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Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2024

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PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

NOT FOR JUGGLING: Salt Spring Apple Festival volunteer Neale Smith holds two of the 372 apple varieties on display at Fulford Hall as part of the Sept. 29 festival. See more photos on page 12 and our gulfislandsdriftwood.com website.

BC ELECTION

Four on ballot for MLA

Opportunities to meet candidates on tap

BY ROBB MAGLEY

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It will be a four-way race for MLA in Saanich North and the Islands, according to filings with Elections BC, as voters prepare for a provincial election called for Saturday, Oct. 19.

As the window for nominations closed Saturday, Sept. 28, three candidates endorsed by a registered political party and one independent were on the final list to appear on ballots: North Pender Island's Rob Botterell, representing the BC Green Party; David Busch, of Saanich, representing the Conservative Party; independent

candidate Amy Haysom, of Salt Spring Island; and Brentwood Bay's Sarah Riddell, who will represent the BC NDP.

In partnership with the Gulf Islands Driftwood, the Salt Spring Island Forum will welcome candidates for a debate Wednesday, Oct. 9 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at ArtSpring's theatre. The event will be moderated by Valeska San Martin, and admission is free. Apart from introductory and closing statements from each candidate, organizers said all time will be set aside for questions from the audience. For those unable to attend, the debate will be filmed and made avail-

able online by Oct. 11.

People can also meet the candidates at the ASK Salt Spring session at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space this Friday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Botterell will also be at a meet-and-greet at the library's program room from 7 to 8:30 p.m. that night.

Advance voting will take place Oct. 10, 11, 12 and 13 and Oct. 15-16, with the last day to request a vote-by-mail package online or by phone on Oct. 13.

For more information about voter qualifications and other issues, visit elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election.

HEALTH

New ER set to open

'State-of-the-art' space for Lady Minto Hospital

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island's new emergency department will be open for business in days, not months, according to health officials, with Wednesday, Oct. 9 set as the start of patient care at a recently completed expansion of Lady Minto Hospital.

The now-complete \$13.6-million project — funded with more than \$8 million raised by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation (LMHF) — will have a virtual tour available soon, officials said, noting that despite the project's high public profile the facility remains strictly for emergency medical situations.

New construction includes a 420-square-metre building addition, bringing the total building size to 2,728 square metres and increasing the number of treatment rooms/bays from six to eight.

LMHF board chair Dennis Miller said the foundation was proud to have been the "conduit" for the growing community's generosity; more than 600 individual donors contributed to the effort to upgrade the current facility — in use since 1958.

"With a five-fold increase in our island's population since the current emergency department was built, this state-of-the-art new facility is an important step forward to preserve our on-island health care," said Miller. "The foundation is immensely appreciative of both Island Health's and the Capital Regional Hospital District's (CRHD) support, collaboration and investment in making this possible."

Those investments included \$3.7 million from CRHD and another \$1.8 million from Island Health. The expansion includes a medication area, dedicated check-in desk and a nursing team care station that allows health staff to see all assessment treatment areas. The upgrade also includes an expanded patient and family waiting area, a safe de-escalation room, ambulance bay, decontamination site and accessible washrooms.

VOTE

Sarah Riddell
BC NDP

As advised by: Dr. Stomks, financial agent, futureinvest@shaw.ca

SEISMOLOGY

Small earthquake rattles region

No damage from magnitude 3.8 quake

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Many on Salt Spring Island were jolted awake by a small earthquake in the early morning hours of Thursday, Sept. 26. Earthquakes Canada said the shaking just after 4 a.m. measured magnitude 3.8 and was centred beneath the ocean east of Saanich-ton. The earthquake's magnitude was under the threshold for an early-detection system announced by the province this year, designed to warn both the public

and emergency managers of quakes greater than 5.0 magnitude, with as much as 10 seconds lead time before they hit. No damage was reported from Thursday's earthquake. Light shaking was widely noted on social media in Victoria and Vancouver, according to Earthquakes Canada, who measured the quake at a depth of 54.8 km. Earlier tremors this month — a 1.6 magnitude quake on Sept. 2 near Victoria, and a 0.6 magnitude quake Sept. 16 east of Sidney — had been felt by some on Vancouver Island, although Thursday morning's quake was the most significant in the area for nearly a decade, according to Earthquakes Canada data.

FERNWOOD IN ORANGE



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Penelakut Sulxwe'en (Elders Group) chair and residential school survivor James Charlie, far left, speaks to an overflowing crowd at a Truth and Reconciliation Day event at Fernwood's Hen and Hound Brasserie on Sept. 30, which also saw the Coastal Blood Singers participate, plus music and BBQed food from Hen and Hound.

HOUSING

Tiny homes get advocacy

Islands Trust Council sets sights on building code revisions

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Foundation-free islanders will see more advocacy from land-use officials in coming months, as a working group's efforts to find ways to legalize tiny homes on wheels (THOWs) received support — and funding — from the full Islands Trust Council (ITC). Trustees voted unanimously to ramp up advocacy efforts at the regional and provincial level for tiny homes, putting a focus on that housing option in upcoming strategic planning and setting aside \$20,000 to support coordination of technical workshops and discussions with other levels of government. The move came near the end of ITC's meeting Thursday, Sept. 26, as Gabriola Island trustee Tobi Elliott outlined the Tiny House Working Group's efforts to date, looking to gauge interest among the wider federation of islands. The Trust's Housing Action Plan is part of broader strategic planning to help improve availability of affordable housing, and Elliott said for THOWs that would mean big changes to building codes at the pro-

vincial level — something the Trust would need regional governments' help with. "We're suggesting a roundtable workshop to work with regional districts," said Elliott. "For the next update for the BC Building Code, 2025-2030, they're looking at affordable housing updates and tiny homes — but they haven't scoped out what that will look like. So we want to be involved in the conversation and informing it." The barriers to legalization for wheeled tiny homes are myriad and involve several layers of government, according to the working group's report. Using THOWs as full-time permanent dwellings is popular with islanders, but from zoning and building permits to certification and insurance problems, even enthusiastic policy makers have struggled to find a way to allow them. Elliott and the working group are developing a guide to help trustees — and regulators at other levels of government — navigate the "regulatory maze" and hopefully find pathways to legalization in rural and remote communities. An early draft of that guide clearly delighted fellow trustees. "I'm very happy to support this," said Denman Island trustee Sam Borthwick. "The Trust has a real opportunity to pave the way for coming up with something really good; it's an exciting and effective way to provide housing that's in line with the way many people choose to live their lives on the islands."

South Pender trustee Dag Falck said it was the only proposal he'd seen that "could actually lead to affordable housing" on the islands, particularly on smaller islands that were less interested in focusing density. "It allows for spreading out the need we have for increased housing for service workers and so forth," said Falck, "where most of the other proposals are concentrated housing complexes." And Mayne Island trustee Jeanine Dodds said tiny homes were a critical piece of the housing puzzle, since they can provide a sense of ownership, even when people can't necessarily afford a parcel of land on their own or may move from place to place. "Their home will always be their own home, and that's really important," said Dodds. The draft THOW policy guide can be viewed online at plctica.com/maps/QZ77PAEBW.

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

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ISLANDS TRUST

Council to repeat plea for provincial review

Trustees hope MLA campaigns weigh in, say governance hinders reconciliation

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Citing a “democracy deficit” and obstacles to meaningful reconciliation with First Nations, the Islands Trust will once again entreat the government of B.C. for a legislative review.

