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ISLAND PRIDE

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Harvest Time

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Driftwood



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Issue 38
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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

GREAT HEIGHTS: Mural artist Paige Bowman, left, speaks to a crowd on a Sept. 13 walkabout tour of the three new murals in Ganges, with Salt Spring Arts executive director Yael Wand also contributing. See story on page 16.

HOUSING

Seabreeze services downgraded

Hospital foundation anticipates 'transition to Kings Lane' as RTB orders sought

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Some services at the Seabreeze Inne have been shut off, at least two residents are seeking regulatory orders, and the provincial agency tasked to administer supported housing there is no longer paying rent.

Work crews last week disconnected internet, cable and telephone services at the Seabreeze, as well as a laundry facility.

A late Friday response from BC Housing said the agency was not involved in that decision, which was characterized as being inaccurate by Lady Minto Hospital Foundation (LMHF) executive director Roberta Martell. LMHF finalized purchase of the property earlier this year, with the intent of renovating it — once vacant — to provide housing for hospital staff.

While several Seabreeze residents said on Thursday they felt intimidated and threatened by the service disconnections, which were performed by contractors hired by LMHF, Martell said they were done to reduce its ongoing costs — and in coordination with BC Housing.

"Negotiations coordinating the transi-

tion of all people, goods and services to Kings Lane have been happening for months with BC Housing," said Martell, adding that LMHF's understanding was that BC Housing would be in direct communication with Seabreeze residents this week to expedite a move out.

"As part of the coordinated transition, BC Housing has told us they will be on site Tuesday to meet with the occupants and explain the need for them to move to Kings Lane by Friday. They have let us know there will be moving trucks and teams on site all week."

For its part, BC Housing declined to comment on whether the service shutoff was part of a transition process. In a statement directing questions regarding the disconnection of "some non-essential services at their property" to LMHF, BC Housing said on Friday housing and services will be available at the temporary modular homes it recently completed at 154 Kings Lane. Those units have been characterized as an "interim solution" to the needs of Seabreeze residents by the agency, who entered into a nine-month lease there in June with landowners Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association (GISRA).

"We have 20 new temporary homes with support services, including laundry and internet, ready for people to move into at 154 Kings Lane," said BC Housing Friday. "We continue to encourage people to move to this new, safe housing."

But at least at least two people living at the Seabreeze believe they are not part of any agreements with BC Housing, and have made applications for dispute resolution to B.C.'s Residential Tenancy Branch. Vancouver-based lawyer Julia Riddle, who said they are representing multiple clients, confirmed those applications have been filed, naming LMHF as landlord.

They are seeking orders, according to Riddle, "confirming that the Residential Tenancy Act applies to their tenancies at the Seabreeze." That hearing is set to come before an arbitrator in December.

The legal filing highlights a central dispute: not everyone at the Seabreeze agrees they are clients of BC Housing, while LMHF's position is that BC Housing is its only tenant — as it has been leasing the entire building since the foundation took possession.

SEABREEZE continued on 3

Zen Master Wolfgang says:

"Experience allows you to recognize a mistake the next time you make it."

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LOCAL ELECTIONS

Salt Spring school board candidates introduced

Salt Spring Island has six individuals vying for three seats on the Gulf Islands School Board this year: Anna Szul, George Sipos, Jenny McClean, Nancy Macdonald, Rob Pingle and Tisha Boulter. Five of those candidates provided a 200-word biography and statement about why they are running for school board. McClean is also running for an Islands Trust position. While she missed the deadline for the Islands Trust candidate bios in last week's paper and did not send a specific school board one, her response is included on this page as well.

ANNA SZUL

A single mom of two kids in elementary school, Anna Szul moved to the island four years ago and immediately felt embraced and supported by the community. She has worked for Salt Spring Arts for over a year, a continuation of her arts education and non-profit sector experience in Vancouver and Edmonton. During COVID, she was grateful for the support of IWAV and is happy to have a permanent home in the newly opened phase three of Croftonbrook.

Szul believes arts are integral to the development of children. She coordinates the Artists in the Class program between Salt Spring Arts and School District 64 and has built good relationships with the teachers in our schools through that program. This past spring she organized the youth exhibit during the Spring Art Show where students explored their identity as well as the heritage of Mahon Hall.

Szul says her non-profit experience has given her a solid understanding of the need to be wise about spending to maintain a balanced budget, while her arts background has fostered a healthy dose of thinking outside the box.

"I want to continue to grow with this fantastic community and believe I can provide a unique perspective to the questions raised at the board table."

GEORGE SIPOS

George Sipos is best known on Salt Spring as the former executive director

of ArtSpring. Since his retirement, he has been active in the community as treasurer of both the Salt Spring Forum and Transition Salt Spring.

Prior to his arrival on the island in 2006 he lived in Prince George for 25 years where he taught adult basic education at the community college, owned an independent bookstore and was general manager of the Prince George Symphony. Over the years, he has served on many boards, including the Board of Governors of the College of New Caledonia, the BC Library Foundation, the Canadian Booksellers Association, the Prince George Home Services Society and a good number of others.

As for why seek election as a school trustee now, there are two main reasons. Some 40-plus years of diverse experience in education, business and organizational governance are bound sooner or later to want to come together in a "big, complex, worthwhile challenge." A more personal reason is having a fine grandson who has just started Grade 1 at Salt Spring Elementary. Suddenly, the health and future evolution of our local schools seem especially compelling.

"Offering voters my accumulated experience and judgement that can help the district's governance along seems a good commitment toward that end," he said.

NANCY MACDONALD

Nancy Macdonald has had a long history in education as a French Immersion teacher and later as GISS principal from 1998 to 2006.

The Saanich District was next and she was assistant superintendent and superintendent there until 2014. Then, she served a term as trustee in School District 64.

"As an educator I understand the realities, the funding and the challenges facing districts. Ask anyone who has worked with me before: they will tell you that my focus was on improving student success and creating a strong overall culture. As a trustee I was actively involved in creating the strategic plan, bringing school principals to board meetings to showcase their schools and advocating for school

reconfiguration discussions long before the process finally began."

Macdonald said she will use her experience to ask questions about how education dollars are being spent and to ask about how students are doing, given the pandemic.

"I come in with an open mind, no axe to grind, just an eye on the kids, their safety, their health and their learning. I bring a calm demeanor to the table but, as always, high expectations. You can trust me to be fair and hard working."

"My three children loved school here on Salt Spring. Now my grandson is at Fulford. This is for him."

ROB PINGLE

Rob Pingle moved to Salt Spring Island when his oldest daughter was beginning Kindergarten at Salt Spring Elementary (SSE). He spent much time at the school with his youngest, as that was also the first year of the ELF program.

He volunteered to run the toy library for Salt Spring Community Services and also became chairperson for the SSE PAC. Within a year, Pingle was working as the coordinator of the Saturday Market in the Park and had taken a vacant position on the school board.

"When I joined the board, I was the only new member and felt fortunate for the guidance and leadership of members who had served for over 20 years. It was a great learning experience," he said.

For the past 14 years, Pingle has been a dedicated school board trustee while raising his daughters, hosting international students and working in the community. He helped coordinate the BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutritional Program in SSE and successfully encouraged other schools in the district to participate. He has actively participated on district committees and was board chair while the district worked through the reconfiguration process.

Pingle said he hopes the community will continue to value his perspective as the longest-serving board member running, and as someone who has continually been involved in the community through his

work with the Capital Regional District and Islands Trust, as well as his volunteering.

TISHA BOULTER

Tisha Boulter says she fell in love with Salt Spring in 1997 when she worked as the head cook for Camp Narnia, and then moved back here permanently in 2001. She is now a small business operator, a hobby ceramic artist and a community volunteer.

During the 17 years her children have been attending school she has been an active executive parent advisory council member of five different schools. For the last four years she has served as a school trustee, with two of those years elected as board chair.

During her term on the school board, Boulter has chaired the finance, audit and facilities committees, co-chaired the district anti-racism working group, attended provincial council meetings on behalf of SD64, sat on the climate action working group and currently attends three monthly parent meetings.

Boulter acknowledges her privilege to have a seat at the board table and has been proud to build good working relationships with her colleagues, staff, parents and community members.

"I would be grateful to be elected for another four-year term to continue contributing to the stability of a healthy school community and so that the youth in the Gulf Islands have the best opportunities to feel belonging and experience success," she said.

JENNY McCLEAN - for school board and Islands Trust

Jenny McClean was born on Salt Spring Island and has raised her children here. She says she has attended Islands Trust meetings since 2008 and is very well informed on Salt Spring's political processes.

"I am running for Trust because this island and the people who live here are very dear to me, and I want to help foster a happy and healthy community."

ELECTIONS

Online debate set

Sept. 28 candidates forum

Several Salt Spring organizations are working to ensure voters have plenty of opportunities to hear from candidates before the Oct. 15 election — and the first will take place online.

Hosted by Transition Salt Spring and Salt Spring Solutions, the All Candidates Forum will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. Organizers are bringing together candidates for Islands Trust and CRD positions to discuss issues ranging from land-use planning and overcoming community division to climate justice and a vision for what Salt Spring Island should look like in 50 years.

"Issues like climate change, growing inequality, homelessness, environmental degradation, island governance, aging or absent infrastructure will test the abilities of our elected officials," according to a press release. "Which candidates are best positioned to best address these urgent issues?"

For the forum itself, a series of questions have been distributed to the candidates in advance to "encourage reflective responses on important issues affecting Salt Spring." Those questions can be seen, along with brief candidate biographies, at the website: transitionsaltspring.com/ssi-elections-2022.

To register for this free online event, visit the website: form-can.keela.co/all-candidates-town-hall.

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LMHF, BC Housing clash continues

SEABREEZE

continued from 1

The Provincial Rental Housing Corporation — the property-holding entity administered by BC Housing — entered a short-term lease with the hospital foundation in February, and renewed that lease at the end of June as the term was about to expire.

