

Driftwood

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 56TH YEAR — ISSUE 9 \$1.25 (incl. GST)



HEALTH CARE

Ultrasound shortage hits island

Staffing crisis cuts Salt Spring appointments

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An unexpected leave of absence for Lady Minto Hospital's sonographer and a national shortage of technicians have resulted in a dramatic decrease in the ultrasound appointments available on Salt Spring.

According to Island Health, the hospital's regular staffing level is one sonographer who scans four days per week. Salt Spring is currently being served by a visiting technician who comes from Victoria one day a week when possible.

"It is unknown at this time when the situation will be resolved as we do not have an anticipated time for the staff member to return," said Island Health media relations officer Kellie Hudson.

Ultrasound scans are perhaps most commonly done to assess the stages and conditions of pregnancy, but are also used to help diagnose a variety of conditions affecting organs and soft tissues in men and women.

Island Health says enhanced recruitment of sonographers is underway to improve staffing for Vancouver Island and Gulf Island patients, but there is a shortage of ultrasound technicians in British Columbia and across the country.

Before the staff absence, the wait time at Lady Minto Hospital was about six weeks, and is now closer to 10 weeks, compared to a seven-month wait for routine ultrasounds across other southern Vancouver Island sites. Urgent exams are done at the closest or most appropriate site to ensure that the patient receives the care they require.

ULTRASOUND continued on 2



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

DIRE TALE: Anna Haltrecht represents a negative force during the MONAD performance art production of Paradise Lost? No Action is Not an Option at ArtSpring last week. See story on page 16 and more photos on the Driftwood's Facebook page.

FRAUD

RCMP reboot fraud warnings

CryptoLocker ransomware also affecting islanders

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Salt Spring RCMP are again warning islanders to be wary of phone calls and emails from people posing as authorities demanding personal information or money.

"These calls are taking various forms now, and the callers can even change their 'call-from number' to appear to be coming from an actual police detachment, just to add to the intimidation factor these callers are using," the Salt Spring RCMP detachment reported Tuesday.

Jill Evans said she came home last Wednesday to a weird message on her answering machine.

"A male voice said he was a police officer and that I was to call a telephone number in the 613 area code, and if I didn't I would be arrested. This shrieked 'scam' at me so I called the local police to report it.

"They said there has been a lot of that lately, and it is indeed a scam of some sort, not to make that call demanded by the fake police officer and to notify as many people as possible."

Evans did so through her Facebook page and other means.

SCAMS continued on 2



INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- Ganges Pharmasave
- Thrifty Foods
- The Source
- Merit Furniture
- Staples

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Midwives could do some ultrasounds

ULTRASOUND

continued from 1

Jennifer Lannan is one of the patients who has been affected by Salt Spring's staffing shortage. In December she was given a February appointment for her routine second trimester ultrasound, but the appointment was cancelled a week before it was supposed to take place. In the meantime, she learned of some complications that suggested a more urgent need for the scan.

"You wait three months for something that's routine and then it doesn't happen and you feel a sense of panic," Lannan said.

Lannan was able to make an appointment in Victoria but spent a week feeling anxious about it. She

and her husband then had to take time off work to go, and they feel they did not get the same service they would have at their community hospital.

"I think our local ultrasound technician was very good, and to go to a more anonymous community, we're not necessarily getting the same care. They shoved us in at the end of the day and in the end they didn't get the information we needed, so we have to go back," Lannan said.

The Midwives Association of BC has reported statistics showing prenatal care in general produces better results when there is less travelling involved. Kelly Hayes, who has practised midwifery on Salt Spring and just spent three years as MABC's vice president, said she is all too aware of the challenges local patients have

in scheduling ultrasound appointments.

"Even in the city we can have a great deal of difficulty getting patients into appointments. Of course, the impact is increased when you're living on an island," Hayes said.

There is some good news on that front, though. A new program will permit B.C. midwives to conduct third-trimester ultrasounds to establish basic things like a baby's position and whether it might be breech. This will potentially free up appointment times for more complex scans.

"That will take some of the pressure off sonographers, but midwives will have to take the course and they will have to have access to an ultrasound machine," Hayes said.

Computer tech details ransomware

SCAMS

continued from 1

While most people are like Evans and recognize such calls to be from expert scammers, some individuals are more vulnerable to being "taken."

Income tax season has also prompted more reports than usual about calls and emails coming from people posing as Canada Revenue Agency officials.

The Better Business Bureau says CRA tax scams have been "a plague across the country this year . . . [They consist of] official-looking CRA emails asking for personal information or phone calls from scammers who threaten you with arrest or deportation if you don't pay up. BBB and the Canadian Anti-fraud Centre continue to get calls almost daily about this scam."

See www.bbb.org/mbc/programs-services/top-10-scams for a detailed list of scams and what to do about them.

People are advised to report instances of fraud by contacting the Canadian Anti-fraud Centre at www.antifraudcentre.ca or 1-888-495-8501.

To report cases of misleading representations and deceptive marketing, contact the Competition Bureau of Canada at www.competitionbureau.gc.ca or call 1-800-348-5358.

March is Fraud Prevention Month in Canada.

Ransomware targets islanders

Salt Spring's Bob McIvor of RCM-Tech Services Ltd. has been dealing with several complaints about a disturbing form of malware that affects PCs using Windows.

McIvor said "CryptoLocker ransomware is software that, upon infecting your computer, puts a password on your documents, pictures and music folders and your backup drive if it is attached when you are infected."

"The infection most likely occurs through a 'phishing' exploit in an email or by following links on web pages. 'Suggested for You' seemed to be an infection vector in one recent infection."

McIvor says there is no recourse besides paying a "ransom" of about \$500 to get your data back.

He recommends installing software that attempts to prevent the malware from putting a password on data folders. He has been using Cryptoprevent Foolish IT. Free versions and multiple levels of pro versions are available.

"A Google search will bring up lots of webpage content with further suggestions on how to protect yourself," said McIvor.

He said he hasn't heard of the malware affecting Mac systems yet, but added: "Doubtless they are working on it."

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU'S TOP 10 SCAMS OF 2016

- ✓ **Top Extortion Scam:** CRA Income Tax Scam - See story.
- ✓ **Top Heartbreak Scam:** Catphishing - Love interest met only online wants money.
- ✓ **Top Prize Scam:** Fake Lottery Winnings - Remember that if you didn't enter a contest, you didn't win anything.
- ✓ **Top Financial Scam:** Investment Fraud - Investment fraudsters earn your trust and then lose your money.
- ✓ **Top Employment Scam:** Secret Shopper - Companies send you a cheque to do secret shopping, ask for some money back and their cheque bounces.
- ✓ **Top Subscription Scam:** Free Trial Traps - Companies get your credit-card info and charge you after the free trial period is over.
- ✓ **Top Imposter Scam:** Spear Phishing - Fake websites look like legit companies you deal with, but they're not.
- ✓ **Top Private Sale Scam:** Overpayment/Refund - People buy what you have to sell online but send more money than required. They ask for the excess back, but their cheque is a fake.
- ✓ **Top Emergency Scam:** Fake Relative Needs Cash - An oldie but a goodie.
- ✓ **Top Lending Scam:** Advance Fee Loans - Asking for a fee upfront before providing a loan is illegal in Canada.

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NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

LTC Grantville septic setbacks meeting

Thursday, MARCH 3, Lions Hall

Info session 5-6 p.m.; public hearing 6:30 p.m.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Islanders confront Amazon oil exploration in Ecuador

Group vies to protect endangered culture and biodiversity

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Kim Hanson lives with the British Columbia wilderness at her doorsteps.

She knows about the healing power and inspirational magic that wild places can offer, but nothing prepared her for the scale of the Ecuadorian rainforest.

"It's like flying over broccoli," Hanson said in a recent interview about the journey to visit the remote Sápara tribe in the heart of the Amazon.

Once travellers board the four-seater aircraft at the end of the road in Shell (a modern incarnation of the company town) it's a 40-minute flight over virgin forest broken only by rivers that slither from the Andes.

It's hard to find a more remote place on earth. Villagers live in open-walled, thatch-roof dwellings. The town has a single solar panel. Visitors need not even ask about cell coverage or a WiFi connection.

Hanson and a group of island residents have grown familiar



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A group of young Salt Springers is headed to Ecuador in April to aid the Sápara tribe's fight against petroleum development in their traditional lands.

with the Sápara and the tribe's jungle home during a series of visits over the past three years. They've learned about their hosts' deep respect for dreams, rich communal living and fierce pride in an endangered lifestyle.

The tribe's 500 members live on one-million acres of traditional territory in southeast Ecuador. As foreign-owned resource companies push deeper into Ecuador's jungle, more of that territory

becomes threatened. On Jan. 25, China-backed Andes Petroleum and the Ecuadorean federal government signed an epic deal that grants the company exclusive access to traditional lands.

"The problem is that, although they have legal title to the land, they do not own the mineral rights," said Hanson, who works as a health practitioner at Salt Spring's Green Raven Centre. "The Ecuadorean government is

heavily indebted to China, which has invested in their country by improving roads, improving water quality and building a new hydroelectric plant — all things that they needed. The hitch is that China doesn't want its \$7 billion debt paid back in cash, but in oil."

"They would choose no contact with the outside world except that they realize they cannot defend their territory alone"

KIM HANSON
Health practitioner, Green Raven Centre

In a bid to assist the Sápara's fight to preserve their ancestral lands and traditional way of life, Hanson has led the Salt Spring contingents into the heart of the jungle. The result has been a kind of sister-community alliance between the Salt Springers and the jungle settlement. Guests gain access to a rarely seen culture, while the Sápara raise awareness

about their way of life and their home.

With another trip to the rainforest set for April 23, Hanson and 15 other islanders, who range from high school students to retirees, have begun assembling funds.

Donation jars will soon be set out in businesses across the island, and the group will host a screening of *Embrace the Serpent* in late March and early April.

"All the money raised on their behalf goes to legal costs and travel costs to fight this issue," Hanson said.

The Sápara attended the December COP21 climate talks in Paris and routinely meet with representatives of foreign governments and international agencies.

"They would choose no contact with the outside world except that they realize they cannot defend their territory alone," Hanson said. "This community is taking matters into their own hands by reaching out to the outside world to raise awareness of their way of life, the beauty and diversity of their people and the jungle that they call home."

For more information about the plight of the Sápara people, contact Hanson at nakunorth2@gmail.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Japanese-Canadian lands history probed

At the March 9 Salt Spring Historical Society meeting, Brian Smallshaw will discuss the dispossession of Japanese-Canadian land on Salt Spring Island during World War II.

"Eleven properties were taken from Japanese-Canadian families on Salt Spring; eight were sold to the Soldier Settlement Board that was purchasing land for returning

veterans, while the remaining three were sold by tendered bidding," explains a press release from the historical society.

"At 598 acres, the Iwasaki property was the largest of the three and later became what we know as Sunset Drive today. It was sold for \$5,250 to Salt Spring Lands, partially owned by Gavin C. Mouat, who served as the agent for the Custodian of Enemy Property in the Gulf Islands during the war.

"Iwasaki protested the sale and during the 1960s brought a lawsuit against the govern-

ment to get his land back or receive just compensation. This talk will focus primarily on the Iwasaki story and his attempt to find justice."

All are welcome to attend the program at Central Hall starting at 2 p.m.

Dry grad fundraiser launched

Local grad committees looking to raise funds for alcohol-free high school graduation celebrations and activities will once again get

a helping hand from community members and the BC Liquor Distribution Branch.

From Feb. 28 to March 31, BC Liquor Stores, including those on Salt Spring and Pender islands, will be collecting donations for local Support Dry Grad initiatives and will thank customers who contribute one dollar or more with a small token of appreciation. One hundred per cent of all donations raised by BC Liquor Stores will go directly to the school district in their area.

More than 270 high schools in 55 school districts are par-

ticipating in this year's campaign. Last year, the month-long fundraiser generated over \$400,000, which helped more than 52,000 B.C. high school graduates throughout the province take part in alcohol-free events and activities.

Maidens, Mothers and Crones show

International Women's Day is celebrated once again as local women bring their favourite goddesses to life in the third annu-

al Maidens, Mothers and Crones show.

It takes place at ArtSpring on Tuesday, March 8 beginning at 8 p.m.

"The myth and magic of our collective her-stories are brought to life," states a press release. "We have dancers, poets, singers, actresses and aerial artists ready to manifest the legends, breathe life into the form and share the goddess stories, for our delight."

This production is a fundraiser for the Salt Spring Arts Academy.

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PATHWAYS

Rainbow Road pathway blocked by overflow parking

Survey work anticipated for Mouat Park trail extension

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A stretch of gravel pathway that was completed on Rainbow Road last September proved just too tempting to pass up for drivers looking for parking at two recent events at the Farmers' Institute.

Members of the Salt Spring Transportation Commission discussed the problem at their Feb. 22 meeting, noting vehicles had taken over a shoulder that Island Pathways had cleared and graded for pedestrian use. Overflow parking took to the road both for Seedy Saturday on Feb. 13 and for the special indoor Saturday market on Feb. 20.

Island Pathways board member Jean Gelwicks says parking wasn't an issue on most of the path during the 2015 fall fair — the busiest event on the Farmers' Institute calendar — because signs had been erected along most of its length.

"We didn't think about Seedy Saturday and we didn't think about the new market," Gelwicks said. "It happens now three times a year. We thought it only happened one time. But it does make ruts in the pathway."

Drivers can be excused for thinking the newly widened shoulder was created just for them. The upper portion does look like an extension of the roadway. Gelwicks said the flat area made the pathway one of the least expensive to complete in the Ganges Pathway Network because the nonprofit organization didn't have to put in fill or

build up areas. However, that has left little to separate it from the road.

Planting of grass and poppy seeds are hoped to help mark the area. Gelwicks said it's not feasible to add a concrete divider or other similar measures since drainage is an issue. Signage will likely be the best short-term solution, although the issue sparked another talk at the transportation commission table about the need to establish a parking authority.

"We appreciate people not parking on the pathway because it will just be a continuing maintenance problem, which means money," Gelwicks said.

Island Pathways will be helping to grow Rainbow Road sections of the Ganges Pathway Network with two upcoming projects. The group is managing two sections of pathway between Gulf Islands Sec-

ondary School and Lower Ganges Road on behalf of the transportation commission, with work expected to be completed this year.

As well, Gelwicks recently walked an area at the western boundary of Mouat Park, where Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission will work with Island Pathways to build a connector trail from Rainbow Road just below Pallo Way. Naturalists have been involved to ensure the path finds the best route through a sensitive ecosystem.

"We think we've found the right place. They want it to be as environmentally friendly as possible," Gelwicks said, noting a raised boardwalk will be necessary in some places. Complete surveying still needs to be done, and funding for the project is being sought.

"It's very pretty in there. It's going to be a really nice extension," Gelwicks said.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Cars park on pedestrian pathway along Rainbow Road during the indoor Saturday market held at the Farmers' Institute on Feb. 20.

WATER HARVESTING

Preparations ramp up for second water fair weekend

Rainwater Harvesting Tour set for March 12

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As longer, drier Gulf Islands summers encourage residents to reconsider water supplies and question how they use the valuable resource, organizers of the second-annual Rainwater Harvesting Tour hope to keep the inspiration flowing.

"We really need to quit using drinking-quality water for our gardens and chores," said Sharon Bywater, a member the Salt Spring Island Water Council and passionate rainwater harvester. "It's wasteful, expensive, impractical and such a luxury that we don't have."

"We can't count on having the water."

During last year's drought, Bywater's modest Maliview Drive water-catchment system provided enough water for her vegetable garden and some household chores and occasional car washing.

By saving winter rains in a series of large, 55-gallon rain barrels, Bywater had a surplus at summer's end. Though dry weather encouraged her to scale back her garden plans last summer, she's heading into

the upcoming planting season with high hopes for a bountiful crop.

"I will plant with full confidence," she said.

Even with rain barrels at full capacity at the height of winter, she said, water can be diverted toward parts of the garden that rely on the intense winter rains to make it through the summer.

"It makes a difference," she said. "That ground has gotten really dry over the summer, so it takes a lot of water until it permeates."

"You want it to soak down deep."