The Islands Trust Council (ITC) will request the Lieutenant Governor in Council to conduct a review of the “mandate, governance and structure” of the Islands Trust, via a letter spanning a range of issues it says need updates or clarification — from authority over marine areas and funding models to the Section 3 “mandate,” proportional representation for residents and a decision-making process that includes the 27 Indigenous governing bodies with interests in the Trust area.

While a new review would be the first of significance since 1987, it’s not a new request, Salt Spring Island trustee Laura Patrick noted. In June 2022, virtually the same resolution was passed and communication sent, but just two months later the Minister of Municipal Affairs put on the brakes. With the Islands Trust’s own election period imminent, Patrick said, the ministry had expressed it wanted to wait to hear the “perspectives and opinions” any newly elected ITC might’ve had on the requested review.

“[Our] election was two years ago, folks,” said Patrick, who was among trustees who voted 14-10 in favour of the action Wednesday, Sept. 25. “Now we have a provincial election in full swing — and now is our opportunity to ask every candidate in our ridings how they will support a request to the province for review.”

Nearly all trustees seemed to favour requesting a review, although many felt the timing wasn’t right. Gabriola Island trustee Tobi Elliott was among several who urged ITC to consider advice from provincial Municipal Affairs staff, who in meetings with administrators had recommended any request wait until after the election, and have more specificity — particularly with how legislation might be amended to better align with the 2019 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA).

“We are made from pieces of the Local Government Act, the Community Charter, and of course the Islands Trust Act,” said

Elliott. “All of these would need to shift to allow First Nations to have a much greater voice in governance and decision making.”

And Elliott felt more time was needed to engage with the First Nations leadership and community before starting conversations with the province, so any revisions could be received “in a good way, rather from a top-down imposed structure,” she said.

But most wanted to seize upon an opportunity seen right before a provincial election to put the issue under a political spotlight. Gambier Island Local Trust Area trustee Joe Bernardo said the intent was to “raise the stakes” for potential new representatives.

“This is where the rubber hits the road for the province on reconciliation,” said Bernardo. “They know this is a dangerous topic for them in the election, which is exactly why we need to get it out there and get it out there now.”

And Saturna Island trustee Lee Middleton took exception to the idea that trustees needed to have “all the answers” before approaching the province for help.

“If we had all the answers, we wouldn’t be having these conversations,” said Middleton. “We’re not experts.”

In her comments, acting CAO Julia Mobbs said the advice she received from provincial staff was that advancing the letter during the election period also risked the request being misplaced in the post-campaign shuffle. With no work advancing during the interregnum period, Mobbs said she was warned any correspondence was going to “sit in a pile.”

“When a new government is formed post-election, all of that information will then be advanced,” she said, “and our letter could potentially be lost.”

But most trustees were unconvinced. “We need to project a political vision that can excite a [new] minister,” said Middleton.

Bernardo agreed, calling the issue a political “hot potato,” and said trying to craft specific legal language at the ITC level was “playing the province’s game.”

“The Minister didn’t meet with us and fobbed it off on staff for a reason,” said Bernardo. “They don’t want to get their hands scaled.”

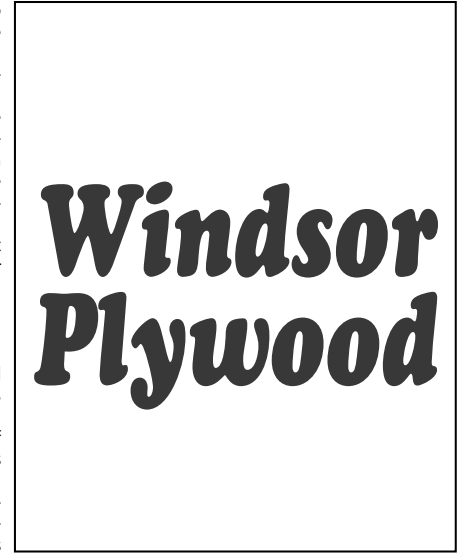
Galiano Island trustee Ben Maberley said any meaningful co-management structure involving First Nations will require significant legislative change — and a real desire to enact it; the Islands

Trust has said much about reconciliation, he added, despite never having First Nations “at the table with power sharing agreements.”

“So, you have to decide amongst yourselves, are you willing to share power?” said Maberley. “Because if you’re not, fine, but don’t have long conversations around the room about how reconciliation is the number one goal.”

After the vote, trustees clarified the intent was to get the letter out as soon as reasonably possible, which will likely mean in advance of a communication strategy being fully developed for the public and press.

“We’re going to wing it [with the media], quite honestly,” said ITC chair Peter Luckham.



Capital Regional District CRD

Fernwood and Highland Water Service Commission

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3911 (Fernwood and Highland Water Service Commission Bylaw No. 1, 2015), residents within the Highland and Fernwood Water Local Service Area are invited to attend a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting:

Fernwood and Highland Water Service Commission Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday, November 4, 2024
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Place: Salt Spring Island Multi Space (SIMS) Boardroom
 124 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V5

The electronic Zoom link will be provided on the first page of the agenda package posted to the CRD website: www.crd.bc.ca four days prior to the meeting.

Committee Membership Opportunity

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3911, real property owners or residents in the Fernwood and Highland Water Service Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner or resident who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2025.

Total membership on the committee is four plus the Electoral Area Director (three members resident electors; and one member may be a resident elector of the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area). There are three positions expiring December 31, 2024.

Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, please include the committee name in the subject line, your full-name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee’s full-name, telephone number and residential address. Nominations may be submitted at the meeting for members to stand on the committee for the following term.

Bylaw No. 3911 is available for viewing on the CRD website at www.crd.bc.ca

Personal information collected is in accordance with s.26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, for the purpose of administering the Fernwood and Highland Water Service Commission nominations. Personal information submitted will be kept confidential, and used only for the purpose for which that information was collected. Any questions about this matter should be directed to MacKenzie Williamson, Committee Clerk, Salt Spring Island Administration: 250.538.4304 or email: mwilliamson@crd.bc.ca

Capital Regional District CRD

Beddis Water Service Commission

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3247 (Beddis Water Service Commission Bylaw No. 1, 2004), residents within the Beddis Water Service Commission Local Service Area are invited to attend a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting:

Beddis Water Service Commission Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024
Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Place: Salt Spring Island Multi Space (SIMS) boardroom
 124 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V5

The electronic Zoom link will be provided on the first page of the agenda package posted to the CRD website: www.crd.bc.ca four days prior to the meeting.

Committee Membership Opportunity

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3247, real property owners or residents in the Beddis Water Local Services Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner or resident who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2025.

Total membership on the committee is four plus the Electoral Area Director (three members must be owners of real property; and one member may be a resident or owner of real property). There are two positions expiring December 31, 2024.

Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, please include the committee name in the subject line, your full-name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee’s full-name, telephone number and residential address. Nominations may be submitted at the meeting for members to stand on the committee for the following term.

Bylaw No. 3247 is available for viewing on the CRD website at www.crd.bc.ca

Personal information collected is in accordance with s.26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, for the purpose of administering the Beddis Water Service Commission nominations. Personal information submitted will be kept confidential, and used only for the purpose for which that information was collected. Any questions about this matter should be directed to MacKenzie Williamson, Committee Clerk, Salt Spring Island Administration: 250.538.4304 or email: mwilliamson@crd.bc.ca

OPINION

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

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



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EDITORIAL

Keep asking

Elected representatives from islands in the Trust Area don't often find themselves on the same page.

