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Wednesday, July 6, 2022

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Issue 27
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PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

WEARING THE FLAG: Getting into full Canada Day spirit are Salt Spring visitors Wiesia Legal from Maple Bay and Anna Wickstrom from Vancouver, who were enjoying the Salt Spring Cruisers Show & Shine event. It was the first year for full Canada Day activities – from the car show to live music, hot dogs and fireworks – since 2019 due to the pandemic. See page 6 for more photos from July 1, and stay tuned for the Driftwood's Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island publication, with photos taken by community members on July 1.

FIRE DISTRICT

Fire hall plan gets strong support

Referendum passes with 75 per cent voting 'yes'

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's fire department can breathe a sigh of relief with the referendum to approve borrowing for a new Ganges fire hall receiving 75 per cent support from voting property owners.

Results saw 2,608 ballots in favour and 864 ballots against borrowing \$9.7 million for a new hall.

"This decision is huge on so many levels," said SSIFPD board chair Rollie Cook on Saturday afternoon when mail-in ballot results were announced. "It's a wonderful day for the community."

"It puts aside the negativity of the last few years where people thought nothing can get done on Salt Spring . . . We owe a big debt of gratitude to the Salt Spring community."

Salt Spring Fire Chief Jamie Holmes also expressed gratitude to voters.

"The fire department, and all its members, would like to thank the community for its strong support to replace the Ganges fire hall. We look forward to working in a building that supports our operational needs, and helps us be a better emergency service."

Cook said keeping the property in public hands for future use as a year-round market site, and the added benefit of 30,000 gallons of water storage on the property for fighting village fires makes it a "win-win" scenario. He added that water storage is also in the plans for the Brinkworthy site, which will give added protection to the Country Grocer complex. The agreement to transfer the land from the SSIFPD to the Capital Regional District (CRD) also sees no rent charged to the fire department during the construction period.

Total project cost is \$13.7 million for an 11,500-square-foot building to be located on Lower Ganges Road between Brinkworthy Estates and the Kutatas winery. Twenty per cent of the cost is allotted to cover contingencies, and inflation costs of eight, five and five per cent in the three main building years are also included in the total.

FIRE HALL continued on 3



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WATER RESOURCES

Beavers help keep St. Mary Lake level high

Vandalism, staffing, parcel taxes and public forum also discussed

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Putting credit where credit is due for current high water levels at St. Mary Lake involves thanking the beavers for their hard work.

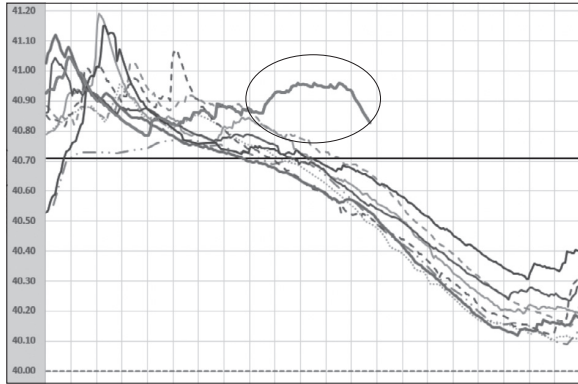
Vaughn Figueira, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) operations manager/acting district manager, said the beavers and their dam building have helped to keep the lake levels up at St. Mary Lake through the months of May and June.

The district is still in Stage 2 watering restrictions and, barring a late summer extreme heat wave, Figueira said things are looking good for lake levels. St. Mary Lake has the highest water level at this point in the year since 2009, when data started being kept.

Thanks to rainfall, Maxwell Lake levels are also good.

"We're below the weir level right now, but we're in the best shape we've been in the past number of years. Cross our fingers, we're hoping the weather is going to cooperate with us," he said.

"I just want to give a shout out to the beavers for reinforcing what this is really all about, it's storage,"



Circled line shows St. Mary Lake level as of June 27, much higher than levels of previous years back to 2009. Lake-level graphs can be seen on the northsaltspringwaterworks.ca website.

said trustee Michael McAllister. "We need more storage and the beavers have yet again reminded us of how important it is to increase storage."

The district had previously put a pipe through a beaver dam built in 2021 to allow water to flow into Duck Creek, which the beavers couldn't block.

"So they built a brand new dam a little bit further downstream, and that's the one we're aiming to remove," Figueira explained.

The district has received a permit to remove the newer beaver dam, and water flow into the creek shouldn't become an issue until

water levels come down to the level of the old dam. At this point, the district will have to ensure the pipe is still operational to keep water flowing into the creek.

Vandalism

"Vandalism is again rearing its ugly head," Figueira also reported.

The night of June 27th saw vandalism at the waterworks facility at Maxwell Lake. NSSWD have been in touch with RCMP and the symbols being painted are also showing up in other graffiti across the island.

He explained that if concrete is tagged then sandblasting is a pos-

sibility for removal, yet graffiti on siding may require repainting.

The district is also looking at chemical applications that would make graffiti removal easier. Another avenue is inviting school students or artists to come and paint NSSWD facilities.

"If we're going to paint we might as well paint a mural... those sorts of applications don't tend to get tagged, for whatever reason," Figueira said.

Staffing

In other waterworks news, chair of the board Sandra Ungerson recused herself from her role on the board as she has applied to be a candidate for the role of district manager. In a June 17 letter, Ungerson stated that applying for the top job at the waterworks district "has the potential to create a very clear conflict of interest within many of the duties related to the position of chair and trustee, for which I have been duly elected to perform."

Ungerson, who was re-elected as a trustee in May, stepped away from her board role in order to ensure "every available avenue of bias is eliminated from the hiring process."

In an update on staffing, Figueira said an operator level two position had been filled with the person starting Aug. 2. The hiring process for a safety officer was set to wrap

up June 30, and interviews for the top job of district manager will happen shortly. A senior water quality technician position will be advertised soon.

Parcel tax review


The board heard a presentation from Hayitbay Mahmudov of Inter-Group Consultants about a parcel tax review. Mahmudov presented changes that would make the parcel tax system simpler and more fair, while maintaining revenue neutrality. The suggested change is to drop from the current 22 parcel tax classes to 11.

Financial officer and office manager Tammy Lannan will be working on a new bylaw and presenting it at budget time in the fall.

Public forum debrief

Trustees and staff said they were pleased with the June 23 public forum held at Community Gospel Chapel, attended by 20 members of the public in person and a handful more online.

A video of the event is available to watch through a link on the northsaltspringwaterworks.ca website. It includes a presentation on St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake hydrology studies and a report on the 2021 public survey. Questions raised by people taking the survey were answered and some misconceptions corrected.



Islands Trust

HAVE YOUR SAY

**Proposed Bylaw No. 122
Land Use Bylaw Amendments**

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, 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 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 July 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., Friday, July 22, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review. Previous submissions received from May 6 to June 24 are included in the Public Hearing binder.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall
4703 Canal Road
North Pender Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Islands Trust
southpenderplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5151



Islands Trust

**Subject Property Address: 101 Bittancourt Road, SSI
Parcel Identifier Number: 003-734-706
Application: SS-TUP-2022.1**

HAVE YOUR SAY

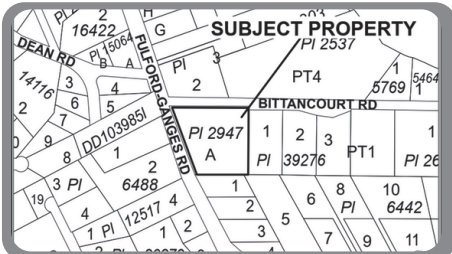
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT NOTIFICATION

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a resolution to issue a Temporary Use Permit for the subject property.

