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FALL FAIR SCHEDULE



PG 12



11 Island man on Canadian street luge team



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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2024

64th year
Issue 36
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CARRYING THE LOAD: Salt Spring Literacy (SSL) volunteer and past board member Karen Dakin accepts book donations at SSL's Books & Bling Donation Day on Saturday, Aug. 31 outside Salt Spring Island Middle School. Books & Bling volunteers are gearing up for this year's fundraising sale at the Farmers' Institute from Oct. 25-27. Books and jewellery will also be accepted just prior to the sale.

WATER

NSSWD hook-up ban eases

Studies find Maxwell Lake side of water system could support 300 more connections

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Ten years after bringing new connections to a halt, Salt Spring Island's largest water district is gently lifting its foot off the brakes.

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) board of trustees voted Thursday, Aug. 29 to propose adding the water-draw equivalent of as many as 300 multi-family dwelling connections — although on only the south side of the district, at least for now.

NSSWD's infrastructure comprises two separate water systems, which get supply from two lakes — Maxwell and St. Mary — serving what the district said is currently 1,856 water connections and approximately 5,500 users. After an extensive new supply reliability assessment, consultants and district staff found the latest advanced climate models supported adding more connections on the Maxwell Lake side.

Noting the numerous reliability reports that had been done in the past decade, NSSWD board chair Brian Pyper emphasized how the latest distinguished itself — comprehensive, he said, district-wide, and heavy on the science.

"We're talking about [analysis] across numerous global circulation models, as opposed to the simplistic approaches that were previously used," said Pyper. "The future water supply in our current study was assessed using monthly temperature and precipitation projections all the way up to the year 2100, across an ensemble of six global circulation models. This is getting us really close to the best available science, and recognized approaches to tackling this kind of issue."

Despite the upcoming weir-raising on St. Mary Lake at Duck Creek — a \$10-million project funded by the province — those models also indicated that the northern section of NSSWD's system will be hard-pressed to support its existing connection commitments with high reliability every year — at least, on its own.

NSSWD continued on 2

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INFRASTRUCTURE

F-G Road work begins Monday

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. schedule set

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Crews set to start work on Salt Spring Island's busiest route are already on-island, kicking off construction on Fulford-Ganges Road south of Ganges in earnest on Monday, Sept. 9.

Environmental protection systems are being placed in advance of road work, according to Northridge Excavating Ltd. project manager Bob Mitchell, and drivers may have already seen some crew members out last week. Traffic control personnel will be on hand to guide alternating one-lane traffic on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., he added, after which Fulford-Ganges Road will largely be back to normal until work begins the next day.

"You'll see some road plates, there might be flashing barricades and in certain sections you'll need to go slower," said Mitchell. "But it's all going to be well marked."

The 1.6-kilometre stretch of Fulford-Ganges Road from Seaview Avenue to Cranberry Road will see both underground and surface work, expected to be completed by November 2025, according to a public notice from Northridge. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) officials have said the Vancouver Island-based contractors will be resurfacing and widening the road as part of the \$22.9-million project, with improvements including paved shoulders for pedestrians and cyclists — a 1.2-metre-wide

shoulder heading north (or downhill into Ganges) and 1.8 metres in the southbound direction, as well as pedestrian crossings and refuge areas.

Mitchell said his team would work toward keeping traffic disruptions over the coming months well under the 20-minute delays ministry officials warned of early in project planning, and that they would be in close communication with people living along the route — particularly when there might be the potential for disruption on the roadway in front of them.

"We're going to be sensitive to people's needs," said Mitchell, "especially as everyone starts to get into the flow of things. We'll be out visiting with people well in advance."

The company works on Salt Spring often, Mitchell said. A local excavator was out with his machine last week and Mitchell said they plan to continue to make use of local services. Planners have been in communication with groups such as BC Transit and emergency services, to ensure disruption for those users is minimal. Gulf Islands School District director of operations Colin Whyte said Northridge had been in "very recent" contact with the district, and given the planned road work hours he anticipated minimal delays for school buses.

"We're certainly watching it very closely," said Whyte. "If we need to make adjustments, we'll send out notices to parents and students, to make sure we are doing everything we can to get everybody to school — and home — on time."

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Housing projects possible

NSSWD

continued from 1

So trustees Thursday also conditionally approved a plan to connect the north to the south, through an upgrade on the Crofton Pump Station across from Country Grocer. That would join them into one large water system, with a target completion of the end of 2026, and would require completing the planned dissolved air flotation (DAF) plant for the Maxwell Lake system and aligning the two lakes' water treatment.

Island Health has mandated that plant be built as part of an effort to remove more of Maxwell Lake's organic matter, which reacts with chlorine treatment to create trihalomethanes (THMs) such as chloroform and bromodichloromethane. St. Mary Lake already has a DAF plant. The cost for that new Maxwell Lake system — and interest on any required borrowing to complete it — is significant and would be borne by ratepayers, although it could be partially offset by money collected on new connection fees.

Once linked, according to NSSWD CAO Mark Boysen, the combined system would be more resilient and adaptable to shifting climate patterns, population growth and use changes the island could see in the coming decades.

That two-lake team-up is part of a suite of proposed system improvements, which include some that could boost water supply across the district: exploring an increase in diversion flows from Rippon Creek into Maxwell Lake, and — after significant study and senior government approval — reducing the environmental flow requirements for fish-spawning purposes at Duck Creek.

The broader implications of new water connections on Salt Spring Island were not lost upon NSSWD's board and staff, who noted the new projections of supply availability in the Maxwell Lake system could help ameliorate the housing crisis, particularly in Ganges.

A 2022 Capital Regional District (CRD) study indicated an immediate need at that time of roughly 300 housing units, notably the same number of new connections proposed.

Water availability has been a stumbling block for affordable housing projects within the NSSWD in the last 10 years, as they need to prove secure water availability in order to proceed. The Islands Trust Policy Statement also explicitly requires Local Trust Committees curtail new density in areas where freshwater supply is "likely to be inadequate or unsustainable."

New connection requests will still have to meet all Islands Trust zoning and CRD building permit requirements, according to staff.

"We'll also be communicating with our partners because this is a significant change to the island."

MARK BOYSEN
NSSWD CAO

NSSWD trustees and staff also plan to roll out a new quarterly public reporting process, where any new connections and system capacity would be carefully monitored over the coming months, as well as an updated series of studies in 2027 to confirm the effects of both new connections and system upgrades.

In the meantime, the moratorium on new connections for the St. Mary Lake side will remain in place, and the district will launch a public engagement process this fall for feedback from ratepayers and residents, as well as a legal review of the proposed policy change in November.

"We'll also be communicating with our partners," said Boysen, "because this is a significant change to the island. So we'll be working with the province, the Islands Trust and the CRD to make sure that they are informed about the ramifications of this potential change — and get feedback from them as a part of the process."

A final revision to the moratorium policy could be presented to the board as soon as December. For more information visit northsaltspringwaterworks.ca/moratorium-review.