That's understandable, if only because they represent communities with such diverse characteristics and experiences, and independent thought seems to be a hallmark of those elected by islanders. We view that as a good thing, and often marvel at the multi-faceted discussions that take place at Islands Trust Council (ITC) meetings.

That was again the case last Wednesday as ITC met in Nanaimo when the topic of requesting a review of the Trust's "mandate, governance and structure" hit the table. While nearly everyone agreed that the provincial government should be asked to conduct a review, some felt the request should be made after the Oct. 19 B.C. election.

THE ISSUE: Islands Trust review

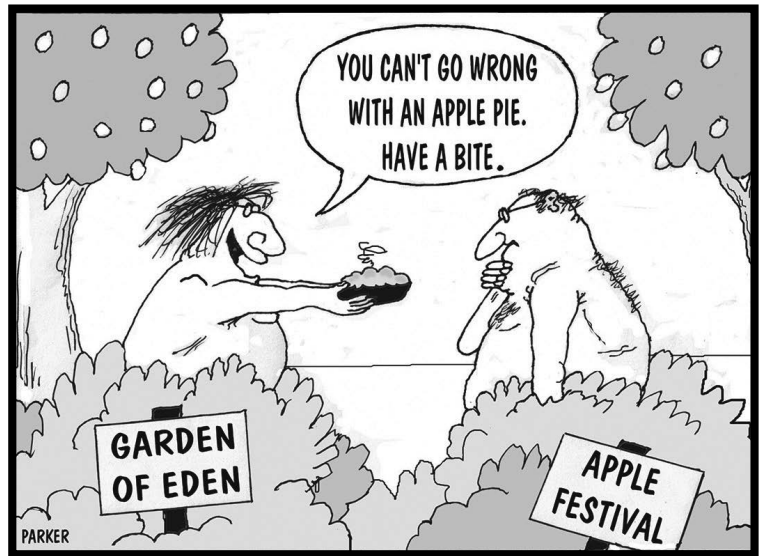
WE SAY: Province needs to step up

Clearly it makes sense to engage in advocacy at both times. People could certainly ask candidates in their riding for their opinion about a review, which puts it on all parties' radar, if nothing else. And after the election, the governing party should be pressed to take the ITC request seriously.

It was disappointing that the NDP government did not agree to the same request made two years ago.

At that time, Trust Council chair Peter Luckham said the Trust could not improve its governance on its own: "As an agency of the province, we require provincial leadership, direction and support to ensure that we are honouring the preserve and protect vision, while also addressing the new realities and challenges facing the Islands Trust Area today," he said in a press release. Nothing has changed since 2022, and one urgent challenge is the need to engage in reconciliation with the area's First Nations, as all government agencies are directed to do by the province through its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. The Islands Trust is well suited to accommodate a structural change that would allow for First Nations representation at the council and/or local Trust committee level, which would be a meaningful and positive change.

When locally elected representatives are pleading for help from senior government to make their agency functional and relevant, they should be taken seriously and given a path to acquire the legislative tools they need.



Protect farms in all zones

BY JENNY MCCLEAN

I believe that if a person buys a property that is zoned "rural" then they should be entitled to the confidence that the zoning will remain. Obviously people buying lands on Salt Spring do some research if they are interested in raising chickens.

If a property is allowed to have chickens and roosters, and people who wish to continue to live in the regular Salt Spring manner with animals allowed and have sought to buy a place where roosters are allowed, then it would seem that the onus is on others who hope for a lifestyle free from small-scale farming to seek out the properly zoned property before they buy.

Some properties have already been removed from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) on Salt Spring Island. Those lands that are intended for our food security needs in perpetuity are never replaced by any other lands. For example, the secondary school built in 1994 was from lands that were in the ALR.

Young farmers who have heritage chickens they breed themselves, which are healthier and less prone to disease than the ones that are ordered in from large off island breeding companies, should be allowed to continue their chicken breeding as it always has been on rural lands. I would like to see that the Capital Regional District does some leg work to figure out how they wish to coordinate the existing noise bylaws under their wing with the uses allowed on rurally zoned lands.

VIEWPOINT

If a family buys a rurally zoned land in good faith and the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee then changes that zoning, the property value is affected for that farming family. It is not fair to harm the one who researched the zoning before they bought in favour of the ones who buy rural land and hope to change it to residential.

Let us keep the possibilities open to neighbourhood farms, which we have always enjoyed on Salt Spring Island.

The idea being floated about having roosters only on lands greater than two acres is not really the correct solution as a rooster can be heard for a distance further than that. It is more about the sensitivities to rooster noise of certain people and how they may wish to take responsibility to not live in a rurally zoned area.

The ones living according to the current zoning permitting chickens, including roosters, are within their rights, according to the current zoning of their land. It is unfair to uproot people and make them have to sell and move when they are living according to the rural-zoned land they have purchased.

Please do not rush to change land zoning due to pressures when we have no idea what kind of people may wish to live on Salt Spring in another 20 years. Let us keep the possibilities open to neighbourhood farms, which we have always enjoyed on Salt Spring Island. Do not remove land potential without something comparable to replace it with. Do not punish people living in accord with the current zoning of their purchased lands.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you paying attention to the BC election yet? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should CRD park space be considered for a warming space this winter? 83 NO 91 YES

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

More impact

"Impactful." It was the word someone used to describe Adam Olsen at his Sept. 13 celebration at Lions Hall. I wonder if Jason Mogus was there, and if it changed his opinion as expressed in the Sept. 11 Driftwood.

Because oddly, Jason doesn't think Adam could do anything as our "great MLA" to get us "material benefits" because he wasn't a member of the party in power. I guess he was too busy worrying about garbage cans and water treatment systems — very necessary things that are not part of the provincial mandate and couldn't be fixed by any MLA.

In doing so, he missed out on some of the wonderful things Adam did accomplish for our community, such as an extra \$1 million for the Lady Minto Hospital emergency room, and about \$50 million for road upgrades. He advocated to have the shelter open year round, to have Salt Spring Commons built in partnership with BC Housing, and to have the Drake Road project go ahead. (And these housing initiatives proceeded despite Salt Spring being exempt from affordable housing provisions, an exemption put in place by the very NDP for which Jason wants your vote.)

Adam accomplished all this while being in the Green party. Ask anyone in Victoria whether their housing, transportation and medical care issues have been solved by their NDP MLA. They'll laugh in your face.

Nor is the NDP what I would call "progressive" in values. Their support of LNG, their pitting of settlers against First Nations in the Land Act, their continued allowing of clear-cut logging while "talking" about preserving old-growth forests, and the carbon tax are all retrogressive.

So if you want to vote strategically to keep BC Conservatives out, it's an easy call in our riding. I believe the majority of voters are Green. You can carry a wonderful Green legacy forward by voting for Rob Botterell. I haven't known Rob long, but already his actions show that some of the other words used to describe Adam apply to him, too: caring, intelligent, inclusive, wise, bringing people together. Let's give Rob Botterell our vote so he can be impactful too.

