

inside:



it's all about  
**PETS**

PAGES 6 & 7



**16** Live radio play comes to ArtSpring stage

All About Pets ..... 6  
 Arts and Entertainment..... 8  
 Classifieds..... 10  
 Editorial ..... 4  
 Island Life ..... 11  
 Letters..... 5  
 What's On..... 11

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GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

63rd year  
Issue 28  
**\$1.50**

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PHOTO BY KIRSTEN BOLTON

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE:** Treasure Fair coordinator Catherine Griffiths sets up some of the 545 items, services and experiences available to bid on in the 22nd Treasure Fair fundraiser for ArtSpring. All bidding takes place through an online process, with many items available to view at ArtSpring in the opening gala on July 12 from 4 to 6 p.m., and then from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily through Saturday, July 15. Bidding ends at 6 p.m. Saturday. See treasurefair.artspring.ca for all the details, as well as a catalogue of the items to bid on. Treasure Fair is ArtSpring's major annual fundraising event.

## WATER QUALITY

# Tests find harbour water 'safe'

### Fecal indicator bacteria levels well below limits for swimming

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As water quality sampling ramps up for the summer swimming season, the health authority has added two new saltwater data points on Salt Spring Island — not at popular swim beaches, but in Ganges Harbour.

Samples from the two new sites — at the Centennial Park bulkhead and Churchill Beach — were tested Wednesday, June 21, for enterococci, the indicator bacteria Island Health uses to identify the presence of fecal contamination and provide an indication of the potential risk associated with swimming in a particular location.

The results put Ganges Harbour well into

the "safe for swimming" column — from a microbiological perspective, at least, according to Island Health standards.

Saltwater beaches are generally deemed "safe for swimming" when single sample results, or the average of the most recent five, find fewer than 35 of the bacteria per 100 mL sample, according to Island Health. The health authority will typically issue a red "swimming not recommended" warning at 70 per 100 mL, when there is "significant risk of illness" from entering the water.

Tests at Ganges Harbour showed "LT5" — meaning fewer than 5 of the bacteria found per 100 mL sample — in the water off Centennial Park, and 18 per 100 mL off the end

of Churchill Road.

During the same June 21 round of testing at lakes on Salt Spring — for E. coli, the indicator bacteria used for fresh water — St. Mary and Cusheon Lakes showed "LT5" (fewer than 5 bacteria per 100 mL), Blackburn and Stowel (aka Stowe) Lake 5, and Weston Lake 20.

For E. coli, a red warning is typically issued when results exceed 400 counts per 100 mL, or when the most recent five samples show greater than 200. Last August, Island Health temporarily advised against swimming in Stowel Lake as counts there reached 495.

**WATER TESTING** continued on 3

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**NORTH  
SALT SPRING  
WATERWORKS  
DISTRICT**

**NSSWD WATERING RESTRICTIONS  
CHANGING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT  
NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS  
DISTRICT IS IN**

**STAGE 3 WATERING  
RESTRICTIONS AS OF  
JULY 12, 2023**

**Stage 3 Watering Restrictions:**

- Even addresses are permitted to water on even dates
- Odd addresses are permitted to water on odd dates

**SPRINKLING**

- Can sprinkle between 7pm and 7am up to a maximum of 1 hour on permitted days.
- New lawns can be sprinkled during the hours stated above for 1 hour on permitted days or outside those times with a special permit.

**MICRO OR DRIP IRRIGATION OF TREES, SHRUBS & GARDENS**

- Can water trees, shrubs, and gardens with micro or drip irrigation before 10 am or after 5 pm up to a maximum of 3 hours on permitted days.

**HAND WATERING OF TREES, SHRUBS & GARDENS (with a bucket or hose with spring-loaded nozzle only)**

- Can hand water trees, shrubs, and gardens between 7 pm and 7 am up to a maximum of 2 hours on permitted days.

**WASHING OF VEHICLES & BOATS**

- Vehicles and boats can be washed anytime using a hose or pressure washer with a spring-loaded nozzle.

**WASHING OF DRIVEWAYS, BUILDINGS, SIDEWALKS, PARKING LOTS, PATIOS & DECKS**

- May be washed only with a special permit for the purpose of preparation for application of paint, preservative, stucco, or sealant.

**FILLING POOLS, HOT TUBS, FOUNTAINS, & GARDEN FEATURES**

- May be topped up but not filled.

**WATERING OF PUBLIC PARKS & PLAYING FIELDS**

- May be watered only with a special permit.

Visit the Water section for conservation tips or the Documents section to view the entire Bylaw or its overview. [www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca) (250) 537-9902

**Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.  
Every Drop Counts!**

**SD64**

**Buses get high marks**

Third electric vehicle should be on island this fall

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The electrification of Salt Spring Island's school buses will proceed — and has so far been a resounding success, according to officials.

Electric school buses serving students in the Gulf Islands School District (SD64) wrapped up the academic year logging more than 12,000 kilometres without a drop of diesel burned, according to director of operations Colin Whyte. The district estimates the two buses saved burning approximately 4,500 litres of fuel since the transition to an eventual all-electric fleet officially began after winter break — when the first bus began running Salt Spring Elementary, Phoenix Elementary and Gulf Islands Secondary School students to and from school, chiefly along Long Harbour and Mansell roads.

The second electric bus started service in

May, as the district's chargers came online; that bus shuttled students from along Stewart Road and the Beaver Point Road corridor.

"We have had positive reviews from drivers and passengers alike," said Whyte. "They especially like the quiet ride, and not having to smell diesel fumes."

A feasibility study done in 2019 estimated the full transition to electric school buses would eventually save the district some \$50,000 each year in fuel and maintenance costs — and from an operations perspective, Whyte said the district was pleased.

"There have been a few growing pains, like small warranty repairs," said Whyte, "but they have been reliable and well received overall."

SD64 has said the district plans to gradually replace its diesel bus fleet with electric buses as existing vehicles age beyond service requirements; Whyte said a third bus may be arriving on island soon.

"The district stands ready to receive one more electric bus this summer," said Whyte, "which we intend to put into service for next school year."

**RCMP**

**Assault witnesses sought**

July 4 incident in downtown Ganges

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One person was arrested behind Island Savings after an alleged assault that carried on across multiple locations in downtown Ganges, according to police.

Salt Spring RCMP are seeking witnesses, additional information and

any possible CCTV video that might have captured the attack on a youth police identified as female. Police responded to a report around noon on July 4 that another youth, identified as male, was "punching and slapping" a victim over an unspecified period of time — and across several locations in Ganges, including Rotary Park, the intersection of Lower Ganges Road and Hereford Avenue, and the United Church Meadow park.