At the time, then-Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing David Eby thanked LMHF for "generously extending the lease at the Seabreeze Inne, providing people with a safe roof over the heads."

Terms of the lease and that extension permitted BC Housing, as the hospital foundation's tenant, use of Seabreeze rooms to provide services — including housing — to individuals living there, in exchange for rent paid from BC Housing to LMHF.

But that lease ended on July 15, without a request for renewal, according to LMHF. BC Housing has not remitted rent for August or September. LMHF said despite this, the foundation had continued to cover costs for telephone, internet and cable services while residents remained. With the disconnection of those services,

LMHF continues to cover costs of still-connected water and hydro.

Regardless of the outcome of disputes with the Residential Tenancy Branch, those at the Seabreeze face an uncertain future. Like all such laws, those protecting the rights of tenants cannot be circumvented or negotiated away by contract; but at whose expense those protections are implemented might be.

"Everyone staying at the Seabreeze Inne has been offered a home at

Kings Lane."

BC HOUSING

In negotiating the June extension of the lease, the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation agreed to indemnify the hospital foundation against any claims arising from residents pursuant to the Residential Tenancy Act. The lease amendment, reviewed by Driftwood staff, specifies BC Housing's obligations would include indemnifying LMHF against claims made

by residents who were present at the Seabreeze prior to Feb. 20 — when the original lease took effect.

BC Housing acknowledged they were aware of the Residential Tenancy Board filings, but declined to comment on residential tenancy laws, or the application of the Residential Tenancy Act with respect to the individuals residing at the Seabreeze, letting stand a Sept. 9 statement reiterating their commitment to the Kings Lane property.

"Everyone staying at the Seabreeze Inne has been offered a home at Kings Lane," according to BC Housing, "and will be able to stay there until construction at the new Drake Road supportive housing building is complete."

The 161 Drake Road project is a planned 28-unit purpose-built permanent supportive housing endeavour, to be built on land owned by the Capital Regional District. The project is described by a BC Housing factsheet as being in a "pre-development" stage.

GISRA has indicated openness to renewal of the Kings Lane lease with BC Housing beyond March 2023, if its own plans for the land — construction of a new seniors' housing development — have not commenced by that time.

On October 15 re-elect Gary Holman For CRD Director



For over 30 years, Gary has served Salt Spring as community activist, MLA, and CRD Director. He has played a key role in many of our successes.

SALT SPRING'S TOP PRIORITY — AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Gary included SSI in CRD's Housing Trust Fund; helped secure funding for transition housing for women, our homeless shelter, Drake Road supported housing; and used gas tax to fund housing water supplies. This term, SSI will have built or secured commitments for 120 units of affordable housing.

"LET'S KEEP BUILDING NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING"

Gary's priorities:

- complete Dragonfly, Land Bank, CRD Drake Road projects.
- funding to incentivize suites/cottages.
- permanent funding for our homeless shelter and Housing Council.
- continue gas tax funding for housing infrastructure.
- include SSI in the Speculation and Vacancy Tax.

Contact Gary about your priorities or his campaign at: gary4director.org gary4director@gmail.com

For voting information see crd.bc.ca/vote.

Authorized by Janis Gauthier financial agent (janisgauthier@shaw.ca)

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EDITORIAL

More work to do

It's Gender Equality Week in Canada, which happens to coincide with publishing of the Driftwood's annual Pride pages.

While once connected to promoting the annual Pride festival on Salt Spring, our feature section now serves to highlight 2SLGBTQIA+ issues and activities — including fun ones like the Pride On The Rise Dance at the Farmers' Institute on Oct. 1 — and lets community groups and businesses express their pride and support for equal rights and positive social change.

Gender Equality Week was first declared by the federal government in 2018, aiming to raise awareness about the importance of equal rights and opportunities for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and women in our country. It can be easy to think all is well in Canada when comparing our country to other places in the world where 2SLGBTQIA+ and women's rights are under serious attack or don't exist. But all is not rosy in Canada, either. A recently released federal government action plan cites studies that found non-heterosexual Canadians are significantly more likely to experience housing insecurity and violence, and have

lower levels of income.

Salt Spring is seen as a queer-friendly community, and that is generally true, but homophobia and transphobia exist everywhere and our island is not exempt. From harassment of trans individuals on our streets and in schools, a Pride flag being burnt and expressions of hate seen online locally, Salt Spring's not-for-profit group supporting the 2SLGBTQIA+ community has been called to respond not infrequently to distressing and disturbing incidents in recent years.

As representatives from Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island (DAISI) point out in our page 7 story, negative acts can result from a backlash against more visibility among trans people and from not knowing trans individuals. It's similar to what occurred decades ago when gay and lesbian people started to come out. Positive change is occurring and will continue to occur as long as organizations like DAISI are supported through volunteer help, partnerships with other groups and funding, and with each community member taking the time to learn more about 2SLGBTQI+ individuals and issues.

Helping to eliminate persistent disparities and making Salt Spring safer and more inclusive should be a community priority.

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2022 BCYDNA Awards
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Bronze - Community Service Award



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BRUCE PATTERSON

SHE WAS THE REAL QUEEN.
MAY SHE REST IN PEACE.



PARKER

Time to act on governance

BY PETER MEYER

I was disappointed to read Chris Dixon's Sept. 14 In Depth piece on the proposed Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) as it inaccurately describes the LCC and fails to recognize the extensive authority it will have.

The process of developing an LCC proposal was not rushed. In addition to discussion over many years, the past five years has included in-depth analysis and review of governance options, including detailed reports from two community groups in 2018, an even more detailed 2022 discussion paper written for our electoral area director, numerous media reports, public meetings, and opportunities for discussion and comment.

Mr. Dixon suggests that we don't yet know what powers the LCC will have, but that simply is not true. The CRD Board has already passed the bylaws defining these powers, stating clearly that, for 11 of our current local CRD services, the LCC will have what is called Administrative Authority. That means that it will have all the powers of the CRD Board except for final sign-off on bylaws. This is not conditional, not uncertain, and not up for discussion sometime in the future. It's right there in black and white.

And in case you are unclear as to what Administrative Authority actually means, all you need to do is look at the five CRD LCCs that already have such powers. There is no uncertainty about it; these powers are real.

Mr. Dixon glosses over the distinction between appointed and elected commissioners, yet this is a fundamental issue. Right now, all Salt Spring commissioners are appointed, not elected and — most importantly — all these existing commissioners can do is provide advice, which our electoral area director can choose to ignore. An LCC would

VIEWPOINT

consist of elected members of our community with the mandate — and the power — to make decisions that the director (and the CRD Board) cannot ignore or overrule.

It is particularly disappointing that Mr. Dixon says the contributions of volunteer commissioners are somehow diminished through the creation of an LCC. I don't know of any other communities with elected representatives that don't value and utilize the advice of community members, expert or otherwise, and there is no reason to believe Salt Spring would be any different. If we establish a Salt Spring LCC, we will be replacing our current system (which is essentially an elected dictatorship) with a more democratic, more representative and more effective council empowered to make decisions in open meetings right here on Salt Spring.

Mr. Dixon wants to start over again with a new process of figuring out how to fix our local government system, ignoring the fact that all community members, commissioners and others have been welcomed to participate in governance discussions that began shortly after the 2017 incorporation referendum. Many of them did take part, and the committee that reviewed the proposal and discussed the draft bylaws with CRD staff included the chairs or nominees of all four of our current unelected island-wide CRD commissions, as well as others who have been commissioners in the past.

Mr. Dixon wants to keep on talking, forfeiting an opportunity to change a system that is not working. I want to act now to improve governance on Salt Spring. That's why I will be voting YES to a Salt Spring LCC and encourage others to do the same.

The writer is a commissioner on the CRD solid waste and transportation commissions.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you participating in any On The Rise festival events? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Were you impacted by news of Queen Elizabeth's death?



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ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

LCC too expensive

One major item missing (understandably) from the recent 2023 CRD provisional budget is the cost of a local community commission (LCC).

Costs of an LCC were also missing from the discussion paper prepared by three local authors for the CRD director. Additionally, there has been no information on costs in the numerous opinion pieces appearing frequently in the Driftwood. What has been advanced is that costs will be minimal, or close to "cost neutral."

The LCC cost details were finally outlined in a July 13, 2022 supplementary document prepared by CRD staff for the Electoral Area Services Committee during consideration of bylaws 4507 and 4508.

The preliminary estimate for additional staffing, elections, remuneration, equipment, software and reserves is the equivalent of over \$14,000 a month, not including one-time costs of \$60,000 for the subsequent election (if the referendum is successful). If the preliminary amount in the staff report is followed, the total amount over the first four-year term will reach close to \$750,000.

This is a shocking amount for an experimental CRD commission with marginal utility and no exclusive legislative or budgetary authority while the head office of the CRD remains in Victoria.

Instead of saving or at least neutralizing costs for hard-hit taxpayers as originally

proposed, an LCC could increase them significantly. There are many reasons why an LCC should be rejected, but the excessive cost to taxpayers is certainly a key one.

BOB MOFFATT,
SALT SPRING

Ample time

In his submission to the Driftwood last week, Chris Dixon urges delaying until next term the already organized referendum on an elected local community commission (LCC), despite additional taxpayer costs of \$60,000. He complains we're rushing voters, even though I announced the referendum in early January, and several published studies, including a detailed LCC discussion paper I commissioned, are publicly available.

I also formed an LCC Advisory Committee in March to consider community input and make recommendations to CRD (also publicly released) regarding the LCC. CRD published the LCC bylaws in early July, meaning that by Oct. 15, voters will have had three months to review the bylaws, and vote on them after nine months of studies, dozens of town halls/articles/editorials and lively social media and election debates.