THERIN GOWER,
LANGS ROAD

Impressed by Rob Botterell

With the upcoming election, I was curious about our new Green candidate, Rob Botterell. In order to get a sense of him and the things he stands for, I invited him to an afternoon living room "meet and greet."

I learned some surprising things about him. He has a solid financial background

as a former TD Bank financial controller for the province of British Columbia. He described himself as a fiscal conservative.

As a practising lawyer, he was the team leader in drawing up the legislation for the Freedom of Information Act. He worked pro bono for landowners and farmers whose land was to be flooded by the Site C dam. And he was a trusted negotiator for First Nations governments on economic, health, social and environmental issues.

His first private member's bill if he is elected will be to stop government subsidies to the oil industry.

With climate change confronting us we need passionate environmental champions. I was so disappointed and frustrated by NDP leader John Horgan's approval of the Site C dam, the LNG plants on the Pacific coast, and the commercially radicalized RCMP officers' treatment towards the Fairy Creek defenders of old-growth forests.

As frightening storms smash the East Coast and each year is hotter than the previous one, and the butterflies disappear, (as they did this year on Salt Spring), I want more than lip service to the environment, and will be voting for Rob Botterell.

For people interested in learning more about him, he will be at a "meet and greet" event at the Salt Spring Public Library on Friday, Oct. 4, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

JANE PETCH,
SALT SPRING

Work for peace

This has gone too far. It's being called a rooster "war." Please work for peace, not war. People are afraid to speak up in a meeting. Others cannot sleep. Please calm down before more people are hurt.

DIANA THOMPSON,
SALT SPRING

Many pie helpers

Thank you to everyone who bought pies from the Women's Institute of Salt Spring Island ("The Pie Ladies") at the 2024 Apple Festival. We made over 250 pies for the Apple Festival and raised thousands of dollars for charities.

Thank you to Country Grocer for whipped cream, and to Brody Paine and the Harvest Kitchen and Cafe for sourcing supplies and the use of the Fulford Hall kitchen. Thank you to Clive Rose, Harry Burton, Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust Community Fruit Harvest, Milly Sinclair and Conrad Pilon for all of the wonderful apples.

Thank you to the following for helping with pies: Ann Murcheson, Susan Good, Jill McIvor, Shelagh Dodd, Jane Morrison, Karen Kristensen, Maddy Smith and Jennifer LeBlanc. Thank you to Graham Cartwright for carrying pies up the stairs early Sunday.

CONNIE CUDRAK,
FOR SSIWI

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"They know this is a dangerous topic for them in the election, which is exactly why we need to get it out there and get it out there now."

JOE BERNARDO, GAMBIER ISLAND TRUSTEE, ON AN ISLANDS TRUST PROVINCIAL REVIEW REQUEST

Federal and B.C. politics boring but preferable to southern scene

Here's an admission I know I should be slightly embarrassed by, but I am not. Not in the least.

The thing is, I know more about American politics than I do about Canada's because, with the best will in the world and despite it having a considerably greater personal impact on me, Canadian politics, and especially British Columbian politics, are dull beyond belief. Nice dull, decently dull, but as exciting as a logarithm table.

American politics, on the other hand, is so mesmerizingly awful that it has become impossible, for me at least, not to become transfixed. On the one hand, a thoroughly decent woman and her thoroughly decent running mate and on the other, a convicted felon, liar, cheat and adjudicated rapist, and his bonkers and totally mendacious sidekick. And almost half the American voting public apparently support the thug in the orange make-up and overlong tie.

Its law courts have become partisan jokes, some of its states are a few sieg heils from fascism while its federal politicians are locked in a lunatic cycle of mad theories and even madder conspiracies.

Of course, I know how Canada functions, how it is supposed to function, and depending on your own expectations, it seems to work well enough. You may disagree with the direction any level of government might take and rail at the recent eye-watering and wholly unavoidable inflation, but on the whole there is at least an underlying political decency to it. Pierre Poilievre may, in the eyes of some, be an unpleasant little toerag, but he is our unpleasant little toerag and in any case he has been lurking in the bowels of parliament for 10 years without once threatening a coup. To others, Justin Trudeau may seem a smarmy chancer with too many rich chums, but he's our smarmy chancer and for all his many shortcomings he has served Canada well enough and without too much real acrimony even if you believe he has had his hand in our pocket too deeply and for too long. And face it, in the pantheon of world leaders it helps to have one who is easy on the eye and at least appears to be a decent bloke.

The NDP's Jagmeet Singh is a sharp and clever politician, but there's not much that he does that



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER THING

takes the breath away. Even his withdrawal from the government coalition was ho-hum and entirely half-hearted, while the Greens' Elizabeth May, bless her, has all the political charisma of a Baptist lay preacher.

And to be brutally frank, if the Premier of British Columbia was cooking me breakfast in my kitchen at the moment I wouldn't recognize him were it not for the fact he's at least eight feet tall.

But the happy truth here in Canada is that whether someone votes Conservative, Liberal, Green or NDP, locally or federally, it inevitably comes down to a disagreement on policy and is invariably without too much rancour. Mostly ...

There are certainly those who think Trudeau is a crook or that Poilievre is a fascist and a Trump

mini-me, but on the current world political spectrum they are both largely unsullied. Or only slightly sullied ... they may indeed be a couple of shysters, but they are our shysters and eventually they will (or will not) get their comeuppance through the voting booths. And even if there is some apocalyptic transfer of power it will be a Canadian apocalypse, entirely reserved, undeniably peaceful and altogether lukewarm. Which is excellent.

In the meantime, we have a provincial election to whet our appetites for glassy-eyed political tedium, but I note that Bob Mofatt, Salt Spring's most venerable resident, has come down heavily on the side of the BC Conservatives who, despite the polls, have as much chance of taking Salt Spring as I do. And I'm not standing ...

The last time we had a Conservative government in B.C. was in 1928, recent enough presumably for the esteemed Bob to remember them, but it should be a reasonable indication of how well we can expect them to do this time. These are strange days, but despite the local Green party throwing one

of its potential candidates under a bus, I believe Salt Spring is more likely to elect a rooster than a Conservative. Their leader, John Rustad, couldn't decide whether he wanted to be a Liberal or a Conservative until the Liberals kicked him out and he was transformed from an anti-vax, global warming denier into a Conservative leader. In fact, the bulk of the parliamentary Conservatives are defectors from BC United, the hapless mob formerly known as the BC Liberal Party, which was so utterly dis-United it recently fell on its sword, sending poor, bewildered MLAs and wannabe MLAs into the welcoming arms of the Conservatives. Lucky or what? The Conservatives could stop pretending they were a functioning political party and now have enough potential members to actually be one.

Whether, heaven forbid, they get to practice what they preach remains to be seen, but for what it's worth my vote goes to David Eby. His heart is in the right place, even if it is a good 12-inches above everyone else's.

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

Community warming space issue punted again

BY KAJIN GOH

On Sept. 19, the Chuan Society made a delegation to the Local Community Commission (LCC) to propose a warming space and community space at the decommissioned Phoenix School, at a meeting covered in last week's Driftwood ("Vacant school site proves popular").

This ball started rolling after an informal meeting some weeks before to discuss possible uses of the Phoenix School site with two of our LCC members. We were made aware that the CRD's lease would not begin until January of next year, and there would be a public bid for applications at that time, but with the recognition that winter does not pause til the new year, the suggestion of a potential provisional arrangement was brought up to meet the needs of our community members.

