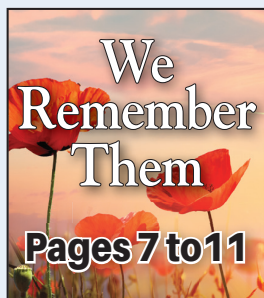


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Wednesday,
Nov. 8, 2023

63rd year
Issue 45
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PHOTO BY DAVID BORROWMAN

SEE MY MEMORABILIA: Island residents show posters, programs and other treasures from the past 25 years of ArtSpring's existence at an open house event recently held at the arts centre. Items will be part of a 25th anniversary visual display being coordinated by Seth Berkowitz, centre at back in the photo. People are welcome to contact ArtSpring via communications@artspring.ca or 250-537-2125 if they have photos or other items to share.

HOUSING SECURITY

Drake Road group packing up

People asked to leave and remove belongings by Nov. 7

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Saying the site needed to be cleared to build permanent homes, a provincial subsidized housing provider last week gave an encampment on Salt Spring until Nov. 7 to vacate, leaving the "mutual community support" group there with few options.

Several individuals remaining at 161 Drake Rd. were packing up as the Driftwood was going to press on Monday afternoon, with Green Ground Community Design Society's Nejmah Guermoudi saying that BC Housing representatives told the group a dumpster would likely be offered shortly. Outreach workers were also at the site offering to help people fill out forms to apply for income assistance — which many don't need, she said.

— which many don't need, she said.

"Quite a few don't actually require income assistance, because they are working members of the community," said Guermoudi. "They're also getting people signed up for the BC Housing registry, which we all know can take up to three years or longer to actually get placed in a home. It's not enough."

A BC Housing spokesperson confirmed a Notice of Trespass was delivered to 161 Drake Rd. Monday, Oct. 30 — on behalf of the leaseholder, the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation (PHRC) — asking people living there to "voluntarily leave the site and remove personal possessions including vehicles" by Nov. 7.

"The Drake Road property is leased by BC Housing and is slated for development," read

a statement to the Driftwood from BC Housing, which administers properties held by PHRC. "BC Housing recognizes the challenges with lack of affordable housing in the community, and that's why permanent housing is being built at this site."

The agency has been planning to build 28 units of supportive housing on the site since it announced its lease from the Capital Regional District (CRD) in early 2022. Complications with both contractors and the riparian parcel itself have been blamed for delays, although BC Housing representatives have said the project could still be completed by the end of 2024.

DRAKE ROAD continued on 2

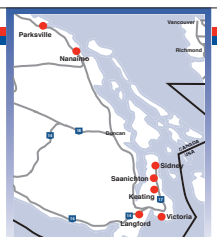
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'Sanctuary' members seek new landing spot

DRAKE ROAD

continued from 1

Local elected officials and community organizers with direct ties to the campers had met with BC Housing representatives prior to the trespass notice, and as the Driftwood went to press last Monday the Drake Road property was visited by police and outreach workers — both from the Umbrella Society and from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduc-

tion, according to a BC Housing spokesperson. Information and resources were provided to the campers, including "free tent camping options," they said.

Reached for clarification, BC Housing stated that referred to the dignity shelter area dedicated in the field at Mount Park — where unhoused are allowed to set up a tent between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., with the expectation that it comes down each day.

Other options suggested reportedly

included space for two people currently available at the Kings Lane temporary supportive housing facility, operated by the Umbrella Society, and some expanded capacity coming available at the former Land Bank property on Dean Road, now operated by the Lookout Society, where Salt Spring CRD director Gary Holman said he was told five or six more spaces will become available sometime this month.

The move to clear people and some eight to 10 vehicles and tents off the land was not entirely unexpected; BC Housing has previously said it did not believe that encampments generally were a long-term suitable form of housing — and that an encampment at the 5.5-acre parcel on Drake Road could create "significant risks for the wellbeing of campers and of the broader community."

The encampment that calls itself "The Sanctuary" began in late September, according to Guermoudi, as a cohesive

community she said had been previously displaced multiple times from park properties.

Guermoudi said the group's model of "mutual community support" was more valuable to people who were struggling than the "top-down, service-oriented social services industry."

"The fact that we'd had a meeting before, and they seemed somewhat receptive, it felt like a real jab, actually, to come up here and see that they're actually trying to lock down a level of enforcement," said Guermoudi.

It was unclear where the group will transition to, or indeed whether they would remain together. Guermoudi repeated a request for anyone with private land and an interest to reach out to her.

BC Housing said they are still finalizing details of a revised construction timeline for the supportive housing project at Drake Road.

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TOPONYMY

Point's name questioned

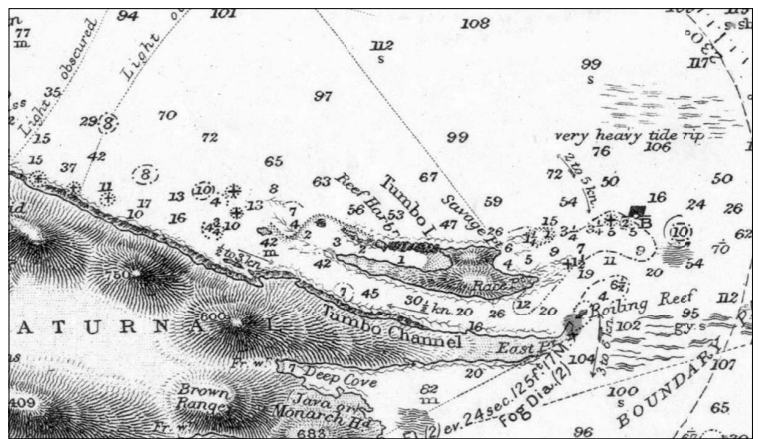


PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

A map from 1918 showing Tumbo Island's Savage Point, from a survey completed by H.M.S. Plumper in 1859. The Plumper's crew included familiar names like Lt. Richard Charles Mayne and ship's Master Daniel Pender.

'Savage' Point name could be rescinded

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A point on a small island off Saturna is at the centre of an investigation to determine whether its name is derogatory — and local governments have been asked to chime in.

The Islands Trust — along with other local organizations and governing bodies, including several First Nations representatives — has been asked to comment on a request to rescind the name of Tumbo Island's Savage Point, received by the BC Geographical Names Office (BCGNO).

"The request is to rescind the name, and does not include officially replacing it," reads a letter from BCGNO provincial toponymist Trent Thomas, who also serves on the Geographical Names Board of Canada. "Consideration to rescind this official name is based on the offensive nature of the language in the name."

Tumbo lies just north of the east end of Saturna Island — missing out on being the easternmost Gulf Island by some 500 metres — and Savage Point points northeast into the Strait of Georgia. According to BCGNO's records, the name was first established on

British Admiralty Charts in 1859, and officially adopted in 1945 — although the significance or origin of the name was not recorded.

The BCGNO said it is aware of the potential harms arising from derogatory language in geographical names and would like to determine if rescinding this name is supported by local communities and organizations or if there are any reasons it might be unfavourable.