The purpose of this Temporary Use Permit is to allow up to eighteen (18) dwelling units in a multi-family dwelling for employee housing and one (1) office. The location of the subject property is shown on the following sketch.

Please note that Development Variance Permit (SS-DVP-2022.15) will be considered concurrently for this subject property. Please see our website for more details.



How do I get more information?
A copy of the staff report and proposed permit will be available online after Tuesday, July 5, 2022 on the Current Applications webpage: www.islandstrust.bc.ca/SSlapplications or, at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

Submissions
Written submissions are welcome and can be emailed to: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office before Monday, July 11, 2022.

When:
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
12:00 p.m.

Where:
Community Gospel Chapel
147 Vesuvius Bay Road, SSI

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Jason Youmans
Island Planner
Islands Trust
ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-537-9144

HOUSING

Seabreeze Inne lease extended

11th-hour lease extension allows for Kings Lane site use, while tenants' rights still questioned

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A two-week extension of the current lease at the Seabreeze Inne has been secured to accommodate a plan to put modular units for current Seabreeze residents on a Kings Lane property.

According to a B.C. government press release issued late Thursday, the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation has agreed to extend the current lease with BC Housing until July 15.

"I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation (LMHF) for generously extending the lease at the Seabreeze Inne, providing people with a safe roof over their heads for the past six months," said David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing, in the release. "BC Housing continues to work diligently to build the new permanent supportive housing facility at Drake Road."

The Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association has agreed to allow their site at 154 Kings Lane to create temporary housing until permanent, purpose-built supportive housing is operational at the Drake Road site owned by the Capital Regional District.

The current lease was set to expire on

June 30 and the LMHF said it was ready to begin on-site renovations to create housing for hospital staff.

"This [extended] lease is critical to ensuring Seabreeze Inne residents have a place to live while Drake Road construction continues," states the press release.

"The temporary modular housing at 154 Kings Lane will have individual bedrooms, air conditioning, laundry, washrooms, shared common areas and meals.

"BC Housing is continuing its due diligence for the development at Drake Road, including environmental, riparian area assessments and water supply approvals. Once completed, the mobile unit will be dismantled, the land returned to GISRA and residents will move into their new permanent homes at Drake Road or to other housing options, depending on individual need."

"I want to express my appreciation to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation for their valuable work to offer the affordable housing needed to deliver community-based health care on Salt Spring Island. I wish them the best in their work to support the health of Salt Spring Islanders," Eby said.

LMHF executive director Roberta Martell said her organization was happy to give the two-week lease extension, but would only do so after the housing ministry and BC Housing confirmed they could get the required trailers and a spot on which to place them by July 15.

In the meantime, Salt Spring Island Community Services executive director Rob Grant has sent a letter to Eby in

response to the June 30 press release, outlining his position that Residential Tenancy Act (RTA) provisions respecting notice should apply to the Seabreeze tenants and they can therefore not be forced to move to the Kings Lane site on July 15.

"BC Housing and LMHF have both engaged in communications to the public and to the tenants, deliberately omitting any reference to the RTA and their rights as tenants," wrote Grant. "Their messaging strongly suggests to the tenants that they have no option except to move. Both parties must be aware that the exclusion of this component of the scenario can be construed as a deliberate coercion to effectively pressure those tenants to vacate their homes without due process."

Martell said it was made clear to the LMHF by BC Housing when their lease agreement was signed in March that the RTA did not apply to the Seabreeze tenants. She questioned the source of Grant's expertise in this area.

"He is going to tell the attorney general and housing minister about housing law?" she said.

A request for clarification on this point was not acknowledged or answered by BC Housing as requested by the Driftwood for this week's paper deadline.

A temporary use permit and development variance permit application for the LMHF renovation project to convert the Seabreeze Inne into hospital staff housing units will be presented at the July 12 Salt Spring Local Trust Committee meeting at Community Gospel Chapel.

FIRE CALL

Suspicious blaze being investigated

Vehicle ignites garage and house

BY EMELIE PEACOCK
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue (SSIFR) got a call about a vehicle fire in the 400 block of Rainbow Road at 1:24 a.m. on July 2. Arriving six minutes after the call came in, firefighters found a fire blazing in a vehicle, which had ignited a nearby garage and house.

SSIFR's assistant chief Mitchell Sherrin credited the actions of the first firefighters to arrive for saving the home from the flames. Capt. Warren Nuyens and firefighter Clayton Akerman "laid a water-supply line down the driveway, and then deployed a deck gun, and stretched a hose line to catch the fire before

it got deep into the building — all in the span of a couple of minutes," Sherrin stated in a news release. "Without their outstanding work in those first few minutes, the house would've been lost."

Two people in the house were evacuated without injuries. While the vehicle was destroyed, the garage suffered moderate damage and the residents were able to return home that same morning.

Eight firefighters and four firefighting apparatus stayed on scene until 5 a.m., using a water-tender shuttle to supply the 2,250 gallons of water needed as well as monitoring for safety and investigating the fire. The RCMP and the BC Emergency Health Services ambulance crew also attended.

The investigation has deemed the vehicle fire suspicious, and SSIFR personnel are working with the RCMP on their police file.

Fire board chair, chief express gratitude

FIRE HALL
continued from 1

Approximately \$3 million of the required funds are already in reserves. A further \$1 million in Community Works Fund (federal gas tax) money was contributed by the CRD, as recommended by electoral area director Gary Holman.

No new taxes are needed to repay the \$9.7-million debt as the fire board had gradually raised the annual requisition over the past few years, putting monies in reserve to a level that can support projected debt payments.

A mail-in ballot process was used for the first time by the SSIFPD, with a June 30 deadline. Spoiled or rejected ballot numbers were not yet available as the Driftwood went to press.

Cook noted that about 1,000 more people voted in this referendum than the one held in 2013.

With some 7,588 people on the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District voters' list, voter turnout level was about 45 per cent.

The existing Ganges hall was built in 1959. Its deficiencies were first formally identified in a 2005 engineering report. Previous attempts to gain voter approval for a new hall or a land purchase were not successful.

A 2013 referendum saw 61 per cent of 2,622 voters reject a proposal to borrow \$6.25-million for an 18,000-square-foot building. In 2008, a referendum to buy a \$540,000 lot as a hall site on Upper Ganges Road failed by 59 per cent with some 1,340 voters participating. A year earlier, the fire board suspended an alternate approval process (AAP) that had sought to borrow up to \$5 million for land and a hall on a Kings Lane property, following a public outcry against using an AAP (counter-petition).

Cook said the fire board and staff are working well together, the "drama" of some past regimes has been left behind, and the referendum project succeeded as a result.

"We are in good shape. It was teamwork all the way through." The facility is expected to take about three and a half years to build.