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BC POLITICS

Green party issues 'cease and desist' letter

Island woman views party action as "reckless escalation"

BY GAIL S.JUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Green Party of B.C. (GPBC) has sent a cease and desist letter to Salt Spring Island resident Amy Haysom, who has publicly protested the process by which she was disqualified as a Green candidate in the Saanich North and the Islands (SNI) riding nomination contest.

Haysom had launched a petition to recall the SNI GPBC nomination contest and reinstate her name on the ballot, and said she would take legal action if that did not take place. Haysom alleges the GPBC did not follow its own bylaws in removing her from the ballot right before online candidate voting began, and she was frustrated by not being told the specifics of information that supposedly led to her disqualification.

However, the GPBC has threatened Haysom with legal action if she does not "stop breaching the agreement you entered into with the party when you sought to become the candidate for SNI, and to stop spreading inaccurate information in an attempt to pressure the party to support you as a potential candidate," states a letter from GPBC counsel Sean Hern. The letter maintains Haysom "did not disclose issues in your background that later emerged and caused the party to determine that it could not continue to support you as a contestant." Haysom disagrees with that statement.

The letter states that she violated terms of the BCGP MLA Candidate Application agreement related to confidentiality and other matters.

"While demonstrating repeatedly over the last three weeks your unsuitability as a person that the party would endorse as a candidate, you are also causing the party damage with this unlawful course of conduct.

"As a result, the party hereby demands that you cease and desist your continued breaches of the agreement and your misrepresentations to the public. Please move on. The party is not going to go through another candidacy process in the riding, and you are not going to be reinstated as a contestant. Run as an independent candidate or seek another party's endorsement if you wish to participate in the provincial election. If you continue with your current course of action, the BC Green Party reserves all of its rights to take legal action against you."

Haysom said the Greens' statement and public sharing of the cease and desist letter "is a reckless escalation



ELIZABETH MAY

tion of the matter on the part of the party," which "points to a continued pattern of lack of proper management within the BC Greens." Both documents contain incorrect statements, she said.

"In their past public statement, they stated they were not the arbiters of whether outside information is true or not. However, in the cease and desist letter, they have suggested it was 'credible' information. Their communications on the issue are changing," Haysom said.

"They suggest I was not confidential, however, they left me to explain to friends, family and supporters that I had been disqualified, as there was no public statement from the party, and my profile remained on the website for three days after my disqualification."

Green Party of Canada leader and Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May has been drawn into the controversy.

Her name had appeared on the Haysom petition, and Haysom issued an initial press release including that information. However, after hearing from May that she did not sign it, Haysom told media she believed that was true and someone must have put May's name on the online petition site.

May told the Driftwood on Friday, "I don't support it, and I'm very strongly supporting Rob Botterell to be our next member of the Legislative Assembly for Saanich North and the Islands. I supported him for the nomination, and I certainly will do everything I can to help Rob be the MLA. There are big shoes to fill when it comes to replacing Adam Olsen, but I think Rob's up for it, and I think he'll be an excellent MLA."

May noted the contact information used for her on the petition "had a phone number that I haven't used in a bunch of years" and she was on vacation in Haida Gwaii and nowhere near a computer at the time of the alleged signing.

"The timing [of Haysom's disqualification] was certainly unfortunate, and I do sympathize with Amy that the timing was unfortunate, but these are the rules that any candidate who applies to run understands or should understand."

Haysom said the BC Greens website features the statement "Putting people first," but "I don't feel I've been treated as a person in this situation. I went through a thorough vetting process, and I was presented by the party and the riding association throughout the whole campaign as a suitable candidate. I am a renter, a mother, a member of the community, and I

was courageous to put myself forward as a possible candidate. I am simply asking for an explanation as to the reason for the removal from the ballot at the 11th hour, and many constituents are asking the same question."

She said the GPBC statement and letter from their counsel "is defamatory and damaging to my reputation, again without any clear details as to the reason for my removal. There has been no respect or care by the BC Greens in how this was handled."

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NOTICE OF TOWN HALL MEETING & SPECIAL MEETING

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will be holding a Special Meeting to appoint an Auditor for Financial Services and a Town Hall Meeting to present:

Draft 2025 Budget	New Fire Hall Project update	5-Year Strategic Plan update
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When: September 9, 2024, from 6:45 PM to 9:00 PM

Where: Ganges Fire Hall Training Room, 105 Lower Ganges Road

The Board of Trustees, Chief Administrative Officer, and the Fire Chief will make presentations and receive feedback from the public in attendance.

COURT

Judge levies \$3,750 in fines

Neighbour launches rezoning support petition

BY GAIL S.JUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A provincial court judge has fined Salt Spring resident Clinton McNichol \$3,750 for contravening a Capital Regional District (CRD) noise bylaw due to keeping roosters on his Woodland Drive property.

Judge Christine Lowe set fines at \$750 per offence in Aug. 30 sentencing — after determining in her judgement released the previous week that McNichol was guilty of the CRD noise bylaw infraction on five counts. Fines must be paid by Dec. 2. Lowe also ordered a one-year prohibition on roosters being kept on the property, beginning Sept. 6.

McNichol said Lowe commented that the fine was "intended to discourage other people in a similar situation."

The bylaw in question requires animals be kept in a manner that does not disturb the "quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, com-

fort or convenience of other property owners in the vicinity."

McNichol said he and his spouse Alia Elaraj used roosters for breeding heritage chickens, flock protection and other benefits.

According to redacted documents McNichol shared on social media in June of 2023, the CRD appeared willing to accept fines of \$500 total for five offences, in exchange for McNichol agreeing not to keep roosters on the property. The case proceeded to court instead.

Since Lowe's Aug. 22 judgement was released, next-door neighbour Ily Cohen, who was one of the witnesses in the CRD case who complained about rooster noise, has initiated a Change.org petition to gain support for a request for Islands Trust rezoning of Woodland Drive from Rural to Residential. Agricultural use is currently allowed on properties zoned Rural but not those with Residential zoning.

A GoFundMe page is still accepting donations to offset McNichol's legal costs and now the fines.

Buy this townhouse at Grace Point!

#6 - 111 Fulford-Ganges Rd

Rare opportunity to own a finely designed and impeccably maintained seaside townhouse in Grace Point on Salt Spring. The entire home has received a major upgrade with premium finishings since original build.

This 1900 sq ft 3-bedroom, 2½ bath home is spacious and light-filled. Top floor has master with walk-out deck and large bathroom with walk-in shower, heated tile flooring and six-foot air-jetted tub. Second bedroom is king-sized and third bedroom/office has a queen Murphy wall-bed, and they enjoy a bathroom with walk-in glass shower plus laundry.

The main floor has oak flooring and two gas fireplaces in the living room and den. With its harbour view and premium touches, the chef's kitchen is unparalleled: granite counter tops, built-in Wolf range (gas top/electric oven), and Sub-zero and Miele appliances including built-in coffee maker, steam oven, convection/microwave, warming drawer. The tile floor is heated and a large pantry is nearby.

