's been ample research to prove that being in contact with nature lowers humans' blood pressure, and cortisol and stress levels, among other benefits.

Islanders can get immersed in the concept of forest bathing when UBC Ph.D. student Tara Tiger Brown gives a presentation about it at the library on Friday, May 27 at 3 p.m.

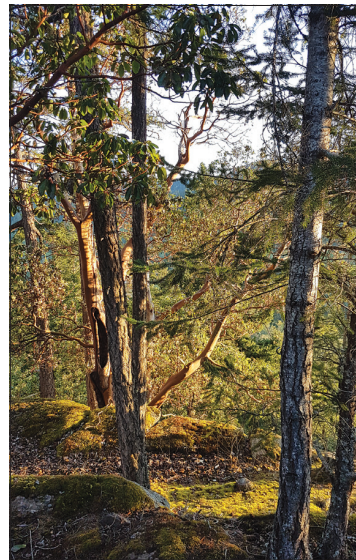
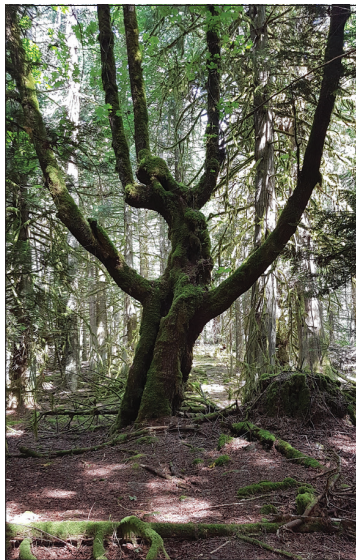
Forest bathing is a much different experience from recreational use of a nature trail, Brown explained in a Driftwood interview last week. Rather than hiking for exercise and to get one's heart rate up, or to identify plants or reach a specific destination, forest bathing involves slowing down and engaging all five senses when out in nature.

"It's just a different way of thinking about being in the forest that for some people seems completely normal. They do it all the time," she said.

Brown said researchers have attributed about half the benefits of forest bathing to breathing in biogenic volatile organic compounds called terpenes that come off the trees. She is now leading studies that more specifically measure what exactly is in the air among native tree species.

"A lot of research in B.C.'s forests is about 'how do we grow trees,' but a lot of those measurements are actually beneficial in understanding how humans respond to those same factors. I'm getting very similar measurements but I'm looking at it from the point of view of how a person might experience it."

She is now organizing a community sci-



Three different forest environments found on Salt Spring Island are pictured above. An upcoming event with guest speaker Tara Tiger Brown, which is co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club and the Salt Spring Public Library, will discuss the ins and outs of forest bathing and forest therapy, and related topics.

ence project that will see volunteers spend time on trails in the Lower Mainland. Some outings will use a forest therapy guide and the impact of that experience will also be evaluated. Brown hopes the resulting work will help people get the most out of a forest bathing walk, and also perhaps inform the PaRx "nature prescriptions" program of the BC Parks Foundation. That sees medical practitioners prescribe time spent in nature as a health-improving action.

Brown ultimately hopes she can put together a set of questions that individuals can ask themselves or a physician can ask patients before anyone sets out on a trail, because everybody is different and has individual reasons for the experience they have.

"It's not just a sort of blanket 'yes, go to nature and it feels good' situation."

Some people might experience substantial fear about going into a forest, for example, since they have so little experience with it. Others are allergic to particular tree species. Temperature and difficulty level are other factors affecting comfort.

From an individual health perspective, Brown hopes her work will help people optimize their responses to forest bathing walks. For people responsible for parks or forest areas, she hopes they will "think about how they're designing or managing those forest spaces in a way that is also considering people."

Her research could also have implications

for what kind of information is included in park brochures.

Brown got interested in shinrin-yoku when she lived in Japan between 2017 and 2020 and immersed herself in certain Japanese cultural practices.

"I took training on how to be a mountain monk and we walked through different sacred mountains," she said.

After that she got in touch with Dr. Qing Li, author of *Forest Bathing: How Trees Can Help You Find Health and Happiness*. From there she became a certified forest therapy guide and has trained in forest medicine, with Li as one of her instructors.

FORESTS continued on 8

DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTOS

MIND, BODY & *spirit*

Shinrin-yoku experience shared



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FORESTS

continued from 7

Until taking the training in Japan, she said, "I could never describe how I felt after being immersed in the forest."

Brown was also involved in community citizen science projects there, including one that collected radiation data.

After realizing she wanted to do more work on forest bathing she con-

tacted professor John Innes, who was dean of the UBC forestry department at the time, with a research proposal. She wanted her explorations to "see different ways that B.C. forests can be used beyond for timber or recreation" and she is now part of the Sustainable Forest Management Laboratory at UBC.

The May 27 event is co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club and the Salt Spring Public Library.

It is free to attend but people are



PHOTO COURTESY TARA TIGER BROWN
Forest researcher Tara Tiger Brown.

asked to please RSVP to info.sstnc@gmail.com.

SOCIAL HEALTH

IWAV programs help with healing, growth

Ample resources available

SUBMITTED BY IWAV

Islanders Working Against Violence (IWAV) is a local organization serving the Southern Gulf Islands.

IWAV envisions people living free from poverty, violence and abuse and works toward this vision by operating a transition house, crisis line, sexual assault services, outreach and counselling programs. These essential services are all free, safe and confidential. The clients receive emotional and practical support, information, advocacy and referrals to additional services. IWAV's programs are offered by car-

ing and experienced people.