According to RCMP Island District Advisory NCO Cpl. Alex Bérubé, police confronted the alleged attacker and the event was terminated "at the rear of a financial institution on McPhillips Ave."

"The male youth was arrested and the investigation continues," said Cpl. Bérubé. "Anyone with information or who has possession of CCTV video is asked to contact the Salt Spring RCMP at 250-537-5555."

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# Various water bodies sampled

## WATER TESTING

continued from 1

While previous summers have seen Island Health testing samples only from popular freshwater swimming spots on Salt Spring from mid-May to September, the health authority regularly tests samples from saltwater beaches elsewhere within its region. Samples are collected by municipalities and regional districts — in this case, the Capital Regional District (CRD) — then sent for testing and the results analyzed by Island Health.

Salt Spring Island's CRD senior manager Karla Campbell said the new testing was requested by the group supporting the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI), which advocates regulating liveboards in Ganges Harbour partly over concerns human waste was being discharged there by people living afloat.

Indicators of fecal material in waterways come from numerous sources, according to Health Canada, commonly

from insufficiently-treated wastewater effluent. The Ganges Harbour Wastewater Treatment Plant releases treated and disinfected water from the sewer into the harbour — but through a nearly five-kilometre outfall that discharges well past Second Sister Island, at a depth of some 16 metres below sea level.

### The receiving water at the end of the long [Ganges sewer] outfall is next scheduled to be tested in 2024.

The treated wastewater is monitored regularly, and according to reports from the CRD's Gulf Islands and Port Renfrew Wastewater Facilities Environmental Monitoring Program, the "marine envi-

ronment surface water" — also called the system's "receiving water," in this case at the mouth of Ganges Harbour — is checked every four years, or in the event of an emergency or unscheduled bypass or overflow from the treatment plant.

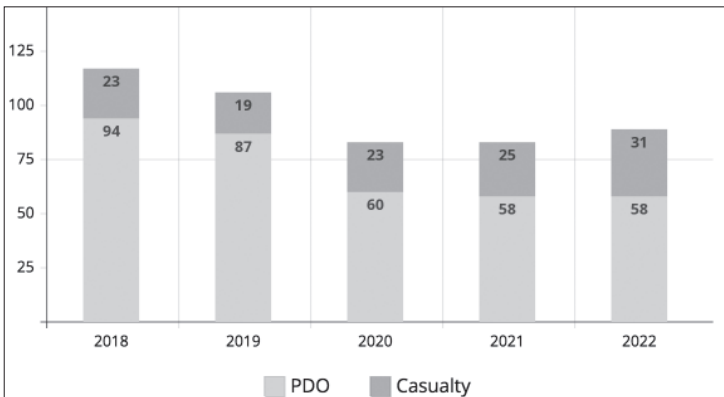
The last time that water was checked was in 2020, at which time all results were well below regulatory limits. One non-routine/emergency event in 2022 met the criteria to trigger unscheduled sampling, according to CRD reporting, but staff were unable to complete the testing within the required time for the results to be meaningful, "due to staff capacity and weather restrictions."

The receiving water at the end of the long outfall is next scheduled to be tested in 2024.

To see Island Health's complete 2022 season sampling results, visit [www.islandhealth.ca/sites/default/files/environment/documents/si-beach-sampling-report.pdf](http://www.islandhealth.ca/sites/default/files/environment/documents/si-beach-sampling-report.pdf).

## DRIVING

# Injury collisions on the rise



ICBC crash data for Salt Spring, 2018 to 2022, showing "property damage only" and "casualty" collisions.

## ICBC numbers show "casualty" crashes up 24 per cent

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The intersection of Lower Ganges and Park Drive/Crofton roads was the "crashiest" junction on Salt Spring Island in 2022, according to ICBC data.

And while overall collisions haven't increased much since falling at the onset of the pandemic, the number of those resulting in injuries remains stubbornly high.

ICBC released its numbers for last year, based upon its record of reported insurance claims, with data collected as recently as April 2023 — meaning any 2022 collision claims submitted up until that time are in the dataset. The turn-off downhill of the hospital topped the annual numbers with four collisions occurring there, according to ICBC, followed by two intersections on Fulford-Ganges Road — the Beddis Road turn (3) and Salt Spring Way (3).

The Park/Crofton intersection with Fulford-Ganges has featured in the top three every year since 2020, and tallied the most crashes over the 2018-2022 period, 17 in total. The intersection at "Central" — the Vesuvius Bay Road turn at Portlock Park —

was the worst in 2021 with five crashes, but dropped to just one in 2022.

So-called "casualty" crashes — those involving injuries and deaths, rather than merely property damage — were most common at the Beddis Road and Salt Spring Way intersections. All three crashes at both those intersections resulted in injuries last year. In contrast, three of the four Park/Crofton intersection crashes in 2022 were reported as "property damage only" (PDO) collisions.

Salt Spring Island generally followed the provincial trend toward more reported collisions in 2022 than 2021: 89, up from 83 — a seven per cent increase — but the number of casualty crashes on-island spiked from 25 to 31 — a 24 per cent jump. Indeed, while the total number of crashes each year has remained fairly constant since the drop in 2020, the number involving injuries and deaths has steadily climbed.

ICBC data are considered a more complete accounting of collisions than RCMP or even emergency services call counts, since many minor crashes do not require medical assistance nor reporting to the police.

To explore the data set on a map, visit [public.tableau.com/app/profile/icbc/viz/VancouverIslandCrashes/VIDashboard](http://public.tableau.com/app/profile/icbc/viz/VancouverIslandCrashes/VIDashboard) and select "Salt Spring Island" under the "Municipality" menu.