"We really need to quit using drinking-quality water for our gardens and chores."

SHARON BYWATER
Water tour coordinator

Redirecting water to where it's needed has also solved a few drainage problems caused by an accumulation of water near her home over the winter months.

"The great thing about collecting rainwater isn't just about using it in the summer but using it in the winter," she said. "It can be an

affordable and practical way to manage drainage issues."

Bywater will be among nine participants in the 2016 Rainwater Harvesting Tour. The self-guided circuit lets people choose between a wide variety of installations. These range from do-it-yourself backyard setups built out of rain barrels and PVC pipe to pump-operated cisterns capable of supplying a homeowner's water needs throughout the year.

Free guided tours offered by homeowners every 30 minutes between noon and 4 p.m. will give prospective rainwater harvesters a chance to ask questions and learn from the experience of others.

"Many people found their inspiration [at last year's tour] and discovered that it isn't complicated," she said. "It can be really simple."

This year's edition includes the addition of several new stops.

The Saturday, March 12 tour is sponsored and coordinated by the Salt Spring Island Water Council. The event precedes the annual Water Fair, which will feature speakers, workshops and entertainment about water conservation on Sunday, March 13 at the Farmers' Institute.

Information about the Rainwater Harvesting Tour and Water Fair is available at www.ssiwatercouncil.ca.

NOTICE OF NOMINATION SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ELECTION OF TRUSTEES 2016

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for:

Two (2) Trustees for three year terms terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2019 will be received between:

**9:00 A.M. Tuesday March 1st, 2016
and 4:00 P.M. Friday March 18th, 2016**

During which period the nomination documents shall only be received during office hours of Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at the Ganges Fire Hall or arrangements may be made to file nomination documents by phoning Thomas Moore at (250) 472 0059.

The Trustees positions are for three year terms commencing at the end of the end Annual General Board Meeting to be held on April 18th, 2016.

The Election is to be held on Saturday, **April 16th, 2016** at the **Salt Spring Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C.** from **8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

An **Advance Voting** opportunity will be held on Tuesday, **April 12th 2016** at the **Salt Spring Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C.** between the hours of **8:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.**

Candidates shall be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Nomination forms may be obtained at the Fire Hall or from Thomas F. Moore, Returning Officer (250) 472 0059.

Those persons eligible to vote at this election will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen.
2. Be eighteen years of age or older.
3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to this election.
4. Be an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District.
5. One vote is also allowed for each board or corporation that owns land within the Fire Protection District. The Board or Corporation must designate one person in writing to act as an authorized agent to vote on its behalf.

If more than one person is registered on title as owner of land then those owners may vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Ganges, B.C.
this 18th day of February 2016

Thomas F. Moore
Returning Officer

LAKE HEALTH

Cyanobacteria algal bloom lights up St. Mary Lake

Authorities say no issues for treated drinking water

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

St. Mary Lake is experiencing a significant cyanobacteria algal bloom, but waterworks officials are confident that treated water from the lake is safe to drink.

"It's quite alarming looking," admitted North Salt Spring Waterworks District water

quality specialist Meghan McKee on Friday, but added, "we feel confident our drinking water is safe."

An early February water sample "just tripped" NSSWD's toxin monitoring protocol, she said, and another sample will be taken this week.

Interestingly, she said, the water is "crystal clear" on the Tripp Road side of the lake where the NSSWD intake is located.

The bloom is "very likely a result of the very high rainfall we have seen, so the runoff loads

the lake with phosphorus," she said.

The wind pushes the bloom onto the north and northeast shores of the lake, closer to the Capital Regional District's Highlands Water District intake.

Glenn Harris, senior manager of the Capital Regional District's Environmental Protection Division, said Tuesday that his department has no concerns about the bloom's impact on water the CRD supplies to its customers. Water is being sampled and no issues have been found.

Aeration Report Released

McKee also assisted limnologist Maggie Squires with a report that was released by NSSWD on Friday.

It analyzes historical and current data about the lake and recommends future actions and areas of study. Called A Guide to St. Mary Lake Use, Misuse, & Disuse of Artificial Aeration plus What's Normal for St. Mary & Recommendations for Lake Research, it is available on the NSSWD website.

FIRE PROTECTION

Acting chief backs full service model

Report outlines costs and parameters

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With the deadline for B.C. communities to declare their firefighting service level looming, Salt Spring's acting fire chief Arjuna George has followed former chief Tom Bremner in recommending the fire protection district formally adopt the full-service designation.

In a report George presented to the district's board of trustees on Feb. 15, the acting chief said Salt Spring meets the BC Fire Commissioner's definition of full service, and has been doing so for decades. He supports matching the example of the Pender Islands Fire Protection Society in making it official.

"For us to be at a lower fire service level than Pender Island Fire Rescue doesn't seem appropriate for our community," George said.

The new British Columbia Fire Service Minimum Training Standards "playbook" breaks down firefighting into three categories — exterior, interior and full service — and dictates the minimum training standards needed for each category. On the order of the provincial fire commissioner, jurisdictions must declare which level of service they will provide by June 30.

Salt Spring Fire Protection District's strategic planning committee has previously suggested adopting either an exterior or interior level. The group is still exploring the playbook with the aim of choosing a direction.

According to George, designating an "exterior" level would mean firefighters could not enter a structure other than to deal with small matters like stove-top pan fires or sparking electrical outlets, and only if such situations incurred no threat to firefighters' health or safety.

The middle or "interior" level allows firefighters to enter simple structures like cars or single-family homes, or complex buildings to which a firefighting plan has been created and on which firefighters have been specifically trained. Full service means there is a team of firefighters that have the training needed to meet any situation.

"We have a number of complex structures on Salt Spring Island that are also high risk buildings. Structures such as the numerous schools, care facilities, community halls and our local Lady Minto Hospital," George observes in his report. "The playbook limits interior level to simple smaller structures, such as single-family dwellings and vehicles. More complex structures can be entered but only if a risk assessment and pre-planning has been undertaken. With the number of complex structures on Salt Spring Island, this pre-planning and risk assessment would greatly increase our training time."

"Basically, people felt it was the best direction to go as far as providing fire protection here on the island. So it wasn't a hard sell at all, because people actually wanted it."

GORDON SOUTER
President, Pender Islands
Fire Protection Society

The BC Fire Commissioner's playbook states the authority having jurisdiction of firefighting should consider the community's ability "to financially support its fire department to enable it to meet all applicable training, safety and operational requirements for the chosen service level." Local conditions and "the realities of the community in terms of demographics, risks, travel distances, fire hall locations, equipment and staffing models" are also to be considered.

Gordon Souter, president of the Pender Islands Fire Protection Society, said declaring a full-service level was not a contentious issue in his community. The islands actually made their biggest step toward the process in 2005, when the society decided to train their firefighters to the NFPA level.

Souter said making the des-

ignation official did not require any adjustment to the budget, and the question of cost didn't really enter the conversation.

"Basically, people felt it was the best direction to go as far as providing fire protection here on the island. So it wasn't a hard sell at all, because people actually wanted it," Souter said.

George says there should also not be any increase to Salt Spring's training budget for any of the three services levels. There are 26 members currently trained to full-service requirements, and another 10 that are from 75 to 90 per cent finished their training.

The fire commission office has stated the playbook "does not require that a fire department have every member trained up to the stipulated service level ... Additionally, in some departments, certain members provide only support services or otherwise limit their emergency scene activities."

George estimates the minimum team required for a full service scenario would include four firefighters trained for interior operations plus a team of two to four members for the "rapid intervention team."

Cost savings could come in down the road if new recruits were trained to a lesser standard. The maximum difference per recruit would be in the neighbourhood of \$3,500, with those training to exterior level needing \$500 to \$1,000 in courses, and those at full-service level from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Reducing firefighting capabilities could have another effect on homeowners' finances in terms of their insurance policies. The Fire Underwriters' Survey gives recommendations to insurance brokers based on fire risk.

"If a lower service level is considered, the Fire Underwriters should be consulted to see how the change could affect insurance grading on the island. Public consultation is still required," George said.

A spokesperson for Emergency Management BC said there are no statistics on how many other communities have declared their service level or what those levels might be because there is no reporting requirement. The June 30 deadline will be self-policed.

Port Browning Marina Development OPEN HOUSE

11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Friday, March 4

AT THE
Port Browning Marina Cafe
4605 Oak Road, Pender Island



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SCHOOL DISTRICT 64 (GULF ISLANDS) REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2016/2017

Early Registration for all programs in School District 64 will take place from February 9 to March 15.

New Registrations:

Kindergarten – If your child will be five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2016 (born in 2011), please register them at the school in your residential catchment area. Students currently enrolled in the district's Strong Start Programs are required to complete a Kindergarten registration form.

Parents or Guardians:

Please bring the following documentation when you register:

- Verification of the child's birth date and citizenship status (birth certificate, passport or Landed Immigrant authorization)
- Care Card, and
- Immunization records

Grade 1 to 12 – Please register your child in the school in your residential catchment area.

Expressions of interest in specific programs can be found on the registration form available at <http://sd64.bc.ca/student-registration.pdf>. Program placement is subject to the availability of space in specialized programs. Please note that additional application information is required for admission to French Immersion & MYSEEC at Saltspring Island Middle School and for the SEEC Program located on Saturna Island. Registration and water taxi transportation are subject to School District Policies/Procedures 530 and 700 available at <http://sd64.bc.ca/district/policies-and-procedures/>.

Current Students: If you wish to express interest in a specific program at your child's school please contact your school principal. Program placement is subject to the availability of space in specialized programs. Please note that additional application information is required for admission to French Immersion & MYSEEC at Saltspring Island Middle School and for the SEEC Program located on Saturna Island. Registration and water taxi transportation are subject to School District Policies/Procedures 530 and 700 available at <http://sd64.bc.ca/district/policies-and-procedures/>. For additional information about high school programs available through Gulf Islands Secondary School contact the school's principal.

CROSS BOUNDARY TRANSFER REQUESTS must be completed annually by parents/guardians who wish to transfer their child to a school out of their catchment area (reference: Policy and Procedure 530). The cross boundary transfer request form can be found at http://sd64.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/cross_boundary_request_2015_2.pdf. Parents must first get signatures from both Principals before the form is submitted to the School Board Office for the Superintendent's approval. Upon receipt at the School Board Office the form will be time and date stamped. The deadline for accepting cross boundary request forms is March 15. Placement is subject to the availability of space.

This does not apply for normal grade transitions to the next level at another school within the prescribed catchment area.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Ride-sharing shrinks gaps for families without wheels

Family Place and school programs easier to access

The clients of Family Place programs will find it a little easier to attend the many family support and parenting programs offered by Salt Spring Island Community Services thanks to a new ride-share initiative.

"This was largely a parent-led initiative with support from our public health nurse Cali Chang," said Johanna Stiver, the coordinator for Family Place. "Many of the families frequenting our programs are one-car or no-car families. Between transportation barriers and increased sensitivity to environmental responsibility, we are delighted by the support from our

island for a ride-share solution to help everyone who can benefit from attending the programs."

Community Services offers parent-child programs at their Park Drive Family Place location as well as at Fernwood and Fulford elementary schools.

With the generous support of Mid-Island Co-op gas station, the Centre for Child Honouring and the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, Family Place is able to aid those who are able to offer rides with gas vouchers to support the extra time and expense incurred. Ride-shares are arranged between those who are able to offer rides and those who need them in order to be able to attend programs.

"Arranging ride-shares is an island-wide issue and can really benefit a

lot of people across the whole community," said Stiver. "Within the Family Place community, we can start by supporting transportation solutions for those who need them and are often the hardest hit by a lack of transportation options, such as those travelling with small children."

Family Place has been offering a variety of family and parental support programs for the last 20 years and has become a valuable and relied upon resource for many families on the island. Recent announcements have confirmed continued core funding for Family Place for the next three years.

Anyone interested in learning more about Family Place programs can contact them at 250-537-9176.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left, Mid-Island Co-op manager Joel Shaver, Family Place coordinator Johanna Stiver, public health nurse Cali Chang and Community Services executive director Rob Grant demonstrate what \$1,000 worth of donated fuel looks like in the form of 100 \$10 gift cards from the Co-op. The cards will facilitate access to programs for families with young children at Family Place and Fernwood and Fulford elementary schools.

HEALTH CARE

Access to medication eased for islander Andrea Russell

Uptown Pharmasave sets up account

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Galiano resident Andrea Russell has found some help from Salt Spring Pharmasave toward accessing an expensive treatment for complications of a brain tumour, which isn't cov-

ered under B.C.'s Pharmacare program.

Russell is hoping to start a one-year trial treatment involving daily injections of human growth hormone (HGH) as a method of reversing some of the effects of hypopituitarism. The condition was caused by the destruction of her pituitary gland during or after brain surgery.

HGH is covered by Pharmacare in some Canadian provinces, but not in British Columbia. The cost of the treatment is estimated at \$600 per month just for the medication, not including travel time and costs.

Russell shared her plight in a Driftwood story published in January and through a YouCaring crowd-funding campaign. That campaign is still active,

with a little less than half the funding goal achieved.

"So far I am at seven months worth. I need a few more months to make a reasonable trial; a year is the ideal," Russell said.

Salt Spring's Uptown Pharmasave is making it easier for community members to contribute directly to the cause with a new account set up in Russell's

name. Money donated to the account can only go toward the medication.

Russell's story has also inspired local MLA Gary Holman. His office recently contacted Russell to offer support and help in pursuing the issue with the medical coverage system.

For more information, search for Andrea Russell at youcaring.com.

Flu Pandemics

Learning about the different types of flu and the steps you can take to keep your family healthy and safe during a health emergency, is the best defense against a flu pandemic.

Check out the Public Health Agency of Canada to learn more about:

- understanding pandemic influenza
- flu prevention checklist
- pandemic flu planning checklist

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fam-eng.php>

Driftwood
GULF ISLANDS
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

ILLNESS

Norovirus makes rounds on island

Restrictions in place for Lady Minto acute care

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders facing a sudden attack of vomiting and diarrhea may be victims of this winter's Norovirus outbreak.

Restrictions for health care workers are currently in place at Lady Minto Hospital's acute care wing, where a possible outbreak was detected on Feb. 18. Anecdotal reports suggest a wider spread across the community, although it's difficult to be sure since it is not a reportable disease, explains Dr. Dee Hoyano, a medical health officer for

Island Health.

"For most people it is a very unpleasant but short illness," Hoyano said. "Most people just recover at home. When it does show up in our health care settings, it's a sign that it's out there in the community."

Healthlink BC defines Norovirus as a group of viruses that cause acute gastroenteritis, an infection of the digestive tract (stomach and intestine). The illness usually runs its course within three days, but is notable for its sudden and intense onslaught. Norovirus is more common during the winter months but can occur at any time of year.

"We've definitely had some outbreaks in the different parts of

the Vancouver Island region," Hoyano said. "I wouldn't say we've had a huge number of outbreaks compared to other years, but certainly we have had outbreaks, so we know Norovirus is circulating."

Health care workers who contract the virus must wait 48 hours after the last symptom has passed before returning to work.

"We want to be very careful not to introduce it to the health care setting," Hoyano said.

She added it is a good rule, if possible, for other infected members of the community to wait as long before returning to work or school. The virus is highly communicable and passes easily through group settings

as it can be both airborne and contracted from infected surfaces.

Prevention tips include regular hygiene measures such as frequent hand washing. Bathrooms used by sick people and other surfaces they may have touched like kitchen counters and doorknobs should be cleaned with a bleach solution. Hospitals use industrial products with accelerated peroxide.

"It's best to use something with bleach in it because Norovirus is a hearty virus. Soap and water usually isn't enough," Hoyano said.

For more information on how to prevent the spread of Norovirus and how to make a bleach solution, visit healthlinkbc.ca.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Salt Spring gears up for Earth Week energy conference

Events on April 22-23

Following up on its successful 2014 Renewable Energy Conference, the Salt Spring Community Energy Group has announced its 2016 conference will take place on April 23 at the Gulf Islands Secondary School.

This year's conference theme is Creating a Low-Carbon Future, with a focus on opportunities for community solar, energy efficiency for homes and businesses, practical

renewable energy technologies, and zero carbon transportation with electric bikes and vehicles.

