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Andria Scanlan of Transition Salt Spring shares Anil Pereira's happiness with his ceramic dish being "FIXED!" at the Sept. 21 Repair Cafe at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space.

SUSTAINABILITY

Repair Cafe's a hit

SIMS flooded with items

BY GAIL S JUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When it comes to when, where and how to get things fixed on Salt Spring, the good news is catching on.

Nearly 150 people participated in the Transition Salt Spring (TSS) Repair Cafe on Saturday, held in the printmakers' room at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space (SIMS).

Andria Scanlan, the TSS manager of education and programs and a climate coach, reported that 21 volunteer fixers with expertise in everything from darning and mending to micro-electronics and woodworking were on hand over the three-hour period, which saw more than 100 islanders bring in all manner of treasures in need of repair.

"Folks brought in old heaters, antiques that had travelled over with settler families, ghetto blasters, speakers, blue jeans and blankets. We had lamps, toasters, mixers and broken china. While preventing items from unnecessarily ending up in the landfill is a primary goal of the event, many folks told us it was the community experience that delighted them."

REPAIR CAFE continued on 3

LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION

Vacant school site proves popular

Warming space proposal highlights eagerness of community

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Community groups are already putting forward their ideas on how Salt Spring's Local Community Commission (LCC) should utilize the former Phoenix School property, with details on how decisions might be made still under wraps — and despite staff indicating they are unlikely to take possession of the building before the new year.

Phoenix Elementary closed its doors at 163

Drake Rd. in 2023, due to declining enrolment and an operational budget deficit, according to school district officials; in August of this year, the LCC directed staff to express their interest in leasing the building and facilities, calling it a "valuable community asset" that LCC could manage by making it more available to smaller community organizations for varied uses.

With little public information since, several groups have informally approached individual

commissioners with thoughts about how to use the space, LCC members reported at their Sept. 19 meeting. The first formal proposal also came at that meeting, when Chuan Society chair Kajin Goh suggested it be used for a winter warming space and community hub.

That delegation brought the lack of public plans — as well as a critical timing issue — into sharp focus for commissioners.

PHOENIX SCHOOL continued on 3

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NSSWD

Lake weir agreement inked with province

Open house events for NSSWD projects set for later in October

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's largest water district has finalized an agreement with the B.C. government, cementing plans to raise the weir at St. Mary Lake as part of a \$10-million climate resiliency project.

Those dollars had appeared without advance notice in the B.C. government's budget announcement in late February, allocating money to "raise the dam height" at St. Mary Lake. The North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) operates a weir at the lake, which — unlike a dam — is designed to allow water to flow over its top during periods of higher rainfall. District officials have been working with the province ever since the announcement, through a complex process outlining both funding allocation and a work plan.

The increased weir height is projected to bring water supply reliability up to largely meet both current and committed water withdrawal volumes under several climate models over the next 50 years, according to a recent assessment.

But construction will not happen overnight. District CAO Mark Boysen said it will likely take one to two years to complete the work necessary for the province to decide on the water licence application that authorizes retention of that water.

"It's not just the construction; increasing the capacity of the system requires provincial approval," said Boysen. "And that's a big process to go through."

NSSWD currently supplies drinking water to some 5,500 people on Salt Spring Island, according to the district,

with about 60 per cent of it coming from St. Mary Lake; district officials have signalled that after recent studies, a moratorium on new connections in place since 2014 may be easing — although so far only on the Maxwell Lake side of the system.

Additional connections on the St. Mary Lake side are more likely to come much later if the two sides are connected and capacity at Maxwell Lake is shared, Boysen said, rather than from the raising of the weir at St. Mary Lake, which is simply needed to shore up supply for current projected demand.

"The province funded that \$10 million [weir project] under 'climate resiliency' in their 2024 budget," said Boysen. "The timing is good, because it actually aligns very well with our assessment that the reliability of that system will become more vulnerable over time."

NSSWD board chair Brian Pyper agreed, expressing the district's appreciation for the provincial support.

"We have been focusing on improving the resiliency of our system," Pyper said, "and this project is a significant part of our long-term plans."

Increasing water storage in St. Mary Lake may have impacts on private property, First Nations, water rights holders and riparian rights holders, according to the district, and trustees and staff will be starting engagement on that issue later this month, alongside environmental assessments examining potential effects of raising the weir by 29 centimetres.

A broader public engagement on lifting the connection moratorium, the proposed 2025 budget and more will be highlighted by two open houses planned at Meaden Hall, set for 2 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 22 and 30.

Details regarding the moratorium, the St. Mary Lake weir and several NSSWD resiliency initiatives can be found at north-saltspringwaterworks.ca/projects.

Building Resiliency

For 75 years, North Salt Spring Waterworks has been the primary steward of our most precious resource on Salt Spring Island — water.

Today, we're building a more resilient system to ensure a sustainable water supply for Salt Spring Island's future.

Proposed easing of the water moratorium on the Maxwell Lake side of the system.

Raising the weir on St. Mary Lake to improve supply resiliency and sustain flows to Duck Creek.

Constructing a new water treatment plant on Maxwell Lake to improve water quality and supply.

Connecting the two systems to enhance flexibility and reliability.

Open Houses to review the projects are scheduled for Oct 22 & Oct 30 • 2-7 pm at Meaden Hall, Legion Branch 92

To review and comment on these projects visit NorthSaltSpringWaterWorks.ca/projects

SENIORS FOR CLIMATE NATIONAL SENIORS DAY OCTOBER 1ST 2024

Hello, Seniors!

Sing with Valdy!

Send a Message!

Stop the Subsidies!

One of fifty Canada-wide climate actions for National Seniors Day

WHEN:	WHERE:
2:00pm Tuesday, October 1st.	Program Room at the Salt Spring Library
WITH: MC Anne Parkinson	
FEATURING:	
WHAT SUBSIDIES?	CLIMATE CHANGE IS HERE!
Chris Humphreys & Scott Hylands	Marian Hargrove & David Denning

SING ALONG WITH VALDY
on his new song, "Stop the Subsidies, Fund the People!" Peter Prince will make a video, to be sent to all federal Members of Parliament.

LATER IS TOO LATE!

Youth programming eyed as Phoenix priority

PHOENIX SCHOOL

continued from 1

"To date, the only thing that's been public is that we were putting in a proposal [to lease the property]," said LCC member Brian Webster. "And then we had budget discussions, but no public discussion beyond that."

That's not unreasonable, Webster said, because such proposals, lease agreements and negotiations are appropriately done during sessions that are closed to the public.

"But we've got to get it out in a proper, open way," Webster said, adding he would later continue to advocate for "doing absolutely everything we can in open [sessions]."

Gulf Islands School District (SD64) staff confirmed last week they were working with the LCC through its delegated parks authority to put a five-year lease in place for the district-owned property. SD64 secretary treasurer Jesse Guy said the school district's understanding was the island's Capital Regional District (CRD) parks department planned to use the 6.4-acre parcel as a maintenance yard for the next 18 to 24 months, or at least while a new facility planned at Kanaka Road was being built.

"And then it will be focused on youth programming, through their parks and other community services," said Guy, who updated school board members at their Sept. 11 meeting.

LCC member Gayle Baker told fellow commission-

ers she had suggested the Chuan Society make its warming space and community hub proposal known sooner rather than later — in part to allow time for some collaboration on location. Staff suggested keeping the proposal less site-specific, as that might offer opportunities for issuing a park permit on the most appropriate CRD-held property on the island.

Goh's initial presentation, which included addressing the needs of vulnerable islanders during the October-to-April period partly by erecting a warming tent on the Phoenix School's basketball court, seems to have been brought both too early and too late.

Commissioners seemed keenly aware there may be metaphorical carts in front of horses concerning any specific plans for the former school, as the LCC still needed to provide staff with some direction on the process.