IWAV also operates affordable housing in the community. There are second stage housing for women* and children who have experienced violence and abuse. The other property is Croftonbrook, which offers permanent housing for people of all genders with disabilities, seniors, individuals and small families who have low to moderate income.

In their anti-violence and transitional housing programs, IWAV welcomes all women*, inclusive of cis, trans women and gender non-conforming people and members of the LGBTQ2+ communities.

Please visit www.iwav.org for more information about IWAV's programs and other resource materials.

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ADVENTURE CAMP (5-8 yrs)

An immersive outdoor adventure! Each week is full of themed activities, outdoor exploration, colorful individual crafts, and plenty of classic and outrageous games. Have a blast and make some new friends! **No online registration.** Instructor: PARC Program Staff

M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 4 - 8 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 11 - 15 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 18 - 22 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 25 - 29 \$37/day
T - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 2 - 5 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 8 - 12 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 15 - 19 \$37/day
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 22 - 26 \$37/day
Full week bookings \$185/week
Location: SSE Gym

QUEST CAMP (8-12 yrs)

An action-packed camp full of challenges and adventures on water and dry land! Campers will take on new aquatic activities like water polo, underwater obstacle courses, snorkeling, surfboard skills, aquatic relays and more! Dry land challenges include biking, off-island adventures, cooperative games and fun physical challenges! Instructor: PARC Program Staff

M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 4 - Jul 8 \$195/week
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 11 - 15 \$195/week
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 25 - 29 \$195/week
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 8 - 12 \$195/week
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 15 - 19 \$195/week
M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 22 - 26 \$195/week
Location: SIMS Gym



SUMMER CAMPS

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Pre-registration is available until 4pm the night before. Additional \$5 fee will apply to all same day registrations. Detailed schedules for Adventure Camp and Quest Camp will be available at the end of June. Schedules will be posted on our website. Printed copies will be available at the Rainbow Recreation Centre and in the schools. **ONLINE: www.ssiparc.ca BY PHONE: 250-537-1402 IN PERSON: Recreation Centre.**

PRESCHOOL CAMP (3-5 yrs)

Big fun for little ones - Enjoy story time, sharing, creative arts, games, introductory sports and more. We will fill your little camper's afternoon with activities, imagination and creative play. Please bring snacks, water, and outdoor clothes.

M-Th 12:45pm - 3:45pm July 18 - 21 \$100/week
M-Th 12:45pm - 3:45pm July 25 - 28 \$100/week
M-Th 12:45pm - 3:45pm Aug 8 - 11 \$100/week
Location: Heron's Nest Classroom

ELI PASQUALE BASKETBALL CAMP

These upbeat, instructional sessions are perfect for players wanting to learn the FUNDamentals of basketball. This camp provides Eli's classic half day program plus full day campers will learn offensive and defensive skills. Progressive skills are taught using fun games, drills, and scrimmages under the supervision of Eli Pasquale's enthusiastic coaches. Full day ends with a swim. Instructor: Isiah Pasquale

Jul 18 - 22 M - F 9am - 12pm 6 - 9 yrs \$140/week
Jul 18 - 22 M - F 1pm - 4pm 10 - 14 yrs \$140/week
Jul 18 - 22 M - F 9am - 4pm 8 - 14 yrs \$230/week
Location: SIMS Gym

SOCCERTRON

These upbeat, instructional sessions are perfect for players wanting to learn the FUNDamentals of Soccer. This camp provides Eli's classic half day program plus full day campers will learn offensive and defensive skills. Progressive skills are taught using fun games, drills, and scrimmages under the supervision of Soccertron's enthusiastic coaches. Full day ends with a swim. Instructor: Isiah Pasquale

Aug 15 - 19
M - F 10:45am - 11:45am 3 - 5 years \$90/week
M - F 9am - 12pm 6 - 9 years \$140/week
M - F 1pm - 4pm 10 - 14 years \$140/week
M - F 9am-4pm 7 - 14 years \$230/week
Location: Portlock Park picnic shelter

KARATE CAMP (6 - 12 yrs)

An immersive camp where kids learn Karate and aspects of Japanese culture. Learn about the history and culture of Japan while practicing new skills! Karate will take place both inside the portable and outdoors at Portlock Park. Instructor: Martin Mongard

T - F 10am - 2pm Aug 2 - Aug 5 \$120/week
Location: Portlock Park Portable

KIDS' TABLE (9 - 14 yrs)

Farm, cook, eat! This new camp will focus on cooking, food, and where it comes from. In the kitchen, both fundamental and cultural recipes will be taught along with food handling and safety, knife skills and healthy eating practices. Out of the kitchen, participants will visit and learn about our local food producers and farms Pre-registration is necessary. Registration may close one week before start date. Instructor: PARC Program Staff

M - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Jul 18 - Jul 22 \$220/week
T - F 8:30am - 3:30pm Aug 2 - 5 \$176/week
Location: SIMS Home Ed

LEGO ROBOTICS AND SCIENCE CAMP (6-9 yrs)

In LEGO Robotics, kids will take their building skills to another level while learning about gears, motors, and sensors. Come and program exciting interactive objects that move, react, and make sounds! In the Science portion campers will get to experience the wonders of science by doing daily experiments. Every day campers will get to take home one of their cool experiments to share with friends and family. Instructor: Leo, LittlUniverse

M-F 9am - 4pm Jul 11 - 15 \$400 / week
Location: SIMS Classroom

THE TECH CAMP: 2D GAME DESIGN/MINECRAFT MODDING (9-14yrs)

In this camp, participants will combine their love for Video Games, programming and Minecraft! This program will help kids develop their creativity and turn their imaginations into reality. Participants will do everything from planning a storyboard for their game, designing their own characters, creating unique environments to programming a showdown with the final boss! Each participant will be able to take their game home with them at the end of the program. Instructor: Leo, LittlUniverse

M-F 9am - 4pm Aug 22 - 26 \$400 / week
Location: SIMS Classroom



STEPS TO BECOME A LIFEGUARD Bronze Star (optional), Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Standard First Aid, National Lifeguard



BRONZE MEDALLION:

Become a trained Lifesaver: candidates learn lifesaving principles focusing on judgment, knowledge, skill, and fitness and acquire the assessment and problem-solving skills needed to make good decisions in, on and around the water. Prerequisite: Age 13+ or have taken Bronze Star.