Discussing the request Wednesday, Nov. 1, the Islands Trust Executive Committee expressed broad support of the rescension, ultimately asking staff to respond via letter to advise the BCGNO they had no concerns, and to forward both the request and letter to Saturna Island's Local Trust Committee for their information.

If rescinded, the online name records would be maintained with the history of this name having once been official, but the name would no longer be labelled on provincial maps and charts or distributed as an official place name in B.C.

"Until a broadly supported naming proposal is brought forward and officially adopted in accordance with the BC Geographical Naming Policy and Procedures, this place would not have an official name," wrote Thomas, "and references to this feature would be by GPS coordinates or in relation to nearby named features."

HAVE YOUR SAY



Proposed Bylaws 287 and 288

Rezoning and re-designating a portion of the subject property from Rural Residential (RR) to Agriculture (AG)

Subject Property Address: 490 Gardner Road, Galiano Island

Parcel Identifier Number: 004-695-844

Application: GL-RZ-2022.2 (Hayes)

COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
GALIANO ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What are Proposed Bylaws No. 287 and No. 288?

The proposed bylaws would amend the Galiano Island Land Use Bylaw No. 127, 1999 and the Galiano Island Official Community Plan No. 108, 1995 by rezoning and re-designating a portion of the subject property from Rural Residential (RR) to Agriculture (AG).

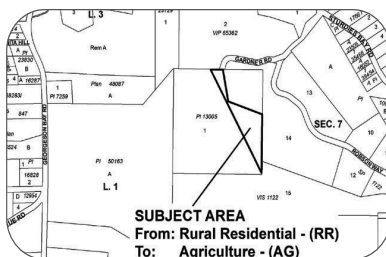
How do I get more information?

Copies of the proposed bylaws, the Public Hearing Binder and other information on the application is available on the Galiano Island 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 October 27, 2023.

A Community Information Meeting (CIM) will be held prior to the Public Hearing and will provide the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the proposed bylaws.

Submissions

Prior to the Public Hearing: Written submissions will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., November 10, 2023, by Email: vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca or Mail or Drop Off: Islands Trust, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8
At the Public Hearing: Only written submissions presented at the Public Hearing will be accepted until the close of the Public Hearing. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.



Community Information Meeting and Public Hearing
Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Galiano Island South Community Hall
141 Sturdies Bay Road
Galiano Island, BC

Who should attend?
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.

Enquiries?
Kim Stockdill
Island Planner
kstockdill@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5157

HOUSING

STVR powers may fall to Trust

Choice to opt in to B.C.'s new rules likely left to LTCs

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It may come down to local officials to decide whether short-term vacation rentals on Salt Spring and other Gulf Islands will fall under new provincial legislation seeking to limit them — specifically, it seems, the Islands Trust's Local Trust Committees (LTCs).

It has been an open question whether B.C.'s new Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act would meaningfully affect the Gulf Islands since it was announced this fall. As written, for example, the new legislation will require short-term rentals to be offered only in the principal residence of a host "in municipalities with a population of 10,000 people or more," according to a fact sheet, with resort communities and all regional district areas outside municipalities specifically exempt.

Those communities could opt in, according to the province, "if the local government decides to do so" — a phrase perhaps less fraught with complications elsewhere, but one that has been slow to find its footing here, as various

layers of local government have been seeking clarity.

Islands Trust staff said they expected to meet with ministry officials soon to iron out details, but it now appears the choice to opt-in will likely land in the laps of LTC members, according to planning services director Stefan Cermak, who told the Trust's Executive Committee last week those conversations were underway.

"We did speak last week with ministry staff, and they did indicate that it will be up to the Local Trust Committees to opt in, or opt out," said Cermak, adding that there would likely be a briefing presented to each LTC in the near future, once the process was clarified.

The provincial legislation is phasing in, and is expected to establish provincial rules and enforcement, requiring mandatory participation in a provincial host and platform registry — to be established later next year — and to require STVR listings to include hosts' provincial registry number, once that program launches. It would also require listings to include any local government business licence number issued.

The ministry has indicated it would be regional districts that will be given the ability to issue business licences to regulate short-term rentals in rural areas. Salt Spring Electoral Area Capital Regional District (CRD) director Gary Holman said he'd like to see how the provincial regis-

tration system progressed before starting any licensing program.

"We will have the authority," said Holman, "but the question would be whether we wanted to exercise it, given the province-wide measures. I don't hear any business on Salt Spring clamouring for the CRD to implement licensing right now."

What's more, while the "principal residence" language in the new legislation is technically broad — including not just a homeowner's dwelling and attached secondary suite but also one other unit on the property, such as a "laneway home/garden suite" — it's unclear how many STVRs on Salt Spring Island could be affected, since under current land use bylaws they are not permitted in the first place.

Earlier this year, Islands Trust bylaw compliance and enforcement officer Warren Dingman told the Salt Spring LTC that his investigations suggested there were about 250 advertised accommodations on the island, roughly half of which represented an "unlawful operation," i.e. a STVR.

STVRs are distinct from "bed and breakfast" operations in Salt Spring's land use bylaw, the latter being a commercial use which is conditionally permitted in some island zones — and which already must locate guest accommodations within a principal dwelling unit.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bill 44 not expected to apply locally

Provincial proposal resembles ADU bylaw provisions

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

B.C. legislators tabled new laws last week that seemed at first blush to be enacting most of the goals of a proposed Salt Spring Island accessory dwelling unit (ADU) bylaw — but an early interpretation by Islands Trust staff indicates the provincial directives won't apply to the islands.

Bill 44 amends — and adds to — the Local Government Act (LGA) in several ways, according to a provincial factsheet, addressing the ongoing affordable housing crisis with the intent of providing "more housing, in the right places, faster." Among other measures, the legislation adds language that parallels that of Salt Spring's proposed Bylaw 530 . . .

Among other measures, the legislation adds language that parallels that of Salt Spring's proposed Bylaw 530 . . .

As currently written and read, the bill requires most B.C. zoning authorities to permit both the use and the density of use necessary to accommodate one additional housing unit on every property designated as being within a "restricted zone," where the permitted residential use is restricted only to single-family dwellings. Local governments are required to amend their zoning bylaws to reflect the changes before late June, according to regulators, unless they apply for — and are granted — an extension.

The new legislation comes

alongside another program that will offer forgivable loans to homeowners who build a secondary suite and rent it for less than market rate — as much as \$40,000, which thus far the province has said will not be available for projects within the Islands Trust Area. Both trustees and the Capital Regional District board have expressed disappointment in the Trust being excluded from that initiative.