We appreciate that this discussion marks an evolution since some of our members helped run a warming space in the winter of 2021-22, a process that saw us displaced

to nine locations while attempting to negotiate with the CRD over establishing a presence on park land. While dealing with multiple enforced evictions was a trying and expensive process, some of our most marginalized community members were able to endure winter with a little more warmth, access to supports and a sense of agency and self-determination.

As this was a grassroots project at the time, we were not able to effect a meeting with our locally elected director, Gary Holman, without being represented as an organization, and instead did our best to work out a solution with staff, a difficult process which, despite our best efforts, failed to yield any results. What the warming space did achieve was call attention to the needs of our community, and put those needs on the map with our local organizations and some members of our government. The implementation of the LCC since then has at least introduced a mechanism by which it seems more hopeful that with public engagement and a willingness towards making a difference — together — that fewer people would unnecessarily be left out in the cold.

As mentioned at the delegation, this is our third pitch in the form of a formal proposal to the CRD — the first was requested by (off-island) CRD senior manager Steven Carey at the time of the warming space but was never responded to after submission; the other followed an interagency winter coordination meeting organized by the Salt Spring Health Advancement Network and Restorative Justice, which saw members of the CRD, Community Services, Umbrella and other non-profits come together to propose solutions for

the winter. It marked the beginning of our meeting with LCC members to work on yet another solution which, for a number of reasons, failed again to materialize.

Instead, we've gone through two winters of ruminating on how it's too bad that some folks will have to be left out in the cold again . . . better try next year! Meanwhile, almost every local government or municipality in our bioregion has recognized the impacts of climate change intensified by a marked increase in precarious living circumstances (especially since Covid), and have made the funding and operating of warming spaces a priority over the winter period. So it is in this context that we are again approaching the CRD with an appeal to get in step with what the rest of B.C. is already doing.

To be clear, the Chuan Society's interest in the Phoenix School site precedes this recent conversation about running a potential warming space, and is of a related but different nature. In July we submitted an expression of interest to lease the site when a call for applications went out from SD64; the school board's decision was to lease the school to the CRD, and since then we have kept our ears open to see what the plans are for this "valuable community asset." Our proposed vision was for a coalition of community organizations to activate the site as a much-needed community hub, a combination of neighbourhood house, cultural and learning centre based on the practice of the commons — a space held in the public trust and with a mandate to lower access barriers and build collective equity for our community.

In addition, we felt this had the potential to create a point of contact and rela-

tionship-building for the existing neighbourhood with the future residents of the social housing development at 161 Drake Rd., as well as the residents of the nearby Salt Spring Commons housing project.

It is often remarked upon that Salt Spring — for all its qualities and population size — for some reason does not have any community centre of this kind, and new opportunities for opening up community spaces have become all too rare or priced out of range. With a limited three-minute delegation, we opted at this last meeting to re-emphasize the need to come to a workable solution for our community's winter needs through a warming space, while submitting a multipage proposal which recommends this community space as an equally important need for the wider community.

While we appreciate and indeed support a transparent, public call for submissions and review for the long-term use of Phoenix School, there is an interim period of approaching winter during which we hope our officials can make arrangements for this space to be released to the community. For those with inadequate shelter options, such actions could be immediately life-changing and improving.

Perhaps, in light of the CRD decision-making apparatus, our proposal may have "been brought both too early and too late" — my question is, after years of nudging that handle at the gate, when is the right time? And, my question to our officials and friends with decision-making power over land use is: if not now, then when?

The writer is chair of the Chuan Society.

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FINE ART

Venters' evolution continues



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Sculptural pieces in Kathy Venter's Echo/Reflection/Entrance exhibit and paintings by Deon Venter from his Chrysalis series.

Gallery 8 sculpture and painting show runs until Oct. 20

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Mature artists with known bodies of work don't always find it easy to travel in new directions. Having a recognizable style can become a kind of trap — especially if that style is attached to a successful outcome, whether critical or commercial.

Salt Spring couple Deon and Kathy Venter have known both types of success in their individual artistic careers, boasting international collectors and feature exhibits at important institutions — such as Kathy's series of sculptures that travelled from Toronto's Gardiner Museum to locations in the U.S. and South Africa before ending up at the 2014-2015 Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale. Deon's paintings can likewise be found in the permanent collections of museums, national galleries and notable public and private collections across three continents.

Despite these successes, neither artist has ever seemed hesitant to try new lines of inquiry or methods. Their current joint show at Gallery 8 highlights their remarkable capacity for engaging new ways of understanding the world and human experience.

Lifestyle changes for Deon in the past year have influenced his new Chrysalis paintings. Known for pro-

ducing large-scale works in thick oil paint, the artist has retained a lot of his expressive, visceral texture while adding underlying nuance and mystery. The setting for the series in The Garden is the ancient old-growth groves of coastal B.C., with scenes of huge trees often dwarfing a tiny human figure.

Deon starts his canvases with colourful compositions that capture the energy, life force and surprisingly broad palette of the rainforest, first with a thin oil wash and then with added layers of impasto. But his next step is to cover the compositions entirely with a thicker layer of titanium white. He then recreates and simultaneously reveals the underlying sketch by moving his fingers through the white layer. The scene below is glimpsed in the grooves left behind, and mixture between the layers adds depth and contrast. It's an energetic and playful approach that Deon says is kind of like jazz.

"There's a certain excitement, like opening a present," he said. "And all of a sudden, it reveals itself."

The method of revelation is somewhat mystical and therefore well aligned with the theme of these works; Deon experiences the ancient forest in a deeply spiritual way. In the Garden refers both to the coastal refuges, as well as figures from major world religions finding their spiritual path while alone in the wild: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Buddha's lonesome meditations and Mohammed with his mountain. Deon's view of such religions recognizes the human need to make sense

of the world through narrative, and for him the spiritual nature of old-growth forests exists alongside these narratives rather than above or outside of them.

He proves his universal religious tolerance in other paintings, where the grooves in the white layer variously reveal a seated Buddha, mountain peaks and a human handprint placed on a door in Morocco. The underlying colours are bright and energetic, appearing at times almost like neon tubes against the white field.

Kathy Venter's part of the show, Echo/Reflection/Entrance, began with a new realization that an echo could describe any event or an idea.

"It's not restricted to sound. It's anything you say or think or move," she explained. "So when I realized that, I thought, I'm going to put this into sculpture. It's not an easy thing to do because it's abstract, but there's nothing that's as fascinating as putting something abstract into three dimensions."

An important aspect of the echo is that what returns is not an exact copy, but inevitably distorts and degrades the original output. The Echo concept is exemplified in a sculpture comprising three nude female figures standing in a row. The central figure is intact, but the two to either side of her are missing their arms, facial features and other bits — and each of these echoing figures is itself different than the other. Coated in a very thick glaze that resembles tarnished bronze, the sculpture speaks to the relationship between antiquity and modernity, and the way that one moment can influence past and future without ever being replicable.

Kathy explores this idea further, and specifically the weight of art history on her own artistic journey, in another one of the Echo series. Recollection features two female nudes standing back to back, one in a reddish matte glaze portraying ideal classical beauty. Behind her, a rough figure in blue slumps against the beauty's back. Missing its head and all limbs but one leg, this is the echo at its most distorted return.