Downstairs is the charming entry, attached heated single garage with work bench, and a spotless crawlspace lined with shelving. Among Grace Point's signature features are its ocean views, proximity to Ganges village, and private marina with moorage.

For sale by owner: **\$1,900,000**. Please call Susan at **604.880.3551**.

OPINION

2022 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Outstanding Community Service | Silver - Best Front Page
Silver - Best Local Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Silver - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)

2023 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Gold - Community Service Award



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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EDITORIAL

Water dancing

The board for Salt Spring's largest water district might've just threaded several needles at once.

There is an undeniable elegance on display as the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) begins the decision-making phase of what has been two years of moratorium review. First and obviously, the proposal to add hundreds of new connections to the Maxwell Lake side of its system over the next two years will certainly please anyone there who's waiting on water to start building.

The move will surely warm the hearts of those wanting to see more housing on the island, and the exhaustive nature of the supply studies involved should satisfy anyone worried there wasn't enough water in the first place.

THE ISSUE: Water moratorium ending

WE SAY: Lots to like in plan

Mary Lake sides of the system should delight those interested in redundancy and resilience. The completion of a new treatment plant at Maxwell Lake should gratify system users who prefer fewer trihalomethanes in their drinking water.

And on that new plant, budget hawks bracing for their next tax levy can't have missed that adding those 300 connections — at arguably five figures apiece, by the time all the pipes are hooked up — could have a helpful impact on how much ratepayers will wind up paying each year as they chip away at plant construction costs.

Meanwhile, policy wonks who champion increasing density where it's already dense should be happy to hear it's the Ganges area where most new connections would be for now. And anyone who thinks there haven't been enough studies is also in luck, because staff say more are being penciled in as we speak.

You can't please everyone, of course, but the impression we're left with is one of district leadership working thoughtfully to balance the diverse, often-contradictory interests of our island community. That's a superb place to start.

But the district's parallel monitor-and-report program — and a seeming willingness to throttle back new connections if data arises to support that action — should also soothe concerns from anyone thinking floodgates are being irrevocably opened.

The plan to join the Maxwell Lake and St.



Dangerous precedent set

BY ROSS MCLEOD

It is a very sad time for the farmers on this island — an island steeped in a rich history of farming.

I'm referring to the recent case where CJ McNichol was taken to court by the Capital Regional District (CRD) over a noise bylaw issue. Unfortunately, the judge ruled in favour of the CRD, with one of the CRD's witnesses being neighbour Israel Cohen.

As reported in last week's Driftwood, Cohen stated that McNichol's "rooster was crowing from 2 a.m. onwards . . ." Come on folks, I appeal to your better judgment. Does anyone that has had anything to do with farming know of roosters crowing from 2 a.m. onwards? Furthermore, Mr. Cohen stated that "when he worked night shifts at the hospital, he could not sleep during the day." I wonder how many people around the world working night shifts have the luxury of taking whatever daytime noise that they are dealing with to court or starting a petition.

Mr. Cohen has now started a petition, with the first paragraph stating, "Residents of Woodland Drive located between Mobrae Avenue are at risk of losing the tranquil nature of our community due to the desire of some residents to have an active farm business and propagate chickens, roosters, geese, ducks and possibly other domes-

VIEWPOINT

ticated animals on a parcel of land that is less than an acre in size and borders other homes." The quote is from a Change.org petition.

This is where a very dangerous precedent could be set, not only for Salt Spring but throughout all farming communities.

Unfortunately, we have a very mixed-up governance. On one hand we have the Islands Trust saying that farming can take place on Rural-zoned land (no mention of the size of land). Check out page 115 of the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw 355.

Then we have the CRD, which in this case can shut down Mr. McNichol's farming operation over a noise bylaw?

It may not be known to many, but some 40 per cent of the food grown on Salt Spring Island is produced on Rural-zoned land. I often hear people talking about food security. Well, Mr. Cohen's petition has some serious ramifications as it relates to growing our food security.

Where do we think all the food comes from for the Saturday and Tuesday markets, farm stands, the local produce sold at Country Grocer? You can bet the food was not all produced on A1-zoned land here on Salt Spring.

Where does your food come from? What about food security and the right to farm?

It may not be known to many, but some 40 per cent of the food grown on Salt Spring Island is produced on Rural-zoned land.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:
Print Edition: \$65 | Digital Edition with Print Edition: \$85.00 | Elsewhere in Canada \$115.00
Foreign: \$260.00 | Digital Edition: \$45.00 anywhere | Prices include GST



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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:

Are you glad the BC United party suspended its election campaign?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you feel the court's ruling against rooster noise threatens island farming?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at 12 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 12 p.m.

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

GISS has aged well

To many on the island, Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) is the “new” high school. It actually turns 30 years of age this year.

Designed by Shiv Garyali and Donovan Marshall from Victoria, the school opened its doors to students of the Southern Gulf Islands in September of 1994. Students and staff walked into a very welcoming space: loads of natural light, clean air, classrooms of adequate size. As a teacher it was a dream come true.

GISS has aged quite well. Having the gym, cafeteria and music room as separate buildings was a wise choice. The multi-purpose room serves as a wonderful living space for students.

In my now 35 years of living on the island, we have added a new library, ArtSpring, recreation centre and GISS as public buildings. We should be celebrating the improvements to our infrastructure on the island. We will soon have a new emergency room at Lady Minto Hospital and a modern fire hall.

Not all is doom and gloom on the island.

DAVID ASTILL,
RETIRED TEACHER

Astounding

I wonder if the McNichols, owners of roosters on Woodland Drive, have ever had to visit Lady Minto Hospital's emergency department? I have. Several times.

I've never seen any roosters hurrying to help, but I have seen Isy Cohen and his fellow professionals providing dedicated care in life-threatening emergencies. Mr. Cohen's capable presence immediately makes you feel like you might not die that day.

Our hospital, like other rural hospitals, is hanging by a thread. We don't have enough local doctors and nurses. We have to import them. The idea that a dedicated local nurse who has served our community since 2006 has been subjected to unnecessary stress from roosters that has made him unable to go to work is astounding to me.

Our island has many initiatives and contributors to food security. Health security? Not so much. If the roosters get their Bachelor of Science or nursing degrees, I'll give them the thumbs up. Until then, I ask the poultry community to think in terms of what's best for the whole island community, and that's no doodle do.

PAT BURKETTE,
SALT SPRING

Country living

Our neighbour keeps chickens. By agreement they range daily in our orchard, mowing and fertilizing the grass and chasing bugs.

They bring back 80-year-old memories of my family flock of Rhode Island Reds, whose every egg-drop I pencilled onto 4-H Club record forms.

I enjoy the constant murmur from the flock

as it hunts and pecks through the sunny days. I smile at the empty-headed crowing of the raucous roosters. And here's a standing ovation to the noisy come-ons of hens who, having laid one egg, need a rooster to inseminate tomorrow's egg before its shell hardens.

