

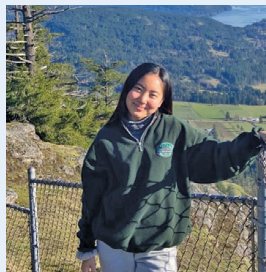
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Wednesday, June 15, 2022

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Issue 24
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PHOTO BY DAVID DENNING

FOCUS ON NATURE: Darren Copley, who with wife Claudia led a Saturday nature walk at Xwaaq'um (Burgoyne Bay), demonstrates a method for collecting insects and spiders called "beating." A white cloth tray is held under leafy branches of shrubs and low tree branches while the collector mildly 'beats' the branches with a pole, causing the insects to drop down on the cloth where they can be observed and sorted. The activity was one of 12 included in the Nature Salt Spring club's June Launch Extravaganza held from June 10-13 and attended by more than 100 islanders.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Islanders press for cycling safety

Advocates urge politicians to hear harrowing experiences

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Brenda Guiled hopes the stories of cyclists who have suffered grave consequences as a result of accidents on Salt Spring roads will convince the province to act on local cycling infrastructure.

The Road Smarts video, featuring five Salt Spring Island cyclists, is an effort to lobby the province's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to widen the shoulders on the major roads between Vesuvius Bay and Fulford Harbour ferry terminals. Consistently widening the shoulders with 1.2 metres of paved surface for cyclists on Vesuvius Bay, Upper Ganges and Fulford-Ganges roads would also complete the trail network known informally as the Salish Sea Trail Network connecting trails throughout the Capital Regional District including the Galloping Goose and Lochside trails.

The province's Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob Fleming and Minister of Health Adrian Dix have received letters introducing them to the Road Smarts video, which details near misses, harrowing accidents and lifelong consequences for local cyclists.

"Walking-wounded cyclists are among us,

often struggling for the rest of their long lives. Families and communities pay a heavy price, too," Guiled stated.

Guiled has been involved with Island Pathways for close to 17 years, and said she is stepping away from the work to leave room for younger volunteers. Yet she is still involved in getting the Road Smarts videos into the hands of politicians.

The idea to record the experiences of cyclists on video came from the late Stan Wharry. Originally she wanted to organize a cycling forum, this being pre-COVID times, and asked Wharry to participate. Having experienced an accident going up the Ganges hill, Wharry agreed to share his story as did other cyclists. Wharry died before the forum was able to take place, and the idea morphed from a forum into a video where Blake Gold, Sierra Lundy, Margaretha Nordine, Matthew Salo and John Wakefield shared their stories.

Lundy experienced an accident that altered the course of her life at the age of 16, ending her promising soccer career and her plans to become a surgeon. Biking down Fulford-Ganges Road, her bike and a vehicle turning onto Beddis Road collided.

"Honestly, if there were bike lanes, he probably wouldn't have hit me. He would have seen me," she said.

With 15 fractures all over her body and a brain injury, Lundy underwent years of rehabilitation and therapy before getting on a bike again. Yet biking on Salt Spring is one thing she won't attempt any time soon.

"I am definitely a huge advocate for changes to be done on roads on Salt Spring for bike lanes to be incorporated or for the shoulders to be widened because it's just so unsafe as a biker and also as a driver. I don't enjoy really doing either on Salt Spring," she said.

"I felt myself pretty invulnerable up until I had my accident," said Salo, who was biking daily on Salt Spring before an accident in 2014. The accident was so severe that Salo was airlifted to Victoria, then onto Vancouver, after a hit and run possibly with an SUV. He experienced multiple injuries, including a collapsed lung, broken jaw and injuries to his spinal chord and brain. "They told me, basically, that I was never going to walk again," he recalled.

SALISH SEA TRAIL continued on 2

Zen Master Wolfgang says:
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HOUSING

Waterworks district leases staff rental house

Temporary solution part of staff recruitment strategy

BY EMLIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) prepares to sign a lease agreement for staff housing, board member Michael McAllister said the district needs to continue looking for long-term rentals and properties to purchase.

In a special meeting June 9,

trustees voted to adopt bylaws allowing NSSWD to enter into a temporary lease agreement for a home on Vesuvius Bay Road. Once a new staff member is hired, financial officer and office manager Tammy Lannan explained, the tenant will sign a new lease with the landlord and NSSWD's lease will end. The monthly rent amount is \$1,800.

While the Vesuvius rental is a good short-term solution, McAllister said, "as an organization, we need to continue to look to buy a place or rent long term."

Lannan said she is in discussion with the three main property

management companies on the island to set up a relationship and hopefully be first in line when a rental comes up. Lannan noted that she was previously looking at rentals and homes for sale, yet partially due to inflation she has stopped looking at homes for purchase.

"Basically, my feelers are out there for other rentals, if there's something that is a good fit for us," she said.

As outlined in past-chair McAllister's annual report, the district lost two staff due to the island's housing crunch. Don Pickle started as district manager

in July 2021 and resigned in May of this year as he was unable to find suitable and affordable housing. Waterworks technician Jason Ough also resigned, in December 2021, for the same reason. NSSWD employs 12 full-time staff, and at the time of McAllister's report were recruiting for five roles, including the top administrative position of district manager.

"Recruitment has to be our number one priority over the next several months as the burden on existing staff is not sustainable," he wrote. "Until this happens, we are going to have to slow down

on our most pressing strategic priorities."

NSSWD appears to be the first governing body on Salt Spring publicly stepping in to secure housing for staff. Businesses on Salt Spring, including Country Grocer and Moby's Pub, have been renting out and purchasing workforce housing in efforts to attract and retain staff. Skyrocketing housing costs, few purpose-built rentals and a near zero vacancy rate on the island have left positions open across the island's economy, from health care and social services to education, trades and hospitality.

Road deficiencies remain unaddressed in past 20 years

SALISH SEA TRAIL

continued from 1

Salo has lifelong injuries as a result of the crash. While he can still walk, he uses his sight to guide him as he cannot feel much below the site of his spinal injury and he cannot feel much in his hands either.

"The roads on Salt Spring are pretty miserable, the shoulders are pretty poor and the roads are narrow," he said, adding that riding alongside vehicles on the road or navigating the changes from bike lanes and wide shoulders to these things disappear-

ing and being replaced by gravel or ditches. "That's really tough to move out and then move back and move out and move back, and it's tough on on cars too."

Gold is a cyclist on Salt Spring and has been since he arrived here in 1995, even despite two "altercations" where vehicles were at fault he said. His first accident resulted in a broken collarbone and his collarbone broke again in the second accident. Gold added his voice to the call for proper bike lanes or wide shoulders that would help local bikers, visiting bikers and drivers.

"I want to say you should come cycle on Salt Spring Island because it's the most beautiful place in the world to cycle, with our beautiful trees beside the ocean, cafes to drink coffee and people like us here, but we do need it to be a little safer for bicycles, and that's what I'm here for."

Nordine, who many a child may know as the "bike lady" due to her bike safety advocacy and as founder of the Helmets for Life program, related her experience of a painful accident where she shattered her pelvis. After her accident she kept biking, because she said "biking was my life, that's how I went to work."

"Generally, I love cycling on Salt Spring Island, it's really a lovely place to ride," said Wakefield, a resident here since 2000. Yet challenges including undulating curves and blind corners pose a risk to cyclists, pedestrians and drivers.

Wakefield said he's living proof that cycling on the island can be dangerous, after being hit from behind by a truck. He described being "pitchforked" over a truck and landing on the pavement. "I couldn't feel my legs, I was screaming and in extreme pain," he said, showing video viewers the bicycle seat from the accident that was bent sideways and sheared off the seat post.

Wakefield spent over a month in hospital

in Victoria, and another month in hospital on Salt Spring, followed by years using crutches, wheelchairs and canes. Wakefield now rides a covered recumbent trike because his injuries do not allow him to ride a regular bicycle.

"These accidents impact everybody, it's not just the victims that get hurt," Wakefield said.


Wider shoulders on the main routes, he added, would hopefully reduce the serious injuries to cyclists and pedestrians on the island.

Guiled has also compiled data on known sites where cyclists have been injured on the island since 2002.

"While the highway deficiencies that contributed to their crashes remain unaddressed and ever more cyclists using Salt Spring roads, including more e-bikes, the rate of red markers appearing on this map will increase," she stated.

To view the video, visit youtube.com and type "Road Smarts with Five SSI Cyclists" in the search bar.

A petition started by Jason Mogus, also advocating for the completion of the Salish Sea trail network, has garnered 1,778 signatures as of Monday. The petition can be viewed at <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/please-finish-the-salish-sea-trail-as-part-of-a-green-recovery/>



Islands Trust

HAVE YOUR SAY

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is Proposed Bylaw No. 123 about?

Proposed Bylaw No. 123 will amend the South Pender Official Community Plan (OCP) to include a First Nation introductory/acknowledgement statement and building design and siting guidelines. The building design and siting guidelines are intended to be used, where feasible, when the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee considers Development Variance Permit applications to vary the maximum floor area of residential buildings.

How do I get more information?

A copy of the proposed bylaw, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the project is available on the [South Pender Current Project webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after June 7, 2022.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will be held prior to the Public Hearing and will provide the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the proposed bylaw amendments.

Submissions





Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 23, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Friday, June 24, 2022
at 11:00 a.m.

North Pender Island Community Hall
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road
North Pender Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Kim Stockdill
Island Planner
Islands Trust
kstockdill@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5157

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Send your favourite pet photo* along with their name, to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com by July 14th for publication in a special feature on pets! We'll choose the best ones for publication in **All About Pets coming in July.**

*Photos must be
Vminimum of 200 dpi.



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SCHOOL DISTRICT

School bus schedules revisited

Some school start and end times changed for September

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Concerns about school bus changes on Salt Spring have been reduced with three school time adjustments made by School District 64 staff for September.

Reducing the number of bus routes was deemed possible due to the full closure of Salt Spring Island Middle School occurring at the end of this school year. Concerns were expressed by some parents about initial schedule changes announced last month, which prompted district staff to take another look at the possibilities.