And the likely modeling of next steps after the Salt Spring Island Multi Space's (SIMS) transition from middle school to community centre would involve asking for expressions of interest, holding open houses and a complete review of proposals, with staff recommendations then coming back to the LCC for a decision.

"That's a lot of steps to work through," said acting senior manager Dan Ovington. "I wouldn't see that happening within the winter months, especially as currently we're looking at potentially not taking possession of that building until January."

In his proposal, Goh said the Chuan Society had identified about 40 people who had used earlier warming spaces, despite being displaced multiple times throughout winter months.

"It did have an impact," said Goh. "We had a point of contact to get aid to people; we had peer support workers and health workers coming by. It had a significant impact on this population that we're talking about."

LCC members said they would work with staff to get a Phoenix property planning process into a public agenda, possibly as soon as the next meeting in October, and hopefully facilitate the park permit process in the meantime.

"Once the supportive housing facility is constructed on Drake Road, that could be ready for next winter," said LCC member and CRD director Gary Holman. "But we have an issue for this winter."

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BRING BACK COMMON SENSE

PUBLIC HEALTH

Whooping cough emerges

Officials can't confirm Salt Spring cases

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A spike in pertussis cases — also known as whooping cough — within the Island Health region has prompted a reminder from public health officials that the disease is among those largely preventable through up-to-date vaccinations.

As of August, there have been 17 people ill from pertussis just within the Island Health area, according to a press release, adding that the disease is "currently circulating."

Citing efforts to protect patient privacy, Island Health officials could not confirm community-specific numbers of pertussis cases on Salt Spring or the Southern Gulf Islands. There were just four cases in the entire region in 2023, and none in 2022, according to the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Most of the cases so far in 2024 have been in people not vaccinated against the disease, Island Health officials said.

Whooping cough is an infection of the air-

ways caused by pertussis bacteria; symptoms can include a runny nose, sneezing, mild fever and possibly a mild cough in the beginning, resembling a cold.

However, instead of resolving after less than a couple of weeks as expected, the cough can last for weeks, sometimes referred to as "the 100-day cough." The typical "whoop" sound after a coughing fit doesn't happen in everyone — especially adults.

Serious complications are rare in adults, however, small children and especially infants under one year old are at increased risk. In rare cases, pertussis can lead to pneumonia, seizures and even death.

Vaccination is recommended for infants, with a booster dose before kindergarten (aged four to six years) and again in Grade 9 (14-16 years). Island Health recommends all adults have at least one dose of the "Tdap" combination vaccine, named for the diseases it protects against: tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

Vaccines are available at local health units and some doctors' and nurse practitioners' offices, officials said; adults and children ages five and up can also get immunized at some pharmacies.

Clothing and toy swaps planned

REPAIR CAFE continued from 1

Over cups of coffee, tea and bites of cake — "they don't call it a Repair Cafe for nothing," said Scanlan — folks connected with old friends and made new ones.

"Our fabulous volunteer fixers talked folks through their repairs one at a time. The sense of empowerment, accomplishment and delight was palpable all day long."

More than 80 per cent of items brought in were repaired, while the owners of another 10 per cent were told which parts to order and to return next time.

Scanlan thanked the volunteer fixers as

well as sponsors Capital Regional District, Windsor Plywood, Country Grocer, the library's FabLab and the 100 Men Who Care group, who voted to support the Repair Cafe at their last meeting.

The first two TSS Repair Cafes were held in February and May, with about 60 people attending the first and 80 the second. The next one is set for February of 2025.

Cafe services are free but donations are appreciated.

In the meantime, a clothing swap is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 19 and a toy swap in early December. People can sign up for the TSS newsletter or otherwise stay tuned to learn more.

Galiano Island Local Trust Committee PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Proposed Bylaw Nos. 283 and 284 Groundwater Sustainability Project



Islands Trust

The Galiano Island Local Trust Committee invites the public to attend a Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing beginning at 1:00 pm, Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at the Galiano Lions Club Hall, 992 Burrill Road, Galiano Island to hear your views regarding Proposed Bylaw Nos. 283 and 284.

- » **Community Information Meeting** 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.
- » **Public Hearing**

What are Proposed Bylaw Nos. 283 and 284 about?

The proposed Bylaw No. 283 will amend the Galiano Island Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 108, 1995 by updating relevant groundwater policies and objectives, replacing Schedule D – Water Resources with a new Schedule D – Groundwater Regions, and replacing the Development Permit Area (DPA) 4 – Elevated Groundwater Catchment with a new DPA 4 – Groundwater Recharge Protection.

The proposed Bylaw No. 284 will amend the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999 by including new cistern requirements, updates to subdivision proof of water regulations, and new definitions.

How Do I Get More Information?

Copies of the proposed bylaws, the Public Hearing Binder and other information is available **online** from September 26, 2024 to October 8, 2024 here: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/galiano/projects/> and at the Islands Trust Victoria Office, 200 – 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays, starting September 26, 2024.

Enquiries?

Contact Kim Stockdill, Island Planner by **email**: kstockdill@islandstrust.bc.ca, or **phone**: 250-405-5157.

Written submissions?

Written submissions will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., October 7, 2024 to: Islands Trust, 200 – 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8 or **email**: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca

Written submissions made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

NO WRITTEN OR ORAL REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE, OR ITS MEMBERS, AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Jas Chonk, Deputy Secretary

OPINION

2023 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)
Bronze - Best All Round | Bronze - Best Front Page

2023 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best All Round
Gold - Community Service Award



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EDITORIAL

Taken for a ride

Property ownership in the Capital Regional District (CRD) is going to get even more expensive with a new regional transportation service.

The CRD says the service will “align transportation with growth planning and advance the CRD’s priority of supporting residents’ access to convenient, green and affordable multi-modal transportation systems.” The plan comes with a price tag of \$10.3 million per year to start; \$339,000 for Salt Spring and \$51.12 for the owner of an average-assessed Salt Spring residential property. The proposed bylaw allows for almost twice that amount to be requisitioned. For comparison, Salt Spring has its own transportation service requisition — for sidewalks, bike lanes, etc. — which was \$171,000 (about \$22 for an average property) last year.

THE ISSUE:

CRD regional transportation service

WE SAY:

Not a good deal for Salt Spring

Salt Spring’s CRD director Gary Holman and Local Community Commission member Brian Webster are convinced the plan is not a good fit and asked the CRD Board to exclude us from the service. The request was denied. The 2024 CRD budget had Salt Spring property owners pay almost \$1.3 million for 16 different “regional” CRD services, from general government services to community health to regional goose management. The largest chunk of Salt Spring’s regional contribution was to regional parks, at \$602,000, and that’s doubled since 2020. It’s been pointed out by Holman and others that the last CRD regional park created on Salt Spring was the Mill Farm Nature Reserve back in 1996, with the CRD, provincial and federal governments, and private donors coming up with the \$800,000 purchase price. One CRD contribution to a park with no amenities almost 30 years ago is hardly good bang for that particular Salt Spring buck.

Some Gulf Islands residents do make use of parks and trails in the rest of the CRD, of course, so contributing something to such services is not unreasonable. And some CRD Board members have suggested that Salt Spring is more likely to fund significant active transportation improvements with help from a CRD transportation service than its own taxpayers going it alone, as has been the case so far. That may be true too — if future CRD boards can put aside their own constituents’ priorities and support a Salt Spring proposal.

Will that ever happen? As director Holman says, past experience makes it hard to believe it will.



Seniors voices to be heard

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL SENIORS DAY CLIMATE EVENT

VIEWPOINT

At the same time, oil and gas corporations are making huge profits; in 2022, their net income was \$63.1

Canada designated Oct. 1 as National Seniors Day in 2010, following the United Nations declaration of the International Day of Older Persons.