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TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JULY 2022 PST (UTC-8h)

When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
6	0513	1.9	6.2	10	0747	0.5	1.6
	0912	2.2	7.2		1626	3.0	9.8
	WE 1503	1.5	4.9		SU 1918	2.9	9.5
ME 2236	3.2	10.5	DI				
7	0549	1.6	5.2	11	0018	3.3	10.8
	1125	2.2	7.2		0831	0.2	0.7
	TH 1549	1.9	6.2		MO 1716	3.2	10.5
JE 2257	3.2	10.5	LU 2032	3.0	9.8		
8	0626	1.2	3.9	12	0101	3.4	11.2
	1340	2.4	7.9		0917	0.0	0.0
	FR 1648	2.2	7.2		TU 1801	3.4	11.2
VE 2320	3.2	10.5	MA 2141	3.1	10.2		
9	0705	0.8	2.6	13	0153	3.4	11.2
	1521	2.7	8.9		1005	-0.2	-0.7
	SA 1801	2.6	8.5		WE 1843	3.4	11.2
SA 2345	3.3	10.8	ME 2245	3.0	9.8		

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



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EDITORIAL

Solid support

Salt Spring property owners have finally given their blessing to the fire department to replace the Ganges fire hall with a new building on donated land north of town.

Three-quarters of people who voted in the mail-in ballot referendum that ended June 30 were in favour of the plan as presented, which is high for any proposal of this kind.

With no hike in the current tax rate required to repay the \$9.7-million debt and the need for a new facility obvious to most people, we should not be surprised at the positive outcome. As well, the present and most recent Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD) boards learned from past attempts and made a concerted effort to gauge public opinion before presenting a specific plan. They knew a "no" vote would send them back to a battered drawing board with only a handful of broken crayons to work with.

For a local government issue, voter participation — at about 45 per cent — was also high, which suggests effective public engagement occurred.

In the last round of local government elections in B.C., for example, only 36 per cent of eligible voters participated, and 38 per cent on Salt Spring Island.

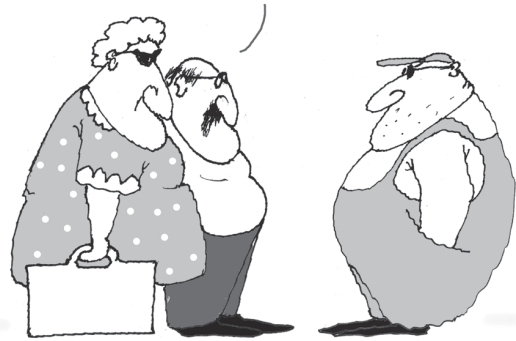
While Salt Spring's 2017 incorporation referendum had a whopping 70 per cent turnout rate, the 2009 library borrowing referendum had less than 25 per cent turnout.

Even if a majority of people eligible to vote don't do so, that doesn't indicate a lack of support for a particular project. Non-voters clearly don't have an opinion or enough of one to express it. They have chosen to not participate one way or another. By their own decision, their opinion literally does not count.

Congratulations to the fire board and its team for putting together a proposal people could support, and to engaged islanders who took the time to learn about the plan and vote.

Fire board chair Rollie Cook observed that the successful referendum proves major things can get done on Salt Spring, contrary to a common local perception. That hopefully bodes well for future projects of similar importance to our community.

SINCE IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GET ON A FERRY THESE DAYS WE'VE DECIDED TO JUST STAY HERE AND FIND A NICE PLACE TO RENT INSTEAD.



PARKER

Ferry issue progress noted

The following is a summer update from David Courtney of the Patrons of Route 6 group.

VIEWPOINT

The next four-year budget runs from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2027. There has been a commitment to construct the new ferry terminals at Crofton and Vesuvius Bay. These are expensive projects and take time to build.

Raising Awareness

1. April 3, 2022: MLA - Adam Olsen graciously tabled the Fix for Route Six petition in the BC Legislature on our behalf. Approximately 2,100 people (and counting) have signed the petition.

2. May 3, 2022: Brian Anderson, BC Ferries vice-president, strategy and community engagement, came with eight other BCF employees to meet with the Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee. We were given five minutes to speak at the end of their meeting. First time on Salt Spring Island in quite some time.

3. June 22, 2022: BC Ferries board of directors met for two and a half days at the Harbour House Hotel. It was a first for Salt Spring Island and the first time the board has met in person in almost three years due to the pandemic. The board sponsored a meet and greet for those closely concerned about our ferry issues. The presidents of the Chemainus, Duncan and Ladysmith chambers of commerce were on hand to engage the BC Ferries board and CEO at our request.

Route 6 provides all the dangerous goods to the island as well as a vital link for goods and services. It was a great evening to discuss the issues in a casual environment. The interim chair, a Gulf Islands resident, and other members were curious and genuinely concerned. Most had taken an excursion on the MV Quinsam earlier that afternoon on Route 6 to Crofton and return.

Commitments to date

BC Ferries is having issues ramping up from the global pandemic and is not alone in that plight in the transportation sector.

ment to construct the new ferry terminals at Crofton and Vesuvius Bay. These are expensive projects and take time to build.

We continue to campaign for the little things that make a difference. Most recently a joint venture with the Exchange in having a camera mounted at the Crofton toll booth pointing up Chaplin Street to the turn onto Crofton Road, and no parking lines at the entrance to residential driveways on Chaplin Street. We now have a new porta potty next to the toll booth for use after 6 p.m.

One request is a similar facility for the foot passenger waiting area on the wharf, similar to what we have at Vesuvius Bay. Moving the 7:55 p.m. sailing up to 7:20 p.m. at Crofton would be appreciated greatly by all heading home after a long day.

The issue of moving the dangerous goods times on Monday and Thursday to the evening hours during the long days of summer doesn't appear to be an issue for our dangerous goods providers. However, the issue has been discussed by BCF and FAC for a very long time with no resolve.

Route 4 - Fulford Harbour to Swartz Bay

The current parking lot was created on landfill decades ago. Is it reasoned to think that if you can't acquire property in the vicinity of the terminal that fill is the only option? Landfill adjacent to current parking lot to create a 140 to 160-vehicle containment area in order to take vehicles off the roadway and restore the Fulford village is a very viable option and, yes, expensive. During an election year this would be a great time to discuss the issue with our candidates, in time for BC Ferries' upcoming four-year budget.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are busy ferries curtailing your travel activities?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will you wave a flag on Canada Day this year?



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

Time to wake up and get radical

A while ago someone in my church, Salt Spring United, in an exasperated tone called me a radical.

I wasn't quite sure whether to be pleased or hurt, however, the dictionary defines a radical as "a person who advocates for complete social or political change." That didn't sound too bad.

Speaking with Ryder Bergerud, organizer of the 350.org event held in Centennial Park on Saturday, he referred to the quote by António Guterres, UN Secretary General: "Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals, but the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels." That reminded me of banners that I saw at Fairy Creek; "Can we tell our kids we tried?", and another, "If not now, when?"

Well, the "when" is now: it's time to wake up and get radical!

Human society is mired in a reality disconnect. Our prime minister declared a climate emergency one day, and the next day bought an old pipeline for billions of dollars with taxpayers' money. In 2019, B.C. Premier John Horgan shelved a plan to implement over 250 solar, wind and run-of-river hydro projects, many of which were being advocated by First Nations, and reversed course to pour more money into Site C, and pursue

development of fracked methane gas wells, aka "LNG."

What to do? Some suggestions:

1. Change our electoral system. We need a citizens assembly initiative towards proportional representation, and support for Fair Vote Canada.

2. Vote for a political party that treats the climate emergency as an emergency.

3. The 'Big Five' Canadian banks are a huge part of the problem with RBC being the worst, having loaned \$263 billion to fossil fuel companies since the Paris Agreement in 2016. Move your money to institutions that don't support fossil fuel expansion, or become a shareholder and influence shareholder meetings.