These are the sounds of country lives being lived. They are essential to my quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment and comfort. Essential to my convenience, too: their fresh eggs, soft-boiled, partner with my breakfast toast on special mornings. And if you stroll to the stump on the lawn below our home you'll see, among other table scraps left for neighbourhood ravens, the bones of chickens — both sexes.

Can I sue if my neighbour stops keeping chickens?

BOB WEEDEN,
SALT SPRING

Real solutions

Re: “Judge Rules Against Rooster Noise” in last week's Driftwood, I don't know much about the specifics of this particular rooster war, but I'd like to make a general observation.

We are facing challenges with respect to feeding ourselves. There is a growing shortage of affordable, nutritious ethically produced food. We are making up the shortfall with mass-produced substitutes and paying exorbitant prices for low-quality sustenance.

Roosters are part of the solution to a very real issue.

As a society, we have become detached from reality to the point where we are obsessed with solving imaginary problems, while at the same time we are in denial of real ones. We are constantly trying to save the planet with grandiose schemes to battle perceived crises, from pandemics to climate change. Perhaps the real solutions to the issues we are facing are much simpler than vaccines or wind-mills: Like local chickens to produce local eggs and local roosters to produce local chickens. These are the kinds of things that contribute towards creating a world we can all live in.

To solve the world's problems requires only for each and every one of us to live responsibly. But responsibility is only possible when we are also in alignment with reality. If there is any disconnect, then we will always find ourselves in a situation where proposed solutions create problems that are even more serious than the issues they are meant to address.

The tricky part is that we live in a time when so many of us perceive such vastly differing realities. Reality as I perceive it does not match the things that are printed in newspapers or presented on television. I am not unique, yet at the same time my perspective is only one of many.

I reiterate that this is only a general observation, not a comment on the particulars of this one specific dispute. Usually there are at least two sides to every story and this may well be one of those cases.

MICHAEL HEY,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“The timing [of the disqualification] was certainly unfortunate, and I do sympathize with Amy that the timing was unfortunate, but these are the rules that any candidate who applies to run understands or should understand.”

SAANICH-GULF ISLANDS GREEN MP ELIZABETH MAY, ON GREEN PARTY OF BC CANDIDATE AMY HAYSOM DISQUALIFICATION

Indignation level through the roof after being hacked via Facebook

I've been hacked! My Facebook account has been hijacked and the very few friends I have have been receiving spurious emails inviting them, among other things, to invest in my Wealth Fund.

My Wealth Fund! That's a dead giveaway for a start because anyone who knows me wouldn't invest a furbal in anything I recommended, let alone real money. But the sad fact is that I came perilously close to giving my credit card details to the worthless vultures behind the scam, which could have been catastrophic.

I'll admit that I am probably far too cavalier with my passwords and internet security and have pretty much used the same simple password for just about every one of the scores of websites and applications that require them, so it shouldn't have come as a huge surprise that I had finally been hacked.

I am also arrogant enough to assume I wouldn't be caught out like the millions who have been, but this particular scam, which I subsequently discovered emanated from Nigeria, was in fact quite clever. In the dark world of hacking and scamming it is called “link

manipulation,” and in this case was convincing enough to fool me right to the very last minutes.

Most of the crooked attempts many of us have been hit with in the past have been laughably amateur. “Dear Sir, Please Send Us All Of Your Money And Your Credit Card Details or Go To Prison. Best Wishes, Canada Revenue.” But this one was slick, highly professional and began with a voice message from “Facebook” on a page that was indistinguishable from the genuine article. So, I clicked — and that exclusively 21st-century nightmare began. In seconds, I'd been locked out of my Facebook account, followed minutes later by another message from “Facebook” telling me I would need to reset my account password.

That was quickly followed by a bunch of emails from friends around the world saying they suspected my Facebook account had been hacked and they'd been getting some weirder than usual emails from me.

In the broad scheme of things, being locked out of Facebook is not exactly devastating and in fact doesn't matter a toss, at least not to me. I invariably end up picking



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER THING

a fight when I'm on it, so I would probably be better off out of it, if only for the sake of my blood pressure.

But there is something akin to being burgled or having your pocket picked in being hacked. To say I felt violated is far too strong, but the level of indignation is through the roof, mostly because, unlike a burglary or a mugging, there is absolutely no chance of the criminal ever being caught. If they do succeed in robbing you, into tricking you into giving them your credit card details or into sending them money, it is a fair assumption that they will walk away scot-free because they are more than likely operating out of India, Nigeria or Uzbekistan. Apart from anything else, it is a monumental pain to sort out because, however little Facebook matters

to you, your password is out there now. And I resent being made to feel foolish or taken advantage of by a crook in another country simply because there is an assumption that I'm elderly and therefore an easy mark.

So for the next hour I was linked to what I took to be a facilitator on Facebook's Messenger app who would talk me through the process of rescuing my account. Part of the problem is that we have become used to dealing with call centres in Mumbai or Lagos and this seemed no different. Their written English was not great, but serviceable, and I still had no idea that I wasn't messaging an authentic Facebook employee. It felt and sounded authentic and it's safe to assume that if a genuine Facebook programmer can set up a Facebook page, so too can a crooked computer nerd create a bogus one that is indistinguishable from the real thing.

In the end, though, it became increasingly absurd as the guy in Africa tried to coax more and more personal details from me. Some he had already and flourished them convincingly: my name, of course, birthday and age, all freely access-

sible from my Facebook profile, but eventually the wheels came off his cunning plan. He needed my credit card details.

Facebook, as far as I know, is free if you're prepared to put up with their cruddy advertisements, but according to the crook in Lagos, they would also need my credit card details to resurrect my PayPal and Xoom accounts. I don't use PayPal and have absolutely no idea what Xoom is, but whatever it is, I don't want it.

When I refused to hand my card details over, he began to get snarky, saying he couldn't reactivate my Facebook account without them, “just for security.” By now I had more than an inkling that I was on the receiving end of a scam and asked to be put in touch with his manager. And that was that. He cut me off.

Now I have TWO Facebook accounts, a new one I set up to circumvent the hacked version and the original one, which has been partially restored, so if you DO get an email from me, asking for money, give generously . . .

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

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CRD bylaw changes offer solution

INDEPTH

NOTE: This article represents the personal opinions of Brian Webster and not those of Salt Spring Island's Local Community Commission (of which he is a member) or the Capital Regional District.

BY BRIAN WEBSTER
It's not new to see conflict between agriculture and neighbours who want a rural lifestyle without the sounds and smells of

farming. It's happened on Salt Spring Island before and in other B.C. communities. It seems everyone wants farmers to farm, but some want it to happen only if it doesn't disturb their peace and quiet.

Salt Spring is a rural community with a long history of farming. This is reflected in our official community plan, which recognizes "agriculture's contribution to the island's social, economic and environmental nature and appeal." That plan's objectives include retaining and building on the island's agricultural base and supporting "farming as a social, cultural and economic priority."