Mr. Dixon won't discuss the merits of an elected LCC, like increasing elected CRD representation and accountability, he's just stalling. For the record, the CRD is proposing the same delegated authority

to the LCC as for the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, but this time voters will actually get to decide.

GARY HOLMAN,
SSI CRD DIRECTOR

Let bylaw rest

Regarding Bylaw 530, how about leaving things as they are pending a thorough review in five years? Folks with illegal rentals keep doing what they are doing, enforcement keeps doing what it isn't doing, and we all relax. Depending on the housing situation in 2027 we could stiffen the rules or not. The risk of the coming review likely would deter new investments in illegal rentals.

Meanwhile, Trust staff could reflect on the island's future. Will big-city money — the linchpin for the higher costs of everything we now experience, and the shortage of housing Bylaw 530 supposedly addresses — dry up or just keep coming? Maybe they could figure out how to create village cores meant for people to live in instead of cars to park in. Maybe see whether the extra costs of protecting and serving people building far from villages can be recovered. It isn't rocket science.

I'm not sure how we'll cope with "relaxing," given the energy and passion we've mustered around Bylaw 530. I trust we'll put it to good use.

BOB WEEDEN,
SALT SPRING

Salt Spring Fall Fair fans

My husband Rob and I wish to applaud and heartily congratulate the amazing "production" of your recent Salt Spring Fall Fair!

We are visiting the island from Tasmania, Australia, and were so thrilled to attend the event last weekend. What a commendable community spirit still alive and well here, something that, sadly, is fast disappearing elsewhere in society. Your volunteers, stall holders and the general organization of the event were fantastic! As horticulture and pavilion exhibition is a special interest, I was wowed not just by the quality and high standard of the exhibits but certainly by the presentation of the stands and displays in general. Someone worked very hard in preparing the staging.

To the hard-working committees and individuals, we sincerely thank you for your efforts and dedication in what you offered the public! Brilliant, we loved it.

Our home village in Oz will certainly be adopting the fun zucchini racing, but can we borrow the very entertaining commentator who with his assistants, was amazing with not just the audience but the young folk competitors?

With every good wish and congratulations!

ROSSLYN FERGUSON-PELLEY,
TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"There has to be a community that's prepared to say, 'We can't let this happen.' And so we're sort of exploring what it would take to do that."

JULIE MALLETT, DAISSI PRESIDENT, ON OPPOSING 2SLGBTQAI+ HARASSMENT AND HATRED

Royal encounters, with or without a sandwich in hand, recalled

I was lying in state recently and contemplating my own relationship with the late Queen and her family.

I saw her once, a tiny little thing in a hat, a bright coat, and carrying a handbag the size of a horsebox. I don't think she saw me, or if she did, she didn't acknowledge it, but I did proffer an enthusiastic and patriotic wave from the top of the London bus I was travelling on. I hadn't wanted to appear too forward nor too obsequious, so it was just a respectful flick of the wrist, and since I hadn't been carrying a Union Jack, I waved my bus ticket. Respectful, but not too ostentatious and in any case it's incredibly difficult to curtsey on a moving bus.

But she didn't wave back.

And that really is the extent of my royal anecdotes which is possibly why I am still waiting to be interviewed by someone from the CBC which has so far tapped anyone who so much as licked a postage stamp with the Queen's head on it.

They don't know what a splendid source of royal anecdotes they've overlooked . . . I would have told them how the Queen and her Duke visited the Daily Express when I worked there in the 1970s and were introduced to the staff . . . on my day off.

Princess Diana, yes, THAT Princess Diana, was a regular visitor to my office in London where she was chair of the Daily Mirror's Pride

of Britain awards, but she graciously ignored me. We once even shared an elevator. I was carrying a coffee and a sausage sandwich I'd bought for my lunch and she graciously ignored me then, too. Her security policeman presumably assumed that anyone with a coffee in one hand, a sausage sandwich in the other and mustard on his tie wasn't much of a threat and he also graciously ignored me.

It's one of those British paradoxes that the Daily Mirror, ostensibly the single anti-establishment, Labour tabloid amid a half dozen British Tory daily publications which regarded anyone below a duchess as working class, should invite Diana to front their celebration of ordinary people. But they did, and she accepted. And frankly, they don't come more ordinary than me, but she still looked straight through me.

Goodness knows I'm as much a royalist as the next man, especially since the passing of the dear late Queen has brought my own ascendancy to the throne one step closer and I now stand approximately 37 millionth in line behind King Charles. I'd be a lot closer if they hadn't thrown the succession open to the ladies so I also find



Paul McElroy

+ ANOTHER
THING

myself behind Princess Anne and Mrs Mc. I've yet to hear whether, like Harry and Meghan, I'm now entitled to call my sons Prince, but I rather suspect they'd prefer to stay humble. Well, a little bit humble since McElroy men are not particularly noted for self-effacement.

But for myself, I am especially well qualified to ascend the throne. I have all the requisites, a plummy English accent, only a very slight attachment to the real world, no great love for actual work and a diary that is empty from now until eternity. And, like the Queen, God bless her, I certainly count Canada among my favourite nations, except in the winter when I count Hawaii and parts of Australia as my favourite nations. Not that I ever get to go there, but a king is presumably able to write his own travel itinerary, so I daresay there would be little to stop me reigning from Bondi Beach for part of the year.

The chief drawback, however, is that I'm not entirely certain how much work reigning entails. I know the King is a constitutional monarch and is consequently a bulwark against Canada or Australia ever having a president like Donald Trump, which is a

good thing, and I know also that they are very good for British tourism, which is not a bad thing, but I've don't quite see how that works.

The Taj Mahal is also good for tourism, but visitors don't expect the descendants of Shah Jahan to be pottering around the gardens any more than they expect to see Spain's Moorish monarchs tending their peacocks in Granada's Alhambra Palace. Equally, I don't expect Charles and Camilla to conduct the tours of the Crown Jewels, Henry VIII's codpiece or Queen Victoria's knickers.

I did once own a tea towel with Charles and Diana's heads on it from happier times when King Charles was a common-or-garden Prince of Wales and Queen Camilla was still a salacious rumour. I also have a miniature figurine of the Queen, which waves regally. There is a tiny solar panel on her handbag to power her royal hand wave so it's rather jolly, but since I didn't pay for either of them and they were gifts, I don't see how I've contributed to the tourism coffers. On top of that, the waving queen was made in China which, at last reckoning, wasn't part of the United Kingdom.

In the meantime, I am practising my wave and ironing my flags in anticipation of King Charles III's visit to Salt Spring — while I am at Walmart in Duncan.

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Capital Regional District

CRD

Membership Opportunities

Water and Sewer Commissions

The Capital Regional District (CRD) invites applications for volunteers to serve as members of various Water and Sewer Commissions. Terms are for two years, starting January 1 each year.

At their Annual General Meetings (AGM's) held earlier this year, the following Commissions did not receive the required amount of nominations for upcoming vacancies.

- ▶ **Beddis Water Service Commission** (1 position available) - includes 4 members within the Beddis water service area (3 members must be owners of real property; and 1 member may be a resident or owner of real property). The service consists of 137 parcels and provides drinking water to 128 connections.
- ▶ **Cedar Lane Water Service Commission** (up to 2 positions available) - includes 3 resident or owners of real property within the Cedar Lane water service area; or a person who is prepared to represent the service area. The system provides drinking water to 37 connections.
- ▶ **Fernwood and Highland Water Service Commission** (1 position available for a 1 year term from January 1, 2023 -December 31, 2023) - includes 4 members Fernwood and Highland Water service area (3 members resident electors; and 1 member may be a resident elector of the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area). The system consists of 333 parcels, and provides drinking water to 321 connections.
- ▶ **Ganges Sewer Service Commission** (up to 3 positions available) - includes 5 members Ganges Sewer service area (4 members must be residents or owners of a business; 1 member may be a resident or owner of a business within the Electoral area; and 1 of the 5 members may be an employee or member of the school district, hospital, or community care facility which owns or manages property within the service area). The service consists of 416 parcels, and provides sewer service to 591 connections.
- ▶ **Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Disposal Local Service Commission** (up to 3 positions available) - Total membership on the committee is five plus the Electoral Area Director (five members must be persons entitled to vote on Salt Spring Island for the Electoral Area Director; one member must be from the Ganges Sewer Local Services Commission; and one member must be from the Maliview Sewer Local Service area).

Please submit your letter of interest and background information no later than **October 1, 2022** to:

Mail: CRD Electoral Area office
Suite 108-121 McPhillips Avenue, BC V8W 2S6
Email: sburnham@crd.bc.ca
Phone: 250.538.4304 for more information

DAISSI board members speak out

BY DAISSI BOARD MEMBERS

We on the board of DAISSI (Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island) are moved to reach out to our community at this time.

We are increasingly aware that this year transgender people are disproportionately facing harassment in our community, from our youth to those who are housing insecure. Harassment is happening on the streets and on social media, in the form of verbal abuse, scapegoating, and actual assault. We are aware that criticism and abuse is coming from individuals from a cross section of our community. Further, the island has people who are posting misinformation on social media to rationalize their negative opinions.

We feel our best role is to provide education and outreach across the community to make sure there are more people equipped to be informed and helpful. We do the work of showing up for the affected individuals and communities. We support our youth in standing up for themselves, we help get people facing abuse and ostracization to safety, and we even have worked with the police when incidents motivated by hate threaten to intimidate and marginalize queer people on this island.

We will continue to do that work, in every way we can. Our organiza-

tion is made up of volunteers. We must prioritize our time by spending it on proactively creating safe spaces for queer people in our community, and responding to individual and collective needs that are both urgent and ongoing. We consult with organizations seeking ways to educate their staff and be more inclusive in their services.

We find discussing differences

or concerns among us, that are grounded in our own lived experience, not opinion, is far more helpful and authentic than giving time to those few who want to garner attention to themselves through scapegoating individuals they don't actually know.

