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PHOTO BY SUSAN GORDON

RED ROAD RUNNERS: Salt Spring Sneakers running club members take an all-in-red Canada Day shot at Fernwood Dock before setting out for their annual July 1 run. For more Canada Day photos, see page 6.

TRAVEL

Ferry bedlam impacts holidays

Multiple cancelled and reinstated sailings over long weekend

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

After a Canada Day weekend charitably described as “uneven,” BC Ferries passengers who braved holiday travel to and from Salt Spring Island are left wondering if they’ve seen a preview of ferry service through the remaining summer months.

With the announcement Wednesday, June 28 that the Coastal Celebration’s refit would extend through the summer’s first long weekend — leading to the cancellation of eight round-trips between Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen — islanders and visitors steeled themselves for days of difficult travel. BC Ferries said more than 6,600 bookings on that vessel were transferred to the scheduled sailings on the remaining boats, with anyone without a confirmed booking being “strongly encouraged” to leave their vehicles behind and walk on if they needed to get to or from the mainland.

And while the more obvious follow-on effects included the rapid selling-out of reservations on the Salish-class Tsawwassen to Salt Spring sailings

via Long Harbour — including, on many sailings, all walk-on reservations — problems emerged beyond travel headed to the mainland.

First, to give credit where due, the much-heralded 10-trip schedule between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay kicked off Wednesday, June 28, running fully on time (even arriving early on several trips) and with only a few passengers seemingly caught off-guard by the shift in sailing times.

The second day was not without its challenges, however.

The scheduled 6 p.m. sailing back to Salt Spring Thursday experienced a dramatic loading at Swartz Bay, with several jarring lurches to one side as cars came on the ramp. The ferry eventually departed 30 minutes late, and BC Ferries attributed the delay to a “mechanical issue” with the Skeena Queen’s right-angle drive, which — despite reports of a rougher-than-usual docking at Fulford — was said to have been resolved.

On Saturday, July 1, it was the busy Vesuvius-Crofton route that struggled. Just before noon, BC Ferries announced a potential risk of cancel-

lations due to crew shortages — threatening the loss of every departure from the island from 1:45 p.m. to the last sailing at 10 p.m. The cancellations became “official” 15 minutes later, and many left Canada Day events early in a scramble to get to Fulford before those sailings could fill.

Salt Spring Cruisers car club president Abe Hohn said the group’s 23rd annual “Show & Shine” event was abruptly cut short — needlessly, as it turned out — as word of the west-side island route’s likely closure spread among the more than 100 car show participants.

“A lot of our guests [showing vehicles] are definitely from that side, going north,” said Hohn, who said club organizers were on the phone with BC Ferries trying to gauge the possibility of the sailings being reinstated before sounding the alarm.

“A lot of good questions were asked,” said Hohn, “and we came up with the decision to give out the trophies early.”

WEEKEND continued on 3

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

Annual 'Point in Time' homeless count: 165

'Unsheltered' homeless numbers dip slightly as 'sheltered' spikes

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As Salt Spring's affordable housing crisis persists, early data from one local nonprofit suggests the population of the most vulnerable islanders is growing — and perhaps shifting.

Island Community Services (ICS), formerly Salt Spring Island Community Services (SSICS), released numbers from its annual Point-in-Time (PiT) count of the homeless population, finding a total of 165

people, including 56 "sheltered" and 106 "unsheltered" people.

The new count indicates a 51 per cent increase in the number of sheltered homeless, and a three per cent decrease in the number unsheltered; the overall total increased by 15 per cent. In 2021, the province reported ICS found those numbers at 37 sheltered and 109 unsheltered, a total of 146.

"The numbers do not come as a surprise," said Deanna Kameka, Housing First Coordinator at ICS. "We are seeing an increasing number of families and individuals fall out of the bottom of the housing market into homelessness as rental costs skyrocket well beyond the means of low-income earners."

PiT counts are conducted across British Columbia, and are meant to provide a snapshot of people experiencing homelessness; they are generally considered an undercount by the province, representing only individuals identified during a specific 24-hour period. Counts since 2018 have typically been taken over one day in March,

coinciding with the end of the fiscal year.

For the purpose of homeless counts conducted in the provincially funded B.C. communities, a person was defined as experiencing homelessness if they did not have a place of their own where they paid rent and could expect to stay for at least 30 days.

"We are seeing an increasing number of families and individuals fall out of the bottom of the housing market."

DEANNA KAMEKA
Island Community Services

Those programs defined "sheltered" as anyone who stayed overnight on the night of the count in homeless shelters, including transition houses for women fleeing violence and youth

safe houses, and people with no fixed address staying temporarily in hospitals, jails or detox facilities.

"Unsheltered" homeless included anyone who stayed outside in alleys, doorways, parkades, parks and vehicles, or people who were staying temporarily at someone else's place (couch surfing) and/or those using homelessness services.

ICS, which conducts its count independently, defines sheltered as "living in emergency or transitional situations" and unsheltered as living in "tents, vehicles, derelict boats and other temporary and makeshift shelter situations."

In 2018, according to BC Housing's Report on Homeless Counts, SSICS counted 33 sheltered and 82 unsheltered homeless, a total of 115 people.

BC Housing's 2023 report, which will include counts from throughout the province, is expected in the fall; visit bchousing.org/research-centre/housing-data/homeless-counts for more information.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Storage eyed as lake levels dip

Water district exploring St. Mary weir improvements

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's beavers have been a big help this year with the island's biggest surface water source, according to North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) officials — but as lake levels trend downward, the district is taking a hard look at more deliberate ways to improve storage.

Thanks to continued beaver activity, levels at St. Mary Lake had a prolonged period of being just at the height of the weir this year, according to NSSWD operations manager Ryan Moray, while the installation of a special fenced culvert kept a steady flow into Duck Creek.

"The beaver activity assists natural lake level stability by prolonging lake storage levels," said Moray, adding that staff installed a "beaver deceiver" culvert upstream of the weir, to allow beavers to maintain their territory but keep enough water moving to meet Duck Creek flow requirements.

But with the current downward trending of water levels likely to move the district into Stage 3 watering restrictions before August, the next step for improving storage at the lake, according to Moray, is probably to install a mechanical weir.

"It's all about having that additional storage," said Moray. "Seasonally, we see a lot of flow going over the weir in the wintertime. A mechanical weir will allow us to be able to both retain flows for adequate storage within St. Mary Lake and be able to track water use better."

During a storm event, according to NSSWD district manager Mark Boysen, a fixed weir has no control over excess flows that can affect water quality. And the adjustable weir would also be able to keep water levels around the lake at the optimal height longer — effectively increasing storage without affecting other properties on the lakefront, he said.

Addressing supply issues was part of the water district's "Moratorium Roadmap" presented during NSSWD's annual general meeting last month.

"We have a lot of questions still to answer, a lot to make sure everything complies with regulations," said Boysen, adding that the cost for getting a mechanical weir installed on the island is still unknown. "But the concept is being explored."

WATERWAYS

Vessel 'quiet hours' trial begins

Six-month pilot aims to reduce impacts from anchored commercial ships

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Saturday marked the start of a six-month pilot trial of a new arrival and departure window for commercial ships anchoring around the Southern Gulf Islands, according to officials.

Starting July 1, operators have been asked to avoid nighttime arrivals or departures, as the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and the industry respond to community feedback — as part of the Active Vessel Traffic Management Program — on growing impacts of these vessels on coastal communities.

Under the port authority's new guidance, ship operators are being asked to prioritize arriving at or departing from anchorages between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. — hopefully reducing noise disruptions from ships lowering their anchors in the area at night. The measure will be trialed for six months to assess its effectiveness ahead of any decision to make it permanent, according to Captain Shri Madiwal, marine operations director for the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

"A key piece of feedback from Indigenous and local communities was that overnight arrivals and departures around the Southern Gulf Islands can be particularly disruptive," said Madiwal, "and we are confident that updating our anchorage scheduling windows will make a difference to those living near Southern Gulf Islands anchorages."

Outside of the Port of Vancouver, ships are free to anchor in "an appropriate location for a reasonable period of time" per the common law right of navigation — including 33 locations around the Southern Gulf Islands. This has been the case for decades, Madiwal said, as these anchorages are in deep water and can accommodate larger ships.