Our OCP sets out a policy that "farming activities and necessary structures should continue to be allowed by zoning . . . on all properties where they are currently allowed." As a result, Salt Spring's zoning regulations permit agriculture on properties in numerous zones, including those zoned Rural, Rural Upland, Rural Watershed and others, in addition to zones designated as Agricultural.

As of 2017, 2,855 hectares of Salt Spring (17 per cent of the island) was within the province's Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and another 3,359 hectares outside the ALR were considered actual or potential farmland. Combined, these two areas include 36 per cent of Salt Spring.

There are zones on Salt Spring where agriculture as a principal use is not permitted, including most of those categorized as Residential. As a result, people who don't want to live near farming have options. However, those who choose to live in zones where farming is permitted need to be prepared for the possibility that their neighbours will farm.

THE NATURE OF FARMING

While every farm is unique, most farming takes place outside and commonly involves the use of equipment and/or the keeping of animals, both of which may create sound, odours or other "nuisances."

As urban growth encroached on farmland in many areas of B.C., especially during the latter half of the last century, some non-farmer residents in areas with agriculture pressed for their local governments to prohibit farm-related "nuisances." This pressure led to concerns that the long-term survival of agriculture and local food was coming under threat, leading the province to bring in a law to protect farming.

B.C.'s RIGHT TO FARM ACT

The Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act took effect in 1996. It says that a farmer may not be prevented from carrying out "normal farm practices" as defined by the province.

However, the act has been applied unevenly. For farms located within the ALR, the act prevents anyone (individual or local government) from stopping normal farm practices. But if the farm is outside the ALR, the act only prevents individuals from suing a farmer for "nuisances" resulting from normal farming practices; it leaves local governments with discretion around their nuisance bylaws.

The result: farming on Salt Spring properties within the ALR is exempt from the CRD noise bylaw, but farms outside the ALR are not. For a community in the unusual position of having most of its potential farmland outside the ALR, this is a problem.

Salt Spring is further challenged by the small scale of local farming. For example, the average flock size of conventional poultry producers in B.C. is more than 22,000 hens. On Salt Spring, the vast majority of poultry farmers have fewer than 50 birds.

If we — and CRD bylaw enforcement — look to mainstream agriculture for our understanding of farming, we're going to have trouble understanding the challenges of Salt Spring farming. Likewise, the tendency of some to dismiss small-scale agriculture as

"hobby farms" undeserving of protection is particularly problematic on our island, as the vast majority of our island's roughly 200 farms are part-time enterprises.

THE SALT SPRING NOISE AND ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAWS

CRD Bylaw No. 3384 covers Salt Spring. It prohibits "any noise or sound in the Electoral Area which creates a noise that disturbs or tends to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of the neighbourhood or of persons at or near the source of such noise or sound."

The bylaw exempts certain activities, including "the noise associated with legitimate farm operations." However, the exemption only applies if "all reasonable measures have been taken to abate noise." This empowers CRD staff to determine what abatement measures are reasonable and to force farmers outside the ALR to implement them, even if they go against normal farm practices.

As a result, some small-scale poultry producers who live outside the ALR but still in areas where agriculture is permitted have been told to get rid of their roosters or face enforcement action.

Salt Spring is also covered by CRD Bylaw No. 1465, which prohibits keeping an animal that "disturbs or tends to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment comfort or convenience of the neighbourhood . . ." This provision has one exemption: "except in an Agricultural Zone."

However, the bylaw does not define an "Agricultural Zone" and CRD staff have interpreted this to mean only lots zoned A1 or A2, even though properties in numerous other zones have the same ability to farm under our zoning bylaw as do lots zoned A1 or A2.

A PATH FORWARD

As a result of all this, Salt Spring's current noise and animal control bylaws are preventing some small-scale farmers located outside the ALR from carrying out normal farm practices on land zoned for agriculture. Others have carried on, but fear that one cranky neighbour could one day force them to stop farming. Some small-scale farmers considering a move to Salt Spring have hesitated as they are unsure whether farming is welcome here anymore.

Recent action against small-scale farmers raises the spectre of growing limits on farming outside the ALR. Today it's roosters; tomorrow, who knows?

But a straightforward solution is possible. Common-sense clarifications to definitions in CRD bylaws 1465 and 3384, plus one substantive change to the noise bylaw could eliminate the problem.

First, the terms "agriculture zone" and "land zoned for agriculture use" could be interpreted — through a Salt Spring-specific CRD policy — to mean a zone where zoning permits agriculture as a principal use.

Second, consistent with the Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act, the bylaws could define farming as "growing, producing, raising or keeping animals or plants, among other activities." Where normal farming activities are being legally carried out as a business, they could be considered "legitimate farm operations," regardless of the size of the lot or the scale of the operation.

And finally, Section 4 (5) of the Salt Spring noise bylaw could be replaced with the following exemption:

(5) On a lot where agriculture is a permitted use, conducting legitimate farm operations.

These simple changes would protect small-scale farming while continuing to shield residents living on the 64 per cent of Salt Spring that does not permit farming from noise and other farming-related nuisances.

A solution is available, but does our community have the will to demand it?

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GALIANO ISLAND
Wednesday, Sept 11th
7 pm - 8:30 pm
Galiano Island Community Hall
141 Sturdies Bay Road

SALT SPRING ISLAND
Friday, Sept 13th
7 pm - 8:30 pm
Gulf Islands Secondary School
232 Rainbow Road

SATURNA ISLAND
Saturday, Sept 14th
2 pm - 3:30 pm
Saturna Island Recreation Centre
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ARTSPRING

New season launches



PHOTO BY GAIL TAKAHASHI

Ballet Victoria presents Frankenstein at ArtSpring on Oct. 27, one of 36 ArtSpring Presents events comprising the 2024/25 season.

Record number of ArtSpring Presents shows on tap

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

Addressing a keen audience last Thursday, executive and artistic director Howard Jang unveiled ArtSpring's new 2024/25 season, a year he promises will be "one of the most culturally diverse, captivating and colourful yet" with a record 36 ArtSpring Presents performances from artists across B.C., Canada and the world.

Five luxurious Met Opera broadcasts, a few surprise concerts, and a never-before-seen exhibition of the private art and global artifact collection of Robert and Birgit Bateman round out this remarkably robust program.

Advance ticket sales got underway for members yesterday, with tickets going live online and to the general public Tuesday, Sept. 10. ArtSpring welcomes back Island Savings Wealth Management as its season partner, with Country Grocer also receiving applause for its support of the \$5 Youth Program, an initiative to help students and families with children access world-class performances more easily.

After a successful 25th-anniversary season, including the five-day community arts festival, a record-breaking Treasure Fair and ArtSpring achieving its million-dollar Endowment Fund goal in the 11th hour, the new season marks a fresh direction informed by community outreach.

"Last season, we consulted our patrons, our local artistic community, and the island population about our programming and our role," said Jang. "We've been listening, engaging and looking to pilot some exciting new ideas, while continuing to celebrate the classic repertoire that has been our foundation."