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### 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
12	0707	0.8	2.6	16	0129	3.0	9.8
	1523	2.8	9.2		0949	0.4	1.3
WE	1821	2.7	8.9	SU	1834	3.3	10.8
ME	2341	3.2	10.5	DI	2328	2.9	9.5
13	0749	0.6	2.0	17	0214	3.0	9.8
	1625	3.1	10.2		1027	0.4	1.3
TH	2002	2.9	9.5	MO	1908	3.3	10.8
JE				LU			
14	0010	3.1	10.2	18	0005	2.9	9.5
	0830	0.5	1.6		0257	3.0	9.8
FR	1713	3.2	10.5	TU	1103	0.4	1.3
VE	2137	2.9	9.5	MA	1938	3.3	10.8
15	0046	3.0	9.8	19	0042	2.8	9.2
	0910	0.4	1.3		0339	2.9	9.5
SA	1755	3.3	10.8	WE	1138	0.5	1.6
SA	2243	2.9	9.5	ME	2002	3.3	10.8

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## HAVE YOUR SAY

Islands Trust

Proposed Bylaw No. 138  
Rezoning to allow for the creation of two waterfront Rural General (RG) zoned lots through subdivision at 445 East Point Road (PID 009-628-894)  
COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING  
SATURNA ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is Proposed Bylaw No. 138?  
Proposed Bylaw No. 138 will amend the Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw No. 119, 2018 (LUB) to rezone the waterfront portion of the subject parcel located at 445 East Point Road from Rural Residential (RR) to Rural General (RG) to allow for the creation of two waterfront RG zoned lots through subdivision.  
How do I get more information?  
Copies of the proposed bylaw, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the application is available on the [Saturna Island Current Application webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after July 13, 2023.  
A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will be held prior to the Public Hearing and will provide the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the proposed bylaw amendments.  
Submissions  
Prior to the Public Hearing: Written submissions will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., July 26, 2023, by Email: [vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca), or Mail or Drop Off: Islands Trust, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8  
At the Public Hearing: Only written submissions presented at the Public Hearing will be accepted until the close of the Public Hearing. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 11:30 a.m.

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

Who should attend? Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.

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

# OPINION

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

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



## Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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### EDITORIAL

# Testing the waters

It should go without saying, we see little chance of Ganges Harbour usurping the title of "best swimming spot on Salt Spring Island."

And if readers are bemused by the notion of Island Health and the CRD using recreational beach water quality testing to check whether the busiest harbour in the Southern Gulf Islands is suitable for swimming, just imagine how it felt for a newspaper to report it.

Context, of course, is everything; in the context of the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI) making the request — and with that group's oft-stated concern that liveaboard residents are dumping their wastewater overboard and polluting Ganges Harbour — checking for indicator bacteria whose presence suggests fecal matter in the water makes perfect sense.

### THE ISSUE: Ganges Harbour pollution

### WE SAY: Context matters

But the answer in this case is less illuminating than the question.

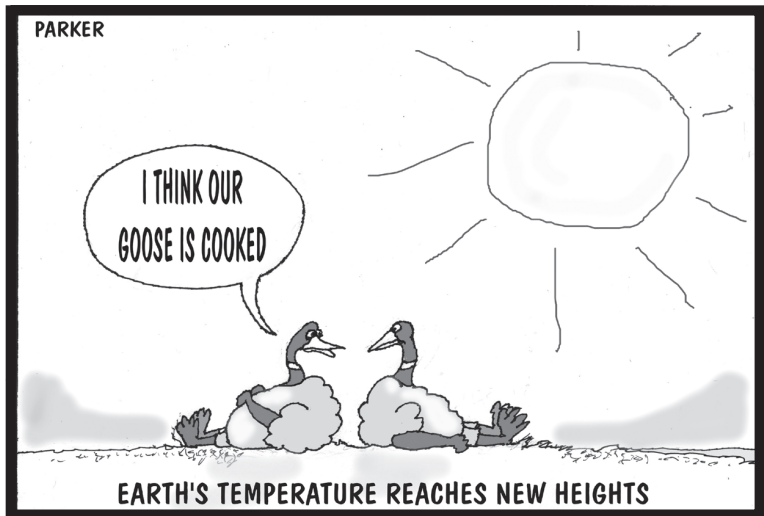
Latin scholars will recognize post hoc ergo propter hoc — "after this, therefore because of this" — a logical fallacy that seems to raise its head whenever simple solutions are presented to solve complex problems. In context, CASHI's question seems to carry an assumption: if there is pollution in Ganges Harbour, some must be from the liveaboards, and regulating the liveaboards will help solve the pollution problem.

But Ganges Harbour's environmental problems are complex, and the contributors to them myriad. Even taking the highest estimates for the numbers living afloat, their impacts are surely dwarfed by countless numbers of recreational and fishing vessels motoring in and out of the harbour year-round, and other activities there.

Assigning responsibility is difficult, and complex. There is no practical way to determine the provenance of every sack of garbage. By the time a vessel becomes derelict and sinks, the owner is usually long gone. A transient boater dumping waste or garbage on their way in or out is nearly impossible to detect.

The liveaboard population — often poorly resourced, and usually stationary — is an easy target. If we want to incrementally address pollution in the harbour, given the context of an affordable housing shortage, we should aim elsewhere.

The question CASHI asked was answered: yes, there is likely pollution from human waste in the harbour. A low enough level was found that, in the context of an ocean beach where people actually wanted to swim, Island Health would give the green light.



# More than meets the eye

BY FRANTS ATTORP

Those who control the process control the outcome. For evidence, look no further than political machinations on Salt Spring.

As the Local Trust Committee (LTC) seeks to add potentially thousands of additional suites and cottages through proposed Bylaw 530, an unspoken battle is brewing over sections of our official community plan (OCP) specifying that growth must be "incremental," changes "few and minor," "eventual population" limited and all densities considered, even those not yet developed.

OCPs are typically reviewed every five to 10 years. Salt Spring's has not been reviewed since it was adopted 15 years ago, so a broad community discussion about the future is long overdue.

The District of Sooke writes: "An OCP review involves significant public involvement from beginning to the end so that goals and policies reflect community concerns and hopes for the future. During an OCP update, the review process is open, transparent, and requires broad input from residents, elected officials, staff and stakeholders."

What a contrast to Salt Spring where trustees are working to avoid a full and inclusive discussion of the big ideas — questions relating to growth, population, sustainability, settlement patterns and housing options — and where trustee Laura Patrick has creatively coined the expression "focused OCP update" as a cover for "strictly limited discussion."

The previous LTC asked staff to proceed with Bylaw 530 despite a legal opinion from Trust lawyers stating it is a violation of the growth limits in our OCP. Now it is back on the table just before a planned OCP

### VIEWPOINT

amendment (as opposed to a full review), and without an impact assessment. This means the public will be allowed to address details, but

not concepts.

How is that even legal? As Trust lawyers have explained, it may not be. But who has the funds to mount a legal challenge?

The public consultation process was derailed three years ago when trustees decided to abandon a full OCP review and go with a fragmented committee approach that sidestepped a community discussion of the bigger picture (i.e. the vision).

The establishment of the single-issue Housing Action Program Task Force was particularly consequential as its recommendations are now being implemented. The chair of the task force speaks of "sustainability" and "protecting resources," yet has no problem using the density shotgun to give property owners permanent, lucrative entitlement to more development while producing only a handful of rental units.