Moving forward from the idea of echo, Kathy has depicted the abstract idea of Entrance through incomplete figures that are balanced in fragments of small watercraft, and has produced some technically challenging and beautifully rendered works on Reflection. In River Silver, a figure lounges above its doubled and conjoined shape as if reflected below the waterline. The perfectly balanced form looks so natural, it obscures how truly difficult this was to achieve in clay. The speckled grey glaze aptly suggests river stone.

The opportunity to view this high-calibre show should not be missed. The exhibit at Gallery 8 continues through Oct. 20.

Salt Spring Baroque Presents

JS Bach through the lens of transcription
with the Luchkow String Trio

Paul Luchkow Violin | Ronelle Schaufele Viola | Andrea Case Cello

Friday, October 11th 7:00 pm
All Saints by-the-Sea Anglican Church
110 Park Drive

Tickets available at www.saltspringbaroque.com, at the ArtSpring box office, or at the door

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OUTDOOR FILMS

Banff mountain film fest adventure returns

Curated selection shown at ArtSpring

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

Back for a second year at ArtSpring is the The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival

World Tour, a collection of short films that capture the essence of human passion, persistence, and adrenaline in the mountain and adventure sporting worlds.

Featuring soaring cinematography and death-defying feats, last year's presentation was a smash sell-out with expectations this year will be the same. This year, the films showing Thursday, Oct. 10 from 7 to



PHOTO BY DREW SMITH

Scene from the award-winning Earthside film, one of nine short films shown in an ArtSpring event on Thursday, Oct. 10.

9:30 p.m. also include stories that touch on diverse vistas, topical environmental issues, and slices of culture and lifestyle.

ArtSpring's executive and artistic director Howard Jang, who formerly oversaw the Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival as part of his role as the Banff Centre's executive director, has selected a curated package of top films and audience favourites to connect with the Salt Spring community.

The line-up consists of nine short films ranging from three to 35 minutes, including three award-winners and three from Canada. From a gritty female freerider pushing herself on some of B.C.'s most striking ter-

rains to a team of Québécois documenting one of the longest wilderness expeditions ever — a 6,000-km canoe and cycle journey across the Arctic — the program offers audiences spectacular scenery and perseverance.

Other stories involve an avid Black skier, who after bumping into a jazz musician in L.A., contemplates the correlation between jazz and skiing, as an expression of art, skiing and his Black culture. In another film, a global adventure athlete who is fully blind climbs a massive alpine rock face deep in the Sierra Nevada using new technology. Both were award winners.

Lifestyle stories include taking us to the tourist town of Livingstone, Zambia where a group of men who make their living portering kayaks, with aspirations to become safety kayakers, face the proposed threat of a hydroelectric corporation flooding the famous rapids of the Zambezi River. Winning "Best Film: Mountain Culture," a rock star turns his back on the industry to pursue life on the land with a herd of buffalo.

Since 1979, Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival has been one of the largest and most prestigious mountain festivals in the world. Hot on the heels of the festival, held every fall in Banff, the Festival World Tour hits the road with stops in more than 40 countries to celebrate achievements in outdoor storytelling and filmmaking worldwide.

ArtSpring is presenting in support of Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue, who will be in attendance at the screening with news and information. All tickets cost \$15.

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.

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what's on this week

Wed. Oct. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea a Tempo: Alan Moberg. The Saltwater Cowboy sings songs of the coast at All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

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.

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

Swing Dancing. At the Legion every Wednesday. 6 p.m.

Thur. Oct. 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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

ACTIVITIES

Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet Mona Fertig. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Karaoke. Legion. 7 p.m.

Completely Creedence – A Tribute to CCR. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

ASK Salt Spring. This week's guests are local riding provincial election candidates. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Met Opera: Les Contes d'Hoffman. First HD opera event at ArtSpring for the season. 10 a.m.

Oktoberfest. Live music by Rotten Apple Ruckus plus cask tapping at 3 p.m. Partnership with South End Sausage at Salt Spring Brewing. 2 to 7 p.m. Dressing up is encouraged but not mandatory.

All Saints By-the-Sea 30th Anniversary Concert. Music, song and dance performed by Friends of All Saints at the church. 2:30 p.m.

Sugarbeat. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

GIFTS 25th Anniversary Celebration & AGM. Meeting at 12:30 p.m.; music, films, snack, fundraising silent auction from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Lions Hall.

All Saints By-the-Sea 30th Anniversary. Open house with historical displays and light refreshments. All Saints. 2 to 4 p.m.

Sun. Oct. 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Blues Jam. With Berts Blooze Banned and guests. Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

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

Mon. Oct. 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Gibson Trio. Brahms and Friends in the afternoon with Paula Kiffner (cello), Robert Holliston (piano) and Keith MacLeod (clarinet). All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:30 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

ArtSpring Presents: William Shakespeare's As You Like It: A Radical Retelling By Cliff Cardinal. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. ArtSpring season opener.

Country and Folk Singers and Songwriters Night. With Sherry Leigh Williams. Legion. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

Wed. Oct. 9

ACTIVITIES

Candidates Debate. Saanich North and the Islands candidates give statements and answer your questions. ArtSpring. 5 to 6:30 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Salt Spring Forum and Gulf Islands Driftwood.

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

Swing Dancing. At the Legion every Wednesday. 6 p.m.

CINEMA

• **Twisters** is the movie from Friday, Oct. 4 to Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• **Paper & Paint: Art showcase & sale** featuring Garry Kaye, acrylic paint, and Bly Kaye, tissue collage. Runs through October at Steffich Fine Art in Ganges Alley beginning with an opening reception on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 4 to 8 p.m.

• **Exquisite Surreal: SSNAP Auction and Fundraiser.** Runs daily at Mahon Hall from Oct. 7 to 15 with an opening reception on Monday, Oct. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. Auction closes at 7 p.m. on Oct. 15.

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

• **Three members of The Headhunters portrait group — Ojima Clark, Mary Pennell and R M Dupuy —** show portraits of islanders in the library program room through October.

• **Hazel Gardner** shows her animal portrait art at Country Grocer Cafe for the month of October.

GIFTS 25th Anniversary
Music, films, silent auction, snacks and more at Lions Hall.
Saturday, Oct. 5
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

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LIVE THEATRE

Radically retold tale set to thrill

Powerful production promises eye-opening evening

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

Named by The Globe and Mail as a Canadian Cultural Icon in 2022, Cliff Cardinal, son of iconic Canadian actress Tantoo Cardinal, is much like Trickster, a spirit who inhabits the folklore of many Indigenous cultures. A complex, multi-faceted poet, playwright and actor, Cardinal enjoys entertaining, enlightening and making mischief in equal measure.

Such is the case with his much-anticipated performance of Shakespeare's *As You Like It: A Radical Retelling*, which officially opens ArtSpring's 2024/25 season on Tuesday, Oct. 8. It lives up to the promise of radical retelling with a secret that is starting to make its way among ticket buyers and the community.

When Cardinal as a young insightful artist from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota saw the aftermath of the discovery of unmarked graves on the grounds of former residential schools, he channelled his perspective into a play that would pull the rug out from prospective audiences.

Commissioned by Toronto-based Crow's Theatre, *As You Like It: A Radical Retelling* debuted September 2021 to sold-out pandemic-weary audiences, and then moved on to New York. In both places, it was positioned with great mystery and many questions. How was the acerbic, mischievous Cardinal going to take on this classic of Western theatre, one of Shakespeare's most accessible and whimsical plays?