Su 10:30am - 6pm May 22 - Jun 5 \$150/3 sessions

BRONZE CROSS:

Begin the transition from lifesaving to lifeguarding and prepare for responsibilities as Assistant Lifeguards. Candidates strengthen and expand their lifesaving skills and begin to apply the principles and techniques of active surveillance in aquatic facilities. Bronze Cross emphasizes the importance of teamwork and communication in preventing and responding to aquatic emergencies.

Prerequisite: Bronze Medallion.

Su 10:30am - 6pm Jun 26 - Jul 10 \$150/3 sessions

NATIONAL LIFEGUARD:

Become a fully certified Lifeguard! Candidates develop the fundamental values, judgment, knowledge, skills and fitness required to provide effective safety supervision in swimming pool environments. Prerequisite: Age 15+, Bronze Cross and Standard First Aid.

9:30am - 6pm Aug 27 - 28 & Sept 2 - 5 \$300/6 sessions

STANDARD FIRST AID W/ CPR C

Standard First Aid provides comprehensive training covering all aspects of first aid and CPR for children and adults. Includes CPR level instructor: Chantelle Pohl

Sa - Su 9am - 5pm Jun 11 - 12 \$122/2 sessions

Sa - Su 9am - 5pm Aug 6 - 7 \$122/2 sessions

Location: Portlock Park Portable Classroom

SUMMER SWIMMING LESSONS AVAILABLE

MIND, BODY & *spirit*

PERSONAL & COMMUNITY GROWTH

Prem Rawat peace book inspires community

Discussion prompts calls to restart a movement

BY KIRK LAIDLAW

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Any time a little event at the library

results in rich, thoughtful and heartfelt discussion among strangers, it's worth reporting about.

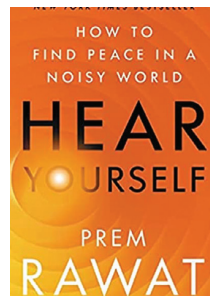
This is what occurred last week when islanders gathered both in person and on Zoom to talk about the impact of reading excerpts of the book Hear Yourself – How

To Find Peace In A Noisy World by Prem Rawat.

Adina Hildebrandt, owner of Salt Spring Books, guided this discussion by opening the floor to themes from the text like gratitude, dealing with tough times, forgiveness and kindness. Then the participants took over! Many described their own understandings and others pulled from the book for the author's often unique take on each of these subjects. This resulted in an exchange that stood out for its originality and honesty.

It is written by the same individual who authored the material for the Peace Education Program (known to islanders as the SS Peace Class) that I have volunteered with for years. This is a multimedia program that runs in schools, federal institutions and community centres worldwide. It encourages participants to explore inner resources that we all share, like inner strength, clarity, and personal peace. And it works! We have been running this 10-session series annually here at the library or on Zoom since 2016.

But more about the book. I was curious if people were purchasing the book here — and it turns out, they are. Adina told me about Salt Spring Island's long-standing association with being a centre for peace work. We realized that this book, as neutral and accessible as it is, could contrib-



ute towards re-igniting this noble mission on our island home.

Adina said something like "Let's restart that movement!" A few fans of the book put some money in a pot and we began to organize

and promote the April 30 book presentation and discussion as one contribution towards affecting peace within ourselves, our families and our community.

The book Hear Yourself – How To Find Peace In A Noisy World quickly leads us to recognize that this "noise" that the author writes about is primarily in our own heads! The book is so NOT a typical self-help text. It seems to evoke things — deep understandings that we know but forget. It's an easy read with humour, ancient wisdom, and edgy insight all packed between the covers. It's a book that you tend to come back to again and again.

PEACE continued on 11

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MIND, BODY & *spirit*

Activities will continue



PHOTO COURTESY KIRK LAIDLAW

Some of the people at the April 30 Prem Rawat peace book discussion at the Salt Spring Public Library.

PEACE

continued from 10

The author, Prem Rawat, is a gifted, down-to-earth guy with vision and an impressive mission – to remind anyone (actually everyone), everywhere, that the foundation for having a successful life and a healthy planet is first for us to know ourselves. He writes “Take away the noise... and the only thing left is You.” He has a great skill in addressing his audience at the human level, independent of whatever beliefs might guide

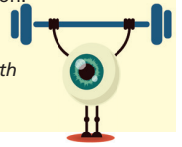
each of our lives. While he’s not well known in North America, globally over a billion people hear him in a typical year.

During last weekend’s event, some of the participants asked if it would be possible to continue book discussions about this and future books. We’ll try to make that happen, so feel free to email ssi.booktalks@gmail.com about this. Of course, the book is available for purchase at Salt Spring Books at a buy local discount. To learn about next Peace Class (which is always offered free of charge, and suitable for ages 14 to 100+), visit ssi-peace.com.

Did You Know?