Salt Spring Island's proposed Bylaw 530 was originally envisioned to create a legal pathway toward the construction of ADUs in several zones across the island. First proposed in April 2022, a current iteration of the bylaw being advanced by the LTC contemplates just a handful of parcels where ADUs might be allowed.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

NOVEMBER 2023 PST (UTC-8h)

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DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
8	0119	2.3	7.5	12	0530	3.1	10.2
	0638	1.7	5.6		0955	2.6	8.5
WE	1348	3.2	10.5	SU	1456	3.1	10.2
ME	2047	1.7	5.6	DI	2214	0.6	2.0
9	0244	2.4	7.9		0617	3.2	10.5
	0733	1.9	6.2	13	1040	2.8	9.2
TH	1407	3.1	10.2	MO	1512	3.2	10.5
JE	2105	1.4	4.6	LU	2245	0.4	1.3
10	0348	2.7	8.9		0705	3.4	11.2
	0823	2.1	6.9	14	1129	2.9	9.5
FR	1424	3.1	10.2	TU	1530	3.2	10.5
VE	2125	1.1	3.6	MA	2319	0.3	1.0
11	0441	2.9	9.5	15	0755	3.5	11.5
	0910	2.3	7.5		1224	3.0	9.8
SA	1440	3.1	10.2	WE	1550	3.2	10.5
SA	2148	0.9	3.0	ME	2359	0.2	0.7

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OPINION

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Silver - Best Local Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Silver - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)

2022 BCYCN Awards
Silver - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Silver - Community Service Award



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by
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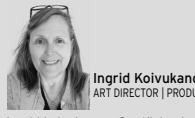
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EDITORIAL

Actions for peace

War and peace are again dominating headlines, not only because of current raging conflicts but with Remembrance Day coming up this week.

On Salt Spring Island the Nov. 11 ceremony will return to its tradition of beginning with a parade with participants mustering by the Ganges post office and events centring around Centennial Park as usual.

An added event this year is an open house at Ganges Community Cemetery at Central, where the Pathfinders group of Girl Guides have again marked veterans' grave through the No Stone Left Alone initiative.

Organizers of another event this weekend hope to raise awareness of the horrors of war through the beauty of music and the gathering of community.

Bach on the Rock Chamber Choir and Orchestra presents Remembrance 2023, featuring Ralph Vaughan Williams' epic and poignant *Dona Nobis Pacem* (Give Us Peace), which he composed in response to his World War I experiences. Concerts are on the evening of Nov. 11 and the afternoon of Nov. 12 at ArtSpring, with singalongs of World War I and II-era songs taking place half an hour before the concerts begin.

People wanting to contribute to peace efforts in Gaza will have an opportunity to do so through a fundraiser and educational, healing event that has been organized for next Saturday, Nov. 18 at Beaver Point Hall. Spearheaded by the Arab-Jewish Coalition for Peace in the Middle East (AJCPME), it will include live music, a silent auction, Arabic feast and a facilitated conversation.

Omrane Hassan, a director and events coordinator for AJCPME, says it best in our Viewpoint piece this week: "To provide relief to Gaza, we need more than money; we need to come together and address the conditions that have created this catastrophe and do whatever we can, wherever we are to create a different world. One where every life is held as precious, Arab and Jewish, and no single living being is sacrificed for the preservation of an unjust system of power."

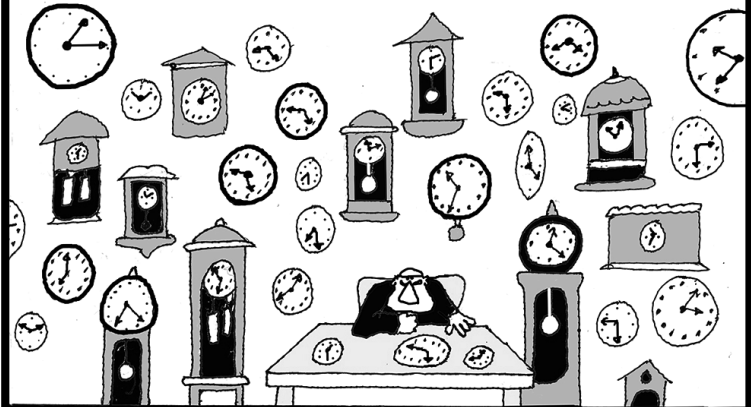
From attending the Nov. 18 Salt Spring for Gaza event to buying and wearing a poppy, or attending the Nov. 11 ceremony or the Bach on the Rock concerts, everyone can make some contribution towards peace and remembrance this week.

THE ISSUE:
War and remembrance

WE SAY:
Everyone can contribute to peace

A CLOCKMAKER'S WORST DAY

PARKER



TURNING THE CLOCKS BACK AN HOUR

All invited to Gaza event

BY OMRANE HASSAN

The Arab-Jewish Coalition for Peace in the Middle East (AJCPME) invites you to join us at Salt Spring For Gaza: A Day of Culture, Solidarity, and Support on Saturday, Nov. 18 at Beaver Point Hall from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. to raise funds for humanitarian relief to the people of Gaza.

To organize relief for Gaza is not just a matter of raising money (although we do hope to raise as much as possible), it is a matter of global consciousness and healing. To provide relief to Gaza, we need more than money; we need to come together and address the conditions that have created this catastrophe and do whatever we can, wherever we are to create a different world. One where every life is held as precious, Arab and Jewish, and no single living being is sacrificed for the preservation of an unjust system of power.

Here on Salt Spring, AJCPME has come together to do this work by inviting people to connect, learn, offer their gifts and creativity, and share a meal. We invite this community to break bread and gather around the table to support the people of Gaza, mourn all the lives lost in this eruption of violence, imagine a free Palestine and begin to create the world anew. May we change the material conditions for those most in need, at every level of our social, economic, political and spiritual organization.

The event will feature live music, a silent auction, and an Arabic feast. We will also have a conversation among activists, journalists and lawyers, including Ellen Gabriel, a Mohawk activist, filmmaker, Kahnatesake spokesperson; Gord Hill, writer and activist; and Kevin Neish, human rights activist.

The conversation will be facilitated by Jewish community member Eva Peskin,

whose research draws on queer, Jewish, and feminist intellectual and cultural traditions to develop life-affirming models for giving and receiving feedback. Eva Peskin has over a decade of experience as a teacher, movement researcher, and community-based art maker, engaging justice practices to create containers of care where deep learning can take place.

Recognizing the intensity and trauma that this issue carries for many people in different and particular ways, there will be satellite spaces set up so people can step away as needed to process, restore and find calm if anything gets overwhelming. Those spaces will be staffed with volunteers prepared to receive everyone with care and gentleness. We are recruiting counsellors and mediators to be present to provide support during the event, and we are asking all registrants to sign a community agreement assuring that we commit to respecting each other and holding space for our differences.

We cannot promise that it will be perfect or easy, but we aim to create a table of radical care, where everyone is invited to find love and connection through our shared and particular pain and hope, to imagine another possible world together. Tickets can be purchased for a minimum donation of \$60 at Salt Spring Books (cash only). All ages are welcome. Please contact ajcpmecontact@gmail.com for more information or to make contributions to the silent auction. Please also let us know if you will require a kosher meal.

Proceeds from the event will be sent to Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (CJPME).

The writer is a director and events coordinator for AJCPME.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Do you wear a poppy at Remembrance Day time?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you currently spend time in a volunteer role?

54 NO 83 YES

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

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

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ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Many benefits to volunteering

The Nov. 1 Driftwood editorial about the need for volunteers in our community was excellent.