The new arrival and departure window includes several exceptions, such as when a ship needs to leave its anchorage to berth at a terminal for cargo loading or requires safe refuge during inclement weather; based on 2022 numbers, the port authority estimates that more than 75 nighttime ship arrivals and departures at Southern Gulf Islands anchorages could be avoided over the course of the trial period.

In addition to the anchorage "code of conduct," the port authority is examining an alternative mooring system for waiting ships, as well as designing a centralized digital scheduling system through the region with community considerations.

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Fall Fair FOCUS

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Watch for our Fall Fair Focus articles throughout July and August to learn about exciting new classes, entry date changes and ways you can take part in our wonderful island tradition. For more information go to our website at: ssifi.org

See you at the Fair Sept. 9th & 10th!



FOOD SECURITY

Farmland Trust's Beddis kitchen opens

Car show cut short



PHOTO BY KIRSTEN BOLTON

Zoe Currelly, operations manager at The Root Food Hub Kitchen, in the newly opened facility.

The Root available to farmers, groups

SUBMITTED BY SSI FARMLAND TRUST

The Root Food Hub Kitchen is now open, just in time for the summer growing season and in preparation for fall harvesting and processing.

The commercial, publicly accessible, Island Health-approved kitchen at 189 Beddis Rd., owned and operated by the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust (SSIFT), will be an important resource for farmers and growers to process and add value to their produce, for local food entrepreneurs to develop, manufacture and scale up their products, and for chefs, teachers and caterers to cook in a professional kitchen.

"We are thrilled to be final-

ly opening this kitchen to the community," said Sheila Dobie, co-chair of the Farmland Trust, in a July 1 press release. "This was a long, dedicated process with many layers of community input, tireless work from volunteer committees and board directors, and significant participation from key donors to get the project completed."

"Over this past year, we have benefitted from a grant from the Victoria Foundation that allowed us to reach the final hurdle of equipment installations, modifications and adjustments, meaning we could complete our Island Health approvals and make us fully available to prospective users," said Dobie. "Over the past several years we have also been so appreciative of the additional support of Salt Spring Island Foundation, Rural Dividend, Local Food Infrastructure Fund and many private donations that have made this

crucial project a reality."

Available by the hour, the day, the week, the month or more, the kitchen includes a planetary mixer, tilting kettle, combi oven, blast chiller, commercial-scale food processor, energy-efficient induction cooktops and plenty of stainless steel countertops. Washing stations, walk-in cooler, storage shelving and freezers complete the space.

The completion of the kitchen was an important component in finalizing The Root as Salt Spring's first and only officially designated food hub. It is the heart of the 3,000-square-foot facility on land donated by the Slegg family in 2015. As a hub, The Root also features on-site gardens, a food forest, the start of its tool and equipment rental service, permaculture, a seed bank and a barn for hosting workshops and events.

To that end, the kitchen and Root property will also serve a key role in hosting educational presentations and demonstrations as part of the Farmland Trust's "Knowledge Series," which successfully kicked off in January of this year. From better growing and gardening techniques to food business planning and health certification; from cooking demos to climate, insect and water issues, Farmland Trust's programming is now welcoming ideas and experts from within the community to share food-related knowledge.

The trust recently employed a dedicated operations manager, Zoe Currelly, a chef and former operator of Salt Spring Harvest, a successful small food manufacturing business, to help farmers, business owners and community members access the kitchen as well as collaborate on workshop ideas Salt Springers may have.

Along with The Root Food Hub, the SSIFT also stewards its

main property, The Burgoyne Valley Community Farm and Garden, a 62-acre parcel that supports four professional farm acreages, the Island Community Services Harvest Farm and 90 small family garden plots.

The SSIFT is a charitable organization established after a 2008 Area Farm Plan identified the need to protect and preserve farmland and encourage potential new farmers on Salt Spring. The original mandate was to receive parcels of land as gifts, donations and bequeathments, to revitalize the land, and to make it available to local farmers and family vegetable growers at affordable rates.

For inquiries about the kitchen or educational programming, contact zoe@ssifarmlandtrust.org.

FOR THE RECORD

- In the June 22 paper, Craig Hickson's red mopher bearded dragon Red was incorrectly identified as an iguana in a photograph.

- While a story about the June 22 Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting in last week's paper stated that "trustees" directed staff to take a number of actions related to Bylaw 530 that will delay its consideration by the LTC, two of three trustees — Laura Patrick and committee chair Tim Peterson — voted in favour of the delay. Trustee Jamie Harris spoke and voted against it.

WEEKEND

continued from 1

Hohn added people at the event were understanding, if disappointed; he estimates a little less than half of the cars left early.

Then, just a little later that afternoon, BC Ferries announced more crew had been sourced, and regular service resumed beginning with the 3 p.m. departure from Vesuvius.

"It's just heartbreaking," said Hohn. "We try to organize events like this and are told 'no ferries' and then 'oh, ferries are back on.'"

On Monday the misadventures continued with several morning sailings from Vesuvius to Crofton cancelled — briefly — due to insufficient crew. At first, BC Ferries announced six round-trips were to be lost, eliminating all morning sailings; shortly after delivering the news, however, two were reinstated, starting with the 10:10 a.m. departure from the Crofton side.



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BC Ferries		Salt Spring Island Schedule FULFORD HARBOUR - SWARTZ BAY	
Crossing Time: 35 minutes Distance: 5 nautical miles This is the schedule at the time of printing. For the most current information, please visit www.bcferries.com			
Jun 28, 2023 - Sep 04, 2023			
DEPART Salt Spring Island (Fulford Harbour)	STOPS/TRANSFERS	ARRIVE Victoria (Swartz Bay)	
6:00 am	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	6:35 am
7:40 am	Mon - Sat	Non-stop	8:15 am
9:25 am	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:00 am
11:10 am	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	11:45 am
12:50 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	1:25 pm
2:35 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	3:10 pm
4:20 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	4:55 pm
6:00 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	6:35 pm
7:40 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	8:15 pm
9:15 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	9:50 pm

BC Ferries		Salt Spring Island Schedule SWARTZ BAY - FULFORD HARBOUR	
Crossing Time: 35 minutes Distance: 5 nautical miles This is the schedule at the time of printing. For the most current information, please visit www.bcferries.com			
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6:50 am	Mon - Sat	Non-stop	7:25 am
8:35 am	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	9:10 am
10:20 am	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:55 am
12:00 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	12:35 pm
1:45 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	2:25 pm
3:30 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	4:05 pm
5:10 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	5:45 pm
6:55 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	7:30 pm
8:30 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	9:05 pm
10:00 pm	Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:35 pm

Ticket sales at Swartz Bay end ten minutes before the scheduled sailing time for walk-on passengers and five minutes before the scheduled sailing time for vehicles. Loading at Fulford Harbour ends five minutes before the scheduled sailing time for walk-on passengers and three minutes before the scheduled sailing time for vehicles. Schedules are subject to change without notice.

OPINION

2020/21 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

Slow it down

Summer crowds have returned to Salt Spring, with a stark reminder of how dangerous it is to get through Ganges when it's full of people who don't know where they're going.

Whether on foot, a bike or in a vehicle, trying to get through town in the middle of the day — and not just on Saturdays — requires the eyes of a hawk, lightning quick reflexes and a huge vat of patience.

It truly is a miracle that more collisions between vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists don't occur in the core area of Ganges.

That's why the concept behind island resident David Courtney's latest transportation-related campaign has merit. He and others want to see the speed limit through Ganges reduced from the current 50 to 30 km/hr, for obvious reasons. Courtney cites a DriveBC study from 2015 that found pedestrian crash survivability rises from 20 per cent at 50 km/hr to 90 per cent at 30 km/hr. Courtney has pressed our newly elected Local Community Commission members to lobby for the change, as well as Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob Fleming when he visited Salt Spring on June 2.

Salt Spring's past transportation commission also campaigned for a reduced speed limit in Ganges, and a 300-person petition was organized a few years ago for the change to be made. But as often is the case, nothing happened as a result. Also a few years ago, the Union of B.C. Municipalities passed a motion asking for municipalities to be allowed to set 30 km/hr as the blanket residential speed limit, rather than 50. (And we know that 30 will ultimately mean 40 km/hr and 50 in the evening, but that's still a vast improvement from what exists now.)