The conference will kick off on Earth Day, Friday April 22, with a special film screening on energy democracy through community projects such as solar gardens.

On Saturday the program begins with two keynote speakers. John Farrell is director of democratic energy at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance and widely known as a leader of community energy projects in the

United States. The second speaker, Alex Love, is general manager of Nelson Hydro in Nelson, BC, home of Canada's first community solar garden.

Following the keynote presentations, participants can choose from a program of workshops on energy generation and conservation. Topics include heat pumps, home solar, retrofitting for energy efficiency, and growing food year-round. The program will be followed by a social, allowing participants to network with

each other and workshop leaders. The full program will be published closer to the conference.

This year's conference builds on the success of the 2014 Renewable Energy Conference, at which the GISS Solar Scholarship Project was launched. Thanks to community support, 84 solar panels on the high school gym roof are turning sunlight into scholarships, the first of which was awarded in June 2015.

The 2014 conference also helped spawn other changes. The island

has since seen a rapid increase in residential solar installations, including both photovoltaic and solar hot water, more heat pumps according to a local installer, and more electric vehicles and EV charging stations. With over 60 fully electric vehicles on an island of 10,000 residents, the energy group feels Salt Spring is now likely the EV capital of Canada.

More information is available at the Community Energy Group's website, saltspringcommunityenergy.com.

SCHOOL BOARD

GISPA tweaks recommended

Pender parents seek more nature programming

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Concerns raised in the professional arts community about unfair access to the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts will likely result in some changes to the program, but won't go as far as eliminating fees or the audition process for now.

The Gulf Islands Board of Education discussed the matter in committee on Wednesday, Feb. 24. The discussion followed a delegation that Lloyd English, Shelley Mahoney and Sue Newman presented at the Feb. 10 school board meeting regarding student affordability and accessibility, and GISPA's unfair competition with privately run programs.

Speaking as chair of the program committee, Salt Spring trustee Nancy Macdonald thanked the three for raising their concerns.

"We believe in public consultation and listening and that's what we do," she said.

Macdonald said other communication to the board about GISPA, including letters from parents, students and other community members, had largely been extremely positive. After discussing the issues, board members recognized a need to raise awareness of options for students who can't afford GISPA's \$1,500 tuition.

"We have a hardship clause and one of the areas I think we're committed to working on is to make that clear," said Salt Spring trustee John Wakefield, adding significant work has gone toward raising funds to support student fees.

The audition process was also discussed but not scrapped, despite a warning from Newman that many youth stop pursuing an arts activity altogether if they feel rejected or discouraged. How teachers convey a "no" to prospective students after an audition should be handled sensitively, the board agreed.

"We have a hardship clause and one of the areas I think we're committed to working on is to make that clear."

JOHN WAKEFIELD
Salt Spring school trustee

English's request for more transparency in GISPA's finances resulted in figures being released for the 2014-15 school year. SD64 finance manager Cindy Rodgers reported the program had earned revenues of \$44,000 and had \$47,074 in expenses. The breakdown

included \$5,370 for teacher replacement costs, \$11,465 for visiting artists/instructors, \$24,412 in travel costs and \$5,827 for supplies. Renting ArtSpring for the final performance in June 2015 cost \$2,787, while ticket sales brought in \$4,675.

As for concerns about GISPA's legality, Macdonald said there was no grey area over the program's ability to operate within the public school system. The Ministry of Education has already found it is in compliance with the section of the School Act that permits special academies. Some other areas could be improved, though, Macdonald said. She will draft a motion that will include some changes on facility use and other matters for the next board meeting.

"This conversation is far from over," she said. "I think in a small community you don't want to have any negative undercurrent at all. You want to address it."

In other program committee news, superintendent Lisa Halstead reported that a review of all the district's programs that was supposed to get started in February will be delayed to September while staff and board members work on a template.

"What exactly that process looks like turned out to be more controversial than I ever expected," Halstead said.

• Board members discussed a request from some Pender Island parents to start a K-3 nature-based program at their community school in September, similar to the program for grades 4 to 8 that was established this school year. Pender trustee Anna Herlitz noted the request didn't leave much time for action and raised a raft of complex questions, such as whether the interested parties have a shared vision or differing notions of what such a program would include, and how it might impact other classrooms.

Herlitz and Doug Livingston, the district's director of instruction, will continue to work with Pender parents to answer some of those questions, but the board said the program could probably not begin until 2017, if approved.

The district looked at a matrix of factors when considering multiple requests for new programs during the last school year. Halstead said it would be good to revisit that list to see if the core elements still resonate.

• Halstead reported that SVOVA facilitators Christina Antonick and David Norget have started to gather input from families about the Respectful Relationships high school program and "where it went astray." The program was suspended for Grade 9 and 10 students this school year after complaints.

SVOVA has received word from one of its major funders that R+R funding will be maintained as long as the program fits into the new B.C. curriculum. Education guidelines and parent input will lead to curriculum revisions, Halstead said.

Call for Spring Grant Applications

The Foundation invites registered charitable organizations to submit funding applications for on-island projects or programs. Criteria, application forms and full application instructions can be found at our new website: www.ssifoundation.ca.

An online application process is now available.

Application deadline: March 31, 2016

For further assistance, please contact admin@saltspringislandfoundation.org



www.ssifoundation.ca

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OPINION



2015 CCNA Awards
Gold - General Excellence | Gold - Front Page | Gold - Editorial Page | Gold - Feature Series (Sean McIntyre & Elizabeth Nolan)
Gold - Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker) | Gold - Agricultural Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Gold - Community Newspaper Magazine (Aqua)
Silver - Editorial (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Newspaper Magazine (Gulf Islander)



2015 BCYCNA Awards
Gold - Environmental Writing (Elizabeth Nolan & Sean McIntyre) | Bronze - General Excellence

EDITORIAL

Fire sale

Many islanders embraced the the 2015 Walker Resource Report on the Salt Spring Fire Protection District, especially when it came to recommendations for better governance.

Some steps the previous board stated were not possible to achieve proved quite doable, such as posting agendas and meeting documents to the fire district website in a timely manner, and having public participation on committees.

One part of the report that people critical of the fire department tend to gloss over, however, is where consultant Richard Walker concluded Salt Spring Fire-Rescue manages its operations "on par or better than most communities in the province" and offers above-average service at slightly below-average provincial cost. Instead, the idea of out-of-control spending has been repeated so often that it is now the dominant narrative.

THE ISSUE:

Fire service levels

WE SAY:

Sound reasoning required

Deciding whether the fire district wants to keep offering first-responder services will be next.

The board has so far balked at accepting the recommendations of two fire chiefs to maintain a "full-service" level on Salt Spring. One reason given in the past for rejecting the highest level was that it could require more firefighters in the officer ranks, which would cost the community more when applied to union members. But the B.C. Fire Commissioner's playbook says service levels are not tied to ranks, only training competencies, so that rationale is not valid. Pender Island's governing body has declared its department full service with just three paid career officers.

There is also leeway in the playbook guidelines. Not everyone in the department must be trained to the highest competency under the full-service model, as long as there are enough highly trained firefighters to perform the designated operations during an incident.

With the bulk of Salt Spring's firefighting force already trained to full-service standards, the only possible savings in dropping those standards would come from not training future recruits to the highest capacity.

The community needs to be informed of the rationale for and ramifications of any decision to reduce the services the fire district provides.

NEW REALITIES



VIEWPOINT by Roxanna Mandryk

Give Trust budget further trimming

The following letter was submitted to Islands Trust Council and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

Re the Islands Trust's 2016-17 budget proposal: As chair of the Gulf Islands Alliance and a resident of Denman Island, one of the islands affected by the budget, I am writing to you about GIA's concerns about several items in the Islands Trust's 2016-17 budget proposed.

While an income increase of \$31,551 is not a large amount in a budget of \$7,215,675, we worry when we see that this increase is under the heading of "Tax growth through new construction." Unless we are misunderstanding what that means, an increase due to construction growth in a budget of an organization whose mandate is to "preserve and protect" seems quite inappropriate. We would love to see that money coming from activities which promote the preservation and protection of land instead.

Many of our comments are the result of having "actual" figures from 2014, not 2015, and therefore may be a bit behind the times, however, since those are the only figures available, that is what we must use as comparative numbers.

In 2014-15, \$28,000 was budgeted for "communications" but in actuality only \$14,676 was spent. In the 2015-16 budget, there's the budget amount again for \$28,000 and now it's there for 2016-17. If only half that amount has been spent historically, why the almost 50 per cent increase?

Likewise in Islands Trust Fund Administration, if only \$80,079 was spent in 2014-15, why budget \$98,000 in both 2015-16 and 2016-17?

In looking at the four lines for Salaries and Benefits, we are pleased to see the increase is being kept at a fairly reasonable rate as compared to the total amount for Salaries and Benefits. How-

ever, from the 2014-15 actuals to the 2016-17 budgeted numbers, we are looking at an increase of \$289,677, going from \$3,999,500 to \$4,289,177. Overall this seems like a big jump and in an organization with a total budget for expenditures of \$7,280,675 and with a predicted shortfall of revenue to expenses of \$65,000, we see an organization which is staff-heavy. The Trust should be spending its money to support the islands that pay its way. We don't see that happening.

In a telecommunications world which is becoming increasingly more competitive, GIA questions an increase in "Telephone" from 2014-15 actual of \$74,122 to 2016-17 budget of \$90,150. Can the Trust not be negotiating better rates?

The category of "Travel" concerns us too. A jump from 2014-15 actuals of \$74,204 to the 2016-17 budget of \$81,500 is 10 per cent. Really? In a world where interest rates and cost of living are so low, why is this number growing so fast?

And, of really great concern to me is the \$145,000 budgeted for "Strategic Plan Objectives." Given that the Strategic Plan is complete, as we understand it, why so much? What is planned that warrants this large expense?

As a previous trustee, I know and acknowledge that your job in budgeting for such a large and geographically diverse organization is not an easy one. However, as we were constantly reminded by our constituents, "There is only one taxpayer!"

GIA urges you to reconsider this budget one more time, use a comb with even finer teeth and see what you can do.

The writer is a former Denman Island Islands Trust trustee and the current chair of the Gulf Islands Alliance.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you noticed an increase in scam attempts?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you concerned with rising federal debt?

39 39
YES NO

Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday

Subscription Rates: In the Gulf Islands \$52.50

Elsewhere in Canada \$88.20* Foreign: \$235.00*

Digital Edition: \$39.85 anywhere | Prices include GST

Digital Edition with Print Edition subscription additional 1yr \$12.60 | 2 yr \$18.90

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837
International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "It's like flying over broccoli."

KIM HANSON, ON TRAVELLING TO ECUADORIAN RAINFOREST

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Do you like the traditional report card, or is there a better way to report student progress?



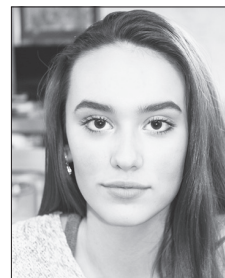
AMY MICHALSKI
I think they're a good idea. I like to get an update on my grades.



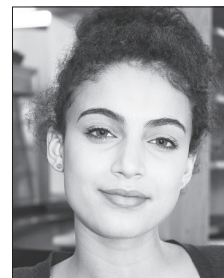
CATHY VILLA GOMEZ
Report cards don't reflect your work effort. It's just a grade that teachers decide because of their belief of what is right or wrong.



CHASE SMITH
I think it's good. I don't have a problem with it.



EDEN WEISS
It's good to work toward higher grades, and show your parents what you've achieved.



SARAH WATKIN
I like report cards. At the end of the year it's nice to see what you've accomplished.

Letters to the editor

Move forward on fire issues

We are concerned at the embarrassing level of sniping at past and present fire trustees in recent letters and articles to the Driftwood and the social media.

Let's hope that the two new trustees, to be elected to the fire protection board in April, will push to move forward from what appears to be a contract negotiations stalemate, and an unusually high level of budget-based complaints.

We believe that the most important issue before the fire protection board today is the relocation of our inadequate Ganges fire hall to the site at Brinkworthy with no land costs.

While carrying on with normal business, trustees must get on with this urgent task before there is some kind of disaster at the present headquarters. The longer this issue is

on the back burner the higher construction costs will continue to climb.

TED HINDS AND KEN LEE,
FORMER SALT SPRING FIRE TRUSTEES

Assessment change needs scrutiny

The Feb. 24 Driftwood reported that local teaching staff are presently reassessing the value of using grades as a means of evaluating student learning ("School district examines assessment").

The claim is made that "[e]very study that has ever investigated the impact on intrinsic motivation of receiving grades has found a negative effect. Extrinsic motivation, which includes a desire to get better grades, is not only different from but also often undermines a desire to learn for its own sake."

Unfortunately for the reader, these sweeping pronouncements are not supported with proper ref-

erences, nor are the terms "intrinsic" and "extrinsic motivation" adequately defined. Which studies again? It seems to me that a meta-study of all the relevant studies is implied by the statement. If so, could we please see the citation?

While it is true that the Driftwood is, in this instance, simply quoting a teacher, one would like to see the basis for such an important judgement properly investigated, with clear references to the relevant literature. Otherwise, one might well be entitled to suspect an agenda other than enhanced student learning lying somewhere behind the School District 64 administration's enthusiasm for the introduction of such changes.

As 21st-century governments grow leaner and meaner, we can be certain that they will be pulling out the stops to find ways to cut costs by promoting two-tiered education. The result could see the children of the "haves" attending private schools, receiv-

ing grades, successfully applying for scholarships and moving on to post-secondary institutions. The children of the "have-nots," on the other hand, would attend over-crowded public schools, perform self-evaluations, receive vague bar-graph "meeting expectations"-type evaluations, and attempt to apply for scholarships and post-secondary education burdened with a very significant handicap.

Sound far-fetched? The article reports that SD 64 is already implementing a number of changes moving our schools in this direction.

I wonder how the U of T or McGill (not to mention Harvard or Oxford) might regard a SD 64 student application portfolio "communicating student learning," instead of one containing the grades that would provide a clear indication of the student's capacities.

MARTIN ADAM,
SALT SPRING

Let's avoid irkedness

Last week's paper referred to people who attended the poorly publicized industrial zoning open house down in Fulford as being "irked."

Why would people who have sacrificed and paid dearly to purchase rural zoned properties in the allegedly preserved and protected areas of the Islands Trust be irked, when a vocal handful of special interests can herd this Trust committee into inflicting industrial encroachment, theft of amenities and devaluation, on these same rural zonings?

Perhaps to avoid further irkedness on future initiatives of influential special interest groupies, the Trust could employ something like plebiscites. To poll support of the actual neighbouring property owners before embarking on the expense of these proposals.

It's not like the trustees and friends are bringing any of their money or land to the table.

Which brings me to my last suggestion.

Perhaps the trustees could lead the way and volunteer their own properties and neighbourhoods for their experiments. So that we rural peasants can truly see the light and the glory, in the manifestation of their brave new world.

TOM PICKETT,
LEE ROAD

Not too funny

Here's some headlines we might be seeing soon.

Trump Triumphs!
Putin Dies Laughing, Russia Mourns
US \$ Passes Afghan Afghani Going Down
Housing Crisis Hits Canadian Border Towns
Enrolment Zooms In Canadian As Second Language Courses
Trudeau Contracts Huge Wall.

Laugh while you can.

BOB WEEDEN,
SALT SPRING

It's time to get to the bottom of St. Mary Lake

BY MAGGIE SQUIRES

While disagreements among scientists may be common, the discussion that follows them may be uncommonly fruitful.

Below is my response to John Sprague's opinion that aeration can be used to improve St. Mary Lake water quality (Feb. 23 edition of the Driftwood).

Of devil thought to dwell at depth in lake And with aeration to the lake vacate.

Beware the devil may not overtake Rain and runoff's role in lake's o'er make.

The lines above are from a poem recited at the end of a SSIWPA-sponsored talk called Three Perceptions of St. Mary Lake Challenged by the SSIWPA 2014-15 Study that was delivered to the public on Oct. 7.

Below are two points (among many) that are made in the recently released report A Guide to St. Mary Lake: Use, Misuse, & Disuse of Artificial Aeration, What is Normal for SML, and Recommenda-

tions for Future Research by Squires (found at <http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca/documents/reports/>).