Volunteering is immensely important both to our community and to the volunteers themselves. According to the World Happiness Report 2023, "A wealth of research now demonstrates that altruism is often positively correlated with subjective well-being, which comprises both high life satisfaction and experiencing more positive emotions and fewer negative emotions in daily life."

That certainly works for me. I get just as much from doing useful things in the community as the community benefits from what I do. Volunteer commitments give me a lot of pleasure and satisfaction.

I found my first volunteer role through the volunteer coordinator at Salt Spring Community Services — now known as Island Community Services (ICS) — when I moved here over 30 years ago. And

apparently you can still volunteer with one of the many programs offered by ICS. The application form is on the ICS website: saltspringcommunityservices.ca/get-involved/volunteer/. ICS also has a volunteer coordinator, Cora Platz, who can be reached at cplatz@ssics.ca.

Of course there are many obvious ways to help others in our community. You just have to decide what you want to do and then ask a few questions of the relevant organizations. For example, if you want to work with seniors, you might contact the Salt Spring Seniors Services Society or possibly Salt Spring Hospice. If you like to work with people and books, the library or Salt Spring Literacy can always use more volunteers. If you like to be outdoors, you might try working with the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club to help maintain our many trails. If you're interested in the arts, there's ArtSpring, the Salt Spring Film Festival and Salt Spring Arts. There is something for everyone. Just look at the list of associations and societies in the beginning pages of The Lions Club Directory (our telephone book).

Volunteering is especially good for those of us who are not working full time. You don't have to be paid to be useful and productive. Volunteering in the right place for you will make you a happier, better adjusted person. And of course it's crucial for our community.

CHARLES KAHN,
SALT SPRING

Rooster mystery solved

For several years I have been skulking up and down our street late at night, AR-15 in hand, searching in vain for the elusive @%\$* rooster who has been haunting my dreams, driving me ever closer to the brink of insanity (a short drive, I admit).

I eventually concluded that he was residing near Dulcy Wilson's house, but there was no sign of a henhouse anywhere nearby. For a time, I suspected it may be a rooster-Corgi cross, sort of like a Labra-doodle,

but my Google research indicated that no such beast existed. The closest I could find were the rooster-Spaniel cross (Cocker-doodle-do) and, of course, the Poodle-doodle-do. These breeds were unsuccessful, yielding only very loyal roosters that enjoyed chasing cars. I was at a loss.

Thank goodness for last week's Viewpoint article by Jill Bartle regarding roosters, faux roosters and the crowing thereof. Dulcy was the rooster! Shooting her would have been downright unneighbourly, and would almost certainly have led to an extended period of incarceration.

I am learning to howl like a coyote in hopes of scaring her away. Success is not guaranteed.

Mrs. Bartle's writing style is vaguely familiar, and strangely, I feel as if I have known her all my life, or at least since I was four years old. She is clearly not right in the head, a quality I much admire.

MIKE STACEY,
MALIBVIEW

MORE OPINION continued on 6

{ QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

"I don't hear any business on Salt Spring clamouring for the CRD to implement licensing right now."

GARY HOLMAN, SALT SPRING CRD DIRECTOR

Not your usual everyday Barbie story, but one that needs telling

At an early age, my luck at finding part-time jobs began to change. All of a sudden, people wanted to hire me and offered me jobs after school. Maybe it was because my acne had mostly cleared up and I no longer scared people when I looked right at them. Whatever it was, I suddenly, or it seemed sudden to me, was being offered jobs all over the place. To this day I don't understand it. I didn't question it, though. Of course I didn't.

Prospective employers asked me about my past employment and I told them the truth: I had been a paper boy. With a girl's bike. They could check if they wanted to. But, in truth, newspapers did not keep track of their paper boys and in most cases were trying to forget about them just in case of child labour laws.

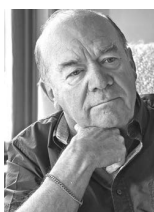
After I had looked around and filled in some application forms, one of this country's large department stores offered me a job. I don't dare say the name of the store in case they decide to sue me. They all went broke 20 years ago, but you can't be too careful. They asked me if I had any preferences and I said I didn't.

My first posting, if I can call it that, was at the big flagship store right downtown. You know it, the one with

the big brass doors and the larger-than-life sculpture of the founder, Timothy E. in the foyer. Even though I had been raised by communists, this store awed me. And I was going to be part of it.

They put me in Socks. I have nothing against socks. We all need them sooner or later. But to sit surrounded by socks for hours is demoralizing. There were socks in special little sock slots with labels indicating the type of sock. I don't want to sound ungrateful, but showing customers around the socks was not very exciting, if you want to know the truth. But it was a job and allowed me to catch up on my reading in between sales. I re-arranged the socks with an eye to colour and function. Also, it was sort of dark in there, so no one noticed that I was a recovering acne sufferer. If you too had it you will know what I mean. Maybe there are meetings. In a move that made me happy, I was moved to Books.

I'll bet you hadn't realized that a huge downtown department store would have a books department. But that is because you have forgotten that the aim of these huge stores was to put all the little stores out of business. Oops, that's my communist parents' perspective again. But they



Chris Rideout
AND THAT WAS WHEN

were not completely wrong.

So there I was in Books and if I thought it was quiet in Socks, it was dead in Books. But I loved it. First, because it was even quieter than Socks and second because I was being paid to read. And so I did. I could have stayed in Books forever but it was not to be. And besides, if I had, I would not be writing about it now.

I know I am taking too long to get to the Barbie stuff stated in the title of this column, but be patient, I will get to it. Good things take time. It all happened in the Sporting Goods department where the big store sent me. It was in the suburbs. It was on the same floor as the Toy Department and you can see where this is going, can't you? But wait.

If I knew only a little about socks and maybe a little bit more about books, I knew nothing about sporting goods. I once tried skating but that didn't work out. So there I was,

surrounded by sporting goods without any knowledge of any of them. We had skates, both girls' and boys'. Hunting knives and throwing knives (I tried one out in the storeroom), vicious, mean weapons. They scared me just looking at them. And guns. Real guns, shotguns and rifles, in a quiet, safe suburban department store. My utter lack of knowledge of these things surpassed my ignorance of socks and books combined. I was hired to sell these things, so I had to make stuff up.

I learned to say things like, "these are really sharp skates," and "you can really throw this knife" and "look at the barrels on this shotgun," "look, the stock is real wood." I said, "over and under" in a totally convincing way, in spite of not knowing at all what I was talking about. I had never golfed but suddenly I knew the difference between an iron and a wood, not to mention a mashie niblick. It would have been fun except that I knew I knew nothing. The experience has left me with a lifelong suspicion of salespersons.

Oh, yes, the toy department. I have not forgotten. It was the year that Mattel introduced their new Barbie doll. Our toy department had them and they caused a minor sensation. Part-

ly because up to then, dolls were babies or young children for little girls to play with. This doll was different. She looked kind of grown up. Apparently no one at the time noticed that this doll, if related to an actual human girl, would have to have had five-foot legs and be always on tip-toe. No one was surprised when this new doll was a sold-out success. She was a long way from Raggedy-Ann, you might say.