4. Most companies are Class A corporations whose sole purpose is to deliver profits to shareholders. Many should be transitioned to Class B, which have a commitment to social and ecological justice in addition to providing returns to shareholders, and Class C corporations that go even further by returning a percentage of their profits to regeneration, healing and social justice.

5. In the words of Robert Llewellyn, YouTube host of the Fully Charged channel: "stop burning stuff." Electrify everything as soon as possible: aircraft, ferries, trains, transit buses, school buses, vans, cars, lawnmowers and chainsaws. The good news is that SD64 will receive two new electric school buses at the end of the year.

6. Support efforts to protect the old-

growth forests of Fairy Creek. Write to John Horgan, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, and your MLA to demand that all old-growth logging be terminated immediately. Participate in peaceful civil disobedience actions.

7. Support local organizations like RAVEN (Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs), Peace Works and Transition Salt Spring, and national and international organizations like 350.org, Greenpeace, The Sierra Club.

I believe we are part of a divine reality and that we are moving towards a higher state of consciousness. It may be hard to see right now, but there is a massive shift underway in which people are hearing the alarm bells signalling the need to respond to the climate emergency.

Like Elizabeth May, I do not believe we are destined to be a failed species. Life is wonderful, hug your family and friends, dance up a storm, and celebrate all that is beautiful in the world.

Action is the antidote to depression, especially in the company of friends.

TOM MITCHELL,
SALT SPRING

Welcome cell tower

I've been doing a lot of online research regarding cell towers in order to develop my own informed opinion on the subject.

As everyone knows, everything on the

internet is true, so I am confident that I have come to the correct conclusion and welcome the new tower with open arms.

As it turns out, the radiation from the structure will neutralize the death rays emanating from my smart meter, allowing me to jettison my tinfoil hat and remove the ground straps from the cat. He will be pleased about that, I'm sure.

A problem, though, is that the project is unpopular with many residents. I assume these folks don't have cell phones.

I propose a few modifications to make it more "Saltspringish." (Saltspringy? Saltspringesque?) First on the list is to make it out of sustainable materials. How about certified organic, non-GMO, ethically harvested and totally inclusive bamboo?! This will begin to sway public opinion.

Next, up goes a rainbow flag, right to the top. Now the tide is turning our way. Directly below this we run up the skull and crossbones pirate flag. There you have it: The Jolly Rogers Cell Tower! Kids will love it. I know I will.

I welcome constructive input from other locals regarding any further improvements to the structure.

Whatever the outcome, my cell phone will not be affected. I don't have one. I don't want one. Nobody calls me. Perfect.

MIKE STACEY,
MALVIEW DRIVE

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"It puts aside the negativity of the last few years where people thought nothing can get done on Salt Spring . . . We owe a big debt of gratitude to the Salt Spring community."

ROLILIE COOK, CHAIR, SSIFFD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Toddlers' tea party governance system could use some improvement

Call that spring? A mean drizzle, fog you couldn't cut with a chainsaw, the next day bright as diamonds until it clouded over and rained again while boredom wheedled like a worm in a nut. Spring had sprung and finally gave way to two days of summer, but it might just as well have not bothered. I've suffered Novembers that were more stimulating.

But here's a goblet of news that will surely put some sunshine into your step . . . Salt Spring could be getting another committee. Isn't that wonderful! I'd be more than super-excited if it weren't for the fact that, in my long experience, I've learned that if you intend to achieve as little as possible, forming a committee is the way to go about it. Throw in the inevitable community involvement and you'll wind up with a heady mix of total obduracy and corrosive backbiting — and will likely get even less done.

Still, this recently announced plan for a Local Community Commission (LCC) comprising half a dozen elected commissioners and an electoral area capo di tutti capi at least goes some of the way to

practical democracy on an island that at present is organized to function with all the cohesion of a toddlers' tea party. And please, I'm not taking a shot at the admirable people who put their time and effort into trying to manage Salt Spring; it is simply that they'd be better spending their days knitting socks for salmon rather than facing down the constant carping of the various factions who have their own limited but implacable visions for the island.

The LCC will be expected to run in tandem with the Islands Trust which will still handle bits of the island's totally bonkers governance while some of the other stuff will be the responsibility of the LCC, which is still an animal of the Capital Regional District. Throw in the rest of the CRD and the provincial government with their own areas of intervention into that particular witches' cauldron and your chances of getting a building permit for a strawberry cloche within an ordinary lifetime will be tougher than getting a ticket to Mars.

Stop most Salt Springers in the street and ask them to explain the island's existing tiers of administra-



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER THING

tion and I guarantee they'll look as if you asked them to define Newton's Third Law. I'll be the first to admit that I have only the vaguest idea how anything ever gets done, where a chicken crossing the road will spark an indignant debate on why it needed to cross the road in the first place. Or indeed why there was ever any need for a road for it to cross.

It seems to me that on any issue Salt Spring is 10 per cent for, 10 per cent against and 80 per cent confused or indifferent, unless it's the Islands Trust and a week rarely passes without someone giving them a good kicking. Depending on which side of the preserve and protect fence you sit, the trustees are either a bunch of spineless lackeys of the bourgeoisie, prepared

to turn Fulford Estuary into an environmental Chernobyl, or happy greenies who can't see a blade of grass without wanting to hug it.

This latest wild stab at an almost sensible democracy comes on the back of a survey into the future of Ganges village which is presumably based on the optimistic premise that it has any coherent future at all. At the top of the bucket list is a car-free Ganges, a likely reality when disrepair finally renders the roads so totally impassable that the only way in and out of the village is by zipline.

Of course, there is a place for development on the island and a crying need for more housing and better roads (or at least some white lines would be a fine gesture), but at the same time, sensibly managed constraint is no bad thing. I was recently in Penticton, which, given its weather and spectacular location should be a gem of a city. Instead, it appears to have handed its town planning to Vladimir Putin. Beyond the picturesque lakefront and the charming, well-ordered downtown, the place is becoming a bomb site with so much development going

on you need to think twice about parking your car in case it gets built over. It is a small town transitioning somewhat unhappily into a city, and with a population of just three times that of Salt Spring it is a striking lesson in what appears to be unconstrained and ill-advised urban development.

But the opposite needn't be the present rustic stagnation. Given a decent, sensible system of government Salt Spring could get some shiny new roads like Crofton or a reasonable housing development which could be hidden away well enough so that our lucrative tourists need never discover that we don't all live in yurts and forage for food when we're not throwing pots or whittling egg cups.

On top of that, we will most likely be home to the Versailles of fire halls, which ought to be worth a day trip in anyone's money. The rest of the island may look quaintly dishevelled, but at least we can sleep easy knowing that our brave lads and lasses will be poised and ready for action in their multi-million-dollar folie du feu. Hoorah.

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PHOTO AT TOP LEFT BY ROB LOWRIE; OTHER 2 PHOTOS BY GAIL SJBERG
A bit of the action on Canada Day included, clockwise from top left, Swing Shift big band members performing in Centennial Park (and they shared the event with Viva Chorale); people dancing to the Everyday People band at the Legion; and a slice of the well-attended Salt Spring Cruisers Show & Shine at the Hydro field.

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FINE ART

Elaine Potter up next on Showcase calendar



PHOTOS COURTESY SS ARTS

Painter Elaine Potter and one of her Abstract Energy pieces at right.



guy opening on Friday, July 8. Potter, who is a longtime Salt Spring resident and artist, has always focused

on an exploration of the environment around her: the seasonal changes that shift the colour, the line and texture of her garden and orchard and the surrounding wild corners.