This year, Seniors for Climate, composed of six climate-action groups, including the Suzuki Elders and Seniors for Climate Action Now! (SCAN!), initiated a country-wide program of climate actions to celebrate National Seniors Day. To date, 50 such events are planned, ranging from a big climate-action expo in Winnipeg to a picnic in Sackville, N.B.

On Salt Spring, the Tuesday, Oct. 1 event takes place in the program room of the library at 2 p.m., and the theme is “Stop the Subsidies, Fund the People!” The main feature will be a sing-along with Valdy on his new song, titled (guess what?) “Stop the Subsidies, Fund the People!” The video of the singalong will be sent to all federal Members of Parliament.

At a time when Lytton, Jasper and thousands of hectares of forest have burned to cinders, our government is giving billions (that’s with a “b”) of dollars every year to oil and gas corporations. These funds are delivered in various ways, such as tax breaks, subsidies, grants, loans and royalty reductions.

Government support for the oil and gas sector averaged \$11 billion per year from 2018 to 2020. That amount could pay for job training for 480,000 workers, or annual health care costs for 880,000 people. It could support education and build houses.

billion.

In 2009 and again in 2022, Canada, along with all other UN member states, committed to phasing out “inefficient” fossil-fuel subsidies, but in 2022, we ranked last among the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development countries in ending those subsidies. Canadians still spend more to support the oil and gas sector than Australia, Mexico and the United States.

Yes, we will still need some fossil fuels in the years ahead, but it is clear that to hope for a livable future, we need to reduce our use of them. Results from a recent Leger poll suggest that one in three Canadians have been touched directly by extreme weather, such as forest fires, heat waves, floods or tornadoes.

If even a small proportion of the government subsidies were aimed at renewables, we could make a faster switch to a more economically stable and climate-safe future.

As Wade Davis has written: “We can hasten the process of ending the carbon age by eliminating the hidden subsidies for fossil fuels.”

Seniors are important; one in four Canadians is a senior, so we have clout. We can pay attention. We can vote. And we can sing!

(Sources: Statistics Canada, Kyle Bakx, *The Conversation*, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Wade Davis, *Beneath the Surface of Things*)

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should CRD park space be considered for a warming space this winter? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should the CRD consider relaxing noise bylaws for farming activities?
85 NO 99 YES

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

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Protect area's unique status

How many municipalities have 36 endangered ecosystems? How many municipalities have 218 at-risk plant and animal species?

The Islands Trust Area is unique and the Islands Trust Act is unique; unlike any other geographical region and unlike any other legislation in North America, and quite probably the world. The Trust government, whose primary mandate is preservation and protection of the natural environment, is unparalleled. Elected officials are not "councillors" but rather "trustees" as they have a fiduciary duty to be loyal to the purpose of the Trust.

Since its inception in 1974, there have been several concerted attempts to weaken the Trust's ability to protect the environment. Donning a variety of sheep's clothing, the thinly disguised "wolf of development" keeps reappearing. The most recent iteration is a movement to redefine "unique amenities" to include "housing, livelihoods, infrastructure and tourism." While these are all issues of concern to our community, it defies credibility to define any of these issues as "unique." Indeed, it's a sad truth that most municipali-

ties are also struggling with all four of these challenges.

What remains "unique" is that additionally we are among the rarest of all biogeoclimatic zones in B.C. and have a singular opportunity to continue to protect our truly unique natural environment.

SHARON MCCOLLOUGH,
WELBURY DRIVE

Define 'crisis'

In his Sept. 18 opinion piece urging us to vote for the BC Conservatives, Bob Moffatt acknowledges that we are "in the midst of a climate emergency."

John Rustad, leader of the BC Conservatives, doesn't agree. In June he told The Globe and Mail that the science around human causes of climate change is "a theory and it's not proven." Maintaining that there is no pressing need to legislate solutions, he told the Globe, "It's not even a crisis." This when that same June was the 13th month in a row to set a new monthly temperature record, with temperatures 1.5°C above the preindustrial average, bringing more intense heatwaves, extreme rainfall events and droughts;

reductions in ice sheets, sea ice and glaciers, as well as accelerated sea-level rise and ocean heating. One can only wonder what, in John Rustad's mind, would qualify as a climate crisis.

MURRAY REISS,
FULFORD

BC Ferries, seriously?

Would it be fair to say election fever is in the air with the current announcement by BC Ferries? Initially, seven new major route ferries with no price tag mentioned, but if you connect the dots the price would be in the order of \$2 billion.

Meanwhile on Salt Spring Island the BC Ferries commissioner approved funding for two modest new terminals at both Crofton and Vesuvius Bay to accommodate foot passengers for the first time in 50 years, and Plan B for the new Crofton terminal, trestle and berth. It's seemingly a closely guarded secret how they intend to replace the trestle at the Crofton terminal in the current position instead of Plan B, without shutting down the

service for months on end. Transparency has not been forthcoming.

This past April, BC Ferries announced there's no money in the cupboard and reallocated the funds to other ventures, along with the usual "so sorry for the inconvenience."

Premier David Eby should instruct BC Ferries to apply the original funding supplied by BC Ferries commissioner Eva Hage to finally make the long-deferred improvements at Vesuvius Bay and Crofton for the spring of 2027, to accommodate the two five-year-old hybrid Island Class ferries coming down from Route 19 (Nanaimo to Gabriola Island).

MLA Sheila Malcolmson has served her community of Gabriola Island very well with the pending arrival of two new electric Island Class vessels in 2027 and substantial new electrical infrastructure for a population of 4,500.

We can always hope Salt Spring Capital Regional District director Gary Holman can campaign to the premier to reinstate the improvements committed to Route 6 as a member of the Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committee.

You have a vote on Oct. 19; please exercise your franchise.

DAVID COURTNEY,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Our chief's going to attend this year, so that's the first time in history that our chief and Elders and our singers will be coming to Salt Spring."

KURT IRWIN, PENELAKUT TRIBE COUNCIL MEMBER, ON FERNWOOD TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY EVENT

Silver linings and paths of least resistance in road construction

What's the best thing about living on Salt Spring? Many different things spring to mind, but right up there among them is the fact that you never have to worry about being stuck in a traffic jam. That would have been the case until a couple of weeks ago, but, alas, times have changed. With the recent Fulford-Ganges Road Improvements Project, our island has slipped reluctantly into a world where all forward motion is preceded by a total standstill.

Oh sure, for decades we've been inconvenienced by ferry overloads and long lineups spilling out of ferry parking lots and winding their way uphill from the Vesuvius and Fulford landings. We've cursed under our collective breath as we were forced to follow behind an overladen building supply flat-deck transport truck chugging along at 20 km/hr under the speed limit. As annoying, however, as these delays may seem, they pale in comparison to the helpless feeling we have had to experience from being "frozen in time" by the Fulford-Ganges Road traffic jam.

What exactly is the Fulford-Ganges Road Improvements Project? Simply put, the project calls for the resurfacing and grading of 1.6 kilometres of the two-lane road from Seaview Avenue up Ganges Hill to Cranberry Road. Other perks that islanders can expect once the project is completed in the fall of 2025

include paved shoulders on both sides of the road for pedestrians and cyclists, an underground storm-water drainage system, new pavement and refuge areas for cyclists. And all at a bargain basement cost of \$22.9 million.

And that's not all folks. The project also promises new signage, pavement markings, crosswalks and enhanced visibility. Another benefit would result from the pulverizing of the existing stretch of pavement to rebuild the road base and shoulders. Those of us who have become accustomed to driving on already existing pulverized roads, especially during wet winters, are not all that impressed with this particular objective.