The reveal was, what starts as a simple Land Acknowledgement continues for the duration of the show, cleverly hijacking the Bard's storyline for an examination of the relationship between the Indigenous and settler communities and the state of the reconciliation process this country has been attempting for the last few decades.

In the Toronto and New York shows, he repeatedly promised he'd get back to Shakespearean task at hand yet did not reveal his plan until half-way through the production when

he pulled back the red curtains to an empty stage.

When ArtSpring was selected as one of six B.C. arts venues to stage the show, Cardinal offered this "ruse" version or a version that was up front about the subject matter. Executive and artistic direction Howard Jang was surprised he was the only one to have booked the original "ruse" performance, as he observed first hand the audience impact when he attended the Toronto and New York shows.

After the 2024/25 season brochures had gone to print with ambiguous language describing *As You Like It: A Radical Retelling*, Jang received a call from Cardinal asking if he could do the non-ruse direct version called *As You Like It*, or *Land Acknowledge* instead. The content and structure differ enough that preparing two different productions would be very difficult under the timeline, as Cardinal also researches and weaves local Indigenous history and references into each show.

Jang made the decision to respect the artist's request and hopes existing ticket holders who may have assumed they were coming to see a Shakespearean play now come and experience this powerful production with eyes wide open.

Replacing the rom-com-esque tone of Shakespeare's work, this *As You Like It* doesn't shy away from more serious issues, like the ongoing influence that colonization has had and the ways stereotypes affect our perceptions.

One topic that's touched upon is Cardinal's thoughts on the land acknowledgements positioned at the beginning of live performances, meetings and social events. Cardinal explores what it is about these acknowledgements doesn't sit right with him in a way that manages to be darkly funny and eye-opening.

Cardinal manages to cover a lot of ground and bring important conversations to the table; the most poignant seeming to be that, simply, we all need to treat each other a lot better. Exulting in often bawdy humour, difficult subject matter and raw emotion, *As You Like It* was the recipient of the prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Drama and called "a liberating night at the theatre; brutally funny and honest" by The Globe and Mail.

CHAMBER MUSIC

Brahms and more at trio concert

Paula Kiffner, Robert Holliston and Keith MacLeod on Oct. 7

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Island music lovers are in for a special treat on Monday, Oct. 7 when the Gibson Trio presents an afternoon concert at All Saints by-the-Sea at 2:30 p.m.

Paula Kiffner (cello), Keith MacLeod (clarinet) and Robert Holliston (piano) have been playing together in different combinations for decades but not as an actual trio until this very year. MacLeod and Kiffner played together in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in the 1970s and '80s. They performed chamber music together, namely Mozart and Brahms quintets, in Victoria in the 1990s. Holliston and Kiffner have a history spanning decades together at the Victoria Conservatory of Music, and MacLeod and Holliston have performed numerous times as a recital duo and in chamber music of various forms over the last 20 years.

"The Gibson Trio name is taken from a beautiful recital hall at Camosun College campus that remains a hidden gem in Greater Victoria," the group states in materials to promote their concerts.

All three musicians have had long and accomplished professional music careers.

For their Oct. 7 concert the group will perform the Johannes Brahms Clarinet Trio in A minor, Op.114 — composed in 1891; the Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano in E-flat Major, Op.44, composed in 1854 by Louise Farrenc, one of the few female composers of the era; and a piece by contemporary Canadian composer Elizabeth Raum, the *Fantasy for Clarinet, Cello and Piano*.

Music at All Saints begins at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are available through ArtSpring's box office or online, or at the door.

Capital Regional District



Maliview Sewer Local Service Commission

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3693 (Salt Spring Island Water, Sewer and Liquid Waste Disposal Commissions Bylaw No. 1, 2010), residents within the Maliview Sewer Local Service Area are invited to attend a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting:

Maliview Sewer Local Service Commission Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday, November 4, 2024
Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Place: Salt Spring Island Multi Space (SIMS)
124 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V5

The electronic Zoom link will be provided on the first page of the agenda package posted to the CRD website: www.crd.bc.ca four days prior to the meeting.

Committee Membership Opportunity

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3693, real property owners or residents in the Maliview Sewer Local Services Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner or resident who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2025.

Total membership on the committee is three plus the Electoral Area Director (two members must be resident electors; and one member shall be a resident elector of SSI EA). There are three positions expiring December 31, 2024.

Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, please include the committee name in the subject line, your full-name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full-name, telephone number and residential address. Nominations may be submitted at the meeting for members to stand on the committee for the following term.

Bylaw No. 3693 is available for viewing on the CRD website at www.crd.bc.ca

Personal information collected is in accordance with s.26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, for the purpose of administering the Maliview Sewer Local Services Commission nominations. Personal information submitted will be kept confidential, and used only for the purpose for which that information was collected. Any questions about this matter should be directed to MacKenzie Williamson, Committee Clerk, Salt Spring Island Administration: 250-538-4304 or email: mwilliamson@crd.bc.ca

Capital Regional District



Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 1906 (Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission Bylaw No. 1, 1991) residents within the Ganges Sewer Local Service Area are invited to attend a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting:

Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Place: Salt Spring Island Multi Space (SIMS) boardroom
124 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V5

The electronic Zoom link will be provided on the first page of the agenda package posted to the CRD website: www.crd.bc.ca four days prior to the meeting.

Committee Membership Opportunity

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3247, real property owners or residents in the Ganges Sewer Local Services Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner or resident who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2025.

Total membership on the committee is five plus the Electoral Area Director (four members must be residents or owners of a business; one member may be a resident or owner of a business within the Electoral area; and one of the five members may be an employee or member of the school district, hospital, or community care facility which owns or manages property within the service area). There are two position expiring December 31, 2024.

Nomination Instructions: When submitting your nomination, please include the committee name in the subject line, your full-name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full-name, telephone number and residential address. Nominations may be submitted at the meeting for members to stand on the committee for the following term.

Bylaw No. 1906 is available for viewing on the CRD website at www.crd.bc.ca

Personal information collected is in accordance with s.26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, for the purpose of administering the Ganges Sewer Local Service Commission nominations. Personal information submitted will be kept confidential, and used only for the purpose for which that information was collected. Any questions about this matter should be directed to MacKenzie Williamson, Committee Clerk, Salt Spring Island Administration: 250.538.4304 or email: mwilliamson@crd.bc.ca

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Obituaries

Fred Tarasoff

On Tuesday September 17, 2024, Fred Tarasoff, age 80, passed away peacefully at the Gorge Road Hospital in Victoria BC.

He was born in Victoria and spent time in Montreal, Truro, Nova Scotia and again in Victoria.

Fred was a loving father, brother, son and friend. He has four children and three grandchildren.

His love for nature was readily evident in all that he did. Living off the land was a strong passion of Fred's.

He was a very inventive man and loved to develop different entrepreneurial ventures.

He was very connected to the Salt Spring community - making many friends and impacting many lives during his 50+ years on the island.

