

inside:

**GREEN
LIVING**

**PAGES
7-9**



10 Georgeson stories part of Vetta concert



11 World After Dark visits ArtSpring stage

Arts and Entertainment... 10
 Classifieds..... 14
 Editorial 4
 Island Life 12
 Letters 5
 Remembrance photos..... 16
 What's On 11

INSERTS:

- Buckerfield's
- Canadian Tire
- Country Grocer
- Home Hardware
- Pharmasave
- Thrifty Foods

BEDDIS ROAD GARAGE
 Repairs to all makes & models
 181A BEDDIS ROAD
 250-537-4122

GROW YOUR COMMUNITY

 Buy Local



Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024

64th year
Issue 46
\$1.50

Your Community Newspaper Since 1960 • gulfislandsdriftwood.com • 250.537.9933

ROAD SAFETY

Crews respond to two crashes

Officials urge more caution on island roads during rainy conditions

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two wet-weather crashes in as many days on Salt Spring's busiest road brought traffic to a temporary standstill — and have island officials reminding drivers to take extra care as the rainy season begins in earnest.

Both took place as the long weekend began, and happened along Fulford-Ganges Road, according to Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue (SSIFR) officials, who said an SUV off the roadway Saturday, Nov. 9 was followed by a two-vehicle collision Sunday, Nov. 10.

Drivers and passengers from both incidents were able to exit the vehicles on their own, according to SSIFR incident reports.

Saturday's crash involved a single SUV near Fulford Harbour and brought six firefighters and two apparatus, along with police and the BC Ambulance Service. No occupants were transported by the ambulance, according to SSIFR, although Salt Spring Island Towing and Recovery removed the vehicle and helped clear the scene.

Hours later, a two-vehicle crash Sunday morning near the Fulford Fire Hall left a pickup truck burning on the roadway — and a second vehicle with "significant" front-end damage from the impact, according to SSIFR. The truck burst into flames after the collision, and firefighters said the fire was "well established" and burning in both engine and passenger compartments when they arrived.

That fire was extinguished, thanks to nearly a dozen firefighters and four apparatus; again, according to SSIFR, both the ambulance and RCMP members were on scene along with Salt Spring Island Towing and Recovery.

CRASHES continued on 2



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

WREATHS TO REMEMBER: Islander Malcolm Bond places a wreath at the Ganges cenotaph on Monday, Nov. 11, accompanied by his granddaughter Ama Kerridge, honouring the memory of his father, Jesse Bond, who served in World War I. See page 16 for more photos.

BOYD
AUTOBODY & GLASS

Visit us at one of our **7** ISLAND LOCATIONS!

including the new
BOYD AUTOBODY & GLASS
COMMERCIAL & FLEET DIVISION
(6722 Betram Pl, Saanichton, BC)

- PARKSVILLE 531 STANFORD AVE E #1A
- KEATING 25-6809 KIRKPATRICK CR
- SIDNEY 103-2031 MALAVIEW AVE
- NANAIMO 624 COMOX RD
- VICTORIA 540 JOHN ST
- LANGFORD 2663 SOOKE RD
- SAANICHTON 6722 BERTRAM PL

boydautobody.com



TRAGEDY

Struck local pedestrian dies from injuries

GoFundMe fundraiser organized for family of Bruce Twentyman

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A man struck by a vehicle on Rainbow Road has died at hospital, according to officials, and family members are raising funds to complete funeral arrangements.

Relatives have organized a fundraiser on gofundme.com for the family of Salt Spring Island resident

Bruce Twentyman, announcing he had passed surrounded by friends and family on Oct. 29, as a result of injuries sustained in a car/pedestrian accident.

"He will be greatly missed by all," wrote sister Nicole Twentyman, noting the family had "dropped everything" to travel to be with Bruce at the hospital.

Salt Spring RCMP Sgt. Clive Seabrook confirmed a pedestrian was airlifted for medical care on Monday evening, Oct. 28, later succumbing to his injuries. Seabrook added the driver had remained at the scene, and had cooperated with

investigators.

"There is no criminality involved in this tragic accident," said Seabrook, adding police would not be releasing further details.

The fundraiser hopes to cover travel expenses, lost wages and final arrangements "to ensure Bruce is put to rest the way he wished to be," according to the web page. To donate, visit gofundme.com/74cc9668.

There were 11 crashes involving pedestrians on Salt Spring Island from 2019 to 2023, according to the most recent data available from ICBC; of those, two were on Rainbow Road.



GOFUNDME FAMILY PHOTO

Salt Spring Island resident Bruce Twentyman, who died in hospital in Victoria after he was hit by a vehicle on Rainbow Road on the evening of Oct. 28.

ISLANDS TRUST

Pay review planned to encourage candidates

Remuneration evaluation hoped to bring 'wider spectrum' to governance

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As the Islands Trust turns 50, trustees say they believe the body suffers from a lack of young people interested in joining local governance — a field currently dominated, arguably, by representatives mostly older than the Islands Trust Act itself.

Part of the solution, the Trust's Governance Committee suggests, might be as simple as paying elected officials more.

"We know that Trust Council tends to skew a little older, and maybe a little bit more financially secure," said Lasqueti Island trustee Tim Peterson, at that committee's meeting Tuesday, Nov. 5. "My biggest concern around that is that we're not having as much participation from the wider, diverse spectrum of island residents, age-wise."

The often-fraught matter of elected officials deliberating upon what they should be paid is best accomplished mid-term, according to staff, and with the recommendation of an outside consultant to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest.

But while committee members seemed eager for the outside review, they also wanted it to reflect their own desire to bump the pay — in the name of encouraging a wider demo-

graphic to participate.

"The Trust Council ought not to be the exclusive preserve of people who can afford it because they're retired or otherwise have money," said Gambier Island Local Trust Area trustee Joe Bernardo. "We ought to try to accommodate other people for whom it would otherwise be an economic challenge, to the extent that that's reasonable."

The committee approved a plan to budget \$10,000 for a comprehensive review of pay structure for trustees, forwarding it to the Financial Planning Committee for inclusion in the 2025-26 fiscal year budget.

"Certainly, remuneration isn't the whole question, but I think it's part of the question," said Peterson. "It's really around the equity of participation."

Salt Spring Island

Complete Communities Assessment



What does a "Complete Community" on Salt Spring Island look like to you?

Join us for an in-person engagement session to share your ideas on what makes a complete community. View interactive maps and provide your input on what is important to you as a resident of Salt Spring Island.

Date: November 24, 2024

Time: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

**Place: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92
120 Blain Road, Salt Spring Island**



islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/salt-spring/projects/ssi-complete-community-assessment/

Ferries alerted, traffic diverted



PHOTO BY DONALD SMITH

One of two vehicles involved in a collision on Fulford-Ganges Road near the Fulford Fire Hall on Sunday, Nov. 10 is prepared for towing, the second of two wet-weather crashes on Fulford-Ganges Road over the long weekend.

CRASHES

continued from 1

"The incident commanders of both incidents were able to communicate directly with BC Ferries to provide advance notice of the situations," according to SSIFR. "BC Ferries crews significantly reduced traffic congestion by providing travellers with incident information and suggesting alternate travel routes."

SSIFR suggests islanders take extra precautions during rainy weather, including:

- **Slow Down:** Wet roads reduce traction, increasing stopping distance and risk of hydroplaning.
- **Increase Following Distance:** Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front to allow for longer braking time.
- **Check Your Tires:** Worn tires are especially dangerous in wet weather, as they reduce grip.
- **Use Headlights:** Ensure you're visible to others by keeping your headlights on in rainy or low-light conditions.



Osborne Bay Dental Health Centre

Dentures

Osbornebaydental.com
osbornebaydentalhealth@gmail.com
250 737 3864
8150 Arthur St, Crofton BC VOR1R0

ISLANDS TRUST

Enforcement manual gets 'plain'

Trustees want to reduce confusion, fear surrounding bylaw enforcement

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An effort to make the Islands Trust's bylaw enforcement process clearer and more open has hit some snags, as trustees grapple with the complexity of the process — and with balancing provincial requirements, such as that dispute hearings be held in public, with the best interests of leery islanders.

The land use authority is reviewing how it handles bylaw enforcement, with the goal of "restoring public confidence" in response to a series of well-aired public concerns that ramped up in 2023, ultimately resulting in the B.C. Ombudsperson's Office issuing a list of recommendations to the Islands Trust last fall.

One of those recommendations surrounded transparency, suggesting the Islands Trust have an enforcement policy that the public could easily understand. To that end, on Friday, Nov. 8 the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) received a first draft of a new "plain language" best practices manual — highlighted by a friendly visual flowchart.

That draft graphic — the "bylaw enforcement pathway," bylaw compliance and enforcement manager Warren Dingman said — is a first step in a broader attempt to make current policy a little more user-friendly.

"To take out the acronyms," Dingman said, "take out the 'inside baseball' terms that the general public is not going to understand."

Policies and procedures currently available were really created for staff to use internally, he explained; producing the forward-facing public document was proposed by the RPC and endorsed by the broader Trust Council, and trustees were largely quite happy with the draft. Denman Island trustee David Graham said that while there would likely be necessary "tweaks" before a final version, it was a great start.

"I think our public will really appreciate how clear this is," he said. "And they'll really start to understand how bylaw enforcement works."

Committee members related stories of being approached by worried islanders who were either concerned they might be out of compliance on their property, or knew they were and wanted to figure out what to do about it. Local trustees felt it was important to put themselves into that new public-facing document, and officially into the "flow" for their residents.

"As a trustee, I would hope that we would be able to be one of their first steps in determining how to come into compliance," said Denman trustee Sam Borthwick. "I want to help them get through that process in a way that's helpful and good, and does not feel scary; there's a tremendous amount of fear and anxiety around that for some people."

And planning services director Stefan Cermak suggested that could even be extended to planners.

"I'm a community member on Salt Spring, and I've been with the planning department for quite some time now," said Cermak.

"A lot of questions I get are, 'Hey, I have this illegal thing, what do I do?'"