Many people have difficulty driving at night or adjusting their eyes when moving from a bright area into a dimly lit room. If you’re struggling to see in the dark, here are some easy steps you can take to improve your night vision.

- **Increase vitamin A** — it increases your level of rhodopsin, a protein in the light receptor cells of the retina.
- **Limit light exposure** — wear sunglasses, for starters.
- **Massage your eyes** — With eyes closed, gently press your palms against your eyelids. After a minute or so, release and open your eyes.
- **Visit your optometrist** — Depending on its cause, nyctalopia may be treatable with corrective lenses, surgery or medication.



– May is Vision Health Month in Canada.

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 FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:
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CONCERT PREVIEW

Foothills Brass ready to entertain

Concert at All Saints next Saturday

One of Canada's finest brass ensembles, the Foothills Brass Quintet (FBQ), will perform Saturday, May 21 at 7:30 p.m. at All Saints By-the-Sea.

The concert will feature music to suit every taste: everything from Baroque to 20th century, from opera to jazz and even a little country music.

The concert is part of a May mini tour of B.C. and is the ensemble's first tour after two years of Covid restrictions. In the 38 years prior to Covid, the FBQ had performed up to 200 concerts a year across North America, Europe and beyond.

The Calgary-based group includes Salt Springer Derrick Milton on trumpet. Trumpeter Chris Morrison and Rosalee Morrison on French horn, the founders of Foothills Brass, met Milton at the Banff School of Fine Arts in the early 1970s where they were studying with the original Canadian Brass. The three met up again when they all played together in the Thunder Bay Symphony. They went on to have independent musical careers for a while, Milton playing with such entities as the Canadian Opera and the Stratford Festival, Chris Morrison with the National and Winnipeg Ballet orchestras, and Rosalee Morrison with the Winnipeg and St. John symphonies.

After graduating from Conservatoire de musique du Québec in Montreal, winning three unanimous first prizes in orchestra, chamber music and solo playing, tubist Jean-Francois Cotnoir was



PHOTO COURTESY FOOTHILLS BRASS QUINTET

Foothills Brass Quintet members are, from left, Rosalee Morrison, Derrick Milton, Chris Morrison, Andrew Clayden and Jean-Francois Cotnoir.

hired as the principal tubist for the Pretoria Symphony Orchestra and soloist with the KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic in South Africa. He has been with the Foothills Brass since the mid 1980s and teaches music in Calgary.

The newest member of the quintet is trombonist Andrew Clayden, who after completing his masters at Northwestern University played with the National Taiwan Academy of Arts Experimental Chinese Orchestra, and later enjoyed 20 years with the Quebec City Symphony.

Tickets for the May 21 concert are available at Mondo Trading.

what's on this week



Wed. May 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Cross. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Thur. May 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic. Royal Canadian Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

John Gogo. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Fri. May 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Morien Jones. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

C.R. Avery. Live at Mateada Lounge. 8 to 10 p.m.

Synergy. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Karaoke Night. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Family Literacy Festival. For week one of a four-week festival, enjoy children's performer Jim Raddysh at the United Church Meadow. 1 p.m. (Event will switch to the library in case of bad weather.) A Salt Spring Literacy and Salt Spring Public Library event.

SSI Printmakers Print Show Event. Meet the artists and learn about how they make their prints. ArtSpring lobby. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sat. May 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Salt Spring Singers: Nature Sings. Choral concert at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Marianne Grittani. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Sharon Bailey & Craig McKerron. Moby's Pub deck. 5 to 8 p.m.

The Hounds of Cuchalain. Inside at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Rough & Tumble. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

DJ Set by FR333 Collective. Mateada Lounge. 8 to 10 p.m. By donation to Xwaaqw'um land-based learning program.

Sat. May 14

ACTIVITIES

Spring Bottle Drive. Cats of Salt Spring Rescue Society fundraiser at 232 Rainbow Rd. (GISS pull-out lane). 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sun. May 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Salt Spring Singers: Nature Sings. Choral concert at ArtSpring. 2 p.m.

Sunday Jazz Jam. Every other Sunday at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m. House band and guest musicians play from the Great American Songbook.

Dan Smith. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Fawkes & Hownd. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Blossom Picnic. A Salt Spring Japanese community event. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. With music, food, cosplay/dress-up contest (12 noon), paper airplane race (12:30 p.m.) info@saltspringjapanesegarden.com.

Hike With SS Trail & Nature Club. Meet at ArtSpring every Sunday at 1 p.m. to join a 3-4-hour hike in various parts of Salt Spring. Non-members may attend up to three hikes per year. More info: saltspring-tnc.ca/index.php/events/**StoryWalk.** See Friday's listing.

Mon. May 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Kurt Loewen. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

StoryWalk. See Friday's listing.



Tues. May 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tom Hooper. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee. Monthly business meeting at Community Gospel Chapel. 9:30 a.m. with town hall and elected officials' reports beginning at noon. See islandstrust.bc.ca for agenda link under "What's Happening/Meetings and Events." ALSO available to watch online via the same page.

Hike With SS Trail & Nature Club. See Sunday listing except the time is at 9:45 a.m. to join a hike or at 10 a.m. for a more relaxed walk.

VIA ZOOM

Poetry of Change. Join us for an evening of poems that unsettle us, set their demands upon us, and propel us to redirect our days. Bring a poem of change to share or just come to listen to and respond to poems brought by others. Facilitated by Salt Spring poet Brian Day. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Register at staroftheseasi@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Wed. May 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

John Herbert. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

THE FRITZ CINEMA

The **Bad Guys** shows on Friday, May 13 through Tuesday, May 17 at 7 p.m., plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. www.thefritz.ca

EXHIBITIONS

- Today, May 11, is the last day to see the **Symbolically 8** exhibition at **Gallery 8** with work by all gallery artists.