"Before, the disruption was to one of our least populated areas, which was the Fulford elementary catchment area for that bus," explained secretary-treasurer Jesse Guy at the June 8 board meeting. "This now disrupts, to some degree, out-of-catchment students, so those who live in another elementary catchment area and have a legacy of riding the buses to another elementary school."

In September, Salt Spring Elementary's school day will shift to an 8:45 a.m. start (from the current 8:25 a.m.) and end at 3:30 p.m. (from the current 3:18 p.m.). Guy said that will accommodate many out-of-catchment area elementary students on morning high-school bus runs.

Phoenix Elementary will start at 9 a.m. and end at 3:45 p.m. (from the current 8:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.) Those students will be able to ride any bus serving GISS.

The GISS day will end five minutes earlier at 4:05 p.m., with the five minutes taken out of the present lunch hour.

No changes will be made to Fernwood and Fulford elementary school start and end times.

Bejay Mills is a Fulford school parent who submitted a petition with 140 signatures in response to initial busing changes that had one bus arriving half an hour before the school's 8:13 a.m. bell.

"They did do the work that was needed for meeting our concerns," said Mills, although he wanted to see actual time and stop details before expressing more of an opinion.

A notice containing general information about the changes was emailed to parents last week. Guy said specific stops, detailed routing and timing are continuing to be finalized and information on next steps in the registration process for parents will be released soon.

Salt Spring school trustee Rob Pingle noted that a draft new Fulford elementary school schedule sees both buses for that school arriving at 8:05 a.m., which is an improvement from the initially proposed 7:42 and 8:10 times.

He was grateful for work done to improve the bus schedules.

"I appreciate the challenges that we have with geography and getting people back to the high school to line up with the water taxi and with all of the transportation [needs] that we take into account."

The meeting heard that students who are outside of "walk limits" — meaning a bus stop is more than four kilometres from their home (for elementary students) and more than 4.8 kms for high school students — are eligible to apply for funds to cover the cost of personal transportation to school.

In other school board news, trustees passed a 2022/23 fiscal year operating budget of \$28,225,567.

Trustees also heard that improving livestreaming technology for board meetings to reduce the need for trustee travel is possible and will be investigated.

"We can do some technology upgrades at schools within the existing operations and tech budget," said superintendent Scott Benwell.

Staffing for the next school year is coming together in SD64, but a number of positions must still be filled. Education assistants are especially needed.

Staff stressed that if people are interested in becoming an education assistant — even on an on-call basis — but don't have all of the stated qualifications, they should not hesitate to apply. Some financial support is available to help with training for those who are members of CUPE Local 788.

Job postings are available at sd64.bc.ca.



Voting Yes for a Safer,
More Resilient Salt Spring

Vote Yes

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company.

"I support community efforts to build a new facility. From my experience as a municipal Councillor and the building of the Central Saanich #1 Fire Hall, the longer these projects are delayed the more building costs will increase, and the community loses the improved service provided by a new, better situated, and equipped firehall!"

Adam Olsen, MLA,
Saanich North and the Islands

"Transition Salt Spring encourages islanders to take steps towards climate change resilience by voting in favour of the new firehall in June!"
Bryan Young, Chair,
Transition Salt Spring

"The members of Salt Spring's farming and food sector support keeping the old firehall as a community asset and we look forward to discussing the establishment of a year-round market in that central hub."

Anne Macey, Agricultural Alliance
of Salt Spring

Planning for Tomorrow.

saltspringfire.com

POLITICS

CRD director Dave Howe resigns

Paul Brent takes over
until fall elections

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Long-serving CRD director for the Southern Gulf Islands David Howe has resigned for personal reasons, with Paul Brent taking on the role temporarily until local elections this fall.

Howe has served the Southern Gulf Islands as Capital Regional District (CRD) electoral area director since December of 2011 until his resignation was announced June 8. Howe could not be reached for comment as of publication time. CRD senior communications manager Andy Orr stated Howe's resignation was a "private decision."

"Director Howe has been a local champion for the interests of the Southern Gulf Islands and an important voice on regional matters, including serving as a finance committee chair and working on behalf of the board, as a member of Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project Board," CRD Board vice-chair Rebecca Mersereau stated in the news release announcing his resignation.

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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

2022 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Bronze - Community Service Award



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EDITORIAL

Hall plan is solid

We live in distracting times.

When it comes to the referendum asking Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District ratepayers to approve borrowing \$9.7 million to build a new fire hall, it is easy to be distracted by late-blooming questions, laymen's alternatives and allegations being thrown into the ring.

It is also easy to trash any idea, plan or person. But what is needed to make any good decision in the public interest is to open one's mind, take the time to get reliable information and trust that it is being provided by people who know more than we do, and that they have good intentions. If you, a friend or family member have an alternate idea about what could work better or cost less money, it has likely already been considered and rejected for valid reasons.

Since the 2013 hall referendum defeat, many different fire trustees and staff, architects and professional consultants have done their best to get us to the point we are at today. Accumulating some reserve funds is prudent for any local government with taxing authority. Surveying people on building options and tolerance for tax increases — and going for a zero increase — was also smart.

Securing of the old hall site as public space for \$1 by the CRD and allowing Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue to remain there rent-free until the new hall is ready is also a good idea. What eventually happens on that property will require public input and approval through a CRD referendum if funds must be borrowed to do anything. We are not voting on future use of that space at this time.

Something else to stress is that getting a new fire hall is not about improving the chances your house will be "saved" if it catches fire. Honestly, it's not about you as an individual. The referendum is about having a safe and healthy, well-located emergency services building with the amenities needed for firefighters and staff to do their jobs as best they can.

No one is trying to pull one over on you. Defensive emotions are not required. What is needed is an open mind, logic, practical considerations and trust. This is not the time to take our eye off the ball, abandoning the years of effort that have got us to the point of having a good, solid, affordable proposal to vote on.

We encourage you to support your community and its fire department by voting "yes" in the fire hall referendum and ensuring your ballot is received by mail or in person at the Ganges fire hall by June 30.



Hall questions answered

BY STAN SHAPIRO

Re: Brian Swanson's June 8 Viewpoint and other questions, as a member of the communications committee for Salt Spring Fire Rescue, I know that questions about the proposed new fire hall take many forms.

The fire department has received questions via surveys, online through our Facebook page, in-person at open houses and indirectly via other social media channels. All of that input is important and worthy of a response.

When voting on any issue, several questions should come to mind. First, has the organization earned your support? Most of you already know that Salt Spring Fire Rescue promptly responds to all fires with a high degree of professionalism that keeps fires from raging out of control and inflaming the whole island during dry summer periods.

But did you know about the "first responder" medical and accident assistance the department has provided for many years? It also provides fire safety protection advice and funding to islanders and is the backbone of our emergency response network for any disaster that might befall our island.

A common question we have heard is "Why a new hall, why not just renovate what you have?" That hall, built in 1959, is well beyond its "best before date." Built on landfill, it might well collapse, just when it is needed most, should our island suffer from an earthquake or flood. In addition, it is far too small, and its poor ventilation poses all kinds of health challenges. It is time for the location in question to be repurposed for community use.

VIEWPOINT

Brian Swanson also asked, "Will spending \$13.7 million to relocate fire trucks

to the new site reduce the response time if your house was on fire?" The simple answer is maybe not. That's not the purpose of relocating. However, if a major earthquake hits Salt Spring, in its current location the response time would be measured in days or weeks, rather than in minutes from the new safer location near Brinkworthy.

Another question is "How much will all this cost taxpayers?" Because of prudent advance planning, you won't be paying any more in taxes. Already budgeted reserve funding will be sufficient to cover annual mortgage costs and the project budget has a contingency fund sufficient to cover any cost overruns.

Some have questioned why we need to spend this money on a new fire hall when we have other urgent needs like access to family doctors and the challenge of finding affordable housing? Housing and health care are top priorities, but so is the safety of our community. This is not a zero-sum game. We need to address all our priorities, not cherry pick among them. To suggest that we take tax money earmarked (by law) for fire protection and divert it to deal with affordable housing ignores the political and legal realities of how tax monies can be spent in a community.

The decision is now up to you and all the other island's property owners. However you decide to vote, carefully follow the instructions given and get your vote witnessed. Otherwise, it won't count.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Does Salt Spring need paved bike lanes?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you voting in favour of a new fire hall?

NO YES



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

LETTERS to the editor

MLA supports fire hall proposal

I am writing to express my support for the construction of a new fire hall on Salt Spring Island. The need for an improved facility will only increase in the future, and I support community efforts to build a new facility.

As we saw in the winter 2018-19 storm that hit the Southern Gulf Islands, and over this past summer, we are facing more extreme and frequent climate-related emergencies. Between the increasing wildfires, heat dome and atmospheric rivers and floods, our communities will need to be resilient to face these challenges. Salt Spring Island needs a post-disaster home for the fire service.

The current fire hall on Salt Spring has long served its purpose, but it is not equipped for the challenges of the future. A new fire hall would be better situated on the island to respond to emergencies and have the necessary amenities to accommodate the needs of emergency response crews.

We ask so much of our first responders at the scene of disaster. We must be there for first responders to provide them with the training, equipment and facilities they need to be prepared, be it physically or mentally.

From my experience as a municipal councillor and the building of the Central Saanich #1 Fire Hall, the longer these projects are delayed the more building costs will increase, and the community loses the improved service provided by a new, better situated, and equipped fire hall.

As your Member of the Legislative Assem-

bly, I will continue advocating with the province for improved emergency services on Salt Spring Island and throughout Saanich North and the Islands.

ADAM OLSEN,
MLA,
SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS

No more debt

I completely agree with Brian Swanson's Viewpoint in last week's Driftwood. All the promises of our taxes not increasing, well, according to the latest report the building estimate of \$13.7 million allows for 3.5 per cent inflation this year, eight per cent the next and five per cent the following two years plus a 20 per cent contingency allowed. What is the actual cost of the new building to be?