Her previous exploration in batik, painting and textile based work focused on a style that although not abstract, was also not purely representational as colour, form and line were exaggerated. Her new body of paintings pushes her interest in abstraction further, removing recognizable forms to focus on colour and line. The work is still grounded in a study of the natural world, but elements are reduced to their essence, out of which a formal vocabulary of shape develops.

"Like the environment around me, each work starts unplanned marks and random lines are made, forms develop and colour and line comes in to evoke the energy and mood of the work," Potter says. "No longer simply a documentation of my garden, these

paintings seek to capture the shifting character and mood of this place and the feelings these changes evoke."

Showcase Exhibitions run on the Mahon Hall stage during Artcraft's summer season.

An opening reception with Potter takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, July 8 and she will give an artist talk at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 10. The show runs daily to Aug. 1.

Exhibit opens July 8

SUBMITTED BY ARTCRAFT

Artcraft presents its second Showcase exhibition of the season at Mahon Hall with Elaine Potter's Abstract Ener-

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PRINTMAKING

Impressions 7 show offers demos



IMAGE COURTESY SS PRINTMAKERS

Nora Layard's Forest Lights, part of the new printmakers show.

July 9 event at library

SUBMITTED BY SS PRINTMAKERS

The Salt Spring Printmakers' annual show, on now at the library, is once again delighting visitors with colourful intriguing prints and a display of the many different kinds of plates used to make them.

Artists will be in attendance on Saturday, July 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to talk about the secrets of printmaking and offer demonstrations of different techniques. Visitors, especially children, will be able to try their hand at making a print.

In other news, the group has been allocated a space for a dedicated printmaking studio at the former Salt Spring Island Middle School. The studio will open in early September and printmakers are planning how to create a professional print studio that will serve its members and the community. To raise funds for a new press and to furnish the studio, an online print sale has been extended to July 8 at www.ssprintmakers.ca.

Impressions 7 is open during library hours, when the program room is not in use, until July 30.

SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

JULY 7 BIG LITTLE LIONS

SALT SPRING ARTS presents

THE BLUE AND GOLD

JULY 14 | 6 PM

CENTENIAL PARK

OPENER JOHN GOGO

RECITAL PREVIEW

Wind Warning group entertains

Next Tea à Tempo show on July 13

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

It is a very special occasion indeed when five "star" wind players get to show off their expertise playing their instruments together on Salt Spring Island home turf.

Tea à Tempo audiences will be fortunate to hear the recently formed Wind Warning wind quintet presenting a wonderful concert of French music on Wednesday, July 13 at 2 p.m.

Bassoonist Kerry Graham, oboist Delane Peters, clarinetist Katherine Harris, horn play-

er Margaret Fisher and Vancouver Island flutist Kathryn Cernauskas came together last year.

These musicians are kindred spirits, all with extensive and varied backgrounds and careers in orchestral performance.

They hope that their offering of music by composers such as Jean-Philippe Rameau and Jacques Ibert will be as much enjoyed by listeners as they love performing it.

The 50-minute by-donation recital is followed by optional tea and treats (for \$4), which are provided by the Anglican Caterers in the hall part of the church.

All donations received are directed towards the honorarium of the musicians and the running of the Tea à Tempo concert series.

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PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

SHINY WHEELS: Treasure Fair team member Kate Merry draws attention to the 1998 Mercedes SL500 convertible that is up for bid in the 2022 ArtSpring Treasure Fair auction this year while at the Canada Day car show. The annual fundraiser runs online and via silent auction at ArtSpring from July 14 to 17. Visit treasurefair.artspring.ca for the full catalogue and bidding information.

LIVE MUSIC

Roots duo at park concert

The Blue and Gold on July 14

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

On the evening of Thursday, July 14, people are invited to bring a blanket and a picnic to Centennial Park at 6 p.m. for great music in the beautiful setting of Ganges Harbour.

Warming up the evening will be John Gogo, who Victoria Times Colonist writer Joseph Blake called "ne of the most talented singer songwriters this area has ever produced." A folksinger, songwriter and actor, Gogo hails from a large musical family in Snuney-muxw (aka Nanaimo) on Vancouver Island. Gogo has carved out a niche for himself with his songs about the people, places and events of Western Canada, the islands and coast in particular. Several have themes of his family's coal mining past and history in logging, including his own.

The headliner for the night, The Blue and Gold, is a musical collaboration between Juno-nominated and WCMA Blues Artist of the Year Ndidi O and folk-roots guitarist and banjo player Trish Klein (from The Be Good Tanyas, Frazey Ford, Po' Girl), which celebrates the musical artistry and legacy of pioneering female blues musicians.

Ndidi O and Trish Klein were established Canadian roots music artists when they met in Paris while both going through turbulent times in their lives. In Parisian street cafes, alley-way bars and hammams their friendship was fused, and the idea of collaboration first began.

Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union, is the marquee presenter for the 2022 season. We are also grateful to the Gulf Islands Driftwood, Harbour House Hotel, Country Grocer, BC Ferries, the Capital Regional District and the Province of British Columbia for supporting this program.

what's on this week



Wed. July 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo.
Caoimhe Merrick with Doug Thring and Paul Alexander perform at All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and goodies.

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

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Museum.
Open in Bittancourt House on the Farmers' Institute grounds on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Insight Meditation.
Salt Spring Insight Meditation Community offers a regular drop-in Wednesday evening meditation from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church in Fulford as part of the Star of the Sea Centre. Silent meditation with some guidance, followed by a dharma talk.

Thur. July 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Summer Outdoor Concert Series.
Big Little Lions, with opener Phoenix Lazare, perform in Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

Sharon Bailey.
On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

Malleus Trio.
Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.

S.K. Wellington.
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Museum.
See Wednesday listing.

Fri. July 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

John Herbert.
On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

Salt Spring Underground.
With special guests CAK inside at Moby's Pub. 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

WIL.
Mateada Lounge. 9 p.m. to midnight.

Fri. July 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Friday Games Night.
Board games evening for ages 13 to 19 back by popular demand in the library program room. 7 p.m.

ASK Salt Spring.
With CRD director Gary Holman. Location TBA. (Email ask@asksaltspring.com or visit the website.) 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Salt Spring Museum.
See Wednesday listing.

Sat. July 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Divas in the House!
Bettina Roth (DIVA-B) & Annie Becker at Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.

Ashton Bachman.
On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

Buck Dodgers Band.
Moby's Pub. 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

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

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park.
In Centennial Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The New Calligraphers.
First session in summer calligraphy course for teens. Library program room. 2 to 3 p.m.

Sun. July 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

Alan Moberg.
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Museum.
See Wednesday listing.

Mon. July 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

Tues. July 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Nicky Mackenzie.
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.
Regular monthly business meeting. Community Gospel Chapel. 9:30 a.m., and available to watch online through islandstrust.bc.ca.

SSI Probus Club.
Guest speaker is Jane Evans, BC Cancer, on B.C.'s groundbreaking research and treatment of certain cancers. Public welcome. 10 a.m.

Tuesday Farmers' Market.
Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

VIA ZOOM

Poetry From Sacred Texts.
An evening of poetry from the texts of various spiritual traditions. Bring a piece of sacred poetry to share or just listen and respond to poetry brought by others. Facilitated by Salt Spring poet Brian Day. Register at staroftheseassi@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wed. July 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo.
Wind Warning Wind Quintet. Concert of French music at All Saints. 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and treats.

