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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

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CHANNEL RIDGE

Cell tower standoff continues



PHOTO BY DIANA PATTISON

On March 24, residents of the Canvasback Place neighbourhood stand with signs in front of an excavator on its way to begin work installing a wireless communications tower to be used by Rogers Communications Ltd. and Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications Inc.

Islands Trust, residents maintain efforts to stop project

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Sign-wielding Canvasback Place residents tried to stare down an excavator as it made its way up a communications tower access road last Friday morning, but eventually let the machine pass rather than be arrested by Salt Spring RCMP.

Residents at the site were upset that work had commenced by a contractor to Rogers Communications Ltd., despite the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) restating its opposition to the project. A Feb. 14 letter was sent to Rogers from LTC chair Tim Peterson, reiterating the LTC's reasons for rescinding a previous approval decision and advising the corporation "to indefinitely suspend any development at the proposed site." The letter was copied to federal regulator Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada.

Julian Clark, a spokesperson for the Concerned Residents of Canvasback (CRoC) group, said Friday that despite the trustees being "100 per cent with us . . . the legal group within the Islands Trust don't report to our trustees, and [they don't] seem willing to take any action. So the residents are left

here by themselves to deal with a \$23-billion corporation."

Clark said Monday that trenches were dug and the area roped off on Friday. A "no trespassing" sign was also moved away from a public trail head and closer to the construction site.

Peterson told the Driftwood that a letter with similar contents to the Rogers missive was sent to ISED on Friday. And as previously reported, he said the LTC passed a motion at its last meeting asking for Trust staff to clarify what options the Trust has, if any, to stop the current project.

"It's my understanding that the Islands Trust doesn't have the power to issue a stop-work order," he noted.

Peterson said he had reached out to the western-region ISED office and hoped to have further conversations with staff there this week. Last May ISED personnel advised the LTC they did not agree with the LTC's reasons for rescinding their previous decision. Those reasons hinge on proponents not following a draft Islands Trust model protocol for the application while claiming the protocol had been fulfilled, as well as providing "inaccurate information" and omitting other

information from its application to the LTC.

But Rogers is not the only agency behind the communications tower.

Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications (CREST) Inc. operates a communication system for emergency responders throughout the Capital Regional District. CREST general manager Gordon Horth said Monday that improving communications for fire, ambulance and police services on the north-west side of the island has been a CREST priority for several years.

"The first responder community has said overwhelmingly they need this facility," said Horth.

He said CREST first approached TELUS to use that company's existing Channel Ridge tower that has been in place next to the proposed Rogers/CREST one for about 20 years, but was informed there was no room to add anything to that facility. Landowner Onni Group was also asked about alternate sites, said Horth, but Onni was not interested in seeing a tower installed in another area. CRoC members have publicly suggested exploring that option.

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BC FERRIES

Two more Fulford runs on summer schedule

Service from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. promised

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

People travelling between Fulford and Swartz Bay will have more sailing options this summer.

BC Ferries has added two additional daily sailings to the route from June 28 to Sept. 4.

The first sailing of the Skeena Queen will leave Fulford Harbour at 6 a.m., rather than the current 6:15, and the last sailing from Swartz Bay

will be at 10 p.m. Other Fulford departures will be 7:40 (except on Sundays), 9:25 and 11:10 a.m., 12:50, 2:35, 4:20, 6, 7:40 and 9:15 p.m. Swartz Bay departures will be 6:50 (except on Sundays), 8:35 and 10:20 a.m., plus 12 noon, 1:45, 3:30, 5:10, 6:55, 8:30 and 10 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee chair Harold Swierenga said summer service will also be enhanced with hourly sailings between Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen, and more sailings on the Long Harbour to Tsawwassen route.

FIRE DISTRICT

Fire hall contracts awarded

Architect and construction manager bid winners announced

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Important steps to build Salt Spring's new fire hall have been taken, with architecture and construction management contracts awarded by the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (SSIFPD).

Johnson Davidson Architecture and MKM Projects Ltd. were the successful contract bidders, submitting the most competitive proposals and having extensive experience in their fields.

Based in B.C., Johnson Davidson Architecture is known throughout western Canada for designing fire halls — with more than 50 in their portfolio — along with other community-focused and health care facility projects.

"Johnson Davidson was chosen by the project steering committee, on behalf of the board of trustees, after an extensive review of nine bids received," explains a SSIFPD press release.

MKM Projects Ltd. of Qualicum Beach, who had the most competitive of four bids received, will handle the subsequent tendering



IMAGE COURTESY SSIFPD

Preliminary rendering of the new Ganges Fire Hall to be built on Lower Ganges Road on the south side of the Brinkworthy Estates property, which was donated by the Brinkworthy owner for hall purposes several years ago.

of local contracts for trades as the construction process gets underway later in 2023. MKM has recent experience with the construction of the Cumberland Fire Hall, which was completed under budget and on time in pandemic conditions.

Other pre-construction work is proceeding smoothly, says the district, with floor plans updated and revised, and procurement and financing arrangements extensively explored.

Rodney Dieleman, chief administrative officer of SSIFPD, noted that although the project is in its early stages, it is presently on time and on budget.

"Some of the identified challenges facing the project that we are watching closely are possible supply chain shortages, inflation on materials and goods, and increasing financing costs due to interest rates. The project steering committee is working closely with the contracted consultants and the board of trustees to ensure the project remains on track and on schedule."

The chosen consultants will be preparing a construction schedule in the coming weeks with construction costing and tendering to be complete in late summer of 2023.

Trustee elections & AGM

In other fire district news, the nomination period for candidates to fill three seats on the SSIFPD board began on March 23 and continues through Thursday, April 6. Information about the process and the required documents are available at the Ganges Fire Hall or by contacting returning officer Anthony Kennedy: anthonykennedy10@shaw.ca or 250-537-8815. The election will be held on Saturday, April 22 at the Ganges Fire Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an advance poll on Wednesday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information about voter qualifications is available at the Ganges Fire Hall or in advertisements published in the Driftwood newspaper.

At the March 20 fire trustees meeting, board chair Rollie Cook said he intended to run for a seat again, as did multi-term trustee Mary Lynn Hetherington.

The district's annual general meeting has also been set. It will be at Lions Hall on Monday, April 24 at 7 p.m.



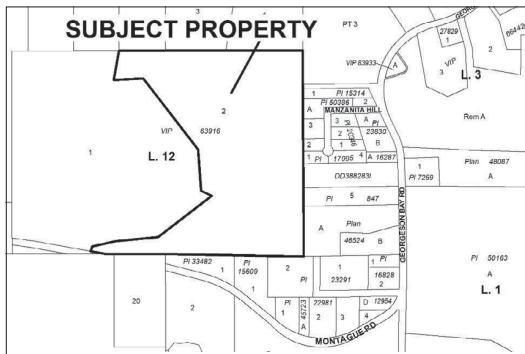
NOTICE GL-TUP-2023.2 GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 494 of the *Local Government Act* that the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit. The proposed permit would apply to LOT 2 DISTRICT LOT 12 GALIANO ISLAND COWICHAN DISTRICT PLAN VIP63916 (PID: 023-531-983). This property is located at **1008 Montague Road**.

The purpose of this temporary use permit would be to permit storage and movement of soil and aggregate on a 0.407 ha (1.00 ac) section of the property.

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the attached proposed permit. The permit would be issued for three (3) years and the owner may apply to the LTC to have it renewed once for an additional three (3) years.