If you've been caught in one of these road closures, you know the feeling we all experience. Often, as we sit in our vehicles stewing from our motionless frustration, we are overcome with the need to move in some direction — any direction — before we explode in this black hole of nothingness. We engage in internal arguments as to whether it would make more sense to just turn around and head back in the direction from which we came. Getting turned around, however, becomes a complex maneuver. It means waiting for there to be a break in the traffic navigating from the opposite direction while at the same time avoiding collision with all the other drivers in the lineup



Shilo Zylbergold
NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

who have simultaneously made the same decision to turn their cars around and drive away. Inevitably, what would normally be a three-point turn morphs into a complex 21-point manipulation. To make matters worse, just as we have finally completed our turnaround, the line of vehicles that we were about to abandon starts to move forward. This is too much to bear! We slam our transmission into reverse and nudge our way back into the slow-moving line of cars even though we are now facing the wrong direction. If we have to drive through town in reverse, then so be it.

Then there's the matter of line butting. Some of the more astute (as well as more egocentric) drivers on the island have figured out that by taking the Beddis Road route instead of the main road into Ganges, they can avoid a good part of the long lineup by squeezing their way in at the Beddis intersection. Those drivers who are stuck farther back up the hill can only watch helplessly as these Johnny-Come-Latelys sneak their way into

much shorter wait times by taking advantage of polite motorists who are merely trying to show a little driving courtesy.

Sporting a long history of creative thinking here on the rock, islanders are reaching for unorthodox attempts to beat the jam. Here are some of the more harebrained methods that may or may not have been used thus far. Avoiding the roads altogether and bushwhacking a trail through the brush may be a possible answer, but is bound to cause some major wear and tear on your vehicle. Some of the old logging roads may still afford a usable bypass into Ganges, although there are some who have gone this route and have never been seen or heard from again. Likewise, remembering that our multi-opinioned Salt Spring has been defined as an argument surrounded by water, low tide offers a circuitous opportunity to avoid all roads and trails as you follow the shoreline towards your destination. Just be aware that the tide does turn regularly and that salt water can be very unfriendly to vehicle parts such as moving motor components.

Who says you have to circumvent the road blockage anyway? If you happen to own a monster truck with 10-foot-diameter wheels and tires, the kind of metal beast used in mud-filled stadiums and arenas during demolition derbies, then you can pretty well go over and

through any obstacle that stands in your way.

Even more clever is the "path of least resistance" strategy wherein you simply get out of your vehicle that is stuck in the construction zone lineup, lock it and amble on foot down the hill to do your town chores and shopping. When these are complete, just return to your mid-road "special parking spot" where the planned construction will hopefully be over for the day and you can drive on into town for a cold beer.

Nobody asked me, but I'm willing to give the project the benefit of the doubt, at least for the time being. It is said that whenever a door closes in front of you, there's a window that opens. With a big hole in the ground and single-lane alternating traffic being routed around it, it's only natural that long lines of stalled traffic would result, especially after the ferries have dropped their loads. As a consequence, you can imagine the frustration boiling over inside each of the vehicle's occupants.

What a perfect time for some ambitious entrepreneurs to weave their way from vehicle to vehicle as they offer hot coffee and delicious snacks to reduce the stress and help pass the time! I think I just might have to change careers and invest in a coffee wagon. Cappuccino anyone?

Getting Cinderella up to speed

BY MIKE STACEY

I went to let the chickens out the other day and spotted Cinderella next door, so I went over to the fence to say hi.

"Morning, Cinderella." He turned and said, "Hey, Mike, how ya doin'?"

I had to ask. "Have you been feeling okay?"

"Never better. Why do you ask?" he replied.

"Well," I explained. "Your crowing has been a bit, you know . . . weird the last little while, but not all the time."

He laughed. (Didn't know roosters can laugh, did you?) "That's not me, it's the other guy."

"Another rooster?"

"You bet!"

Now, Cinderella is a beautiful bird, big, lovely colour to his plumage, everything one would expect a rooster to be, right off the Corn Flakes box. He turns the head of every hen within earshot when he crows. The new guy is . . . imagine a feather pillow that has been hit by a train, and when he crows gives the impression that he is being strangled.

"Two roosters!" I forced a smile. "Lucky me."

"No, no, not two . . . three!" he declared proudly. "See that little guy over there? Not crowing yet, but it won't be long."

"Well!" says I. "I am truly blessed!"

He looked at me and agreed. "It doesn't get much better than that, eh?" Turning quite serious, he said, "So, I've heard they're shutting down farming on the island?"

"No," I assured him. "There are farms here that were in operation long before anyone living on the island was born. The Cunningham family has been on theirs for 101 years. How long was the land being farmed before that? Who knows?"

"Hmmm . . . so I'm okay, then?" he quietly asked.

"Yes, as long as no one has a problem with you. There are dozens of backyard farms and gardens all over the place that produce food with no problems. And it works both ways. Imagine if I were to take up recreational boiler-making out behind the house, and the neighbours complained that the riveting noise was keeping their roosters awake. The bylaw guy would be out here shutting me down right away.

"I don't think spending a small fortune defending a lost cause would get me very far. Some feel they are justified changing the bylaws, taking others' rights away to benefit themselves. I don't buy it. I feel that when the big one comes and it all hits the fan, we will be looking to our neighbours for

help, not the livestock."

"I see," the rooster said. "So noise is the issue? Well look at THIS!" He was pecking at a recent Driftwood letter. "Somebody has a problem with kids making noise! Now THAT I can agree with. The little guys around this place are always running around, screaming and yelling, throwing balls, climbing trees and having fun doing it! Why the hell can't they just stay in the house all day playing video games and turning their brains to porridge like normal kids do?"

I was ready for this conversation to end and turned to leave.

"Kids make noise; it's in their job description. If they do it outside, like we did years ago, wonderful," I said. "Maybe the people that don't like it should pull up all their 'Stay Out Of My Yard!' signs and go somewhere else. I hear Antarctica is nice. Penguins aren't too loud."

He was grumbling as I turned to leave. Walking away, I yelled back through the fence, "See ya later, Cinderella! I'm going to see Andrew at the Bond farm to buy some fresh vegetables!"

When I climbed into my pickup it occurred to me that more than one rooster confined in the same enclosure are not destined to be "besties." When the feathers fly, I'm putting my money on Cinderella!

Pie Ladies thank fair contributors

Thank you to everyone who bought pies from the Women's Institute of Salt Spring Island ("The Pie Ladies") at the 2024 Salt Spring Island Fall Fair. We made over 500 pies for the Fall Fair and with your help we raised thousands of dollars, much of which we will be donating to charities in November.

If you missed getting a slice of pie, we will be selling pies at the Apple Festival on Sunday, Sept. 29 starting at 9 a.m. in Fulford Hall. Just like at the Fall Fair, we sell out early, so get there before 11:30 a.m., which is when we sold out last year.

Thank you for supplies: Country Grocer for whipped cream; John Wiebe for the wagon for transport at the Fall Fair.

A special thank-you to Brody Paine and the Harvest Kitchen Cafe for sourcing supplies and the use of Fulford Hall's kitchen.

Thank you for fruit: Patrick Lee, Milly Sinclair, Moe Wendt, Clive Rose, Zelly Taylor and May Henderson. A special thank you to Patrick Lee for lots of rhubarb and sour cherries.

Thank you for pie-making help at the bees: Milly Sinclair, Maddy Smith and Jane Morrison.

The Women's Institute is a 104-year-old community-based organization for women. Among other activities, we advocate on behalf of women and children's health and services, especially for rural women. We donate money to the Salt Spring Food Bank, Salt Spring Farmers' Institute and Museum, Fulford Hall, Greenwoods Eldercare, Copper Kettle, Island Comfort Quilts, Water for All, Therapeutic Riding Association, Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island, the BC Children's Hospital, Salt Spring 4H, SSI Girl Guides (they wash the dishes at the Fall Fair), Santa's Workshop and a Gulf Islands Secondary School scholarship. We are always looking for new members for the Women's Institute; please contact us at ssiwomensinstitute@gmail.com if you are interested.

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VOTE IN THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION



The 2024 Provincial General Election is on Saturday, October 19, 2024.
There are many ways (and many days) to vote.