- Today, May 11 is also the last day to see **On the Edge - Dreams of West Greenland** by Cortes Island artist Iris Steigemann at **Salt Spring Gallery.**

- SSI Printmakers are showing new original prints in the **ArtSpring Lobby** to May 30. ArtSpring is open from Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and during ArtSpring performances.

- Sheya Jordan presents an exhibit called **Heartivism** in the library program room until May 28.

- Avril Kirby shows her maritime images at **Fernwood Road Cafe** through May.

- John de Bruyn has photographs on display at **Country Grocer Cafe** this month.

- Three pieces from **Sabrina Lloyd's Blue Collection** are on display at **Dragonfly Art Supplies** throughout the month of May.

- Colton Prevost shows his photographs at the **Laundr-O-Mat** until May 15.

- Sheri Standen's art show at **Harvest Moon** in the **Country Grocer** complex has been extended through May with new paintings.

Blossom Picnic

Annual festival put on by Salt Spring's Japanese community returns!

Sunday, May 15, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Heiwa Garden in Peace Park



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



PHOTO COURTESY SUE NEWMAN

READY TO JAM: From left is drummer Randall Miron, pianist Frank Huether and bass player Bob Delion, the house band for the new Sunday Jazz Jam, taking place every other week at the Legion from 3 to 6 p.m. May 15 is the next date. See gulfislandsdriftwood.com for an article by participant Sue Newman on the ins and outs of the jam for performers.

CHORAL MUSIC

Singers on stage

Rutter's new A Ukrainian Prayer on program

Salt Spring Singers members are excited to share choral pieces celebrating the beauty of our planet when they perform at ArtSpring this weekend.

The choir will present Nature Sings on Saturday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m.

"We are privileged to sing music composed by highly acclaimed artists such as Antonin Dvorák, John Rutter, Roger Emerson, Eric Whitacre, Morten Lauridsen, Frank Ticheli and B.C.'s own Don Macdonald," director Don Conley states in his program message.

The group is particularly thrilled to be singing a "hot off the press" composition by renowned British composer John Rutter. Called A Ukrainian Prayer, Rutter composed the piece just weeks after the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. Conley reached out to Rutter and received permission to perform it at this weekend's concerts.

Tickets for the two shows are available through ArtSpring.

Masks must be worn by all patrons aged five and up while at ArtSpring.

Nature Sings
Conductor: Don Conley

ArtSpring
Saturday May 14
at 7:30pm
Sunday May 15
at 2:00pm
Adults \$25 | Youth \$5
Masks Required

SALT SPRING SINGERS

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expert **ADVICE**

Real Estate

Buyers: How to compare prices and value?



JAN MACPHERSON

Comparing homes with similar attributes can provide valuable insights. Consider the age of the: roof, decks, septic field, appliances and "deferred maintenance". How dated are the bathrooms and kitchen and flooring? Would you want to replace them? The cost of replacing each of these items could be considerable. Make up a comparison chart accounting for these differences.

When planning a second viewing, ASK FOR AN INFO PACKAGE & PERMISSION TO TAKE PHOTOS. Take notes. Identify chattels that you may wish to have included such as: window coverings, appliances and their brand name, built in vacuum and/or hot tub accessories, shelving, firewood on hand, riding lawn mower, water filters, garden sheds, building plans, etc. Note what items are excluded on the feature sheet to assist you in making plans for replacing. Then you will likely conclude that...

The most affordable home is rarely the lowest priced home!

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CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Siblings explore Grenadian roots



CULTURAL DIVERSITY DIALOGUES

First in a series of interviews with Salt Spring youth

BY MARCIA JANSEN
THE CIRCLE EDUCATION

What is it like to grow up within different cultures? In honour of World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and development on May 21, The Circle Education talks with young people to celebrate different backgrounds. Through our youth, we hope to offer a look at the world from different perspectives. In this way, we begin to open up horizons, providing our societies with connection and making them more inclusive.

Keshua, Levi and Zyah Welch have a Grenadian dad and a Canadian mom with Dutch roots. They had a Canadian upbringing on Salt Spring Island, with the Grenadian humour of their dad and a touch of Dutch from their great-grandparents. Last year they had the chance to get to know their Grenadian heritage when they lived for six and a half months in the Caribbean.

The living room of the Welch family is regularly filled with laughter as Keshua, Levi and Zyah look back at their Caribbean adventure. Salt Spring Island and Grenada are both small islands – Grenada is twice the size of Salt Spring Island – but living there was a totally different experience.

Hughson Welch and Hanna Munneke had been talking about it for years; taking their kids to the place where Hughson was born and raised. Zyah, who goes to school at Salt Spring Elementary, and Keshua and Levi (both in high school) were excited when it finally happened.

"I really wanted to go because our family lives there and it is nice to see another place in the world," said Zyah, who had never visited Grenada before.

Keshua had been in Grenada twice: as a three-year-old with his parents, and four years ago when he stayed for two months with his grandparents.

"That was a whole different experience," he said. "I mostly spent time with my grandparents back then, I didn't immerse myself in the culture that much, except for going to church. But I was excited to go back, to be in a warm place; no sub-zero temperatures, no snow."

Levi was in Grenada when he was a baby.

"I didn't remember anything about Grenada and I was super excited when we finally went there. I always wanted to



PHOTO COURTESY THE CIRCLE EDUCATION

From left, Levi, Keshua and Zyah Welch, Salt Spring youth whose father is Grenadian and mother is Canadian with Dutch roots.

know what Grenada was like."