Fred loved to play the bagpipes and spent a number of summers busking on the upper causeway. He was a stalwart on the causeway and many people had their picture taken with him. He is the inspiration of his son Stephen's friend, who now busks during the summer months in the same spot Fred entertained so many:



In Memoriam

In Memoriam

Celebration of Life

Nicola (Nieke) de Boer Visser

At the Public Library, Ganges
October 10th, 10am to 12pm
RSVP before October 5 please:
marjolein@tinymight.ca

In Memoriam

In Memoriam



Salt Spring Island
NATURAL CEMETERY

2100 Fulford-Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1Z7
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Obituaries



Margaret McKenzie O'Neil

October 1, 1936
September 13, 2024

Margaret McKenzie O'Neil passed away peacefully on September 13, 2024 surrounded by family.

She was born on October 1, 1936, in Glasgow, Scotland. She and her husband William (Bill) immigrated to Canada in 1959. The couple moved to Salt Spring from Alberta in 2016 to be closer to family.

Predeceased by her husband Bill in 2017, Margaret is survived by her four children, Leslie, Martin (Kathy), David, Michael (Amber); many grandchildren and great grandchildren; her sister, Catherine (James); Nieces Heather (Phil), Karen (Iain) of England.

Maggie was very grateful to the home support workers and kind staff at Braehaven Assisted Living and made many friends during the eight years she lived there. Her family would like to thank Dr. Ryan, the staff at Lady Minto Hospital, as well as the staff at Braehaven for taking such good care of her. A special thank you to Dr. Holly Slakov for her kindness and compassion.

Margaret will be dearly missed by her family and everyone who knew and loved her. She was truly an amazing woman who dedicated her life to caring for her family.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

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
2	5:34	8.7	2.65	6	0:50	3	0.91
	11:21	5	1.52		8:05	9.3	2.83
	17:43	9.4	2.87		13:08	7.2	2.19
3	23:55	4.3	1.31	7	18:17	9.2	2.8
	6:24	8.9	2.71		1:21	2.6	0.79
	11:54	5.7	1.74		8:59	9.5	2.9
4	17:54	9.3	2.83	8	13:52	7.8	2.38
	7:14	9.1	2.77		18:29	9.1	2.77
	12:29	6.5	1.98		1:56	2.3	0.7
5	18:05	9.2	2.8	9	9:59	9.7	2.96
	0:21	3.6	1.1		14:47	8.3	2.53
	7:14	9.1	2.77		18:43	9	2.74
	12:29	6.5	1.98		2:37	2.1	0.64
	18:05	9.2	2.8		11:07	9.8	2.99
					16:03	8.7	2.65
					18:56	8.9	2.71

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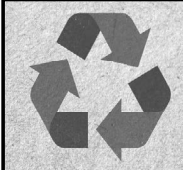
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HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29 TO OCTOBER 5, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:
SCORPIO, SAGITTARIUS AND CAPRICORN



ARIES

This week, you'll work hard to reach an agreement or conclude a transaction at work. Despite moments of anxiety and insomnia, your hard work will pay off. Success is on the horizon!



TAURUS

You may be given a management position at work. However, you must carefully consider if it's the right fit for you. You must learn to regulate your emotions and communicate effectively to maintain a healthy balance.



GEMINI

Adopting a new diet and exercising regularly will achieve satisfying results. This will lead to personal satisfaction and well-deserved pride. You'll be happy you took on the challenge.



CANCER

You have a gift for saying out loud what others are thinking. However, make sure your comments don't come across as overly critical to avoid hurting or shocking others. It's crucial to maintain a balanced communication approach.



LEO

If you're struggling financially, carefully review your bills for any errors that could save you money and alleviate your worries.



VIRGO

You'll throw yourself into a competitive activity and strive to win first place. You'll earn well-deserved recognition and warm applause as a testimony to your success.



LIBRA

If you're feeling tired, consider changing your lifestyle. Trying a new diet and getting out more could give you a much-needed energy boost and help restore balance.



SCORPIO

When managed effectively, stress can serve as a motivating factor to accomplish remarkable feats. Balancing various aspects of your life to channel your energy and reach your maximum potential is essential.



SAGITTARIUS

The stars will align to help you launch your own business or be promoted at work. Take the opportunity to explore new talents and open yourself to promising opportunities.



CAPRICORN

If you have plans for a holiday, it's wise to start preparing early, such as getting your passport and vaccinations, even if the trip is a few months away. You don't want to forget any vital details!



AQUARIUS

If you discover an injustice, your protective instincts will kick in. You'll play an essential role in re-establishing harmony and suggesting the necessary changes to make things right.



PISCES

When faced with injustice, try to be less judgmental and approach the situation more delicately. A more nuanced approach can help you better manage the situation.

ISLAND LIFE

COMMUNITY

Special events mark All Saints' anniversary

Open house, concert and service

BY LOLLA DEVINDISCH
FOR ANGLICAN PARISH OF SSI

The season of Thanksgiving is the perfect opportunity for Anglicans on Salt Spring Island to share with the community their celebrations for the 30th anniversary of the dedication of All Saints by-the-Sea.

Some islanders may remember the Service of Blessing held on Oct. 9,

1994, for the new church, which, after more than a year of thought and preparation, had been transformed from the old St. George's Church across the road to become the thriving hub of worship and creative activity it is today. Several days of celebration were shared with islanders at that time, including an evening of dance, a concert, a play, an ecumenical hymn sing and a dinner, all in thanksgiving for a project smoothly completed, which included over 3,000 hours of volunteer labour from the community.

From then on, regular worship services have continued, on Sundays and during the week. Appreciated for its ambiance and outstanding acoustics, the church is also a favourite venue for countless concerts. The halls are used by groups of all kinds, for community meetings, fitness and dance classes, bridge events and much more.

Visitors and islanders are invited to join in two weekends of anniversary celebrations. The first is on Saturday, Oct. 5, with an open house in All Saints



PHOTO COURTESY ANGLICAN PARISH OF SSI

All Saints by-the-Sea church on Park Drive, which celebrates its 30th anniversary with special events this month.

from 2 to 4 p.m., where some of the history of the move will be visible in photo displays, together with highlights of subse-

quent creative endeavours. Light refreshments will be available.

Also on Saturday the 5th, at 2:30 p.m., there will be

a concert in the church, featuring music, song and dance performed by Friends of All Saints who have contributed to concerts offered throughout the past 30 years, continuing the tradition of many afternoons of enjoyable entertainment, all accompanied by choir director and pianist David Storm. Admission is by donation and patrons should note the performance will be videotaped.

The celebrations will continue on Sunday, Oct. 13 at 10:30 a.m. with a service of Holy Eucharist for Thanksgiving in All Saints followed by a light lunch.

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

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.

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Jas Chonk, Deputy Secretary

Salt Spring Apple Festival

Photos by Rob Lowrie



Feeding the apple press at Whims Farm for the 24th Salt Spring Apple Festival are Mike Larkin, left, and Mark Cleveland.



Royal Roads University president Philip Steenkamp at his first apple festival since RRU became owners of the participating Bloom Castle by the Sea property and heritage orchards earlier this year.



Salt Spring Apple Festival volunteers Sharon Williamson, left and Kate Stephenson sell one of the first tickets to the festival from the Ganges table on Sunday, Sept. 29 to Aislinn MacCullogh visiting from Calgary.



Mike Lane of Ruckle Heritage Farm feeds a piece of apple to one of his Highland cattle.



Apple festival founder Harry Burton of Apple Luscious Organic Orchard is happy with another fantastic event turnout.



Christina Haase with apples for the still at Sweetwater Distillery, a new island business and participant in the festival.

For more festival photos, see our gallery at gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

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