Cermak said just like trustees, planners don't feel like they're out there looking for things to enforce against — but agreed that sometimes inquiries are vague, with islanders fearing the worst.

"Some people are quite cagey, because they're like, 'I won't tell you where I am because therefore, you're going to enforce,'" he said. "But that's never been the case that I'm aware of. We're here to help them get where they need to go — and perhaps that's a cultural thing that we need to be better at sharing."

While a kinder, gentler bylaw process may be the goal, some of the procedures are set in provincial law, Dingman said. One that seemed to surprise trustees was a legal requirement that enforcement hearings be open to the public, per the Local Government Act. Notably, Dingman explained, there was no corresponding legal requirement for notice to the public.

"So the parties involved — the bylaw officer, the respondent and complainant and of course the adjudicator — are notified," said Dingman. "There are sometimes community members who have concerns, and they contact me and they get a link [to a Zoom-facilitated hearing] and they can observe."

Saturna Island trustee Mairead Boland suggested that relying on non-official channels might leave the public feeling excluded from the process.

"If I don't know what I don't know, I'm not going to find out," said Boland. "Am I [as a member of the public] going to send you a letter every week asking if there's a hearing?"

But trustees also worried about the consequences for more vulnerable islanders in publicly amplifying what could often feel like very private disputes.

"For someone who is really feeling that they're being oppressed by the Local Trust Committee," said Graham, "I don't want to broadcast that."

"We can't go against what the law is, what the act says," said Dingman, "that we have to make our boardroom here in Victoria open to the public, from whatever means."

Boland suggested removing part of the draft language noting that members of the public could request hearing information, and leaving it vague. More broadly, Salt Spring trustee Laura Patrick worried too many unclear steps in what was meant to be a simplified version of the process risked alienating islanders — and possibly was even premature, given bigger plans to revamp the process itself.

"The Ombudsperson report said our policy needed to be designed to speak to the public," said Patrick. "Perhaps we're jumping steps. We're not going to issue a new manual publicly if we're about to update the policy?"

Ultimately, the committee felt the topic needed its own meeting for more discussion and asked staff to schedule a special one just for the purpose of discussing both the manual and enforcement policies. Trustees plan to have that meeting in January, in time to put any changes into place before the RPC's Feb. 7 meeting.

That timeline would likely put the policies before the Trust Council for consideration at that body's meeting in March — one year after the review process officially launched.

NSSWD

Traffic moving to one lane at Vesuvius road

Detour set near Sunset Drive for water main work

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

North end residents feeling left out of Salt Spring Island's roadwork will get a traffic adventure of their own, at least temporarily, as work begins around Vesuvius Bay Road and Sunset Drive on Monday, Nov. 18.

About three weeks of traffic disruption is expected, according to officials at the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD), who announced Vancouver Island-based Coastal Wolf Construction had been awarded a contract to replace a section of water main at the intersection.

Vesuvius Bay Road will see one-lane alternating traffic during construction, and a detour for Bayview Road's local traffic — via Langley and Goodrich roads — will be made available.

"It's quite a detailed project," said NSSWD operations manager Ryan Moray, updating the district's board of trustees at their meeting held Thursday, Oct. 24. Moray said there would be several sections of aging asbestos cement water main replaced with thicker PVC pipe.

"That area has been prone to a number of recurring leaks, which has been somewhat problematic for downstream property owners, so we wanted to get on that," he added.

A dedicated temporary service bypass will be in place, according to NSSWD, which should ensure continuous water supply to customers for the duration of the project.

Details and maps are available at northsaltspringwaterworks.ca/projects/vesuvius-bay-sunset-drive.

HOUSING

Ganges sewer expansion plans nixed

Cost prohibits healthcare housing project from joining service

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Ganges Sewer System will not be expanding to include a connection to a healthcare housing project, as the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation (LMHF) has withdrawn its application and will instead improve that property's existing septic system.

Over the summer, the Capital Regional District (CRD) board approved a bylaw to expand the Ganges Sewer District to include the parcel at 101 Bittancourt Road — the former Seabreeze Inne property fronting Fulford-Ganges Road, purchased by LMHF and slated for conversion into 17 units to house healthcare workers.

CRD staff had said the sewer system at Ganges has more than enough capacity to accept potential outflows from the Bittancourt property, as well as from any future connections along the line between it and the existing system boundaries.

And LMHF had hoped they could coordinate the new

connection with the current Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) roadwork along Fulford-Ganges Road.

But the foundation's cost was ultimately going to be too high.

"All in, they didn't like the price tag," reported Salt Spring CRD engineering manager Dean Olafson, responding to a question Thursday, Nov. 7 from members of the Ganges Sewer Commission. "So they decided to go back and renovate or rejuvenate their septic field and use that instead."

LMHF board members confirmed the project's manager had been directed to not proceed with the 300-metre connection project, despite what was characterized as "positive collaboration" with MoTI and CRD staff, Northridge Excavating Ltd. and MoTI's consulting team for the Fulford-Ganges Road improvement project.

The expected cost grew significantly, according to foundation correspondence, due to several project parameters Northridge would have been required to follow, with the cost of making the connection growing from five per cent of the total project cost to more than 20 per cent.

What's Your Library Worth to You?


Your tax-deductible donation to our Annual Giving Campaign helps us to serve our island community. Donate online through the link on our website, or fill out the form below.

Send with your contribution to:
Salt Spring Island Public Library,
129 McPhillips Ave.,
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T6
 Tax receipts will be issued for contributions of \$10.00 or more.

- Donor Level up to \$124
- Supporter Level \$125 - \$249
- Sustainer Level \$250 - \$499
- Benefactor Level \$500 - \$999
- Legacy Level \$1,000 - \$2,499
- Pillar Level \$2,500 and above

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Donations also accepted by cash, debit or credit card in the Library or online
<http://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop>



The best thing in your wallet!

Donate to the Library

We rely on grants and donations to help provide valuable services, resources, and enrichment to all islanders.

Salt Spring Island Public Library

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 (for circulation Category C)
Gold - Community Service Award



OPINION

Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Nancy Johnson
PUBLISHER

nancy.johnson@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR

gail.sjuberg@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Robb Magley
REPORTER

robb.magley@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Bryan McCrae
ART DIRECTOR

driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Robert McTavish
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Matt Gaudette
ACCOUNT MANAGER

matt.gaudette@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Jane Gartrell
OFFICE ASSISTANT

driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

EDITORIAL

Solemn times

We assume we are not alone when we say that Remembrance Day had a more sombre feeling than usual this year.

It's difficult to not feel a connection between the outcome of the U.S. presidential election, and all the uncertainty that has been unleashed upon not only the United States of America but the rest of the world. Some people fear that the country that was once held up as a model of democracy — where a government exists to meet the needs and protect the human rights of all of its people — may not be recognizable in a few years' time.

It's been observed that historians are among those expressing the most vociferous concerns, as they see parallels between the rise of Hitler and the Nazi movement, which led to World War II.

THE ISSUE: U.S. election and Remembrance

WE SAY: Outcome makes remembering more important

That Canada's Remembrance Day came less than a week after the election contributed to a need to reflect on the horrible toll inflicted by past and current wars. At the same time on Salt Spring Island, an exhibition honouring local veterans called What These Eyes Have Seen: Witness to War added to the poignancy. The project came about from Alan Bibby's photographing of Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ganges since 2009. Many of the individuals in the photos have since died, but a number are still with us.

The portraits are not only of World War II veterans but of armed forces personnel who served in various capacities in Canada and abroad. Bibby has included information about the person's military service and a photo of them from younger days, when possible. One aim of the project was to connect with family members or others who may have photos of or more information about the veterans, in order to collect as much information as possible for posterity.

Bibby's efforts also resulted in a slide show and accompanying song written by Tony Massy, the son of World War II veteran David Massy, that captures the emotion and importance of Remembrance and the Salt Spring Island ceremony not only for the Massy family but for many others.

Remembrance Day is about honouring sacrifices made in the past, but the exhibit, the Salt Spring Nov. 11 ceremony and U.S. political events somehow brought it all very much into the present.

REMEMBER TO REMEMBER TO REMEMBER, TO REMEMBER



PARKER

Will Canada Post survive?

BY GORDON CAMERON

VIEWPOINT

Every week the team behind this paper works tirelessly to provide readers the latest about what's going on in the community they call home.

There are late nights and early mornings. There are countless interviews and phone calls. There are hours and hours spent writing and rewriting. There are photos to take and edit. There are pages to lay out and proofread. There are deadlines that need to be hit and then, like magic, words and pictures that once existed only in the journalist's mind are transformed into something tangible — a printed newspaper, the weekly miracle.

However, the greatest newspaper in the world isn't much good if it doesn't get into the hands of those who want to read it.

Publishers large and small have all grappled with how to efficiently and cost-effectively distribute their papers since Gutenberg first put ink onto movable type. Ask any newspaper owner and they'll tell you that one of the things that keeps them up at night is whether their publication will get to readers in time. Who wants to read old news?

To solve this problem, many newspapers, including this one, use Canada Post. On the surface it seems like an ideal situation — the publisher gives the papers to the post office who then delivers them to any address in Canada. Simple, right?

If only. First of all, that level of service is expensive, with many publishers spending more on mailing their papers than they do in creating them. There are issues with papers not being delivered on time or even at all. Customer service can be poor and investigations into complaints often only consist of asking the postal

worker if he or she did their job. Then there's the fact that newspapers and Canada Post are fighting for the same flyer customers, meaning that the crown corporation can decide on a whim that newspapers with flyers are now classed as junk mail.

With friends like that... However, for all the headaches, delivering through Canada Post is often the only viable distribution option for what is often the only viable source of truly local news. Without that service, communities are much less informed than they should be. This is why both Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) need to come to an agreement to avoid any prolonged shutdown. The health of democracy depends on it.

If there is a lengthy strike or lockout, newspapers will find a way to do their civic duty. They'll make greater use of their websites. They'll drop more copies at stores, libraries and community centres. They'll e-mail replica editions to subscribers and readers who request them. The news will get out. The ads will get out. Newspapers will not let their communities down.