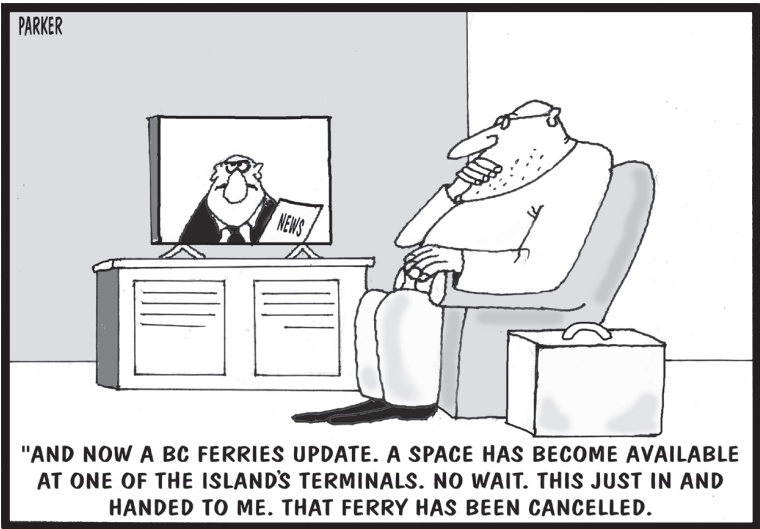
Courtney first put himself in the public eye locally when he initiated a petition to have two ships put on the Vesuvius-Crofton ferry route in 2021 — something that wasn't going to happen with the snap of a ferry-manager's finger and which was already in longer-term plans — but his activities did raise awareness of the inherent problems on that route.

Local Green party MLA Adam Olsen is at the ASK Salt Spring session this Friday, July 7 at 11 a.m. at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space. Hopefully he can help clarify what else Courtney, the LCC and other community members can do to improve safety for all people in Ganges with a lower speed limit.

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CASHI tactics concerning

BY EMILY WHITELAW

The now famous Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI) first came to my attention in May for their (at the time) one-page document outlining a "citizen-proposed bylaw" to regulate harbour use on the island. At the time, there was no author attached to the bylaw, and CASHI was a private shadow organization, with no publicly available motives, leadership or membership.

When I went to the May Local Trust Committee (LTC) town hall meeting to speak about the proposal, trustee Laura Patrick dismissed the citizen-proposed bylaw as a non-issue which would not be considered by the LTC or the Trust in general. Much has changed since then. For one thing, CASHI now has a spokesman, Glenn Stevens, who drafted the now 81-page document presented at the June 22 LTC meeting.

Well, now that the proposal has been presented in full, I can safely say that my initial impressions were well founded, and the cruelty and classism of this organization has far exceeded my initially low expectations. The CASHI proposal reads to me like a manifesto of hatred against an already marginalized demographic. Voyeuristic photos of lived-in vessels in the harbour, an outrageous bylaw proposal, a non-representative online poll deceptively marketed as a reflection of island sentiment, and pages upon pages of Gish-galloping case law, ostensibly meant to justify the questionable right of the Trust to regulate liveboards at all.

But this proposal is not just an assault on the lives and homes of those living in the harbour, it also presents a threat to the state of bylaw enforcement, and fair and due process on this island. To quote the proposal itself: "to minimize the cost to the Trust for enforcement of the Bylaw, [CASHI is] forming a legally, federally authorized charity" to remove

VIEWPOINT

vessels which fail to comply with the bylaw.

Yes, before the bylaw has even reached consideration by the Trust, CASHI plans to form a charge

accountable to nobody but their donors, to act as private bylaw enforcement officers. The proposed bylaw elaborates that "the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee may contract . . . with third persons, including for-profit or non-profit businesses . . . or licensed charities or independent contractors" to enforce the bylaw. They clarify that an "enforcement officer" for the purposes of the bylaw constitutes not just Trust enforcement officers but also any "representatives or agents authorized and under the supervision of an enforcement officer," and that such "enforcement officers" are "authorized to enter, at any reasonable time upon any lot, vessel or private mooring facility . . . to determine whether the regulations are being observed."

It seems CASHI wants the Trust to authorize them to engage in privately run bylaw enforcement, whose agents would be empowered to enter any boat on that harbour at any time and, if they deem the boat to be non-compliant, to impound it. This is an unprecedented violation of the privacy and property rights of liveboards, and speaks to the incredible entitlement of the wealthy and privileged on this island that they believe they should be allowed to run a tax-deductible organization to dispose of the homes of people they find undesirable.

Should the Trust authorize this proposal from CASHI, it would constitute a tremendous abuse of their own power and the power of this private special interest group, as well as a perversion of the process of democracy and good governance.

Everyone on Salt Spring, not just liveboards, should be deeply concerned about CASHI's tactics.

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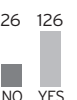
THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should the Ganges village speed limit be cut to 30 km/hr?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Is having video surveillance cameras on buses a good idea?



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

LTC meeting report details questioned

The front-page article in last week's Driftwood regarding the June 22 Local Trust Committee meeting correctly identified a full house, but not what most people spoke about.

Most of those in attendance, 13 by my count, were opposed to a new cannabis shop. Eight spoke in support of the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative, one against and one had concerns. Regarding proposed Bylaw 530, five spoke in support, and two against.

Also, the comments on proposed Bylaw 530 quoted in last week's Driftwood were offensive and provided no rational analysis of the proposal to rezone thousands of lots for accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Asking how opponents of the bylaw can look workers "in the eye" and labelling their opposition "shameful" amounts to emotional blackmail — either agree with me or you are a bad person. Other comments were made. Why were the offensive remarks chosen for publication?

Those of us who oppose the bylaw in its present form believe it could do great harm without providing substantial affordable housing. Like proponents, we want more worker housing, but believe there are more effective ways to achieve this; actions that are compatible with limited water and other constraints of living on an island.

Debating issues in the media is polarizing. Why have trustees proposed a controversial bylaw without providing a venue where supporters and opponents can have a public discussion to possibly identify a better solution?

MAXINE LEICHTER,
SALT SPRING

Housing's the real problem

I agree with the June 28 Driftwood editorial about the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI).

A lot of our lack of affordable housing problem is due to governments piling on ever more regulations, and their associated costs, which are often prompted by pressure from those who either can afford these costs or profit from them (lawyers, speculators and investors, architects, engineers, consultants . . . not to forget the bureaucrats who make careers out of them). The CASHI (rather appropriate acronym) proposal is just more of the same.

Rather than continue along this disastrous road, governments and the public should be addressing the roots of the housing crisis with a view to making it available and affordable as a human right.

DAVID MURPHY,
SALT SPRING

Equipment depot volunteers needed

The Red Cross Medical Equipment Depot at Lady Minto Hospital will be closed on some of the scheduled open hours in July and August due to a volunteer shortage. Medical reasons and volunteers unavailable during the summer have stretched us thin.

We have openings for new volunteers for this rewarding service lending medical equipment to members of our community.

For July and August please phone 250-538-4834 before going to the depot to ensure a volunteer is there to fulfill your needs.

Interested in joining our team? Contact me, Audrey Denton, at 250-537-4328.

AUDREY DENTON,
SALT SPRING

Toilet bowl island

It is hard to believe that Salt Spring, the virtual home of the Green Party and environmental activism, has become a toilet bowl! We rely on our elected representatives to govern; that means making tough decisions and taking action, not endless handwringing and meaningless studies.

The Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative proposal does this. Do we have to wait for another election for our trustees to make a decision as last week's Driftwood editorial proposes?

Decades of inaction, endless studies and

the like have contributed to the housing crisis. Creating safe affordable housing does not mean turning a blind eye to dumping raw sewage, garbage and derelict vessels in the harbour.

I would suggest the next person to object to regulating the harbour go for a swim in Ganges Harbour or eat crabs caught in the harbour first!

WILLIAM DAVIS,
SALT SPRING

Gratitude

I am sending gratitude and award-winning roses to the young gentleman driving the Hastings House van who so kindly stopped when I was attempting to clear up the shards of crockery scattered on both sides of the road on Park Drive on Sunday morning.