Our message at this time is we are asking the rest of our community to come forward both in supporting that work, and extending it out-



wards, to work to create positive messages in words and actions to support our 2SLGBTQIA+ community members, particularly our gender non-conforming and questioning individuals, and to help create more allies in our broader community.

We find discussing differences or concerns among us, that are grounded in our own lived experience, not opinion, is far more helpful and authentic than giving time to those few who want to garner attention to themselves through scapegoating individuals they don't actually know.

This work of speaking out by our allies to the queer community is especially important and appreciated at this time. Our allies are educating themselves and intervening on behalf of people who are often too vulnerable to speak up in the face of attacks.

Please continue to help make Salt Spring a safer community for all — diverse and inclusive.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Marcotte and Harris outline candidacy for Trust seats

Don Marcotte and Jamie Harris are running as slate for the two Salt Spring Islands Trust positions. Their submitted biographical information and reasons for running for the Trust were not received in time for last week's paper with the short turn-around time given, but are presented below. In other election news, candidate Jennifer Maksymetz has withdrawn from the trustee race.

DON MARCOTTE

Don Marcotte is a third-generation islander, living here on the island home he loves.

"Being born here and now with four children of his own, Don truly cares about the direction of the island's growth," states his submission.

"Having worked in trucking from the cement plant on Rainbow Road to owning his own gravel truck business for many years, along with being a heavy equipment operator with a great mechanical aptitude and now working at the highways department, he has gained a great knowledge for the workings of Salt Spring and the Outer Islands.

"Making friends wherever he goes with his open demeanour and quick wittedness, he is truly an amazing asset to our community."

JAMIE HARRIS

Jamie Harris came to Salt Spring from Ontario in 1990 as a young man and fell in love with the coastal and Gulf Islands culture.

He said he was highly influenced

by the rich history of the early settlers, along with First Nations, from their love of farming, commercial fishing, sustainable logging and lumber milling.

Harris worked in construction when first arriving on the island, then did commercial fishing for a few years in the 1990s.

"From selling firewood to the community for many years as well as being a ticketed tree faller and forester with many talents, Harris is well known throughout the community as being a hard-working fellow," his material states.

"With sons and family of his own he also cares deeply about the direction and future of the Gulf Islands and its inhabitants."

Marcotte and Harris say they are running for elected office because "We believe Salt Spring Island has a huge opportunity for positive sustainable growth while addressing the workforce housing crisis we are facing as a community first and foremost."

"We feel the Islands Trust has and is currently failing the community greatly with their lack of action concerning the workforce housing crisis we are experiencing here on Salt Spring."

"We are hearing from fellow islanders on a daily basis about how this is the number one issue on their minds right now. Nowhere for hospital workers, ferry workers, postal workers, construction workers, police, hydro workers . . . the list goes on. If this isn't addressed now, head on, we as a community are really in trouble."

ISLAND PRIDE

Supporting gender diversity & inclusion on Salt Spring Island

DAISSI

DAISSI shares bright spots and challenges

Youth activities a highlight as local group considers how best to serve community

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Like many not-for-profit groups, DAISSI — Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island — is in "soft restart" mode following the effects of the pandemic, which saw group activities either stop, shift to Zoom or to outdoor events with limited numbers.

The popular Pride parade and week of Pride activities has not occurred since 2019, and the group had already started shifting away from that format before COVID-19.

But DAISSI will have a big presence in this Saturday's Community Procession — part of On The Rise: An Arts Festival Navigating Climate Grief and Action — and is hosting the final event in the month-long festival, the Pride On The Rise Dance at the Farmers' Institute on Saturday, Oct. 1. (See separate story.)

DAISSI president Juli Mallett and treasurer/volunteer coordinator Jean Burgess sat down with the Driftwood last week to talk about the highlights and challenges for DAISSI in the past year, and what they hope to see going forward.

Perhaps the most exciting part of the last year was a high level of youth engagement, which saw DAISSI respond to requests from youth and parents to provide help with specific issues and to help facilitate events. Those included the 2022 youth Pride event at the high school and a pop-up dance at Beaver Point Hall.

Burgess said, "One of the trans parents came to me [after the dance] and said, 'What can I do to help DAISSI? This is the first time I've been in a safe space since I moved onto the island with my partner and kids.'"

Youth also organized a picnic in Centennial Park and have an event planned for the last Thursday of this month at the Core Inn.

Then there were the young people who were part of a DAISSI contingent in the Vic-



DAISSI's Jean Burgess and youth contingent in the Victoria Pride Parade in June.

PHOTO COURTESY DAISSI

toria Pride Parade in June, who ended up riding in the back of Burgess' old truck. It was the first Pride parade for several of them, said Burgess, and the experience was transformative.

"The DAISSI banner was being carried in front of the truck, and the crowd recognized Salt Spring. And they saw the trans placard being held up in the truck, and they saw it was youth and there was this uproar of applause and cheering."

The Salt Spring youth became more confident as the procession continued, even inviting peers from the crowd to come over to the truck to share high-fives.

Unfortunately, it was a negative incident that prompted DAISSI to be advocating for youth in the first place: a Pride flag was burned at Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) during a youth Pride event there in 2021. Mallett said that obviously caused significant anxiety for some GISS students, and did lead to productive discussions in the past school year, especially thanks to Ryan Massey (who as of August is the new GISS principal). That led to DAISSI reps being invited to talk to staff about gender transition and pronoun issues, for example.

"There's this real mix of things that are really easy to change," Mallett said. "And there's people who are really interested in

responding to that positively. But then there's basic things that we're having a harder time moving on, that we are continuing to be asked to be involved in advocating for."

One of those issues is getting gender neutral washrooms in place at GISS. At present there is only a single gender-neutral stall, which is not enough to serve students who need it.

"We've heard some pretty disturbing stories," said Mallett. "There's one trans youth I've spoken with on the island a fair amount who says, 'I get bullied and beat up if I go into the girls room; I get bullied and beat up if I go into the boys room, and I just want to be able to use the washroom. I just want to be able to pee somewhere.'"

While the school board and administration have stated a desire to provide additional gender-neutral washrooms at GISS, it has not happened yet.

Lack of gender-neutral washrooms in the wider community, as well as harassment of trans individuals, is another issue, especially for those who are housing insecure.

DAISSI heard that the level of harassment trans people face on the streets every day meant that in some cases they stopped the transitioning process or left the community "because they simply felt so unsafe," said Mallett.

Burgess and Mallett note that transgender people are taking the brunt of a backlash against increased visibility in recent years, with people in QAnon conspiracy circles and elsewhere falsely accusing them of being pedophiles and grooming heterosexual children to become trans. B.C. school districts, including SD64, have been pressured by these same circles to back away from trans-inclusive education, and some local election candidates in B.C. are running with strong anti-trans and anti-equal rights messages.

"It's very distressing," said Burgess, "and it's kind of a flashback for me because that's what I was told when I was 17, that people were 'grooming' me to become a lesbian. It's absurd but that's always a familiar story. And then if people pick up on that story through misinformation, or just ill will, it becomes harmful as well as distressing."

Burgess and Mallett stress the importance of standing up to the misinformation, discrimination against and harassment of trans individuals in the community.

"It feels like they're trying to establish a beachhead, or an outpost to build from, and it's like in the U.S., where we see these things around women's rights and trans rights," said Mallett. "There is this gradual eroding of rights, and as they go for the next group on the list, you can't be complacent."

Burgess said the loss of volunteers due to the pandemic has meant DAISSI must work on coalition building with other groups, as is being done with Transition Salt Spring, Salt Spring Arts and Graffiti Theatre to offer the Pride On The Rise Dance on Oct. 1.

The challenges of being an all-volunteer organization have become more apparent in the past year, said Burgess and Mallett, as they are called upon to respond to immediate community needs without paid staff. For example, DAISSI will get people asking "What can we do about somebody who's spreading transphobic memes on a Facebook group?" But beyond continuing to educate the community, the society isn't resourced enough to take specific action.

DAISSI continued on 9

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ISLAND PRIDE

YOUTH VOICES

New paths increase options to feel connected

Gender diverse youth encouraged to reach out for peer support and acceptance

BY JAQUELINE WIGHTMAN

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Pride is in the air and I am here to help remind you why we celebrate our uniqueness.

School is starting up and pride is on our minds, but despite the support we all have for each other in this community, there are still thoughts of hiding in the closet till it's safe to come out. At this time of year, especially with actions by the Supreme Court in the U.S., we need to stick together more than ever and let everyone there know that we are thinking of them.

Lots of people in this world are expanding. I can't get over the representation 2SLGBTQAI+ people are getting in the media now. Just this year we got the Heartstopper TV series (which blew through the roof with popularity), as well as shows aimed at younger audiences like The Owl House. And don't forget the queer-themed books we are getting now in all genres.

It may just seem like silly entertainment, but it means so much to everyone to see themselves represented throughout the media. I will never forget the first time I read Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning



PHOTO COURTESY JAQUELINE WIGHTMAN

Siblings Jaqueline, left, and Pyper Wightman seen from a unique perspective.

Thief. It was the first time I saw myself in anything, I will never forget how that felt and I hope with these new paths being laid you can feel that connection too.

The journey of self discovery is, from my experience, never ending. We are all constantly learning new things about ourselves. For me I most relate to being biromantic, and it took me a long time to discover this because of the trauma I had from a man, but I couldn't fully understand and accept myself without facing that fear head-on. What made facing that easier was surrounding myself with people who love and accept me and don't hold me to one thing forever.

We are lost trying to find ourselves a bit more every day. In life nothing fits us like we expect or want it to. I personally don't believe the bi label fully fits me, and that we are all trying to build up a puzzle of ourselves, searching for the pieces that fit best. Those pieces can be imperfect because we didn't make them ourselves, but they work. There are thousands of people just like us, trying to find a way in this crazy, beautiful world. Please, never forget you are not alone.