What happened next was, I suppose, inevitable. There was a young guy in the toy department who had the misfortune of being discovered in the stock room undressing one of the Barbies. Perhaps he was motivated by simple scientific curiosity, like when Galileo pointed his telescope at the heavens. Or when Sir Issac Newton invented gravity. No one in our department thought that was the case. Neither did management, who fired the fellow on the spot.

We in Sporting Goods thought it was pretty funny and some of us wondered if he got to keep the doll. Like a bizarre memento of Mattel's new product. I wonder if he has seen the movie or maybe he just wants to forget the whole thing, wherever he is now. He might have been happier in Sporting Goods. Or Socks.

Democracy, health and housing top issues list



Adam Olsen

MLA'S
COLUMN

In this column I will address a number of issues that continue to impact people in Saanich North and the Islands, and across British Columbia.

I'll start with our democracy. Since my election I have been advocating for improved legislative processes, and better access for private members (all members not in Cabinet) to introduce, debate and

vote on private members bills and motions. Throughout the summer, I sat on an all-party legislative committee looking at the issue.

Over decades, majority governments have wrestled control of the legislative agenda away from the Assembly and now can dictate what is debated and voted on. However, if the committee's rec-

ommendations are enacted by the government, all elected representatives will have more tools to propose legislative changes.

Primary, urgent and acute healthcare continues to be a major issue across B.C., and Saanich North and the Islands is not immune. With the Saanich Peninsula Hospital emergency room closed

in the evening, now indefinitely, no walk-in clinic services on the Saanich Peninsula or on Salt Spring Island and increasing health care service needs on the outer Gulf Islands, our office continues to hear how the system is failing to serve local residents. Even while fearing repercussions for speaking out, I continue to hear from healthcare workers regarding their deep concern for the state of healthcare services.

Health authority bureaucracies continue to grow while access to critical services is getting worse. Clearly, the Minister of Health is only interested in spending money to reinforce a system that needs transformational change.

We continue to suffer a housing affordability crisis that has destabilized thousands of people in our communities. The cost of rent has skyrocketed, and this summer rising interest rates have in some cases doubled the monthly mortgage payment for many of my constituents, threatening housing security for people across the socio-economic strata.

At the time of writing this we have seen legislation to regulate short-term vacation rentals (STVRs). There are conflicting studies about the impact of STVRs on long-term housing supply and rental rates. However, anecdotally I have been hearing about the negative impacts, especially on the Gulf Islands, since I was elected.

The proposed legislation will provide some limitations on STVRs, create a registry and allow regional districts to develop business licensing. These are steps I support, but it is only part of the solution. We need to see more from the government.

BC Ferries is still struggling to provide consistent and reliable services. Our office consistently hears about how delays and cancellations impact access to work, important appointments and essential services for many people. The Minister of Transportation recently announced that the province will start charging fines to BC Ferries for every missed sailing; however, it is difficult to imagine how this will remedy the more foundational issues, such as staffing.

That said, I am thankful that BC Ferries listened to their customers who advocated for better shelter from the elements while waiting for the bus. They are working on constructing a long-term solution, however, in the meantime temporary tents are in place to provide cover from the wind and rain.

I will continue to work on these and other issues facing our constituency. If you need support or my advocacy, do not hesitate to contact me at Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca or call 250-655-5600.

Business Banking: Three Benefits of a Holistic Financial Planning Approach

Financial planning is about more than just focusing on the numbers in your balance sheet and your portfolio. It's important to look at your financial plan with your personal values, lifestyle and business targets in mind to create objectives that will see you through your short- and long-term goals. Here are three benefits of a holistic financial plan:

Personalized to align with what's most important to you and your business

Holistic financial planning requires that your advisor develops a deep relationship with you. They should fully understand your current situation, future opportunities, potential risks, and your motivations and concerns. When an advisor understands you and

your business, they can support you through your entire financial journey.

Adaptable to personal and business transitions giving you flexibility when you need it

A holistic approach to your finances and investments means that decisions are made with your priorities and timelines in mind. You will have regular check-ins with your advisor and keep them in the loop when major life events occur to give them better insight into when a plan needs to be adjusted.

Comprehensive to give you confidence that your financial plan is always on track

Holistic planning takes all your financial needs into consideration from growing your business to

accumulating wealth and leaving a legacy. Consolidating your professional advice will deepen your advisor's understanding of your entire financial picture.

We talk to thousands of business owners every year about their goals, challenges, successes, and passion for being part of our local economy. We've helped new entrepreneurs set out on their first venture, been there during times of hardship, watched family businesses change hands, and cheered on the growth of our business members. Talk to one of our Business Banking Advisors to learn more about our personalized approach.

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Remembrance Day

November 11 • We Remember Them

All photos of veterans either from Salt Spring Island or who had family members still residing on the island.

1.



1. Henry van Zanten, an officer in the Dutch East Indies Army, with daughter Marjolyn in Indonesia in 1941. Van Zanten was tortured and killed by Imperial Japanese Army members in October of 1943.

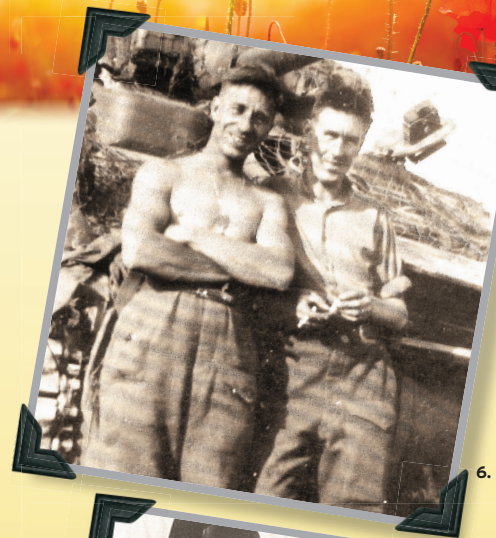
2. Knut Olavson Vesterdal, born in Saskatchewan in 1924, who served in WWII and earned two medals.

3. Brothers Kenneth, left, and Terence Byron, circa 1938 at their farm on North End Road. Both went overseas with the 16th Battalion Canadian Scottish Regiment and landed at D-Day.

4. Four Sampson family brothers serving in WWII: from left, Bill, Ernie, Harold and Albert, who were sons of Henry and Elizabeth Sampson.

5. Roy Lamont, second from right, in the No. 37 RAF Squadron in Egypt on the Suez Canal, 1942.

6. Luke Marshall and Ornie Adcock in 1940, presumably in France.



6.



5.

2.



3.



4.



Driftwood

A SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE
REMEMBRANCE DAY EDITION

We Remember Them

How are poppy and wreath donations used?

Local Legion report

BY KEN JACKSON

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

As a veteran of service in Canada's Reserves and a leader of the Legion's poppy and Remembrance activities, I'll share with you some of my insights and experiences about how we're using donations for poppies and wreaths here on Salt Spring.