K-Tones.
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Insight Meditation.
See last Wednesday's listing.

Salt Spring Museum.
See last Wednesday's listing.

Wed. July 13

VIA ZOOM

Resilient Gardens for a Changing Climate.

Presentation by renowned garden expert Linda Gilkeson. A Transition Salt Spring event. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Register via www.tinyurl.com/TSSresilientgardens.



THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **Top Gun: Maverick** is held over, running at the Fritz from Friday, July 8 to Thursday, July 14 at 7 p.m. nightly plus a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee. See thefritz.ca for more movie information.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Abstract Energy**, paintings by Elaine Potter, is the **Artcraft Showcase exhibition** at **Mahon Hall** beginning Friday, July 8. Opening reception with the artist is on Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. and an artist talk on Sunday, July 10 at 2 p.m. The show runs daily until Aug. 1.

• **Impressions 7**, the annual show of new works by SSI Printmakers, is in the **library program room** until July 30, with artists in attendance on Saturday, July 9 to talk about the printmaking process and to give a demonstration from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

• Thursday, July 7 is the last day to see **Jeanne Lyons' Explorations**: paintings, mixed media, prints and carvings in the **ArtSpring lobby**.

• **Artcraft show and sale** of work by more than 100 Gulf Islands artisans runs daily at **Mahon Hall** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the summer.

• **Sheri Standen** is exhibiting her art at **Fernwood Cafe** through July. Subjects of the 14 paintings include flowers, animals, portraits and buildings.

Tea à Tempo

Weekly recitals in All Saints by-the-Sea presented by Music Makers of the Anglican Parish Every Wednesday at 2:10 p.m. through summer BY DONATION; FOLLOWED BY TEA & TREATS



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ISLAND LIFE

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CLIMATE CHANGE

End Climate Delay event recounts heat dome

Health and safety issues front and centre

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An End Climate Delay event in Centennial Park on Saturday was a stark reminder of the unprecedented “heat dome” of a year ago that killed 619 British Columbians and the reality of climate change’s impacts.

Two visiting nurses who were guest speakers at the event — Helen Boyd and Aman Grewal — described the heat dome’s effect on the health-care system and individuals.

Boyd sits on the board of the Canadian Association of Nurses for the Environment and other groups. She said she is motivated to fight climate change on a political level because “first and foremost, human health is inextricably linked to our planetary health. There’s no denying that they are.”

As well, said Boyd, “This is an issue of climate justice [because] the people who contribute the least to the climate crisis are the ones that are the most affected”

Most of the 619 people who the BC Coroners’ Service determined died due to the heat dome between June 25 and July 1, 2021 were over the age of 60, she said. About half lived alone, and many of those were socially isolated.

If intervention happens early enough, death from heat stroke can be prevented, she said, but it requires awareness and vigilance.

“I urge you to be the eyes on the ground and to really look out for seniors in your communities,” said Boyd. “They are among the most vulnerable populations.”

Ambulance waits were up to 11 hours in duration during the heat dome, she said.

“That’s how overwhelmed the health care system can become.”

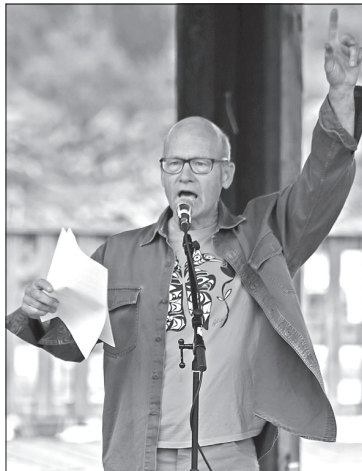
Grewal, who is president of the B.C. Nurses’ Union, described the stress on the health-care system and tragedies of the heat dome period at Surrey Memorial Hospital. One nurse told Grewal she witnessed a stream of patients suffering from heatstroke arriving in the emergency department.

“For many, by the time they arrived at the hospital, it was already too late. Many took their last breaths in the waiting room.”

Grewal also saw “utter chaos” in the hospital, and how the absence of air conditioning in one unit had a severe impact in the 40-degree heat. Staff were doing the best they could, she said, but lack of planning and investments to deal with this incident were obvious.

“It’s concerning that much of the infrastructure we depend on is not up to the task of operating under these conditions. That is why it is so important that we put pressure on all levels of government, decision makers, health employers to implement strategies and plans that incorporate the impacts of climate change so that our patients, our staff, and our entire population can get the care they need, no matter what the cost, in this new reality.”

Salt Spring Fire Rescue Assistant Chief Mitchell Sherrin also urged attendees to communicate with neighbours during extreme weather events and otherwise build community as ways to improve resilience,



From left, Salt Spring musician/activist Phil Vernon leads a song titled Delay No! to the tune of Day O! (Banana Boat Song) at Saturday’s End Climate Delay gathering in Centennial Park, while Saanich Gulf Islands MP responds to her husband John Kidder’s emotional words.



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

along with having a solid emergency kit and plan for one’s family.

Addressing wildfire scenarios, he said that the forecast is for a 400 per cent increase in wildfire activity in our province over the next 20 to 50 years.

“That’s a lot more fire and a lot higher intensity fires causing a lot more damage. Things more on the magnitude of what’s been happening in California is what’s anticipated for our region.”

He encouraged people to check out Salt Spring Fire Rescue’s FireSmart assessment program and the incentives for getting work done on one’s property.

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May and her husband John Kidder were also guest speakers.

May said “the hopeful part” is that there is still time to take actions to hold the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius (or as far below 2 degrees C as possible), but there isn’t much time — a matter of three years.

“And the people who are in charge don’t seem to give a damn . . . I don’t understand Justin Trudeau at all. I don’t understand how he can understand climate science — and from talking to him, I know he does — and think it’s okay that we must complete the Trans Mountain pipeline. Why? That we must approve Bay du Nord, drilling for an additional billion barrels of oil. Now? That we must continue fracking. The level of cognitive dissonance is in itself a mental health crisis — how people can function day to day as if everything is okay and they can keep approving fossil fuel projects and keep approving expansion. And then they say but we’re fine because we’re committed to net zero by 2050.”

May said the federal government’s position is “a big fat lie” because it assumes fossil fuel extraction and use can continue to expand until 2050, when it will suddenly drop to zero.

The assumption is based on cherry-picking of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change data, she said.

“The IPCC says by 2050 we should be at net zero. But we only hold to 1.5 degrees if by 2030 we have approximately cut greenhouse gas emissions in half.”

and melted the circuitry on the water pumps. His daughter suffered heat stroke there and his niece, a doctor, was hauling people out of trailers and shacks to try to get them to the hospital.

Kidder got the small crowd cheering by concluding, “Keep making noise, talk to all your friends and tell all your friends to tell their friends outside of Salt Spring and Saanich-Gulf Islands, who don’t have this member of parliament, to tell their members of parliament and their MLAs to get off their duffs and do something about this. And the way to do it is no more fracking, no more pipelines, no more LNG, no more oil and gas. Shut the sons of bitches down. They’re over, anyway.”

Other speakers included event organizer Ryder Bergerud, Briony Penn and musician Phil Vernon, who led the crowd in songs with familiar tunes but lyrics altered to reflect climate change themes: Harry Belafonte’s Day O! (Banana Boat Song) became “Delay-no! Delay. No. Don’t delay we’re gonna save our home,” and Big Yellow Taxi by Joni Mitchell was transformed into Big Yellow Tanker.