So I ask all of you to hold your head up high and each other up higher, because we are not alone, and no one should feel alone. In these coming months and years, reach out. If one person who feels lonely connects with another, that is two people who feel less adrift in the sea of life.

Happy Pride, everyone.

The writer is a Grade 11 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

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ISLAND PRIDE

Volunteer group adapts to changing demands



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

From left, DAISSI president Juli Mallett, who is also an Anglican minister and involved with the Salt Spring Community Health Advancement Network's Mental Wellness Initiative, and Jean Burgess, DAISSI treasurer and volunteer coordinator and coordinator of the Salt Spring chapter of the B.C. Community Response Network working on elder abuse issues.

DAISSI

continued from 7

"There has to be a community that's prepared to say, 'we can't let this happen.' And so we're sort of exploring what it would take to do that," said Mallett.

She said offering something like active bystander training to help people feel comfortable intervening safely when they witness harassment or violence is definitely desired by DAISSI, but would require funding and access to expertise the group does not currently have.

Similarly, DAISSI would like to do more for

older 2SLGBTQAI+ community members with the challenges of aging, as many do not have the support of family members when they need it the most.

In terms of reaching that segment of the island, the pandemic created an opportunity for online connection that has been positive, plus offering small intimate events often more suited to elders, observed Mallett, and showed that DAISSI can adapt to changing circumstances.

Continued adaptation and collaboration with others will be a focus for DAISSI in coming years.

"It can't be anymore that we do things in our silos for groups that are of a special interest," said Mallett. "It has to be that we recognize our interdependence and the intersections of our needs, and

support each other to create spaces in which our needs can be met, and to create events that are sustainable and that are not dependent on having the most access to resources."



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EVENTS

Dance and karaoke on tap

DAISSI also participates in Sept. 24 Community Procession

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Coming weeks will offer opportunities for 2SLG-BTQAI+ community members and allies to celebrate gender diversity and express their Pride at fun events.

First up on Friday, Sept. 23 is Pride Karaoke at the Legion. Postponed from last Friday after Legion events were cancelled due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II, it sees supper available from 6 to 8 p.m., with karaoke starting at about 7:30 p.m. People should aim to get a table by 7 p.m., advises organizer Scott Merrick, and they are welcome to dress up.

"There's thousands of songs to choose from as solos, duets and groups," he said.

On Saturday, Sept. 24, Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring (DAISSI) members will be participating in the On The Rise festival's Community Procession to express grief and desire for action about climate change. People are mustering at Mahon Hall at about 12:30 p.m. for the 1 p.m. start time.

The spotlight shifts to DAISSI on Saturday, Oct. 1

for the finale event of the climate arts festival. The Pride On The Rise Dance runs at the Farmers' Institute from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music starts at 8 p.m. Kids are welcome until 10 p.m., and a special area for them will have free non-sugary snacks and beverages, a foosball machine and whatever games families can bring along.

Entertainment will include DJ music by Boom Town Sound and guest DJ Scott Merrick, solo singing by Emily Andromeda, amateur drag performances and the Salt Spring Island Samba Band. Adults can enjoy a cash bar and food purchased from Dos Amores Tortilla. The event will have information tables on social issues affecting the queer community, merchandise and giveaways.

As a fundraiser for DAISSI's "soft restart," attendees' generosity will help create the 2023 Queer Pride Camping Village at the Farmers' Institute.

Dance tickets (\$15) are available at TJ Beans (cash only), online at revenue-can.keela.co/daissi-dance-registration or by transfer to daiissetreasurer@gmail.com.

Volunteer coordinator Jean Burgess notes that great dances need many helping hands, and 29 people are involved so far, but four more volunteers are needed on the security/vibe watchers team. An orientation and plan will be provided. Interested people should contact Burgess at daiisivolunteers@gmail.com.

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ISLAND LIFE

EVENTS

Procession part of climate fest

Parade and Mateada

Convergence rise up for climate action

SUBMITTED BY TRANSITION SS

Salt Springers will see a creative expression of climate grief and action with a 'community procession' through Ganges on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 1 p.m.

Part of the On The Rise Climate Action Arts Festival, the procession is a chance for groups and individuals to express their own responses to climate change by joining the procession or coming down to watch it wend its way through the downtown. It will end up in the parking lot between the Mateada, Barb's Buns and Transitions Thrift Store for the Mateada Convergence, a family-friendly afternoon and evening concert and community celebration, free and open to all.

Community members and groups are all welcome to join the procession with any type of costume, signage, puppets, art or performance that describes their feelings about climate change at this time. Participants are encouraged to be super



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Community members show marine-themed pieces created at a workshop led by Nayana Filkow for this Saturday's community procession as part of the On The Rise climate action festival. Everyone is invited to participate or to watch.

creative and use anything at their disposal to express themselves about the losses, the hope, the opportunities, the solutions and the resilience of Salt Spring to the increasing impacts of climate change. Contingents from community groups are particularly welcome.

To join in on the procession, meet at Mahon Hall at 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 24

to muster for a 40-minute procession through the town. There will be support systems in place to ensure a safe and fun experience for both viewers and participants. For more information, contact info@transitionsaltspring.com.

The On The Rise Festival is a co-creation of Transition Salt Spring, Graffiti Theatre and Salt Spring Arts.

POULTRY CLUB

Fowl shine at fall fair show

Provincial competition brings out the best

SUBMITTED BY SSI POULTRY CLUB

It was our third try to hold the American Poultry Association (APA) B.C. provincial show and it was well worth the wait!

The Sept. 10 Salt Spring Island show was held at the busy Salt Spring Fall Fair and welcomed 183 birds, 17 adult exhibitors and 18 junior exhibitors. With thousands of people through the gate, the poultry show was a highlight for all exhibitors, showing off 27 breeds of poultry, including chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys.

Clayton Botkin was our APA judge and offered the chance for feedback and learning to our junior exhibitors and volunteers. As many of our club members are new to APA shows, this was a huge benefit for everyone involved.

Last year's winner, Izzy Nowell, showed up with a new flock of bantam Rhode Island Reds (RIR) and again took the championship with an excellent cockerel hatched this spring. He was a clear winner and had Nowell taking open grand champion (CH) and junior champion. Her cockerel won CH bantam, CH single comb clean legged (SCCL) and CH RIR. Another cockerel took reserve bantam and JR reserve (RES) champion (RES,SCCL). Nowell is excited to bring her group of RIR to the Canadian national show in October and hopes to do Salt Spring Island proud.

Reserve champion was Ramona Trombley's bantam call drake. Trombley joined us from Cowichan and we were thrilled to welcome her for the day to the island. The call took champion waterfowl, with Salt Springer Elsie

Born's Toulouse gander having reserve waterfowl.

Champion large fowl was given to Ted Baker's Rhode Island Red hen (CH American) and reserve large fowl went to a pretty black australorp pullet (CH English) from Ali Yildizalp.

With only one turkey in the show, Anezka Sikora's bourbon red was a clear winner. At seven years of age, he still knew how to show off and gobble away all weekend, bringing in the fans.

Champion continental was given to Born's Maran hen (reserve to Julie Nowell's salmon Faverolle hen), champion Mediterranean to Baker's black leghorn pullet (reserve to Tilly Buck's light brown leghorn hen) and champion all other standard breeds to Rainie Bevilacqua's silver phoenix pullet (reserve to Julie Nowell, silver phoenix cock).

Champion SCCL and reserve went to two of Izzy Nowell's bantam RIR cockerels and champion rose comb clean legged to Ramona Trombley's partridge wyandotte pullets. Champion feather legged went to junior Heidi Magnus Fischer's lovely little Belgian bearded d'uccle pullet (reserve to Dorothy Copeland's Belgian bearded d'uccle cockerel).

We had a small waterfowl showing, with only nine entries. Junior large fowl went to Oliver Thring and his australorp pullet, and reserve junior large fowl to Buck and her light brown leghorn hen. We had no junior waterfowl entries this year.

We had 10 pet class birds entered with Robin Magnus Fischer taking champion with a beautiful RIR bantam pullet in excellent condition, and Bryn Pyper bringing in reserve.

The poultry club was excited to be able to share such a diverse and exciting range of poultry to the island this year.



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Community Information Meeting
Tues. September 6, 2022 @ 12:30 (in person)

Public Hearing
Tues. September 27, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. in person

South Community Hall
141 Sturdies Bay Road,
Galiano Island BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by
the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?
Brad Smith
Island Planner
Islands Trust
bsmith@islandtrust.bc.ca
778-679-5185

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour							
SEPTEMBER 2022 PST (UTC-8h)							
DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	
21	0731	1.0	3.3	25	0355	2.8	9.2
	1548	3.1	10.2		1013	1.3	4.3
WE	2140	2.5	8.2	SU	1704	3.0	9.8
ME				DI	2254	1.8	5.9
22	0046	2.6	8.5	26	0451	2.8	9.2
	0819	1.0	3.3		1047	1.5	4.9
TH	1612	3.1	10.2	MO	1719	3.1	10.2
JE	2154	2.4	7.9	LU	2323	1.5	4.9
23	0158	2.7	8.9	27	0549	2.9	9.5
	0900	1.1	3.6		1121	1.7	5.6
FR	1632	3.1	10.2	TU	1734	3.1	10.2
VE	2210	2.2	7.2	MA	2358	1.2	3.9
24	0259	2.7	8.9	28	0650	2.9	9.5
	0938	1.1	3.6		1157	2.0	6.6
SA	1649	3.0	9.8	WE	1750	3.1	10.2
SA	2230	2.0	6.6	ME			

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Proposed Bylaw 280

Rezoning to permit for the development of up to 20 residential affordable housing rental units.