The general location of the subject property is shown on the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing **March 26, 2023** and continuing up to and including **April 6, 2023**.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 499 (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the Proposed Permit may be inspected at various Notice Boards on Galiano Island.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Charly Caproff, Planner 1 at (250) 405-5172, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca before 4:30 p.m., **April 6, 2023**.

The Galiano Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the regular business meeting starting at **1:00 p.m., April 11, 2023**.

All applications are available for review by the public with prior appointment. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Jas Chonk, Deputy Secretary



FREE Stormwater Management Workshop for Farms & Rural Properties

Owners and operators of farm and rural property in the capital region are invited to attend a free stormwater management workshop. Learn how to incorporate green infrastructure and best practices to help reduce pollution in our waterways.

Workshop Date & Location:
April 4, 2023 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Salt Spring Island Farmer's Institute



Registration is required and space is limited. Lunch will be provided. For more information and registration, visit crd.bc.ca/events.



LET'S PICK IT UP, Salt Spring!

SEE AD ON PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS

It's time for the Driftwood's annual island-wide clean-up campaign!

Join your friends and neighbours in clearing litter and other debris from island roadsides and beaches.



CREST outlines why proposed site works

CELL TOWER

continued from 1

After what Horth described as “probably the most rigorous” period of public consultation CREST has ever participated in, and acquiring concurrence with the plan from the LTC in July of 2021, CREST invested \$250,000 of public funds in infrastructure, which is now sitting in a warehouse.

“We could have made that investment in another community,” he said.

He said Canvasback is considered a good site because it’s adjacent to existing water and telecommunications utilities, has power, road access and tall trees that screen most of the structure, and works well from a technical point of view.

A CREST site overview document touches on the radiofrequency (RF) and health question, which is a concern of area residents. The closest property is only 42 metres from the tower, when 500 metres is the recommended minimum distance in the new Islands Trust antenna siting model protocol.

“A number of community members have inquired about whether Rogers has considered the cumulative RF impact of the TELUS and Rogers towers on the surrounding neighbourhood. For this installation, Rogers have calculated that the cumulative

RF output (inclusive of the existing TELUS equipment onsite) will only be a maximum of 2.3 per cent of the allowable [Health Canada Safety Code 6] limit when measured to the nearest home.”

When asked to provide a comment about the project and construction timeline, Rogers responded by saying, “Our shared focus continues to be on expanding coverage and providing a more consistent wireless experience for first responders, residents and visitors on Salt Spring. Working with CREST, who will locate their emergency communications equipment on the tower, we looked at a number of locations and found the Channel Ridge site provides the elevation needed for better coverage and enhanced public safety.”

Horth said he expected the work would take between four and eight weeks to complete if it proceeds.

Clark said Canvasback residents will continue to picket the area and put pressure on the Islands Trust and other bodies to prevent the project from being completed, and will press for another location to be found in the area. The residents have stated in the past they are not against cell towers or improving cell service or communication for emergency responders.

“It is just unjust, and I don’t like to see things that are unjust,” he said.

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



NOTICE OF NOMINATION THREE (3) TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for three trustees will be received between:

**9:00 a.m. Thursday, March 23, 2023
and 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 6, 2023**

During which period the nomination documents shall only be received during the office hours of Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, or arrangements may be made to file nomination documents by phoning Anthony A. Kennedy at (250) 537-8815 or 647-284-2900

The Trustee positions are for a three-year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday April 24, 2023, and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2026

The Election to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Advance Voting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Only persons who are qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District may nominate Trustees and hold the office of Trustee. Qualified candidates must be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Ganges Fire Hall or from Anthony A. Kennedy, Returning Officer (250) 537-8815 or 647-284-2900. (anthonykennedy10@shaw.ca)

Those persons eligible to nominate Trustees and vote at this election will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen
2. Be eighteen years of age or older
3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to the election day
4. Be an owner of land located within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
5. 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.

If more than one person is registered on title as an owner of land, then each owner may vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No person may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Salt Spring Island, B.C. this 24th day of March 2023.
Anthony A. Kennedy, Returning Officer



**NORTH
SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT**

NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2023, virtually through Microsoft Teams, and in person at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC. The link to the meeting can be found in the top right-hand corner of our website.

NOMINEES FOR 2 TRUSTEE POSITIONS ARE: (Both positions are for a 3-year term)

Elizabeth FitzZaland
Gary Gagné
Steve Lam
Leigh Large

AGM Voter Eligibility and Process

The Trustee election will use an advance mail-in ballot process and an in-person voting process. Voting packages and instructions will be mailed to all eligible voters on March 22, 2023, and ballots must be received at the district office by April 25, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. In person voting on the day of the AGM will begin at 2:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. The results of the election will be announced at the AGM as soon as they are available.

Per the *Election Act* and the District’s Letters Patent, an eligible elector for the purpose of a Trustee election is a North Salt Spring Waterworks District ratepayer who meets the following criteria:

- Is a Canadian Citizen 18 years of age or older, who has been a resident of British Columbia for at least the prior 6 months;
- Can only vote once in this election unless the owner is also an authorized agent.
- Is a registered owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District area, or the authorized agent of any board or corporation that is an owner of such land, or the legal representative of any owner of such land who has died, become insolvent or insane (written proof must be provided by the representative);
- Has been a registered owner of a property within the North Salt Spring Waterworks District area for at least 30 days prior to election packages being mailed out;
- Has an account in good standing;
- Is entitled to be registered as a voter under the *Election Act* and is not disqualified from voting by the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment; and
- Spouses or partners who are not registered on title per BC Assessment are not entitled to vote.

www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

761 Upper Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1 (250) 537-9902

OPINION

2022 CCNA Awards
 Gold - Best Special Section | Gold - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)
 Silver - Best Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Bronze - Best Editorial Page

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



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EDITORIAL

Election ABCs

The democratic process is on overload on Salt Spring these days, with three local elections taking place in April and May.

Two of five seats on the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) board need to be filled via either mail-in ballot or an in-person election on April 27 set for Community Gospel Chapel. Only property-owning ratepayers on title (or an agent of a land-owning corporation) in the improvement district can vote.

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District is also an improvement district and its ratepayers will be asked to vote for candidates running for three vacant seats on the seven-person board on Saturday, April 22 or in an advance poll on Wednesday, April 19.

Then on May 27 (with advance polls on May 17 and 24, plus a mail ballot option), any qualified voter, whether landowning or not, is eligible to vote for four people to serve as commissioners on the brand new Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC). That body will consolidate services of previous island-wide Capital

Regional District (CRD) commissions and some other CRD responsibilities. Anyone who is on the provincial voters list will be on the CRD list for this election. If in doubt, people can check at the CRD office at 108-121 McPhillips Avenue. Newcomers, including new non-resident property electors, can register in advance by April 4 at the CRD office. They can also register on election day, though it slows down the voting process.

While the NSSWD candidates have been determined, the nomination process for the fire district is now underway, with an April 6 deadline to submit nomination papers.

The LCC candidate nomination period runs from April 11 to 21. To help potential candidates understand what would be involved in being a commissioner, the CRD is holding an online information session on March 30 at 1 p.m. Interested people can get the link through elections@crd.bc.ca.

It's always a healthy sign when elected positions are not filled by acclamation, but it's also good if potential candidates know what they are getting into before running, so kudos to the CRD for holding this session.

While the fine print can be tedious to wade through, it's important for voters to get up to speed about voting qualifications, dates and methods in advance of actually making decisions about who to vote for.



PARKER

Survival of the fittest fails

BY MIKE STACEY

As I approached the bottom of Ganges hill the other night I strained my poor eyeballs trying to see the crosswalk through the rain and headlights pointed at me.