WHO CAN VOTE

You can vote in the 2024 Provincial General Election if you are:

- 18 or older on October 19, 2024
- a Canadian citizen, and
- a resident of British Columbia since April 18, 2024

VOTER REGISTRATION

Register now to save time when you vote.

You can register or update your voter information at elections.bc.ca/register or by calling **1-800-661-8683**.

Registration online and by phone closes at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific time) on October 7.

After October 7, you can still register when you vote, but voting will take longer. Remember to bring ID when you go to vote.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

Visit elections.bc.ca/integrity to learn how Elections BC protects provincial elections in British Columbia, and what you can do to help.

VOTE IN PERSON

Vote at a district electoral office

Voting at district electoral offices is available now during office hours until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on Final Voting Day.

Vote at advance voting

There are six days of advance voting: October 10 - 13 and 15 - 16, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time).

Advance voting places will be closed on October 14 (Thanksgiving).

Vote on Final Voting Day

Final Voting Day is Saturday, October 19. Voting places will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time) on Final Voting Day.

WHERE TO VOTE

Visit wheretovote.elections.bc.ca to find voting places near you and when they are open.

VOTE BY MAIL

To vote by mail, request your voting package as soon as possible. Visit elections.bc.ca/votebymail or call **1-800-661-8683**.

CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS

You can get a nomination package from your district electoral office, or online at elections.bc.ca/candidates.

Completed nomination packages must be returned to your district electoral office by 1 p.m. (Pacific time) on Saturday, September 28.

DISTRICT ELECTORAL OFFICE

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Duncan, BC
(250) 737-4090

Saanich North and the Islands
1528 Stellys Cross Rd
Central Saanich, BC
(236) 475-4576

Hours of Operation (local time)

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Advance voting days 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY

September 30th

CULTURAL TRADITIONS & HISTORY IN FOCUS AT FERNWOOD EVENT

Penelakut community and Sampson/Irwin family members gather for a photo after a celebration of new interpretive signage installed at Fernwood Dock in May of 2023. Another Penelakut visit is set for Monday, Sept. 30 — Truth and Reconciliation Day — at the dock and the nearby Hen & Hound Brasserie from 12 to 3 p.m., with a BBQ fundraiser and music beginning at 11 a.m. at the brasserie. (Alex Harris photo)

By Robb Magley
Driftwood Staff

A National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event will feature a first for Salt Spring, according to a Penelakut Tribe member whose family has called this island home for generations.

On Monday, Sept. 30, as the community gathers at Fernwood Dock to honour the culture and history the Penelakut share on Salt Spring, islander Kurt Irwin — recently elected as a Penelakut councillor — will be there to welcome them, alongside the voices and drums of the Coastal Blood Singers Penelakut Elders and tribal leadership.

“Our chief’s going to attend this year,” Irwin told Salt Spring’s Local Community Commission (LCC) at its meeting Thursday, Sept. 19. “So that’s the first time in history that our chief and Elders and our singers will be coming to Salt Spring.”

Irwin’s connection to Salt Spring and Fernwood is deep and personal, he told the Driftwood, and an invitation for the community to join the event is an opportunity not only for meaningful steps toward reconciliation, but also to learn some foundational stories about the island. Irwin is a member of Salt Spring’s Sampson family, a descendant of England-born Henry Sampson and wife Lucy Peatson, daughter of Penelakut Island warrior Hulkalatstun; Kurt’s late mother Lil Irwin was born a Sampson.

“Under that dock, that’s my family, that’s my mom,” said Irwin. “And the artwork on that headstone, that’s my mom’s artwork on the plaque down there for the Sampson family.”

Among the first to settle on Salt Spring in the late 1800s, Sampson and Peatson had 14 children and a farm that reached from the area around where Fernwood Dock sits today to St. Mary Lake. A family reunion in the 1980s hosted nearly 400 descendants. Irwin said last year’s event to celebrate unveiling of Penelakut interpretive signage went particularly well, and support from Salt Spring continues to be enthusiastic. He’s received help for this event from the Hen and Hound Brasserie, Thrifty Foods, Transition Salt Spring, the Salt Spring Public Library and the Capital Regional District (CRD).

“This year, I’ve invited our elders to come to Salt Spring to do some talks about Truth and Reconciliation,” said Irwin. “We’re going to have our drummers and dancers; we’ll have Chris Arnett there to do some talking about the territories and different nations. It’s going to be a great event for people to come out and listen.”

The gathering will begin at 11 a.m., with the North End’s own DJ Rave Coach bringing music to the Hen & Hound Brasserie as they host a BBQ fundraiser. At noon, the Coastal Blood Singers will begin a drumming ceremony at the dock. Volunteers to help at the event are always welcome, Irwin said, saying anyone looking to help out with cooking and serving could reach out to the Hen and Hound, or to Transition Salt Spring’s Natasha Kong at natasha@transitionsaltspring.com.

Monetary donations to help offset equipment and travel costs would also be appreciated; Irwin said some of the fundraising last year ultimately went toward sending Coastal Blood Singers to greet a young boy returning home from a long hospital stay, after having been badly burned in a house fire.

“They travelled to his house, on the request of his mother,” said Irwin, “and they greeted him with drumming and dancing. We’d like to continue that sort of thing. I mean, what little bit we are getting for them, they’re giving it right back again.”

Considering Penelakut’s ties to Salt Spring — connections, history and roots all over the island — Irwin said the Elders share his concern that “they don’t officially own any land here.”

“That’s not a very good thing,” said Irwin, “because a lot of our ancestors are getting washed up on shore, and we have no place to rebury them properly on Salt Spring Island.”

For the Sept. 30 event, according to CRD staff, while the LCC’s grants-in-aid funding was between cycles, the regional district was able to quickly provide some financial help through government-to-government funding.

“We did refer that request to our First Nations department, and they were able to provide them some support,” said CRD senior manager Stephen Henderson, adding that while he was hesitant to speak to a dollar value as it was still being “firmed up,” it was seemingly a good substitute for grant-in-aid funding.

Fernwood Dock is near the intersection of Walker’s Hook and Fernwood roads. Monday’s family-friendly event will run until 3 p.m.

The Driftwood office will be closed on Thursday, Sept. 30 in support of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which has been created to recognize and commemorate the intergenerational harm that residential schools have caused to Indigenous families and communities, and to honour those who have been affected by this injustice.

Driftwood

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ARTSPRING

Frey performs Bach's Cello Suites

ArtSpring pre-season concert on Saturday night

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

At the heart of the repertoire of nearly all cellists, Bach's Cello Suites are among the most appreciated works of classical music lovers around the world.

Returning to ArtSpring this Saturday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. to perform a special "pre-season" concert is Juno-winning American-Canadian cellist, gambist and researcher Elinor Frey, who has performed across the Americas and in Europe in recital and with numerous chamber orchestras, such as Rosa Barocca, Constantinople, Les idées heureuses, Il Gardellino, Tafelmusik and Pacific Baroque Orchestra.

Frey, whose style has been



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH DELAGE
Elinor Frey, who will perform Bach's Cello Suites 1, 4 and 5 at ArtSpring on Saturday.

to create the illusion of multiple voices, a polyphony inspired by the use of Bach's harmony and melody, wonderful techniques that intrigue the ear at every moment."

The baroque suites were said to be composed around 1720 when Bach lived in Cöthen in the service of Prince Leopold, when his secular and instrumental music included works for solo violin and the famous Brandenburg concertos.

Frey's presentation coincides with a pre-concert ArtSpring volunteer appreciation event, an annual wine and cheese mingler to thank and recognize ArtSpring's close to 80 volunteers who contribute to box office shifts, duty managing, poster distribution and artist billing. Volunteers were also offered special pricing to enjoy the concert.