However, both sides would be wise to remember that in an era of sharply declining mail volumes, local newspapers are often the largest and most reliable customer of the local post office. If that business was lost it would mean less revenue for Canada Post and fewer members for the union, which is something that neither side wants.

Whatever happens, newspapers will adapt and survive. Will Canada Post and CUPW?

The writer is executive director of the Ontario Community Newspapers Assn.

241 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2K7 | PH: 250-537-9933
Email: driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com | Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

OFFICE HOURS: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. - noon Friday.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:
Print Edition: \$65 | Digital Edition with Print Edition: \$85.00 | Elsewhere in Canada \$115.00
Foreign: \$260.00 | Digital Edition: \$45.00 anywhere | Prices include GST



Funded by the Government of Canada



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

News Media Canada
Medias d'Info Canada

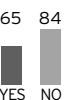
THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you pleased with the U.S. election result?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should Halloween fireworks be maintained as an island tradition?



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 are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. For details about deadlines, and word limits for the Viewpoint and other longer opinion pieces, contact the editor at the email address below, or phone 250-537-9933. All submissions may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are asked to provide a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign letters with their full name. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of Driftwood Publishing Ltd., its staff or advertisers. Send letters to: news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED:

What is your favourite plant protein to eat?

This Salt Spring Says is part of the Lighter Living initiative presented by Transition Salt Spring.

HOWIE BARAL



“I use a nice organic plant protein powder. I put it in smoothies with blueberries, a little peanut butter and chia seeds.

ALICIA HERBERT



Nuts. I love and grow a variety of them. I eat a lot of nuts!

KEVIN MARSHALL



I love pressure cooking lentils, and then making a nice spicy Persian lentil dal.

ERINANNE HARPER



I add pea powder and spirulina to my daily smoothie.

LETTERS to the editor

Irreparable harm

“Astoundingly rich diversity!” exclaim Nature Salt Spring club members as they marvel at what Baker Beach has to offer for nature outings.

We have had shoreline seine pulls on other Salt Spring beaches, but nothing compares to those on Baker Beach where the eelgrass beds abound. Pipe fish, flat fish and an eclectic array of other species excited both children and adults on an outing last summer.

During the 2023 Christmas Bird Count our birders were astonished by the hundreds of western grebes and surf scoters, to name a few of the species observed just off the beach. These congregations of water birds weren't just riding out stormy weather on the east side of the island that day but were diving to feed and fuel up on the wealth of life below the surface.

In early summer the beach is alive with kingfishers, oystercatchers, great blue herons and, of course, our emblematic bald eagles fishing to fill the hungry mouths of their nestlings. B.C.'s renowned eagle expert David Hancock informs us that 80

per cent of the bones found in eagle nests around the Salish Sea are from the plainfin midshipman, a remarkable species of fish that itself nests on these beaches.

Now this fall, to see signs posted along the beach that a few citizens living on properties above are requesting alteration of the foreshore for bank stabilization is very disturbing!

Baffling too are assertions of the Aurora Professional Group green shoring company engaged by these residents that the delivery of barge loads of rocks, gravel and sand will not harm the beach and that the works will prevent future storms and king tides from further eroding the slope on which their houses are perched, all the while simultaneously preserving critical habitats for wildlife! This is magical thinking and ecologically unsound. Our members know these actions will bring irreparable harm to a magnificent ecosystem. This is not a beach to be tampered with.

KATHLEEN MASER, DAVID DENNING, PAT MILLER, PETER MCALLISTER, JEAN WILKINSON, GISELLE PAQUE, GAIL BRYN-JONES,
NATURE SALT SPRING MEMBERS

Censor to avoid censure

Per the “Trust pulls meeting recording” headline in the Nov. 6 issue of the Driftwood:

As explained, the September Trust Council meeting was so divisive and acrimonious that members of the Islands Trust Executive Committee opted to shield the public from access to the spectacle. Evidently, we citizens/ratepayers are too frail — too sensitive — to be exposed to the antics of our elected representatives. Better to self-censor than to allow us to know which people are appropriately deserving of our censure.

That some of the “trustees” are engaging in behaviour that is disrespectful of staff or of their fellow trustees brings disrepute to the office they hold. Hiding this behaviour from view of their constituents is not the proper response.

JULIA LUCICH,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“Here’s the Trust, once again, the smallest population land use authority in the entire nation, being the point of the spear for an effort which will potentially have solutions from coast to coast.”

DAVID GRAHAM, DENMAN ISLAND TRUSTEE, ON TINY HOMES INITIATIVE

Americans reject decency and common sense

Dear Neighbour,
Well, that went well ... what HAVE you done, America? In a day of blinding, mind-boggling stupidity, millions of you have proven just how far your once great nation has fallen by electing a palpably traitorous and unfailingly ignorant man to your highest office.

How could so many of you have been so relentlessly oblivious, so blind to the unsuitability of a Donald J. Trump to the White House? You were offered a chance of stability, generosity and ordinary decency and instead you turned to a candidate with the moral fibre of a ferret.

Not all of you, of course, but enough to mark into history the day America's calamitous education system finally caught up with itself and an ignorant, ill-educated, slow-witted mass abused their vote and showed the world just how insular millions of the United States' citizens are as they knuckle-dragged the “world's greatest democracy” into the sewer.

Almost 200 years ago James Polk, the 11th President, said: “Peace, plenty and contentment reign throughout our borders, and our beloved country presents a sublime moral spectacle to the world.” Not anymore. There will be nothing sublime about America 2025 when Trump and



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER THING

his venal handlers begin their war on morality. And the world will both laugh out loud while quietly weeping at the fall of an old friend.

Trump is already well into his dotage, but the scheming bastards in the wings are ready to launch their own carnage on your America. How much interest do you suppose Elon Musk has in your wellbeing? Do you seriously expect JD Vance, Trump's despicable vice president, to stand behind any scheme that won't either enrich his cohorts, or bring him closer to where he always intended to be — behind the desk in the Oval Office?

Make no mistake, Musk, Vance and the rest of Trump's sycophants detest people like you. They loathe every one of you and would sooner die than have their daughters or sons marry into your families. You are their angry cattle and they played to your xenophobia, your homophobia, your failed lives and impenetrable selfishness and herded you into the polling booths like the cattle you are.

When Hitler came to power in the 1930s it was because the German economy had been devastated by reparations for the First World War and ordinary Germans were taking their inflated wages home in wheelbarrows, while you turned away from decency and common sense because of the prices of eggs and gas and modest inflation.

If Hitler had a single redeeming feature it was that he at least admired and respected his own German and Austrian people while systematically overseeing the domination of anyone else. Trump's acolytes don't even have that ghastly rectitude, Hitler's Richtigkeit.

But what is so overwhelmingly depressing about all this, though, is that those millions who put Trump in the White House did so mostly because they had seen him on TV, their only conduit to the outside world, and decided that that was who he really was. Never mind that he is a convicted felon, a six-times bankrupt, a shameless philanderer and adjudicated rapist, that's not who these benighted peasants saw on The Apprentice. They might just as easily and more safely have voted for Donald Duck or Kermit the Frog.

Meanwhile, the hypocrisy of those fundamental so-called Christians is as stomach-churning as it is laughable. Trump sneered

at them, condescended to them, lied to them and daily demonstrated just how far removed he is from the genuine Christian ethic. And they voted for him in droves, for Christ's sake!

Nor will any of them, the pious hypocrites and the shambling masses, ever accept that, in their ignorance, they have elected to the presidency a man less suited to the office than Sean “Diddy” Combs. Combs, at least, has still to be convicted while Trump already has the rap sheet of a Mafia capo dei capi, which he will simply have expunged from the system by his justice department lackeys. Thirty-four counts of falsifying business records. One count (and more accusers waiting in the wings) of adjudicated rape, numerous charges of mishandling the nation's top secrets waiting to go to trial. And for good measure, at least one count of treason, still awaiting its time in court.

This is a man you wouldn't employ to clean your gutters and yet 75 million Americans have just handed him the keys to the deadliest arsenal on earth.

Well done, America, and God help you when the promises of retribution and the Latino pogroms begin. You can only hope that, like his Wall, they will be among the Trump lies that will never happen.

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

Santa's Workshop needs head elf apprentice

BY SANTA'S WORKSHOP VOLUNTEERS

Santa's Workshop volunteers come together for about one month every year to work to provide toys, books, groceries, clothes and other supplies to on average 60 needy families and 120 children every Christmas.

It has been in operation for almost 40 years. First, repairing toys out of one man's garage, now it has grown to the distribution of items specially chosen by parents from the basement of the Baptist Church. It has been supported by many organizations, businesses and individuals over the years. Currently this includes the Toy Run (motorcycle group), the Salt Spring Island Women's Institute, the Salt Spring Cruisers classic car group, Salt Spring Island Fire Fighters Association, Country Grocer and other

businesses who donate in-kind gift certificates. Many individuals have donated cash and toys over the years. Now the future of the workshop may be in jeopardy.

The current coordinator of the group, Wendy Eggertson, who has been involved for over 10 years, is unable to continue past this year. She will be leading Santa's Workshop for one final year. She has a very good and dedicated group of volunteers — just no one to lead the group. The actual workshop takes place Nov. 24 to Dec. 14. The first two weeks are spent collecting the items and setting up the Baptist Church basement in preparation for the distribution, which takes place the last week. Parents/guardians come in and "shop" for their children, choosing those items that are appropriate for their children and

their living situation.

Santa's Workshop therefore requires an individual or group that is prepared to coordinate the effort. It is limited in time frame every year. The coordinator's preparations start Nov. 1 and end mid-December. The volunteer coordinator position includes organizing volunteers and their times to work, receiving and disbursing funds, working with another core volunteer, who receives and collects all the applications, providing oversight at the church regarding preparation of the shop space (in past this has been Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 noon) and disbursement of the gifts (Monday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

This Individual or group would work with Wendy hand in hand this year to understand the scope of work required. It is a very rewarding volunteer position with a limited time frame, and flexibility to develop the program as appropriate.