First, an important point of clarity. All funds collected by Canada's Legions are held in trust

on behalf of the donors in a segregated Poppy Fund. The distribution of any of those funds is highly regulated, with layers of oversight. They can be used only for approved projects meeting provincial and national standards. They cannot be used for any other Legion operational needs, (e.g. rent or salaries).

This year is my 10th year involved with the Poppy Campaign, most of those years as a "tagger" on the streets, more recently as a program overseer and a Legion executive member with input on spending proposals. Each year, I can still proudly say how amazed

I am at the support and generosity of Salt Spring's residents for our Poppy Campaign.

To honour that support, in 2023, the Salt Spring Legion Branch #92 membership has approved the distribution of over \$10,000 in approved Poppy funds, with an additional \$5,000 approved for further distribution in the first quarter of 2024. There were three educational bursaries of \$1,000 to descendants of Veterans, and two allotments of \$1,000 in support of "Quilts of Valour" for the provision of a handmade poppy-themed quilt to eligible Salt Spring veterans.

Most significant for the Salt Spring community this year, we have recently dispersed \$5,000 to Veterans House Victoria, with \$5,000 more approved for early 2024. Veterans House Victoria provides vital transitional housing to Canadian veterans who need a helping hand with housing and support programs as they work towards securing more permanent living arrangements.

The non-profit society managing Veterans House Victoria also provides an array of outreach support to Canada's veterans of any age or service in need, including ready-to-go "apartment packs." These packs are readily available to transitioning veterans who, when homeless or displaced, often have very few household possessions needed when moved into housing. Each provides basic household items such as a complete bedding set, toaster and kettle, cooking and dining supplies as well as bathroom needs. It's not hard to imagine that the value to the individual in need greatly exceeds the cost of providing it, supported entirely through

Poppy Fund donations and the Legion Foundation.

My annual challenge to the Salt Spring community is to proudly wear a poppy in memory of those who have served and to honour those serving today, in the forces and the RCMP. For this year, the 102nd year of Canada's adoption of the Poppy as the official symbol of Remembrance, I also once again encourage everyone to take a step beyond making a donation, and to get involved personally in a program or activity of Remembrance.

For example, last year I had the privilege of interviewing a number of Girl Guide Pathfinders who had undertaken veteran research within their own families. They shared with me stories, photos and memories they had learned from family elders who were all too eager to see their children and grandchildren interested in them, and for learning more about their own family.

The common trait that each interview revealed to me is that few of the Pathfinders interviewed had any prior knowledge of the stories and memories they shared. It brought to mind just how important that our trademark phrase "Lest We Forget" is to be put into practice in our homes.

Please take a moment to honour the memory of the family pictures of veterans in your albums and on your mantle tops by sharing your memories of them with the younger generations in your family. Bring the meaning of the poppy symbol as a remembrance of service and sacrifice to life.

And wear your poppy with pride. "We Shall Remember Them."

Thank You!

For my past, present and future freedom.

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Legion

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Saturday, November 11th 2023

Salt Spring Island joins Canadian communities worldwide to pay homage to those who have served, to observe a moment of silence, to mark the sacrifice of so many who gave their tomorrows for our todays, to reflect and remember ...

Ceremony at the Cenotaph in Centennial Park.

Conducted by Royal Canadian Legion Branch #92 starting at 10:30 am. All participants should be in place by 10:20am to avoid roadblocks.

Dedicated seating for Veterans, elderly, and disabled people with access at entrance to Harbour Authority office's parking lot.

Free shuttle bus from the Legion departing at 10:00am.


We intend to livestream the Ceremony on the Legion Facebook page.

There will be an **Open House** at the Legion after the ceremony.

Wreaths can be ordered until noon Nov. 10th
- online at our website www.saltspringlegion.ca
- in person at the Legion after 3pm
- by calling 250-537-5822 and leave a message

Most wreaths will be placed on the Cenotaph by the Legion ahead of the ceremony, with donors being formally acknowledged during the ceremony.

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brave sacrifices
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We Remember Them

Old Men in the Shadows

BY PETER FREEMAN

My great-grandfather Ernest George Greber fought in World War I and was awarded the Military Medal for outstanding bravery on Aug. 8, 1918. The award citation states:

"... Pte Ernest George Greber (number 4877), 31st Battalion, 13th reinforcement, enlisted on 30th August 1916 was awarded the Military Medal in 1918 for outstanding bravery on 8th August 1918 during an attack on 31st battalion from Warfusee-Abancourt. This man did wonderful work in stretcher bearing, showing an absolute disregard for his personal safety. He not only carried in his own men but also many of the 2nd Australian Division which had passed our lines. He was absolutely indefatigable and continued work until all the wounded had been cleared, setting a wonderful example of courage and endurance to his comrades."

As a young man, I was curious about war, and from the stories my mother and father had told, I knew that my ancestors and relatives had fought in both world wars. I sensed the horror of war from the reactions my relatives displayed when pressed to describe their experiences. The following poem was inspired by those interactions.



Ernest George Greber, World War I veteran and great-grandfather of Salt Spring Islander Peter Freeman.

Old Men in the Shadows A war to end all peace

Old men in shadows of the night,
seen, but never heard.
The story of their life and fight
for us, a peace not stirred.

From the clamour of youth now spent,
in battles with mud and fence,
their nascent fear still makes them tense,
many a long time hence.

"Show us your bullet wound, grandpa,
and your medal bright."
Eyes cast up from the hand-held card,
did we ask him right?

Did they ask too much of me that day,
of this here broken man.
But my cobbler's life was held in sway,
lying hurt in no-man's land.

Crawling under broken strands
of wire so barbed to hurt,
I took great care with my hands,
so my arms it would not girt.

"You got it in the war, grandpa?"
Stained finger reach his lips,
where cigar stub sat in his craw,
while smoke curled up in strips.

The journey to my mate was long,
I had to keep my pluck.
Behind my back, the river Somme,
half buried in the muck.

Quick, quick, now move so fast
in this poor land out here.
Breathing smoke, a shell shocked blast
that pressed against my ear.

"C'mon, grandpa," we gathered round.
"Show us your wounded leg."
He took his stub and pushed it down,
and pressed it like a peg.

The curl of smoke broke off quite cold,
banished from our scent.
In the tray, the cigar it rolled,
then stopped as a bullet spent.

I found him quick, thank God for that,
I found him in the dark.
We should get on, no time to chat,
I must be on my mark.

He is quite heavy and worse for wear,
do I really have the might?
High above, a bright white flare
brought the filthy mud to light.

"Grandpa?" we said and tugged his sleeve,
as we watched him reach down low.
With gnarled fingers on tired wool weave
his leg began to show.

The light it caught us in the field,
and showed them where we were.
"C'mon mate, I'm your shield,
We'll get you cross this spur."

An eagle eye, one of youth,
saw those moving three.
A finger squeezed the trigger smooth,
and set that bullet free.

We stared so hard at muscle torn,
a scar that hollowed calf.
"Had the bullet went through and gone?
You're missing nearly half."

I felt the heat, but not the pain,
and heard my voice just grunt.
I had been shot, to my bane,
way out beyond the front.
I had no care, I was as good as dead,
it mattered not at all.
"Let's go, mate, I'll stand in your stead,
we gotta get up this wall."