"Volunteers are critical to our operations and being able to bring the arts, both local productions and international performers, to our community," said Howard Jang, executive and artistic director. "We're thrilled to be able to show our thanks with organized events like this, reduced or complimentary tickets and opportunities to join advisory roundtable committees. It really strengthens the fabric of our island."

Tickets for the Frey concert are available through the box office, and include the \$15 Angel Program seating aimed to make the arts more accessible to all. Those interested in learning more about volunteering are invited to contact the box office.

described by Gramophone Review as "elegant, playful and generous," will be performing the exquisite Cello Suites 1, 4 and 5.

"The suites highlight how Bach is especially adept at mixing particular characteristics of the cello," explained Frey. "Because of its unique range, from the low bass to the soprano, the cello is able

Gibson Trio
Brahms and Friends
in the afternoon

Paula Kiffner (cello)
Robert Holliston (piano)
Keith MacLeod (clarinet)

All Saints Anglican Church
Monday October 7, 2024 2:30pm
tickets \$30

Tickets available at
ArtSpring box office and at the door.

HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE WHAT'S ON CALENDAR?

Send an email with details to:
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

MANAGING YOUR MICROBIOME

Dr. Steve Michaluk

Studies in the dental literature suggest that increasing oxygen in between teeth and gums can positively influence the characteristics of the oral bacteria (biofilm), consequently reducing the risk of tooth decay and gum inflammation. The American Association of Periodontists analysis of flossing effectiveness underscores the significance of this approach in the management of periodontal health.

Oral irrigators have been shown to effectively increase oxygen in the saliva through a jet of water, which disturbs and disrupts the oxygen poor environment favored by disease causing bacteria. This disruption of the saliva promotes the influx of oxygen, inhibiting the growth of decay causing bacteria

and inflammatory microorganisms.

In contrast, traditional flossing, while beneficial; may not achieve the same level of oxygenation due to its limitations in reaching deep in between teeth and gum pockets. By utilizing oral irrigators the increased oxygen helps to create an environment less conducive to the growth of harmful bacteria, thereby reducing the incidence of decay and mitigating gingival and periodontal inflammation. This evidence underscores the potential of using oral irrigators as an adjunctive tool in oral hygiene routines for improving periodontal health outcomes.



Dr. Steve Michaluk

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TEA À TEMPO

Coast in focus at All Saints

Alan Moberg performs Oct. 2

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

Tea à Tempo is once again honoured to have Alan Moberg, Salt Spring Island's "Saltwater Cowboy" — songwriter, singer, husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, landscaper, friend — on the All Saints by-the-Sea stage on Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 2:10 p.m.

Moberg will sing songs and tell stories from the eight decades of his coastal experience.

Moberg was born in 1941 in Pender Harbour, B.C. His dad was a logger who became a fisherman that same year. At 83, Moberg is three years into his ninth decade on these shores. His mother was a city girl who became an up-coast wife and mom. She learned to slice frozen bait in Fitzhugh Sound, shoot a marauding mink who was killing their chickens and raise two kids, largely on her own, as her husband was away fishing for up to five months of the year.

The first word Moberg spoke was "boat." As a tod-

der, he could tell whose boat it was before it came around the point by the sound of its engine. He migrated with his mother to Rivers Inlet for the fishing season in 1945 and for three more years, with his mom and younger sister Lynda, from 1950 through 1952.

Moberg deep-sea-trolled with his dad in the summers from the age of 11 and later seined both salmon and herring on bigger boats. At age 22, he returned to fishing with his father to make up for the sea legs and abilities he had lacked as a youngster. His dad would say that this more mature son was the best man he ever had on the boat.

John Lugsdin of the Salt Spring Sailing Club said that Moberg is one of the few people who remembers the B.C. coast as it once was and invited him to play a concert for the club's members. Moberg told stories and sang songs of his beloved West Coast and it was a smashing success, the folks loved it.

Entrance to the recital is by donation. Tea and treats will be served immediately following the concert in the hall overlooking Ganges Harbour.

BANFF
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A Radical Retelling by
Cliff Cardinal

ArtSpring Presents

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what's on this week

Wed. Sept. 25

ACTIVITIES

Seniors' Safety: Stopping Elder Abuse & Neglect. With guest speakers from the BC Community Response Network and Crime Stoppers. Salt Spring Public Library. 3:30 p.m.

What Is Zen? Fifth 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.

Salt Spring Island Museum. Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thur. Sept. 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FisherPoets Gathering. Evening of poetry, storytelling and songs related to coastal life and fishing. With guests from Washington, Oregon and Vancouver, B.C. joining islanders. Meaden Hall. 6 to 9 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Green Drinks. "Thinking like an island," a discussion of eco-minded folks. Salt Spring Wild Cider. 5 to 7 p.m.

Book Launch: Chris Arnett. Salt Spring writer presents Signs of the Time: Nê?kepmx Resistance Through Rock Art. Library program room. 7 p.m.

ArtSpring Community Roundtable: Connecting the Dots. Community discussion and brainstorming. ArtSpring. 7 to 9 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Museum. See Wed. listing.

Fri. Sept. 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Karaoke. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

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

Fri. Sept. 27

ACTIVITIES

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

ASK Salt Spring. This week's guests are LCC members. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Youth Games & Chess Club. Drop-in for ages 9 to 13 in the library's children's area. 1 to 4 p.m.

Friday Games Night. For ages 13 to 19 at the library program room. 7 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Museum. See Wed. listing.

Sat. Sept. 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Island Chamber Winds: Autumn Colours – Octets of Yesterday and Today. All Saints by-the-Sea. 3 p.m.

Old Times Cafe. Open stage at the Fulford Hall annex. 7 to 11 p.m. On the last Saturday of every month.

Elinor Frey: Bach Cello Suites. ArtSpring pre-season concert. 7:30 p.m.

OK Dope. Comedy night at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Brett Smith Daniels Band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market. In Centennial Park. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ruckle Museum Open House. Visit Ruckle Park's oldest house. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Salt Spring Garden Club Fall Plant Sale. Farmers' Institute. 1 to 3 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Jazz Jam. With Frank Allen 4 and guests. Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 29

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Apple Festival. Self-guided tour of orchards and other food producing spots, plus Fulford Hall display of apples, pie from the Pie Ladies, South End Sausage BBQ and more. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets outside the Ganges Visitors Centre and at Fulford Hall.

Salt Spring Island Museum. See Wed. listing.

Mon. Sept. 30

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Vetta Chamber Music Presents: Liminal Spaces. Works by Mozart, Ryan, Beethoven. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

National Day For Truth & Reconciliation. Penelakut Coastal Blood Singers perform a drumming ceremony at Fernwood Dock from 12 to 1 p.m. DJ Rave Coach and BBQ fundraiser at Hen & Hound Brasserie from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Salt Spring Scottish Country Dancing. All Saints by-the-Sea upper hall. 6 to 7 p.m. Free to try this month.

Tues. Oct. 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

National Seniors Day. Seniors for Climate Presents Stop the Subsidies, Fund the People! Valdy singalong and more at the library program room. 2 p.m.

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

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

Wed. Oct. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Alan Moberg. All Saints by-the-Sea. Followed by optional tea and treats. 2:10 p.m.

Wed. Oct. 2

ACTIVITIES

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

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.

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

CINEMA

• **Deadpool & Wolverine** is the movie from Friday, Sept. 27 to Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more info.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• Deon Venter presents **Chrysalis** and Kathy Venter presents **Echo/Reflection/Entrance** at Gallery 8 through Oct. 20.

• Today, Sept. 25 is the last day to see **Diana Dean: Then and Now** at Salt Spring Gallery.

• **Resurgence**, an art exhibition by members of the Indigenous Friendship Circle, is in the library program room until Sept. 28.

• From Oct. 2 to 31, three members of The Headhunters portrait group — **Ojima Clark, Mary Pennell, and R M Dupuy** show portraits of islanders in the library program room.

• **Island Textile Artists group** presents **Diverse Threads** in the ArtSpring lobby this month.