I knew that no one in their right mind would be wandering across the road through busy traffic in those conditions, but as a rule that does not apply around here. Sure enough, I detected the faint glow of a cell phone in the middle of the road, being the focus of attention of someone dressed all in black making his way through no man's land, oblivious to his immediate surroundings. With my usual cat-like reflexes (okay, older cat, not overly frisky) I slammed on the brakes.

Now, don't get me wrong, here, I did not give a rodent's derriere if this clown survived long enough to reach the opposite curb, but I did not relish the thought of standing in the cold rain for hours speaking with the police while our first responders extricated his corpse from my radiator. Sliding to a stop, I asked myself, "At what point did an ever-expanding part of the population become no longer responsible for their own survival, passing that duty on to everyone else?"

I recalled the previous summer sitting at TJ's and watching a woman march out in front of a car, then waving her arms when the car could not stop for her. A few days later, there she was again, same corner, and straight out into traffic, waving her arms again. Slow learner? I considered getting into my truck and finishing her off for the good of mankind, but there would probably have been repercussions, and my coffee wasn't done yet.

There was a time when we all lived in trees and caves and had to contend with lions, tigers and, you guessed it, bears (OH MY!).

VIEWPOINT

In those days no one was going to appear suddenly to assure the attackee that none of this was his fault, he was a victim and

he would be looked after, forever. Nature had a way of sorting things out, so to speak. Mr. Darwin explained it all years ago, but in recent times some well-meaning buffoon started throwing life preservers into the gene pool and natural selection thus lost its ability to cull the herd.

People walk behind trucks backing up, secure in the knowledge that the driver knows they are there, sees them clearly and will do everything possible to keep them safe. I have been driving trucks long enough to know that all the above ain't so. When this sort of thing happens again and again, the driver will begin to entertain thoughts of plowing the pedestrian into the pavement. Call it a learning experience.

Another example of a person assuming I care was a guy on a bike riding on the sidewalk who decided to make a hard right turn onto the crosswalk directly in front of my truck. I opened the window and informed him politely that his cerebrum consisted of fecal matter.

Vehicle drivers are not exempt from my disdain, as stupidity is all-inclusive. I have lost count of the number of times I've witnessed a car passing a bicycle, then immediately making a right turn in front of it.

A form of entertainment I enjoy when driving on a busy highway is watching a car in front of me and figuring out when the driver is texting. The vehicle will proceed in a more or less normal fashion, then begin to wander into the other lane and/or off the road. I am easily amused.

The way I see it, human intelligence must have an upper limit. Stupidity knows no such bounds.

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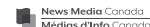
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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Will 2 additional summer sailings to and from Fulford be good for the island? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should a running track be included in a Portlock Park reconfiguration?

NO	27	128	YES
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Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday noon or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at noon.

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Vibrant: We shan't have that!

Reading Brenda McLean's letter (March 15) about the community affection for "bor-ing" building colours brought memories of the road to "greyness." Might we be over-regulated to observe the well-embedded, 52-shades-of-drab apparently so desired in our community planning?

In the early '90s, an outside paint colour change from brown to green at the Tides Inn property in Ganges was greeted with apocalyptic howls and opposition. The ensuing narratives that referred to the "colour police" were often heard around the island and continue to bring on smiles today.

In 1994, a stucco property on Hereford Avenue was painted in bright goldenrod with a roof adorned with two sculpted coyotes, a moon and a pair of cacti, and in 1996, the Flying Saucer Café took over the Old Manse on Hereford with a fresh coat of purple paint and some "positively non-conforming" artistic sign-work. We were doomed, said a few, but the notoriety brought community and plenty of fun times to the village.

The Islands Trust's design committee was

critical of both and labelled the café as "totally atrocious, in extremely poor taste and is vulgar." In the same July 1996 Driftwood report, the committee commented negatively on a downtown, "non-conforming" blue roof that dared to add just a touch of colour.

So much for ever being permitted to adopt the imagination of rich vibrant colour so prevalent on our historic East Coast communities such as St. John's, Lunenburg and Digby, let alone Friday Harbour and Eastsound to our immediate south.

JEREMY MILSOM,
SALT SPRING

Peace talks should be encouraged

I would like to thank Colin Ross for his question in the March 22 Driftwood ("Confusion on Green party position remains" letter).

In March, I apologized for some of the comments I made during an interview with Catherine Cullen on CBC's The House and retracted any suggestion that Ukraine might act, now or in the future, in ways that go beyond its stated, legitimate objective of reclaiming its

territory and ending the Russian aggression. As one of the few Canadian politicians who has been to Ukraine since the beginning of the 2022 invasion — I was indeed there documenting Russian war crimes for the first 10 days of the war — I am under no illusion as to the criminal nature of Putin's intentions with regards to Ukraine. It is crystal clear to me and our party that the support Canada has provided so far to Ukraine is legitimate and necessary.

Now, we have heard various experts, including the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, expressing the view that this conflict will not, ultimately, be settled on the battlefield. It is with this in mind that the Green party is asking what efforts are also being made to prepare for when comes the time for negotiation. Peace negotiations should always be considered positively — when the circumstances are ripe. Talks are better than guns. But negotiations should not be initiated just at any time nor at any cost. They should not be allowed to be manipulated for military or propaganda objectives by the Russian regime.

And they should not pave the way to creating yet another frozen conflict. Peace talks should be encouraged, when the real pros-

pect of a just settlement for Ukraine manifests itself. And we must get ready for when that time comes. We will look to our Ukrainian friends to tell us when that time has come.

Thanks again for the question!

JONATHAN PEDNEAULT,
DEPUTY LEADER,
GREEN PARTY OF CANADA

Night light

Thank you to all the local hunters who have kindly volunteered to participate in the "Night Light" project, due to begin April 2, Palm Sunday.

Volunteers have been issued tranquilizer guns with which to temporarily incapacitate deer, raccoons and wild rabbits in order to fit them with reflective collars, increasing visibility on the roads at night, thus aiding in the protection of our endangered and rapidly diminishing wildlife population.

Thanks to all those actively participating.

MIKE STACEY,
MALIVIEW DRIVE

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"It is just unjust and I don't like to see things that are unjust."

JULIAN CLARK, SPOKESPERSON, CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF CANVASBACK

Plethora of after-death choices makes decision extra challenging

Now that spring has sprung, I find myself surveying all the excess junk that has been accumulating around the casa over the winter, such as books, books and more books. As I ponder on how to deal with this interesting but excessive material, I find my mind doing a side-step over to the one bit of stuff that was thrust into this world along with my own personal zeitgeist: my body.

It is said that the only two constants in life are death and taxes. Of the two, taxes seem to be a pretty sure thing, but death is inevitable. Or, as '60s rock icon of the Doors, Jim Morrison, put it: "No one here gets out alive."

Now that I find myself getting to an age where that last long ride is just over the next hill, I am beginning to ruminate over what will become of my remains when my spirit departs for parts unknown. This is not just an intellectual exercise, as probably sooner than later, someone else will have to make this decision if I don't make it myself beforehand.

There are a number of viable options available, but each one has its drawbacks. The first that springs to mind is that good old tried and true burial in a cemetery. This is the ultimate downsizer: going from a lot of several acres to a two-metre plot. It does not come cheap, as it can cost me an arm and a leg (and probably the rest of my body) to

secure a grave site. Add to that the price of a coffin or casket, the engraved headstone, and an annual upkeep fee for the burial plot, and I'm probably wishing that I could have hung on to life a bit longer, or at least until my investments show some sign of improvement.