How is approving all that potential development without a covenant requirement and a long-term impact assessment "protecting resources?" And there's more. According to the chair, "permitting accessory dwelling units is just one first step of many recommendations" designed to create "a diverse and healthy population with minimal impact per capita on the environment."

Bylaw 530 is about much more than creating a few extra dwellings; it's about using per capita calculations to focus on individual environmental footprint rather than total human impact, breaking free of Islands Trust restrictions, subverting nature and allowing Salt Spring to be developed like any other area. It's a developer's dream come true.

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Foreign: \$248.00 | Digital Edition: \$45.00 anywhere | Prices include GST



Funded by the Government of Canada



Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837 | International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782  
Member of News Media Canada + National NewsMedia Council, and BC & Yukon Community NewsMedia Association

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

## Do you support the latest version of Bylaw 530?

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

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



Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://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

### Medical Staff Association provides update

Many thanks to everyone in the community for their overwhelming support for the medical staff and allied health professionals during this challenging time. Many of you have reached out to see how you can help.

We have temporarily covered gaps in physician emergency room (ER) coverage at the Lady Minto Hospital until the end of September. An interim new funding model has helped us recruit locum ER physicians from other sites. We hope that this model can continue beyond September to enable ongoing recruitment.

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Hannah Gummeson will be joining Salt Spring Island Health Centre in late July. She is a home-grown talent, having spent much of her time growing up on Salt Spring, and she completed parts of her residency training here. There will be overwhelming demand for her services. As such there will be a randomized attachment process running from July 10 to July 14. Please call or drop by the Salt Spring Health Centre to put your name on the list. Unfortunately, once her initial patient panel is full, the clinic will not be keeping a waitlist. Other options that are available if you do not have a family doctor are to sign up for the provincial Health Connect Registry program: see more details at [healthlinkbc.ca/health-connect-registry](http://healthlinkbc.ca/health-connect-registry).

Primary care network planning is an excit-

ing ongoing process on Salt Spring Island that will eventually result in a multidisciplinary clinic that will be able to serve the various health needs of Salt Spring residents. Please stay tuned on this front as we will need the support of the public along the way.

As always, the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation is doing excellent work, including fundraising for the final stages of our new emergency room. We are thrilled to start working there in the fall!

If anyone has any experience or expertise in the recruitment field and would like to assist us in a grassroots recruitment campaign for new physicians, please contact [fems.lmh@gmail.com](mailto:fems.lmh@gmail.com). In addition, if you know a GP, ER physician or psychiatrist who is looking to relocate to this beautiful island, then we would love to meet them!

**DR. PETER VERHEUL,**  
LADY MINTO HOSPITAL MSA PRESIDENT, AND

**DR. KESH SMITH,**  
MSA VICE PRESIDENT,  
ON BEHALF OF THE LADY MINTO HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF ASSOCIATION

### Maintain distance

In response to Emily Whitelaw's Viewpoint piece in last week's Driftwood, certainly as she has framed it, the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative concept seems to be borderline vigilante in its attempt to perform due diligence to its own bylaw and its enforcement.

The Islands Trust ought to distance itself from endorsing such citizen-based policing of concepts tailored to such subject-

ive nuances regarding a subculture of water dwellers, many of whom have been "voted off the island" by lack of otherwise affordable accommodation.

There is probably need for at least one generational period where we cut people some slack regarding the difficulties of finding shelter in a system that should really consider taking food and shelter out of the capitalistic equation. There is plenty of other stuff to capitalize on other than survival-based necessities.

**PAUL MARCANO,**  
SALT SPRING

### Some facts omitted

Hugh Stephens, a resident of Willis Point near the CRD's Hartland landfill, correctly states in his July 5 Driftwood letter ("Director's position on exploring application of biosolids questioned") that I support overturning a CRD ban on applying treated, dried Class-A biosolids to non-agricultural lands.

He doesn't mention the CRD Board agreed, on a temporary basis, because the Lafarge cement plant (which was taking CRD's dried biosolids as fuel, substituting for coal) has been shut down longer than expected. CRD staff are investigating the longer-term solution of biosolid gasification and sale of renewable natural gas, as is being done with landfill-generated methane. However, temporary measures that comply with the provincial requirement for beneficial use, also not mentioned by Stephens, are still needed.

Here is some history: Due to the Lafarge shutdown, the CRD Board initially approved temporary application of biosolids to enhance vegetation and tree growth on a decommissioned portion of the landfill. This limited area could not sustain the volumes being applied, which were diverted to the active portion of the landfill. The province then notified CRD that this contravened their beneficial use requirement (again not mentioned by Stephens). Consequently, the CRD Board approved temporary shipment of biosolids to non-agricultural lands in the Nanaimo area. The Nanaimo Regional District expressed concerns, and CRD staff are now recommending beneficial disposition within our own regional district.

Mr. Stephens asks if Salt Spring would support land application of Class-A biosolids. In fact, voters here did exactly that in 2008 by approving funding for liquid waste composting at the CRD's 18-acre Burgoyne facility. However, CRD's 2011 ban on applying biosolids to land in 2011 — despite decades of such use by other regional districts in B.C., with no documented environmental or health impacts — precluded Salt Spring Island's plan, and is now costing us \$600,000 per year to ship the material (which is 97 per cent water) off-island.

A study of cost-saving options for Salt Spring's liquid waste, such as dewatering, will soon be considered by the Local Community Commission, but unless the CRD Board permanently ends its ban, off-island disposal will continue.

**GARY HOLMAN,**  
SALT SPRING CRD DIRECTOR

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**"We have had positive reviews from drivers and passengers alike. They especially like the quiet ride, and not having to smell diesel fumes."**

COLIN WHYTE, SD64 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, ON ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES

## Federal government needs to provide better Salish Sea management

I am deeply concerned about the health and wellbeing of the Salish Sea.

The Government of Canada has proven to be incapable of managing our marine environment. It's unlikely their intention, but Environment Canada, Transport Canada, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans are successfully overseeing the demise of the WSÁNEĆ territory. Only Parks Canada has shown recently a desire for improvement, transforming episodic consultations into actual relationship building.

One of the first big issues I confronted as a councillor in the District of Central Saanich in 2008 was the multi-jurisdictional swamp that governs the waters around our communities. The province owns the land below the water, and they grant limited power to municipalities to make "land"

use decisions. The federal government controls the surface and the water column. First Nations have unrealized inherent rights and jurisdiction. It's a total mess that often results in finger-pointing and administrative gridlock.