No longer a youngster, I was struggling in the heat, partly fuelled by annoyance, to sweep up the result of silly but dangerous vandalism, so you can imagine how thrilled I was when this young man offered to return with a blower to finish the job. True to his word, back he came to complete the task thoroughly and in good humour!

We are so fortunate to have young people of this calibre in our service industry on Salt Spring.

PAT LOW,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"It's just heartbreaking. We try to organize events like this and are told 'no ferries' and then 'oh, ferries are back on.'"

ABE HOHN, SALT SPRING CRUISERS CAR CLUB PRESIDENT, ON JULY 1 FERRY FLIP-FLOPS

Little old ladies and men just keep on changing as the years go by

I'm suffering from a sports injury, which is not a condition I'm especially used to, but it is true that I'm nursing damage sustained on the playing fields of Nanaimo. And it is not a pretty sight.

Oh, all right! I got badly sunburned watching my grandsons play baseball while I sat in the sun without a hat and ate hotdogs, but there was sport going on so it counts as a sports injury in my book. For three or four days I was so rosy I glowed in the dark and now I'm shedding skin like a python after a long lunch. While the bulk of my not-inconsiderable body is still fish-belly white, my arms and face are a sort of unnatural rufescent mahogany, so that for the moment I look as if I've been stitched together from two separate ethnic groups.

To compound my misery, Martha Stewart was showing off on the front page of Sports Illustrated, flaunting her 81-year-old body in a one-piece bathing costume while I will never be invited to flaunt anywhere, even if I make it to that great age.

It wouldn't have been quite so bad were it not for the fact she looked spectacular. I KNOW how an 81-year-old is supposed to look and that certainly wasn't it.

I'm not entirely sure what Martha Stewart does for a living, and I didn't get to see any of the pictures inside the magazine because I'm far too cheap to buy Sports Illustrated and it is, in any case, ordinarily as interesting to me as the Pencil Collectors Monthly, but she had either been Photoshopped to within an inch of her life or she's drunk deeply from the Well of Eternal Youth. Either way, it doesn't seem fair, but as someone once said, "Every woman should use what Mother Nature gave them before Father Time takes it away." I'm not sure if that only applies to women, but Father Time seems to have given Martha a rain check.

My gran was well into her 80s when she finally took her leave, but it always struck me that she must have had access to a Little Old Ladies haberdasher who only stocked sensible shoes, gingham skirts and buttoned-up cardigans, all liberally drenched



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER THING

in lavender water. And if she even owned a swimsuit, it would have buttoned to the ankles. I don't know if there was ever a time in her life when she wore anything more frivolous than a pink plastic rainhat, but she was never, at least in my memory, anything more or less than a Dear Old Lady. How little we knew . . . I was in my 30s before I learned that she'd never actually married and that my mum and her brother were both born out of wedlock to a local and very married butcher with whom she'd had a long and tumultuous affair. Who knows what passions lurk beneath a grey and severely buttoned cardigan, eh?

Back then, though, it seemed there were mostly Little Old

Men who invariably smelt of pipe tobacco and wore their belts under their armpits and Dear Old Ladies who settled into grannydom as soon as they turned 50.

Move forward a generation and my mum would have poked your eye out if you suggested she was a Dear Old Lady. She had a wardrobe that would match any Kardashians', hair that had been permed and bleached so often that you could clean your barbecue with it and she drove her little green Mini as ferociously as Juan Fangio. My dad, on the other hand, was born venerable, turned unnaturally grey at 14 but didn't have a grandfatherly bone in his body, which is not in the least to say he was unkind or even aloof . . . he just never really GOT children, which was a bit of a handicap for a man who went on to become an acutely unhappy teacher after retiring from the air force. His misery was likely BECAUSE of the military, where young men followed shouted instructions without question and had sensible haircuts, while

high school kids didn't.

Which brings us to us. Or more accurately brings me to me, and I haven't decided whether to be old yet because I don't really fancy it, but it creeps up on you in much the same way it creeps into this column with depressing regularity. But to me now, old age is always 15 years older than me.

My recent sunburn had absolutely nothing to do with senility, but certainly stupidity because I was making the same dumb mistake 50 years ago when I assumed a Mediterranean complexion impressed young women. I should have learned my lesson then, when a girlfriend's mum thought my heroic suntan was actually a symptom of an apoplectic seizure and wanted to call an ambulance.

Now that I recall, I'd bought a cheap sun lamp to deal with a few teenage pimples and spent so much time under it that I looked as if I'd used an acetylene torch on myself. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left at the Canada Day car show are five of six Salt Spring Crankcase Club members the day before leaving on the inaugural Salt Spring to Jasper (and back) Crankcase Classic Car Rally; Tobin Peever, Andy Higgs, Mario McNally, Gordon Heisch and Peter Lloyd-Jones. The group was set to drive four MGs, including the one in the photo, a Maserati and a TR3, for the rally and refused to speculate about potential breakdowns along the way. The club has more than 60 members, with ownership of British or European cars being the criteria. In addition to attending various events, club members provide mutual support to help keep their cars in top condition.



Capital Regional District



Notice of membership opportunity

The Ganges Harbour Walk Steering Committee

The Ganges Harbour Walk Steering Committee is seeking a member at large nominated by the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Director.

The Ganges Harbour Walk Steering Committee is an advisory committee established by the CRD Board and will oversee and make recommendations to the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) regarding matters related to the construction of the Ganges Harbour walk.

Nominations must be received by July 17, 2023.

Please email your interest to saltspring@crd.bc.ca and/or call 250-537-4448 for more information.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Valdy sings as part of Duck Creek Trio (plus two) at the Tree House on the evening of July 1.



PHOTO BY BRYN FINER

Just a few of the more than 100 vehicles at the Salt Spring Cruisers' Show & Shine at the Hydro Field on Saturday. Winners were: Best Local Vehicle, Dave Hogarth with a 1949 burgundy Ford two-door coupe; Best Guest Vehicle, Ray and Debbie Holmberg from Nanaimo with a 1937 candy-apple red Ford two-door coupe; Best in Show, Richard Frost from Nanaimo with a 1954 blue Chevy Bel Air convertible. The club also held a rod run around the island on Friday evening.

Send us your **PET PHOTOS!**

Send your favourite pet photo* along with their name, to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com by July 5th for publication in a special feature on pets! We'll choose the best ones for publication in **All About Pets** coming in July 12th.



Driftwood
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WE'RE HIRING
 Office Manager



We are on the lookout for a community-loving, well-organized people person to join us as **OFFICE MANAGER** starting **October 1.**



INTERESTED?
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Rants + ROSES

Roses

I am sending fresh cut roses to Kaleb and Laurie at Mouat's Home Hardware. After many hours spent trying to get through to Benchmark, the maker of my broken lawnmower, to find out where to take it to get fixed and calling a dozen fixers without success, Kaleb said, "Let me try." He discovered the lawnmower was still under warranty. He and Laurie pleaded my case with Benchmark and got me a refund, which got me a new lawnmower. Thanks again to the both of you.
 Greg Middleton

Special Olympics BC athletes and their volunteer team on Salt Spring Island are sending out a room full of sunshine sunflowers to Tung, Riana and the friendly staff at Golden Island Restaurant for the exceptional service and meal planning that they did for our recent banquet. It was a fun and successful evening for everyone attending. *From the Club Fit, bocce, golf and swim athletes*

I would like to give thanks to the Country Grocer employees who found my wallet in a shopping cart. It had much cash in it and not a penny was missing. To Leigh and Mark, you truly have wonderful, honest people working there. *Wolf von Lachmund*

Clean harbour group clarifies proposal

BY GLENN STEVENS AND OTHER CLEAN AND SAFE HARBOURS INITIATIVE MEMBERS

IN RESPONSE

The June 28 Driftwood editorial indicates there is confusion about the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI).

We appreciate the nearly unanimous support for our proposal expressed at the Local Trust Committee meeting of June 22. Since that time some people have raised legitimate concerns and questions about CASHI, which we welcome and which we wish to address.

Let's start with some facts about existing bylaws:

- Current Islands Trust Bylaw 355 makes living on vessels in our harbours illegal, except for licensed commercial fishing vessels and security personnel at a public docking facility.

- Section 3.2.1 of that same bylaw prohibits disposal of any waste on land or in marine areas in all Islands Trust zones.