There are additional downsides to burial. Most coffins are made of wood and that means a certain amount of deforestation. And as the cemeteries sprawl out to accommodate new tenants, they begin to eat away at the valuable surrounding farmland. As if our Agricultural Land Reserve wasn't being threatened enough already!

Perhaps you've heard about the housing crisis just about everywhere. Don't choke on this, but the crisis has spread all the way to cemeteries and grave sites. With all the urbanization going on, there is just no room to expand horizontally. Case in point: a burial plot in Burnaby which sold for \$750 in 1998 is now going for a whopping price of \$10,000. Forget about bitcoin; the real money lies underground. It can't be long before we start seeing signs for the PostLife Realty Company at the entrances to cemeteries. Tiny home, anyone?

One of the more popular choices that has gathered steam in the western world is cremation. Basically, my body would be passed down a conveyor belt into an incin-



Shilo Zylbergold
NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

erator burning at a temperature that's about twice as hot as the surface of the sun. By the time I'm done, I will be reduced to a couple of good-sized handfuls of ash. This residue of my former self could be kept in an attractive ceramic urn, which will gather dust indefinitely on some relative's mantel-piece. Alternately, the ashes can be spread out over a favourite spot of land or scattered in waters along the shoreline.

Although this method solves the problem of land use, it does present a number of snags. Among these are the high energy needed to fuel the incinerators, possible air pollution leading to climate change and global warming, and probably even acid rain causing degradation of wetlands and marine environments. I'm sure you could probably throw in the destruction of the atmospheric ozone layer but don't ask me how that would work unless the ashes were sprayed out from aerosol cans.

And as to a popular disposal site,

the scattering of cremated ashes near the shoreline, this presents its own problems. Never mind the pollution it would cause to a very delicate environment, it would most likely lead to the absorption of the ash by many different forms of marine organisms. Seriously, when I'm gone, I'm certain that I don't want to come back by being burped up after somebody chows down on some tasty mollusk or crustacean.

There has recently been a move afoot to "go green" when it comes to after-life body disposal. There is an outfit right here on Salt Spring that will allow its patrons to compost naturally (and legally) right into the soil of an ecologically designated forested parcel of land. And for those who choose to go the cremation route, the opportunity exists to have their ashes turned into concrete reef balls to be used to shore up or augment coral reefs and hence benefit the marine environment.

Another possibility for dealing with my remains is to freeze my body before I actually check out of this earthly realm. This is called cryogenic preservation and legend has it that Walt Disney's body is being kept frozen in an airtight cylinder until some future technology can thaw him out and bring him back to life. As for me, I'm not too sure I want to put my faith in freezer technology. Have you ever had

your freezer become unplugged accidentally and only discovered the malfunction weeks later? Especially if the freezer was chock full of frozen fish? No thanks.

Then again, I could donate my body to medical science, but the thought of some medical student pulling the sheet off my chilled remains and having to look at the sorry state my body is in (it's a sad enough sight even while I'm still alive) is just too depressing.

Then again, I could go back to tried and true methods like Egyptian mummification. I just need to invest in a mid-size pyramid and ask for any volunteers among my many servants and cats who would like to be entombed with me. Of course, the whole procedure would probably be ruined by future archaeologists out to uncover the past, or by grave robbers hoping to find buried treasure (such as books, books and more books in my case).

Nobody asked me, but it's almost as if there are too many choices open to me for when I'm finished with my body. The sardonic part of me wants me to be cut up into pieces so that I can try all the different options that are available. However, at this moment, I'm leaning towards the cryogenic freezing technology to provide my final resting place, just so I can finally tell Walt Disney what I truly think of the movie Frozen.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LEGISLATIVE CLERK

Job Description

The Legislative Clerk position provides leadership and guidance regarding the Salt Spring Island local trust committee' (SSILTC) legislative and legal processes. The Legislative Clerk undertakes the responsibilities of a corporate administration officer for SSILTC in accordance with the Local Government Act, Islands Trust Act, and Community Charter.

Job Qualifications

Grade 12 or equivalent education, and successful completion of a recognized business college; postsecondary school certificate; or 7+ years relevant experience in an office setting. A minimum five years of related experience is required. Experience using various computer applications (i.e. word processing, spreadsheet, eScribe, database and tracking systems); Proficiency in word processing is essential (Microsoft Office preferred).

For more information, refer to the full job description on the careers page on www.islandstrust.bc.ca. Apply before March 31, 2023.

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waters in the Salish Sea.

LOCAL NEWS MATTERS

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Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting

A Ferry Advisory Committee meeting will be held for your region on Friday, March 31. Public are welcome to attend and observe the meeting.

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Avenue

To attend the meeting, or if you have questions, please contact:

- **Co-chair:** Mary Greenwood, galianofacrep1@gmail.com
- **BC Ferries:** facinfo@bcferries.com

To learn more about engagement opportunities, please visit your community page at
bcferriesprojects.ca/pender-island
bcferriesprojects.ca/saturna-island
bcferriesprojects.ca/mayne-island
bcferriesprojects.ca/galiano-island

bcferries.com



Trust reports need review

A longer version of this letter was sent to Municipal Affairs Minister Anne Kang and sent to the Driftwood for publication.

INDEPTH

BY JOHN MONEY

I was a Saturna Island trustee for 21 years and spent six years as a vice chair on the Islands Trust (IT) Executive Committee. I have become alarmed at the direction the IT has taken as it has created dissension in the Gulf Islands that they govern. The IT is viewed by many as overbearing and underhanded as well as not knowledgeable about rural life.

The IT has no measurable goals or defined endpoints for many of their projects and many projects are seriously over-reaching into areas that are already covered by more senior levels of government.

The IT is based in Victoria and seeks to impose an urban ethic on the islands and in doing so is making life untenable for the people who make up these rural areas, which are made up of many factors, including old and young, rich and poor, volunteerism, independence and lending a hand to your neighbour.

The IT has completely lost sight of what is required to maintain a healthy community. Our island communities cannot survive without young people who make up the backbone of volunteerism, but because of the draconian measures of the IT, many young people find it difficult to find accommodations that they can afford and meaningful employment that enables them to purchase a home and raise a family.

The IT suppresses affordable housing by sending community groups seeking to build them through endless hoops lasting many years. There are many not-for-profit organizations throughout the Gulf Islands that have in the past built affordable housing for the communities that they know and love, but many of these organizations have given up under the weight of regulation after regulation placed as stumbling blocks before them by the IT.

In the beginning, each island was tasked to create an official community plan (OCP) and land use bylaws that accurately reflected their island community and built these plans with the provision of land use that also represented the people of British Columbia. Every plan was scrutinized by the provincial government and then passed. The IT was created to provide planning services to these communities and their OCPs and land use bylaws. The staff and executive seem to have forgotten about these community plans and the communities that created them; instead they built a draft policy statement that if passed would have castrated the individual community plans and wishes of the communities that created them.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

Descent into drought

With what determination islands trustee Jamie Harris moves ahead with his agenda to populate Salt Spring without limit for more housing, for people who will come, ever-seeking its government-funded affordability. At the same time he appears determined to reduce Islands Trust governance, with no apparent desire to consider the long-term limits of growth.

Facts:

- Climate change is leading to drier summer weather and fire in B.C.
- Life is not possible without water.
- Without enforced government regulation of measures designed to protect supply and limits of growth, we will see the eventual collapse of functioning systems.

I welcome Mr. Harris' thoughts on the above.