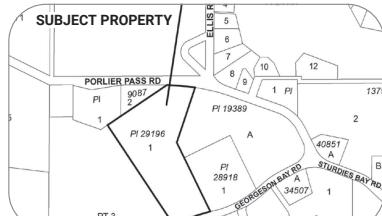
Subject Property Address: 409 Portier Pass Road
Parcel Identifier Number: 001-416-987
Application: GL-RZ-2021.1 (GALL)

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is Proposed Bylaw No. 280 about?

Proposed Bylaw No. 280 will amend Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127 by rezoning the subject property known as 'Galiano Green' to allow for the development of up to 20 residential affordable housing rental units. The property is currently zoned Community Housing 1 (CH1), and rezoning is required to allow for an increase in permitted density from 1 dwelling per lot to 20 dwellings per lot. Other amendments are also required to align the existing CH1 zoning for the subject property with the applicant's multi-unit affordable housing development proposal.



How do I get more information?

A copy of the proposed bylaws and other information are available on the Current Application [webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after September 11, 2022.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will take place in person to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendments. The Public Hearing will occur in person per the details on this notice.

Submissions

Written submissions may be delivered prior to 4:30 p.m., September 26, 2022 via: Mail or drop off: Islands Trust office at 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8 Email: vicphsb@islandtrust.bc.ca

At the Public Hearing: Written submissions will only be accepted until the close of the Public Hearing. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES

GIHA assumes Mouat riding ring management



PHOTO COURTESY GIHA

Present for the recent signing of the Mouat Park riding ring licence of use and memorandum of understanding are, from left, Salt Spring Farmers' Institute president Marguerite Lee, institute director Kerry Lee, CRD PARC manager Dan Ovington, Gulf Islands Horse Association vice-president Patricia Lockie and GIHA president Juliana Brossollette.

Funds needed to help bolster infrastructure

SUBMITTED BY GIHA

A pair of formal agreements means the community riding ring in Mouat Park is officially under new management.

The Gulf Islands Horse Association (GIHA) announced last week that a licence of use granted by the Capital Regional District (CRD) and a memorandum of understanding with the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute have combined to make management of the ring GIHA's responsibility for the next two years. The

Farmers' Institute was the previous licensee for the riding ring.

"This is an exciting development for GIHA in our mission to connect more island residents with horses," said GIHA president Juliana Brossollette, gratefully acknowledging the Farmers' Institute for its generosity in working with GIHA to provide access for riders and horse trailers.

"We are passionate about facilitating more human-horse interactions in our community and want to support educational learning opportunities — nature based experiences — at the Mouat Park ring."

Brossollette said future equestrian programming at the Mouat Park ring will include riding lessons, educational clinics, practical workshops and fun events for all ages; the ring will also be made available to members of the public and their horses for training purposes through an online booking system.

Before programming can start in earnest, however, Brossollette said funds are urgently needed for infrastructure upgrades at the site — most immediately drainage improvements and new footings for the ring, but also permanent horse corrals. To donate funds to help pay for these improvements, visit the giha.ca website.

what's on this week



Wed.

Sept. 21

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Nightengale & Martin. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

A Quiet Morning. Hosted by Star of the Sea and led by Richard Stetson. Prayer, silence, reading, contemplation. St. Mary's Church. 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. For more info visit staroftheseassi.ca.

Salt Spring United Soccer Club AGM. Annual general meeting at Portlock Park portable. 6 p.m.

Salt Spring Museum. Open in Bittancourt House on the Farmers' Institute grounds on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thur.

Sept. 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Daryl Chonka. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

MotherGoose. Weekly program for families and children aged 0 to 4 in the library program room. 11 a.m. to noon.

Grief Circle With Elisa Lee. Part of the On the Rise festival. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Register through www.transitionsaltspring.com/rise.

Danielle Blackwood Book Launch. Island author and astrologer reads from her new book called *A Lantern in the Dark*. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.

Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Fri.

Sept. 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Pride Karaoke. At the Legion. Dinner served from 6 to 8 p.m. Karaoke begins at 7:30 p.m. A Pride All Year DAISSI event. (Postponed from last week.)

Duck Creak Trio. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

The Costners. At Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

ASK Salt Spring. This week's guests are MoTI and Emcon reps speaking on local road issues. United Church Meadow. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In case of rain, see ask-saltspring.com for new venue.

Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Fri.

ACTIVITIES

StoryWalk. Self-guided family activity. Follow the signs from the Salt Spring Public Library through Mouat Park toward Rainbow Road. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays through Mondays.

Friday Games Night for Teens. Join all kinds of players of all skill levels and dive into the Salt Spring Public Library's massive board game collection in the community program room. Ages 13-19. 7 p.m.

Sat.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Mateada Convergence – A Community Celebration! A family friendly afternoon and music featuring The Boom Booms, Logan Staats, Raincity, Amphibious, Daryl Chonka, Hilltop Pranksters, Safiya Labelle and more. Mateada parking lot from 2 to 10 p.m.

Rebecca Jenkins with Joel Bakan. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Buck Dodgers Band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Vagablonde. Cover music band at the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

On the Rise Festival Community Procession. Everyone welcome to join the climate action procession that begins at Mahon Hall at 1 p.m. (Muster earlier, please) and winds its way through town to Mateada.

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

Teen Oracle. Bring your tarot, oracle and inspiration decks, your crystals, singing bowls and mystical treasures and check out some of our collection. Join resident crystal collector and oracle card enthusiast for an hour of mystical fun and sharing. Ages 13-19. Contact atrepanner@saltspringlibrary.com for more information. Library Teen Zone. 1 to 2 p.m.

Salt Spring Historical Society Presentation. Historian Jack Little presents his paper called *The In-Between World of a Coast Salish Shaman: Charlie Wilson / Chliraminset of Penelakut Island, 1880-1904*. Salt Spring Public Library. 2 p.m.

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

Sept. 23

ACTIVITIES

StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Sun.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Blues Jam. A Salt Spring Jazz and Blues Society event at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Rainwater Harvesting Tour 2022. Part of the On the Rise festival. Map and details at www.transitionsaltspring.com/rise.

Getting to the Root – Building a Living Mandala. Create a medicine mandala for the planet at The Root, 186 Beddis Rd. 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register at www.transitionsaltspring.com/rise.

StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Salt Spring Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Mon.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Transportation Commission. Public meeting at the library program room. 1 p.m.

StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Tues.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Live Poetry Reading. Salt Spring Poetry Club hosts an event as part of the On the Rise festival at the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

Wed.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Island Garden Club Meeting. With guest speakers Bob and Verna Duncan on Growing Stone Fruits in South Coastal B.C. Meaden Hall. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Salt Spring Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.

Sept. 24

ACTIVITIES

StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Sept. 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Blues Jam. A Salt Spring Jazz and Blues Society event at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Rainwater Harvesting Tour 2022. Part of the On the Rise festival. Map and details at www.transitionsaltspring.com/rise.

Getting to the Root – Building a Living Mandala. Create a medicine mandala for the planet at The Root, 186 Beddis Rd. 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register at www.transitionsaltspring.com/rise.

Sept. 26

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Transportation Commission. Public meeting at the library program room. 1 p.m.

Sept. 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Live Poetry Reading. Salt Spring Poetry Club hosts an event as part of the On the Rise festival at the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

Sept. 28

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Island Garden Club Meeting. With guest speakers Bob and Verna Duncan on Growing Stone Fruits in South Coastal B.C. Meaden Hall. 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Salt Spring Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.

Sept. 28

VIA ZOOM

Salt Spring Local Election Candidates Forum. Sponsored by Transition Salt Spring and SS Solutions. Register at formcan.keela.co/all-candidates-town-hall. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

THE FRITZ CINEMA

Nope runs from Friday, Sept. 23 to Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. each night. No Sunday matinee.

For more movie info, see thefritz.ca.

EXHIBITIONS

Octogony — work by Patricia Balsor, Susan Benson, Chintan Bolliger, Ronald T. Crawford, Jen Holmes, Patrick McCallum, Michael Robb (estate) and Michael Wall — opens at Mahon Hall on Friday, Sept. 23 with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m., continuing daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Oct. 2.

Cheryl Long and Nathalie St-Amant present **Translation**, a collection of paintings that explore the stories that emerge from landscape, runs at Salt Spring Gallery until Oct. 5, Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Self-Guided Art Walk - part of the On the Rise Climate Arts Festival. Grab a map at Mahon Hall and head downtown for the self-guided art tour of work by over a dozen local artists accessed via poster QR codes and your phone.

Local island textile artists share their perspectives and stories about climate change in **A Planet in Crisis** exhibit at ArtSpring through September. Part of the On the Rise Climate Arts Festival.

Ultimatum of the Scattered World is an art installation on display at the Salt Spring Public Library program room until Sept. 27. Part of the On the Rise Climate Arts Festival.

Pierre Mineau is showing black and white landscape images in the Country Grocer Café for the month of September 2022.

On The Rise

Climate-themed arts festival: Community Procession and Mateada Convergence on Sat., Sept. 24, plus many more events! See transitionsaltspring.com/rise for all the details.

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DANCE PERFORMANCE

Ballet group opens ArtSpring season

Broadway On Pointe and other works by Ballet Victoria

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

ArtSpring's new season opens in fine form, with a world premiere from Ballet Victoria. As regular visitors to ArtSpring, the company has previously wowed audiences with productions of Dracula, Romeo and Juliet, and The Rite of Spring. And the dancers will be doing that again with Broadway On Pointe and other works, on Sunday Oct. 2, at 2:30 p.m.

Artistic director Paul Destrooper is excited to be returning, and says the show of three new works is coming along beautifully in rehearsals. The program opens with Le Banc, the story of a park bench which holds various meanings for the people who use it, and is danced to selected cello suites by J.S. Bach. The world premiere second piece is choreographed by Andrea Bayne, the company's former prima



PHOTO COURTESY ARTSPRING

ballerina. Is This The Real Life explores human interactions and connections in today's

hyper-connected world. Bayne was thrilled to be able to work with the company on this new

piece. "It was truly an amazing experience, and the fabulous BV dancers learned a 13-minute piece in just four rehearsal days! They were all open, giving and I was overwhelmed by how much effort they put into trying new things."