The result of the dysfunctional relationships is evident. The WSÁNEĆ territory once bubbled with wild Pacific salmon and herring, and the beaches were alive with shellfish. In about 100 years, federal government policy empowered industrial resource harvesting practices that reduced stocks to near extinction. Provincial government policy enabled industrial logging practices destroying the creeks and streams in the interior of the province. Local governments zoned industrial, commercial, agricultural and residential development choking the rivers and shorelines. The cumulative impact of all



**Adam Olsen**  
MLA'S  
**COLUMN**

the decisions has had devastating consequences for the biodiversity of the Salish Sea.

Federal policy is attempting to minimize the noise of large vessels to protect the endangered KOLLELOMEĆEN (Southern Resident Killer Whales) who are thankfully also free from the near constant harassment of the whale watchers. However, the federal effort concentrates attention on the other families of KOLLELOMEĆEN (transient and outside orcas), who aren't so lucky, they are relentlessly chased and distressed while foraging and

raising their young.

The federal government continues to lay waste to the territory, approving the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 container port expansion proposed by the Vancouver-Fraser Port Authority, and also attempting to shift power of anchorage decisions in the Southern Gulf Islands from Transport Canada to the port. Transport Canada's "consultations" are more appropriately characterized as notifications, with inherent indigenous rights all but invisible to federal bureaucrats who maintain total control of the information and process as they rush to the approval of their predetermined outcome.

At the same time as Transport Canada is pretending the port will do a better job of managing the movement of large vessels, they are simultaneously demonstrating total incompetence in managing

and enforcing their own regulations for mooring buoys for small vessels. As access to stable housing is increasingly difficult, naturally more people are living on boats in the sheltered bays and inlets near the services. Enforcement of mooring buoy and holding tank regulations is non-existent on our coast, leading to a proliferation of pollution and community conflict.

We are not on a good course. The federal government has ignored my pleas, and the pleas of my colleagues of all political stripes from federal, provincial, local and First Nations governments. We receive the minister's responses reassuring us that all is well. We know that is far from the case, and that we are in desperate need for a new marine management regime on the south coast of British Columbia.

# it's all about PETS



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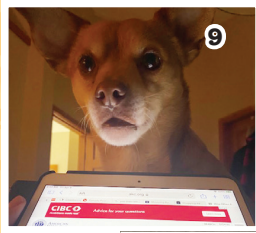
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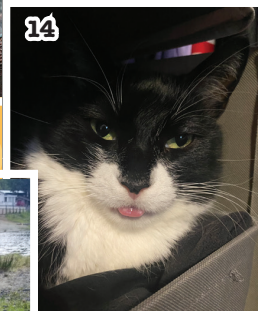
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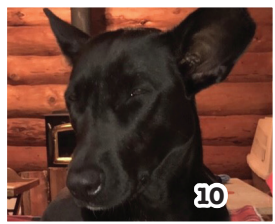
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**Sonya and Knopa**

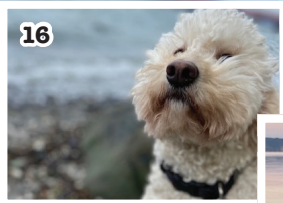
Sonya and Knopa are two dogs who have come to Salt Spring Island from the war zone of the city of Dnipro in Ukraine.

"They are lucky to be here as their city is heavily shelling by the Russian army," said their adoptees Olga and Charles McGill. "Even their vet clinic was destroyed."

Sonya, the biggest one, and Knopa were moved to the shelter in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv. Then, volunteers brought them to the airport in Warsaw and helped family members board them on the flight.

"They have come so scared, stressed and tired," the couple wrote. "Luckily, they live in the best place in the world and slowly are getting happier and more relaxed."





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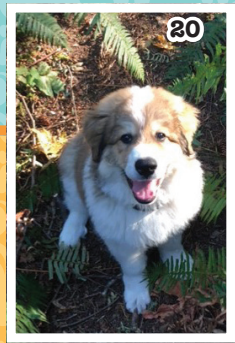
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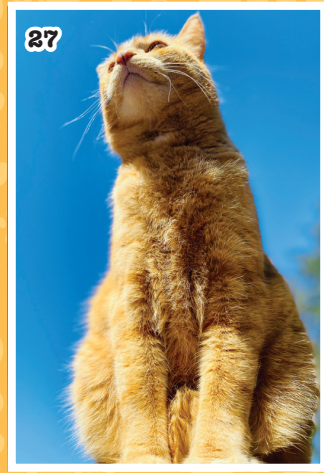
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1. **Dolly Barkin**  
submitted by Michael Ranftal
2. **Lacey**  
submitted by Candace Sikorski
3. **Felix**  
submitted by Sandy Guedes
4. **Kenny Dogers**  
submitted by Michael Ranftal
5. **Freddy & Max**  
submitted by Jim Sexton
6. **Jazz, left, and Licorice**  
submitted Jenny Meyer
7. **Kenzie**  
submitted by Ann McPhee
8. **Kitsa**  
submitted by Danielle Finnigan
9. **Eric Edward**  
submitted by Cheryl Fraser
10. **Magic**  
submitted by Lisa Dawn Mitchell
11. **Milo**  
submitted by Sandy Guedes
12. **Molly**  
submitted by Ann Earl
13. **Moose**  
submitted by Jacqueline Suzanne
14. **Mr. Smudge**  
submitted by Sandy Guedes
15. **Noodle the ferret**  
submitted by Ruby

16. **Ollie**  
submitted by Julie Nowell
17. **Ollie again**  
submitted by Julie Nowell
18. **Oscar**  
submitted by Jude Oliver
19. **Peppy and her new baby**  
submitted by Monica Maile
20. **Presley**  
submitted by Ranji Bhimji
21. **Striker & EmmyLou**  
submitted by Ann McPhee
22. **Tara**  
submitted by Deborah Osborne
23. **Willow**  
submitted by Sandy Guedes
24. **Brady**  
submitted by Clare Nuyens
25. **Buster**  
submitted by Gail Sjuberg
26. **Dexter**  
submitted by Clare Nuyens
27. **Mango**  
submitted by Clare Nuyens
28. **Sunny and Taylor**  
submitted by Wendy Lau
29. **Theo**  
submitted by Jesson Motherwell

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Artist Talk JULY 28 | 5:30 PM

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**EXHIBITIONS**

## Wood and metal crafts unite

Elemental the next Showcase exhibition at Mahon Hall

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
FOR SALT SPRING ARTS

Artcraft's second showcase exhibition of the season opens Friday, July 14 on the Mahon Hall stage with an exciting collaboration between two island creative groups. Elemental: Wood and Metal features examples of work from the Salt Spring Island Woodworkers Guild, Salt Spring Island Blacksmiths Group and other island metalworkers and woodworkers.