On the topic of artificial aeration in St. Mary Lake (SML): Artificial aeration of the hypolimnion of the lake can substantially lower (by an order of magnitude) phosphorus-release from sediments but still fail to discernibly reduce lake water phosphorus-level. Proposed is that relatively plentiful iron naturally reduces internal loading and explains the low- to no-change in lake water phosphorus-levels despite a substantial reduction in hypolimnetic phosphorus-level brought on by aeration.

Further, it is posited that the "bigger and better" artificial aerators appear to have triggered an episode of internal loading in SML by disturbing sedimentation and lake sediments and in turn

IN RESPONSE

entraining sulfur into surface waters that lowered the iron-phosphorus binding capacity of lake waters and sediment.

In short, artificial aeration can lead to episodes of internal loading and toxic algal blooms that exacerbate rather than remediate phosphorus-loading. After August 2013 when the aerators were turned off, water quality in SML improved quickly and dramatically, e.g., Secchi depth indicated a higher level of water clarity than has been observed in the lake in the last 40 years and no toxins at all have since been detected in lake water.

On the topic of "normal" seasonal and inter-annual cycles in St. Mary Lake (SML): Over the annual cycle of seasons, "normal" for SML is a clear water phase (low algal biomass in surface waters) during the summer and a turbid water

phase (high algal biomass throughout the water column) during the winter. Across decades, normal for SML seems to be overall a relatively moderate spring phosphorus concentration (between oligotrophic and eutrophic) that is maintained by a mean water residence time of seven years and modest annual loading that is punctuated every decade or so by extreme runoff events that raise phosphorus concentration for from one to several years (for example, 1980-81, 2005-06, and possibly 2015-16).

Indeed, there's more to a lake than meets the eye.

The writer has a Ph.D. in limnology and authored the just-released report titled A Guide to St. Mary Lake: Use, Misuse & Disuse of Artificial Aeration, What is Normal for SML, and Recommendations for Future Research.

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WEDNESDAY

SALT SPRING GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Mormon church. Info: Claudia, 250-538-1708.

SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Harbour House Crofton Room.

SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.

STITCH DIMENSION QUILT GUILD meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from October through June from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church, around the back.

YOUTH CREATIVE WRITING GROUP for ages 9-13 runs at the Salt Spring Library led by Nikky from 4-6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT at Fulford Hall. Focus is on the Boomer demographic. All aspects of fitness are covered using a mindful approach in all exercises. This class is based on functional movement, and offers a low-impact, injury-free environment for any fitness level. Led by Trisha, certified personal trainer. 9-10 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.

CHAIR YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

COMPUTER DROP-IN HELP — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone problems at Salt Spring Literacy. Drop in at 126 Hereford Ave. between 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CRYSTAL BOWLS & VOCAL VIBRATIONS with Adam Huber at SSI Wellness Centre. 7:30 to 9 p.m.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 p.m.

HOT HATHA YOGA at The Nest hot yoga. 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and Moksha-inspired Level 1 hot yoga from 12 to 1 p.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

MEDITATION GROUP suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333.

MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Teachings offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.

PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: anna@bonesforever.com Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance.

SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SWING DANCE at SS Elementary School gym. East-Coast, West-Coast, and Lindy Hop. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Larry Nelson or Wendy Hartnett at 250-537-4118.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

YOGA (MIXED LEVELS) with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness. 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

YOGA with Dorothy Price. At The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m.

YOGA with Jim Dickinson at Salt Spring Seniors at 10 a.m. Bring a yoga mat and towel.

ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7 p.m. Call 250-653-2411 for details. Newcomers always welcome.

ZUMBA TONING with Lee Sigmund at SS Wellness. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

BOOK CLUB meets on the second Thursday at Salt Spring Seniors in the lounge at 1:30 p.m.

LIBRARY BOOK CLUB open to all meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the library. 1 to 3 p.m.

OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room on the first Thursday of the month. Sign-up at 6:45 p.m.; one poem per reader; event begins at 7 p.m. Guest poets read at 7:30.

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION — Group meditations for all who have learned TM. Last Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. Call 778-353-3014 for address and more information. Free introductory lectures by appointment.

EVERY THURSDAY

AL-ANON for friends and families of alcoholics meets at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 noon.

BRIDGE runs at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:45 p.m.

DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

NIA at Fulford Hall Annex. 10 to 11 a.m. (See Tuesday description.) Info: Arleen, 250-653-9235. Call Donna at 250-653-9985 for fee info.

PROBUS group for retired professionals/business people meets on the second Thursday of each month at Meaden Hall at 10 a.m. with special guest speakers each time. Info: probus.ssi@gmail.com

SALTY WHEELS SQUARE DANCE CLUB meets at 734 Upper Ganges Road. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Marilynne, 250-537-5356.

SENIORS LUNCH runs at Salt Spring Seniors at 12 noon.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB beginners class at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with beginners until noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

VINYASA YOGA at The Nest hot yoga. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. **PLUS** Warm Hatha from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

BOOMERFIT at Beaver Point Hall. Focus is on the Boomer demographic. All aspects of fitness are covered using a mindful approach in all exercises. This class is based on functional movement, and offers a low-impact, injury-free environment for any fitness level. 9 to 10 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.

EVERY FRIDAY

BRIDGE GAMES run at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:30 p.m.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors at 10 a.m.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Anna Haltetrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m. Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info/ register: anna@bonesforever.com.

MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:15 p.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

STORYTIME — Ideal for kids aged 3 to 6 and their families. SS Library. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

TANGO PRACTICES for newcomers and old. Top floor of the Core Inn. 8 to 10 p.m. Facebook: Por El Amor del Tango-Salt Spring Tango; Terri at ssi.tango@gmail.com

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

TRADITIONAL YANG STYLE TAI CHI. A robust but gentle system of health beneficial to all. Come join Gordon Muir and the group for a fun, health-restoring workout. SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

WARM HATHA flow yoga at The Nest hot yoga. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

EVERY SATURDAY

DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TECH TUTORING WITH JOHN at the Salt Spring library on Saturdays on the hour from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. All topics, including Macs. Please sign up at the library for the appropriate date and time, complete with contact information and tutoring topic.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

TODDLERTIME at the library for children under four and their families. 10:30 a.m.

VINYASA YOGA at The Nest hot yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund at SSI Wellness Centre. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

SUNDAY

SENIORS' QUIZ NIGHT runs on the first and third Sundays of each month at SS Seniors Centre. 6 p.m.

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP meets on the first three Sundays of every month at Salt Spring Seniors at 10:30 a.m. For weekly program, visit www.saltspringunitarians.com for info.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

EVERY SUNDAY

DANCE TEMPLE SACRED SUNDAYS. A day-time, family-friendly opportunity to dance. Lightly facilitated, conscious dance event. Core Inn (3rd floor 134 McPhillips Ave.) 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

POKER at the Legion. 1 p.m.

EVERY SUNDAY

RED COURT INDOOR TENNIS. Drop in and play at Centre Court (behind the golf course). For ages 16 and over. 3 to 5 p.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — All styles at 210 Cedar Lane. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

MONDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC on the last Monday of each month at SS Seniors. 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

SSI PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the Portlock Park portable. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome. Confirm meeting date at 250-537-4448.

SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Portlock Park portable. 4 to 6 p.m. Public welcome.

TWO TWONIE LUNCH at Salt Spring Seniors on the second and fourth Monday of each month. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 250-537-4604 to reserve your spot in advance!

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund at SSI Wellness Centre. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

EVERY MONDAY

ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2:30 p.m.

CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

EVERYBODY STRETCH — Everyday stretches for the everyday body to classical music with Catherine Bennett. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 190 Reynolds Rd., 9 to 10 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com

MEN'S BASKETBALL. Mondays at the GISS gym. 8 to 10 p.m.

MOKSHA-INSPIRED FLOW HOT YOGA at The Nest hot yoga. 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

READERS' THEATRE meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 10 a.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Applications at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader Tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sessions available at 12 and 1 p.m. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder.

TOASTMASTERS. SSI Toastmasters is a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts who meet in the lower lounge of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church every Monday (except for statutory holidays), 135 Drake Rd. Guests are always welcome. 7 to 9 p.m.

THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

EVERY MONDAY

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL. All ages and levels of play. Clean non-marking shoes required. SIMS gym. 5:30 to 7:10 p.m. Free. Info: Annette at aodurukwe@yahoo.com.

YOGA WITH CELESTE MALLET JASON at SSI Wellness Centre. Hips & Shoulders, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Level 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Yoga on the Wall from 3:45 to 5 p.m.; and Mixed Levels from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

ADULT IMPROV COMEDY WORKSHOP. Free at the GISS Drama Room (N208). 7 to 9 p.m.

ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.

CHAIR YOGA WITH CATE at the Fulford Hall Seniors Room. 2 to 3:15 p.m. cmccwen@shaw.ca, 250-653-9148

CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 p.m.

FLOOR HOCKEY. Drop-in floor hockey at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Info: Normand, 250-653-9798.

LOST CHORDS seniors choir practices at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m.

MOKSHA-INSPIRED FLOW HOT YOGA at The Nest hot yoga. 5:30 to 7 p.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

NIA. The original fusion/fitness program that offers the joy of dance, the power of martial arts, the flexibility and mindfulness of yoga and more. Blissful, sweaty fun that will completely change how you feel about your body and exercise. 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. at SS United Church hall, and 5:45 to 7 p.m. at the Core Inn. Info + pre-register with Arleen at 250-653-9235.

SS SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.

SMARTSOMATICS classes with Nelly Kosteljak at North End Fitness from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-2056 or <http://smartsomatics.shawwebpage.ca/>.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 12:30 to 3 p.m.

SEVEN STARS TAI CHI CLUB — Yang Style at 210 Cedar Lane. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 250-537-5667

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

THE WELCOME GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every day at Central Hall at 12 noon. More Salt Spring AA info: 250-221-1559.

UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

VINYASA FLOW at The Nest hot yoga. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Info: theneshotযোগ@gmail.com

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — Yin Style and Restorative. SS Centre of Yoga. 5 to 6 p.m.



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FOCUS on EDUCATION

LEARNING

Pender Island School embraces place-based learning

Newest example of program with ecological heart

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Reviews from the first semester of a new ecological-themed class on Pender Island are giving parents cause for celebration, and students are having fun and learning something too.

"They come home happy, stimulated and eager to learn more, and never wanting to miss a day or even be late lest they miss out on something," reads part of a letter submitted to School District 64 trustees.

The letter, signed by 10 parents whose children recently completed the first semester of a new place-based education concept, gushes with praise and appreciation for the new opportunity.

Parent Roz Kempe said students sit keenly listening to stories about their island's history and ecology, then erupt into a



Pender place-based students and staff gather around the fire pit.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

hive of activity for a hands-on word-play game. Since the class began earlier this school year, students have built a disc golf

course, undertaken weekly field trips, and learned to live and learn in a mixed-age classroom. With the onset of spring, stu-

dents will take an active role in the planting of crops and animal care.

"Everyone is invited to let their

creativity and spontaneity safely unfold while acting, writing stories or inventing games," Kempe said.

Kempe was among a delegation of Pender parents who approached the Gulf Islands School District with a pitch to bring a place-based learning to the island.

Placed-based education isn't a new concept; a similar school on Saturna Island has been running strong since 2006. Examples thrive in pockets elsewhere in British Columbia and across North America.

The term was coined in the early '90s by teachers who sought to inject a dash of the real world into the classroom. The programs do so by using students' environs as a primary learning resource and motivator. As such, teachers in place-based classrooms put a big emphasis on localness in lesson plans, whether in languages, science, math or social studies.

PENDER continued on 12



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FOCUS on EDUCATION

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Time to Play film explores benefits of holistic learning

Kim Hunter creation

shown at Golden Tree Farm next Friday, March 11.

Time to Play explores the early childhood education centre of Salt Spring's Kim Hunter, who also produced and directed the film.

A film that advocates allowing for a child's natural development in a holistic environment will be

People will see children learn and explore the world around them while experts Adam Blanning and Joy Winchell offer insight into the need for free play in the development of healthy children.

"My hope with this film is that it can be used as a 'springboard' for conversations about what we might do better in the area of meeting the developmental needs of the early years of child-

hood," Hunter states on the film's website: www.timetoplayfilm.com.

The film night begins at 7 p.m. at the farm located at 150 Suffolk Rd.



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Great outdoors inspires kids

PENDER

continued from 11

Students at the Pender school, for example, head into a Garry oak meadow to study biology or visit with local authors as part of their English component. Last fall, the class explored an orchard to pick pears and press more than 80 litres of juice. Lessons from the experience included math, art, storytelling and plenty of physical activity.

After some preliminary research, school district board members acknowledged the strong demand for such a program. Anna Herlitz, the Pender school trustee, said the concept also aligned well with the provincial government's ongoing curriculum transformation and the needs of home-schooled children.

"A keen interest in our beautiful natural environment seems to be something Pender people of all ages have in common, and the addition of an ecologically based program seems like a natural fit for Pender Island," Herlitz said. "With our many natural parks and wildlife areas in the Gulf Islands, it may well be that we are uniquely situated to make great use of place-based learning."

The 16 students in the Pender school ecological class range from nine to 15 years of age in grades 4 to 8. That's considerably larger than other mixed classrooms, but really serves to underscore the learning process' cooperative nature, according to teacher Steve Dunsmuir.

"There is very much a family atmosphere," he said, adding that the class includes eight sets of siblings. "Many of the families know each other and are interconnected in the Pender community."

Dunsmuir's involvement in place-based learning dates back nearly a decade



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pender students on an outing at the Wein farm.

to when he launched the Saturna Environmental Education Centre as part of his master's thesis. The program received instant acclaim from students, parents and Dunsmuir's peers, and precipitated the creation of the MYSEEC for middle-years students on Salt Spring.

"There is very much a family atmosphere."

STEVE DUNSMUIR
Environmental educator
SD64

"This new ecological learning community is another step in my educational journey," he said. "I have adapted many of the ideas, structures, activities, and learning objectives from my work on Saturna and Salt Spring but also my previous 20 years as a teacher in the South Peace School District."

"What I have tried to do with my new role on Pender is inspired by 30-plus years of learning adventures as an environmental educator."

Although both "learning communities" are place-based, Saturna runs three

days a week while Pender is a regular four-day-per-week day program. Saturna's students travel from other islands and areas, and stay overnight in cabins near the school, whereas Pender's students are all local children.

Dunsmuir's goal is to see the classes, including similar programs at elementary schools at Fulford and Fernwood, support and inspire one another. The ability to create an interconnected flow of ecological learning from kindergarten to Grade 12 would offer parents and students in the Gulf Islands more educational options, something Dunsmuir feels is sorely missing in the traditional school model.

"This class and way of learning is a great fit for many of our students and their families, just as other classes in our school are great fits for their students and families," he said. "Not all kids would have a blast doing what we do. Not all families would be enthusiastic about our activities and philosophies."

"When we provide a range of choices, we can ensure that more and more kids and their families feel positive and excited about their educational experience."

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FOCUS on EDUCATION

OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING

Spring break programs meet wide range of interests

Arts, cooking and adventure available this year

Salt Spring families looking for a little home-based excitement for their children over spring break this year will find plenty of options to choose from.

Whether their kids are keen to spend time outside, get started on the road to culinary greatness or express themselves in writing, music or visual arts, there is something for them.

The Salt Spring Public Library will run its second annual Spring Break Library Camp from March 22 to March 31, with a free program open to everyone ages four to 12.

This year's camp boasts a variety of exciting events and presenters, including two showings of National Film Board movies, a presentation about coral reef fish with bizarre names, and a session with adult author Ingrid Koivukangas. In addition, there will be plenty of fun crafts, activities and other presentations to enjoy, such as yoga and science demonstrations.

Spring Break Library Camp runs Tuesday to Thursday each week, with sessions for kids in kindergarten through Grade 2 held every day from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.,

and for grades 3 to 5 students from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Preregistration is necessary to ensure space.

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission is offering several options on its calendar. An adventure camp for children ages six to 12 will help participants stay active with a different fun theme every day from Monday, March 21 to Thursday, March 24. Kids will play new games, play sports, make crafts and go swimming.