- According to Bylaw 446, current penalties include fines of \$350 to \$5,000 per day for violations.

- During COVID, Islands Trust adopted resolution SS-2020-145 stating that enforcement of the "no dwelling on vessels" law would be deferred for dwelling on vessels at marinas if vessels comply with all laws pertaining to no short-term rentals, navigation, safety equipment, registration, insurance, seaworthiness, and sewage disposal. Failure to comply is supposed to trigger enforcement.

Islands Trust has never enforced those laws and has taken no meaningful action to make our harbours clean and safe, even though Canada's Supreme Court has stated that the Islands Trust

has the legal authority to regulate the land within its designated Trust area, including the seabed. Our provincial and federal governments have also taken no meaningful actions to prevent illegal dumping of waste into our harbours.

There are also misperceptions about elements of the CASHI proposal:

- CASHI is being championed by many concerned residents, businesses and marinas, and not just driven by "water-front property owners" as the Driftwood alleges.

- Our proposal will reverse the "no living on vessels" law by putting in place a bylaw that makes living on vessels completely legal.

- If someone is legally allowed to live on a vessel in our harbours, it is reasonable that they comply with laws already in effect regarding disposal of waste and other marine protocols. These are the same requirements that the Salt Spring Islands Trust required for people to legally live on vessels at marinas during COVID.

- CASHI proposes that no fee be required to get the permit to live on a vessel, and insurance for all boats not currently in our harbours but a minimum one-year moratorium on this requirement for all vessels currently here.

- We propose a code of conduct for all boaters and others using our harbours so that everyone is treated safely and respectfully.

- If the Islands Trust legalizes the right to live on vessels in our harbours, the Capital Regional District will need to provide adequate services to live-

STILL RIDING HIGH



PHOTO COURTESY DAL O'TOOLE

Beaver Point Road resident Dal O'Toole celebrates his 95th birthday on June 19, with some part of 90 of those years spent in the saddle in many countries. "Happiness is great family, great friends, a great doctor (thank you Dr. Leon) and great horses," says O'Toole.

boards. These services should include additional pump-out facilities, access to clean water and a larger public dinghy dock with extended hours for docking.

Currently, Islands Trust has no effective process to ensure our harbours are clean and safe. The permit process proposed by CASHI will shift the burden of justifying the right to live on a vessel from the Trust to the folks who want to live on their boats. To get a permit, the vessel owner will have to provide proof of compliance with the laws, instead of the Trust having to inspect every boat.

Our position is a reasonable, practical and workable solution that balances the need for protecting and preserving our environment and addressing the housing crisis. We can, and we must, solve both crises. Doing nothing about our harbour crises is unacceptable, and we cannot rely on our provincial and federal governments to solve these problems for

us, as history has shown.

As polling clearly shows, having clean and safe harbours is strongly supported by a significant majority of Salt Spring Island residents. Contrary to what the Driftwood implied, just because the LTC has not yet made this a priority is not a rationale for continuing to do nothing.

The prime directive of "preserve and protect" should prompt action, now. As the Driftwood editorial says: "Who doesn't want clean and safe harbours?" It's time to do something instead of just talking about it or making excuses.

Please join us in supporting the proposed changes to the CASHI-proposed bylaw and moving to implement its provisions. As a society, we are only free and safe when we have reasonable laws that are enforced.

We encourage feedback at SSISA-CH123@gmail.com.

Director's position on exploring application of biosolids questioned

BY HUGH STEPHENS

In 2011, the Capital Regional District (CRD) voted to ban the land application of biosolids, the treated residue of sewage sludge, because of concerns that the treatment process did not remove all toxins, especially plastics, pharmaceuticals and PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances).

These are referred to as "contaminants of concern" or "forever chemicals" because they last forever, entering water and the food chain. Studies have shown they can have long-term negative health and environmental impacts.

With the construction of greater Victoria's sewage treatment plant, a much greater concentration of biosolids is now being produced. The CRD's original plan was to ship the biosolids to the Lafarge Cement plant in Richmond to be used as fuel, but this option broke down almost immediately owing to problems at Lafarge. Since then the CRD has been spreading the biosolids at Hartland Landfill, a "temporary" exception to the land application ban.

With the amount of biosol-

ids being spread at Hartland exceeding the expected capacity to receive them, CRD staff looked at other options, such as shipping them to Nanaimo for land application there. Nanaimo has several approved sites in forested areas and quarries, but has decided that if the CRD won't spread biosolids on its home turf, why should Nanaimo take them? In response, CRD staff has just proposed that the ban on land application be rescinded and locations found in the CRD to begin land application.

The Environmental Services Committee of the CRD reviewed this recommendation recently and rejected it, instructing staff to instead expedite thermal solutions for the disposal of biosolids. Only two directors voted to support the staff recommendation to rescind the longstanding policy against land application of biosolids. One of them was Salt Spring's director, Gary Holman, who told the committee that he does not support the arguments against spreading of treated biosolids. His position is in line with current provincial policy, which does not require

testing biosolids for "forever chemicals."

I am part of a group of concerned citizens that has worked for many years to protect the watersheds on the Saanich Peninsula. We oppose the land application of biosolids because of their potential long-term negative effects, as part of the precautionary principle. Most of the CRD directors support the continued ban on land application, even as we all struggle to find a more environmentally responsible solution for their disposal. However, director Holman has a different view.

I wonder to what extent Salt Spring Island residents are aware that their representative supports land application of biosolids on non-agricultural land in the CRD, and would they support application of biosolids on sites on Salt Spring? Perhaps, if the land application ban is reversed, Salt Spring through director Holman would be ready to offer itself as a test bed for land application?

What do your readers think?

The writer is a resident of Wilis Point on Vancouver Island.

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CONCERT PREVIEW

Juno-nominated folk group plays ArtSpring



PHOTO BY KEVIN CLARK

Members of The Fugitives, from left, Chris Suen, Brendan McLeod, Adrian Glynn and Carly Frey, who will perform at ArtSpring on July 14.

'Simply brilliant' ensemble sparks Treasure Fair weekend

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

In keeping with the celebratory community energy of ArtSpring's Treasure Fair, a special concert hits the stage Friday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m. featuring The Fugitives, a Juno-nominated acoustic folk and roots group who has earned a reputation for "unforgettable live shows brimming with complex harmonies, infectious storytelling and

top-notch musicianship."

As the CBC once declared in a review of the group's shows, they are "simply brilliant."

Headed by songwriters Adrian Glynn and Brendan McLeod, the band has toured extensively through Canada, Western Europe and the U.K. They're joined by banjo player Chris Suen (Viper Central) and violinist Carly Frey (The Coal Porters). Despite their acoustic nature, fans and critics find the Vancouver-based group difficult to classify, categorizing the music as slam folk, folk hop and spoken word cabaret.

Much of their work is rooted in personal stories such as No Words, which was written for Leonard Cohen on the day after his passing.

Northern Lights was written for the Manitoban singer-songwriter Steel Audrey, a dear friend who The Fugitives lost in 2015, but there is uplifting hope in the melodies and memories. Their fifth album, Trench Songs, a reinterpretation of World War I protest songs sung by Canadian soldiers at Vimy Ridge, won two Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2022.

The Fugitives reunited with Trench Songs producer Tom Dobranzki for an album of new original music, out in summer/fall 2023, but Salt Springers may get a special preview of certain tracks.

Proceeds from the concert will support the fundraising efforts of this year's Treasure Fair. Tickets are now on sale at tickets.artspring.ca.

RECITAL

KeyWinds Trio up next for Tea à Tempo at All Saints church

Romantic-era music on the program next week

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

One of Vancouver Island's premiere chamber ensembles, the KeyWinds Trio, will perform as guests of Tea à Tempo next Wednesday, July 12 at All Saints by-the-Sea.

The trio features three highly accomplished musicians: Yvonne Gillespie on piano, Margaret St. Cyr on French horn and Annick Richardson on clarinet. For next

week's recital, which begins at 2:10 p.m., they have created an engaging program of music from the Romantic era, including a trio by relatively unknown composer Henrich von Herzogenberg, a nocturno by Friedrich Voigt, and two selections from Max Bruch's collection of eight works for clarinet, viola and piano, Opus 83.