RON HAWKINS,
SALT SPRING

I don't think the IT feel that the communities of the Gulf Islands are an amenity that should be cherished and protected. The IT places all their misguided energy into passing regulations that

inhibit the communities and their rural nature. People in the Gulf Islands love their land and they have taken care of these islands for many decades. As an example, the people do not need laws passed about tree-cutting permits which do not allow landowners to maintain and look after their forests. The Islands Trust does not have any expertise in forest management and has not consulted with professional foresters. This is an urban rule for urban people and shows the misreading of the Gulf Island communities.

The IT seems to do things secretly behind closed doors. Recently there was a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Executive Committee. But there has not been appropriate communication to the people of the Gulf Islands as to what was discussed.

**Many of the trustees
have no true
understanding of their
mandate. This should
be spelled out clearly.**

Shutting out the public goes against any notion of transparency and accountability to the taxpayer that is paying their salaries.

The Executive Committee has moved into a position of power and seeks to control the trustees that have been duly voted in to represent the people. Many of the trustees have no true understanding of their mandate. This should

be spelled out clearly. Upon being voted in the trustees are overwhelmed by having to make decisions on complex matters without the time for honest debate. It is nothing for the IT to have agendas of several hundred pages that the trustees wade through with only a week to do so. At the council meetings they are pushed to make decisions quickly. In desperation, they turn to the staff to explain and the staff then steers them to what the staff believes to be the appropriate ye or nay. But is it appropriate for the trustees, who are supposed to be representing their communities, to feel overwhelmed and pushed into decisions that have not been debated and which they do not fully understand because of time constraints?

The IT is empire-building and trying to take on more than their mandate requires simply to acquire more power, but this is not beneficial to the long-term island communities they represent.

The IT has turned into a 100 per cent environmental agency that spends the taxpayers' money fecklessly. The budget has grown with each additional project that it takes on, and none of these projects which run on for years have defined endpoints and measurable goals, and worse, they have nothing to do with land-use planning, which is the IT mandate.

Three governance reviews have given the IT a failing grade, but nothing has changed and staff appear to work to suppress any changes. The IT seems to operate in a vacuum with no accountability to either the taxpayer or the province and needs a thorough investigation of their methodology and a review of the governance reports by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. A stop should be made on any new hires and new projects until the investigation is complete.

FOR THE RECORD

Editing of Bob Weeden's letter in last week's paper resulted in his clever point being lost. He was referring to the Driftwood editorial of the previous week, which misnamed the Re-Imagined: Making Waste Into Art as Re-Imagined: Making Art Into Waste. We didn't realize that error had been made, so automatically corrected the exhibit title in his letter. Sorry, Bob!

Focus ON EDUCATION

LIFELONG LEARNING

New Salt Spring Literacy space proves ideal

Free services continue from SIMS, including resumé and cover letter writing workshop on April 6

SUBMITTED BY SS LITERACY

Salt Spring Literacy has moved to a beautiful new space!

We're now at SIMS (the former middle school, now the "Salt Spring Island Multi Space") in Room 4. Our new, expanded space provides room for our office, our public computer lab, private tutoring areas, as well as meeting and storage space.

Our free services are continuing here: free tutoring for adults in reading, writing, math, English as an Additional Language, on the computer, tablet or smartphone.

We also can assist with course work of any type, help with forms and proctor exams. We have active children's programs, sending tutors into local schools to support children's reading with our One-To-One Reading program. We provide free books to preschool families through our 1,000 X 5 program.

With the expanded space we are planning to add more programming. We are kicking things off by offering a free Resumé and Cover Letter Writing Workshop on April 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Please contact us to register.

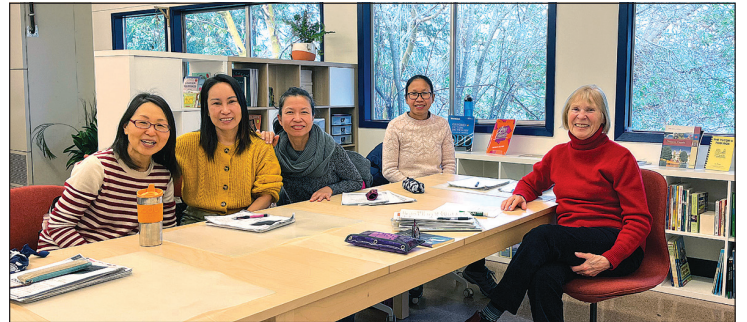
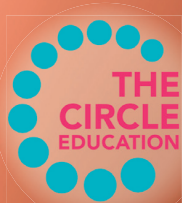


PHOTO COURTESY SS LITERACY

Salt Spring Literacy tutor Lynn Clark, right, with learners in the new space at SIMS.

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124 Rainbow Road
Open Monday - Thursday 12pm - 4pm

LET'S PICK IT UP, Salt Spring!*

It's time for the Driftwood's annual island-wide clean-up campaign!

Join your friends and neighbours in clearing litter and other debris from island roadsides and beaches.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS . . .

- 1** Pick a section of road, beach or neighbourhood that you'd like to rid of trash in April.
- 2** Phone or email us at the Driftwood with your name and the area you've chosen. driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or 250-537-9933.
- 3** Pick up your Laurie's Recycling & Waste Services coupon from the Driftwood office and take your bag(s) to Laurie's, or otherwise dispose of what you've collected.
- 4** Also at our office, pick up your coupon for a free tea, coffee or hot chocolate from TJ Beans.
- 5** Enjoy being recognized in the Driftwood and the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make Salt Spring a cleaner and healthier place to live.

*Recipient of the 2021 BC Media Industry Community Service Award



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EXHIBITION PREVIEW

Parker's sublime lake series travels to Gallery 8

Randolph Parker exhibit opens Friday

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Post-Impressionist painter Paul Cézanne once wrote, "Painting from nature is not copying the object, it's realizing one's sensations."

Cézanne meant for the painter, the value in interpreting that which exists in the world is more than its reproduction, it is the deeper understanding of the nature of seeing, feeling and interacting with the world around us.

The Cézanne quote very aptly appears in the new book called *Islands - Lake of the Woods*, featuring artwork by Randolph Parker. The Mayberry Fine Art publication — an oversize, lavishly printed full-colour hardcover in 230 pages — showcases a wonderful series of paintings from an iconic region. The book also places the nationally recognized, Salt Spring-based landscape painter squarely in the lineage of great Canadian artists who came before him.

Speaking ahead of an exhibition and events taking place by special arrangement at Gallery 8 starting this Friday, Parker said landscape has always compelled and inspired his art.

"I've been connecting to the land ever since I was a kid. And it always fascinated me how complex it was. You can look at it from a distance, and it looks simplified, and then

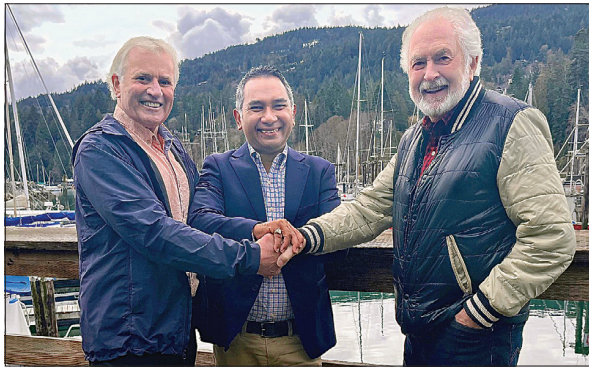


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left, Salt Spring artist Randolph Parker, Gallery 8 owner Razali May and Bill Mayberry of Mayberry Fine Art, who are set to host the *Islands - Lake of the Woods* exhibition and book sales at Gallery 8, beginning Friday, March 31 with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m.

look at it up close — the complexity is staggering," he said.