"The appreciation and relief shown by the parents fills my heart," says Wendy. "Being able to accomplish the workshop over the years has been one of the most fulfilling aspects of my life. This volunteer position only requires organization and communication skills, and the desire to help one's community."

We are always looking for other volunteers to help with moving items to and from our preparation space at the Baptist Church, helping to set up the space in preparation for shopping, helping parents

choose the gifts for their children, picking up and organizing gift certificates, distributing and picking up gift collection boxes from merchants, and drivers to provide transportation to recipients.

Santa's Workshop also requires a 10x10-foot dry space in which toys can be stored from one year to the next. Our group of volunteers would pick up these items mid-November and replace them with new items mid-December every year.

If you or your group is interested in the Santa's Workshop volunteer coordinator position, other volunteer positions, or have a space in which to store the toys, please contact Wendy Eggertson at 250-221-2381. Come out and meet our group at a potluck hosted by Wendy on Sunday, Nov. 17.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

The Circle supports island youth

As a former child psychologist with 50 years of experience in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, I worked directly with over 4,000 children who faced neglect, abuse and other challenges. While my one-on-one sessions were impactful, I often felt limited in my ability to create broader change.

That's why I am attracted to the work The Circle Education does. Their programs teach essential skills that would have benefited my young clients or helped prevent their situations from worsening. Facilitators create a safe environment where kids learn to regulate emotions, set boundaries, advocate for themselves, recognize harmful situations and reach out for help.

The best aspect of The Circle Education

programs is that they occur in schools, where kids spend a significant portion of their formative years. While I saw one child at a time, The Circle Education reaches multiple classes year after year, creating immense potential for impact.

The organization is now accepting donations as part of its annual giving appeal. I urge you to support our island youth and consider The Circle Education in your charitable giving this year.

DR. ERIC ELLIS,
CHAIR, THE CIRCLE SALT SPRING EDUCATION SOCIETY

Lost opportunity

Just outside my gate, the road-crews are working nicely along; the rumblings of excavators and dump trucks took over the usual birdsong, but the result will be a big improvement from the overflowing ditches we've experienced since we got here 34 years ago. Ganges Hill has costly ditches that need main-

taining and grooming every year. Over time, this new stormwater culvert will save a lot of road-maintenance money and grief.

One unfortunate part to this moment is how the hospital foundation, who will be developing the old Seabreeze Inne on the hill for staff housing, has apparently abandoned their original decision to tie into the downtown sewer system because of unforeseen costs. Maybe they'll now be required to enlarge and upgrade the existing septic field to accommodate the number of units going in, probably at a high cost when all is said and done. Their large septic field will therefore use up valuable land space, if the need arises, to add more livable space in the future. It's a very convenient location along an existing bus route.

This decision could be a lost opportunity within our community, when we look back five years from now. The main sewer line installed up the hill, some years ago, was terminated at the community centre but turns

right there to also serve the Bishops Walk development. To reach the old motel would have required the pipe to continue just a short distance further south, then cut across the road. This simple engineering process of extending the service would have also allowed a whole row of neighbours to tie into the same pipe on our side of the road at each driveway, at minimal cost. Is the use of septic fields preferred over a contained and monitored system? Is this progressive or regressive thinking?

If we need to ensure close-to-town affordable housing, why not be more imaginative with the present work in progress, doing it right the first time?

One last word is one of appreciation to the road and traffic control crews. Drivers should show patience and kindness to the flaggers as we all get through this together. Instead of running late, maybe leave earlier?

PETER HAASE,
GANGES

CALLING ALL SALT SPRING BUSINESSES & COMMUNITY GROUPS!
GET READY FOR THE ANNUAL

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST,
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

CATEGORIES:
Best All Round
Best Use of Lights
Most Creative

PRIZES AWARDED:
1st Prize: \$100*
2nd Prize: \$75*
*in ad credits with the Driftwood

Decorate your store or office using your imagination & creativity—any way you like!

To enter the contest email:
nancy.johnson@gulfislandsdriftwood.com by **Nov. 29**
To vote go to: christmasonsaltspring.com or
email: nancy.johnson@gulfislandsdriftwood by **Dec. 13**

Driftwood
SALT SPRING

Salt Spring Island
chamber of commerce

Another Portlock Park option

Regarding the Portlock Park Site Master Plan, Capital Regional District (CRD) staff have given the LCC three alternatives. I propose a fourth alternative.

Alternative 4. Refer the report back to staff for an Appendix 3 presentation prior to asking the LCC for approval of the draft Portlock Park Site Master Plan and revising the Rainbow Recreation Centre Site Master Plan.

Discussion: Appendix 3 contains an estimated 50-plus community member comments, which themselves have pros and cons. Some of the comments have been included by staff in the newest draft report. All others have been rejected just by the fact that they were not included. Yet, would not the LCC and the public who took the time to make comments in and of itself justify discussion?

I was one of the commenters. The CRD's Dan Ovington did advise me that my suggestions would be included in item 24-1171, yet he did not speak to the pros and/or cons of my suggestion. As my suggestion was made with considerable thought and good intentions, I would hope that it would be the subject of staff and/or LCC discussion as to its merits. Perhaps Mr. Ovington has it in his files with the comments received from all other community members.

In an effort to improve the communications between active community members, the CRD staff and the LCC, I recommend the adoption of the new Alternative 4.

I close by saying that I appreciate the hard and thoughtful work done in the development of master plans for both Portlock and Rainbow recreational areas. These plans will result in recreational plans that will live on for decades. I, like you, hope that we get them right.

CURT FIRESTONE,
SALT SPRING

Artist sells work for health treatment

Tyler Wallace is an amazing artist specializing in watercolours. I am very familiar with watercolours as a medium as my aunt Josh Partridge was a professional water colourist. That's how I know how great Tyler's work is.

Normally a painting by Tyler would cost \$800. But two lucky people can have a custom watercolour painted by Tyler for \$350. This is because Tyler requires some natural medicine for a health condition which has caused him serious hardship and this will allow him to pay for it.

Tyler lives on a boat. As a wise elder he does an amazing job teaching younger, less experienced community members how to be safe on their boat, as well as when rowing to and from town.

If you are interested, please reach out to me via email willieonsaltspring@gmail.com. If you decide you would like your own custom watercolour you can send me a photograph that will be turned into a painting, as well as a deposit. Thank you for your consideration.

WILL MACPHERSON,
PEER SUPPORT OUTREACH WORKER,
SS MENTAL WELLNESS INITIATIVE

Sink beach plan

I am deeply concerned about the application to manipulate the natural shoreline along the beautiful and wild Baker Beach, in the collective effort of property owners to portray concern for the environment.

If you dig beneath the surface of this plan, you will find their research is scientifically flawed and counter-intuitive. This plan to usurp public land, Mother Nature, like kings at court, should be left to sink at sea.

MONA FERTIG,
GANGES



GREEN LIVING

Live green, love green, be green.

Redeeming Features

Sophy Roberge and Salt Spring's Return It centre

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Island Return It redemption centre processes a lot of containers — 3 to 4 million units each year, according to owner/operator Sophy Roberge, taking redeemables rain or shine, from all corners of the island.

"In the summertime, when tourists are peaking, it's definitely higher," said Roberge. "We get commercial drop-off — so if they have a good year, we have a good year."

It's a surprise for some that Return It is not a government enterprise, according to Roberge, who said that while the structure of the business developed from government actions, they're not operated by the province.

"We're completely a customer-based business," said Roberge. "We're a licensed business — not a franchise — and there are about 180 licenses all over B.C."

A common question: Where does it all go?

"We count it, put it in the computer, and put the cans in a bag," said Roberge. "And that bag gets transported in one of those big trailers you see come in and out of our parking lot, and that trailer goes to Victoria."

Once there, she said, the cans are put into bigger "bales" and are loaded onto barges.

"The barge goes to Vancouver, where the bales get melted," she said. "It's about 60 to 90 days from here to that [aluminum] being filled and back on the shelf for customers."

Glass is nearly as quickly turned around, she said. Good quality glass that's recycled properly can be re-used or put into products like road aggregates.

"Or it can be added to concrete," said Roberge. "A lot is processed in Abbotsford, where they get re-melted into bottles."

Roberge said you can see different beverage trends at different locations; the Duncan location, she said, collects a lot of beer cans.

And on Salt Spring?

"A lot of wine," she chuckled. "Here, it's a lot of big glass bottles."

If there was a point of consumer confusion, she said, it might be that only the ready-to-drink containers can be collected at the redemption centre — that means containers for creamer for the coffee, or whipped cream for your cocoa, need to go to the Rainbow Road recycling depot.

There's also nothing inherently different between alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverage cans, she said — they're just managed by different supply streams and have to be sent in different containers.

People should leave labels on containers, she said, because when there's an audit they are scanned, and bottles without labels don't count. And, Roberge added, accuracy is the name of the game — guessing isn't good enough.

"People think they can just fill up to the line, but we really need a good count," she said. "When we get audited and the bag is wrong, we're the one getting fined."

Make sure there's no liquid, Roberge said — rinse your milk, especially in the summer, drain that water and finish that beer — and these days you can go ahead and leave the lids on. Roberge said there was a time when the request was to remove them, because when the big machine was compressing plastic bottles, caps were flying off dangerously.

"But unfortunately, they found out that a lot of the lids then weren't being recycled at all," she said. "So now they have a big perforator to cut through so the air gets out before they're compressed."

Is there a best time to come?

"We're open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday," said Roberge. "I'm going to say there's no bad time. Sometimes it used to be Saturdays were not as busy, but with the recent road construction we've started recommending people come in then to avoid the traffic."

The new metal box out front gives people an option to carefully return containers outside of regular business hours, in exchange for donating their redemption money to a charity — which will change each month, Roberge said, and Island Return It is inviting organizations to reach out to become a recipient.

"It's a win-win, right?" said Roberge. "You do something good for the environment, there's less cost for your garbage and you — or a charity — gets money back."