End Climate Delay events took place across Canada, organized by 350.org, to mark the anniversary of the heat dome.



IslandsTrust

HAVE YOUR SAY

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Peter’s Anglican Church Hall
4703 Canal Road
North Pender Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Islands Trust
southpenderplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5157

Proposed Bylaw No. 123

Minor Official Community Plan Amendments

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 Project webpage](https://www.southpender.ca/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 July 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., Friday, July 22, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review. Previous submissions received from May 6 to June 24 are included in the Public Hearing binder.



PHOTO COURTESY 100+WOMEN WHO CARE SSI

PERSONAL GIVING: Members of the 100+ Women Who Care group have their photo taken with a representative \$19,000 cheque that will go to Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue to help with replacing its command vehicle. The award was made at the June 22 meeting of the 100+ Women held at ArtSpring. SAR was nominated by Beth Hall, whose husband is one of the 40 volunteer SAR members. "SAR volunteers train weekly to respond to missing hikers, epic wind storms like the one that decimated the island in 2018, and even the dreaded possibility of fire," said Hall. "Search and Rescue is such an important part of emergency services, but the volunteers deserve to be supported by more up-to-date equipment and technology." The next 100+ Women Who Care group meeting will be in October.

GARDENING

Gilkeson speaks on resilient gardens

Zoom event on July 13

Transition Salt Spring (TSS) is thrilled to be starting a collaboration with renowned gardening expert and island resident Linda Gilkeson.

Gilkeson will be presenting her most recent insights and learnings about climate change in a Zoom event called Resilient Gardens for a Changing Climate. She will talk about how

people can enhance their food growing and landscape gardening success while taking climate action.

"I think it was easier to grow food and tend to landscapes years ago than it is now," said Gilkeson. "It does take a bit more knowledge and skill to be successful, but it isn't difficult to make your garden more resilient and productive all year round."

Food gardens are becoming more important than ever due to climate change, notes TSS in a

press release.

"Discover the important role gardeners can play in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, including designing landscapes to capture carbon."

This event will be held via zoom on Wednesday, July 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

People can register at www.tinyurl.com/TSS-resilientgardens on a pay-what-you-can basis.

For more information about Gilkeson, visit www.lindagilkeson.ca.

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Proposed Bylaw No. 133 and 134
Official Community Plan & Land Use Bylaw Minor Amendments
COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
SATURNA ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

SUBJECT PROPERTY
Property Identification Number: 005-723-108

What are Proposed Bylaw No. 133 and 134 about?
Proposed Bylaw No. 133 and No. 134 will amend the Saturna Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 70 and Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw No. 119 by making minor amendments that will improve clarity of the bylaws and address some longstanding inconsistencies with respect to zoning and land use designations.

SUBJECT PROPERTY
Property Identification Number: 001-847-902

SUBJECT PROPERTY
Property Identification Number: 000-019-968

How do I get more information?
Copies of the proposed bylaws, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the project is available on the Saturna 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 July 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. Wednesday, July 20, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. (in person)

Saturna Recreation and Cultural Centre
104 Harris Road
Saturna Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.

Enquiries?
Brad Smith
Island Planner
Islands Trust
bsmith@islandstrust.bc.ca
778-679-5185

Islands Trust

HAVE YOUR SAY

Proposed Bylaws 276 and 277
Rezoning to permit for the development of up to 12 residential affordable housing rental units.

Subject Property Address: 1663 Georgia View Road
Parcel Identifier Number: 025-936-107
Application: GL-RZ-2019.1

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are Proposed Bylaw No. 276 and 277 about?
Proposed Bylaw No. 276 and No. 277 will amend Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108 and Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127 by rezoning a 2 hectare portion of the subject property known as the 'Heritage Forest' to allow for the development of up to 12 residential affordable housing rental units.

SUBJECT PROPERTY
Property Identification Number: 025-936-107

How do I get more information?
A copy of the proposed bylaws and other information are available on the Current Application webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/GLApplications> 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 30, 2022.
A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will take place in person to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendments. The Public Hearing will occur in person and via Zoom per the details on this notice.

Community Information Meeting
Mon. July 4, 2022 @ 6:00-8:00 p.m. (in person)

Public Hearing
Sat. July 16, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. in person and via Zoom:
<https://islandstrust.zoom.us/j/63129726587>

South Community Hall
141 Sturdies Bay Road,
Galiano Island BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.

Enquiries?
Brad Smith
Island Planner
Islands Trust
bsmith@islandstrust.bc.ca
778-679-5185

How do I get more information?
A copy of the proposed bylaws and other information are available on the Current Application webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/GLApplications> 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 30, 2022.
A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will take place in person to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendments. The Public Hearing will occur in person and via Zoom per the details on this notice.

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, July 15, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

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Obituaries

In Loving Memory of
HEATHER DIANNE CUTTEN
 1944-2022



Heather Dianne Cutten, nee Eisan, passed away on the 23rd of June, at the Victoria General Hospital after a short and unexpected illness. She passed peacefully with her husband and two daughters by her side.

Heather (Nana) leaves a huge hole in the hearts of her entire family and friends who benefited from her kindness and compassion. Heather was born on May 3rd, 1944 in Halifax, Nova Scotia to Norman and Lillian Eisan and was one of seven children. Heather is survived by her sister Rosalie Dyer and her many nieces and nephews.

Heather married her life-long partner of 55 years, Mark Cutten on October 14, 1967 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Their journey together took them from Nova Scotia to Trinidad, Winnipeg, St. Lucia, Calgary and finally Salt Spring Island, BC. Along the way, they had three children David (Patricia), Laura (Alejandro) and the baby Sara. She was blessed with five grandchildren, Isabella, Olivia, Joshua, Iliana and Madeline, whom she loved dearly and shared a unique and special relationship with each.

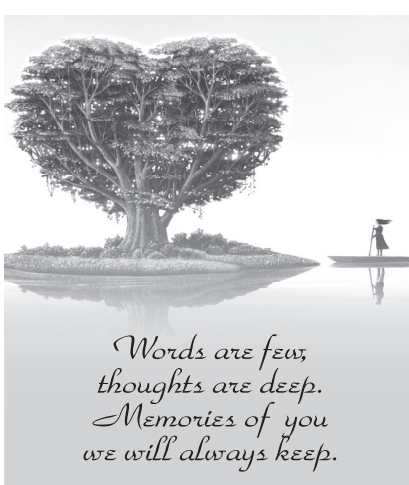
After raising her children, and at the age of 70, Heather studied and was ordained as a Deacon of the Anglican Church. She was tremendously proud of this accomplishment and touched the lives of many more and offered years of community service and outreach.

Heather (Nana) will be truly missed and never forgotten for she left a mark on all of us.

Grief is the price we pay for love.

A celebration of life will be held on Salt Spring Island, October 1st, 2022 at 2pm at All Saints by the Sea.