We have two pretty decent fire halls, Central and Fulford. Adapt them and the surrounding property to accommodate some of the needs. Let's concentrate on reducing the fire response time and maybe more buildings could be saved. With the approximately 800 calls per year, few of which are actual fires, I cannot comprehend the need for this fancy new expensive building. Schools, the community centre and others are using very pleasant, adapted containers for lessons, put one by Central for their work-related classes or whatever they want to do.

We are desperately short of housing for doctors, nurses, all kinds of service personnel. Please don't let our island take on more debt for things such as this new fire hall.

ELAINE SHAW,
SALT SPRING

Best solution

I have to congratulate the fire district board and its advisory committees on the proposal for a new main fire hall.

They have made a huge effort, spent over four years' analyzing available data on response times and needs in terms of service and facility capabilities, taking into account structural and life safety issues in the existing Ganges fire hall, and understanding the inability of the other two fire hall structures to be sufficiently upgraded to satisfy these needs and service requirements.

To complete their work a strict project management process was adhered to and as a result an essential economically sized facility can now be constructed on donated property at an affordable price.

We will never get a better solution.

NEIL MACCONNELL,
LONG HARBOUR ROAD

Using hall site for local market makes sense

My condolences to Kevin Bell for the loss of his mother 22 years ago and his loss of economic, environmental and social awareness, which appears to have passed at around the same time, if not earlier ("Letter to late mom decries market plan," June 8 Driftwood).

Mr. Bell criticizes plans to use the old Ganges fire hall site as a hub for providing Salt Springers with year-round access to locally

grown and produced food. In doing so, he neglects the fact that Salt Spring's small-scale farmers and value-added producers do far more than just make food (and employ locals). They also dramatically reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with our food system by replacing imports with food grown right here on our island.

He attacks the idea as an unfair subsidy, ignoring the fact that our governments have massively subsidized multi-national food corporations for well over a hundred years, by providing — at taxpayer expense — billions of dollars worth of transportation infrastructure and subsidized fossil fuel energy and by looking the other way as mega-farms in other countries pay their workers near slave wages while stripping the land of nutrients while poisoning it with chemicals, all in the interests of producing cheap imported food.

As a farmer on Salt Spring Island and someone who has been advocating for exactly the sort of plan our electoral area director is supporting, I know I am biased. But I suppose that's probably also true of anyone else who also cares about climate change, food security, the protection of farmland and encouraging increased local food production. 'Cause that's exactly what this plan is about.

Oh, and Mr. Bell might be interested to know that the group the fire district consulted as it developed its plan for the old fire hall site included a senior manager of one of the grocery stores Mr. Bell seems to think will somehow be harmed if we create a year-round farmers' market.

BRIAN WEBSTER,
SALT SPRING

MORE OPINION *continued on 6*

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Recruitment has to be our number one priority over the next several months as the burden on existing staff is not sustainable."

MICHAEL MCALLISTER, NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT PAST CHAIR

Local peer support mental health initiative continues to flourish

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING HEALTH ADVANCEMENT NETWORK

The following is a reflection shared by Bernice Rahm, a participant in summits held in April by the Salt Spring Mental Wellness Initiative (MWI), put together by Linda Underwood of the Salt Spring Health Advancement Network. The MWI has held six summits since January of 2022, focusing on growing peer support and volunteer counselling on Salt Spring.

What would it mean to you to be included? To have your voice heard? To have your lived experience valued and acknowledged alongside the opinions of professionals? To be included regardless of capacity, qualification or degree; just honoured for your willingness to give your energy and voice in authenticity?

This is a little of what it felt like to participate in the recent Mental Wellness Initiative Summit. What I experienced was the purposeful

commitment to using a "Culture of Care" — something that, at our core, we all crave — and from our cultural conditioning and family history, few have experienced.

In participation with the 26 people who attended I experienced active encouragement and an invitation to share — that was in turn received with active listening, acknowledgement, empathy, and genuine curiosity. It even included discussion of these very concepts.

I've personally experienced many meetings where productivity was paramount — X, Y and Z — had to be decided with actionable items, persons made accountable, and deadlines and consequences laid out. Meetings where the undercurrent of suppressed emotions drove the dialogue, created tension and drained us of our will to (live) contribute. In some environments it's common to see people being openly shamed and resentment breeding.

Why do we tolerate this? Honestly because no one showed us

GUEST COLUMN

how to do it better. So we try and we learn. In running my company, I flailed for a couple of decades, learning the hard way how to support staff, empathize with customers and take care of myself.

I am finding that a "Culture of Care" is more than just the structure upon which the MWI is built — but it is also an embodiment of co-creation of a developing vision from a place of presence and inclusion. It is the creation of the world I want to live in . . . simply by living that way.

In my orientation meeting my brain almost burst from the overpowering energy of the question "BUT WHAT DO YOU DO?!!?!?!!!!" Now I'm finding — as I have always known — that it's not just about what you do, it's about how you do it.

And built on this structure, there is a vision being created! There

are things to do! There are committees (aka valued people volunteering their energy) who are making decisions, writing grant applications, acting on and creating momentum, budgeting, planning, discussing and researching — all of this energy is toward the purpose of improving mental wellness on Salt Spring.

Participating in this last summit improved my mental wellness. Being seen, valued and heard, so safely, that I can't help but want to help others with the fullness I feel.

Since Bernice wrote this reflection, three working groups have been formed to take action — Peer Support, Volunteer Counselling and Communication. The MWI continues to have positive influence and be a benefit to projects in the community, including informing peer support within Salt Spring Island Community Services, efforts and support around the warming and maker spaces, support-

ing the Salt Spring Community Health Society thinking around mental health, increased ties to Quw'utsun elders who are very supportive of the MWI (one of them stayed for a whole summit), and recent provision of two hours of mental health peer support workshops to 60 GISS youth over two hours.

We are looking for potential patrons to fund honorariums to mentor potential peer support workers in the community and support further broad peer support in the community.

If you are interested in being a part of these efforts, volunteer or patron, and/or would like to find out more, please contact William MacPherson (willieon-saltspring@gamil.com) or David Norget (davidnorget@gmail.com).

SSHAN's Mental Wellness Initiative is currently made possible thanks to funding from an Island Health Community Wellness Grant.

Learn about elder abuse through awareness day

BY JEAN BURGESS

When I took on the job with Salt Spring Island Community Services to work on some special programs for seniors, I had no idea I would be working on a community networking project related to preventing elder abuse, elder neglect and self neglect. Yikes. I was truly surprised at how urgent the problem is.

I myself have experienced ageism in various situations or conversations, usually when I take off my motorcycle helmet on the ferry and my white hair shows!

More seriously, so far I haven't fallen prey to persuasive scams or family or caregiver violence, but then I am not yet isolated and very vulnerable. I have, however, had to look at my own attitudes about aging. Wow! There is really a cultural stigma to aging, both inside my head and outside. At the same time I know amazing elders everywhere. I understand our vulnerability intersects with our ethnic background, skin colour, disability, sexual orientation, income, gender identity and more. I am a descendent of white settlers and I was given a formal education and thus I carry a lot of privilege in this culture, yet I still feel a lurking unease as I age, countered mostly by a basic "Trust in Life," along with the support found in talking with family and friends about our mortality.

June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and



on this occasion I wanted to share some statistics. Numbers seem cold and impersonal, yet behind them are real people and "one senior abused is one too many."

- One in two people are prejudiced against older people (Global Report on Ageism, World Health Organization).

- In Canada, a 2015 study estimated that 7.5 per cent of Canadians 55 and older experienced abuse (Into the Light National Survey on the Mistreatment of Older Canadians, National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly, 2015).

- Women aged 55-64 years comprised the largest proportion of victims of femicide (19%). (Call it Femicide Report, Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability, 2020).

- In Ontario, there was a 250 per cent increase in calls to the Seniors Safety Line in 2020 (Assaulted Women's Help Line, 2021).

The basic human rights of older Canadians are being challenged and undercut every day. It is estimated that one in six seniors globally experience

elder abuse. We, as a country, cannot allow this to continue.

Join me and the 80-plus networks in B.C. communities who are creating conversations around elder abuse prevention. The B.C. Association of Community Response Networks (BCCRN) www.bccrn.ca has great information and resources. Salt Spring Community Services has partnered with the BCCRN, and I was asked to be a local coordinator.

Did you know that Island Health has three designated people authorized to follow up on concerns about elder/adult abuse, neglect or self neglect?

I am learning it takes a local network of people to help spread awareness around what can be done to uphold and protect the rights of older adults in our community.

On the BCCRN website you can "take the pledge" to raise awareness. I did, and now I feel both personally and professionally obligated to submit this piece to the Driftwood. This is my first ever letter to the editor in 73 years. Also,

I will have an info table at Country Grocer today (Wednesday, June 15) from 3:30 to 6 p.m. I'd like to meet you and offer you information, giveaway items and complimentary refreshments.

June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and the world theme this year is Human Rights Don't Get Old.

Join us around the world and wear purple on June 15!

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Roses

A big bouquet of roses to Martin, who put in the new flooring at Choices Day Programme. It is totally awesome. Thanks.

Copper roses (a huge bunch) to "J" for the wonderful donation to the Copper Kettle food program. Seventy people will eat better thanks to you! Love and thank you. *Copper Kettle Community Partnership*

Wild roses to the Islands Trust for bringing in Harold Joe for an Indigenous walk around Ganges. He is an awesome speaker. We learned so much about our history. *Judy Nurse*

A huge bouquet of roses to the Salt Spring Island Foundation. Their generous grant will be used to purchase laptops to support students learning in Richard Lee's junior English classes at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Bountiful Bullock Farm bouquets to The Circle Education Society, the Pass It On Boys group and Bullock Lake Farm for a delicious brunch and enlightening gathering and farm tour for Circle society donors on Sunday. What a great program so worthy of community support!

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Discard hall agreement

BY DAVE TOYNBEE

Despite the unpalatable cost, I was going to vote "yes" for the new fire hall. It is needed.

Now the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) trustees and CRD director Gary Holman have decided to tie building a new fire hall to the CRD purchase of the old fire hall site with the clear intent it will become a public market.