Choice and contrast was identified as the theme. A beautiful performance by young classical pianist/soprano Rachel Fenlon shares the season with Indigenous B.C. hip-hop sensation Snotty Nose Rez Kids.

Shakespeare's As You Like It gets a very radical retelling in the season opener, as does the fast-paced Juliet, A Revenge Comedy, yet string quartets Borealis and Penderecki keep music history and technique alive and well.

From presenting Dave Brubeck jazz to the Haitian afro-funk of Wesli, spoken word superstar Shane Koyczan to Ballet Victoria's Frankenstein, stand-up comedian Julie Kim to the Banff Mountain Film Festival screening, ArtSpring is seeking to expand its genres and audience range.

"There is more for young people, more comedy and theatre, more fun," said Kirsten Bolton, communications manager. "But in listening to older patrons' concerns, we've also moved to many more afternoon concerts so that battling dark nights and bad weather isn't an inhibitor to coming to a great show."

ArtSpring's Theatre Angel Program also received attention at the Aug. 29 launch event, with backers including Island Savings, Windsor Plywood, Salt Spring Foundation and individual donors being noted for their support. The stigma-free program puts 20 seats aside per ArtSpring Presents performance for only \$15 to any community member facing economic barriers.

ArtSpring's regular prices have not been increased.

Sept. 14th, 2024 7:30pm

The Doobie Brothers EXPERIENCE

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ONE MORE TIME



PHOTO BY MINETTE KING

The fans have asked and so Grace Jordan will play Shirley Valentine one last time at Stonewell Farm on Sunday, Sept. 15 beginning at 3:30 p.m. The performance will be filmed, and is a fundraiser to shoot and make the film, with wine and Greek tapas and desserts again available as well. Look for The Filming of the Live Performance of Grace Jordan is Shirley Valentine on Eventbrite for tickets. Half of the 120 available tickets had already sold as of Sunday, Sept. 1. The 20th anniversary hit production of the play by Willy Russell originally ran over two weekends in August.

ArtSpring Presents

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CLIFF CARDINAL IN SHAKESPEARE'S AS YOU LIKE IT, A RADICAL RETELLING. PHOTO BY DAHLIA KATZ.

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WORLD MUSIC

Flamenco artists ready for exciting evening

Caravan World Rhythms presentation on island

SUBMITTED BY CARAVAN WORLD RHYTHMS

On Sunday, Sept. 15 at ArtSpring's theatre, Caravan World Rhythms presents an intimate evening of fiery and refined flamenco music and dance, deeply infused with Indian flavours, featuring award-winning international artists.

Those include flautist and bansuri player Lara Wong and flamenco guitarist Melón Jiménez, joined by acclaimed dancer from Bordeaux, France — Deborah "La Caramelita" Dawson — and Italian percussionist Davide Sampaolo.

According to CBC Radio, "The result is stunning; it is fluid, it is sensual and fully embodies the spirit of flamenco: virtuosity and passion."

Wong and Jiménez redefine flamenco by blending the fiery art form with jazz,

Indian music and contemporary global folk. In their new show, called Confluencias, they team up with percussionist Sampaolo and La Caramelita to present dazzling flamenco guitar riffs, mystical bansuri melodies, percussive footwork and entrancing global rhythms in a truly singular musical voyage.

Melón and Wong first met on stage in 2018 in the flamenco jazz capital of Madrid. They have since performed together across Europe, Asia and North America at a variety of venues and prestigious festivals.

Originally from Vancouver but based in Spain for nearly a decade, Wong is a distinctive and now well-recognized musical voice who studied flamenco in Andalusia after completing her degree in classical and jazz performance at McGill University. She is best known for playing flamenco music on the Indian bansuri flute. In 2021, she won a "Filon" award for best flamenco instrumentalist of the Festival Cante de las Minas, making her the first foreigner to win in any category

of the festival's 60-year history.

Jiménez first extensively explored the intersections of flamenco and classical Indian music as a member of Anoushka Shankar's Traveller Band in 2013. Born into a musically and culturally diverse family, he was encouraged to learn the music of his Andalusian gitano (Spanish Roma) roots and to use the flamenco guitar as a doorway to innovation.

La Caramelita has enchanted international audiences for over 15 years with her unique dance style, with moves inspired by the passion, power and sensuality of flamenco and her Indian heritage. The versatility of this young dancer has led her to collaborate with renowned artists in many events around the world. She began her flamenco journey in Vancouver, but her passion led her to Andalusia, Spain, where she studied with some of the top flamenco dance teachers, such as Juana Amaya and Manuel Liñán.

The Sept. 15 show begins at 7:30 p.m., with tickets available through ArtSpring.



PHOTO BY MARINA BORSCHENKO

Lara Wong and Melón Jiménez, who will perform with others at ArtSpring on Sept. 15.

what's on this week

Wed. Sept. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Marianne Grittani and Rose Birney. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.

Bert's Blues Banned. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.

What Is Zen? First in six-week series of talks presented by Salt Spring Zen Circle. All Saints by-the-Sea. 7 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Bittancourt Museum. Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thur. Sept. 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.

Raven Barn Band. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Arleen Paré. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Open Mic & Jam. With Rough & Tumble at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.

Fri. Sept. 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Rough & Tumble. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Karaoke. At the Legion. 7 p.m.

DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Fri. Sept. 6

ACTIVITIES

Live at the Library: Story Time. In the library children's area. 11 to 11:30 a.m.

ASK Salt Spring. This week's guest is Salt Spring RCMP Sgt. Clive Seabrook. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Virgil Sampson Artist Demo. Coast Salish/Nez Perce artist demonstrates painting technique at Artcraft. Mahon Hall. 12 to 3 p.m.

Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.

Sat. Sept. 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Chonka. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Lonnie Glass. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Andrew Interchill & Bassos Rancheros. DJs at Mateada. 9 p.m. to midnight.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Fall Fair. Gates open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. (See page 12 of this paper for event schedule.)

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

Sun. Sept. 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Caraluna. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Blues Jam. At the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

Sunday Sessions With Guest Artists. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Fall Fair. Gates open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. (But exhibit removal is from 5 to 6 p.m.)

Mon. Sept. 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Kathy Stack. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Community Commission Town Hall Meeting. Lions Hall. Talk about agricultural land use issues and more. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Town hall meeting regarding 2025 budget, fire hall building update and more. Ganges fire hall. 6:45 to 9 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Two Pants Trio. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Country and Folk Singers and Songwriters. Legion. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Probus Club of Salt Spring Island. Guest speaker is Salt Spring resident Dr. Robert Crossland, former on-call community coroner in B.C. Lions Hall. 10 a.m.

Tuesday Farmers Market. Every Tuesday at Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Reconciliation Reading Circle. Monthly book club meets on the second Tuesday of each month. This month's book is Celia's Song by Lee Maracle. 4:30 p.m. Preregistration required through cdick@saltspringlibrary.com.