Despite the similar musical heritage from which these composers hail, their music is highly individual and their approach to the part writing for the three instruments is unique.

"It is easy to categorize the three compos-

ers as Romantic," explained Gillespie, "but this is too simplistic. Each composer chose to assimilate certain musical characteristics of their time while maintaining, advancing or even discarding those musical materials and influences of past composers." KeyWinds Trio's approach to this repertoire has been to highlight the uniqueness of each composer's style by ensuring compelling and musically coherent interpretations of the works.

"Being great friends has helped," said St. Cyr, "since we have had to spend a tremendous amount of time working through all of the many musical nuances in the works."

The result of this attention to detail is a polished performance which will enthrall and captivate the audience.

Richardson added: "Hopefully, listeners will be drawn into the music with us and will be able to appreciate this wonderful music written over 100 years ago, but which still resonates today."

Admission to Tea à Tempo is by donation, which provides the honoraria for musicians and contributes to costs of running the series. Tea and treats (\$4) are available for those who wish to socialize after the concert.

FUNDRAISER

Festival Afloat concerts and activities expanded this summer

Events raise funds for First Nations environmental court cases

SUBMITTED BY THE RAVEN GROUP

Aboard B.C.'s oldest boat, the soaring tall ship Providence, some summertime magic is brewing.

A crew is about to embark on a sailing adventure through the Salish Sea, kicking off with a floating concert just off the beach at Jericho, and making a port of call in Ganges. With stops on Gabriola, Salt Spring and Pender islands, Festival

Afloat will bring musicians, Indigenous knowledge keepers and a salty crew of activist sailors together for concerts and sailing adventures supporting Indigenous-led ocean conservation.

Now in its fourth year, the unique festival organized by the Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs (RAVEN) group sees concerts performed aboard the ship while audiences can either spread blankets on shore, or paddle up in their canoes, skiffs, kayaks, and stand-up paddle boards. Hear songstress Renée Layla together with Brazilian samba band Ciranda and Jose Sanchez on Salt Spring on Thursday, July 13 at 7 p.m. People should look for the tall ship by the floatplane dock. Layla plays again on Pender Island on July 14 at Port Browning.

In addition to shows on the water, adventurers are invited to sail Salt Spring (July 12 and 13), and Pender (July 14) aboard the Providence on three-hour fundraising sailing trips with Indigenous knowledge keepers Christine Hunt (Kwakwaka'wakw), Chris Arnett (Maori) and Deanna Lewis (Squamish).



RENÉE LAYLA

organizer Caitlyn Kerr. "So this year, in addition to holding concerts, we're also offering small-group adventures where people can take a three-hour sailing trip on the Providence with knowledgeable Indigenous guides, who'll share stories and knowledge about the ecology and human cultures that surround us."

Audiences can snag a front-row seat at the beach or by floating up alongside the Providence: tickets for Gulf Islands shows and boat cruises are available at raventrust.com/paddle.

"First Nations in Canada are on a winning streak in the country's courts, and hold some of the world's most powerful environmental rights: but only if they can afford to uphold them

in court," said RAVEN communication director Andrea Palframan.

"Festival Afloat is an amazing way to gather on the water, doing what we love to protect where we live," explained Palframan. "It's got all the joy of a festival with a twist: not only does everything we raise support Indigenous peoples' rights, but it gives us the opportunity to gather in a magical setting to celebrate the wildly beautiful places that nations are working so hard to defend."

RAVEN is a B.C.-based charity that is supporting Heiltsuk Nation as they take action to protect the Great Bear Sea. With support from committed people across the country, RAVEN has raised nearly \$15 million for Indigenous nations who are in court to protect land and water for future generations.

"This show is a chance for the incredible community — who have marched, sang, created art and linked arms on the front lines of the fights to keep tankers and pipelines off the coast — to get together to visit, celebrate and act together for a better world," said Palframan.

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SPORTS & REC

ON THE COURTS

High-level tennis coach welcomed to island



PHOTO BY CHRIS MARSHALL

New Salt Spring Tennis Association coach Mukul Karthikeyan with kids at a recent event to welcome Karthikeyan held at Centre Court.

Lessons, summer youth camps offered

SUBMITTED BY SS TENNIS ASSOCIATION

The Salt Spring Tennis Association is excited to introduce its new coach to the Salt Spring community.

Mukul Karthikeyan arrives with very impressive credentials as well as global experience coaching top-level juniors and professional tour players in India, China, the United States and Canada. He was the recipient of the 2017 Indian Professional Tennis Registry coach of the year.

The many accolades and glowing references notwithstanding, Karthikeyan presents himself as a warm, friendly, welcoming individual. He is passionate about involving as many members of the community in tennis as possible, aiming for hundreds of kids playing.

To this end, Karthikeyan will be holding a series of week-long summer youth camps and will start building a junior program in the fall.

Karthikeyan will be holding adult programs of all levels starting the first week of July, so people should dust off their racquets and come meet Salt Spring's newest tennis coach.

For information on camps, lessons and programs, people can send an email to coaching@saltspringtennis.ca.

what's on this week

Wed. July 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Caoimhe Merrick and Doug Thring. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.
John Herbert. With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.
Sharon Bailey. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Thur. July 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.
Shelder the Electric Clamfish With Brandon Bronson. Mateada Social Club. 8 to 10:30 p.m.
Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.
Craig's Karaoke. At Moby's Pub. 8 p.m. to midnight.
Jake & Cables. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Fri. July 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Salt Spring Baroque Presents: Razvan Georgescu. Romanian bass-baritone performs along with harpsichordist Bogdan Dulu and baroque cellist Martin Bonham. All Saints. 7 p.m.
Morien Jones. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.
Fridays With DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Billie Woods. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Karaoke. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.
Electroswing Night. DJ night at Mateada Social Club. 8 p.m. to midnight.

ACTIVITIES

ASK Salt Spring. MLA Adam Olsen is this week's guest in the SIMS lobby. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fri. July 7

ACTIVITIES

Live at the Library: Neighbourhood Story Time. Stories for young ones read by community members or library personnel in the library's children's area every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.
Youth Games. For youth aged 9-13 in the children's library area. Lots of board games to choose from. Snacks provided. Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m.
Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Sat. July 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Marianne Grittani Duo. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.
Raffi. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Buck Dodgers String Band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Malleus Trio. At Mateada Social Club. 8 p.m.
Brandon Isaak. The Legion. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Centennial Park market. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sun. July 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jazz Jam. Singers, players and fans welcome. The Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.
Vixx. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.
John Gogo & Sons. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.
Saltwater Hank & Friends. Mateada Social Club. 7 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Mon. July 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Stephanie Rhodes. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Mon. July 10

ACTIVITIES

Summer Tennis Camps. Week-long sessions for youth 7 to 10 years and 11 years and up begin today. Info/register: coaching@saltspringtennis.ca.
To the Lighthouse Book Club. Group meets bimonthly to read and discuss Virginia Woolf's novel *To the Lighthouse*. Library program room. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Info: André Gérard at grenpipiens@gmail.com.

Tue. July 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Ashton Bachman & Guest. Lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.
Country Band With Open Mic. At the Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.
Broooooce! Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

PROBUS Club Meeting. Guest speaker is Peter Grant of Salt Spring Recycling. Public welcome. Lions Hall. 10 a.m.
Local Community Commission Special Meeting. SIMS. 9 a.m.
Tuesday Farmers' Market. Hosted by the Salt Spring Community Market Society in Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. July 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: KeyWinds Trio. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.
John Herbert. With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.
K-Tones. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Treasure Fair. Gala reception for ArtSpring fundraising auction to see many items runs at ArtSpring from 4 to 6 p.m. Online bidding opens at 6 p.m. (and continues through Saturday, July 15 at 6 p.m.)
Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Town Hall Meeting. Public encouraged to bring questions for trustees and staff. Meaden Hall. 5 p.m.
Bittancourt Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.
Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.

CINEMA

• **Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse** runs Wednesday, July 5 through Thursday, July 13, nightly at 7 p.m., plus a Sunday 3 p.m. matinee.
See thefritz.ca for more movie info or phone 250-538-7718.