Statements have been made the \$1-million Community Works Fund (gas tax) money is contingent on a "yes" vote. This is not true. The \$1-million could still be available for renovations on the existing site should the referendum fail. This detail was not disclosed in the various press releases.

The CRD director also states the \$1 purchase price for the firehall, the four years rent free, and the right to locate a water storage tank on the site would not have been possible in a private sale. How exactly does he know this with such certainty? Did the property go on sale in the open market with these, or any, terms? Did he ask potential buyers?

The purchase price for the old fire hall property is

INDEPTH

\$1, with four years rent free and the fire district retaining the right to locate water storage on the site. Let's assume the market rent for the fire hall is \$100,000 per year (probably high but makes the math easy). Taking into consideration the proposed four-year timeline, the CRD has therefore waived \$400,000 in rent, or put another way, effectively acquired the site for \$400,001. I understand the recent appraisal was more than double that figure. Water storage is certainly doable. Has the SSIFPD board fulfilled its duty to maximize what it receives for the old fire hall site to reduce the taxpayer burden of building the new fire hall?

If the CRD acquires the old fire hall site, who funds the very expensive renovations required? Taxpayers. Should the CRD even own the site? Perhaps if it were used as a museum, cultural centre, info centre and/or something along those lines. If it's to be a public market begs the question if the CRD should be owning and man-

aging a commercial activity. There are a host of issues with that business model.

What started as a straightforward single question has now become a complicated, conflicting, inappropriately bundled mess that entails at least three separate questions for taxpayers. This is Salt Spring governance at its core.

I'd suggest the SSIFPD board and the CRD tear up the agreement to purchase the old fire hall site. The future of the site can then be properly evaluated over the coming years. This will also provide clarity should the referendum fail. As it stands now if it's a "no" vote, we won't know why. Was it the cost of the new fire hall? Or the CRD ownership of the old site? Or the public market proposal?

Editor's note: While it is true that the \$1-million gas tax contribution is not contingent on a "yes" vote in the fire hall referendum, CRD CAO Bob Lapham confirms that a new Community Works Fund application for use of the funds would be required and would not necessarily be approved for renovating the old fire hall.

It's cooperation, not dysfunction

BY GARY HOLMAN

CRD DIRECTOR

I'm responding to Kevin Bell's belated letter to his mom, which interestingly, he's copied to the Driftwood in the June 8 issue. Apparently, our newspaper of record has a broader circulation than commonly understood.

Mr. Bell should be forgiven for his tardy correspondence with his mom. My mother also passed away 22 years ago, and while I have thought of her often with love and gratitude, I have not written her once, never mind in a newspaper.

I hope other Driftwood readers won't be too alarmed by Mr. Bell's complaints about the CRD acquiring the Ganges fire hall property at nominal cost. The public-spirited, collaborative approach by the fire district means that it will still indirectly receive fair market value from a combination of \$1-million in gas tax funding, free use of the Ganges hall for up to four years, and the right to build a 30,000-gallon water storage facility to help protect the village.

Not only will this collaboration approach save taxpayers a million dollars to construct a new fire hall, the Ganges hall property in the centre of the village will be kept in community hands and re-purposed for the public good. These financial and community benefits will be gained at no cost to local taxpayers. Mr. Bell says this is "dysfunctional governance," but I would suggest we need more of this kind of cooperation.

Mr. Bell's unfounded contention that CRD has already committed to renovating the Ganges hall building "to the tune of several million dollars" and that a year-round farmers' market would compete with commercial outlets in Ganges, is disappointing. In the same Driftwood issue, reporter Emelie Peacock's article headlined "CRD and

INRESPONSE

fire board make deal for old hall" repeats what I've publicly stated for weeks, that "CRD will have four years to assess the upgrading required and feasibility of such use for the building", and that "CRD won't support any uses that are not consistent with the 'make it, bake it, grow it' criteria for the Saturday and Tuesday markets." These markets have been operating for decades, with little or no complaint from businesses in Ganges. In fact, they draw tens of thousands of potential customers to the village. A year-round, indoor food market, if feasible, would be of great benefit to local businesses in the very slow winter months.

I recall that when Mr. Bell was general manager of Mouat's Trading Company he was also prominently opposed to CRD's acquisition of the property next to the old Mary Hawkins library, a parcel which is now owned outright and has made possible the community gem that is our new library.

I hope Driftwood readers take Mr. Bell's cries of unfair competition with a grain of salt and vote "yes" to a modern fire hall. Aside from our new Lady Minto emergency room (to which CRD also contributed \$3 million), a new, post-disaster building for Salt Spring's most important emergency response agency, located on donated upland, is our most important infrastructure priority.

The current fire district proposal will not increase local taxes, partly because of CRD's \$1-million gas tax contribution. It gives us the best chance we've had to finally replace a poorly located, sub-standard 60-year-old fire hall that would become rubble in an earthquake.

Voting "no" will only result in a much higher cost in the future, the clear consequence of the last "no" vote.

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8	0706	1.9	6.2	12	0121	3.2	10.5
	1107	2.1	6.9		0859	0.4	1.3
	WE 1642	1.5	4.9		SU 1711	3.0	9.8
9	0014	3.2	10.5	13	DI 2048	2.7	8.9
	0727	1.5	4.9		0149	3.3	10.8
	TH 1317	2.2	7.2		MO 0938	0.1	0.3
10	JE 1744	1.9	6.2	14	MO 1805	3.3	10.8
	0036	3.2	10.5		LU 2149	2.9	9.5
	TH 0753	1.2	3.9		0223	3.3	10.8
11	FR 1457	2.5	8.2	15	1021	-0.2	-0.7
	VE 1847	2.2	7.2		TU 1856	3.4	11.2
	0058	3.2	10.5		MA 2252	3.0	9.8
SA	0824	0.8	2.6	WE	0305	3.4	11.2
	SA 1611	2.8	9.2		ME 1108	-0.2	-0.7
	SA 1949	2.5	8.2		ME 1945	3.5	11.5

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National Indigenous Peoples Day



JUNE 21



From left, Tyee Joseph and Tousilum of the Quw'utsun Nation at 2022 GISS cedar pole blessing; Joe Akerman with grades 4-5 classes at a June 21, 2018 salmon bake with Stqeeye' Learning Society members and Quw'utsun elders at Xwaaqw'um; and Fred Roland at that same event.

On the land learning takes place in SD64

Students connect with meaningful experiences

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Incorporating Indigenous knowledge is not about ticking a box, rather it's about infusing this knowledge across the Gulf Islands School District (SD64) in a deep and meaningful way.

"It's not a one off any more, it's not a field trip and then check off the box. It's immersed in school culture and teachings," said SD64 Indigenous education principal Shannon Johnston. One clear example of this is Indigenous middle and high school students, who underwent a year-long process of making their first drum while out on the land.

"It was important that we didn't just . . . give them a kit," she explained. It began with approaching a local hunter who "said, 'If the deer decides to give its life, we'll do that, give gratitude, give the offering to the deer.'"

"We hung the deer, the kids learned how to scrape the deer, to tan the hide . . . It was all year long, so that when they finally made that drum they knew every part of it, and all the teachings. And they knew that they then had to gift that drum away," as is the teaching for one's first drum.

The on the land program has been running for two years, with Indigenous students spending time at Xwaaqw'um (Burgoyne Bay) with the vision to have them there monthly. The program does not follow a strict plan or timeline. What is learned and shared depends on the Elders and knowledge keepers, the students and the natural world, with days often involving hiking, learning about native plants and sitting around the fire listening.

"A lot of kids have been very untethered to their culture, [they've] not had the opportunity for obvious reasons with the impact of residential school and multiple generations and mixed ancestry," Johnston said.

She's hearing feedback that this experience

has been meaningful, to learn what is shared as well as "learning about myself, my identity, of having that place of belonging and acceptance."

Non-Indigenous students are also interested in what their peers are up to on the land, so the program evolved to having Indigenous students bring a friend with them "to continue to grow the circle."

Each Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) class also spent one day on the land. Johnston said she's inspired by the "respectful curiosity and interest and enthusiasm" students show. "At the same time, people are starting to realize the importance of them doing the work, of them learning, whether the kids themselves or the schools or the school teams."

This is needed, Johnston explained, as Indigenous Elders and teachers could be stretched thin in this time of great interest.

Johnston said relationships are growing between schools and the local Indigenous Nations. Hosting a pro-D day for

high school teachers at Xwaaqw'um, she saw light bulbs go on about how they could incorporate Indigenous knowledge into their classrooms.

"It's not like learning new math, it's not like learning science, it's learning about the heart," Johnston explained about the oral tradition.

As a youth steward put it to students recently, learning from a book is learning with our heads. In contrast, when learners listen to someone speak "they're speaking from heart and you can feel it. And your heart's open and it's imprinting on your heart, so you are learning in a deep and meaningful way and you're being touched by it."

This was also the first year SD64 had an Indigenous education class taught to every SIMS class, every week for the entire year. Johnston led the class, which included not only history, but also teaching about culture, relationships with the land and each other as well as unpacking and processing current events.

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EXHIBITIONS

Interactive art invites climate engagement

Fiona Duthie's Chromatic Navigation at Artcraft

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
ARTCRAFT MANAGER

An innovative way to encourage positive thinking about the climate crisis meets a spectacular visual experience at Mahon Hall this month, with Fiona Duthie's Chromatic Navigation opening the 2022 Showcase Exhibition season.

As Duthie explains in her artist statement, "Chromatic Navigation explores individuality and community and how we each can influence thinking, circumstances and events through small changes and interactions."

The installation is a visually stunning collection when viewed on the Mahon Hall stage, its 210 seven-by-seven-inch felt wall tiles sweeping across the gallery walls in the full spectrum of colours. Duthie based the installation on the



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Anna Szul of Salt Spring Arts moves tiles in Fiona Duthie's interactive Chromatic Navigation exhibit that opened at Mahon Hall on Friday.

global temperature map from June 29, 2021, the date when Canada surpassed all temperature records by hitting 49.6 degrees Celsius in Lytton, B.C. As many will remember, Lytton burnt to the ground as a result of a forest fire the very day

after setting the record.