Trivia Tuesday. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

What Is Zen? Second in six-week series of talks presented by Salt Spring Zen Circle. All Saints by-the-Sea. 7 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 11

ACTIVITIES

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Bittancourt Museum. See last Wed. listing.

CINEMA

• Beetlejuice Beetlejuice is the movie from Friday, Sept. 6 to Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• Shannon Wardroper - The Beholders' Share is the Artcraft Showcase Exhibition running at Mahon Hall until Sept 22.

• Today, Sept. 4, is the last day to see Three Seconds - Recent Contemporary Fibre Work from Shannon Wardroper at Salt Spring Gallery.

• Resurgence, an art exhibition by members of the Indigenous Friendship Circle, runs in the library program room through September, with an opening reception on Friday, Sept. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m.

• Artcraft show and sale of work by Gulf Islands artisans runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sept. 22.

• Nine members of the Island Textile Artists present Diverse Threads in the ArtSpring lobby through the month of September.

Salt Spring Fall Fair

Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 7-8
Farmers' Institute

See page 12 of this paper for schedule

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ISLAND LIFE

RECREATION

Islander makes Crofton swim



PHOTOS COURTESY CHRIS ROWTHORN

From left, Salt Spring Islander Chris Rowthorn in Stuart Channel as he nears Osborne Bay Regional Park, and the view from the escort kayak on Rowthorn's Aug. 24 swim from Vesuvius Bay to Vancouver Island.

Salt Spring to Vancouver Island crossing 'didn't look all that far'

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If you've ever missed a ferry sailing from Vesuvius, you've probably thought about it, and wondered.

But on Saturday morning, Aug. 24, islander Chris Rowthorn skipped the lineup completely. Rowthorn, 58, walked into the ocean at Salt Spring Island's Vesuvius Beach and started swimming a little before 8 a.m., emerging 90 minutes later at the shore of Osborne Bay Regional Park, south of the Crofton ferry terminal.

It wasn't a spur-of-the-moment decision, he said. Rowthorn had been making plans to swim from Salt Spring to Vancouver Island since well before he began earnestly training for the crossing back in March. A regular in the waters off Vesuvius Beach during spring and summer months, the former competitive swimmer said he had often paused on the rocky point and gazed across at

the other side.

"I thought that the nearest shore didn't look all that far away," he said, "and I became obsessed with swimming there one day."

Rowthorn's workout routine this summer expanded to include daily one- to two-kilometre ocean swims, he said, and he consulted with fellow Vesuvius swimmer (and former sailing and sea kayaking instructor) Dave Garrett — a former kayak instructor and sailor — about the crossing. It looked doable, but there were unknowns.

"I didn't know how strong the currents would be, or how cold the water would be in the middle of the strait," he said. "I also didn't know what kind of waves I'd be facing."

When the day came, Rowthorn was supported in his 3.8-kilometre swim by friends Roland DeLuca, paddling alongside in a kayak, and Erich Billung-Meyer keeping pace in a powerboat. Rowthorn left just before the tide reached its high point, so most of the swim was done during the slack tide. And, he said, the otherwise gloomy weather fortunately featured "relatively warm" 17-degree water and calm winds.

"I was prepared to take several breaks," said Rowthorn, "and Roland was carrying a flask of hot tea for me. But I felt so good that I put my head down and just kept swimming."

In the first half of the crossing, Rowthorn said there were moments when it seemed like Vancouver Island wasn't getting any closer; but once past the half-way mark, he found his stride.

"I got into a really good rhythm," said Rowthorn. "Roland and Erich's boats were always in the corner of my eye, and I felt safe the whole way across."

Rowthorn said two boats crossed their paths during the swim, but gave the group a wide berth. Finally, a little before 9:30 a.m., DeLuca found a good spot for him to head to shore, and Rowthorn stepped out of the water and onto Vancouver Island.

"It felt great to walk up onto the beach," he said, crediting the support of his friends for a successful swim. "I wouldn't even have attempted it without those guys."

At this point, Rowthorn said, he has no plans to repeat the crossing.

"It's a hell of a way to get to Crofton," he laughed.

TRIBUTES

Gathering for Adam Olsen next Friday

Lions Hall event on same day as MP Elizabeth May's evening community meeting

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Salt Spring Island gathering to honour the career and accomplishments of outgoing Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen is planned for Friday, Sept. 13.

Known for his approachability and coalition-building — and for many passionate speeches delivered in the legisla-

ture — the two-term BC Green Party MLA took office after an election win in 2017, followed by another in 2020; he announced in June he would not seek re-election, calling the decision an "existential re-evaluation" of what was important to him and citing the best interests of his family.

The event is set for 1 to 3 p.m. at Lions Hall. Organizers said there will be light finger food and refreshments, a cake and a musical farewell tribute by Bill Henderson.

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP and Green Party of Canada leader Elizabeth May is expected to be in attendance. She will also meet with constituents at Gulf Islands Secondary School that evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m., where she will provide a report on her activities and federal political happenings, and answer attendees' questions.

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Take notice that I, **J. C. Sichertman, B. & P. Sanders, D. Demner, E. Wilding and H. Kuhnert** of Salt Spring Island, BC, have applied to the Ministry of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship (WLRS), for a **License – Residential-Miscellaneous** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island/Booth Bay**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File #1415573**.

Comments may be submitted electronically via the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9.

Comments will be received by WLRS up to **October 11, 2024**. WLRS may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

Please visit the website at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship office in Nanaimo.

Coming Events

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

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Starts September 9th and runs for the whole month
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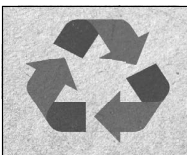
For more info: call Michelle Grant 250-537-7640.

Coming Events

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

Wednesday
 September 18th, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the lower hall at 901 North End Road.

Public welcome.



TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

SEPTEMBER 2024 PST (UTC-8H)
 When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS	DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS
4	0:36	6.3	1.92	8	2:50	3.8	1.16
	5:55	8.8	2.68		9:58	8.7	2.65
	12:20	3.7	1.13		14:42	7.3	2.23
5	19:15	9.8	2.99	9	20:11	9.3	2.83
	1:07	5.6	1.71		3:31	3.4	1.04
	6:50	8.7	2.65		11:21	8.9	2.71
6	12:52	4.6	1.4	10	15:30	8.1	2.47
	19:30	9.6	2.93		20:23	9.2	2.8
	1:39	4.9	1.49		4:17	3.1	0.94
7	7:47	8.7	2.65	11	12:59	9.1	2.77
	13:26	5.5	1.68		16:47	8.7	2.65
	19:16	9.5	2.9		20:36	9.1	2.77
	2:14	4.3	1.31		5:12	2.8	0.85
	8:49	8.7	2.65		14:32	9.5	2.9
	14:02	6.4	1.95		19:13	9	2.74
	19:59	9.4	2.87		20:49	9.1	2.77

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SPORTS + RECREATION

RACING

Max Kaye heads to World Skate Games in Italy

Islander on Canadian street luge team

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As the World Skate Games (WSG) makes its debut in Italy for 2024, a Salt Spring Island skateboarder will be representing Team Canada in the street luge event.