EXHIBITIONS

• Today, July 5 is the last day to see the **Salt Spring Island Painters' Guild show** at ArtSpring, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• Today, July 5, is also the last day to see **Live in Colour**, an exhibition of work by Gillian McConnell at Salt Spring Gallery, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• On Friday, July 7, **Cheryl Long's** exhibition called **Almost Unseen – Angels and Spirit Forms in Landscape** opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Show continues Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until July 26.

• **Leslie Corry and Rosalie Matchett's Ingrained Patterns and Pathways** is the **Showcase Exhibition** at Artcraft at Mahon Hall, running daily until July 10.

• **The Suitcase Project**, a multimedia exhibit by Kayla Isomura, shows in the library program room through Friday, July 7.

• **Jeanne Lyons: Journeys: Paintings, Sculptures and Works on Paper** shows in the library program room from July 10 to 31.

• **55th annual Artcraft gallery** and show of work by 100 Gulf Islands artisans is on at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the summer months.

Treasure Fair

ArtSpring fundraiser from July 12-15. See treasurefair.artspring.ca to register and for all the details.

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ISLAND LIFE

RETIREMENTS

Arts council bids farewell to key staff member

Longtime employee Trish Wheeler honoured

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
FOR SALT SPRING ARTS



PHOTO BY DAVID BORROWMAN

Trish Wheeler, who recently retired from key administrative roles with Salt Spring Arts.

Salt Spring Arts is undergoing a major change this year with the retirement of someone who has been nearly synonymous with Mahon Hall and arts council operations for more than two decades.

Trish Wheeler celebrated 20 years with the organization in the fall of 2021 — but as of this spring she has officially hung up her hat as hall manager, office and membership administrator and bookkeeper.

"Trish has frequently called this position 'the best part-time job in the world,'" observed Salt Spring Arts executive director Yael Wand. "It's not just that Trish loved this job, but in her more than 20 years in the role, she became both the face and the backbone of the organization. Non-profits are really the sum of the people who keep them functioning. Trish always

solving. I can think of no other person that I have shared so many laughs with while tackling the mundane tasks of investigative bookkeeping."

Indeed, anyone who has been involved with the arts council in any capacity knows what a positive impact Wheeler has made. For many on the island, she has been the welcoming face of the organization who facilitated hall rentals for all manner of community functions, from school plays to trade shows. Those who worked with her were also struck by how the welcoming personality was matched by keen financial and administration skills.

"Working with Trish was always a pleasure," said Jane MacKenzie, former workshops and programs coordinator for Salt Spring Arts. "She is warm, fun, caring and just an all-round good person who has a smile and good words for everyone. Whenever I needed support or a shoulder to cry on she was there. I will miss being able to pop into Artcraft knowing her smiling face will be there."

Richard Steel worked closely with Wheeler during his time as

Artcraft manager, a role he held from 2012 to 2019. As he recalls, Wheeler "never liked the lime-light but really oiled the engine and kept it running."

He noted Wheeler worked on the Artcraft floor for many years as the main staff person next to the manager, whomever that happened to be at the time. She had deep knowledge of the Artcraft business, the participants and customers' wants.

"And then of course she had the knowledge about how systems work," Steel said. "She's known and liked by so many people, and has been the through-line in uncertain times. For Artcraft, there's a family feeling — you're part of something — and as managers came and went, she was the glue. She was a constant and that has been hugely appreciated by participants."

He added Wheeler is always ready to share some laughs, no matter what the circumstance.

"We've had a lot of fun with things like silverfish, rats, otters, etc. and Trish would often have an answer," he recalled.

Salt Spring Arts board members

are also among those who relied on Wheeler's extensive operational knowledge.

"I joined the board near the end of Trish's time at Mahon Hall, and so had the benefit of her experience and lore, and joined the board when management of the old hall had long been mastered. Trish was the hearth of the old wooden home, the first welcoming face that island folks met," said David Borrowman, arts council chair from 2017-21. "All that was left for the rest of us was to enjoy Trish's welcome, and to remind ourselves from time to time that this was how things were meant to be. We were in very good hands. Whatever we are all meant to do with our old hall, being good to one another is part of it, and Trish was at the heart of all the smiles."

Salt Spring Arts has happily announced that Wheeler's influence will still be enjoyed. She has joined the volunteer-run Artcraft committee as its co-chair.

A blog post with additional reflections from her past coworkers and arts council members can be found at saltspringarts.com.



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Obituaries

Obituaries

Coming Events

Coming Events

Coming Events

SAMUEL TAYLOR DARLING



On Monday, May 22, 2023, Samuel Taylor Darling, an advocate for those in need and father of five, passed away at 76 after a brief and valiant fight against lung cancer.

Sam was born on August 8th, 1946 in Colon, Panama, to Mary and Dashwood Darling. His formative years were spent in Central America and Marin

County, CA. He attended the Grace Cathedral School for Boys where he sang in the choir, snuck cigarettes in the rafters, and developed a lifelong appreciation for music. He then graduated from Lick Wildmerding High School, shipped out as a Merchant Marine to support himself and see a wider world, and attended UC Berkeley, before becoming a caretaker for the Steep Ravine cabins.

Sam moved to Guatemala in 1973 with his future wife, Sharee (Darling) Anderson, where they started an herb tea farm in partnership with Celestial Seasonings. They used profits from this long-standing business venture to teach and fund small-scale agricultural projects that could be easily replicated - hand-building terraces on the steep slopes, constructing simple water systems, and de-worming sheep - to help reduce disease and improve nutrition of the Mam indigenous people of the Cuchumatán Mountains where they lived. He described this time as the most meaningful and best years of his life. A trailblazer, with a strong sense of joie de vivre, Sam's adventures took him next to the north shore of Kauai in 1981 where he farmed ginger, battled hurricanes, and founded Garden Island Foods, a pioneering gourmet foods company with Julia Child's stamp of approval.

A skilled sailor and lover of the sea, Sam returned to west Marin County, with his second wife, Jane Army, settling in Inverness. He sailed Tomales Bay with his kids, immersed himself in writing and recording original music, crafted short stories, built a successful food company while managing his tea farm in Guatemala, and raised his family within a vibrant community of artists, musicians, nature lovers, critical thinkers, and passionate democrats.

Sam, Jane and Dash immigrated to BC in 2004. He felt most alive when giving back, amongst kind and generous spirits, and surrounded by beauty. To that end he spent his final years on Salt Spring Island, devoted to developing NOMO, his small non-profit foundation with a big ambition: to reduce the suffering caused by malaria and other insect-borne diseases. On SSI, Sam was surrounded by those he held dear, in the home and place he loved.

Sam was preceded in death by his parents, Dashwood and Mary Darling. He is survived by his five children - Heidi, Noelle, Taylor, Holly, and Dash; seven grandchildren- Isabelle, Layton, Liv, Ellis, Ada, Keola, and Charlotte - his sister Mary Peyton Lloyd, husband Tom and their children Meredith and Peyton, and his dear friend, Jane. In lieu of flowers please consider donating to NOMO or the Union for Concerned Scientists.

Farmland Trust & Grow Local are excited to announce our Community Local Food Project Grants.
 We are accepting applications for gleaming and garden share projects. Email growlocalssi@gmail.com to receive more info and a link to the application. Applications due July 23, 2023.

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY
 Wednesday July 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road.
Public welcome.