Duthie, who has been working in textile arts her entire adult life, may represent the Platonic ideal for artists in that she boasts a rigorous intellect and strong conceptual basis, which is met by her equally

strong execution and artistry. She often uses texture and layers as metaphors to create a narrative with her pieces, whether they are architectural garments or abstract wall pieces.

When first installed last Friday, the layout of the Chromatic Navigation tiles precisely followed B.C.'s temperature mapping in waves of orange and red with cooler zones of purple, blue and green at the outer edges. As Duthie noted, using the weather map "was the perfect avenue for working with so much colour, but also for telling a story."

While the collection as a whole is impressive, each tile is also a unique artwork on its own. Duthie has incorporated material from the Lytton disaster into the artwork: many of the tiles are embellished by a strip of charred wood she collected from trees in the area and treated with sumi ink she made from the charcoal. Other embellishments include small pieces of ceramic — which have undergone a firing process of their own.

Despite the deep engagement with such an overwhelming topic as climate emergency, however, the installation is ultimately positive in nature and actually fun. Viewers are encouraged to move the individual tiles around to transform the overall pattern, a process that is happening throughout the exhibition month.

"The viewers become the vehicle of change, altering the visual pathways to set a different course of navigation," Duthie explained, adding this process will hopefully open ways of thinking about the small things we can do in the "real world" and how these small steps can in fact lead to impactful change.

Visitors to Artcraft may find Duthie in attendance at the gallery in the coming weeks, as she hopes to encourage people to engage with the interactive work and to document how the installation changes over time.

The show continues daily at Mahon Hall through July 4. Artcraft is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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CONCERT PREVIEW

Divine and diverse voices at June 18 concert



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Bach on the Rock guest artistic director Pippa Andrew leads the chamber orchestra and choir during a recent rehearsal at All Saints, with flautist Andrea Varju directly in front of her.

Bach on the Rock program shares exceptional works

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Bach on the Rock chamber orchestra and choir is closing its season with a concert that celebrates works by female and BIPOC composers who were united by their exploration of the divine.

Pippa Andrew is the group's guest artistic director who assembled the program called Diverse Voices for Divine Celebration for the Saturday, June 18, 7 p.m. concert at Fulford Hall.

The concert includes the first movement of Novelletten Op. 52 for small orchestra by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, who was a prolific and esteemed English BIPOC composer who

died at the age of 37 in 1912.

Florence Price was the first American BIPOC woman to have her music performed by a major orchestra when the Chicago Symphony Orchestra premiered her Symphony in E minor in 1933. BOTR will play the Elaine Fine small orchestra arrangement of Adoration, which was originally composed as a devotional for organ.

The Golden Harp, described by BOTR as "a sublime and transcendent musical work for soloists, choir and orchestra" by American composer Gwyneth Walker is also on the program.

Vocal works by Isabella Leonarda (1620-1704), an Italian Ursuline nun, and one of the most prolific female composers of the 17th century, and by Italian composer and nun Bianca Maria Meda (c.1665-1700) will be performed.

The program will close with Antonio Viv-

aldi's beautiful Gloria RV. 589.

"There is significant historical evidence this work was written for performance by the all-female voice choir of Ospedale della Pietà, a prestigious Venetian charitable institution for abandoned girls, where Vivaldi (1678-1741) taught for the majority of his professional career," states BOTR. "Since its rediscovery in 1926, Gloria RV. 589 has become one of the most loved and regularly performed works of divine celebration in current repertory."

The concert's vocal soloists are Gwen Jamieson, soprano; Alana Hayes, mezzo-soprano; and Louis Dillon, baritone.

Andrew is a music teacher, composer, choral and chamber group director originally from the U.K., who now lives in West Vancouver.

Tickets for the June 18 show are available at bachontherock.com or at the door.

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RECITAL Kaizenjammers set for All Saints

June 22 Tea à Tempo show

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

Music Makers are happy to present Salt Spring's Kaizenjammers on their return to the Tea à Tempo stage on Wednesday, June 22 at 2:10 p.m. in All Saints by-the-Sea church in downtown Ganges.

John Reid, Michael Aronoff and Warren Langley are the Kaizenjammers, a Salt Spring trio that has been playing music together for about eight years.

Reid is the lead vocalist and guitar player and often chimes in on harmonica and luggage foot drum. Aronoff plays bass and sings a wonderful bass vocal harmony. Langley adds the colour to the music. He plays cross harmonica, theremin and a tongue drum.

They're a little bit folksy, a little bit bluesy, sometimes jazzy and very much unique. They rearrange cover tunes in several genres as well as some original tunes written by Reid.

To break down the band's name, "kaizen" is a Japanese word that means "continuous improvement" and "jammers" simply means they enter into their music not knowing where it will take them.

The June 22 concert begins at 2:10 p.m. and is followed by optional tea and treats.

All donations are directed towards the honoraria of musicians and the running of the series.

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ISLAND LIFE

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CULTURAL DIVERSITY SERIES

Beijing youth shares Gulf Islands experience

Rachel Xie talks about culture shock and other poignant observations

BY MARCIA JANSEN
THE CIRCLE EDUCATION SOCIETY

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 talked 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.



PHOTO COURTESY RACHEL XIE

GISS International Program student Rachel Xie at Mount Maxwell.

Rachel Xie had just turned 14 when she moved from Beijing, a city with more than 21 million people, to Salt Spring Island. All by herself. After four years at GISS as an international student, she reflects on the cultural differences she has experienced while living on our little island.

Rachel's culture shock started fresh off the ferry, on the bus ride from Long Harbour to her homestay family.

"I looked out of the window and all I saw was trees, and more trees," she says smiling. "I had no idea where we were going. In Beijing, I could find my bearings by counting how many blocks we passed. Even when I was living here for a longer time, I still sometimes had trouble finding my bus stop."

From the landscape, the language, food and fashion, to the way people look and interact; everything was different for her.

"It was hard in the beginning. I stayed with a host family with another international student from Germany and when we had dinner in the evening, she could easily have a conversation in English, but I couldn't understand 75 per cent of what was said. I think it is easier for students from Europe to find connections as their culture is more similar to the Canadian one. For Asian students, it usually takes a longer time to do the same thing. That has nothing to do with racism, I have never encountered that here, but more with the cultural differences."

Rachel, whose official Chinese first name is Yutong, was excited to go to high school in Canada. Salt Spring Island was a safe destination for a 14-year-old. And a challenging one at the same time as there are not a lot of Chinese students, so she was forced to learn the language quickly.

"I wanted to go on an adventure, even though I didn't know how big the challenge would be."

Rachel's parents wanted her to experience a different culture and become fluent in English. Another reason for going to Canada was the education system in China.

"The focus in China is mostly on academics," Rachel looks back. "The school days were long and the pressure was high. School started at 7:10 a.m. and the first thing we did in the morning was running laps."

Middle school students in China have about eight different classes a day.

"Mostly academics," she continues. "There were few or no non-academic classes like art, cafeteria or specialist PE classes. School was

out at 4 p.m., but we were not done yet as we had a lot of homework. On one of my first days at GISS, my teacher handed me one assignment. When I asked when it was due, he said, 'I don't know, maybe sometime next week, don't worry about it.' Having been used to a greater amount of homework back in China, I was shocked. Back home we were doing at least two pages of homework for each class, which were all almost always due the next day."

Getting high grades at a young age was important.

"At the end of Grade 9, all the students in China have to do a big exam which determines the high school you can go to. The higher the mark, the better the school. Then there is another big exam at the end of high school, which determines the university or college you can go to. The better the school, the better jobs you can get in the future. So a lot depends on these tests. Both my parents and I wanted something different for me, that's why they supported me to come to high school here."

In her first year on Salt Spring, Rachel was grateful that she formed a strong bond with a German girl who stayed with the same host family. It wasn't easy to build friendships with Canadian students since many local students have been going to the same schools together for years before coming to the high school. During the four years, Rachel's circle of friends consisted mainly of international students.

Rachel faced many challenges during her time here.

"I had a great time here, met lots of great people but it wasn't easy. I had to get used to the different ways people interact with each other. There is more distance between people in Canada. Literally. China has 1.4 billion residents, so physically we are a lot closer to one another. People in China have constant interactions, whether you want it or not. In Canada, people are just simply more spread out."

Rachel misses her parents, who she hasn't seen since the pandemic started in 2020, and her parents miss their only child.

"I won't go back this summer because of the complications of travelling back to China. After the summer break, I am going to university here and will possibly stay in Canada afterwards."

After being immersed in the North American culture for four years, it would have been hard for her to go back to China; to adapt to what she was once used to.

"I think the biggest difference between North Americans and people from China is that in western culture individuality is encour-

aged. It is good to be unique and to stand out. In China, it is different. Groups often have priority before individuals. Both have advantages and disadvantages. It is hard to say which one is better. But I do like the fact that people are free to express and to be themselves here."

Now that she is almost graduated, she is getting ready to leave Salt Spring Island. Although she was accepted at McGill University and was looking forward to studying in Montreal, she decided to go to the University of British Columbia in Vancouver this fall.

"I was offered an \$80,000 scholarship at UBC," she explains. "It was hard deciding not to go to Montreal, but the UBC scholarship was a huge recognition and I am very happy to go to Vancouver."


When asked whether she got the scholarship because she is smart, she replied: "I work hard. I want to see how far I can go. My parents have to pay a lot for my education in Canada. I don't want to take that for granted."

She will come back to Salt Spring Island where she spent an important part of her childhood, for visits, but Rachel is also looking forward to the next chapter of her life.

"It will be a new start for me and I am ready for it."



CULTURAL DIVERSITY DIALOGUES



Proposed Bylaw No. 122
Land Use Bylaw Amendments

HAVE YOUR SAY

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is Proposed Bylaw No. 122 about?