• **Claudia Schröder-Adams** is showing photographs of birds she has seen on her travels at the Country Grocer Cafe for the month of September.

Salt Spring Apple Festival
Sunday, Sept. 29
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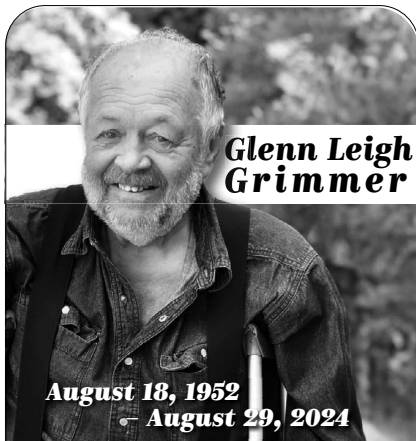
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Obituaries

Obituaries

In Memoriam

In Memoriam



Glenn Leigh Grimmer

August 18, 1952
– August 29, 2024

With deep sadness we mourn the passing of Glenn Leigh Grimmer, who died peacefully in his sleep on August 29, 2024, at the age of 72.

A lifelong learner and multi-generational Gulf Islander, Glenn loved the islands and the people who live here. He enjoyed boating, fishing, hunting, foraging, scuba diving, flying, farming, and many other activities through the years. He dearly loved his family and friends. The youngest blaster in BC, Glenn worked in logging camps on the coast before he started Gulf Excavating on Pender Island in 1976. He worked hard up until the day of his passing, helping people all over the Gulf Islands build homes and realize their dreams on their own piece of paradise.

Glenn is predeceased by daughters Kristen, Shelah, and Sarah, by his father Donald, and his brother Bruce. He leaves to mourn his wife Barbara, mother Margaret, sons Aaron and Isaac, daughters Theresa (Nathan) and Cara, and stepsons Walter and Alex (Erin). He leaves his grandsons Donovan, Keagan, Alexander, and Nathaniel, and granddaughters Eveleena and Lilyanna. He also leaves his brother Dale, sisters Eileen (Vivijan) and Cindy (Tom), sister-in-law Barbara, and many family members and friends.

Glenn had multiple health issues but always had a positive outlook and strong faith. He worked hard on his recovery, freely offering his advice and help to others who also had health challenges.

God saw you getting tired, and a cure was not to be, so he put his arms around you, and he whispered come to me. You never said I'm leaving, you never said goodbye, you were gone before we knew it, and only God knows why. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still, and in our hearts, we hold a place that only you can fill. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands now rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, he only takes the best.

You will be lovingly and always remembered by family and friends and by all who crossed your path.

There will be a memorial and celebration of life for Glenn on Friday, November 15 at the Pender Island Community Hall from 2:30 to 6:00. Food will be provided.



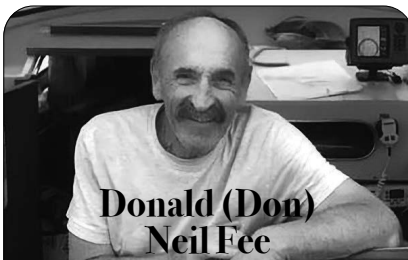
Salt Spring Island NATURAL CEMETERY

2100 Fulford-Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1Z7
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saltspringcemetery.ca

Obituaries

Obituaries



Donald (Don) Neil Fee

November 14, 1946 (Powell River, B.C.) -
September 16, 2024 (Nanaimo, B.C.)

Predeceased by parents, Leon and Olida Fee, and wife Yvonne (2014). Lovingly remembered by daughter Sarah, beloved grandson Hamish, brother Pat, nephew Kaleb & niece Crystal.

In lieu of flowers, please kindly consider a memorial donation to the Nanaimo SPCA in Don's memory. No service by request.

Forever Loved ~ Forever Missed ~ Forever Free
~Rest Easy Donal~



TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 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
25	5:27	1.9	0.58	29	2:28	8.1	2.47
	14:43	10.3	3.14		9:30	3.3	1.01
	6:35	2.3	0.7		17:00	10	3.05
26	15:31	10.4	3.17	22:47	6.6	2.01	
	7:42	2.7	0.82	3:41	8.2	2.5	
	16:08	10.4	3.17	10:11	3.8	1.16	
27	22:15	8	2.44	17:18	9.8	2.99	
	0:46	8.1	2.47	23:08	5.9	1.8	
	8:40	3	0.91	4:40	8.4	2.56	
28	16:37	10.2	3.11	10:47	4.3	1.31	
	22:27	7.3	2.23	17:31	9.6	2.93	
				23:31	5.1	1.55	
			5:34	8.7	2.65		
			11:21	5	1.52		
			17:43	9.4	2.87		
			23:55	4.3	1.31		

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NOTICE

Notice of intention to dispose of a vessel under section 39 of the Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act

"Tehani" 28' blue SV moored in Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island is considered Abandoned – TC File W2024-503324

"Spring Break" 26' blue SV moored in Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island is considered Abandoned – TC File 2024-503323

"Englander" 28' white SV moored in Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island is considered Abandoned – TC File W2024-503193

20" Sara Jean" orange cabin SV moored in Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island is considered Abandoned – TC File W2024-503333

28' SV black hull SV moored in Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island is considered Abandoned – TC File W2024-503342

This notice serves as official notice of the Minister's intention to dispose of these vessels after 30 days from which this notice was given. Should you have any questions, you may contact, Transport Canada's Navigation Protection Program at NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca or 604-775-8867 and reference file numbers above.

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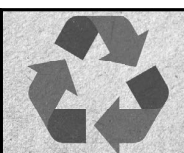
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WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22 TO 28, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK: LEO, VIRGO AND LIBRA



ARIES
Your funny side can be powerful in defusing conflicts and creating a relaxed environment. Your opinions carry weight and spark interest in those around you.



TAURUS
Facing an unexpected expense may be unsettling, but it could reveal that you have the resources to achieve your goals, such as buying a house or planning a trip.



GEMINI
Your friends may invite you to participate in social and athletic activities during the upcoming colder months. Maintaining your physical and mental fitness can enhance your overall well-being and help you develop a balanced approach to life.



CANCER
If work is overwhelming, taking a break can be a valuable source of rejuvenation. Despite the organization's seeming complexity, the experience can offer much-needed clarity and peace of mind.



LEO
If you're feeling chronically tired, consider gradually transforming your lifestyle. Exploring spiritual activities can help you regain energy and vitality and achieve a balance between the physical and the spiritual.



VIRGO
You're climbing the ranks at work, increasing the likelihood of a promotion. Financial success is also on the horizon, with fruitful returns on your investments despite the economic climate.



LIBRA
The idea of taking a trip may reflect a deep desire for change and alignment with your values. Starting a large-scale project, alone or with family, could be a tangible expression of this aspiration.



SCORPIO
Good news about financing one of your dreams confirms your ability to overcome fears and anxieties. Success will boost your self-confidence and remove any obstacles in your path.



SAGITTARIUS
Your role in a difficult decision will be crucial. Make sure to gather all necessary information to make informed choices. The confidence placed in you is a recognition of your discernment.



CAPRICORN
Your health may be challenged by overworking despite being successful at your job. Make sure to prioritize rest and well-being after achieving success.



AQUARIUS
Receiving recognition for your accomplishments will be gratifying. You could win an award or be nominated for something. This will boost your self-esteem and strengthen your confidence, marking a moment of pride and achievement.



PISCES
You may strongly desire to be in the comfort of your home. Rearranging your living space to create a streamlined atmosphere could help bring clarity and peace to your everyday life.