Islands - Lake of the Woods is both a collection of 220 paintings and the companion coffee-table book. It evolved from a five-year adventure that saw Parker and his long-time friend Bill Mayberry, owner of Winnipeg's Mayberry Fine Art, travel 2,800 kilometres among the thousands of islands in one of Canada's most magnificent lakes.

"It's such a pleasure to be able to exhibit *Islands* in B.C. in collaboration with Gallery 8 and its owner, Razali May," Mayberry said. "We've now come full circle with this magnificent artwork to be shown within walking distance of Randolph's studio where he put years of work into making *Islands* a reality."

Those who have never visited *Lake of the Woods* may nonetheless find its scenery familiar; Group of Seven cofounder Frank H. Johnston painted there in the 1920s while he was living in Winnipeg. But painter and printmaker Walter J. Phillips is perhaps most associated with the area. His most famous painting and woodblock print is *Sunset, Lake of the Woods* (1925). In fact, it's this work that led to Parker and Mayberry's most epic collaboration.

Mayberry represented Phillips for decades, and he has his own cabin on *Lake of the Woods*, but he never knew where precisely the islet portrayed in the famous artwork was located. He spent many years searching and only found it by chance one day during a painting

trip for the artist Robert Genn. Mayberry had been fooled by the way Phillips added the sunset, which suggested the view was to the west of the scene when in reality the orientation is looking south. Reflecting on this story during a later visit to the scene with Parker, the two friends decided modern collectors would appreciate knowing exactly where their paintings' locales could be found. This led to an innovation of the *Islands* series in that every painting includes latitude and longitude references on the back.

Along with the terrific artwork, one great feature is the maps showing the paintings' original locations. The painting index is another, with GPS coordinates included along with the other specifications. The book also details five prospective boat routes around the lake, which would be essential for anyone hoping to replicate Parker and Mayberry's journeys. *Lake of the Woods* has nearly 15,000 islands and a complicated coastline that twists and turns for nearly 105,000 kilometres.

Parker clearly had ample prospects for subject material there, with endless combinations of light reacting with water, rock and trees. Historian and curator Greg Humeniuk observes Parker uniquely expresses those views because he paints his island subjects like portraits.

"Like all great portraitists, Randolph draws essences of his subjects that the casual viewer might not see at a glance," Humeniuk explains in the book. "Randolph learned from Rembrandt how great portraiture works by slyly extending highlights

along near prominences and diminishing details into the distant margins in the same way our binocular vision emphasizes what is front and centre."

Parker indeed has an involved process to get to his large paintings on canvas. He starts with a quick sketch on location in pen and ink and then fills in colour references afterwards from his notes. His intermediate step is to create a study painting on panel, where he works out how he wants to layer colour into the composition and possibly blend different observations and views. These studies have a faster, looser brush style on the smooth wood surface than the final complex works on canvas. His masterful treatment of colour is due to his art school training, topped with more than 30 years experience.

"It's not an exact duplicate of the location, because then you get to think about it, you get to play with it, to think about how to make a work of art that works," Parker said.

The Gallery 8 exhibition will showcase 40 acrylic paintings — 10 large-scale works on canvas and 30 smaller pieces on birchwood panel — from Parker's *Lake of the Woods* series, plus his latest Salt Spring Island landscapes on panel and canvas.

Parker and Mayberry will talk about their nautical and artistic odyssey and sign copies of the *Islands* book at 7 p.m. during the 5 to 8 p.m. reception this Friday, March 31 and again at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 8. The exhibition runs to April 17.

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CONCERT/DANCE PREVIEW

Swing Shift Big Band aims to thrill

Saturday night dance at Fulford Hall

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF



PHOTO COURTESY SWING SHIFT

From left, four Swing Shift members, including director Derrick Milton, David Fello, David Astill and Sarah Currie.

ers, amateur and professional musicians aged 16 to 85," states the group in a press release.

Instruments include two alto saxes, three tenor saxes, baritone sax, three trumpets, four trombones, drums, percussion, bass, piano and guitar.

Derrick Milton is the current

music director, and was also one of the four previous leaders, returning to the helm in 2014. His wife Wendy Milton, director of Bandemonium concert band until recently, plays lead alto.

"Many of the band's members are well known in the local musical community and

beyond," the group says. "Brandon Bronson, the newest band teacher on Salt Spring, provides a solid percussion foundation. John Moore, on tenor sax, is known for his work with the Salt Spring Jazz and Blues Society and his lovely improvised solos. Keyboard player Grace McNab has fostered many musical talents as a music instructor at Capilano University. Trumpeter and jazz wunderkind Simon Millerd will be joining the group for this event. Trombonist and vocalist Jim Raddysch has been playing in all sorts of venues over the years and once had his own musical TV show. Grammy award-winning bassoonist Tracie Whitelaw has joined the band playing electric bass. Everyone in the band has a story to tell."

People are welcome to dance or to just listen and eat, drink and be merry at the all-ages event.

Proceeds from the bar will go

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to DAISSI. Lou Ellis, famous for her food at the Shirley Delicious cafe on Vancouver Island, will once again provide snacks.

Tickets (\$20 adults/\$5 students) are available at Mondo and Company in Ganges.

what's on this week

Wed. Mar. 29

ACTIVITIES
Teen Lounge. Activities for youth aged 13-18 every Wednesday afternoon in the library's Teen Zone. 4 to 5 p.m.

Music Bingo. Wednesdays at Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Thur. Mar. 30

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
ArtSpring Presents: The Slocan Ramblers. Award-winning roots-bluegrass band performs at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

Craig's Karaoke. At Moby's Pub. 7 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Mother Goose. Rhymes, songs and storytelling activities for babies and children to 4 years of age and their parents/caregivers. Library program room. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Green Drinks. Casual conversation on topics such as solar, heat pumps, wood stove upgrades, low water use strategies, active transportation, electric vehicles and more. Mateada Lounge. 5 to 7 p.m.

Fri. Mar. 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Karaoke. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

Frequency Fridays. With DJs Boomtown and Sage. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. til closing.

ACTIVITIES
Neighbourhood Story Time. Community members read stories for kids and parents/caregivers in the library's children's area. 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Fri. Mar. 31

ACTIVITIES
Youth Games. Board games of all kinds every Friday for ages eight to 13 in the library's children's area. 2 to 4 p.m.

Salt Spring Well-Being Fair Kirtan. At Mahon Hall. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Sat. Apr. 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Swing Shift Big Band. Dance or listen to music at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.

Ed Peekeekoot. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

ACTIVITIES
Salt Spring Well-Being Fair. Market vendors, taster sessions, full treatments and guest speakers. Mahon Hall. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (See gulfislandsdriftwood.com calendar for a list of speakers and times.)

Ecstatic Dance. Part of Well-Being Fair events. Mahon Hall. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Healthy Communities Harm Reduction. Part of the Salt Spring Well-Being Fair. All-day info table at Mahon Hall. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., plus yoga session from 11:15 a.m. to noon, speaker session from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.

The Met Opera: Falstaff. Live in HD series event. ArtSpring. 9:30 a.m.

Book Launch: Peter Levitt. Salt Spring author event for Yin Mountain: The Immortal Poetry of Three Daoist Women, co-translated by Rebecca Nie. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Sun. Apr. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Jazz Jam. Singers, players and fans welcome at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

Sun. Apr. 2

ACTIVITIES
Friends of Ruckle Park Heritage AGM. Visit inside the oldest Ruckle farmhouse (white one behind the barn) for a brief AGM, Q&A and tour. 1 to 3 p.m.