Maxwell Kaye will join racers from 100 countries taking part in the multi-discipline “game of games” event; the Downhill Skateboarding and Street Luge World Championships portion will be held in Tortoreto, a coastal town in Italy’s Abruzzo region, with time trials on Friday, Sept. 20 and finals Saturday, Sept. 21, according to a World Skate bulletin.

Kaye recently organized the 13th annual Salt Spring Slasher downhill skateboard event, which saw dozens of longboard skaters tackle the hill at Juniper Place over the Aug. 24-25 weekend. Kaye has joked that street luge is the “lowest form of racing” — with riders on their backs just centimetres off the pavement, at speeds in excess of 100 km/h.

Reached by phone during training runs at the historic Maryhill Loops Road in Washington State, Kaye said he felt “blessed and honoured” he was getting the chance to compete in Italy, calling it a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“Honestly, I’m still kind of in awe



PHOTO COURTESY MAXWELL KAYE

Maxwell Kaye, who was born and raised on Salt Spring, and graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in 2011, seen in the sport of street luge. Kaye started skateboarding as a youngster but then switched to longboarding before trying street luge.

that it’s happening,” said Kaye, who has been a longboard competitor for years and skated internationally.

After points were totalled from last year’s WSG in the Philippines, he said, and with how well Team Canada had done there, he received an early nod at the beginning of the year — but nothing official until this summer.

“I was just kind of saving that money in case it actually was going

to happen,” laughed Kaye, noting Team Canada does not contribute financially to help out the downhill skateboard racers — at least, not yet.

But for this year there are four Canadian street lugers — one of whom, Kaye said, won the event in the Philippines in 2023 — and a dozen downhill longboarders. And, he said, with Olympic committee members helping

with the event, it bodes well for the sport. “It’s cool to have them working with it,” said Kaye, optimistically. “I mean, this is how street skating got into the Olympics.”

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ROWING

Endurance regatta a ‘massive success’



PHOTO BY DAVID CLARK
Cecilia Low, left, and Amy Dearden of Salt Spring Island Rowing Club row past Fernwood in Trincomali Channel during the Aug. 25 Race Around the Rock regatta. The pair were among 61 athletes tackling the 88-kilometre challenge.

Sixty-one rowers race around Salt Spring

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island increased its rowing sport profile recently when it hosted an exciting Race Around the Rock Coastal Endurance Regatta.

According to organizing committee chair Zoë Clarke, the regatta saw 61 participants from eight rowing clubs row all the way around Salt Spring Island — a total of 88 kilometres — on Aug. 25, with both quads and doubles hitting the water. Rowers began at Drummond Park in Fulford Harbour, travelling up the west side of the island and back to Fulford Harbour.

Rowing club registrants came from more than 10 countries, said Clarke, but rowed for the U.S., False

Creek, Gorge Narrows, Edmonton, Open Aviron Coastal Rowing Association (Victoria) and Salt Spring Island clubs.

Clarke said two quads featured LGBTQIA+ athletes, one was an all-female quad and the remaining boats were of mixed genders. Rowers’ age range was from 15 to 78 years old.

Seven rowers from the False Creek club won the race in a time of 7 hours, 55 minutes and 9.56 seconds.

A pre-race dinner serving 150 people was also held the night before, with safety boat drivers, umpires, volunteers, athletes, family/friends and honoured guests attending.

Clarke said the club collected more than 15 sponsors and six event partners, and even made a small profit for the first time in the event’s history.

“This was a massive success for our club and our island, and cultivated momentum for not only coastal rowing on Salt Spring but also as a sport,” said Clarke.

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#ssifallfair2024

Fall Fair 2024 Entertainment & Events Schedule

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH

7:30 am.....Admission gates open
8:30 am.....Livestock Barn Open
9:00 am.....Commercial vendors and exhibitors open
10:00 am.....Entertainment on stage until 4:30 pm / Free bus shuttle to/from the fairgrounds / Food concessions open / Fun Swing until 4:00 pm / Games of chance open / Horse Show until 4:00 pm / Old Fashioned Games begin / Milking Demo

10:00-10:30.....Annie & Chris
10:40-11:10.....John Reid and Cicela Månsson

11:00 am.....Indoor Sections Open in Main Building & Annex

11:00 am.....Sawmill Demonstration / Blacksmith Demo until 5:00 pm / Egg Smash until 2:00 pm

11:20-11:50.....Edgar Hann & Em Walker with Adam Huber

11:30 am.....Sheep Dog Demonstration
12:00 pm.....Sheep Shearing
12:00-12:45.....Salome Cullen
12:30 pm.....Threshing Demonstration
12:55-1:25.....Bill Henderson
1:00 pm.....Zucchini Races
1:35-2:05.....David Carl Band
2:00 pm.....Tractor Pull / Rooster Calling Contest in the Show Ring

2:15-2:45.....Synergy
2:30 pm.....Sheep Dog Demonstration
3:00 pm.....Sheep Shearing / Sawmill Demonstration

3:00-3:45.....Bruce Collective
3:45 pm.....Chicken races
4:00-4:45.....Rough and Tumble
5:00 pm.....Gates closed

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH

7:30 am.....Admission gates open
8:30 am.....Livestock Barn Open
9:00 am.....Admittance to the Main Building is open only to people with special needs and residents of Senior Facilities

9:00 am.....Commercial vendors and exhibitors open / Fun Swing until 5:00 pm

9:30 am.....Food concessions open / Games of chance open / Sweetest apple judged

10:00 am.....Entertainment on stage until 4:30 pm / Free bus shuttle to/from the fairgrounds / Most fragrant rose judged / Old Fashioned Games begin / Milking Demo

10:00-10:45.....Alan Moberg
10:30 am.....Indoor Exhibits open to all fair-goers / Pet Parade registration / People's Choice for Best Tasting Apple

10:55-11:25.....The Selkies of Salt Spring Island

11:00 am.....Pet Parade / Blacksmith Demo until 5:00 pm / Egg Smash until 2:00 pm

11:30 am.....Sheep Dog Demonstration

11:35-12:05.....Terry and Gordo
12:15-1:00.....Valdy
12:30 pm.....Threshing Demonstration
1:00 pm.....Zucchini Races

1:15-2:00.....Marianne Grittani & Friends
2:00 pm.....Longest lasting rose bloom and dahlia announced / Tractor Pull

2:15-3:00.....Kathy Stack with Tom Bowler & Bob Delion
2:30 pm.....Sheep Dog Demonstration / Sawmill Demonstration
3:00 pm.....Certificates and prize money may be collected behind the Exhibition Hall until 6:00 pm

3:10-3:45.....Subdude
3:30 pm.....Rotary Club Muffin Madness / Sawmill Demo
3:45 pm.....Chicken races

4:00-4:45.....Rising Tide
5:00 pm.....Fair closes
5:00-6:00.....All entries must be removed (not earlier)

Gates closed for another year

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