Members of the exhibiting group explain the two crafts of wood and metal work have long been associated in decorative and practical practice.

"Historically, a woodworker would incorporate metal hardware on practical pieces along with decorative elements in steel, bronze and precious metals," said Elemental coordinator Bryn Finer. "This continues today in practical items such as tools, musical instruments and more. This showcase strives to show the many possibilities of these collaborations as well as featuring the best examples of both crafts."

Finer has been one of the people to reactivate interest in the Salt Spring Island Woodworkers Guild in recent years, but as he noted it has a long history in the Gulf Islands and often joined others in presenting semi-annual shows of works.

"I really enjoyed it when I first moved here, in the late '80s and early '90s," Finer said, adding known craftsmen like Ilytyd Perkins, Bob McKay and Roger Warren were among the guild's driving forces in those days.

Many of the early shows were based on themes such as Boxed In and Time Flies, as well as challenge-themed events. For The 2X4 Show, for example, artists were constrained by a specified raw material, including size.

"Some fabulous things came out of that," Finer said.

Island metalworkers participating in the showcase include, but are not limited to, members of the Salt Spring Blacksmiths Group, which has been around for 15 years. They are a small group comprising both self-taught and trained smiths who



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

A few of Eben Finer's Ignis series of nine pieces made from South American ipe wood and unique forged metal. They form part of the next multi-artist Showcase exhibit on the Mahon Hall stage at Artcraft, running from July 14 to Aug. 14.

gather at the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute to share techniques and hold demonstrations. Finer's son Eben is one of the next generation working in both wood and metal. He is often at the Farmers' Institute on Sundays to open the workshop for young apprentices and anyone else who wants to advance a project or learn some techniques.

"It's a great group with great interest; more and more people want to come in," Eben reported.

Pieces to be featured in the show will include examples of fine furniture, instruments, functional objects like vases and bowls, sculptural artworks and more. Artisans confirmed to be participating along with the Finers include Katherine Ackerman, Barry Chatwin, Martin Herbert, Nick Hodson, Brian McAllister, Peter McFarlane, Steve Paterson, Peter Pierobon, Peter B. Reiner, Nycki Samuels, Jeri Sparshu and Grant Wickland.

An opening reception for Elemental will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, July 14, with an artists' talk scheduled for July 28 at 5:30 p.m. The show runs to Aug. 14 during Artcraft hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

**LIVE MUSIC**

## Ruth Moody up first at Pitchfork Social

Popular Americana-roots series finds new home

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Pitchfork Social is returning this summer with three concerts taking place outdoors on The Jam Factory property at 319 Upper Ganges Rd.

First up is two-time Juno Award winning singer-songwriter Ruth Moody, perhaps best known as a founding and current member of The Wailin' Jennys. Moody and her band will perform on

Sunday, July 23 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The second show sees Frazey Ford and her band entertain the crowd on Friday, Aug. 5. A founding member of The Be Good Tanyas, Ford has released two critically acclaimed solo albums, including Juno-nominated Indian Ocean in 2014, and U kin B the Sun in 2020.

Singer-songwriter and virtuosic multi-instrumentalist Tony Furtado concludes the season on Friday, Sept. 1.

Tickets for all 7:30 p.m. shows are available online through Brown Paper Tickets.

Concerts take place behind The Jam Factory building, where Francis Bread, The Woodshed, Salt Spring Kitchen Co. and Mavericks ice cream businesses are located. Seating is provided and carpooling is encouraged.

Charcuterie, dinner entrees and beer, wine and cocktails will be for sale onsite through The Jam Factory food vendors.

Pitchfork Social events have been held in the past at Bullock Lake Farm, Fulford Hall, Beaver Point Hall and at an Isabella Point property when it was known as Southend Grooveyard.

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**On the same page.**

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ON STAGE

# CHiR presents radio play



PHOTO BY CHARLEY MILLER

Three performers in *The Adventures of Tom Thumb*, Private Detective radio play running July 21-22 at ArtSpring are, from left, Sid Filkow as the Newsboy (and the playwright), Eric Pollins as Tom Thumb and Wendy Beatty as Rapunzel.

## Tom Thumb detective tale recalls 1940s radio noir genre

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Community Radio Society is close to achieving a \$50,000 fundraising goal and hopes an upcoming radio play fundraiser at ArtSpring

will ensure the CHiR.fm radio station can become a reality.

The *Adventures of Tom Thumb*, Private Detective is written by Sid Filkow of Salt Spring Hysterical Society and *The Geezers* fame in a classic 1940s radio noir mystery style. It will run at ArtSpring on Friday-Saturday, July 21-22 at 7:30 p.m.

As the title suggests, the lead character is the Tom Thumb from English folk tales, who is trying to figure out "the case of the forbidden fruit." Other cast members are well-known fairytale characters.

"It's sort of like Boston Blackie meets fractured fairy tales meets the *Goon Show*," explained Filkow. "It's very funny," said radio society president and Tom Thumb director Damian Inwood. "We laugh our way through rehearsals and it's still funny even though we've read it loads of times."

The cast includes Carlo Locatelli as Announcer, Emcee and The Huntsman; Charlotte Mitchell as Snow White, The Mirror and Shep Wooly; Mark O'Neill as Boy Blue and Humpty Dumpty; Charley Miller as Jill and Red Riding Hood; Sue Newman as The Queen; Eric Pollins as Tom Thumb, Wendy Beatty as Rapunzel and David Crone as the Sound Man. Filkow also has a cameo part as the Newsboy.

Filkow is a radio society member, and he and Inwood worked together on a past Salt Spring Community Theatre production. Filkow had pretty much written the play, which was sitting in a drawer, when he contacted Inwood to suggest it be produced as a fundraiser for the radio society.

The Tom Thumb event has since evolved into a full evening of entertainment, with live musical interludes from *The Myrtle Sisters* and *The Regulas*.

"There's entertainment, there's a variety show, and it's got a theme and a play," said Filkow. "It's kind of a moveable feast."

The sound effects are also terrific and often humorous, said Inwood.

Tickets for the show are on sale through ArtSpring.

PERFORMING ARTS

# New leader for Theatre Alive

Enthusiasts invited to July 23 AGM

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A long-running performing arts organization is undergoing another metamorphosis as Maggie O'Scalleigh takes the reins of the Salt Spring Theatre Alive Society.

Chris Humphreys had been artistic director of Theatre Alive since late in 2019, with a Jan. 1, 2020 staged reading of *The Importance of Being Earnest* the first show under his helm before facing the pandemic shutdown and the slow return to live performances of any kind.

When O'Scalleigh heard that Humphreys was unable to continue leading the organization, she jumped at the chance to become its artistic director.