Proposed Bylaw No. 122 will amend the South Pender Land Use Bylaw to include new agricultural regulations to align with the Agricultural Land Commission, reduce maximum floor areas for dwellings in the rural residential zones, reduce setbacks for dwellings and cottages in the rural residential zones, increase the setback from the natural boundary of the sea, include clauses for those buildings or structures that maybe be deemed legal non-conforming due to the new regulations, and other minor amendments.

How do I get more information?

A copy of the proposed bylaw, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the project is available on the [South Pender Current Project webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after June 7, 2022.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will be held prior to the Public Hearing and will provide the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the proposed bylaw amendments.

Submissions





Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 23, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Friday, June 24, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

North Pender Island Community Hall
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road
North Pender Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Kim Stockdill
Island Planner
Islands Trust
kstockdill@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5157

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saltspring@windsorplywood.com

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer
 www.sunstarastrology.com
 1-800-836-0648 sunstarastrology@gmail.com

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)
 A wave of intellectual curiosity and mental agility continues this week. You have likely been pushing harder than usual to get things done, especially recently. This impulse will progressively subside as you turn your attention inward. This includes more attention on your home and family and self-care too.
Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)
 Covering a lot of ground on a variety of fronts continues. This includes working behind the scenes and/or doing inner work. The latter implies identifying and addressing inner doubts, blocks and anything else that might be slowing you down. This inside job may be more important than you realize.
Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)
 Many new thoughts and perspectives are on your mind. You are eager to see things in new ways, to break free from habitual interpretations. A rebellious impulse is featured as you aspire to express your sense of individuality. Your willingness to learn is extra important now so keep an open mind.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)
 A busy time behind the scenes continues. In some respects, this process is actually deepening. Yet, you will also begin to push forward into new territory somehow by the end of this week. This is probably true in your public and/or professional life including knowing what constitutes your best direction and where you truly fit.
Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)
 A social cycle continues and will even go up a notch or two this week. But, by next week, you may find yourself seeking sanctuary once again. You will be happiest in your studio, study, den or lab. If you do find yourself in public settings, you may prefer to observe and listen than to initiate dialogue.
Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)
 You are probably busier now in your career than you have been for a while. This represents a time for making diligent efforts to get ahead somehow, to get a promotion or to pitch for a new job/career altogether. Returns for past efforts have begun to come in and these should be evident by now.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)
 Paying attention to the details of the bigger picture presents an intellectual opportunity and challenge now. This represents a rather steep learning curve. Financial considerations may be motivating your focus as the pendulum of change swings unpredictably and you will be moved to stabilize it.
Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)
 You may have arrived at one of those forks in the road once again. Deciphering which path to take and which will bring the greatest rewards is featured. As eager and willing as you are to take strong new initiatives, you must also contend with lingering uncertainties. The key is to change within and not try to control outer circumstances.
Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)
 Your relationship should be experiencing some extra sparkle of late. This may even be due to new romantic prospects or experiences. Yet, this window will not remain open much longer, at least not entirely. By the end of this week you will enter a cycle of purging and purification and you will be more inclined to retreat inward.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)
 Circumstances have and continue to push you to put on your thinking cap. Certain realities require closer attention and a bout or two of creative, critical thinking. Positively, your confidences have been steadily rising, especially in as much as you have been directing your energy to get to the bottom of things.
Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)
 A creative impulse continues to guide your focus. This will shift from fun to a more serious emphasis on work. Still, there should be ample opportunity to bring fresh perspectives and approaches into play. In fact, the more willing you are to explore and experiment with new strategies, the better.
Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)
 Hovering close to home is likely now and may feel like all you need. Yet, you will enter into a creative focus as early as this week. It will require you to bring forth your talents and be willing to attend to an array of areas of focus, and this trend will continue well into July. Get clear on the fruits of your labours to feel motivated.

what's on this week



Wed. June 15	Fri. June 17	Sun. June 19	Wed. June 22
<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Tea a Tempo. Patricia Flanagan, soprano, performs at All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and goodies.</p> <p>Harry Warner. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Info table and refreshments outside Country Grocer from 3:30 to 6 p.m.</p> <p>Central Community Hall Board of Directors Meeting. Public welcome to attend meeting at Central Hall (lower hall). 7 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Ange Hehr. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Carolyn Mark & Old Seed. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>DJ Lila Sofiyah. Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.</p> <p>Billie Woods. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES ASK Salt Spring. This week's guest is Islands Trust trustee Laura Patrick. In the United Church Meadow, unless rain threatens, when it will revert to Zoom. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Check asksaltspring.com on Thursday for confirmation.</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES Peace Works Peace Rally. Centennial Park. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>International Yoga Week Celebration. Ananda Kirtan Band from 1 to 3 p.m., and family celebration with Vishvajai - yoga fun for all age groups from 3 to 5 p.m. Salt Spring Centre of Yoga.</p> <p>Mon. June 20</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Loose Roots Duo. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Monthly trustees meeting at the Ganges fire hall and via Zoom. 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tues. June 21</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT John Herbert. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Local Trust Committee. Regular business meeting at Community Gospel Chapel (and watchable online via www.islandtrust.bc.ca). 9:30 a.m. with trustee reports and town hall beginning at noon.</p> <p>Salt Spring Transportation Commission. Focus of discussion will be a review of what was and was not accomplished in 2022 and strategic planning for 2023. Library program room. 1 p.m.</p> <p>Tuesday Farmers' Market. Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT K-Tones. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.</p> <p>THE FRITZ CINEMA Downton Abbey: A New Era shows on Friday, June 17 to Tuesday, June 21 at 7 p.m. plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See www.thefritz.ca for more movie info.</p> <p>EXHIBITIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiona Duthie's Chromatic Navigation is the Artcraft Showcase exhibition at Mahon Hall through July 4. • Eclectic Visions, the Salt Spring Photography Club's exhibition, runs at Gallery 8 as part of Photofest until June 17, daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays. • The Photosynthesis group exhibits at ArtSpring as part of Photofest daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until June 17. • Julianna Slomka shows fine art and photography in her It's About Time exhibit at Salt Spring Gallery until June 22 during gallery hours of Wednesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. • The Group of Six photographers show work at Island Savings until June 17. • Jeanne Lyons presents Explorations: paintings, mixed media, prints and carvings in the ArtSpring lobby, which is open from Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and during ArtSpring performances. • Brian Purcell shows photographs in the library program room until June 27. • Bernadette Mertens-McAllister presents a photography exhibit called A Child's World at Country Grocer's Roasters Cafe through June. • Artcraft runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the summer.
<p>Thur. June 16</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT GISS 2nd Story Theatre Presents Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon. Classic stories turned on their heads by GISS Grade 11 and 12 students. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>The Costners. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>A Night of Improv. Improv comedy at Mateada Lounge. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>Duck and Cover. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>Open Mic. Royal Canadian Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Celebrating Salt Spring Island Middle School. Event with performances and cake to honour SIMS as it closes after 28 years. 5 p.m.</p> <p>VIA ZOOM Salt Spring Island Conservancy AGM. Annual general meeting via Zoom or telephone. With guest speaker Tara Martin on Shifting Baselines and Eco-cultural Restoration in the Salish Sea. 7 p.m. RSVP to debra@saltspringconservancy.ca by June 15. Link and reports at saltspringconservancy.ca.</p>	<p>Sat. June 18</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Back on the Rock: Diverse Voices of Divine Celebration. Works for chamber orchestra and choir by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Florence Price, Gwyneth Walker, Isabella Leonarda, Bianca Maria Meda and Antonio Vivaldi. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.</p> <p>DJ Tetsu. Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.</p> <p>Vixx. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Myc Sharratt. Inside at Moby's Pub. 8:30 p.m. to midnight.</p> <p>Buck Dodgers. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES Saturday Market in the Park. In Centennial Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p>	<p>Sun. June 19</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Alan Moberg Tribute Concert. Musicians gather to perform music written by Alan Moberg, and Alan will perform a few songs as well. Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply. 2 p.m.</p> <p>Ange Hehr. On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Renee Layla. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.</p>	<p>Wed. June 22</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Tea a Tempo. Kaizenjammers perform at All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and goodies.</p>



FabLab Open House

Launch of new maker space at the
Salt Spring Public Library.
 Friday, June 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

THRIFTY FOODS 

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

COMMUNITY

Salt Spring yoga centre facing funding crisis

Support needed to help keep Salt Spring Centre of Yoga open

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Centre of Yoga — the longest-running spiritual retreat centre on the west coast — is in danger of closing its doors if enough funds are not raised in the next two months to keep it solvent.

The centre was founded in 1981 by a group of students inspired by the teachings of Baba Hari Dass, a silent monk and master yogi. They bought a 69-acre parcel of forest and fields on Blackburn Road and established a vibrant centre open to anyone. The land hosts ceremonies, retreats and yoga training programs, and has provided refuge, learning and support for many individuals over the past four decades.

“Due to the extenuating circumstances of pandemic closures, inflation, recruitment challenges, and the housing crisis, the centre is in financial crisis and almost out of time,” a press release from the Dharma Sara Satsang Society board stated. “Significant funding, in the range of \$400,000, needs to be secured by Aug. 15, or the land may need to be sold.”

An excerpt from a recent letter to society members reads: “We are at a crossroads. We know that there have been times when the Centre faced similar challenges, yet it has always pulled through. However, the Centre has never

faced a global pandemic or the ensuing fallout. Any pre-pandemic norms of predictable business outcomes are no longer applicable. This time is different; we need your help.”

The society is actively pursuing immediate donations and fundraising options to help stay afloat for the remaining summer season and is also open to new partnerships, leasing opportunities, or other creative approaches.

A live, in-person and online fundraising event is also scheduled for Saturday, June 18 at 6 p.m. at The Church of Truth in Victoria.

Details about this and other Centre fundraising events, as well as how to donate can be found at saltspringcentre.com/donate/.

As well, the centre is celebrating International yoga Week early with an event this Sunday, June 19. From 1 to 3 p.m., the Ananda Kirtan Band will perform devotional chants, and from 3 to 5 p.m. yoga fun for the whole family is promised with Yogriishi Vishvketu.