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ISLAND LIFE

INVASIVE SPECIES

Shiny geranium pops up with rain

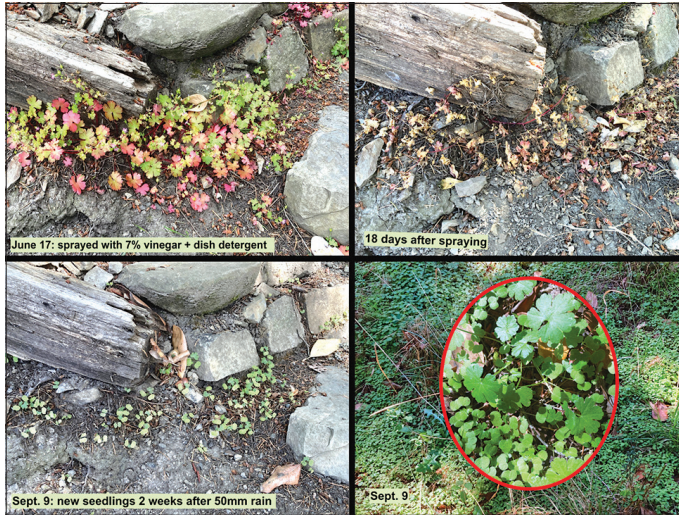


PHOTO COMPILATION COURTESY CATHY YOUNG

Photos show, clockwise from top left, mature plants before and then after vinegar solution treatment, plants in pot and the ground on Sept. 9.

Native plant group provides timely advice

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For islanders who were alerted to the presence of shiny geranium on their properties earlier this year, efforts to nip its spread in the bud can start now.

Cathy Young of Transition Salt Spring's Native Plant Stewardship Group said germination of the *Geranium lucidum* invasive plant is already well underway

due to the heavy rainfall that occurred in late August.

A check of one of the patches on my property confirmed that was the case, and hand pulling of the tiny plants has begun. Somehow they don't seem as pernicious when they are small, but it's alarming to see how many seeds have germinated and would become full-sized seed-bearing plants if not removed.

"It is difficult to distinguish from dovesfoot cranesbill (*Geranium molle*) when small, but dovesfoot is also a non-native and somewhat invasive,"

said Young, indicating that it's probably okay if some dovesfoot are sacrificed while dealing with the shiny geranium.

"The characteristic smooth stems of shiny geranium won't become red until plants have had some sun," said Young, but I noticed that the bottom of the leaves have a red or pink hue and can be distinguished from dovesfoot that way.

The problem with shiny geranium is that it creates mats, or monocultures, that out-compete native plant communities, said Young. It is tolerant of all but the extremes of sun, shade, precipitation and soil types, though it prefers open forest floors, and has a long germination season — from now until late spring. Up to five generations of plants can exist on a single site in one year. Young said its seeds can be thrown up to 20 feet and the seeds survive at least two years in the ground.

Young recommends creating a solution of water with seven to 10 per cent vinegar, and adding a bit of dish detergent to help it stick, and applying to affected areas on dry and/or sunny days.

"It will kill the delicate leaves of annuals by rupturing the cells," she said.

(She cautions that any vinegar solution of more than 11 per cent is capable of burning skin, damaging eyes and corroding metal.)

Flame weeding and hand-pulling also work, she said, and should be repeated when shiny geranium plants re-appear — perhaps monthly. Areas should be monitored closely and treatments or hand-pulling repeated the following year.

The B.C. government's shiny geranium invasive species alert fact sheet has detailed information about the plant and identification tips.

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SPORTS + RECREATION

DRAGON BOAT RACING

Dragons close out season with silver at Comox

Island team celebrates extra sparkly season of medal wins

BY DONNA COCHRAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Spirit Point Dragons came home with silver at Comox Marina Park on Saturday, Sept. 14, capping off a glittery dragon boat racing season by medalling at every festival.

Vancouver Island Paddling members hosted their second annual festival, bringing together 39 teams, women's and mixed, to compete in standard 20-paddler and short 10-paddler boats.

The 200-metre sprint races required precision starts and flawless timing. Spirit Point Dragons met the challenge. In the first and second race, we placed first with best times of 54.93 seconds and 1.00 minute. The combined race times placed our team fifth overall for mixed teams.

The docking of the boats in the confined marina space proved challenging and delayed the races over the course of the day. In addition, the pending rain forecast



Spirit Point Dragons team members at Comox Marina Park on Sept. 14.

PHOTO COURTESY SPIRIT POINT DRAGONS

held off until the start of the semi-final races when the wind came up and the clouds opened on the racers. Given these conditions, the organizers decided that the semi-finals would be the last races of the festival.

In the final race, Spirit Point raced in the outside lane so had the challenge of wind and choppy water from passing boats. We held our own and came a respectable third with a time of 1:03.26 behind second-place Wave Cutters (1:01.96) and first-place Mid

Island Masters (59.06). With the combined three race times, Spirit Point still maintained fifth place overall in the festival and earned a silver in B Division.

Paddlers included Cora Platz, Donna Cochran, Sheena Frisch, Robyn Huntley, Melynda Okulitch, Ann Marie Davidson, Gwyneth Ortlepp, Wendy Eggertson, Leah Chang, Louisa Taylor, Rob Huber, Stewart Rimmer, April Ray, John Ortlepp, Sam Goddard, Andrew Okulitch, Chris Ortlepp and coach Michael Peirce. Special thanks to guest paddlers Mahdu Bannur and Janet Bright, from Fairway Gorge Momentum Club, and to our former coach, Mary Rowles.

Audrey Denton did a superb job as drummer, keeping us on time and motivated for each race. Given the changing weather conditions and tides, steersperson Tom McKeachie showed he could handle it all. While Wendy McEachern wasn't able to paddle due to injury, she graciously was the team dog-handler for the day.

A heartfelt "paddles up!" to team manager Barry Green and assistant coach Lynda Green for their support this past season. And a big shout-out of thanks to the Driftwood for letting us brag about our results all season. See you next season.



Having fun in the Thrifty Foods fundraising booth at the Sept. 7-8 Fall Fair are, from left, Heidi, Brett, Sandra, Luke, Darion and Kellie, with store manager Mike Boizard in front.

The institute is always in need of funds to improve its infrastructure, so this year's donation from Thrifty Foods will help with projects such as roof repairs on the grounds' buildings.

"I don't think people understand how important the Farmers' Institute is, and what actually goes on during the course of a year out there," says Crandall, who is also an institute board member.

Island Community Services' Christmas programs are another beneficiary of Fall Fair booth funds, with Thrifty Foods providing Smile Cards and several other items for two or three families at Christmas time. Beyond that, the Christmas Hamper program is also generously supported, and Gabriel's Kitchen — a hugely successful community meal initiative — receives food donations from Thrifty's. The local store also provides support to the Cops for Cancer — Tour de Rock and countless Salt Spring Island groups.

In addition to raising funds for charity, Crandall says the store's staff members also really enjoy being at the fair.

"The Fall Fair is a lot of fun. I really enjoy being there," she says. "It also gives us a chance to connect with our community in a huge way."

Both this year and last, volunteers walked around the grounds offering slices of watermelon donated by Thrifty's to fair attendees.

Thrifty Foods Salt Spring welcomes shoppers daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 114 Purvis Lane in Ganges. Visit thriftyfoods.com for the latest news, new products and events, or follow them on Facebook.

— See this article online at gulfislandsdriftwood.com

THRIFTY FOODS' FALL FAIR PARTICIPATION SUPPORTS FARMERS' INSTITUTE AND WHOLE COMMUNITY

For some regular attendees of the annual Salt Spring Island Fall Fair, there's one food booth they just can't pass by. Every year, Thrifty Foods barbecues up delicious racks of pork ribs, with coleslaw and a bun, with all proceeds going to island charities.

Thrifty's donates the food, says the Salt Spring store's assistant manager Sandra Crandall, so every dollar collected goes back to the community. This year the Fall Fair booth brought in about \$3,500.

"That money supports lots of local charities, including the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute, because food security is really important, and we want to make sure we are supporting our farmers," says Crandall.

PAID CONTENT