O'Scalleigh was the producer, administrator and an instructor for Stage-Coach Theatre School from 2008-2014 and says her life passion has primarily been for musical theatre. She studied classical voice training in Toronto for five years before moving first to Victoria, and then to Salt Spring with her husband Jaysun and their then three-year-old child Kane in 2004.

The Theatre Alive society has deep roots on Salt Spring, first created by Diana Hayes and Yvonne Adalian in 1984 to bring innovative literary and theatre events to local audiences.

Humphreys, who just published his 22nd novel — *Someday I'll Find You* — said he is so busy with writing and travelling, and "being a one-man band" with Theatre Alive was a lot of work, though rewarding.

"I felt fresh blood, with all the enthusiasm that Maggie brings, will allow more shows, a wider remit and lots of thinking entertainment for a hungry audience of Salt Springers," he said.

O'Scalleigh plans to diversify Theatre Alive offerings and to hopefully increase revenue for ArtSpring at the same time.

"I want to see if we can find more programming through Theatre Alive that will get more bums in seats; people who wouldn't necessarily have gone to ArtSpring before."

As well, O'Scalleigh wants to present more stories from Black, Indigenous, people of colour and immigrant writers.

"There's more playwrights coming forward, more stories being told, and readers theatre is really enacting a story," she said.

O'Scalleigh is inviting participation and ideas from community members interested in theatre and story telling. The society's annual general meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, July 23 at 6 p.m. Contact O'Scalleigh at [jaynmags@gmail.com](mailto:jaynmags@gmail.com) to get the link and for more information.



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**Obituaries**

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**Celebration**

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**WEEK OF  
JULY 16 TO 22, 2023**

**THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:  
VIRGO, LIBRA AND SCORPIO**



**ARIES**  
Self-esteem is essential for personal development. You'll be recognized for your accomplishments, which will fill you with pride. If you're single, having more self-confidence will get you noticed by the right person.



**TAURUS**  
You don't have to go far to have an amazing summer vacation. Staying home and spending time with family is all you need. If you manage your time wisely, you'll be able to see all the people you haven't seen in a long time.



**GEMINI**  
You'll feel restless and strike up conversations with several people. You'll spend hours discussing everything under the sun to get to know the people around you. You're naturally curious and will read anything you can get your hands on.



**CANCER**  
Although you're still unsure about something, you'll look ahead and move forward with determination. You'll find the means to start your own business or treat yourself to a dream holiday.



**LEO**  
A little excitement could do you good, as would maintaining dynamic relationships with your loved ones and developing new friendships. One activity won't wait for another. The New Moon could cause some confusion.



**VIRGO**  
A little accumulated fatigue could slow you down. Try catching up on sleep. On the job, extra work combined with colleagues on vacation will force you to double your efforts.



**LIBRA**  
Managing your social accounts will help you engage more effectively. You could organize a spontaneous trip or getaway with your loved ones, from which you'll bring back many unforgettable memories.



**SCORPIO**  
You may take on a renovation or building project that will double the value of your home. The effort you put into improving your home will fill you with pride. Someone close to you will suggest an exciting outing.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
You'll be given the opportunity to go on a getaway. You'll be inspired by a pilgrimage or spiritual activity. You may spend more time practicing new meditation techniques.



**CAPRICORN**  
You'll have to get a handle on your emotions for one reason or another. You'll be called on for your generosity. At the very least, you'll have to take care of a loved one. Fatigue and stress could affect your mood; take some time off.



**AQUARIUS**  
The new moon is the perfect time to create more harmony in your life. You could come across a new job opportunity, even in the middle of summer. You'll have to choose between two offers from people close to you.



**PISCES**  
The summer holidays are fast approaching! However, you won't take any time off until you've finished all your chores. At home, a deep cleaning or renovation project will bring you much satisfaction. Someone close to you will need you.

*Nancy Rennie James*  
1925 – 2023



Nancy Rennie James passed away on 20 June 2023, at Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island, British Columbia.

Nancy was born in Chicago in 1925, a "child of the depression" she would say, and it affected her for life. Her father, an out-of-work electrical engineer, took a teaching job at no salary. Her mother fed out-of-work men on the back porch.

Valedictorian at Sutherland High School, she wanted to be a "hermit in a canoe", to the great consternation of her very social mother. She graduated from Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, in 1947 with a B.A., tuition being paid by her brothers. Nancy held Carleton in high regard. She later graduated from Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, in 1952 with a Ph.D. in physics, although she said she would have been a better engineer than physicist.

In Ames, Nancy met and married Allen, a geneticist. They spent their early married life in Deep River, Ontario, a small company town for Atomic Energy of Canada. Surrounded by forest and canoe country, it was surely heaven for her. There she raised four boys, played French horn in the local orchestra, and rose to be Division Commissioner for the Girl Guides. In 1970, she and Allen moved the family to Ottawa, Ontario. There she worked as the Budget Officer for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council until Allen's death in 1989.

Nancy discovered Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, and moved there in the early 1990's. There she had her own house designed and built. It was the ideal place for her; she never wanted to move again. With the help of truly exceptional friends, she was able to live in her own house until her passing.

For a hermit in a canoe, she travelled far, living in 5 countries and visiting more than 60 countries, from Svalbard, Norway, in the far north to Antarctica in the south.

She will be greatly missed by her children, grandchildren, and a diverse collection of very dear friends

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Please join us for a celebration of Natalie's life.  
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2:00 – 4:00 pm  
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**Coming Events**


**Coming Events**

**For Sale**

**The Monday, July 17th Board of Trustees Meeting at 7pm, in the fire hall training room is canceled.**

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be August 21 at 7pm, in the fire hall training room.

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Applications due July 23, 2023.

**Coming Events**

**Storage**

**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.  
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# ISLAND LIFE



PHOTO BY GAIL SIJBERG  
**CAN'T MISS IT:** Seen at the outer wharf in Ganges Harbour on Saturday is the 49-metre-long Friendly Confines yacht. According to yachtfinder.com, "Friendly Confines has been designed to comfortably accommodate up to 10 guests in 5 suites. She is also capable of carrying up to 8 crew onboard to ensure a relaxed luxury yacht experience." The vessel was built by Hike Metal Works in Wheatley, Ont. in 2006 and refitted in 2018.