The popular Young Chef Camp co-hosted by Thrifty Foods is back for nine- to 12-year-olds who want to learn to cook. This fun and energizing five-day camp will focus on hands-on nutritional snack preparation and food skills in the kitchen. The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 21 to 25.

An art and music camp will see kids ages nine to 12 spend their mornings doing hands-on visual art activities and afternoons making music with Suzanne Gay. The camp runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 29 to April 1.

PARC teams up with the Salt Spring Arts Academy for a pottery workshop where kids ages five to seven can make items out of clay to sell or give as presents. Participants will learn pottery as an art form and

explore the basics of forming and shaping clay, glazing, firing and designing techniques. The session runs from 9 a.m. to noon, March 21 to 24.

And under its own programming, the Salt Spring Arts Academy invites students to act, sing and dance with Sue Newman with a musical theatre camp running from March 21 to 25. The camp is for ages 7 and up, and will include a showcase for friends and family on the final day.

The Salt Spring Arts Council and arts educator Tracy Harrison have a spring break offering as well. Harrison will lead a March 21 to 23 workshop for youth ages nine to 14 called Frida, Georgia and Emily Kid Size, where students study three iconic female artists: Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe and Emily Carr.

Registration is through the arts council's Workshops on the Rock initiative at wor@ssartscouncil.com, or 250-538-8447.

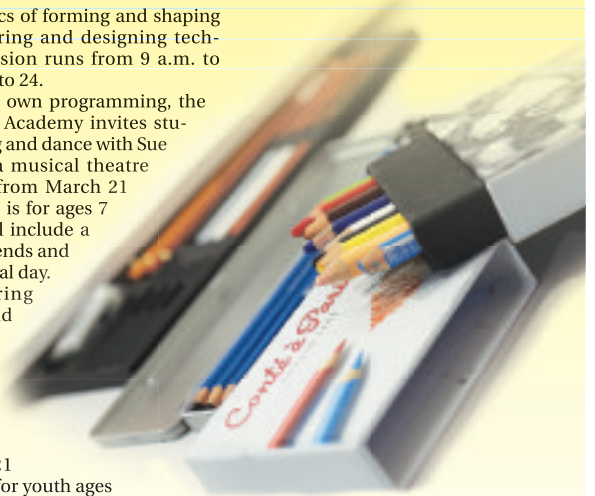


PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Materials used in a recent youth arts workshop held at ArtSpring.

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ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

READY TO PLAY: Members of Salt Spring's Grand(m)others to Grandmothers group set up the Scrabble board in preparation for the eighth annual event on March 8, 10 and 12. See page 21 for a story about the Stephen Lewis Foundation fundraiser.

RANTS *and* Roses

Rants

Dog owners who walk their dogs in Mouat Park, please pick up your dogs' excrements. Every week, two classes of Salt Spring Elementary School kindergarten children play in the woods and too often walk into dog "piles." Not a good experience for anyone. M. Beaudoin

Roses

A big green armchair full of roses for emergency room staff at Lady Minto, for their caring expertise, patience and cheery manner. I can truly now breathe easier, thanks to your ministrations and I am so thankful that you are there for all of us. Betty

Happy smiling roses to the people for coming to the family dance night. It couldn't

happen without you guys! Also, beautiful smiling roses to Country Grocer for the donated goodies, Marianne and Anju for helping out at the door with greeting and concessions, Ting and Safiya for helping with the cleaning up, and a bunch of mallet roses to Chris Dixon for teaching us the complex awesome Zimbabwean music! Ruwadzano Marimba Band



"I feel strongly that by listening to people, we are making better project decisions."

- Lexa Hobenshield, External Relations Manager, Kinder Morgan Canada

For more than four years, we've worked together with our neighbours and local communities to hear what they have to say about our proposed pipeline expansion. By listening closely and having an open dialogue, we've been able to create a stronger, safer and more responsive project. We are working to meet all the requirements of the regulators, as well as consulting with communities, Indigenous people, government agencies and municipalities – and we'll continue to work with them throughout development, construction and operations. We know how critical it is to get this right. Most importantly, we're acting on what we hear with significant changes to the Project.

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- A commitment to offset any greenhouse gas emissions resulting from construction.
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- An increase in pipeline wall thickness in sensitive areas, such as urban locations and at river crossings.
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ARTS EDUCATION

Painters Guild members make the most of educational opportunities



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

From left, Salt Spring Painters Guild member Joanne Sibley sketches tango dancer Laura Klein at the guild's Feb. 24 workshop session at ArtSpring. Educational events are a major part of guild activities.

Workshop results shared at ArtSpring lobby show

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of the 110-strong Salt Spring Painters Guild will show some results of their ongoing exploration into new forms and methods in the ArtSpring lobby throughout the month of March.

Providing a fascinating window into the artists' work over the past season, the show will include new pieces that are the products of the groups' workshop program and paintings that demonstrate their creators' ongoing artistic development.

Going strong since it was first formed in 1972, the painters' guild exists to offer local artists ongoing training opportunities on their home ground. The weekly program includes drawing classes and workshops on various topics, which are taught by members with a special expertise, visiting instructors, or even via DVD.

"We try to please with classes in different mediums, because there are all kinds of people [in the guild]," said president Bernadette Mertens-McAllister. "I like to try everything."

Just last week, guild members had the opportunity to study tango dancers in action on the ArtSpring stage, with professional theatre lighting provided by Marv Coulthard. Participants captured movement with initial sketches and also took photos

for later use.

As Mertens-McAllister explained, there is a trick to producing a successful painting by these means.

"People will take their photos and will have the energy of the feeling they had when they were doing their sketches, and put that energy into their paintings," she said. "A lot of people paint from photos, and they have to go back to the time they took the photo. It's not a matter of just putting the form on the page."

"We try to please with classes in different mediums, because there are all kinds of people [in the guild]."

BERNADETTE MERTENS-MCAllISTER

President,
Salt Spring Painters Guild

Another workshop held earlier in February focused on wood-cut printing and was taught by Richard York, an artist who has a studio gallery in Fulford and also shows at Duthie Gallery. York's own work is complex, but he started the guild off with a multi-colour ink mono-print.

"It's a wonderful technique in that it's actually easy for people to do," Mertens-McAllister said.

Amy Melious and Rosamund Dupuy are two of the other established local artists who have taken time to share their special skills in guild workshops. Participants had the opportunity to learn photo transfer techniques for art cards with Melious last fall. Dupuy is a master of oil painting using the palette knife and a signature member of the Federation of Canadian Artists.

Coming up in the calendar, the guild is offering a six-day water-colour course for beginners, which was filled in just three days. Mertens-McAllister said events like this tend to bring new members to the group, as well as giving current members a chance to try something out of their comfort zone.

"We thought of this workshop because there are so many people that are afraid of watercolour. They are shy, so we asked them to come out of the closet and to be playful in the moment," she said.

Examples from these workshops and more will be on display at ArtSpring for the month, in an eclectic and diverse show with something of interest for everybody.

Anyone who is interested in seeing what the guild has to offer in person can drop in on a session. Drawing classes take place every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at ArtSpring. Morning and full-day workshops run concurrently. More information is available at ssipaintersguild.wordpress.com.

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ARTS & CRAFTS

Creativity takes Vancouver by storm

Salt Spring in the City shares the magic

For a third year running, Salt Spring in the City — a pop-up village market featuring Salt Spring vendors — returns to Vancouver from March 4 to 6 to showcase the treasures and the flavours of the Salish Sea.

Over 30 exhibitors will bring the unique Salt Spring experience to the big city with organizers working for months to orchestrate another take-over of Main Street. The Driftwood caught up with the five producers of the show and asked them for details on what Vancouverites can expect.

Q. Why export the Salt Spring experience to Vancouver?

Not everyone is lucky enough to visit Salt Spring and take in its delicious, artistic quirkiness and glory. So we thought we'd package the magic and wrap familiar favourites into a weekend artisan show and take it right into the heart of Vancouver.

When you live here (on Salt Spring) it's easy to believe you are at the centre of the universe. However, a trip to the big city quickly reminds you that there is a whole world out there that has yet to venture over. This little event gives Vancouverites, who are aching to come to the island in the summer, some late winter relief and for those who've heard about Salt Spring, but haven't mustered up the energy to visit, it's an invitation they cannot refuse.

Q. How long does it take organizers to prepare for this showcase?

A. In all honesty, we work year round on this project, but we usually start in October with a meeting, then a photo shoot, and from there the workload begins to pile up exponentially, all leading up to the big date in March.

The great part for us is that we share such a wonderful working dynamic with one another that somehow, under all the pressure, we still share so much laughter



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Producers of Salt Spring in the City are, from left, Cheyenne Goh, Julie MacKinnon, Zandra Stratford, Rachel Hughes and Deanna Milligan.

together. It makes our efforts all the more worthwhile.

Q. What is the best part of representing Salt Spring out in the world?

A. We feel a real sense of community pride. In fact, we radiate while doing the show. Most of our vendors know how lonely it can feel when they do "off-island" shows and are put amongst strangers as their booth neighbours. Salt Spring in the City is the only show where just about every vendor knows the other. There is trust, friendliness, camaraderie and a sense of well being that can only come from knowing that we're part of a community. And this comes across to the visitors to the show.

Q. What can people expect to see, to taste?

A. Lots of fresh designs, unexpected combinations, earth-friendly products and yummy food and drink.

Q. What has been the reaction of those attending the show in the past?

A. City folks are endlessly thrilled by the idea that to them we represent something of a dream — a bunch of magical unicorns really — artists, makers, all living on an island in paradise and making it work. Some are surprised at the quality of the work and the contemporary innovation they get to see at the show. While still others are just happy they don't have to wait till the summer to get the Salt Spring "vibe."

Visitors to the show will have a unique opportunity to discover the best of what our island has to offer, as well as win an exciting array of prizes. If you have friends or family in Vancouver, be sure to let them know that the first 25 people through the door each day receive a gift of Salt Spring Island goodies. Well worth spreading the word, Salt Spring in the City takes place at Heritage Hall in Vancouver on Main Street at 15th Avenue.

For more information, see www.saltspringinthecity.com.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Paradise revealed at lake awareness events

MONAD show has profound impact

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Jumping into St. Mary Lake at the end of February might be a scary thing to do, but a MONAD production in the ArtSpring gallery last week rewarded those who took the leap.

Parade Lost? No Action is Not an Option is the creation of dancers Anna Haltetrecht and Luis Araujo, who were assisted by audio-visual wizard Daryl Chonka and other island talents for performance-art presentations on Feb. 24 and 27.

Audience chairs were set around a clearly delineated St. Mary Lake in which Haltetrecht and Araujo performed, while a video stream of images from above and below the lake, industrial activities and scenes from the natural world were projected on the walls, ceiling and performing surface. With sound effects, shadows and



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Luis Araujo in stuffed animal costume.

music included, the impact was stunning.

Haltetrecht and Araujo have had long and varied careers in dance, and their artistic experience and passion for the subject of environmental protection was strongly expressed in their movements, whether fluid and floating or dramatic and stressed.

The costumes were play-

ful and beguiling. On one of Araujo's costumes, which was covered with stuffed animals, the monkeys were attached to his back. Pom-poms on palms became piercing eyes, when needed. Haltetrecht's shiny trash-bag guise piqued our curiosity and then surprised us.

People were clearly entranced by what was unfolding in front of them, whether it was the performers' movements and facial expressions, the costumes or the images appearing on the walls and floor.

The piece allowed people to interpret messages and meanings in a variety of ways. A couple of ideas that surfaced for me were that humans are joking around and partying while their watersheds and lakes are being degraded, and that the health of the lake's water reflects ourselves and our priorities if we look into it.

Some audience participation was required, but it was definitely of a benign variety: nothing to fear and extremely

effective.

Just as we were challenged to look at St. Mary Lake through invigorated eyes, it was wonderful to see the ArtSpring gallery space transformed and used in such a different way.

Parade Lost? No Action is Not an Option included other awareness-raising events besides the two performances: a free movement workshop in the lake-gallery area on Thursday, an open invitation for people to explore the space on their own on Friday and environmental talks on four aspects of St. Mary Lake on Saturday.

"We have got great feedback from people," said Haltetrecht on Monday. "We really did reach people, touching them deeply in many ways."

"Bridging art and science in our performance piece was very important to us... Spreading the word through art can make it so potent and memorable."

A video of a show and the environmental talk should be available later in the year.

EXHIBITIONS

Joy of junk repurposing shared at show

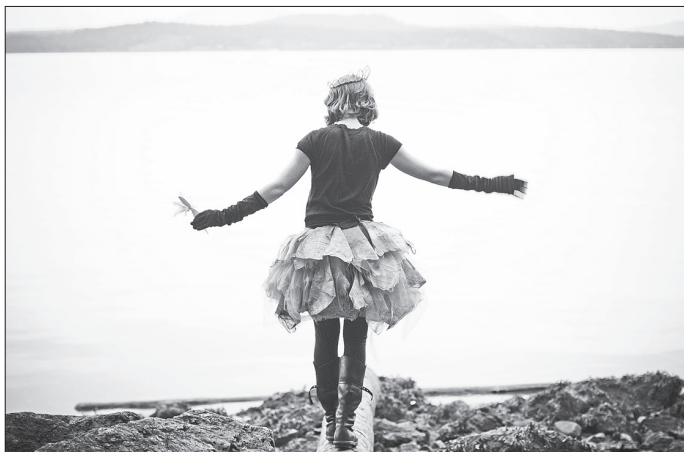


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Artist Jaime Murdoch explores the shoreline wearing a tutu embedded with love letters, which is part of the Tossed and Found exhibit opening at Salt Spring Gallery next Friday, March 11.

Found materials inspire
Tossed and Found exhibit at
Salt Spring Gallery

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A group calling itself "the Dirty Dozen" is set to reveal a strong passion for using materials not typically considered by the fine art world, with the Tossed and Found show opening at the Salt Spring Gallery on Friday, March 11.

The brainchild of Shirley Command, who brought the idea into reality with help from Jaime Murdoch, the show unites a number of local artists who delight in making new pieces out of old bits. While Command studied graphic design and Murdoch has a degree in textile art, many of the others involved are newcomers to the scene who have been drawn to create by the materials around them.

"What I find exciting is most of the other artists have never had a show before," Command said. "And there

are people who didn't even know they were artists. A lot of us were more craft than art, so this was a way to encourage them to stretch."

Murdoch said Command's idea for the show completely fit with what her work is about.

**"For us, the thrift store
and recycling depots are
like treasure chests."**

JAIME MURDOCH
Tossed and Found show artist

"It's really such a joy to help bring it to fruition," she said.

Murdoch's ethically driven aesthetic has produced memorable products like the Factory Schmactory line of shopping bags upcycled from old T-shirts. Her artworks include fabric woven from the fragments of old ropes salvaged from Tofino beaches, and a tutu embedded with love letters written by former beaus (solving the problem of whether to archive them in

the typical shoebox under the bed or throw them out). Another piece incorporates dryer lint.

Command has been making and selling practical pieces like coat hooks and decorated mirrors using recycled window frames, metal pieces and other interesting finds for the past couple of years. Creating the exhibition has allowed her to stretch as well, and to put her bits and bobs together just for art's sake.

"I think this show is going to attract people who don't usually go to art galleries. It's not highbrow art; it kind of breaks down the barriers," Command said.

"This show also says something about waste. It kind of reminds us how much crap is out there."

"For us, the thrift store and recycling depots are like treasure chests," Murdoch said.

Command's open invitation to join the exhibition netted an initial baker's dozen of 13 local participants — which is more than enough to fill Salt Spring Gallery's feature exhibition space — plus a waiting list of five people who would like to sign on for the next show.

The first edition features full-time artist Peter Allan and young emerging artists like Ceilidh Divers and Hugh Finer. There are names that might be familiar from another context, like Ron Dewar of Me & Ron's Towing, who will present original lamps with components sourced from Lions garage sale finds, and Laurie Blakely, who is lately to be seen on the community theatre stage. Alison Sparshu has spent 20 years shoeing horses, and transforms the cast-off iron pieces in surprising ways.