Tue. Apr. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Songwriters Circle Acoustic Open Mic. At the Legion. 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
To the Lighthouse Book Club. A new book club meets bimonthly at the library to read and discuss Virginia Woolf's great novel. Info: André Gérard at grenpipiens@gmail.com.

Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Apr. 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Tea à Tempo – Kaleidoscope of Love. A musical tribute to love with JM & Co.: Randall Miron, Jim Shultz, Deb Smith, Grace McNab, Hannah Brown and John Moore. All Saints. 2:10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES
Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.



CINEMA

• **Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves** runs Friday, March 31 to Tuesday, April 4 (and then April 7 to 11) nightly at 7 p.m., plus a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. Rated PG. 140 mins. See thefritz.ca for more movie info or phone 250-538-7718.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Randolph Parker: Islands - Lake of the Woods** exhibit opens at Gallery 8 on Friday, March 31 with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m. and talk by Randolph Parker and Bill Mayberry at 7 p.m., followed by book signing. Exhibit continues through April 17.

• **Little Pockets of Defiant Beauty** exhibit, with artwork by Seth Berkowitz, Stefanie Denz, April Mackey, Ella MacQueen-Denz, Robert Moss, Anette Schrage and Michela Sorrentino runs at ArtSpring from April 1 to 10, with an opening event on Saturday, April 1 from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **Ramona Lam's 50 Over 50 Photo Exhibition: Celebrating Mature Women** of All Shapes, Sizes, Lifestyles and Backgrounds is up in the library program room from April 3 to 28, with an opening reception on Saturday, April 1 from 3 to 4:45 p.m.

• **Photographer Howard Fry** shows portraits of family, friends and acquaintances in the library program room through March.

• **The She Said Collective** presents the 10X10 show at Salt Spring Gallery until April 12.

• **Salt Spring Painters Guild** members show work in the lobby of ArtSpring until March 31.

• **Larry Melious** has his photography hanging in the ArtSpring lobby through April.

• **Avril Kirby** is showing photographs of dogs at the Country Grocer Roasters Cafe for the month of March.


Salt Spring Well-Being Fair
Saturday, April 1, 10 am - 5 pm
Mahon Hall
(plus March 31 Kirtan & April 1 Ecstatic Dance)

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Obituaries



PATRICK MILES McCULLY
1982-2023


Patrick Miles McCully passed away suddenly at the age of 41 years in Kamloops, BC on Sunday Mar 19, 2023.

Patrick was born January 16, 1982 on Salt Spring Island, BC. He was a kind and generous man. His sense of humor was contagious to those around him. He was an excellent athlete in Muaythai, MMA, weight training, and soccer. His job took him all over the world as a security contractor.

Patrick is survived by his beloved wife Amy MacPherson, his parents Yvonne and Bob McCully, Brothers, Sydney DeBow (Jen), Kyle McCully (Nilda), Jess McCully (Amanda) and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and friends.


The Funeral Service will take place at 2:00 pm on Thursday, March 30, 2023 in the Kamloops Funeral Home, 285 Fortune Drive. Viewing will take place prior to the service, starting at 1:00 pm. For those unable to attend the service may be viewed online at <https://ipcamlive.com/5f98c1fdc1e47>. Please contact the Funeral Home for the PIN.

Condolences may be sent to the family from www.kamloopsfuneralhome.com • 250-554-2577



*If I had a flower for every time
I thought of you, I could walk
in my garden forever.*

- ALFRED LORD TENNYSON



Rafael Corcione
JULY 29, 1937 - MARCH 15, 2023

Rafael Corcione of New Westminster, BC, passed away Wednesday, March 15, 2023. He is survived and lovingly remembered by his 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 2 brothers, family & many friends.

He was born in Naples Italy to loving parents and had 6 wonderful siblings. At the age of 21 he immigrated to Halifax but disliked the climate intensely, so kept moving west until he reached Vancouver. He settled in the community of Kerrisdale where he owned and operated a successful hair salon and raised his family. It wasn't until he retired that he moved to New Westminster where he began a new chapter and met many wonderful friends.

Rafael had many hobbies, but his true joy was spending time at his property on Salt Spring Island tending his garden.

He was a force with an easy charm, and a true maverick who lived life on his terms; he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers consider donating to the charity of your choice

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In Memoriam



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Coming Events




Salt Spring Hospice
Salt Spring Hospice Society
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 @ 7pm
Salt Spring Senior Centre
379 Lower Ganges Rd (across from Country Grocer)

This meeting is open to the public. Members only will be able to vote (membership fee is \$10). To purchase a membership you can e-transfer the amount to office@saltspringhospice.org or give the office a call @ (250) 537-2770.

Coming Events

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Coming Events

TO THE LIGHTHOUSE BOOK CLUB

This bimonthly book club will meet at the Library every second Tuesday to read and discuss Virginia Woolf's great novel. **Starting Tuesday, April 4th from 7:00-8:30 pm.**

Contact André Gérard for more information:
grenpieniens@gmail.com

NOTICE OF 2023 AGM

Scott Point Waterworks District
Wednesday April 19, 2023

The Trustees hereby give notice that the **2023 Annual General Meeting** will be held at **7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 19** at the RVYC Pavilion, 241 Scott Point Drive.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

MARCH/APRIL 2023 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
29	0111	3.2	10.5	SU	0347	3.1	10.2
	1701	1.0	3.3		0955	2.2	7.2
					1409	2.5	8.2
30	0206	3.2	10.5	MO	0406	3.1	10.2
	1805	1.0	3.3		1010	2.0	6.6
					1515	2.6	8.5
31	0249	3.2	10.5	TU	0423	3.0	9.8
	1906	1.1	3.6		1029	1.8	5.9
					1612	2.7	8.9
1	0322	3.2	10.5	WE	0438	3.0	9.8
	0943	2.3	7.5		1050	1.5	4.9
	1244	2.4	7.9		1706	2.8	9.2
SA	1958	1.2	3.9	ME	2235	1.7	5.6

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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE MICHAEL O'CONNOR

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) A powerful impulse of pioneering initiatives is pushing you to explore new territory. This may occur literally or figuratively. Beyond geography, your quest may lead you to explore new attitudes, interpretations, perspectives, philosophies, lifestyles, and so on. Bon voyage!

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20) Inspirations coming from both within and without are guiding you to explore your sense of individuality and your creative genius. In turn, this is igniting your energies and you may well feel turned on. You might, however, be wondering where the off switch is. Meanwhile, focus to harness and direct the surges.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21) Something new is emerging in you. It could be a new sense of power and determination. Yet, it could also be a new sense of responsibility accompanied by some measure of weight. Clarity of purpose and disciplined determination to follow through patiently are part of the answer.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22) The 5-planet stellium in Aries activated by last week's New Moon should be apparent by now. The synchronicity factor will both be woven into your rhythmic flow and will likely be coming from external sources. Meanwhile, Mars in your sign indicates an added determination to forge ahead.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23) Visionary inspiration is guiding your thoughts and actions now, in accordance with your destiny and level of awareness. It includes doing some measure of inner work to see through and be liberated from blind spots, limiting attitudes and negative habits. Summon the courage to be self-honest.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22) You are undergoing a powerful mini cycle of change and transformation. It can be traced to late December 2022. It has since received a series of new activations with the most recent from last week's Aries New Moon. Tune in to work with the process by clarifying where and how you yearn for renewal.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22) Gaining a clear sense of who you are in the spotlight. We are more than we think and know and our self-concepts can be limited and unclear. While the opinions we hold of ourselves are the most important, we can gain meaningful reflections from outer sources to increase self-reflective awareness.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) Where and how would you like, and perhaps feel the need to make some key changes? The impulse to do so is indicated in the planetary alignments and is calling you to embark upon a vision quest. True to your nature and the season, it will lead you to purge negative habitual attitudes and patterns of behaviour.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) A visionary, creative and playful cycle has begun. It is supported by ambition and resolve to break free from winter's grip. An early round of spring cleaning or some other action that symbolizes clearing the old to make way for the new are examples of what you can do to light the fuse and set the pace.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19) The pioneering energies of Aries are likely stirring close to home. Your literal home, family members and/or your own core sense of self are all examples of this stirring dynamic. Others may directly or indirectly push you out of your comfort zone, so watch for that and gratefully accept the gift.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19) A surge of new thoughts, perspectives, attitudes and interpretations is entering your field of awareness and experience. Often, these occur suddenly so we have to step out of the habitual flow to see them. These will likely stimulate changes in your home to adjust the overall energy patterns.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20) Establishing a whole new dynamic is a common theme currently and one which will linger for some time. In the short term, there are indications that you will take new initiatives to stimulate new flows, both regarding your approach and to stimulate new streams of energy and income.