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## LOCAL NEWS MATTERS



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# what's on this week

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.  
**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Town Hall Meeting.** Public encouraged to bring questions for trustees and staff. Meaden Hall. 5 p.m.  
**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 13

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Festival Afloat:** Renée Layla, with Brazilian samba band Ciranda and Jose Sanchez perform from the Providence tall ship. Ganges Harbour by the floatplane dock. 7 p.m. Advance tix through [raventrust.com/paddle/](http://raventrust.com/paddle/)  
**Morien Jones.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Tennyson King With Chris Noble.** 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.  
**Kurt Loewen.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.** Monthly meeting at the SD64 Learning Hub. 9:30 a.m.  
**Treasure Fair.** View items in person at ArtSpring from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and/or see them on the [treasurefair.artspring.ca](http://treasurefair.artspring.ca) website.  
**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Fri. July 14

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**The Fugitives.** Folk-roots band performs at ArtSpring. Part of Treasure Fair festivities. 7:30 p.m.  
**Billie Woods.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Fridays With DJ Boomtown.** Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. til 12:30 a.m.  
**Rough & Tumble.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.  
**Karaoke.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.  
**Tetsu & DJ Sarah Etherington.** Mateada Social Club. 8 p.m. to midnight.

### ACTIVITIES

**Treasure Fair.** See Thursday listing.  
**ASK Salt Spring.** CRD director Gary Holman is this week's guest outside at SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**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. Drop-in on Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m.  
**Friday Game Night.** For ages 13 to 19. Library program room. 7 p.m.  
**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Sat. July 15

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Jose Sanchez.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.  
**The Brooooco's.** Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.  
**Los Duendes.** At Mateada Social Club. 8 p.m.  
**Iain Duncan Jazz Trio.** The Legion. 7:30 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Saturday Market in the Park.** Centennial Park market. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
**Treasure Fair.** See Thursday listing. Plus online bidding ends at 6 p.m.

Sun. July 16

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Blues Jam. Singers, players and fans welcome.** The Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.  
**Vixx.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**J. Knutson and the Swamp Devils.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Mon. July 17

### ENTERTAINMENT

**Vixx.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Comic Book Mini Camp.** First day of a five-day comic book crafting mini-course with Indigenous artist and comic book author Cole Pauls at the library. Space may still be available in the session for ages 10-13 that runs from 1 to 2:45 p.m. Preregister by emailing [jwagner@saltspringlibrary.com](mailto:jwagner@saltspringlibrary.com).

Tue. July 18

### 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.  
**Kathy Stack Trio.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**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 19

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo: Roly Poly String Trio.** All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.

Wed. July 19

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**John Herbert.** With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**GreyVine Duo.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

### ACTIVITIES

**Central Community Hall Society Board of Directors Meeting.** Public welcome. Lower hall of Central Hall. 7 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-Thursday, July 12-13, nightly at 7 p.m. Then **Elemental** runs Friday, July 14 to Tuesday, July 18 at 7 p.m. nightly plus a Sunday 3 p.m. matinee. See [thefritz.ca](http://thefritz.ca) for more movie info.

### EXHIBITIONS

• **Elemental: Wood and Metal,** a multi-artist Showcase Exhibition at Artcraft at Mahon Hall, opens Friday, July 14 and runs daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until Aug. 14. Opening reception is on Friday, July 14 from 6 to 8 p.m.  
 • **Cheryl Long's** exhibition called **Almost Unseen – Angels and Spirit Forms in Landscape** is at **Salt Spring Gallery** from Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until July 26.  
 • **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 shop 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](http://treasurefair.artspring.ca) to register and for all the details.

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES

# Juniors master RCMSAR program



PHOTOS COURTESY RCMSAR STATION 25

At left, RCMSAR Station 25 Juniors Program members gather with a dummy on a marine stretcher after a rescue training exercise, and on the Amarah Gabriel rigid hull inflatable vessel, above.

## Community service, personal growth and other benefits

SUBMITTED BY RCMSAR 25

The Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Station 25 (RCMSAR 25) is thrilled to congratulate Kaelen Whyte, Sonja Reynolds, Brandan Reynolds, Tejas Grooms, Shore Winstone and Flynn Shugar on

their successful completion of the RCMSAR Juniors Program.

The Work Experience Program, organized in partnership with the Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) and RCMSAR 25, provides participants with a comprehensive understanding of boating safety principles through classroom sessions, hands-on activities and practical demonstrations.

"RCMSAR 25's junior program provides an opportunity for community service and personal growth through adventure, teamwork and practical experience on the water. Along with a sense of purpose, our youth learn the value of volunteering and the career possibilities open to professional mariners," explains Richard Dowker, RCMSAR's manager of training and development.

Led by a team of RCMSAR 25's experienced instructors, including John de Bruyn, Sky Losier and Janet Taylor, the RCMSAR Juniors Program offers participants an exceptional learning experience. Coxswains Losier, Paul FitzZaland and Tim Slaney supervised the on-the-water training, ensuring that students received practical guidance in safe boat handling, navigation and emergency preparedness. The program also involved the dedicated support of Shari Hambrook, a Youth Work In Trades Program and work experience teacher from GISS, who played a crucial role in facilitating the program.

As part of the program, students obtained their Marine Standard First Aid certification, Pleasure Craft Operator Card and Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate (Maritime). They developed vital skills in boat handling, marine safety, navigation using radar and charts, identifying and understanding marine aids to navigation, assessing environmental conditions, and marine search and rescue techniques. The program emphasized safety, teamwork and critical decision-making in time-sensitive situations, preparing students for real-life boating scenarios.

Participants in the RCMSAR

Juniors Program had several experiences that left lasting impressions. One involved the spotting of a large, almost totally submerged deadhead, which they promptly flagged with a clearly visible orange marker, contributing to the safety of fellow boaters. Another memorable training was an extended search for a rescue dummy, which highlighted the challenges of finding targets on the water, even in relatively calm weather conditions.

**"Along with a sense of purpose, our youth learn the value of volunteering and the career possibilities open to professional mariners."**

**RICHARD DOWKER,**  
*RCMSAR manager of training and development*

The students also enjoyed a visit to the Canadian Coast Guard open house in Victoria and RCMSAR headquarters in East Sooke for a tour and training on their rescue vessel simulator.

RCMSAR is a vital part of the marine rescue system on the West Coast and on lakes in the Interior of British Columbia. It operates as an all-volunteer charity committed to saving lives on the water. Their dedicated crews are ready to respond to emergencies day or night, 365 days a year. RCMSAR relies on the support and generosity of their neighbours for fundraising and volunteer assistance. To contribute to their life-saving efforts, please consider making a donation at [rcmsar25.com](http://rcmsar25.com).

Students at GISS who are interested in joining the RCMSAR Juniors Program next fall can visit [rcmsar25.com](http://rcmsar25.com) or email [juniors@rcmsar25.com](mailto:juniors@rcmsar25.com) for more information.

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