For more information, or to apply to be the charity of the month, visit islandreturnit.com/salt-spring or call 250-537-8784.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Salt Spring Return It centre owner/operator Sophy Roberge with the new receptacle that facilitates 24/7 dropoffs.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Kaleb Graham and Sophy Roberge.

Donate your Empties
Help a Cause
Recycling, it's Worth it!



251 Fulford-Ganges Rd.

GET UP TO
\$750 Rebate
for Rainwater Harvesting

For residents of Salt Spring Island in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District

Limited funding available on a first-come, first-served basis. Apply now!
www.tinyurl.com/WaterSaversRebate



TRANSITION SALT SPRING PHOTO BY NATASHA KONG

REDUCE, REUSE: Nancy Deas, left, and Andria Scanlan of Transition Salt Spring at the recent Slow Down Salt Spring Clothing Swap at the Salt Spring Multi Space, which is also the location for the upcoming Slow Down Salt Spring Toy Swap, with donation day Thursday, Dec. 5 from 3 to 6 p.m. and free shopping day Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SOLAR ENERGY

Ganges station solar roof in the spotlight



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING COMMUNITY ENERGY

Salt Spring Mid Island Co-op gas station building, where a new building-integrated photovoltaic roof product is being installed. Salt Spring Community Energy is hosting a webinar about the product and project next Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Webinar on new solar energy system set for Nov. 20

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A webinar planned by Salt Spring Community Energy (SSCE) will give islanders the chance to learn about the solar energy system emerging at the Mid Island Co-op and the implications for the future of commercial solar.

SSCE's Kjell Liem said the event, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20, would highlight a new building-integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) solar roof product, among the first of its kind in Canada, being installed at the gas station.

"We are very excited to see the adoption of this truly cutting-edge technology in downtown Ganges," said Liem, comparing the solar roof to one offered by U.S. automaker Tesla.

"But it's available in Canada," he said, "and it's actually here and electrifying Salt Spring."

The BIPV product blends solar technology directly into the roof itself, according to Colyn Strong, founder and president

of Shift Energy Group, who are putting in the 37.12-kW system. He added that Mid Island Co-op's history with sustainability and energy conservation made for a perfect fit.

"We believe BIPV is the future of solar; every new home and building constructed should include a means of power generation and storage," said Strong. "We're very excited to continue our working relationship with Mid Island by showcasing this exciting product on their Salt Spring store."

Attendees at the SSCE webinar will hear directly from Shift's director and project manager Michael Ayotte, who will discuss the project's design, technology, and its implications for the future of commercial solar installations.

Liem said as part of SSCE's commitment to fostering renewable energy and clean technology on Salt Spring Island, the webinar will explore the business case for solar investments, particularly focusing on metal rooftop installations. A Q&A session will follow the presentations, allowing attendees to engage with the speakers and deepen their understanding of solar's role in sustainable development.

For free tickets visit: tinyurl.com/2z8akuen.

LAURIE'S
Garbage,
Recycling, Organics
250-653-9279

COMMERCIAL • CONSTRUCTION • RESIDENTIAL

Pick Up & Drop Off
Container Rentals / Scrap Metal Recycling

DROP OFF:
Monday to Saturday 8am-4pm
Next to Country Grocer

An Island Family since 1861 working with the community.

**"I love my family.
I also love the islands."**

You don't have to choose between your loved ones and conservation.

Learn more about how you can help at www.islandstrust.bc.ca/how-you-can-help/ or call 250-405-5186.

ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY

**Live your values.
Even in death.**

Here in Greater Victoria, the joy of nature is something we hold dear. Choosing a **Green Burial** is one way to honour a life and our environment. Learn more today.

ROYAL OAK BURIAL PARK
A beautiful place to remember.

4673 FALAISE DRIVE,
VICTORIA BC
250-658-5621 | ROB.PCA



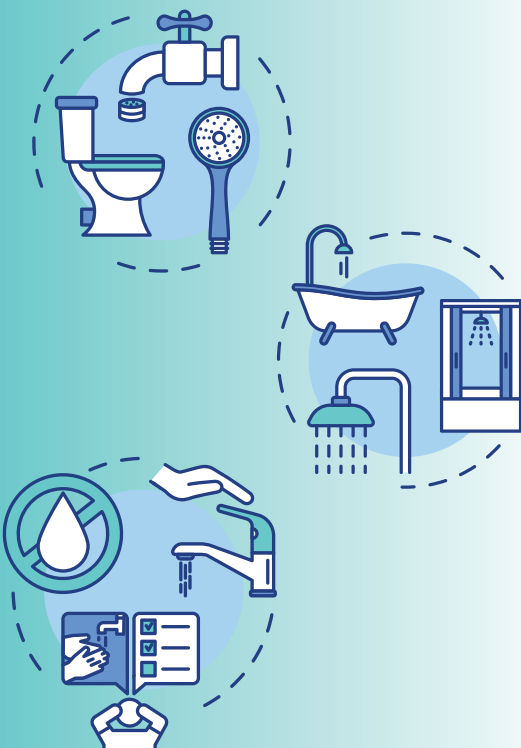
NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

BE WATER WISE USE ONLY WHAT YOU NEED

Water is a precious resource and supplies on Salt Spring are much more limited than in other parts of BC. Please join islanders as we work together to ensure that we use this limited resource wisely. Below are conservation tips for indoor and outdoor water use.

FOR OUTDOOR WATER USE

- Install rain catchment barrels for any outside water use.
- Install a large holding tank to store enough water for the summer months
- Use drip irrigation instead of sprinklers.
- Ensure your hose is not full of water when temperatures drop.
- Use mulching for gardening.



FOR INDOOR WATER USE

- Keep showers under 5 minutes and turn off water while lathering.
- Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines.
- Shut off the tap while brushing teeth, shaving, and washing.
- Flush less often.
- Install low flow fixtures.
- Put a bucket in your kitchen sink to catch excess water and use it to water plants.
- Inform guests about our island's limited water supply and ask them to be part of the solution.
- Use left over bath water to water plants.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE
www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca



ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

SALT SPRING INN SALTSRINGINN.COM
250-537-9339

IT'S BACK! Crispy fried chicken dinner!
11AM-8PM WEEKDAYS | 9AM-8PM SAT & SUN
Reservations at saltspringinn.com

MUSIC & STORYTELLING

Georgeson stories featured at Vetta concert

Land and Sea merges chamber musicians and Georgeson family Indigenous stories

BY GAIL S. JUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Vancouver-based Vetta Chamber Music is known for its world-class and innovative concerts. Since 2016, Salt Spring Islanders have been treated to Vetta offerings each season.

This Monday, Nov. 18 at 2:30 p.m. at ArtSpring, Vetta presents an extra special event called Land and Sea that combines chamber music with storytelling from Coast Salish/Sahtu Dene artist Rosemary Georgeson, who grew up on Galiano Island and is still strongly rooted to both the land and the sea of our region.

The concert's first half consists of chamber works related to the land and the stories that come from it, from Sibelius to Bloch, to Carmen Braden's *The Raven Conspiracy*. The second half sees music by Vancouver composer Jeffrey Ryan and Georgeson's storytelling in *Seasons of the Sea*.

Georgeson said storytelling came naturally to her through her experience of fishing on the B.C. coast.

"I'm an old fisherman. My father was a fisherman. I grew up on the boats with him. All my family does it, and we're all storytellers. So I grew up listening and hearing stories all my life from some of the best storytellers around. I never, ever thought of myself as one. I just kind of carry on that way of being."

But Georgeson is clearly a compelling storyteller.



PHOTO COURTESY VETTA CHAMBER MUSIC

Vetta artistic director Joan Blackman, on violin at left, with other Vetta musicians and storyteller Rosemary Georgeson at a *Seasons of the Sea* show recorded at the Bill Reid Gallery in 2021.

In 2014, Vetta artistic director Joan Blackman and husband and viola player Larry Blackman approached Georgeson about collaborating after they heard her speak on the radio. At that time she was storyteller in residence at the Vancouver Public Library and so they met downstairs at the library, where they pitched an idea of a Gulf Islands "seasons" theme with music written to accompany her stories.

"I was intrigued," she said.

While Georgeson said she had heard of classical works such as Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, as a Galiano girl she had been more inclined to listen to Patsy Cline, Elvis and ZZ Top.

"It's interesting that music can make words come to life in a way that I can't do as a storyteller. That's the beauty of working with Joan and what Jeffrey composed," she said.



PHOTO COURTESY VETTA CHAMBER MUSIC

Rosemary Georgeson, a storyteller, filmmaker and artist who grew up on Galiano Island and in the surrounding waters as part of a fishing family, during a past performance with Vetta.

She gives an example of talking about being on the water in the show "as Joan makes it come to life with the music. It's so incredible how I can feel the sparkles on the water on that hot summer day in August, sockeye fishing with my Dad, because she brings it to life with her violin."

She added: "Through this process, I've developed a much deeper appreciation for this style of music and what it carries in it. And I think it's been interesting for Joan too, because she's learned how to riff under my words. So we have both been through this learning experience with each other and we formed an amazing friendship, and we always have lots to laugh about and talk about. It's been a such a pleasure doing this piece with Vetta."

There's also an extremely serious purpose to Georgeson's storytelling.

"Through times changing in the last 25 years, there's been a deeper passion to share these kinds of stories, to kick the crap out of the misconception that I would say the government has always let everyone believe about us as Indigenous people . . . this racist rhetoric out there that we were just lazy people that take from the government and all that kind of crap."

"If my storytelling helps to turn that even just a little bit, that's what I'll do it for, and I'll keep doing it."

For the Land and Sea concert, Vetta's artistic director Joan Blackman will be joined on stage by members of the Vetta Chamber Players Mentorship Orchestra.

Tickets for the Nov. 18 show are available through ArtSpring's box office and online at artspring.ca.

A ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATING THE HITS AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC OF
JOHN DENVER
SUNDAY DECEMBER 1 - 2:00 PM
ARTSPRING
100 JACKSON AVENUE SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC V8K
BOX OFFICE: (250) 537-2102
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
* MAKANA CHILDREN'S CHOIR *
* GULF ISLAND SECONDARY CHOIR *
GET TICKETS

THANK YOU TO OUR TOUR AND MEDIA SPONSORS:
HARVEST, CHARTWELL, Connect Hearing, Edward Jones, Black Press Media

SALT SPRING BAROQUE PRESENTS
FRETWORK
November 27th 7:00 pm
with
countertenor
IESTYN DAVIES
ARTSPRING THEATRE
www.saltspringbaroque.com

ArtSpring
Island Arts Centre
Society
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
Monday, December 2, 2024
@ 4:30 pm at ArtSpring
For the receipt of Annual Report, Financial Statements, and the Election of Directors.
All welcome. Those who have been members for 30 days as of December 2, 2024 eligible to vote. Existing members are at liberty to renew up to the date of the AGM to vote.
Please register
(250) 537.2102 | board@artspring.ca
100 Jackson Ave

MULTI-MEDIA PERFORMANCE

Night mysteries explored

Dance, audio-visuals and workshops at ArtSpring

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

With the days becoming shorter and shorter, what happens in the dark is very much top of mind this time of year.

This is the theme of Shannon Litzenberger's imaginative dance work *World After Dark*, which explores what comes to life when nightfall comes and the world transforms into something very different than by day.

Billed as a contemporary, multi-media, multi-sensory experience with "a unique type of dance that resists familiar labels," *World After Dark* invites audiences into a world of mystery and wonder.

The inspiration for creator and choreographer Litzenberger was the award-winning, non-fiction book *Acquainted with the Night*, written by prized Canadian author and poet Christopher Dewdney. The book is a series of essays — each one representing a different hour of night between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. as if he was looking to explain the concept of night to people from another planet where it did not exist.

From the science of the cosmos to the neon birth of nightlife, from the biology of nocturnal creatures to the mythology of the night sky, Dewdney's compel-

ling poetic musings about the mysteries of the night are brought to life in Litzenberger's evocative mix of dance, theatre and poetry.

World After Dark premiered at Harbourfront Centre Theatre in Toronto in 2019 to rave reviews and continues to be recognized on its Canadian tour.

With roots originally in rural Saskatchewan, award-winning Litzenberger has become known for creating imaginative performances at the intersection of dance, theatre, and literary and visual art. She has also become known as an experienced facilitator who designs workshops on movement, creation, collaboration and leadership within the artistic, educational and corporate sectors.

Following the *World After Dark* experience on Saturday, Nov. 23, she and co-facilitator Marie-Josée Chartier are remaining on Salt Spring to offer two community workshops at ArtSpring.

On Monday, Nov. 25, the lively "Leadership as Practice" is aimed at helping leaders develop more awareness about themselves and the connection between conscious leadership choices and creating more aligned working cultures. The workshop is limited to 25 registrants. It is free to attend with a donation encouraged.

On Tuesday, Nov. 26, artists and creatives in any field will benefit from "Strategies for Creation Through Embodied Movement and Voice." This workshop will explore embodied practice, collaborative play and improvisational strategies to break artistic defaults and slumps to imagine new possibilities.

World After Dark
ArtSpring Presents

Sat Nov 23
7:30pm
\$35 | \$5

artspring.ca
tickets.artspring.ca
250.537.2102

Makana Youth Choirs
ArtSpring Presents
Winter Concert

Sun Nov 24
7:30pm
\$10 | \$2

artspring.ca
tickets.artspring.ca
250.537.2102

Send your calendar event information to:
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

what's on this week

Wed. Nov. 13

ACTIVITIES
Best of the Fests: Beethoven's Nine: Ode to Humanity. Salt Spring Film Festival presentation at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Check for ticket availability.

Music Bingo. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Thur. Nov. 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Poetry Open Mic. With featured poet **Lorna Crozier.** 7 p.m. in the Salt Spring Library Program Room.

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

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Meeting. Regular business meeting. Meaden Hall. 12:30 p.m. Or watch online through islandstrust.bc.ca.

Salt Spring Local Community Commission Meeting. SIMS boardroom, or see the Microsoft Teams link in the agenda on the crd.bc.ca website. 5 p.m.

Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society AGM. Annual general meeting for Island Community Services held via Zoom. Public welcome to watch but not participate. 6 p.m. Email connect@ssics.ca for the meeting link.

Fri. Nov. 15

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Karaoke. Legion. 7 p.m.

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

Fri. Nov. 15

ACTIVITIES
ASK Salt Spring. This week's guests are from the Wagon Wheel Housing Society and Copper Kettle Community Partnership. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sat. Nov. 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
My Sense of Sin(g) – Meta-folk Sensation Illiteratty Jams with Viva Chorale! Music, dance and theatre evening led by artistic directors Caroni Young & Earle Peach. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Drama Queen. With openers Tubbs and the Sad Boys at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Island Foundation: 40 Years of Giving. Anniversary celebration for foundation, with presentations, live music, food and more. ArtSpring. 1 p.m.

Author Workshop. Theresa Southam, author of *Transforming Trauma through Social Change: A Guide for Educators* gives workshop for members of community organizations. Salt Spring library. 1 p.m. Registration required via svbjackson@saltspringlibrary.com.

Author Reading With Theresa Southam. Author of *Transforming Trauma through Social Change: A Guide for Educators.* Salt Spring library program room. 7 p.m.

Sun. Nov. 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
My Sense of Sin(g) – Meta-folk Sensation Illiteratty Jams with Viva Chorale! Music, dance and theatre evening led by artistic directors Caroni Young & Earle Peach. ArtSpring. 2 p.m.

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

Sun. Nov. 17

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Sunday Sessions With Guest Artists. Moby's Pub. 5 p.m.

Mon. Nov. 18

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Vetta Chamber Music Presents: Land and Sea. Chamber music and storytelling with Coast Salish/Sahtu Dene artist Rosemary Georgeson. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m.

Tues. Nov. 19

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Country and Folk Singers and Songwriters Night. Hosted by Sherry Leigh Williams. Legion. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Trivia Tuesday. Moby's Pub. Games at 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Wed. Nov. 20

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
ArtSpring Presents: Ó-Celli. Octet of cellos performs Tchaikovsky, Strauss, Piazzolla and more. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Check for ticket availability.

ACTIVITIES

Knit Purl Community. All knitting/crochet levels are welcome every third Wednesday of the month. Library program room. 5 to 7 p.m.

Music Bingo. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

CINEMA

• Saturday Night runs Friday, Nov. 15 through Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• Impressions 9: Annual exhibition of new works by the Salt Spring Island Printmakers runs at Salt Spring Gallery until Nov. 27.

• Sam Barlow, Raven Fox and Margaret Westaway present *Imagine the Possibilities* in the library program room through November.

• Salt Spring Island Foundation: 40 Years of Giving – In Pictures. Exhibit in the ArtSpring lobby from Nov. 2 to 30.

• Dulcy Wilson is showing paintings at Salt Spring Coffee Cafe through November.

• Michael Wall has a new set in his continuing series of Italian Photographs on display at Pasta Fresca.

• Denise Johnson has paintings and stained glass artwork on display and for sale at the Salt Spring Laundromat this month, with some proceeds benefitting the Copper Kettle Community Partnership, plus a glass piece at TJ Beans.

Salt Spring Island Foundation: 40 Years of Giving
Celebration with presentations, live music, food and more.

Saturday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m. at ArtSpring

THRIFTY FOODS
Ganges, Mout's Centre 7:30am to 9pm
Customer Service 250-537-1522

ISLAND LIFE

LIGHTER LIVING

Food sovereignty leads to future food security

Neighbours Feeding Neighbours program underway

BY GRACE WAMPOLD AND HEATHER PICOTTE
NFN CO-COORDINATORS

Neighbours Feeding Neighbours (NFN) is a new initiative on Salt Spring Island focusing on food sovereignty to strengthen our community's food security in times of emergency.

Food sovereignty means having control over the food we produce, access and consume. Practices that increase food sovereignty empower local farmers and communities to decide how to grow, share and manage food. Launched in May 2024, NFN is working to connect local farms with community members and develop strategies to ensure access to food during emergencies, such as floods, fires or storms.

Our changing climate brings more extreme weather, from longer, hotter dry seasons to intense atmospheric rivers. Many of these disruptions can be linked to industrial agriculture, which depletes soil, pollutes water and degrades the air we breathe. Salt Spring Island has felt the impact of record-breaking heat and rainfall. However, practical steps can increase resilience at home and in our neighbourhoods.

At Home: Growing and Storing for Emergency Food Security

One way to prepare for emergencies is to grow versatile foods that can be stored long-term. Growing your own food supports food sovereignty by giving you more control over what you eat. Start small — focus on a few of your favourite plants that do well in your space. Beans are an excellent choice for beginners because they enrich the soil and don't require extra fertilizers, as they naturally add nitrogen. If you can't garden due to location or physical limitations, don't worry — Salt Spring Island is home to many skilled farmers growing food for the community.

Drying is one of the best ways to preserve foods — it retains their nutritional value while making them lightweight, easy to store and long-lasting. Beans and other legumes (like lentils and peas) are easy to dry and can be used in multiple ways: soaked and cooked, ground into flour, sprouted into greens, or saved as seeds for future planting. During stressful times, having nutritious food on hand is essential — legumes also help balance stress levels to keep us healthy in a crisis. Buying beans from the store is also relatively inexpensive, given their excellent nutrition. In an emergency, a simple pantry stocked with beans, rice and clean water could mean the difference between hunger and survival.



PHOTO COURTESY NFN

Scene from a recent Neighbours Feeding Neighbours gathering.

the soil, the environment and consumers but often comes at the expense of farmers' own financial stability. There's a saying: "Do you know how to make a small fortune as a small farmer? Start with a large fortune." By choosing to eat more locally grown produce, we can support small-scale farmers and contribute to a more resilient food system that benefits everyone.