Other artists in the show are Jessica Elliot, Rae-anne Huth, Marnie Roper, Nycki Samuels and Niki Verzuh Smith.

The show opens with a reception starting at 5 p.m. on March 11, and continues on to March 24.

Support for the exhibition has come from a Salt Spring Arts Council grant and from Salt Spring Gallery, whose members took care of promotional materials.

For more information see the Tossed and Found page on Facebook.

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Star Wars fans ready for galactic treat

Trilogy presentation
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Master impressionist Charles Ross is set to take an ArtSpring audience for a non-stop blast through three Star Wars films this Thursday, March 3.

"This is a must-see for die-hard fans of the films and newbies alike," states an ArtSpring press release about the One Man Star Wars Trilogy. "Come dressed as your favourite Star Wars character!"

From the producer of One Man Lord of the Rings, which was presented last season at ArtSpring, comes



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Charles Ross with a light saber in his Star Wars mode.

the only Star Wars parody permitted by Lucasfilm Ltd.

Ross will share his version of A New Hope, The Empire Strikes Back and

The Return of the Jedi in the all-ages show that begins at 7:30 p.m.

"Much of Ross' childhood was spent in a galaxy far, far away, watching Star

Wars videos over and over and over again. The result of this misspent youth is his hysterical One Man Star Wars Trilogy, where he single-handedly plays all the characters, sings the music, flies the ships, fights the battles and condenses the plots into one hilarious show.

"If you've already seen the movies, read the books and named your first-born Skywalker, Ross' zany take on Star Wars is right up your alley and sure to leave a lasting impression."

The Chicago Tribune described the show as "off-the-wall fun" and Broadway World said, "May the farce be with you!"

what's on this week



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| Wed. Mar 2 | Thur. Mar 3 | Fri. Mar 4 | Sat. Mar 5 | Sun. Mar 6 | Mon. Mar 7 | Tue. Mar 8 |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Music & Munch. Alan Moberg performs for Music and Munch free recital at All Saints. 12:10 p.m. Followed by an optional lunch prepared by the Anglican Caterers. ACTIVITIES SSI Painters Guild Art Workshops and Life Drawing. Every Wednesday to May 4. ArtSpring Gallery. 9:30 a.m. Computer Drop-in Help. Free help with tablet, smartphone, computer issues every Wednesday at Elma Rubright Learning Centre (Salt Spring Literacy). 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Salt Spring Historical Society. Brian Smallshaw speaks on the dispossession of the Japanese-Canadian lands on Salt Spring during World War II. Central Hall. 2 p.m. Poker Night. Hosted by Rebekah every Wednesday at The Local. Sign up by 6:30 p.m. Start playing at 7 p.m. Songjam. Pub-style sing along to the soundtracks of our lives. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m. | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT One Man Star Wars. A one-hour, high energy blast through the original three films, with just one cast member. Come dressed as your favourite Star Wars character. ArtSpring. Bar sales open 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30. Open Mic Night with Ross & Dave. Every Thursday at Moby's Pub. 8 p.m. ACTIVITIES Community Info Meeting & Public Hearing. Islands Trust meeting and hearing on proposed Bylaw 484 regarding septic system setbacks in the Grantville/Fort Street area. Lions Hall. Info meeting from 5 to 6 p.m., public hearing begins at 6:30 p.m. Poetry Open Mic: Featured Poet Jane Munro. Reader sign-up at 6:45. One poem per reader. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m. Dance Temple Thursdays. A lightly facilitated community gathering to tune in, join in, celebrate, meditate and unwind. Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Bruce Trail Slide Show Presentation. Susan Hannon gives presentation about Bruce Trail, on the edge of the World Biosphere Reserve of the Niagara Escarpment. SS United Church. 7 p.m. | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Marianne Grittani. Live music by local talented musicians, plus free appies made by Dagwoods Restaurant. The Local bar. 5 to 8 p.m. Alan Moberg. Live music at the Legion Lounge. 7 to 10 p.m. DJ Boomtown. DJ music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. ACTIVITIES Friday Adventure Camp For Kids. An action-packed day of games, arts & crafts and swimming for kids aged 6 through 12. Salt Spring Elementary School gym. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Register through PARC: 250-537-4448. Storytime at the Library. Stories, songs and interactive activities suitable for children 3 to 6 years old. Salt Spring Island Public Library. 10:30 a.m. World Day of Prayer 2016. Annual interfaith service at Community Gospel Chapel. 1:30 p.m. Salt Spring Film Festival. Opening night gala with showing of Landfill Harmonic. Gulf Islands Secondary School. 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Soul Shakedown. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. ACTIVITIES Met Opera Broadcast: Manon Lescaut. Soprano Kristine Opolais and tenor Jonas Kaufmann join forces in Puccini's obsessive love story. Director Richard Eyre places the action in occupied France in a film noir setting. ArtSpring. 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Salt Spring Film Festival. Films at Gulf Islands Secondary School, plus Social Justice Bazaar. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. CPR Level C Recert. Course for previously certified CPR Level-C holders to recertify their qualifications. Community Gospel Chapel. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register through PARC: 250-537-4448. Standard First Aid Recert. Completion of this course will recertify participants with their Standard First Aid and CPR-C for three years. Community Gospel Chapel. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register through PARC: 250-537-4448. Death Cafe. Join Salt Spring Hospice facilitators for open, honest and genuine dialogue about death. Free. ArtSpring Lobby. 2 to 4 p.m. SOLD OUT: John Vaillant & Salt Spring Film Premiere of Hadwin's Judgement. ArtSpring. 7 p.m. | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Meghan McKillop & Tyler Burton. Live music at the Salt Spring Inn. 6 to 9 p.m. ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Film Festival. See Saturday's listing. Island Comfort Quilts Quilting Bee. Help with all tasks involved with making comfort quilts and bags. Email islandcomfortquilts@shaw.ca or phone 250-537-5302 to confirm attendance in order to help with planning. Salt Spring Farmers' Institute. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dance Temple Sacred Sundays. Dance Temple presents a day-time, family-friendly opportunity to dance. Lightly facilitated, conscious dance event. Core Inn 3rd floor. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Drop-in Fulford Hall Rollerblading. Every Sunday at Fulford Hall for all ages from 2 to 4 p.m. Seniors Centre Trivia Night. Every first and third Sunday of the month at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 6 p.m. | ACTIVITIES Salt Spring Island Toastmasters. A dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts meet every Monday in the lower lounge of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church on Drake Road. Guests are always welcome. 7 to 9 p.m. | ACTIVITIES Manifesting & Celebrating Abundance. Workshop with Tracy Harrison for International Women's Day. Mondo Trading. 6 to 9 p.m. Info/register: tracy@artbyharrison.com Improv Theatre Workshop. The Salt Spring Improv Workshop meets every Tuesday night for fun and silly improv games. Everyone age 15 and up is welcome. GISS Room N208. 7 to 9 p.m. Drop-in Floor Hockey. Every Tuesday at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Info: Normand, 250-653-9798. |
| | Tue. Mar 8 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Maidens, Mothers and Crones Show. Dancers, poets, singers, actresses and aerial artists perform for annual International Women's Day event at ArtSpring. 8 p.m. Fundraiser for the Salt Spring Arts Academy. ACTIVITIES Grand(m)others to Grandmothers Scrabble Fundraiser. Scrabble players of all levels are invited to come out for some fun, food and friendship in week-long series of games and silent auction to support African grandmothers and the orphaned children in their care. Proceeds to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Salt Spring Inn. 2 to 4 p.m. International Women's Day Celebration. Screening of NFB's Prairie Women film, with discussion to follow. Library Program Room. 2 to 4 p.m. A Canadian Federation of University Women event. | Wed. Mar 9 ACTIVITIES George Ehring's Music Appreciation. George Ehring shares his knowledge of classical music in fun and entertaining lecture series beginning tonight. ArtSpring. 7 p.m. Register through ArtSpring. Women Write: An Evening of Canadian Women Writers. Readings from Julie Paul of Victoria, Kathleen Winter of Montreal and Kathy Page of Salt Spring. Salt Spring Library Program Room. 7 p.m. Computer Drop-in Help. See last Wednesday's listing. SSI Painters Guild Art Workshops and Life Drawing. See last Wednesday's listing. Poker Night at the Local. See last Wednesday's listing. Songjam. See last Wednesday's listing. | | | | |

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EXHIBITIONS

- **Salt Spring Gallery** holds a "New year. New art. New artists. New beginnings" show running at the McPhillips Avenue gallery through March 3.
- **Anna Gustafson's** Across the River exhibition runs in the **Salt Spring Library Program Room** through the month of March during regular library hours when the program room is not otherwise in use.
- **Salt Spring Painters' Guild** members show work in the **ArtSpring** lobby through the month of March.
- **Sharada Filkow** has paintings on the walls in **Salt Spring Coffee Co.** in Ganges.
- **Salt Spring Gallery** artists have work hanging in **Island Savings**.

www.driftwoodgulfislandsmedia.com/calendar/

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D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

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AGRICULTURE

Poultry club delivers antidote to industrial farming

Backyard flocks for meat or eggs

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

With the longer days of spring arriving, March and April are the perfect months to pick up some chicks and get started raising home-grown chickens, turkeys or ducks.

Those with little experience of animal husbandry, or just anyone who would like to share in the collective knowledge of a passionate group of farmers, is advised to join the Salt Spring Poultry Club, which has been promoting local food production for the past eight years.

A promise made last month by Canadian fast food giant Tim Hortons/Burger King to start sourcing cage-free eggs by 2025 made headlines and received kudos from animal rights groups. By the time their deadline rolls around, the Salt Spring Poultry Club will have been doing its part to support more humane meat production and healthier flocks for close to two decades.

"It's not just a food thing but also a hobby," said Michael Hogan, who co-chairs the club along with Jenny McKee.

"We have a lot of fun," long-time club member Ted Baker agreed.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Austin Baker visits with some chickens in the flock of Salt Spring Poultry Club member Michael Hogan.

The club was started by Donna Ateah and Pat Donnelly, who wanted to promote the selling of local chickens and also happened to have a lot of chicks on hand they wanted to disperse. Baker describes the era as the "Salt Spring poultry depression" — a time when new government regulations had limited slaughtering possibilities, with the effect that local meat production had dramatically decreased.

At the same time, commercial egg

layers were dominated by just a few breeds. With the successful establishment of the Salt Spring Abattoir making on-island slaughter and farm gate sales possible once again, many people are choosing to grow pasture meat birds for the table in addition to producing eggs.

The importance that fowl can play in small-scale farming was clearly underlined at last year's fall fair, which had the inspired theme of "Poultry in Motion."

"The fall fair was really important, because I think the poultry exhibit was the most exciting part of the show. It was a really big hit," said Caroline Hickman, a livestock farmer who joined the club in its early days because it sounded like fun.

After establishing a poultry swap that existed for the first few years, the club branched out to hosting monthly meetings, offering incubation services for a fee and building up a large information resource. They have recently added a second incubator to allow for separate processes for chicken and duck eggs, which mature at different rates. Both are managed by master hatcher Hickman.

Club members also strive to share the information needed to make poultry raising more doable in this community. Baker observed that many people move here having past poultry experience, but find the local conditions different from what they're used to. Around 12 core members answer questions through the club's website and a Google group. Workshops are offered periodically on topics like how to build up and care for a backyard flock and how to build the perfect chicken coop.

Some of the top concerns revolve around local predators (domestic

dogs turn out to be the most lethal to island flocks), and pests and parasites like mites.

"The resistance to modern chemicals is really getting to be a huge issue," Hickman noted.

With the knowledge that treatment methods that act on a bio-mechanical level work best, the club has been able to group buy lots of sulphur powder (a natural treatment that was popular 100 years ago and then fell out of fashion). In related activity, the club is talking about the possibility of a joint feed purchase to save dollars.

From the beginning, Salt Spring Poultry Club members have been passionate about keeping heritage breeds alive and just as interested in building food security. And when it comes to global reach, poultry is on top in terms of ease of production, efficient conversion to food and even cultural acceptance.

That makes poultry a great entry into sustainable agriculture.

"We can grow our food here. It doesn't have to come from Calgary or California or China," said president Michael Hogan. "So that's fun too, seeing people working to raise food in their backyards."

More information about starting a flock, poultry breeds, club meeting dates and much more is available at saltspringpoultry.com.

PETS

New home needed for 'people turtle' Raphael

Red-eared slider on Salt Spring

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

A Salt Spring man is looking for a pet lover to assume ownership of his turtle.

Brian Marshall has had the red-eared slider turtle named Raphael for more than 20 years and they've lived on Salt Spring since 2014. But Marshall now finds himself with greater family responsibilities and can't spend enough time with Raphael.

"I want somebody else

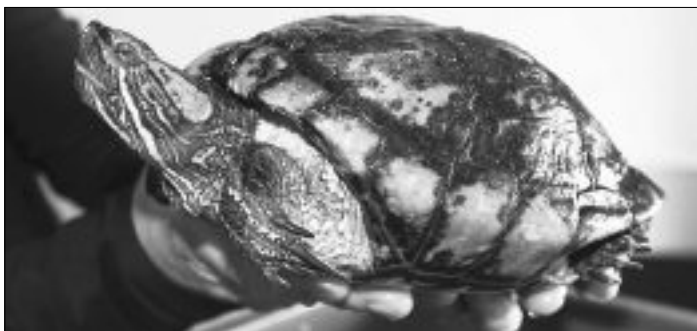


PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Raphael, a red-eared slider who is looking for a home.

who loves pets to take him," said Marshall.

In other words, he

doesn't want Raphael transformed into a tureen of soup.

Marshall worked for the B.C. Cancer Agency for many years and got

Raphael from a nurse there in 1994. She had three turtles at the time, and released the other two into Central Park in Burnaby.

"He's a real 'people turtle' too," said Marshall.

A visit by Raphael to the Driftwood office on Friday confirmed that is the case.

Anyone with a serious interest in accepting Raphael into their home should call Marshall for more information at 604-931-5728.

The average life-span of a red-eared slider is 30 years, although some live between 50 and 70 years.

FAITH

Cuba inspires World Day of Prayer

Annual event on March 4

Community Gospel Chapel hosts this Friday's World Day of Prayer event, with a theme of "Receive children. Receive me" highlighting the hearts and prayers of the Christian women of Cuba.

On Friday, March 4, Christians in more than 170 coun-

tries and in 2,000 communities across Canada will gather to learn about, pray for and celebrate Cuba in solidarity with the women of Cuba through the World Day of Prayer.

Salt Spring's event runs from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

For more information about the World Day of Prayer in Canada, see the website of the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada at www.wicc.org.



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This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor

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TIP OF THE WEEK

It is eclipse season again. It occurs about every five or six months. This time, we will experience both a Solar and a Lunar Eclipse in the same month but they will straddle two seasons. The Solar Eclipse is taking place on March 8 here in North America at 18 Pisces 56 and the Lunar Eclipse occurs on March 23 at 3 Libra 17. The following is a basic breakdown for how each sign will be influenced: Aries = really seeing others for who they are and exercising empathy, compassion and forgiveness as necessary. Taurus = addressing your unique and individuated needs and applying them into your daily rhythm. Gemini = a desire to be seen and heard for your efforts and past performances. Cancer = a time to travel to your favorite escape, which could occur via a good novel, as well as in fact. Leo = a deep investigation into factual knowledge; a good time to do taxes. Virgo = relationship takes on added importance and this could be the perfect time to buy new furniture or to discuss what really matters. Libra = this marks a good time to take initiatives to activate a new healthy rhythm into your lifestyle. Scorpio = this could manifest as a marvelously inspirational cycle linked to creative and artistic activity or the simple desire to get away on a romantic and fun-filled retreat. Sagittarius = home and friends; a good time for a party, yet expect the unexpected and be on the watch for upsets causing more harm than they need to. Capricorn = an increase in the exchange of information linked to career and/or social status in general. Aquarius = the desire principle to accumulate is linked to knowledge of foreign places and philosophy and could well manifest as the desire for wisdom of some kind. Pisces = a definite shift from a rhythm of self-expression to something new, or at least, different.

READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 20) Dreams of possibility continue to dance in your mind. The reality of acting upon them is poking you. Yet, you may want to continue dreaming for a while longer anyway. It may be that the dreams you have been having are not quite what you want or feel are in alignment with your deeper destiny. Perhaps you just want to linger longer in theta land. Since you are a timeless, eternal being, what's the rush?

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 21) Thoughts and reflections about what makes you special are keeping you, and perhaps others too, awake at night. Beyond your already activated many talents, innovations and inventions are downloading from higher dimensions. Your main task now is to take note and to outline these into a realistic draft. The notion that you can be anything you want may be snake oil, but you can access the fullness of your being.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21) For you dreams are not mere whims of the mind in the night, they are your daily duty to realize. Creative sparks are igniting flash cards packed with brilliant ideas. Like lasers that illuminate the dance floor, you are inspired to move with the rhythm and beat. Looking to the future, you see a bigger picture of possibility than you have for some time. Confidence will follow on the heels of action.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22) Sometimes we dig deeper to access our truth and the same can be said of getting the facts. Since both are on your mind, you are probably extra busy. It may be that you have to cover a lot of bases and may, therefore, feel spread thin. But the flow demands it and you want answers too. So keep breathing as you do the double time required.

Leo (Jul 22 – Aug 23) Clearing the old to make way for the new is an important theme of late. Whether it is stuff, attitudes, and perceptions, worn out associations or otherwise, the time is right to move on somehow. In the higher sense, it may be deemed a graduation point. But some of your fans are waiting for your next appearance. So do your homework and whatever else you must and then step out to meet and greet.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22) Pleasing others has its time and place but so too does taking the initiative and asserting yourself. At this time you are destined to decipher how to strike the balance. Generally, this is an expansive time and the time is right to enter new territory somehow. Yet, others need you to be there for them and especially of late. It could simply be a matter of time management nicely wrapped in a diplomatic package.

IN-PERSON READINGS

with
Michael O'Connor,

March 7-9

By appointment:
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FILM FESTIVAL

Favourite films shared at GISS

17th annual festival runs
Friday to Sunday

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The Oscars are over, and now it's almost show time for our own film extravaganza. Salt Spring's Film Festival, the annual event that inspires otherwise sane people to binge-watch documentaries throughout an entire weekend, opens on Friday night at GISS followed by screenings on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

The festival program guide is packed with descriptions of compelling films. Sometimes it's tough to decide just what to see. So many choices, so little time. Some of those involved with this year's festival have shared their personal favourites. James Cowan, festival manager, especially likes the opening night film, *Landfill Harmonic*.

"This is the best film I've ever seen. Music, children, inspiration, star cameos and great characters. I highly recommend this film to everyone."

Cowan also gives *The Breach* a top billing.

"This film gives a modern day snapshot of salmon fisheries on the west coast of B.C. and U.S. It's very well done and provides some hope to an otherwise dismal track record of salmon stocks and breeding ground preservation."

Therin Gower, the volunteers coordinator, likes *The Armor of Light*.

"It is the most intriguing film for me because it shows the challenges and beauty of someone truly examining his beliefs and making changes in his life." Screening committee member Melissa Searcy and festival administrator Jane Aitken are both entranced by *Erbarne dich - Mattheus Passion Stories*, singling out this strange and beautiful homage to Bach's timeless *Saint Matthew's Passion* as a must see.

"The music will be in your head long after the festival weekend," said Aitken.

She also recommends *Bikes vs Cars*, an engaging story about the car-centric world in which we live, the powerful lobby groups who want to keep it that way and the growing band of cycling activists and thinkers who are out to prove there is an alternate way.

John Neville, a renowned nature recordist and past president of BC Nature, loved *The Messenger*, which he calls "a visually thrilling ode to the beauty and importance of the imperiled songbird and what it means to all of us on both a global and emotional level if we lose them. In ancient times, humans looked to the flights and songs of birds to foretell the future. Today once again the birds have something to tell us. Imagine a world without birdsong." Neville also commended the "slo-mo" camera work in this film, allowing us "to see the wonder of flight as you've never seen it before." Neville will introduce this film, which screens both days, and will also be guiding a Q&A session after Sunday's screening.

Several directors, producers, editors and writers will be at the festival, participating in Q&As about their work after their films are screened. A complete list of filmmaker attendees is included in the program guide.

See www.saltspringfilmfestival.com for more information about the films and weekend events.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Batteries recharged for next round

Leap day games include
"wrinkles"

BRIDGETRICKS

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It was pouring rain on Feb. 15, the day after Valentine's. Maybe the skies were weeping that nobody had been loving the weather?

Nevertheless, four full tables arrived at Seniors and although hearts weren't always trump it was George Laundry and Jeff Bell who loved their results the most. John Pringle and Peter Robinson were also delighted with their second place, while Catherine Gardiner's and Ted Baldwinson's spirits were sweetened by coming third.

On mostly sunny Feb. 22, several people arrived say-

ing they were tired after a busy day, and it seems one of the little machines which transmits results to the main computer felt the same way and went to sleep before reporting what had happened on boards 1, 2, and 3 when they were played at the end of the session. It had been slow all evening as its batteries weakened but seemed to send the info until it finally gasped its last. Consequently it was impossible to give any results for the evening's efforts among the four and a half tables of hopefuls.

The next game will be on Leap Year Day, Feb. 29, so to mark the day which doesn't exist in other years there will be some special wrinkles to the evening and the usual \$3 per person fee will be foregone for the occasion, and new batteries in that little machine.

For info about these games, please contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.



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SENIORS

Seniors centre computers up and running for members

Free income tax service also available now

SENIORS CENTRE NEWS

Salt Spring Seniors Centre now has two computers for the use of their members (and membership is free for those over 55 years). We are open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and you're welcome to do your online activities in our Room #2. If we get enough requests for instructional sessions, we'll set something up.

- Need help with your income tax? You can drop off your taxes and our helpful tax-man will see that you get the help you need.

- Active Learning continues with discussions and movies about art and artists. We enjoyed a film on Turner recently, and a discussion on Maori art. This series will continue on Mondays at 2:30

p.m. with different speakers each week. You're welcome to share your views and your passions with our group.

- Yoga classes on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. have been slowly filling up. Bring a yoga mat and a donation and learn how to ease your body aches and pains with helpful stretches and mindful poses.

- Our website has a full calendar of daily events on every page. Just go to www.saltspringsejorscentre.ca and check out your favourite pastime. Our Special Events page will let you know more about what is coming up of an unusual or one-time nature.

- Recently our speaker series featured Arthur Black

and his "Only on Salt Spring" stories. That was a heart-warming event, with Arthur's unmistakable "radio voice" filling our Pioneer Room. Thanks to all who attended.

- Can you help us drive seniors to doctor appointments on and off-Island? This is a chance to help out and to make new friends. Call our driver coordinators: 250-537-4635 between 10 a.m. and noon to register.

- We need your input: Our annual general meeting is on Wednesday, April 27 at 2:30 p.m. We are looking for new members for our board of directors and to fill other programming and administrative positions.

Check out the Volunteer Community Resources web page (www.vcrsaltspring.org) for more details on ways to participate with seniors on Salt Spring.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Arthur Black reads to a Salt Spring Seniors Centre audience at a Feb. 17 event with a focus on the counterculture of 50 years ago.

FUNDRAISER

Scrabble boards fill up to aid African families

Eighth annual fundraiser on Salt Spring next week

SUBMITTED BY GRAND(M)OTHERS TO GRANDMOTHERS

It's March and time for the Eighth Annual Scrabble Fundraiser of the Salt Spring Grand(m)others to Grandmothers, in support of the African grandmothers whose worlds have been decimated by HIV/AIDS.

This month is the 10th anniversary of the Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) established to raise awareness of and funds for these indomitable women raising millions of AIDS orphaned children. So we are pausing to reflect on this cause, our response to date and on focusing our continued commitment.

To quote Stephen Lewis: "AIDS is not over. Despite encouraging signs, HIV and AIDS still ravage the African continent."

Fact: 5,000 people, of every age, die from the virus every day.

Fact: There are still 25 million (M) living with HIV, and 15.1 M children have lost at least one parent to AIDS.

Fact: Only one-third of the 21.2 million people who need life-prolonging drugs, receive them.

Fact: In 2013, 1.5 million new cases were reported in sub-Saharan Africa, with a disproportionate number, young women and children. In some countries, girls are more than five times more likely than boys to become HIV positive. Unjustly,

in the face of such obvious need, global funding is waning.

In 15 sub-Saharan countries, there are over 300 grassroots organizations, where the SLF continues to invest directly at the community level. Grandmothers and the children in their care are supported by food, uniforms, school fees and supplies, medical care, adequate housing, peer support groups, and home care. Across the continent, it is these same organizations that provide HIV/AIDS education, lead campaigns against sexual violence, and try to reach the millions unaware that they are infected with the virus.

These grandmothers groups, using the experience of rebuilding their own communities, are forming effective networks across countries to assist each other to advocate for human rights and economic and social empowerment. To reflect this transformation, the campaign's tagline has evolved from "Easing the Pain" to "Turning the Tide of HIV/AIDS" to "Ask Her" as, in the continued pandemic, these women are truly the experts.

As Oni Freeman, a Salt Spring G2G member, states: "There is something about how the SLF Grandmothers Program operates that inspires a sense that our efforts are going directly where needed." This confidence is supported by the Financial Post's report that the SLF is one of the top 25 Canadian charities in terms of accountability, transparency and efficient use of donations. SLF is also accredited under Imagine Canada's new National Standards Program.

In the face of these continuing needs and these

opportunities, we have no choice but to redouble our efforts. To this end, we enjoy both local and national support. We are assisted by local organizations, such as Salt Spring Inn and Penny's Pantry on the Green, who will host our scrabble event, and the local United Church, which produces a Christmas fundraiser. We are grateful that since 2009 the Salt Spring community helped to raise \$114,000 for this work.

We are supported too by a cross-Canada community; evolving from a few grandmothers groups to over 240, raising awareness and to date \$22 million. These groups provide friendly fundraising competition, inspiration and solidarity. In fact, the Salt Spring group was formed in late 2008, after viewing a sister GSG group's brilliant textile art show.

Please join us. Play at our events; pledge; donate online to Salt Spring Scrabble for Africa. Recreational and competitive Scrabble players are invited to participate in a week-long series of games at the Salt Spring Inn (Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, March 8 and 10, from 2 to 4 p.m.) with final games and a silent auction at Penny's Pantry on the Green at the Salt Spring Golf Course (Saturday, March 12, from 6 p.m.)

If scrabble doesn't grab you, and bridge is your passion, have a game for the cause. You could host friends who would donate for their dinner, or challenge your colleagues or classmates. Be inspired by one local member's offer to match every dollar, donated to her online page. For information, call 250-537-0675 or 250-537-0284.

SSI Grand(m)others to Grandmothers

SCRABBLE

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

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RECREATION

Great Bruce Trail highlighted in slide show

Susan Hannon presentation on Thursday

Islanders are welcome to explore Canada's oldest and longest marked hiking trail when Susan Hannon presents High-Grading The Bruce: A Salt Spring Naturalist Explores An Iconic Canadian Trail on Thursday, March 3.

Every year more than 400,000 visits are

made to the trail as people walk, snowshoe, watch wildlife, take photographs and admire the glorious scenery of the Niagara Escarpment, which was named a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations in 1990.

At 840 kilometres in length, and with more than 440 km in side trails and 280 trailheads, the Bruce Trail is big and daunting to approach.

In Thursday's presentation, local biolo-

gist/naturalist Susan Hannon will explore some of the most spectacular scenery and intriguing natural history of the Bruce Trail system through slides and commentary.

The talk is sponsored by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club and is open to the public.

It takes place in the lower hall of the Salt Spring United Church beginning at 7 p.m.

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**DEATHS****Jean Lorraine Campbell**

Sept. 14, 1921 - Feb. 16, 2016

Jean Lorraine Campbell lived an exemplary life. She was a wise mother, grandmother, and aunt -- and a lovely, patient shepherd to a vast array of adopted family members, unexpected strangers, and sometimes actual sheep. She died peacefully in her sleep early in the morning of February 16, at Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital on Salt Spring Island. A virus and a stroke tipped her into the next world. Lorraine was 94. Lorraine's enviable life was filled with hard work and simple pleasures, and she will be well remembered for all that she did, for her family and her community.

Lorraine was born in the municipality of Point Grey on September 14, 1921, and grew up in the Dunbar neighbourhood. She earned a master's degree in science at UBC, studying agriculture, where she met James McGeer Campbell. They were married on December 29, 1944, while Jim was on furlough from the navy.

Lorraine's father, Dr. A. R. Thomson, travelled widely in B.C., bought property on Saturna before it was fashionable, and built some modest guest cottages at Saturna Beach in the early 1930s. In 1945, Jim and Lorraine moved to Saturna to farm. They lived a life of glorious subsistence, and had four children -- Jim Jr., Nan, Tom and Jacques. They also shaped both their own island community and others in B.C. with principled commitment as strong as the open-heartedness they showed to their steady stream of visitors.

Jim and Lorraine were both politically active. Lorraine served 13 years as a school trustee and 19 years on the board of the Lady Minto Hospital, where she spent the last two years of her life. Lorraine was instrumental in creating the Greenwoods Eldercare facility next to the hospital. In 1993, she received Canada's 125th Anniversary Medal for community service, and in 2012 the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. Yet much of what she did came without a title or a label. She was a pillar of the vital Saturna Women's Club. She was central in organizing the Dominion Day Lamb Barbecue, a community fundraiser held for nearly 40 years at Saturna Beach, which often quintupled the Saturna population for a day.

Her folk-art birthday cakes at summer beach parties were legendary. The Christmas socks she fashioned from homespun wool were coveted. She wanted for nothing. A family story has it that UBC Dean of Agriculture Blyth Eagles once said he had two good students who graduated from his program. "They're living below the poverty line on Saturna Island, and doing well." Yet Lorraine's wealth was considerable: from her love of place, family and friends, and her ability to share everything she had, including land sold and donated to help establish the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.

Lorraine was predeceased by her husband (on November 29, 2015, at 97), her son Jim, and siblings Bob and Nan. She is survived by three children, five grandchildren (Faedra, Ian, Andrew, James and Mary Grace) three great grandchildren, and her sister Dougal. Her friends, living and dead, are legion.

In Lorraine's memory, contributions for community development on Saturna can be made online or by mail to the Saturnina Foundation. Her life will be celebrated on March 12 from noon to 4 at the Saturna Island Recreation Centre. For more on the event or to share stories and photos of Lorraine, visit Campbell Farm, Saturna Island on Facebook.

**FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS****DEATHS****Donald Edward Small**

Jan. 3, 1930-Feb. 26, 2016

Our dear father and husband Donald Edward Small passed away peacefully on Friday morning at Lady Minto Hospital.

Loved by all who knew him. He was a busy man in his younger years, working in the trades and moving from Vancouver to White Rock to Victoria and then on to Salt Spring.

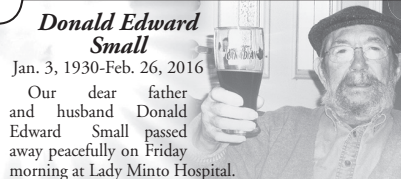
In the late seventies, he and his wife Mary opened the Vesuvius Pub (which his old friends will remember). One of Don's pleasures was his involvement with the Royal Canadian Legion.

He is survived by his four sons, who made him very proud, Jay, Peter, Chris and Matt and their respective partners and our dear friend and "daughter" whom he loved dearly, Lesley Cheeseman.

He loved being a Grandpa to his seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the incredible staff at Extended Care for their kindness and care of our dear old Dad. In lieu of flowers, donations to the new garden at Extended Care would be appreciated.

A wake will be held on April 2nd, 2pm at the Royal Canadian Legion.