With steely eye, I began to climb
to home across the mud.
In decaying light, the flesh and grime
had mingled with my blood.

"You were so brave," we began to boast.
"Did you have much blood?"
He stared across at unseen ghosts,
and his tears began to flood.

With rheumy eyes, a little wet,
he shook his head so slow.
But no words came and he began to fret,
his pain began to show.

The wire it cut like a sharpened knife,
and heavy was his weight.
The mud it sucked and pulled at life,
and demanded that we wait.

In a deep wide hole, we sat on dirt,
but dared not take a rest.
My fingers cramped, and my leg it hurt.
Oh, the agony of my quest.

"You got a medal, you saved some bloke.
Is that how you got shot?"
We followed him to a box of oak,
that was fastened by a knot.

Closer came the looming berm,
where there would spell our fates.
I saw the barrels poke and squirm.
"Don't shoot, we are your mates!"

"Do you wear it?" we had to shout,
for we were so enthralled.
"Once a year I take it out,
Armistice Day it's called."

Once again we coaxed and tried.
"How come you were so brave?"
His head he shook from side to side,
and dismissed us with a wave.

The above poem is reprinted with permission from Peter Freeman's book of poetry called *Growth: Poems*, published by Adelaide Books, NY – 2018. Freeman has also published a book of short stories called *Elements: Twelve Stories, Alchemy Alive: Twelve Screen and Stage Plays*, and a nonfiction book called *Cape Horn Birthday: Record-Breaking Solo Non-Stop Circumnavigation*.



Our deepest thanks to our veterans. Let us not take for granted the things that most deserve our gratitude.

Elizabeth M.P.
May

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250.657.2000
SAANICH & GULF ISLANDS ELIZABETHMAYM.P.CA

"Please join the Hedgers on this day of remembrance of those who offered their services and lives for the preservation of freedom for Canada and countries of distant lands. The positive act of honouring these individuals surely is in living, defending and promoting the freedoms of our land, speech, religion and travel. Freedom is a right, not a privilege."

Seen left to right are Lawrence McFadden, Anthony Hedger, Millard Cantrill & William McFadden.

Laurie Hedger (baby!), Agnes Hedger and Alan Hedger.

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We Remember Them



PHOTOS BY ROBB MAGLEY

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 poppy committee chairman Ken Jackson, left, looks on as Salt Spring Island Pathfinders Blossom MacAlister, Elizabeth Lee and Parker Proudfoot prepare to place a poppy stake at Ganges Community Cemetery at Central on Friday, Nov. 3. Pathfinders placed the markers at 55 veteran graves, as well as seven for RCMP officers also honoured, as part of this year's No Stone Left Alone project. Pathfinders read aloud John McCrae's In Flanders Field as well as the Commitment to Remember. "In addition to respect for those gone, this is also a resounding message to those who serve today," said Jackson. "It tells them that they can rest assured their service will not be forgotten, when a new generation is taking up ensuring these individuals are recognized." Community members are invited to view the marked graves at an open house at the cemetery on Nov. 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Remembering
Jesse Bond
and his service
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Lest we forget.

**On November 11, the people of our country
who served in wars past
will be remembered for their valour.**

*We thank the men and women who serve our country
and make our dreams possible.*

Li Read



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We Remember Them



PHOTO COURTESY SEAN CRABTREE
Sean Crabtree is a Salt Spring resident who was a member of the Canadian Armed Services, but subsequently joined the US Navy due to being a dual citizen. He is seen in the photo at left with children while serving on peacekeeping duties during the Balkan War in both Kosovo and Albania. "As one can easily see from this photo, the opportunity to help civilians during the ethnic conflict was incredibly satisfying – especially with youngsters like these hanging around as much as they could! When looking carefully, you can see that I've temporarily quelled their curiosity with a photo op and a handful of Thrifty's 'smile stickers' that my family mailed for them."



PHOTO BY KEN JACKSON

Gathered at Veterans House Victoria (VHV) to receive a \$5,000 Poppy Fund cheque from Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Branch 92 are, from left, VHV resident Hedley Cullen, VHV housing society directors Terri Orser and Dave Sinclair, and RCL Branch 92 president Bruce Angus and vice-president Mark Johnston. See page 8 story for more information.

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Please join us for 2 minutes of silence
on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

*We don't know them all,
but we owe them all.*

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FOLK CLUB

Cariboo Express revue returns to Fulford Hall

Food bank fundraiser more important than ever

BY ISLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES

On Sunday, Nov. 19, after a three-year hiatus, the Salt Spring Folk Club will once again present Barney Bentall and the Cariboo Express, a fundraiser for Island Community Services (ICS) Food Bank.

The Bentall family's Hawthorne Foundation will match, dollar-for-dollar, donations

to this worthwhile cause.

Known as Western Canada's longest running roots revue, the Cariboo Express is a 12-piece band of stellar musicians led by platinum-selling and Juno award-winning singer and guitarist Barney Bentall. The beloved hit songwriter formed the ensemble in 2005 with his son Dustin as a way to bring generations of musicians together to raise funds and awareness for charities and community services.

The ICS Food Bank distributes critical nutrition weekly to hundreds of residents,



BARNEY BENTALL

facilitated by the many community members who contribute up to 45 hours of volunteer labour every week.

In an escalating trend, food prices have been driven up at an unprecedented rate, making healthy food purchases unattainable for many, and making local food security programs more critical than ever before. At this time of year, it is especially important

to support the annual Holiday Hamper program, serving hundreds of island families in need.

This concert, back by popular demand, has always been a sold-out show. The venue is Fulford Hall and doors open at 6 p.m. for the 7 p.m. concert. Tickets are on sale at Salt Spring Books in Ganges.

Tax receiptable donations can be in the form of cash or cheque given on the night of the concert or e-transferred at any time to accounting@ssics.ca with a "Bentall Fundraiser" memo.

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ARTSPRING PRESENTS

Inuit sisters share Arctic story in music

PIQSIQ show on Monday afternoon

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

Coming to ArtSpring on Monday, Nov. 13 is the unique Arctic duo pronounced "Pilk-Silk."

With a style inspired by haunting northern beauty, sisters Inuk-suk Mackay and Tiffany Ayalik are Inuit throat singers from Arctic Canada who blend their ancient traditional form with contemporary technology to create evocative soundscapes and improvisational compositions that change with every show.

Performing ancient traditional songs and eerie new compositions, they leave their listeners enthralled with their ability to weave complex emotional landscapes into narratives that transcend language.

In Inuktitut, a "piqsik" is a storm where winds blow in a very specific way, making it seem as if the snow is falling back up towards the sky. This otherworldly, natural phenomenon became a source of inspiration for the duo, reminding them that things are not always as they seem.

With roots in Nunavut's Kitikmeot and Kivalliq Regions, the sisters grew up in Yellowknife, NWT. They learned and practised katajjaq (Inuit-style throat singing), a meaningful cultural expression that bonded them and their community. Katajjaq games were traditionally played by two women singing face-to-face in a contest to see who could outlast the other.