“His holistic approach brings forward ancient wisdom for a modern age incorporating asana, pranayama, mantra, meditation and yogic wisdom in every class,” says the society.

Concession snacks will be for sale before and after the concert.

Admission is by donation.



PEACE RALLY
Sunday, June 19, 2022 • 12:30-1:30 p.m.
United Church Meadow

A Peace Circle to Celebrate

- Fathers Day • Solstice
- All Indigenous Persons Day
- World Partnership Walk To End Poverty
- Support Ukraine Day

Please come and join us!



Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM on Construction of a NEW MAIN FIRE HALL

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that voting in a referendum on the construction of a new main fire hall will be held during the month of June 2022.

Voting will be exclusively by mail-in ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters in June 2022. Eligible voters that do not receive a ballot by mail by 15 June 2022 may collect a ballot at the Ganges fire hall, Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Any person not on the present list of property owners able to demonstrate they are eligible, may obtain a registration form from the Ganges fire hall, return it to the hall or complete and enclose it along with the mail ballot. Registration forms will be available at the Ganges fire hall.

Ballots must be received by mail or dropped off at the Ganges Fire Hall by 4:00 pm, 30 June 2022.

Those eligible to vote in this referendum will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen eighteen years of age or older.
2. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to this election.
3. Be an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District for at least 30 days prior to 30 June 2022.
4. One vote is also allowed for each board or corporation that owns land within the Fire Protection District. The board or corporation must designate one person in writing to act as an authorized agent to vote on its behalf. Place the written designation, separate from the ballot, in the stamped return envelope provided with the ballot package mailed/given to eligible voters.
5. Eligible voters who do not receive a ballot package in the mail by 15 June 2022 may collect one from the Ganges fire hall, Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as a designated authorized agent of a land-owning corporation and personally, if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Ganges, BC, this 19th day of May 2022

Anthony A. Kennedy
Returning Officer

WE'RE HIRING

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We are on the lookout for a community-loving, well-organized people person to take on the position of OFFICE MANAGER at the Driftwood.

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Driftwood
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
241 Fulford-Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island
250-537-9933 • gulfislandsdriftwood.com

YOUTH Islander pursues European tall ship adventure

William Acken fundraising for trip

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

William Acken is preparing to partake in an adventure aboard an early 20th century sailing ship, traversing the waters off the coast of the Netherlands and Belgium.

The 16-year-old Salt Spring Island resident plans to pack his violin, his sea shanty repertoire, some linen and wool clothing he has fashioned and a leather-bound notebook as he boards the Morgenster and sails from Harlingen, Netherlands to Antwerp, Belgium in the 2022 Tall Ships Races this July 16 to 24.

What he's leaving behind to go on this journey is equally important, including the need to be connected to the outside world. There is no WiFi aboard the ship. He also isn't fussed about whether he'll be sleeping in a hammock or a bunk or other finer details, which is part of the charm of setting off on such an adventure.

From an early age Acken has been interested in the concept of adventures, first through the pages of the likes of Treasure

Island and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn and later in a single-handed Laser sailing dinghy around Salt Spring Island.

"The whole idea of getting to go on a boat and sailing off into some horizon is something I've always really enjoyed," he said.

Sailing, which Acken has been doing for around five years now, provides some "overly cinematic moments," including seals swimming alongside his boat, sea lions making surprise appearances, brilliant sunny days on the water, camaraderie and action.

"[These moments happen] enough that you have enough stories to tell when you get back, so it keeps itself mysterious."

Acken will likely come back with stories galore after his experience partaking in the 2022 Tall Ships Races. The Morgenster is a traditionally rigged Dutch square sail brig built in 1919 originally as a herring lugger for the den Dulk fishing company. It continued being a fishing vessel for 50 years, after which an alleged pirate owned the vessel before it changed hands again. The ship's hull measures 25 metres high and 38 metres long. Aboard the ship are 36 trainees and 10 permanent crew.

A website dedicated to the ship states that the Morgenster is a "thoroughbred sail training vessel" where the many sails and running rigging makes collaboration on board "a natural necessity."




PHOTO BY DANIELLE ACKEN

William Acken, 16, who will spend a few days this July as a trainee sailor in the 2022 Tall Ship Races.



PHOTO BY RICHARD SIBLEY

Brigantine Morgenster that William Acken will sail on.



Proposed Bylaws 186 and 187

Official Community Plan & Land Use Bylaw Minor Amendments

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

Community Information
Meeting and Public Hearing
Monday, June 27, 2022 at
1:00 p.m.

Mayne Island Agricultural Hall
430 Fernhill Road
Mayne Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the
proposed bylaws.

Enquiries?
Narissa Chadwick
Island Planner
nchadwick@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5189

What is Proposed Bylaw 186 about?

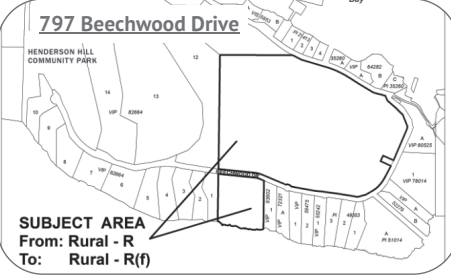
Proposed Bylaw No. 186 will amend the Mayne Island Official Community Plan by removing the Parks Master Plan (as requested by the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission) and changing the land use designation on 437 Fernhill Road to conform with the zoning change proposed in Bylaw No. 187.

What is Proposed Bylaw 187 about?

Bylaw No. 187 proposes amendments to the Mayne Island Land Use Bylaw that: support land uses currently existing under Temporary Use Permit and address other concerns and community interests. Amendments to zoning are proposed for the following properties: 490 Fernhill Road, 437 Fernhill Road, 594 Fernhill Road, 797 Beechwood Drive and Emma and Felix Jack Park.

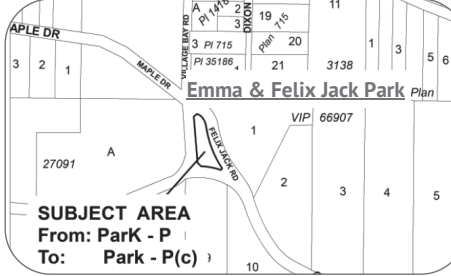
Proposed Bylaw No. 187 also includes a new definition of patio allowing patios in setbacks, and places limits on election sign posting.

797 Beechwood Drive



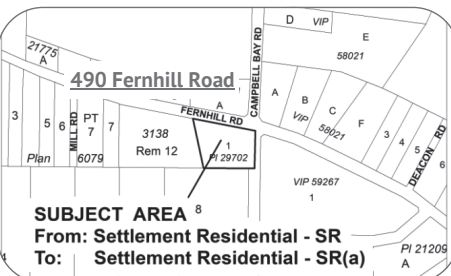
SUBJECT AREA
From: Rural - R
To: Rural - R(f)

Emma & Felix Jack Park



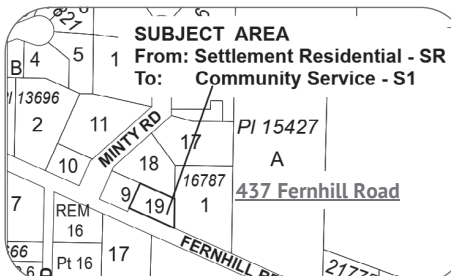
SUBJECT AREA
From: Park - P
To: Park - P(c)

490 Fernhill Road



SUBJECT AREA
From: Settlement Residential - SR
To: Settlement Residential - SR(a)

437 Fernhill Road



SUBJECT AREA
From: Settlement Residential - SR
To: Community Service - S1

How do I get more information?

A copy of the proposed bylaw, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the project is available on the [Mayne Island Current Project webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after June 13, 2022.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will be held prior to the Public Hearing and will provide the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the proposed bylaw amendments.

Submissions

Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by 4:30 p.m., Friday, June 24, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

The Tall Ships Races began in 1956, the Windseeker website explains, "to promote international friendship and sail training." The races require at least half of the trainees on board to be aged between 15 and 25 years old. The experience not only involves sailing, but port events, parades, competitions and fireworks are also planned.

Acken will be a trainee alongside other young people from Belgium, Netherlands, U.K., Ireland, Denmark and other nations. Trainees get to partake in all roles aboard, Acken explained, yet he's most excited about working the ropes of the Morgenster. Joining a crew, away from the online world, is part of the adventure as is travelling to countries where English is not the dominant language.

When he's not busy skippering, cooking meals for hungry sailors or being on lookout duty, Acken is set on writing some music.

"A lot of my music taste lies in that traditional folk sea shanty area, so it'll be nice to get to write with the experience that a lot of those older sailors did when they wrote the music," said Acken.

He has also heard the captain of the Morgenster is a fan of sea shanties.

Acken is keen to experience the history of the area, in particular pre-industrial times, as well as learning how the vessel operates mechanically.

"What about the boat seems more efficient than modern-day machinery and how we can implement that" is one of the environmental questions he hopes to have answered aboard the Morgenster. Acken will be commemorating his experience in the "old school" way, writing daily logs in his notebook.

Acken applied for the experience through Sail Training International, where he joined the Dinghy program, which helps trainees raise money for their upcoming experiences. In total, Acken needs to raise circa \$9,000 to fund his travels, and he's around \$1,500 short of that goal. He has been reaching out to local businesses for sponsorships and has also started a GoFundMe online fundraiser. Should readers be interested in contributing they can contact Acken at william0james0a@gmail.com.

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



Marie Henriette Josephine Roodenburg (née Courtois)

MARCH 20, 1940 - JUNE 5, 2022

Known by many as Martie, Mariette was the 8th of nine children born in The Hague, The Netherlands, having survived World War II as a strong and loving family. In 1957, at 17 years of age, Mariette attended the Royal Academy of Arts to study Interior Design, where she met her soul mate and future husband, Robert Roodenburg. They married on December 18, 1959 and went on to have four children: Sabine, Roderick, Vanessa and Robert Jr.