**Lena Ostapowich**

March 12, 1918 - February 24, 2016



Lena Ostapowich passed peacefully at Greenwoods on Wednesday, February 24, 2016. Lena was born in Russell, Manitoba, the eldest of four children of Anna Lozowa Gallant and Joseph Gallant. As a young woman, Lena worked in the family's general store in Russell. She had a fine head for numbers and was also a formidable

card player! When things were slow in the store, Lena would sit and tat lace, creating beautiful doilies and other articles which decorated her homes in Russell and on Salt Spring. In 1949 she married Mike Ostapowich and joined him at the farm one mile west of Russell. In 1951 to their great joy, their son Dale was born. In 1965 the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Association bought their farm to build a reservoir, and they moved into town in Russell; but Mike continued farming on rented land until 1979. When Mike passed away in 1996, Lena sold her home in Russell and moved to Salt Spring to be close to Dale and his family. Sadly, in 2010 she lost Dale to cancer. Lena loved to garden and bake, and was a marvelous cook who took great pleasure in feeding people. She was renowned for her gentle wit, kindness, generosity and unlimited hospitality.

Lena is survived by her grandson Kevin (Jennifer) Ostapowich, great-grandsons Cole and Logan, and daughter-in-law Glynnis Horel. A light went out of our lives with Lena's passing.

The family is grateful beyond words to Dr. Magda Leon and the other physicians who attended her in Greenwoods; to the incredibly caring compassionate staff of Greenwoods; and to the kindness and dedication of the Bessy Dane Hospice volunteers in Lena's final days.

A service will be held at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church on March 9, 2016 at 1 pm with reception to follow in the church basement at 2 pm.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**IN MEMORIAM****Celebration of Life for Arlo McGowan**

Please join us on Saturday, March 5, 2016 2PM at Meaden Hall (Legion Basement)

Pot Luck, Cash Bar & Semi-Unplugged Jam Session

Please bring your instruments and voices and your stories to Celebrate this Great Man.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**COMING EVENTS****FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS****IN MEMORIAM GIFTS**

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**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS****COMING EVENTS****COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS****COMING EVENTS****6th Antiques Roadshow**

Saturday March 12 10 - 5

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the salt spring arts council

steffichfineart Grace Point Square

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with Michael O'Connor, March 7 - 9

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INFORMATION

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SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 20

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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (BC SPCA)

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING SALT SPRING ISLAND BRANCH OF THE BC SPCA

In accordance with Bylaw 5.15(d), 9.5(b), 9.5(d) and 14 of the Bylaws of The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the:

SALT SPRING ISLAND BRANCH

Will take place on: Saturday March 12, 2016 • 11 am - 1 pm

At: Salt Spring Public Library Media Room 129 McPhillips Avenue Salt Spring Island

For the purpose of: Electing members of the Community Council for the branch, as well as conducting any other business of the Branch

For further information on the meeting or to obtain a copy of the draft agenda, please contact Sean Hogan at shogan@spca.bc.ca or 250-537-2123.

A copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society is available at <http://www.spca.bc.ca/about/governance-accountability/governance-docs/>

BCSPCA

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

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TUESDAY 9:30 AM

classified@driftwoodgimedia.com

| COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS | COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS | COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS |
|---|--|--|
| INFORMATION | PERSONALS | LOST AND FOUND |
| HIP OR knee replacement? Arthritis Conditions/COPD? Restrictions in Walking/Dressing? Disability Tax Credit \$2,000 Tax Credit \$20,000 Refund. Apply Today For Assistance: 1-844-453-5372. | SALT SPRING SENIOR male, currently seeking a female live-in companion who is highly dependable, mature, reliable, patient and fun. If this describes you and you want to make a difference in my life you will be providing non-medical, in-home support and home management services including cooking, cleaning and making sure of a safe and orderly environment. Located in a beautiful area of the island with plenty of area to garden. A suite is available. Please email gandt80@shaw.ca and leave a phone number where you can be contacted. | FOUND - Keys @ mailboxes behind Artspring, includes Volvo key & remote. Claim @ the Driftwood office. |
| LEGALS | | TRAVEL |
| SEEKING NEXT of kin of Keith Robinson in regards to sailing vessel MARLUHA moored at Centennial Dock, Ganges Harbour, Salt Spring Island, BC. Request contact of Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island; harbour@hassi.ca; Call 250-537-5711. | | |
| TENDERS | TENDERS | TENDERS |

NOTICE OF EXCLUSION APPLICATION
Regarding Land in the Agricultural Land Reserve

MICHAEL FRASER & NOELLA FRASER, 240 ATKINS RD, SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC V8K 2R5 intend on making an application pursuant to Section 30(1) of the Agricultural Land Commission Act to exclude from the **Agricultural Land Reserve** the following property which is legally described as, LOT 1, PLAN VIP86207, SECTION 2, RANGE 2E, COWICHAN LAND DISTRICT (legal description from the title certificate) 240 ATKINS RD. - NW CORNER OF ATKINS ROAD & RAINBOW ROAD. Any person wishing to express an interest in the application may do so by forwarding their comments in writing to, ISLANDS TRUST, SALT SPRING OFFICE, 1-500 LOWER GANGES ROAD, SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC V8K 2N8 by 16 March, 2016 (14 days from the date of final publication) **Address:** 240 ATKINS ROAD, SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC, V8K2R5, Canada Phone: (250) 537-5393 Cell: (250) 537-5040 Email: nmfraser@shaw.ca

CURRENT USE OF PARCELS UNDER APPLICATION

1. **Quantify and describe in detail all agriculture that currently takes place on the parcel(s).** NO AGRICULTURE

2. **Quantify and describe in detail all agricultural improvements made to the parcel(s).** FENCING IN 1998

3. **Quantify and describe all non-agricultural uses that currently take place on the parcel(s).** HOME BASED BUSINESS- AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP (DETACHED) HOUSE & HOME OCCUPATION- UPHOLSTERY SHOP (ATTACHED)

ADJACENT LAND USES

NORTH Land Use Type: Transportation/Utilities **Specify Activity:** BC HYDRO SUBSTATION
EAST Land Use Type: Agricultural/Farm **Specify Activity:** SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING/HORSE PASTURE

SOUTH Land Use Type: Industrial **Specify Activity:** CAMPGROUND/COMMERCIAL, CEMENT PLANT

WEST Land Use Type: Residential **Specify Activity:** SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

PROPOSAL

1. **How many hectares are you proposing to exclude?** 1.8 ha
Provincial Agricultural Land Commission - Applicant Submission
Application ID: 54994

Application Status: In Progress

Local Government: Islands Trust

Local Government Date of Receipt: This application has not been submitted to local government yet.

ALC Date of Receipt: This application has not been submitted to ALC yet.

Proposal Type: Exclusion

2. **Proposal:** We are applying to exclude this property from the ALR to facilitate the development of a business park for light industrial & commercial uses. The plan includes, retaining the current residence, auto repair shop & office. The proposal includes a green strata title development to ensure self monitoring & care of the land. Services, including water, sewerage, circulation & parking would be provided by the owners. Test holes dug on this property show that the ground is generally rocky with poor drainage & would require extensive & costly improvements to be suitable for agriculture purposes.

Mailing Address:

240 ATKINS ROAD, SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC V8K2R5, Canada Primary Phone: (250) 537-5393 Mobile Phone: (250) 537-5040 Email: nmfraser@shaw.ca

Parcel Information

Parcel(s) Under Application

1. **Ownership Type:** Fee Simple

Parcel Identifier: 027-799-409

Legal Description: LOT 1 SECTION 2 RANGE 2 EAST NORTH SALT SPRING ISLAND COWICHAN DISTRICT PLAN VIP86207

Parcel Area: 1.8 ha

Civic Address: 240 ATKINS ROAD

Date of Purchase: 07/15/1995

Farm Classification: Yes

Owners

1. **Name:** FRASER NOELLA

Address: 240 ATKINS ROAD, SALT SPRING ISLAND, BC V8K2R5, Canada **Phone:** (250) 537-5393 **Cell:** (250) 537-5040. **Email:** nmfraser@shaw.ca

2. **Name:** FRASER MICHAEL

Applicant: FRASER NOELLA, FRASER MICHAEL

3. **Explain why you believe that the parcel(s) should be excluded from the ALR.**

The Islands Trust official community plan indicates provisions to provide adequate amounts of industrial zoned land, appropriately serviced & well located to accommodate local industry & to keep needed businesses on the island. The ocp also states that the Local Trust Committee could consider rezoning applications for properties near the junction of Rainbow & Atkins Roads. Removal of up to 2 ha from the ALR for this purpose could be supported with the support of the Agriculture Land Commission. A recent Industrial Lands Needs assessment was completed in 2015 to address this issue & it was recommended to increase industrial lands. Further to this information, we have been advised of another Salt Spring property, more suitable to agriculture purposes & currently being farmed, would be interested in being included in the ALR, in lieu of this property being removed.

COMING EVENTS

What's happening at your Library?

Find out at the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4:00 p.m. Thursday, March 17, 2016

Program Room
Salt Spring Island Library
129 McPhillips Avenue, Ganges, BC

A resolution to amend the bylaws of the Association will be presented for approval by the members of the Association present at the Annual General Meeting. The full text of the proposed resolution will be posted in the Library, and on the Library's website <http://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop/> between the publication of this advertisement and the Annual General Meeting.

All active Library cardholders are welcome to attend and are eligible to vote at the meeting.
Refreshments will be served.

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FARM WORKERS

TREE To Me: Farm Manager (Organic) Tree To Me is a new organic farm operation located in Kereenos, BC that has a farm market, coffee shop, bakery and bed and breakfast. The company requires a full time Farm Manager. This is a career position with the opportunity for equity ownership in the business. The current farm operation includes tree fruits, perennial vegetables and berries, annual vegetables and a greenhouse operation. Along with increasing production in these areas, additional farming activities will be added in the future. The successful candidate will have both academic and practical farm experience, an aptitude for equipment and building maintenance and be capable of functioning within a management team. An attractive remuneration package will be offered. Reply by email to jowurz@te-lus.net. www.TreeToMe.ca

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sports&recreation

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgmedia.com



TRACK & FIELD & RUNNING

Salt Spring running club easily conquers Hatley Castle

Small team reaps medal windfall; Thompson triumphs at masters event

BY SEAN MCINTYRE
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A small but swift contingent of Salt Spring Sneakers converged at Hatley Castle in Colwood on Feb. 21 for the latest installment of the Vancouver Island Running Series.

"Fewer numbers, better results," said team spokesperson Lynn Thompson in his post-race report. "The placings are astounding with four medals and three personal bests."

Salt Spring's six participants garnered nearly 100 points to hang onto seventh place in the VIRS team standings.

Lise Fraser led the pack across the finish line of the eight-kilometre run with a time of 38:46. She placed first among the 20 runners in her F55-59 age group.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Happily sporting medals and ribbons from the Hatley Castle race in Colwood are, from left, Catherine Bennett, Phyllis Wakelyn, Drew Stotesbury, Julia van Soeren and Eric Ellis.

Eric Ellis followed soon after with a race time of 39:29, quick enough to snag second place in the M70-74 cohort. Catherine

Bennett received a bronze after placing third in the F60-64 class with a time of 44:16.

As the lone runner in the F85-

90 age group, Phyllis Wakelyn breezed to a first place finish with her finishing time of 76:10.

Julie van Soeren's time of 46:42 was three minutes faster than her previous record, and Drew Stotesbury maintained his season's stride with a time of 47:11.

Thompson takes a trip

Five gruelling track and field events in two days followed by a five-hour bus trip back from Kamloops is enough to test the mettle of any athlete, but Salt Spring's Lynn Thompson has returned from the BC Masters Indoor Championships satisfied and ready for more.

"I'm happy I decided to return to indoor track after 25 years and looking forward to the summer outdoor season," he said following the provincial competition that took place in mid-February.

"There were no really old men, other than me, at the meet so gold medals were cheap. However, at my age there is always that lurking question about whether you still have the legs to compete

at last year's level," he added.

Thompson's sojourn in the Interior began with a 60-metre sprint. Unable to get a strong start he called his 10.57 race time mediocre. He regained his stride in the triple jump with a stunning 7.30-metre leap, which makes him the event's B.C. indoor record holder.

The Salt Spring track veteran then tied the record in 60-metre hurdles only to have the time thrown out because the hurdles had been set three inches too low.

Thompson rebounded in the 200-metre race with a time of 37.22 and completed the day with a long jump distance of 3.20.

"I was tired beyond belief," he said. "It was the fifth jump before I got one I was happy with."

Thompson competes in the men's 75-79 age category.

Old Boys soccer report: Fans of Fraser Hope's soccer team report can find the latest one online under the Sports section of www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com.



www.paulzolob.com
250.526.2626

Do You Want to Sell Your House This Year?

With home prices recovering and interest rates still low, now is a good time to list.

Low interest rates are your friend...and buyers know that rock-bottom mortgages can't last forever! Houses tend to sell faster in spring and summer largely in part due to families wanting to be settled before the new school year begins.

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We will need to develop your marketing plan. People are doing so much more research ahead of time. Today's buyers are demanding. They are savvy about market dynamics and data and want to see houses on their own schedule.

Don't "test" the market -

Price it right! Pricing is very important these days. Pricing right will create the traffic needed, also in the first week a listing goes on the market, it gets approximately four times as many visits as a month later.

One dilemma sellers may face is whether to buy a new place at the same time. Buy a new place with the contingency of selling can be difficult and stressful. In general I would say it's better to sell before you buy—there's nothing worse than having to carry two mortgages at once when it is not affordable. There are plenty of options when selling including the possibility you may be able to rent your house from the buyer for a few months or finding a short-term rental.

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Tsunami hoist two trophies

U-18 silver girls soccer team enjoys amazing run

BY MALCOLM LEGG
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

The Salt Spring United Tsunami Girls U-18 team won two trophies on back-to-back weekends with outstanding team efforts by all their players.

On Feb. 14 the Tsunami headed to Victoria to play a team from Sooke in the final of the LISA Cup. It was a cool, cloudy day at the PISE field but the girls had their full squad up for the challenge ahead, hopeful for a win. What was to unfold was a brilliant display of soccer by the girls as they controlled the game throughout and came away with a convincing 3-0 win.

The Tsunami defence played a brilliant game, as the back four defenders of Maddy Cooper Smith, Cathy Villa Gomez, Lina Losier and Sophie Kornelsen rarely allowed the Sooke team a glimmer of their goal as they stymied their attackers time and again. In fact, their dominance was so thorough that goalie Lily Campbell had an easy game, facing only two long lofted shots and at times seeming almost bored.

The mid-field of Lucy Baumgartner, Selwynn LeLievre, Melia Smith-Valdivielso, Alice Purcell and Nicky MacKenzie did a masterful job controlling the mid-field and pushing balls forward to their attack.

The forwards, Nina Pickstone, Emrys Duyf and Ella Baker, tore gaping holes through the Sooke defence and only the brilliance of the Sooke goalie kept the game close. Duyf, in her first year with the team, showed her offensive brilliance with three scintillating goals, but Pickstone and Baker had enough great chances on their own to really run up the score.

The supporting cast of Emma Bishop and

Bronte Mah filled in as super subs and played a great supporting role to keep the continuity of the effort that led to a big win and a trophy and gold medals.

On Feb. 21, the Tsunami were on the road again as they travelled to Saanich to play the Fusion in their last league game of the season. The girls knew it would be a tough game against the bigger, older Fusion team and with Losier away, Baker out with a fractured foot and Smith-Valdivielso at the game but limited with a sore foot. Still, they were ready to try and clinch the U-18 Silver Division title.

The local girls had little time for a warm-up and started flat. Saanich carried the play and after 20 minutes had the opening goal. Slowly the Tsunami got some momentum and midfielders Baumgartner and LeLievre soon took control of the mid-field. With this control, both Pickstone and Duyf started to get chances, but the Fusion goalie held firm.

The second half saw the local girls challenge even harder as defenders Bishop and Cooper-Smith helped push forward out of defence and Campbell was added as a striker to hopefully find a hole in the armour of the Saanich defence, but the Fusion held firm. With eight to nine players back, the Tsunami looked like they would not find the elusive equalizer, when suddenly with five minutes to go, a moment of brilliance from Duyf gave the girls their goal.

The Tsunami held on for the last five minutes, gained their one point from the tie and with it their second trophy, as Girls U-18 Silver Division champions. It's been an amazing season by an amazing group of girls as their parents, manager Anastasia Williams, technical director Josip Bratanovic and myself, as coach, spend our time watching them weave their magic. Well done, girls!

Now they face the next challenge playing in the Gold Division District Cup.