The three of them went to a public school in Saint George's, the capital of Grenada where their dad grew up. It was where they got to know the Grenadian people better.

"When we just arrived at the airport and we drove to our grandparents, I felt I was in wonderland," said Levi. "We were listening to Bob Marley on the radio, everything was so new and different but I felt I belonged there. Until I met the people. They really let me know that I didn't."

"They had a lot of assumptions about us," Zyah added. "People in Grenada think when you have a lighter skin that you are rich."

"Pretty much everyone thought we were loaded," Levi agreed.

Keshua explained that "Very few people with lighter skin are part of the culture in Grenada and actually living there, so in a way, it was a fair assumption."

Having a black dad and a white mom makes them seen as black kids in Canada. In Grenada, it was just the opposite. "On Salt Spring Island they see me as black, but I don't think they treat me differently because of the colour of my skin," Keshua continued. "In Grenada they did, but that was because they thought I was rich, and they will tell you that in your face. The biggest cultural difference between Canada and Grenada to me is the way people interact with each other. In Grenada they can be very blunt, and they are less sensitive. The whole time I was in Grenada I was White Boy. They like to give you nicknames. Everybody has one. If you're tall you are Tall Boy or Big Boy. Nobody cares, it is kind of a nice thing, there is no malicious intent. I wasn't offended by it. I grew up with a Grenadian dad. He can be blunt. I am used to it."

His dad, who has been listening in the background, added: "I think Canadians are more polite because there are so many different cultures here. The people of Grenada are a more homogenous group. Like being around family, it is easier to make jokes or give each other nicknames."

Going to school in Grenada was different from the experience they have in the Canadian school system. They had to wear uniforms, the boys had to keep their hair super short, which they weren't happy about, the headteacher at their school used corporal punishment and because of a teacher's strike, they missed a lot of the curriculum.

They definitely had more fun outside school.

Levi: "We spent a lot of time at the beach. Life happens on the beach in Grenada." Keshua: "We were always there with a big group of boys, playing soccer, doing gymnastics stuff and flips off the dock."

They also enjoyed nature there.

"We went on hikes in the rainforest, climbed mountains and on my birthday, we went to see wild monkeys. That was really fun," said Zyah. "What I absolutely loved about Grenada are the tropical plants and flowers that grow there, and of course the fruits. My favourite is the mamee apple, which is actually a berry that tastes like passion fruit."

Before Keshua, Levi and Zyah went to Grenada, Grenadian culture didn't play a huge role in their lives.

"My dad is probably more strict than Canadian dads, but he isn't very religious, he doesn't cook — so we didn't eat a lot of Grenadian food — and we didn't celebrate Grenadian holidays or have a lot of Grenadian traditions. I actually felt more Dutch than Grenadian before we went to Grenada," says Levi.

Keshua and Zyah felt the same.

Zyah: "I had never been in Grenada, nor Holland, but I grew up with Dutch great-grandparents who live here on the island. I had more connections with the Dutch culture."

Having lived in Grenada for six and a half months definitely changed that.

"I feel more Grenadian than before I left and less Dutch, that has shifted," said Zyah. "But I would love to visit The Netherlands as well in the future. I think growing up with three different cultures is a big bonus. There are more things to learn and to experience and more places to go."

Levi felt different as well after the trip.

"It is funny, I feel more Grenadian in Canada and more Canadian in Grenada. I like the directness of Grenadians but also the politeness of Canadians."

Keshua: "It was a great opportunity to live in Grenada, to get to know the country, the traditions and my family better. I feel more in touch with my Grenadian side now. It feels more part of who I am and I am happy about that. In the future, I hope to live parts of the year in Grenada. I am honestly done with the long and cold winters in Canada. That is definitely where my Grenadian roots come to show."

TIDE TABLES

at Fulford Harbour

MAY 2022 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
11	0133	3.1	10.2	15	0257	3.2	10.5
	0828	1.9	6.2		1007	0.5	1.6
	WE 1305	2.2	7.2		SU 1753	3.1	10.2
12	ME 1846	1.5	4.9	DI 2210	2.5	8.2	
	0157	3.1	10.2	0320	3.2	10.5	
	0843	1.6	5.2	1045	0.1	0.3	
13	TH 1437	2.4	7.9	MO 1851	3.3	10.8	
	JE 1942	1.7	5.6	LU 2303	2.7	8.9	
	0218	3.1	10.2	17 0348	3.3	10.8	
14	0906	1.2	3.9	1127	0.0	0.0	
	FR 1550	2.6	8.5	TU 1949	3.4	11.2	
	VE 2032	2.0	6.6	MA			
18	0237	3.1	10.2	0004	2.9	9.5	
	0934	0.8	2.6	0420	3.3	10.8	
	SA 1654	2.9	9.5	WE 1213	-0.1	-0.3	
	SA 2120	2.2	7.2	ME 2047	3.5	11.5	

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Obituaries

Obituaries

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JOHN DONALD DOUGLAS (DONNIE)
 February 8, 1948 - April 15, 2022

Donnie was a keeper of memories and memorabilia. He treasured his friends, old and new, and was always ready to laugh at his foibles or share a story. Loyal and generous to a fault, Donnie was a sensitive man who loved deeply.



Born in Calgary, Alberta, Donnie lived in Red Deer most of his life. From an early age, he worked in the family business with his parents and elder brother. As a young adult, he toured Europe with his lifelong friends Wendy and Tony Purnell. For the next 25 years, Donnie was employed by Border Paving. This work took him throughout Alberta. During this time, he earned his machinist, heavy duty mechanic and millwright certificates.