Advertising Deadlines Change



Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Friday, April 7 - Good Friday** statutory holiday - and will reopen 9am - 4pm on Monday, April 9.

Advertising deadlines for the **Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Apr 12 edition** will be **Wednesday, Apr 5, noon**

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ISLAND LIFE

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Library hops on Fridays



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

At top, librarian Julia Wagner with some Spring Break Art Camp kids off to wash the "slime" off their hands.

At left is Bryan Dubien showing Taiya, Aasha and Faara how to play a board game called Dollars to Donuts. Dubien had replenished the library's collection with several new games for kids to try in the regular Friday gathering for youth aged eight to 13.

Youth programs attract enthusiastic kids

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When your children are grown up or you don't have grandchildren or neighbours with kids, it's easy to get out of the loop about what kids get up to on our island when they're not in school.

Someone with intimate knowledge of how children spend their out-of-school time — especially on Fridays — is Salt Spring Public Library librarian Julia Wagner, and she wants to celebrate all the activity going on there.

"Friday at the library has become the kid-friendly family destination place we hoped it would be," she told me in pitching a story about library activities for youth, especially on Fridays.

"Since the New Year we have weekly [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math] programming for three age groups, including Lego Robotics, BOTWARS and video-game coding and design. An early Story Time for the younger set runs in the morning, and then a popular afternoon board game drop-in for the tween set. There's also a regular teen Dungeons & Dragons campaign that's in full swing in a program room these days too. Add the Teen Zone being a popular unstructured hangout space, and there's really something for everyone at the library!"

I was happy to drop by to get a peek at all the activity, and then Wagner threw in the ultimate carrot: she asked if I would

be the Neighbourhood Story Time reader that Friday. Reading stories aloud was one of my favourite parts of being a mom, so I couldn't say yes fast enough to being the guest reader for some eager young listeners and their caregivers. Wagner picked out a variety of fun books for me to read.

I came back later to check out the board game drop-in session from 2 to 4 p.m., where the island's game aficionado Bryan Dubien of Foxes Board Game Shop and Core Inn youth programs had just dropped off a big pile of new games. He and Wagner explained that the idea is to have someone there regularly to help orient kids in the age eight to 13 group — even some of the older ones in the cohort — to new games.

Spring Break Art Camp, led by Wagner with volunteer helpers, was also in full swing when I was there on March 24, as well as a tech camp put on by Victoria-based LittlUniverse, where kids were making a 3D platform game using the Godot game engine, which they will post for people to use on either the Steam or Itch.io websites.

As well, machines were whirring away in the FabLab, which is coordinated by Matt Tong, and a young girl was using the Tinkercad program for a 3D-printing project. People can connect with Tong about using the FabLab via the Salt Spring library's website.

For kids who'd rather be outside, the self-guided Story Walk begins at the library and goes through Moutat Park, page by page, with a new book every Friday.

See the events section of saltspringlibrary.com for the lowdown on all the activities taking place at the library.

Capital Regional District

CRD

Notice of Nomination

2023 Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Election

Public Notice is hereby given to the electors of **Salt Spring Island Electoral Area** in the Capital Regional District, that nominations for the office of Local Community Commissioner will be received between **9 am, Tuesday, April 11, 2023** and **4 pm, Friday, April 21, 2023**.

During that period the nomination documents shall only be received during regular office hours, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, by a person designated by the Chief Election Officer at the Capital Regional District, **SSI Administration Office**, 108-121 McPhillips Avenue., Salt Spring Island, BC. **Appointments are recommended** for submitting nomination documents. Originals of emailed forms must be received by 4 pm, Friday, April 28, 2023.

Representation will be as noted below and shall be for a 3-year term commencing June 2023 and terminating in 2026 after the general local election held in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act*:

Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission - Four Commissioners

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area. To qualify, a candidate must be 18 years or older on voting day (May 27, 2023), a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed, and not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or another enactment from voting.

The nomination documents shall be in the form prescribed in the *Local Government Act* and available at www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote and at:

Capital Regional District, SSI Administration Office,
108-121 McPhillips Ave., **Salt Spring Island**,
250.537.4448

Capital Regional District, Legislative Services,
625 Fisgard St., **Victoria**,
250.360.3127

Campaign Period Expense Limits:

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2023 Local Community Commission election, the following expense limits for candidates during the campaign period apply:

Commissioner \$6282.90

Third Party Advertising Limits:

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2023 Local Community Commission election, the following third party advertising limits apply:

Commissioner \$809.84

Additional information on campaign financing and advertising rules is available through Elections BC, 1.800.661.8683, electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca or www.elections.bc.ca.

Candidate Information Session

A virtual information session for potential candidates will be held at 1 pm on March 30, 2023.

Please email elections@crd.bc.ca to register and receive the Zoom meeting link.

For further information on the nomination process, contact Karla Campbell, Deputy Chief Election Officer, at 250.538.4300 or elections@crd.bc.ca.

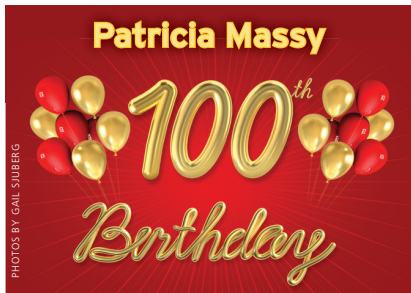
Dated this 22nd day of March 2023

Kristen Morley
Chief Election Officer

www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote

FOR BREAKING NEWS SEE: gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Salt Spring's Patricia Massy is celebrated by family members on her 100th birthday on a sunny March 18 outside Lady Minto Hospital (LMH) with almost all of her progeny present. Massy was born in England and was a World War II veteran in the Intelligence Corps of the British Army. She met her husband, David Massy, a Canadian serving in the war, and came to Canada as a war bride in 1946. Patricia and David, who died in 2011, raised six children and moved to Salt Spring in 1985. Patricia now has 16 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren, including namesake granddaughter Patricia Massy of Vancouver, seen with Patricia in the photo at below right. Eldest daughter Jane Petch of Salt Spring says her mother was a founding member of the Island Watch, and a library and hospice board member. "A keen



observer of nature and a devoted gardener, she has passed her sense of social justice and environmental stewardship down to her offspring," says Petch. Patricia has been living at the LMH Extended Care Unit for the past three months.



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*Effective April 1, 2023