Always living with a sense of adventure, faith in each other and pure determination, she became caretaker of Kasteel de Wittenburg, a castle in Wassenaar, while Rob attended university. Shortly thereafter, Mariette and Rob embarked on a journey changing their lives forever by immigrating to Canada in 1965.

Mariette was a ferocious learner. Continuing her education, she studied Human Anthropology at UBC. At the age of 51 she became a real estate agent in Vancouver for 24 years, a career she excelled in due to her love for truly getting to know people and helping others. Passionate about sustainability, living off the land and giving back to nature, Mariette's values were easy to see from her love for gardening and her beautiful weavings of tapestries and clothing from her homespun wool that were carefully dyed with naturally sourced plants.

In line with their sense of adventure, Mariette and Rob maintained several homes concurrently: in the Netherlands (de Kleine Pal) and in Vancouver, while always keeping a home-base on Salt Spring Island. Mariette worked side-by-side and hand-in-hand with Rob, designing and building four beautiful homes and restoring countless others from 1970 onwards, with the most recent restoration in Fulford Valley.

With her interior design background and knowledge, Mariette was particularly adept at finding and collecting all means of art from paintings to sculptures, poetry to ceramics. Her deep interest in humanity, human psychology and the historical and artistic relevance of significant items can be found in the books and treasures that surrounded her.

A lifelong designer and artist, Mariette looked for ways to elevate others and their creativity, through art and craft sales at their barn on the mainland, helping artists sell their wares in the 1970's, to "Christmas sales" and "Gallery days" at the Log Cabin in their current home in the Fulford Valley.

Beyond her passion for the arts, Mariette was a fierce advocate for both women and children. As a pioneer in the women's movement, she was involved in BC's first women's centre, Ishtar Transition House, in 1973. She will be remembered by her children and grandchildren for her ability to create safe spaces, encouraging all to have a voice and reminding everyone that it's okay to get a little messy. For these qualities, Mariette was known by many more than her own kin as "Oma".

Mariette passed away in the comfort of her home after she had bid farewell to her friends and family, finding peace with the knowledge that the family will always stay together and keep strong. Mariette is predeceased by her mother Hubanie Emely Goeverneur and father Johannes Gerardus Bernardus Courtois and sisters: Clementine, Jeanne, Tini and brothers: Jan and Leo. She is survived by her sisters: Yvonne and Hubanie and brother: Joop, husband Robert, four children: Sabine, Roderick, Vanessa, Robert Jr., eight grandchildren: Joshua, Tyler, Raquelle, Jesse, Kai, Angelina, Rowan, Luci and great-grandchild: Sienna.

Forever in our hearts, we will miss Mariette, Martie, Oma, Mama, tante, best friend and wife of Robert Roodenburg. We will always heed her advice: "sterkte, moed en kracht." Her legacy will carry on for generations.

JOHN BRYAN REED PARKER

June 11, 1936 - May 14, 2022

A memorial service on June 18 at 2 PM at Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island will be followed by a gathering of friends and family. In lieu of flowers the family welcome donations to the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society International Education Fund www.casief.ca/donate.



ANTHONY (TONY) CAMPBELL

June 13, 1941 - June 9, 2022

Anthony (Tony) Campbell passed away at his home on Salt Spring Island on June 9, 2022. Tony was born on June 13, 1941, in Surrey, England, an only child to Marjorie Ethel and Edward Augustus Campbell. Both his parents were serving in the British military forces. He lost his father at a very young age. In 1946 he immigrated to Vancouver Island, Canada with his mother, now a war bride married to Bert Beggs. Tony attended school in the Chemainus area. He left school, barely a teenager, and began his working career. His early occupations were manyfold and included heavy equipment operation, logging, truck driving, and insurance adjusting, until eventually focussing on Carmac Enterprises, his own Porsche repair and racing business.

Tony's racing career began with the purchase of his first Porsche in 1963. The following year he achieved the BC Hillclimb Championship. Over the next few years, he raced and owned many cars including a Porsche RSK and Porsche RS60. In 1968 he won the 1968 Western Canadian Sports Car Championship. The next year he competed in Trans Am races in Washington and California. His career culminated in winning the 1969 Westwood Endurance Race in his Porsche 904. Tony's racing success and special cars are documented in many books.

In 1972 he moved to Salt Spring Island where he started his final career with BC Ferries. It was at this time, taking a break from cars, that Tony built and lived on a 41' steel sailboat. He owned several other boats over the following years and even included a sailing and fishing charter business in his pursuits.

Over the next 20 years Tony built three houses and a 6 plex on Salt Spring Island.

With the boating and housebuilding out of his system Tony was back to Porsches again. He imported dozens of Porsches from California and resold them in BC. He also enjoyed racing vintage Porsches up and down the West Coast with his son Gregory.

In 2010 Tony was inducted into the Greater Vancouver Motorsport Pioneers Society.

Tony had a vision for things which would have lasting value. Cars that he once owned here in BC are now treasured by collectors in Germany, Spain, US, and France. His 8 meter classic sailing yacht is now restored and raced in the UK.

Tony was predeceased by two wives, Sandra Sudmant and Moira (Boyle) Campbell and a son Steven Campbell. He is survived by first wife, Catherine (Penner) Whiteley and his children Cheryl (Campbell) Gilbertson, Cowichan Bay; Robert (Campbell) Greenaway, Nanaimo; Gregory Campbell, Salt Spring Island; Morgan Cook, Vancouver; Aaron, Ontario; and Erin Campbell, California.

Tony had a special innate talent and understanding for all things mechanical that more than compensated for his lack of formal training. He will be remembered for his ability to take on new challenges with confidence, particularly when it came to his passions for cars, boats and home construction or indeed, anything mechanical.

The family would like to thank Tony's caregiver, Cheryl Denaat, for the extraordinary and compassionate time and care she spent with Tony over his last few months.

To honour Tony Campbell's memory the family extends an open invitation to an Open House on Saturday June 18th from 1pm to 5pm at 111 Menhinick Dr., Salt Spring Island.

COVERED EPIC YARD SALE

Tools, housewares, antiques, art, tees, curios, my honey. Ronnie Recycle lets it go! And 4 why visit ronnietractors.com 2c his 2 new metal goddess Ogguns needing shipment here b/c of yanqui cuba blockade. 10 am this Sunday. Park only on road @ 160 Cedar Lane. Info 250 539 2034. Venceremos!

In Memoriam



Marianna Middelberg

Jan. 31 1936 - Mar. 25 2022

June 27, 2022 • 2pm
 238 McGill Road
 Salt Spring Island

Beloved daughter of Virginia (nee Hamilton) and Gerrit Middelberg. Born in Indonesia, died peacefully March 25, 2022 on Salt Spring Island, BC.

Special thanks to Benilda Mark and caregivers from Salt Spring Island for their loving care in her last years.

Coming Events

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

Wednesday June 15, 2022
 at 7:00 pm
 in the lower hall
 at 901 North End Road,
Public welcome.

Coming Events

In Memoriam Gifts



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Coming Events



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 Thursday, June 16, 7:00 pm**

SSI Conservancy members, please note that the AGM will be online with access via computer (Zoom) or telephone. Please RSVP to debra@saltspringconservancy.ca no later than June 15 with your choice of access (Zoom or telephone).

Access instructions and reports will be posted at <https://saltspringconservancy.ca> by June 14.

For members without internet, call 250-538-0318 by June 9 and we'll mail the info to you.

Computer Services

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service for troubleshooting, software & networking support. Remote desktop support available. **250-537-2827** or **250-538-7017** rcmtech1201@gmail.com
Please back-up your important data now!

Career Opportunities

Home Support Needed

English gentleman on Salt Spring Island (88 yrs) needs some evening and weekend home support from a triple vaccinated, caring, responsible person with references and a Covid careful lifestyle. Experience with the elderly is a plus. Living accommodations possible along with a competitive wage.

Contact Deborah Ross 604-250-3333 devora@telus.net

Drafting & Design

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Bring your sketches & ideas & together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

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YOUR COMMUNITY YOUR CLASSIFIEDS

SEE HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 12



Notice to Ratepayers of Public Forum:

St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake Hydrology Study Peer Review Results and 2021 Public Survey Results

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) is pleased to announce we will be holding a public forum on:

**June 23, 2022
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

The meeting will consist of a presentation from Kerr Wood Leidal (KWL) on their response to the peer review done by Swiftwater Consulting, as well as KWL's recommended next steps. We will also be discussing the 2021 survey results and answer questions and comments related to the two agenda items.

If you would like to join the public forum you can either attend in person at the Community Gospel Chapel, or virtually by clicking on the link in the top right-hand corner of our website.

**Please join us on
June 23, 2022,
from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
at the
SSI Community Gospel Chapel
(147 Vesuvius Bay Road).**

**www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca
(250) 537-9902**

Every Drop Counts!

FUNDRAISING

Fox run leader needed

Salt Spring volunteers needed to ensure 2022 event can take place

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It has been 42 years since Terry Fox ran what amounted to a marathon every day for 143 days before the cancer that led to the amputation of his leg returned to his lungs.

The athlete and humanitarian only lived to one month shy of his 23rd birthday, yet the annual running events honouring his remarkable Marathon of Hope across Canada and his legacy in galvanizing public support and funding for cancer research have continued for over four decades. Organizers are now on the lookout for volunteers to organize this year's Terry Fox Run on Salt Spring Island.

The island has hosted a run every year since 1987, contributing over \$379,000 to cancer research. In 2021, the Salt Spring run raised \$5,480 and in 2020 \$6,650 was raised.

Organizers are seeking a volunteer run organizer with strong leadership and organizational skills and enthusiasm to prepare the annual event on the island. Support, training and materials will be provided by the Terry Fox Foundation, who will work closely with the volunteer in this role. The organization is also seeking local event volunteers.

"The event continues to stay true to its roots with a non-competitive, grass-roots and family-oriented spirit, with communities all over Canada joining together to realize Terry Fox's vision of a world without cancer," the foundation stated.

For more information about this opportunity, contact director of community development Jack Basterfield jack.basterfield@terryfox.org.



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