For the second act, Broadway on Pointe tells the story of two stars, one rising and one setting, who find themselves at odds before befriending each other. Broadway's most iconic show tunes — including Big Spender, All That Jazz and Too Darn Hot — drive the bold choreography filled with drama, passion, humour, romance and a few sequins.

Destrooper describes the production as, "a program where music and dance become a seamless emotional journey through space and time for all to enjoy."

And as well as launching our own season with this exhilarating performance, 2022-23 marks the 20th anniversary of the Ballet Victoria company. Come and celebrate with us both!

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 SALT SPRING ARTS &
 ENTERTAINMENT
 HAPPENINGS,
 SEE OUR
WHAT'S ON CALENDAR
 ON PAGE 12.

FINE ART

Octogony at Mahon Hall

Show of work by eight artists, including the late Michael Robb, opens on Friday

SUBMITTED BY OCTOGONY ARTISTS

The third showing of the Octogony Exhibition is set to open on Friday, Sept. 23 at Mahon Hall.

The initial Octogony exhibit was held in 2018, conceived to honour Michael Robb, the man and his art. Robb was very ill in the two years prior to the show, and passed away three months after its completion.

Robb was very influential in many of Salt Spring Island's early art initiatives, including the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists, and The Art Night community of artists, in addition to curating many well-received group shows. He was also a tireless supporter of local art and artists. He did not want a retrospective while he was alive but rather a final group show with his friends and peers in Mahon Hall.

Octogony 2022 is a continua-

tion of this collective exhibition featuring a selected group of local artists in addition to works by Robb. Octogony preserves Robb's continued legacy while promoting new works by both well-established and mid-career Salt Spring Island artists of note.

The eight artists are Michael Wall, Patricia Balsor, Susan Benson, Chintan Bollinger, Ronald T. Crawford, Jen Holmes, Patrick McCallum and the Michael Robb Estate.

Viewers can expect a wide range of compelling visual art from photography and large-scale figurative works to abstract paintings and ceramic sculptures.

In addition to the exhibition there will be a hosted artists panel discussion where the Octogony members can discuss their creative processes and details of their work and careers.

The show opening is on Friday, Sept. 23, from 6 to 9 p.m., with all artists in attendance and wine served. The show will run from Sept. 23 until Oct. 2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the entire space of Mahon Hall.

Octogony artists are grateful for the support from Salt Spring Arts.

NATIONAL DAY OF

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION
 SEPTEMBER 30TH

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

Driftwood

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driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com • www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

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ON THE RISE & MATEADA
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MATEADA CONVERGENCE
 a free community event

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24

MATEADA PARKING LOT

THE BOOM BOOMS
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Notice of Election by Voting and Acclamation | 2022 General Local Election**Islands Trust—Local Trustees**

(Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Piers, Salt Spring, Saturna, South Pender)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that General Voting Day will be held from **8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Saturday, October 15, 2022** to elect persons to serve a four-year term of office from November 2022 until after the 2026 General Local Election, held in accordance with the *Local Government Act*, as Local Trustees for the five Local Trust Areas under the *Islands Trust Act*. The persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

Galiano Island Local Trust Area – two Trustees to be elected:

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Lisa	GAUVREAU	Galiano Island, BC
Ben	MABBERLEY	Galiano Island, BC
John	RONSLEY	Galiano Island, BC
Jane	WOLVERTON	Galiano Island, BC

Mayne Island Local Trust Area – two Trustees to be elected:

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Jeanine	DODDS	Mayne Island, BC
Deb	FOOTE	Mayne Island, BC
David	MAUDE	Mayne Island, BC

North Pender Island Local Trust Area – two Trustees to be elected:

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Aaron	CAMPBELL	Pender Island, BC
Deb	MORRISON	Pender Island, BC
Mary Beth	RONDEAU	Vancouver, BC

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area – two Trustees to be elected:

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Ben	CORNO	Salt Spring Island, BC
Gary	GAGNE	Salt Spring Island, BC
Jamie	HARRIS	Salt Spring Island, BC
Don	MARCOTTE	Salt Spring Island, BC
Jenny	MCCLEAN	Salt Spring Island, BC
Laura	PATRICK	Salt Spring Island, BC
Elissa	POOLE	Salt Spring Island, BC

South Pender Island Local Trust Area – two Trustees to be elected:

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Dag	FALCK	Pender Island, BC
Kristina	PESZEL	Pender Island, BC
Cameron	THORN	Pender Island, BC

The following candidates are elected by acclamation:**Saturna Island Local Trust Area – Two Trustees to be acclaimed:**

Given Name	Surname	Residential Address
Mairead	BOLAND	Saturna Island, BC
Lee	MIDDLETON	Saturna Island, BC

The following constitutes the designated island trust areas for the purpose of electing local trustees to the Islands Trust:

Galiano Island Local Trust Area - Galiano, Ballingall, Charles, Gossip, Julia, Lion Islets, Parker, Retreat, Sphinx, Wise, Lot 145 Whaler Bay.

Mayne Island Local Trust Area - Mayne, Curlew, Georgeson.

North Pender Island Local Trust Area - North Pender, Boat Islet, Fane, Roe Islet, Lot 31 A & B Colston Cove, Lot 50 Grimmer Bay, Lot 176 Otter Bay, Lot 32 Bedwell Harbour, Arbutus, Brethour, Chads, Coal, Comet, D'Arcy, Forrest, Gooch, Goudge, Hood, Imrie, James, Knapp, Moresby, Portland, Pym, Rubly, Rum, Sidney, Tortoise Islets.

Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area - Salt Spring, Acland, Bright, Buriel Islet, Channel, Deadman, Goat, Grace, Hall, Hawkins, Idol, Isabella, Jackscrew, Mowgli, Norway, Piers, Prevost, Red Islets, Russell, Secretary, Secret, Sisters - First, Second, Third, Wallace, Lot 73 Long Harbour, Lot 349 Ganges Harbour, Lot 222 Long Harbour, Lot 344 Stuart Channel.

Saturna Island Local Trust Area - Saturna, Anniversary, Belle Chain Islets, Cabbage, Java Islets, King Islets, Lizard, Pine, Samuel, Trevor Islet, Tumbo, Lot 65 East of Samuel.

South Pender Island Local Trust Area - South Pender, Blunden Islet, Skull Islet.

Voting Opportunities

GENERAL VOTING will be open to qualified electors of the Island Local Trust Area on **Saturday, October 15, 2022, from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm**, at:

Salt Spring Island (including Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area, except Piers Island)

- ▶ Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ▶ Fulford Hall Seniors' Centre, 2591 Fulford Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ▶ Salt Spring Island Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ▶ Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

Southern Gulf Islands (including Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, South Pender Local Trust Areas and Piers Island)

- ▶ Galiano Lions Hall, 992 Burrill Road, Galiano Island, BC
- ▶ Mayne Island Community Hall, 493 Felix Jack Road, Mayne Island, BC
- ▶ Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, BC
- ▶ Piers Island Fire Hall, 116 McKenzie Crescent, Piers Island, BC
- ▶ Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

ADVANCE VOTING opportunities will be available on **Wednesday, October 5, 2022** and **Wednesday, October 12, 2022 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm**, at:

Salt Spring Island (including Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area, except Piers Island)

- ▶ Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ▶ Salt Spring Island Public Library, 129 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ▶ Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

Southern Gulf Islands (including Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, South Pender Local Trust Areas and Piers Island)

- ▶ Galiano Lions Hall, 992 Burrill Road, Galiano Island, BC
- ▶ Mayne Island Community Hall, 493 Felix Jack Road, Mayne Island, BC
- ▶ Pender Islands School, 5714 Canal Road, Pender Island, BC
- ▶ Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church, 9296 East Saanich Road, North Saanich, BC

Mail Ballot Voting

Mail ballot voting is open to all resident and non-resident property electors. To register to vote by mail, electors must submit a completed mail ballot application form and return to elections@crd.bc.ca before October 1, 2022 to permit time for mailing. Application forms are available at www.crd.bc.ca/vote. To be counted, the elector is responsible for ensuring their mail ballot is received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, October 14, 2022 at the addresses below:

Hand Delivery: Capital Regional District, Legislative Services, 5th floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

Mailing by Post: Capital Regional District, Legislative Services, PO Box 1000, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Elector Qualifications

Resident Elector - You are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on general voting day, are a Canadian Citizen and have resided in British Columbia for the past six months. If registering on voting day, you must provide two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature). Please note the CRD is using the Provincial Voters List for Resident Electors.

Non-Resident Property Elector - If you are 18 years or older on general voting day, are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the Island Local Trust Area for the past 30 days, and do not qualify as a Resident Elector, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you: a) have registered on or before August 23, 2022, or b) register at the time of voting. The following information is required at the time of registration:

- ▶ a recent title search, state of title certificate, or property tax notice, showing the names of all of the registered owners,
- ▶ two documents proving identity and residency (one must have a signature), and
- ▶ in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form signed by the majority of the owners, designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property. A copy of the consent form is available at: www.crd.bc.ca/vote

Identification

The following are examples of acceptable classes of documents for proof of identity: BC Driver's Licence; BC ID card (BCID); BC Services Card; Social Insurance Card; Citizenship Card; property tax notice; credit card or debit card issued by a savings institution; and utility bill.

For more information, please contact the Capital Regional District at 250.360.3642 or Toll Free 1.800.663.4425 local 3642, or by email at elections@crd.bc.ca.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2022

Kristen Morley

Chief Election Officer

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Obituaries

Obituaries

URSULA LIVINGSTON



Ursula Livingston passed away peacefully at Sidney All Care Centre. Ursula emigrated to Canada at a young age.