For information and to post condolences: www.haywardsfuneral.ca/obituary/heather-cutten/



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 thoughts are deep.
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Coming Events

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

Wednesday July 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road,
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TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Why is the world changing so dramatically and quickly? Astrology should be able to provide answers. Indeed it does. The key is to see the bigger picture within which all other cycles find their context. In the widest angle, life on planet Earth is a school for souls. Second, time is invariably based on cycles and all such linear notions as the 'arrow of time' are artificial concepts. Combining these two, life is a process and there is no final outcome, no final utopia, and no war to end all wars. Change is the law and it always will be so in this dimension. Visionaries, idealists, so-called realists, backroom power players, forefront salesmen and empire builders, and so on... have and always will play their roles. Now, regarding the astrology, the current changes are all features of the Age of Aquarius which is 1/12th of an approximate 26,000 year cycle and which will experience its official sunrise moment at the end of this decade and our entire planet is undergoing the vibrational shift manifesting as chaos.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)
 Home, family and security remain strong themes of focus for you. A challenge between taking new initiatives and wanting things to remain the same is featured. Change being inexorably the reality it is, you are probably wise to play along and adapt. Sharing the decision-making process is important so avoid unilateral decisions.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)
 Circumstances are pushing you to be on top of your game now. Many thoughts and communications are the forefront of a busy cycle including a whole host of travel plans. With Mars in your sign, you are eager to push to cover a lot of ground quickly. Talk about the need to multi-task!

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)
 Family matters now include bringing awareness to everyone. Making efforts to acknowledge, recognize and engage with the ones your love is extra important now. This focus includes doing the inner work to be extra empathetic. You may be wondering how things really are; how loved ones really feel and what they are thinking.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)
 The culminating Full Moon will have an activating effect on your relationships. Striking a new balance between self-assertion and empathetic, fair and integral engagement is featured. The question to ask yourself is which way do you think you lean and is this true in all of your relationships that matter to you.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)
 A sense of urgency to get down to business and attend to practical matters will become increasing evident over the coming days. This will activate a new assertion of commitment. Changes in your public and especially in your career and professional life are featured. Reaching out to friends, if quietly, is part of the plot.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)
 Sometimes along the way, circumstances challenge us to reinvent ourselves somehow. The change may be directed to our self-concept or our perspective and interpretation on things or it may be our strategy and approach or our overall vision requires a serious edit, or all of the above. It appears that this is one of those times.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)
 Balancing your public and professional status and self-image with practical realities close to home is in the spotlight. This will activate the need for creative thinking. A process of deep change, which has been underway for some time already, will undergo a noticeable surge. Your priorities and perhaps your finances will be affected.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)
 The Cancer New Moon a couple of weeks ago triggered the need for a wider and clearer vision of your future. Now it is time to get down to business. This requires sober assessment and the courage to face your fears. Circumstances may push you to have to make sacrifices in light of what you want versus practical needs.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)
 A cycle of shedding skins somehow continues. The good news regarding this process is that the old will be replaced with the new. So, the challenge is to be flexible and work sincerely and diligently to adapt. Acceptance is the first key, willingness the second, creative cooperation the third and faith in the process is the fourth.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)
 Relationships realities and dynamics are triggering the need for practical response. What is required of you is some measure of investment. Whether it is time, money, effort or otherwise, you are wise to accept the fact that you have to pay your dues somehow. Think 'invest' and give what must be given.


Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)
 The need for critical thinking regarding future plans and actions continues. A question you may ask is: who benefits? Are you being selfish or are you over-empathizing? Is there another way to approach the situation that produces a win/win for everyone? Honesty is the best policy and begins with self-honesty.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)
 A creative cycle is culminating to coincide with originality and inventiveness. The time is right to be engaged in creative projects. Yet, the best ones are those that you started in the past but have never brought to completion. This is a call to follow through on unfinished business that requires creative attention.

Send us your **PET PHOTOS!**

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 minimum of 200 dpi.



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DIVERSITY DIALOGUES

Islander connects to diverse family history

Max Akerman shares experiences, insights

BY MARCIA JANSEN
THE CIRCLE EDUCATION



This is the last interview in the Connecting the Dots series to celebrate World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. In the weeks that bookend this important day, The Circle Education talks with young people to celebrate different backgrounds. Through our youth, we hope to offer a look at the world from different perspectives. In this way, we begin to open up horizons, providing our societies with connection and making them more inclusive.

Max Akerman is part of a family that has been on Salt Spring Island for generations. His forefathers left England and Ireland in the mid-1800s to seek a better life in North America. Max's great-granddad Bob Akerman

wrote a book about the family history in 2005, the same year Max was born.

"I was the last Akerman who was added to the family tree in the book. I just made the deadline," says Max, who has two younger sisters.

Everyone who lives on Salt Spring Island has probably heard of the name Akerman. Max, 16, is the oldest child of Ken and Brenda Akerman, who live in the Burgoyne Valley.

"When I introduce myself, people often

ask me who I am related to or if I know a certain Akerman. I might have heard of the name, but my family is so big, that I don't know everyone personally. I am very close, though, with my uncle George and my aunt Dawn, their children, and my grandparents Ted and Donna, who live just across the street from us."

Max admits that he didn't read all of The Akerman Family. Growing Up With Salt Spring Island, which his great-granddad Bob wrote.

"I read parts of it, I am not a big reader, but my granddad has told me a lot of stories about our family history. I know my family has been on Salt Spring Island since the 1800s. My great-great-grandfather Ted was one of the first white babies born on Salt Spring."

The Akerman family, who settled in the Burgoyne Valley, has a farming background.

"Mostly livestock," says Max. "My granddad had cows in the past and even now he is older, he still has sheep, does



PHOTO COURTESY THE CIRCLE

Max Akerman, who was born and raised on Salt Spring and is part of one of the island's most well known families with pioneering and Indigenous roots.

haying and sells firewood. He really enjoys being out on the field, it always has been his life. I like to help him in the summer, but I don't see myself being a farmer."

The Akermans are traditionally introduced to hunting and fishing at a young age. According to his book, Bob Akerman learned to shoot pigeons from his dad when he was five. His son Ted Akerman has been passing his hunting and fishing skills on to the younger generation as well. "Last week my granddad took me and my cousin out for fishing on Stowel Lake. I caught a very small rainbow trout, so I released it. My granddad caught three of them that were big enough to eat and he gave both me and my cousin one to take home. Fresh fish tastes so much better than store-bought fish."

Since he was 10 years old, Max was allowed to come hunting once a year with his granddad and dad.

"We hunt on my granddad's property, mostly for deer. There are a lot of them on Salt Spring Island. I shot my first one when I was 10. When I hunt, I use a crossbow — I've never shot a gun — and I am naturally good at it. I have a steady hand. I enjoy the process, being out there in nature, and I like deer meat. We try to use as much as possible, so nothing is wasted. We make sausages and pepperoni, and I love a venison steak. It has a unique taste."

Although he is more familiar with the settler's background of his family, he is also interested in the Indigenous part. His great-great-grandfather Ted married Ellen Gyves, whose mother was the daughter of a Cowichan First Nation chief.

"I do feel that I am part of the Indigenous culture. I don't know everything about Indigenous traditions, but I am constantly learning new things as I grow older. At GISS there is extra support for Indigenous students and we went on field trips to Burgoyne Bay and Cowichan Bay to meet with elders who talk with us about the history and practices of native people. It is very interesting to learn more about that."

Max just finished Grade 11 and starts his final school year at GISS after the summer. He doesn't know exactly what he wants to do after he graduates.

"I don't like school that much and I don't see myself going to college or university. I would rather start my own business, but I am not sure in what direction that will take me."

After more than a hundred years since Joseph Akerman set foot on Salt Spring Island in the 1800s, the Akerman name is still very common.

"I don't plan on staying on Salt Spring. I like a change of pace, I would love to live in the city, or maybe go outside of Canada to learn about other cultures. I know other family members have left, like my father who went to Vancouver for a few years, but a lot of them came back. So, if you look at the past, there is a good chance that I will end up on Salt Spring again."



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