Learn More, Get Involved

To learn more, visit the NFN website at nfnaltspring.org, where you can explore a farm map and database organized by neighbourhood, helping you connect with nearby farms practicing regenerative agriculture.

NFN also encourages community members to participate in farm visits and neighbourhood assessments to improve emergency preparedness and foster relationships with the local food system. NFN project coordinators aim to assess and enhance emergency preparedness in our community, both locally and on farms. The goal is to build relationships, highlight good farming practices, and increase the overall preparedness of our community by promoting food growing, preserving and storing in every neighbourhood, so we all have access to food and water in emergencies.

By working together, we can build a more resilient, sustainable and sovereign food system that will serve us well now and in the future.

This article is part of Transition Salt Spring's Lighter Living Initiative.

Transition Salt Spring invites you to sign up for more free access to Lighter

Living content at tinyurl.com/Lighter-Living. Learn how to take low-effort actions that feel good, benefit our community and help the planet.

UP TO \$2,100 OFF
your purchase of a pair of the latest hearing aids**

SALT SPRING ISLAND
1108–115 Fulford-Ganges Road
(Grace Point Square)
1-888-437-0641
Mention code: **NSP-BKFD-DRFTW**

 Selene Finlayson RHP  Terena LeCorre RAUD

HearingLife
Formerly NEXGEN HEARING

In the Community: Sustainable Farming for Health

Local small-scale farmers lead the way in sustainable practices, growing nutritious food while regenerating the environment. An NFN survey found that over 70 per cent of local farmers regularly test their soil and water to ensure quality. Nearly all of the 13 surveyed farmers have implemented soil conservation techniques to prevent erosion during extreme weather, and over half use water catchment and drip irrigation systems for their crops. These efforts are essential to keeping our food system strong, especially in the face of climate challenges.

Organic, small-scale farming improves soil health by increasing organic matter, which stabilizes the soil and reduces the risk of disasters like landslides or wildfires. It also creates habitats for wildlife, contributing to a more balanced ecosystem. This approach forms a positive cycle: the more we grow and eat local plants, the healthier our environment becomes, and the better prepared we are for unpredictable events.

It's easy to overlook the challenges our local farmers face in supporting the community's food needs. Small-scale organic farming is an investment in the health of

lighterliving
GOOD FOR YOU GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY GOOD FOR THE PLANET

ADOPT A PET TODAY!



Tonka is a fun loving 1 year old who needs an indoor/outdoor life with no other cats.

BCSPCA
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS

Contact the BCSPCA at
250-537-2123

PROUD SUPPORTERS
OF THE LOCAL SPCA
250-653-4013



**GULF ISLANDS
SEPTIC LTD.**

Windsor Plywood

HOLIDAY SEASON

Time for families to apply for Santa's Workshop program

Nov. 18 to Dec. 1 window

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

Santa's Workshop is comprised of a group of Salt Spring grassroots volunteers that come together once a year to buy and distribute gifts and gift certificates to children from babies to age 12.

For parents who feel that providing gifts to their children this Christmas will be a struggle, please apply to Santa's Workshop. This year we will be taking applications only by phone and not by online application or through Community Services as in the past.

To apply, please phone Victoria at 250-538-8353. If you don't receive an answer, leave a message with the best time to call back. She will only be accepting applications between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Monday, Nov. 18 until Sunday, Dec. 1. No late applications will be accepted and duplicate applications will be penalized, so be sure you are the only one applying for your children.

Parents of children will be given a time to shop the week of Dec. 9 to 14 (Monday morning, Wednesday afternoon or Saturday morning) in the basement of the Baptist Church. Gift certificates will also be provided.

IMAGES OF IMPACT



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Seen in the ArtSpring lobby this month are collections of photographs illustrating projects and facilities that have received grants from the Salt Spring Island Foundation in the more recent years of its history. A 40th anniversary celebration is set for this Saturday, Nov. 16 at ArtSpring at 1 p.m., to which the whole community is invited. The lobby display can be viewed through November when the arts centre is open and before and after performance events.

TECHNOLOGY

Where will electric cars take us?

Salt Spring Islanders learn from self-driving car tests



Jim Standen
EV
OLUTION

Congratulations on the opening of the new emergency department of Lady Minto Hospital.

Why is an EV guy saying that, especially in his EV-oriented Driftwood column? Before I answer that, an update. You may have heard that the Transition Salt Spring EV Group has completed its missions and closed its doors. True. That is because our mission of education is now being supported by government (including generous purchase incentives), industry (BC Hydro) and many other organizations. EVs are now mainstream.

If we look at our other mission of encouraging EV charging infrastructure on Salt Spring, there are a host of free public chargers and the long-needed pay-for-use DCFC (super high speed) charging is now coming to the new fire hall and the Mid Island Co-op gas station. Those high-speed chargers will be available for really busy vehicles like taxis, delivery and emergency vehicles and, of course, tourists. That pretty well completes our group missions, so we disbanded.

But I do notice the emails and phone calls still come to me. And in the EV world, there are lots of things happening and so I am still on the case and will respond to the needs of our community. It is a passion of mine that I'll continue to support until no longer needed.

What are some of the things that are happening and why did I mention the new emergency department? Well, electric vehicles that drive by themselves are currently being tested around the

world and here on Salt Spring Island by me and some of my fellow Tesla owners.

Gotta say, pretty impressive, especially in conditions like driving into a blinding sunset which is a no-brainer for a car with six eyes peering in all directions. Is it good late at night with our super dark unlit roads? Yuppers. Will it see and react and avoid a deer faster than me? Already proven. (Whew!) Is it overall better than me? Hard to measure but it is darn good.

Explaining to an RCMP officer that you were not driving the car into that random check-stop would be a really, really bad idea.

It is still challenged in parking lots and dead-end streets, but that is on the to-do list, and free improved versions of the software come regularly with over-the-air updates.

It is important to know that for now, the driver is still 100 per cent responsible for the control of the car. Explaining to an RCMP officer that you were not driv-

ing the car into that random check-stop would be a really, really bad idea. It is called "supervised mode" and the car tests periodically that your hands are on the wheel. And, an interior camera will monitor your attentiveness and disengage its self-driving mode if you are not actively watching the road.

But there is more. On Oct. 10, Tesla demonstrated a simulated city with Robotaxis (robot taxis). They drove passengers around the pretend city safely with no driver, no pedals and no steering wheel. Eventually, losing the driver should translate to lower cost of ridership. Although not ready for prime time, it was a great demonstration of a technology that is well on the way. They also demonstrated Optimus (full human-height robots) mingling in the crowd playing games and serving drinks — perhaps a topic for another day.

Back to my own experience... I have programmed my Tesla to drive, using a voice command, to the Lady Minto emergency ward and it works really well (again, with my supervision). I guess there is a one in a billion chance that I may start to feel a stroke or heart attack coming on while driving. But if so, I can request the car to take me to the hospital as I lose some of my abilities. Are there other conditions under which you can envision a self-driving car being extra helpful?

Here is a thought. Perhaps the EV can sense alcohol and not let you drive until it administers a breathalyzer test. If you fail, you are prevented from any control of the vehicle, but it will get you home by itself, safe and sound.

The future will reveal itself. I welcome your respectful comments at jstanden@ucalgary.ca.

Advertise Here
Call Us Today!

HMC

HERE'S MY CARD

YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS SPECIALISTS

Dan Hardy Denturist

Salt Spring office located at the Gulf Clinic
241 Lower Ganges Rd.

- New Dentures
- Reline & Repairs
- Home & Care Facility Visits

For appointments call 1-250-710-1884

Full Circle

EXCAVATING & SEPTIC

Salt Spring's artisanal septic and excavation company. Caring about people, land, and water.

250-526-5555
fullcircle.salishsea@gmail.com
www.FullCircleSystems.ca

Your "clear" choice for glass.

- Auto Glass • Residential & Commercial
- Aluminum Fabrication • Custom Skylights
- Mirrors & Shower Doors
- Custom Sunrooms • Free Estimates

TROY KAYE

Kapa Kai Glass 250-653-4148

GET YOUR VEHICLE READY FOR WINTER DRIVING

From car wash soap to battery chargers, air fresheners to stereos, tune-up parts to mag wheel sockets sets, pickup everything you need to "Ride & Shine" on the roads this season.

Bumper to Bumper® Saltspring
CANADA'S PARTS PEOPLE
106 JACKSON AVENUE 250-537-5507

Vince Smythe

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Ph: 250-213-6316
Fax: 778-746-7310
info@smytheroofing.com

"Quality Workmanship - Reliable Service"

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE HERE!
250-537-9933
241 FULFORD-GANGES ROAD
DRIFTWOOD@GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM

SHOP LOCAL. SAVE LOCAL

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds CALL 250-537-9933

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com OR 1-855-310-3535 • OVER 20,000 CLASSIFIEDS ON-LINE UPDATED DAILY

Obituaries

Obituaries

Susan Catherine Baine



Susan Catherine Baine passed away peacefully on Monday, October 7, 2024. Known for her laughter, sunshine, and joy, Sue created lasting connections for 20 years through her flower stand on Park Drive. In 2012, she earned the Agricultural Farm Business of the Year award, but it was the friendships she nurtured that meant the most to her. Sue cherished life's simple pleasures: early morning swims, picking daffodils in the rain, and maintaining a perfect tan. A kind and giving soul, she was always there for others, even through her own struggles. Sue's friends are deeply grateful to the staff at Lady Minto Hospital and her home care nurses for their care and kindness. In keeping with her wishes, there will be no formal funeral. Instead, Sue would love for friends to celebrate her life by raising a glass, planting a dahlia, and laughing. Sue's legacy of joy, sunshine, and the dependable Suzuki Samurai that never let her down will live on. Live fully, cherish the little things, and remember Sue's sunny spirit.



Coming Events

Coming Events

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will be holding a Special General Meeting to appoint an Auditor for Financial Services.