After several years working for Air Canada as a Flight Attendant she enrolled at York University and obtained a Masters Degree in Environmental Studies. After retirement she became a resident of Saltspring Island. Ursula spent a lifetime promoting environmental issues and had a keen love and respect for all animals, especially her many canine companions. She was an avid reader and a regular at the Saltspring Public Library and took great joy in gardening. She was a member of the Salt Spring Island Branch of the Canadian Federation of University Women, serving as its President for several years.

Predeceased by her husband, Jake, and Jake's son Least, she leaves behind her sisters Ingrid, Gerda and Karin, niece Carola and family, her husband's children Sally and Zeke/Tina and family, and many friends.

Notation from Ursula's family: "With love, your sister Ingrid with Carola, Benni and Sonja," and from close friends "May Ursula Rest in Peace. With sincere best wishes, Sandra and Kelly and Family."

Thank you to doctors and staff at Lady Minto Hospital and Sidney All Care Centre. A special thank you to Sandra and Janet who supported Ursula throughout her last few years. Donations can be made to a charity of choice, or planting a tree in Ursula's name would be a fitting tribute to honour her love of nature.

In Memoriam

Coming Events

Coming Events

**Salt Spring United Soccer Club
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday Sept. 21, 2022
6:00pm
PORTLOCK PORTABLE
Everyone welcome and your input is seeked.



Coming Events

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET

At Fulford Hall
Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022
10am - 2pm
*Call 250-537-5482 for table rentals.
8'-S\$5; 4'-S\$20.*


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In Memoriam

In Memoriam

ALISTAIR HAYNE

May 11, 2001 - Sept. 24, 2017



Alistair, as we mark the 5th anniversary of your passing, we remember your beautiful smile, friendly nature and open, loving heart. We reflect on the lessons of kindness, humour and authenticity you brought to us. As time marches on we hold you safely in our hearts and deepen in our love, for you and for one another. We celebrate all the days that you lived. You are never far and may your spirit know how cherished you are.

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Happy Autumn Equinox! The last official quarter of the year begins. The chart cast for the exact moment of equinox, when the Sun enters Libra in the Tropical Zodiac, offers insights regarding key themes for the season.

Here is a brief overview: We can expect to see increasingly less confidence among the masses in the authority and integrity of many current government. Existing networks seeking change will prove effective and they will build momentum, yet most new movements that begin and new heroic figures that rise over the next few months will likely prove ineffectual. Cries for justice by new movements and marches will not get the attention desired, yet will plant seeds of critical thinking regarding what is true, lawful and just among the people. An already growing instinctual back-to-the-land and closer to the garden impulse will gain momentum, yet the reality versus lofty ideals will require more diligence and knowledge than anticipated. Consequently, sales by those selling such knowledge, like gardening techniques and almanacs, will increase.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) A constructive and productive mood prevails for you as the new season begins. Getting outside will hold strong appeal, even if just for a stroll, bike, hike or paddle, but especially so while you get stuff done. The stuff could be reading in the yard or on the deck. Either way, fall air and productivity is the call.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20) New enthusiasts to astrology will warn you with wide eyes not to do anything official while Mercury is retrograde. But, such extreme attitudes are seldom entirely true. It is a good time to make repairs and if you must enter into contracts or make investments, be sure to read the fine print and keep receipts.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21) The Sun cycle through Libra suggests a generally a creative and playful one for you. Mercury retrograde could admittedly prove somewhat complicated due largely to over-analyzing things and stirring self-doubt. Focus to clear the clutter especially from your mind with a simple attitude of gratitude.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22) Quality time shared with family will likely prove especially attractive now. You may be navigating some complex perceptual terrain, it is true. If so, the solution is to listen and observe more and to speak and share your opinions less. Positively, you will enjoy rich intellectual exchanges along with the warmth and fuzzies.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23) Sharing your views could cause a stir during this Libra cycle. The biggest casualty could be linked to your public and professional life. Yet, you are in a punchy and rebellious mood, so you are wise to weave in as much diplomacy as you can. Aim for philosophical speculation and avoid asserting controversial opinions.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22) Libra time is one during which your focus is to get extra clear on your priorities. Assessing what is fact and what is fantasy is featured. With both Mercury and Venus in your sign this week, your powers of self-expression will prove extra sharp and pointed, abundant with critical analysis.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22) The Sun in your sign will activate the impulse to take new leads. These may be as much to dream, reflect and contemplate on matters as to take literal action. Meanwhile, a spirit of adventure has been teasing for a while and it will continue for some time, so enjoy the urge to retreat because it won't last long.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) When the Sun enters the sign that precedes our own, we tend to feel drawn inward. This constitutes a resting and preparing cycle for the initiative and action-oriented impulse when the Sun enters our sign. Mars in Gemini meanwhile is activating your ambitions as Pluto keeps pushing your mind open.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) Asserting your sense of individuality will become more obvious starting this week. Although Mercury retrograde presents a subtle check on your confidence levels, it will help you to be more focused. Obtaining new tools, techniques and methods to facilitate your success focus is featured.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19) Libra time is opportunity for you to get attention and push for earned rewards, like a promotion, for example. Mercury retrograde in Virgo will help with this focus, especially if you feel like you feel lost in your current situation. In short, to find your way again, more forward deliberately and strategically.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19) An intellectual impulse will lead you into conducting some deeper research starting this week. Contending with what can be described as emotional disturbance is part of the plot. Making room for a playful and sporting attitude will help counter an otherwise stifled mood.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20) A dive into the deeper reaches of your mind will become evident this week. So, allow yourself time and opportunity to increase your self-understanding. Yet, dealings with others will push to give more than you might usually. By focusing more on others when you are present with them, you will find the sweet spot.

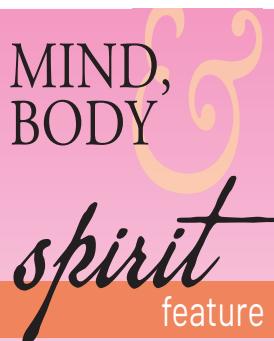
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MURALS ON SALT SPRING

Mural tour highlights big art project



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Island Hopping mural by Damian John uses leaping humans and animals in a parkour theme.

Ganges gets impactful artworks

BY GAIL SJUBERG

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

While three new murals in Ganges are now visible to everyone, some community members enjoyed a tour with artists and project organizers last Tuesday evening.

Paige Bowman, David Camisa and Damian John are the three artists chosen from an original field of 54 who responded to the call for artists put out by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce (SSCOC) and Salt Spring Arts.

Yael Wand of Salt Spring Arts and SSCOC Ganges vibrancy coordinator Inga Michaelsen led the tour. Wand told Tuesday's peripatetic crowd that before making the call the team researched how other communities had chosen mural artists.

"Every community really has different intentions, and different goals and different ways of approaching it," she said. "For us, it was really important that we had an open call that was open both for local artists, but also Canadian artists. One of the intentions was to get really high-level mural artists from across the country showing us how murals can impact Ganges. We wanted to start on a really high footing."

Salt Spring Arts also held an online mural workshop to help potential applicants with their proposals.

Bowman, whose SEALS artwork adorns the huge cement space on the south wall of the Harbour Food Market building, took that workshop to augment their previous mural and artistic experience.

Bowman, who is based in Vancouver, said much of their work is based on animals, creature and fantasy stories, and seals are a familiar part of west coast and Gulf Islands waters.

"They are pretty solitary animals, but they are extremely intelligent. They have a lot of features and ways to communicate."

Bowman spoke to the "logistical challenges" of the site: especially its location in a narrow alley — now known as Lam's Lane to recognize the longtime resident Lam family that owns the building — where usual image projection techniques and a lift couldn't be used.

"It's the largest and most challenging project I've done so far," said Bowman, who has been a mural artist since 2016.

Bowman gave a shout-out to mural proj-

ect coordinator Andrew Pussa, especially for his help with the scaffolding.

"He is honestly largely responsible for taking it apart and moving it around as quickly as we could," they said.

The tour then took in Camisa's Rise Up mural on the Glad's Gelateria building, which is sponsored by Transition Salt Spring (TSS) and has a climate change theme. As that exact spot is expected to be impacted by rising waters and king tides in coming decades, it portrays curling waves where salmon jump as a determined-looking woman holds a heron.

Camisa also lives in Vancouver and has done previous murals. He said his work is often quite whimsical and "an escape from reality," which made him wonder if a mural raising awareness of a serious subject like climate change was the right choice for him. But on reflection he realized that approaching the serious subject through the eyes of an optimist was an appropriate choice.

"The threat [of climate change] is there, but I see hope in this piece."

TSS board member Darlene Gage spoke on behalf of her organization, expressing thanks to Camisa for being able to touch people with a climate change message through art.

"I'm really super appreciative to you, David, for taking us to this really beautiful place," she said.

"It's like, here it is. It's real. It's actually bigger than the person and bigger than nature in some ways, but there's a strength and a hope. And I like the ferocity as well being portrayed here."

After some tour participants took advantage of complimentary product servings from Glad's Gelateria, everyone met at the lane between the Salt Spring Coffee and Creekside buildings to learn about Damian John's Island Hopping piece, which colourfully depicts Indigenous people in motion with various local animals.

"There's a little bit of parkour to get through the islands with the animals helping the people and the people being with the animals," he said.

John said he used spray paint because its opacity is so powerful.

"It makes the colours show in a really strong way, which I don't get when I use just regular old paint."

The mural tour concluded with treats and coffee provided by Salt Spring Coffee Co.

Selection committee members were Elizabeth FitzZaland, Michael Mann and Charlene Johnny.

Wand, Michaelsen and the artists all thanked the business and property owners involved. The project was largely funded by the THRIVE Small Capital Program of the Island Coastal Economic Trust.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Salt Spring Arts executive director Yael Wand introduces Rise Up mural creator David Camisa.

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