As his parents' health deteriorated, Donnie became a devoted caregiver during their last years.

He then sold the family home and moved to Salt Spring Island in 2011 to be closer to family.

Employed by Mouat's Hardware for several years, Donnie retired in 2014. Membership in the Lions Club offered Donnie a strong sense of community, and he was grateful for their support and encouragement. He resided in Pioneer Village and often mentioned how much he appreciated his neighbours and his home.

In the past year, Donnie struggled with declining health. His favourite outing was to catch a bus and tour the island, making friends along the way. As his mobility lessened, Donnie could often be seen sitting on his walker watching the comings and goings in Ganges.

Donnie was predeceased by his parents Bill and Vi Douglas and his brother Robert. He is survived by his sister Joan of SSI and her partner Rob Lowrie as well as nieces Catherine and Kirsten, nephews Daniel and Robbie, great nieces Fern and Imogen, great nephews Dallas, Taliesen and Finn. Uncle Don was much loved by his family.

Thanks to the Lady Minto Hospital staff who knew Donnie well; to Drs Gummesson, Mommsen-Smith and Voyer, & to nurse Israel Cohen for your concern and care. Thanks also to the ICU staff at Royal Jubilee Hospital for your expertise during Donnie's last days.

A memorial for family and friends will be held at a later date.

Thank You!

The Help Ukraine committee is grateful to the following for their support of the April 30 fundraiser at Fulford Hall.

- People who donated money and items
- People who purchased treasures
- People who volunteered
- Musicians and singers

And the following corporate donors:

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The event raised \$34,412.27! All funds will go to humanitarian relief in Ukraine, for example, medicines, personal items, orphans and many others who need help.

Donations continue to be welcomed by e-transfer to Helpukrainessi@gmail.com

Coming Events

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

Wednesday May 25, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road, Public welcome.

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Information

NOTICE TO PUBLIC
 208 Eagleridge Drive

Take notice if you are the owner of any vehicles, watercraft or recreational vehicles presently located at 208 Eagleridge Dr., SaltSpring Island, BC.

Be aware you have until May 31, 2022 to remove above mentioned property at which point if not removed they will be considered abandoned and the owner will proceed to dispose of them.

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Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
 You have entered a very expansive cycle, thanks to Jupiter in your sign. Mars still in Pisces until May 24 might have a dampening or delayed effect in terms of outer expressions. However, it can be used to do inner work. This implies self-observation of attitudes, self-concepts, rationalizations, justifications and so on for the sake of elevating them to a higher ground.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)
 Between the eclipse in your sign and Jupiter in Aries, your sense of self and your general style of expression and approach are getting activated. This Lunar Eclipse will activate deep feelings regarding the ones you love. A mix of ideals and rights may also be the source of a rebellious posture to resist social pressures to conform against your will.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)
 A restless mood is steadily rising. Meeting new people and exploring new places is a likely response. Making a few adjustments in your attitude regarding your daily rhythms will likely amount to you shaking things up, a bit. Some of the emphasis is on health and may include the need for more discipline. All of this is the forefront of a larger backdrop of some significant shifts and moves.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)
 The recent eclipse has activated involvement in new networks both in your public and professional life. These are having an influence on some of your ideals, visions and philosophies of life. Meanwhile, some excitement and possibly drama is stirring due to circumstances linked to friends and/or yours or their children.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)
 An activation of your overall status indicates some rather deep changes. These are woven with a host of complexities linked to the realization of dreams and ambitions. Generating creative ideas and strategies is part of the plot. Meanwhile, there is a spirit of adventure in the air to explore new horizons and cultures.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)
 While the impact of the solar eclipse will guide you to bring your visions, beliefs and philosophies closer to the ground of practicality and realistic thinking, Jupiter in Aries will serve to sharpen your focus. Yet, there may be a delay with this as you sort out confusions and possible miscommunication on relationship fronts.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
 The implications of last week's Solar Eclipse are that much deeper for you since they occurred in your solar 8th house, that of Scorpio. This is likely to manifest as a powerful process of transformation. This is likely to include financial realities such as investments, taxes and inheritances. The Aries factor will have an expansive affect, especially socially.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
 Who do you love or do not and why? These and other such questions involving your most intimate relationships are an important theme that will continue for many months. This question can also apply to partners, romantic, business or otherwise, and include themes of respect. As well, the Lunar Eclipse is likely to manifest as 'powerful' emotional reactions.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
 Changes in your daily rhythm and routine are the new norm for you. This could prove quite exciting and stimulating or disruptive, or both. The latter will be your experience if you are resistant to making the changes that you need to. So, be willing and focus to make one small change in your usual approach each day.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
 The Solar Eclipse occurred in your solar 5th house, which is symbolic of play, entertainment, creativity and children. In other words, the 5th is the fun house. At worst, it could manifest as melodrama. Yet, it will more likely inspire creative activity for the sake of beautifying your home. Yet, it could take a couple of weeks to move from planning to action.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)
 Some big shifts and changes are shaking close to home. Major moves and sudden, unexpected turns are all quite possible. A spirit of adventure is featured but it could feel as much like an impulse to escape as to answer the call. Either way, it may feel like you are challenged to swim against the stream and, if so, do it.

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
 Your perceptions and interpretations of the world are destined to change over the coming weeks and months. The process has already begun, but you may have to reflect to recognize it. It does include a new and steadily rising sense of ambition and drive. This will become increasingly apparent over the next few weeks.