WHEN:
November 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

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

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

Salt Spring Island NATURAL CEMETERY

2100 Fulford-Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1Z7
250-653-9884
saltspringcemetery.ca

Coming Events

Coming Events

40th Annual Celebration of Light

"Advent Ceremony"

6:00 pm Thursday, November 28, 2024

Salt Spring Centre of Yoga
355 Blackburn Road

If you wish to walk the spiral path:
RSVP info@saltspringcentreschool.ca
(for apple-candleholder safely prepared)

Grow Your Community Support Local Business

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

NOVEMBER PST (UTC-8H)

When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	FEET	METRES	DAY	TIME	FEET	METRES
13	3:04	8.5	2.59	17	7:21	11.2	3.41
	7:48	6.4	1.95		11:43	9.7	2.96
	14:02	10.7	3.26		15:31	10.6	3.23
	21:05	2.1	0.64		23:46	-0.5	-0.15
14	4:21	9.4	2.87	18	8:17	11.4	3.47
	8:45	7.5	2.29		12:59	9.9	3.02
	14:23	10.8	3.29		15:58	10.3	3.14
	21:42	0.8	0.24		0:31	-0.1	-0.03
15	5:26	10.2	3.12	19	9:12	11.4	3.47
	9:41	8.5	2.59		14:33	9.8	2.99
	14:44	10.8	3.29		16:21	9.8	2.99
	22:22	-0.1	-0.03		1:19	0.6	0.18
16	6:25	10.8	3.29	20	10:05	11.4	3.47
	10:39	9.2	2.8				
	15:06	10.8	3.29				
	23:03	-0.5	-0.15				

Driftwood 250-537-9933
241 Fulford-Ganges Rd,
Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2K7
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com • www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Building Materials

GULF COAST MATERIALS

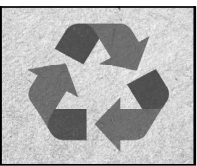
Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rock
- Colour & Sealers

Call to schedule material.

All payments to be made by credit card over the phone.

345 Rainbow Road
250-537-2611



OFFICE HOURS are
9am - 4pm
Mon.-Thurs.
9-Noon Fri.

Driftwood gulfislandsdriftwood.com

250-537-9933
241 Fulford-Ganges Road
driftwood@driftwoodmedia.com
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10 TO 16, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:
TAURUS, GEMINI AND CANCER

ARIES
All the pieces will fall into place to solve various problems. At work, you'll be motivated to achieve your goals. You're on the road to success and have a clear direction for your projects.

TAURUS
It's time to recharge your batteries! Transforming different areas of your life will improve your well-being. Inspiration guides you towards healthy changes, which will open the door to spirituality.

GEMINI
You'll plan a memorable activity for your group of friends. Your involvement will determine the results. You'll overcome your shyness with some effort. Perseverance will lead to success!

CANCER
You need a plan of action to manage your responsibilities. Get your priorities straight with the help of your loved ones. Family cooperation will be crucial to your success.

LEO
Going back to school will be hard. However, it's a rewarding decision that aligns with your values and goals. Perseverance is key. The support of your loved ones will help you succeed as you learn.

VIRGO
You must carefully analyze the situation before deciding. Joining a spiritual group can expand your horizons and enhance your quality of life. Pay attention to all aspects before committing.

LIBRA
You'll have an important decision to make that requires thoughtful consideration. Don't be swayed by outside pressure. Trust your intuition to find the right answer. Patience will be your friend as you come up with appropriate solutions.

SCORPIO
You must carefully prepare a negotiation to achieve a good outcome. You'll find solutions to your financial and professional problems by landing your dream job.

SAGITTARIUS
Treat yourself to a shopping spree in a high-end boutique. Taking care of your outward appearance will help you climb the ranks at work. Invest in your image to reap the rewards of success.

CAPRICORN
You'll enjoy the comforts of home and improve your efficiency by working remotely. You'll deep clean your home to create an environment that boosts productivity.

AQUARIUS
If there's a misunderstanding amongst your family members, don't prolong the situation. Clarify roles and decisions to clear up any vagueness. Open and direct communication is necessary to resolve misunderstandings.

PISCES
An unexpected promotion or opportunity for advancement will present itself when a colleague quits. You'll be chosen to act as the interim manager during your boss's vacation. This will earn you a raise. Your hard work will be rewarded.

There's an easier way to get news.

Scan to subscribe to our free email newsletter

Driftwood GULF ISLANDS

Bookmark: gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Witness to War veterans photo exhibit has impact



PHOTO GAIL SJUBERG

Two Salt Spring veterans included in the What These Eyes Have Seen: Witness to War project undertaken by island photographer/filmmaker Alan Bibby are, from left, John Binsted and Tom Thomas. Bibby's photos were taken at past Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ganges. He then collected information about the individual's service and a photo of them when they actively served. The exhibit, which also included items of memorabilia and a slide show with an original musical song by Tony Massy, son of the late WWII vet David Massy, ran in the ArtSpring Bateman Gallery from Nov. 6 to 12.



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

Above, nursing uniform of Patricia Anne Lavender, who served in several posts across Canada and in France, from 1962 to 1985. Above right, display of WWI medals belonging to Capt. Paul Armand Louis Alexandre Bion from the Salt Spring Island Museum.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Just some of the veterans of military service included in Alan Bibby's What These Eyes Have Seen: Witness to War exhibit.

HOUSING

Trust project to advocate for tiny homes

Elected officials and experts to recommend B.C. Building Code changes

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

To get a seat at the table, sometimes you have to bring the whole table.

The Islands Trust's Regional Planning Committee (RPC) has authorized its nascent Tiny House Working Group to launch an affordable housing project with the goal of working regulations for tiny homes into B.C.'s building codes.

The plan will bring together local and regional politicians, working in tandem with a technical panel of experts, to tackle current obstacles and identify potential changes that might create a standard for tiny homes — and to then develop formal recommendations to provincial regulators.

"The goal is to not only examine existing BC building codes and land use regulations but to develop model policy options for siting and use," said Gabriola Island trustee Tobi Elliott, who laid out the framework for the RPC Friday, Nov. 8, "including servicing that would be appropriate in the Islands Trust land use planning context, and then develop clear and practical recommendations for code modifications or regulatory approaches."

The 2025 building code update will, as expected, have a focus on an affordable housing supply, Elliott said — and tiny homes should fit right in.

"So we could be the pilot, and just do some crazy stuff," said Elliott, "and then

let the rest of the province, or the country, follow."

Barriers to legalization for tiny homes involve several layers of government, and the project hopes to involve elected officials from the Islands Trust as well as regional district directors. On the technical side, the working group is recruiting experts in planning, structural and electrical engineering, plumbing, fire safety, building code compliance, water and waste management and more.

Tiny homes — on wheels or otherwise — are on a lot of people's minds, Denman Island trustee Sam Borthwick pointed out, and for many islanders it's not just theoretical.

"A lot of people are doing it already," he said. "So finding ways to support them, and to encourage people who maybe don't want to run ahead of the pack too far, is really good."

Referencing a tiny house development taking shape this fall near Halifax, N.S., Denman trustee David Graham noted some areas in Canada have seemed "found the wedge to slip between the regulations" — and liked the idea of the Islands Trust blazing a regulatory path.

"Here's the Trust, once again," chuckled Graham, "the smallest population land use authority in the entire nation, being the point of the spear for an effort which will potentially have solutions from coast to coast."

An admittedly ambitious timeline would attempt to put recommendations forward by the end of March, keeping inside the budget of \$20,000 to cover personnel, meeting, reporting and travel costs. That dollar amount was unanimously approved by the

wider Islands Trust Council at its meeting in September.

"I don't think it's going to stop with our little project," said Elliott. "It's definitely got legs."

Holiday Story Writing Contest
Enter by December 6th!

- Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to Christmas or the holiday season. The deadline for our annual writing contest is December 6. Win a Salt Spring Books gift certificate for a story of up to 500 words.
- All Gulf Islands youth in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Mail or drop off entries to **the Driftwood, 241 Fulford-Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2K7;** email to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com.
- For more information, call **250.537.9933**.
- TEACHERS:** Classes with the highest participation level are eligible to win a donation of \$100 made on behalf of the class to the charity of their choice!

Driftwood
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

GET CUSTOM COLOURED WINDOWS FOR THE PRICE OF STANDARD WHITE!

Get an installation quote and be entered to win a blind package worth up to **\$5000***

COURTESY OF: **BUDGET BLINDS***

* Custom colour offer, exterior only. Only install quotes qualify to be entered. Draw closes Nov. 30, 2024. \$5000 gift card towards blind package, no cash value.

SAVE UP TO **\$9500** on current rebate programs*

Tony Canevaro
Sales Rep

Nathan Wells
Sales Rep

Call to make an appointment: 250.383.7128 • vanislewindows.com

Remembrance Day

photos by Rob Lowrie



Ron Wood, 99, who served in the navy on convoy duty in the North Atlantic during World War II, places a wreath at the cenotaph, accompanied by visiting naval cadets, Royal Canadian Navy Lieutenant Phillip Hopkins and Salt Spring Girl Guides of Canada Ranger Molly Magley.



Don Baxter, who served in the Royal Canadian Navy.



From left, Sean, Audrey, Laurel and Mickey Crabtree, who give out program guides to people attending the Remembrance Day service. Sean served in the Canadian and American armed forces, including as a peacekeeper.



Alistair Sim, whose grandfather served with the Royal Scots regiment in WWII in Scotland, stands at the cenotaph.



The crowd enjoys the parade, including seeing Salt Spring Pipes and Drums members Dave Kerman and Janice Shields up close.

DON'T MISS OUT!
 Book your ad* in the annual Salt Spring calendar. Your 2025 calendar is publishing December 18th.
 *BOOKING DEADLINE IS DEC 4

CALL TODAY: 250.537.9933

Driftwood
 GULF ISLANDS

Nancy Johnson | 250.537.9933
 nancy.johnson@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Matt Gaudette | 604.812.6674
 matt.gaudette@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Salt Spring Pipes and Drums members, sea cadets from B.C. and the prairie provinces, veterans of military service, and Salt Spring RCMP, Search and Rescue, and Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue groups are among those marching in the Remembrance Day parade.