In Memoriam

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Anniversaries

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 This vehicle will be sold after 30 days of this notice being served or posted. Unless the persons being notified pay the outstanding debt of \$5,877.78 to Pretzel Motors Ltd.
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In Memoriam

In Memoriam

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HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF JULY 9 TO 15, 2023
THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:
 GEMINI, CANCER AND LEO

- ARIES**
 You'll go on a spontaneous adventure to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. You'll go shopping and spoil yourself. You could win some money or discover a forgotten bill in your pocket.
- TAURUS**
 Take the time to rest before setting off on a new adventure. You need to let go and let life guide you; it'll carry you where you need to go. Your artistic side will shine through, inspiring you to create a masterpiece.
- GEMINI**
 You'll be in a serious mood. While on vacation, you'll feel pressured to keep in touch with work or make big plans instead of having fun and living in the moment. Someone close to you may need your help.
- CANCER**
 Summer is flying by! There are already less than 10 weekends before fall. You must stay organized to enjoy everything you have planned. Your close friends will include you in outings so you can make unforgettable memories and enjoy the good times.
- LEO**
 You don't have enough time for all the ideas running through your head. You'll spontaneously plan a trip to leave immediately and another one for later this year. You'll start dreaming up some important personal and professional projects.
- VIRGO**
 Even if you're not on vacation, you'll allow yourself to indulge a little. At the very least, you'll make time to relax and recharge in nature. Enjoy your holiday instead of worrying about work to help you rediscover the joy in life.
- LIBRA**
 Your emotions may overwhelm you this week. In your love life, you'll notice immediately if the other person isn't sincere about their feelings. Your physical health is closely linked to your emotional state; find a balance to ease your mind.
- SCORPIO**
 Work won't slow down, even in the middle of summer. You'll have the wherewithal to discover new opportunities, sign lucrative contracts or establish new partnerships. However, be sure to make time for love and family.
- SAGITTARIUS**
 Even if you're off work, you'll keep in touch by taking your laptop outside. You could also cut your vacation short because of a problem at work. You'll be extremely invested in your job, much to the delight of your boss.
- CAPRICORN**
 Your heart is full of passion. You'll have a strong desire to attract attention if you're single or change things up in your current relationship. Home is the perfect place to rest and recharge your batteries.
- AQUARIUS**
 You won't be able to stop looking at work emails and getting tasks done even when you've promised yourself you'd rest and completely unplug during your vacation. You won't be able to switch off your phone.
- PISCES**
 Even if you're planning a relaxing holiday, you may choose a destination that won't allow you to slow down. You'll have the opportunity to fully express your thoughts and feelings during long talks in the evenings.

FUNDRAISER

ArtSpring's Treasure Fair set to launch July 12

Online viewing available now, with many items displayed at ArtSpring from July 12 to 15

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

ArtSpring's popular annual fundraiser Treasure Fair launched its online catalogue June 29 at treasurefair.artspring.ca with hundreds of collectibles and experiences to preview before bidding opens on the website at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 12 through 6 p.m. Saturday, July 15.

Last year, the auction's marquee item was a classic SL500 convertible Mercedes valued at \$10,000. This year, secured late in the donations drive, is a rare 1920 Heintzman & Co. baby grand piano, Louis XV-style in mahogany with matching bench valued at \$12,000.

While that might be the buzz-worthy story to watch, the range of other treasures up for grabs impresses committee chair Catherine Griffiths.

"This is the first full ArtSpring season back since the pandemic, and we are very excited about the quality of the donations this year. There is truly something for everyone, with all interests, in all price ranges."

A virtually brand-new rattan outdoor living room set, a handcrafted Greenland kayak, a private sailboat tour of Wallace Island with lunch, vacation packages to Yukon and California, antique hutches and roll-top desks, artworks, Stickle chairs, full season's tickets to ArtSpring, a vintage turntable, and fine china, silverware and furniture offer items and experiences to collectors and enthusiasts.

Griffiths is quick to point out that the auction is not all about high-ticket items, as many opportunities start as low as \$20. The Treasure Fair is accessible for those seeking more modest or practical items, including appliances, rugs, curious book ends, dishes, silk plants, designer handbags, concert tickets, restaurant and spa experiences, grocery



PHOTOS COURTESY ARTSPRING

A vintage turntable, above, and a Heintzman & Co. baby grand piano are just two of the unique items up for bid in the Treasure Fair auction this year.



gift cards and special expert sessions from gardening to parenting. Every submission to the Treasure Fair has been curated and evaluated by the dedicated volunteer organizing committee.

After some bumpy years during the pandemic, ArtSpring galleries will be fully open to display many of the most significant items for bidders to examine in person for the duration of the fair, while all bidding is conducted through the website. The community goal is to raise \$55,000.

To bid, registration is required. Advance registered bidders and donors are invited to attend the July 12 Treasure Fair Gala Reception to mingle and inspect items for two hours before the public auction goes live at 6 p.m. Savvy

shoppers have the edge in making first pick "Buy It Now" offers for the treasures that matter most to them, which is also an option for all bidders throughout the fair. Details of minimum bid, incremental bid amounts, and value of the item are included in each profile.

To see the catalogue, register to bid, and get tips and assistance on bidding protocol, visit treasurefair.artspring.ca.

ELECTRIFICATION

Standardized charging system makes a lot of sense

Perhaps you have seen the recent announcements of initially Aptera, then followed by Ford and GM shifting their electric vehicle charging strategy to support the NACS (North American Charging Standard) otherwise known as Tesla chargers (Level 2 Destination chargers and Tesla Superchargers for high-speed charging). Now other companies, like Rivian, Flo and ChargePoint, are following suit. This finally seals the deal for a single charging standard in North America.

Such technology battles are not new. Consider the Beta vs. VHS battle which was followed by Blu-Ray vs. HD DVD and now the many streaming options.



Jim Standen
EV
OLUTION

Another format competition was Palm Pilot vs. BlackBerry vs. iPhone. Eventually there are just a few winners. Try to find someone using a Beta machine or Palm Pilot today.

One of the first deaths in the EV charg-

ing arena was CHAdeMO the Japanese standard. Vehicles that use it will see that receptacle not being supported in favour of the Combined Charging System (CCS), the European standard. Now, CCS is destined to be replaced, at least in North America, over time by NACS. Europe is likely to stay with CCS. Global standardization can be a challenge. Left hand drive, right hand drive . . . you get it.

There are many reasons for NACS to win. It was the first to appear in North America, and has by far the most chargers in place. It has the highest reliability rating and is the only networked solution. But probably one of the biggest reasons is reliability. The NACS port is used for Level 1, 2 and Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC). The vehicle software determines the level, and then locks the port and engages the charging. There are no trigger switches, so little chance of damage to the charger wand or vehicle port. Because to date there is a single manufacturer, there is minimal chance of the issue of manufacturing variance, a topic of my recent article in the Driftwood.

The Tesla NACS Superchargers have no second party billing system (fobs, etc.). Plug in the car and the charge is automatically taken off the card you purchased the car with. Because of the network connectivity, there is real time interfacing with the vehicle. I know how many charging stalls are available

as I approach the station, my vehicle will pre-adjust the battery temperature in preparation for optimal high-speed charging. The software can re-route me to a better location for various reasons. The charging station is aware of the charging needs of each customer and can use that information to load balance, and if I am there parking past a full charger, I am fined at three times the normal rate. This pretty much discourages a non-charging Tesla from parking there, watching YouTube, Netflix or Apple TV on the free Wi-Fi. It remains to be seen how much of the network features will be available to the new converts.

Will a new host of charging adaptors appear to connect with NACS? Probably.

Will a new host of charging adaptors appear to connect with NACS? Probably. A decade from now, I suspect it will likely be a challenge to locate a CHAdeMO or CCS charger.

So, what does that mean for the EV charging locations on Salt Spring Island? For those considering adding additional charging units, there is now a choice. An ideal combination for today is at Moby's Pub or the Salt Spring Apple Company, which have both a J1772 for CCS and a NACS, or Country Grocer, which has two of each. In these and other locations, to future-proof and to provide the best customer experience, additional units will gradually shift to adding additional NACS.

Remember, the majority of electric cars to enter the street have yet to be built.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JULY 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
5	0008	3.0	9.8	9	0441	1.8	5.9
	0352	3.2	10.5		0917	2.3	7.5
	WE 1157	-0.1	-0.3		SU 1501	1.4	4.6
6	ME 2023	3.5	11.5	DI 2224	3.4	11.2	
	0117	2.8	9.2	10	0536	1.4	4.6
	0453	3.1	10.2	11	1131	2.3	7.5
7	TH 1244	0.1	0.3	MO 1551	1.9	6.2	
	JE 2056	3.5	11.5	LU 2250	3.3	10.8	
	0229	2.6	8.5	11	0623	1.1	3.6
8	FR 1330	0.4	1.3	TU 1655	2.3	7.5	
	VE 2127	3.5	11.5	MA 2315	3.2	10.5	
	0559	2.8	9.2	12	0707	0.8	2.6
SA	0724	2.5	8.2	WE 1523	2.8	9.2	
	SA 1415	0.9	3.0	WE 1821	2.7	8.9	
	SA 2156	3.4	11.2	ME 2341	3.2	10.5	

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