Perhaps they are not stars in the sky, but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy.

In Memoriam Gifts

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Personals

Princess: The Oracle has died. Her last message was: "You've broken your Prince's heart during many lifetimes because you always listened to other people rather than to your heart." The Prince is fading fast and is ready to join the Oracle. You can put an end to this Karmic recycling by listening to your heart while there is still time.

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Services

Happy Victoria Day

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Monday, May 23 - Victoria Day statutory holiday - and will reopen 9am - 4pm on Tuesday, May 24.

Advertising deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday May 25 edition will be Wednesday, May 18, noon

Driftwood
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Blossom Picnic returns Sunday

Japanese community leads celebration

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A popular community festival returns this weekend when Salt Spring's Japanese community presents the Blossom Picnic on Sunday, May 15.

The cross-cultural event runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., celebrating spring in the refreshed Heiwa Garden in Peace Park.

Music will include bamboo flute and koto (Japanese zither) performances. There will also be karate and kendo demonstrations, and fun activities like yo-yo water balloons, origami games and, at 12:30 p.m., a paper airplane race.

There will also be a dress-up contest — Japanese theme or cosplay — with prizes offered. People should register at the site between 11 and 11:50 a.m. Judging takes place at 12 noon.

A home-style inari sushi lunch will be available. Pre-ordering can be done by calling Mana Nakata at 250-653-0099.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Taiko drumming workshop part of the 2019 Blossom Picnic. Different Japanese cultural events are featured each year.

The island's Japanese Garden Society initiated the Blossom Picnic event, first held in 2011, but this year it is co-presented by the society and the Salt Spring Japanese community. It is supported by a Salt Spring Island Foundation Neighbourhood Small Grant.

GRANTS

Small community projects supported

Foundation releases
Neighbourhood Small
Grant program list

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is pleased to announce that a total of 28 projects will be funded through the Neighbourhood Small Grants (NSG) program this year.

This is the fifth time that the NSG program has been offered on Salt Spring Island and the foundation says

the response this year was exceptional.

Concert on the Canal, Biochar Workshops, Art in the Park and Blossom Picnic are projects that have received a grant in the past and are returning. New projects include the Plant Dye Workshop, the Alchemy of Chai, Nik Nak Production Workshop, Community Día de los Muertos, Early Learning Circles and many more.

Projects funded through the Neighbourhood Small Grants program are free to attend and, where possible, open to the public.

"The community is beginning to see these projects happening in PODs and neighbourhoods around the island. Understanding what NSG funding can do inspires residents to apply for a grant to bring their own community idea to life," said NSG program coordinator Ceridwen Ross-Collins.

People can visit the Salt Spring Island Foundation's website at www.ssfoundation.ca and community Facebook page for details about each project and how to join in.

ISLANDS TRUST

Trust community stewardship award nominees announced

Recipients to be determined
at June council meeting

The Islands Trust has received nominations for six individuals and one organization under the 17th Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program.

Nominations honour activities that include land conservation, trail network development, forest restoration, community service, collaborative stewardship, public outreach and education, and advocacy work.

"The award program provides an opportunity to honour and celebrate individuals and organizations for their outstanding contribution to the stewardship of the islands and waters in the Trust Area," said Islands Trust Council chair Peter Luckham. "This year, the impact of the work of the nominees and the quality of the projects in which they have been involved are impressive. They are especially noteworthy as much of the featured work continued through the pandemic."

"The scope and breadth of their commitment and effort are an inspiration to all of us," he added.

Nominees are as follows:

Individual Nominations

• Keith Erickson, Galiano Island: Twenty Years of Ecosystem-Based Land Stewardship;

- Jeanine Georgeson, Galiano Island: Leadership in Collaborative Stewardship;
- Will Husby, Bowen Island: Thirty Years of Environmental Stewardship;
- Kees Ruurs, Salt Spring Island: Fourteen Years of Community Service;
- Chris Straw (Posthumous), Gabriola Island: Advocacy Against Freighter Anchorages in the Salish Sea;
- Ruth Waldick, Salt Spring Island: Building Lake Maxwell's Watershed Resiliency and Forest Fire Resilience.

Organization Nominations

- Salt Spring Island Natural Cemetery, Salt Spring Island: Creation of a Sustainable Cemetery that Protects Forested Lands.

For approximately 20 years, the Islands Trust's Community Stewardship Awards program has recognized remarkable and inspiring award nominees and recipients who demonstrate leadership in preservation and protection of the Islands Trust Area. In reinstating the program in 2022, Islands Trust Council has updated the program to better align with Trust Council's Reconciliation Declaration and amended the program to be offered once per elected term.

The Islands Trust Council will select the recipients of the award during its quarterly meeting in June 2022.

Visit www.islandstrust.bc.ca/csa to learn about this year's nominees and past recipients.



VIRTUAL

AGM

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2nd NOTICE OF MEETING – MID ISLAND CONSUMER SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE AGM 2022

Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, May 26th, 2022 at 6:00pm.

Online election to fill up to four (4) vacancies on the Board of Directors will occur separate from the AGM, with results announced at the AGM.

Pre-registration to attend the AGM and vote on AGM business, as well as to vote in the separate online director elections is required. Registration will open on May 9th, 2022 and close on May 23rd, 2022. During this period, a registration link will be available at www.midislandco-op.crs.

Only members in good standing on the date of record of April 26, 2022 will be eligible to vote.

A detailed AGM member package will be shared electronically ahead of the meeting with members who have registered by the deadline. This package includes the AGM Rules of Order, Agenda, Board and Officer Reports, and New Business.