Approaching adulthood, the sisters learned the extent to which their practice was discouraged, banned and almost disappeared by the 1960s due to shaming colonization practices of the government and the church.

In today's revival, the sisters see sharing their work not only as music, but as a form of political protest. For the last two decades, through live acts, they have performed traditional singing, with new-technology improvisational looping, to create effects that tell a visceral story of ethereal winter darkness from their peoples' perspective.

This special performance has been rescheduled to the holiday Monday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. to accommodate PIQSIQ's requested appearance in Ottawa. ArtSpring is thrilled to be able to offer flexibility in bringing this important performance to Salt Spring.

Salt Spring Baroque Presents
Ensemble LA CIGALE
 La Grazia Delle Donne
 Music of the Italian Baroque by master women composers

Thursday, November 16th 7:00 pm
 All Saints by-the-Sea Anglican Church
 Tickets at www.saltspringbaroque.com and at the door

Madeleine Owen, theorbo, Baroque guitar
 Sara Lackie, Baroque harp
 Sari Tsuji, Baroque violin
 Marie-Michel Beauparlant, Baroque cello
 Vincent Lauzer, recorders

Stephanie Manias, soprano

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 VICTORIA FOUNDATION

BAROQUE MUSIC

Ensemble elevates female composers

Salt Spring Baroque hosts visiting group

BY SALT SPRING BAROQUE

Salt Spring Baroque is pleased to present Ensemble La Cigale on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. at All Saints by-the-Sea Anglican Church.

Formed in 2006 in Montreal, this early music ensemble consists of five musicians playing on period instruments (theorbo, Baroque guitar, Baroque harp, recorders, Baroque cello and Baroque violin). La Cigale is known for creating programs that juxtapose formal and traditional styles, explore the links between literature and music, and bring to light little known masterpieces. For this concert they will be joined by Canadian soprano Stephanie Manias, a rising star of the North American concert stage, known for her lush voice and captivating stage presence.

Salt Spring Baroque believes that it is important to highlight music



PHOTO COURTESY ENSEMBLE LA CIGALE

Ensemble La Cigale members who will perform at All Saints on Nov. 16.

written by women composers. While most of the names familiar to us in Baroque music are male, we do know that women were writing music during this time. Much of this music has only recently been discovered, and is now finally being performed. Ensemble La Cigale will celebrate femininity with a program of Italian music of the Baroque "La grazia delle

donne" (the grace of women).

The Nov. 16 program features works by master women composers: Francesca and Settima Caccini, Vittoria Aleotti and Isabella Leonarda; as well as pieces by some of the men who encouraged feminine creativity: Giulio Caccini and Antonio Vivaldi.

Tickets are available at saltspringbaroque.com and at the door.

CONCERT PREVIEW

'Kintsugi' probes strength after breakage

Viva Chorale shares concert next weekend

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two upcoming choir performances at ArtSpring take inspiration from a form of Japanese pottery that's as much metaphor as art.

Viva Chorale! choir director Carol Young said the group's Kintsugi: Strength, Fragility & Beauty Through Song concerts were born from a desire to examine ways people grow through adversity, and how they can emerge from traumatic events stronger than before.

"Kintsugi is a method of repairing pottery that's been broken," said Young, "using a special kind of lacquer and gold dust — drawing attention to the breaks, highlighting the cracks with gold and making the pottery more beautiful for its flaws."

The encouraging metaphor, in a time of what can seem like concurrent global crises, isn't lost on Young; but she said it has also provided an opportunity for choral members to celebrate Japanese culture more broadly, particularly as Salt Spring has such a complex history of Japanese families living on the island.

The concert follows a structure

Young said parallels someone's life, starting off with a childhood folk song and moving into a more working-age piece — a fisherman's song from Hokkaido, according to Young — then moving into a song about life and freedom, using the ocean as a metaphor.

"Wherever the waves will take you," is one lyric," said Young. "It's about being open to change and new direction."

There's a bit of foreshadowing in that part of the program, Young said — and then in the next piece, the pot breaks.

"Where things aren't going well, and everything falls to pieces," said Young. "It's a piece called Fire by

a B.C. composer named Katerina Gimán."

The recovery from that song is called *After the War*, said Young, a piece about looking at life at its lowest point and finding ways to continue on; it's the moment in the program Young said moves her most in recollection of Canada's experience with internment camps during the Second World War.

"Forcing the Japanese families on the island to leave, and move away to the Interior," said Young, "and the struggles they faced at that time — with government policies and racism, even above the general atrocities that come with wartime."

The second half of the program, she said, is about coming back.

"It asks, how are you able to take all those broken pieces, and make them into something new?" said Young. "Something that's stronger, more beautiful and with more depth than you had originally?"

The Kintsugi concerts will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at ArtSpring, and feature accompaniment by Akiko Otsu (of Salt Spring's Roly Poly String Trio), as well as accompanist Shirley Bunyan and percussionist Kim Thompson.

For tickets visit artspring.ca or the ArtSpring box office.

what's on this week

Wed. Nov. 8	Fri. Nov. 10	Sat. Nov. 11	Wed. Nov. 15
ACTIVITIES Book Launch: Bob and Judy Weeden present <i>Vessels and Verses</i> at Steffich Fine Art. 7 p.m. Reading and Discussion With Katherine Palmer Gordon , Author of <i>This Place Is Who We Are</i> . Stories of Indigenous Leadership, Resilience and Connection to Homelands. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m. Salt Spring Climate 101 . Teen Climate Action Webinar via Zoom presented by Transition Salt Spring and the library. 5 p.m. BC Libraries Present: John Vaillant . Via Zoom from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Get link from Salt Spring library's website. Local Community Commission Office Hours . Meet with commissioners every Wednesday at the CRD office on McPhillips Ave. Ben Corno, 8:30-10:30 a.m.; Brian Webster, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Gayle Baker, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.; Earl Rook, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Bridge . Every Wednesday at the Salt Spring library program room. Bring a partner and enjoy yourself. 12:45 p.m. Music Bingo . Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT The Mousetrap . See Thursday listing. Sassy Scorpio Night . With Dance Temple divas Lila Sofiyah and Naomi Njoy. Mateada. 8 to 11:45 p.m. Karaoke . At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Open House at the Legion . Following the Remembrance Day ceremony. Remembrance: A Celebration of Lives . First annual event at 118 Harrison Ave. 4 to 6 p.m. Info/RSVP (as space is limited) to 778-251-2431. Sun. Nov. 12 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Remembrance 2023 . See Saturday listing, except the concert time is 2:30 p.m. and pre-show singalong is at 2 p.m. Jazz Jam . Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Best of the Fests: Swan Song . First film in Salt Spring Film Festival winter series at ArtSpring. With Toronto director Sean O'Neill in attendance. 7:30 p.m. Knit Purl Community . Knitters of all levels welcome to gathering at the library program room. 5 to 7 p.m. Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Town Hall . Salt Spring Golf and Country Club. 5 to 7 p.m. LCC Office Hours . See last Wednesday's listing. Bridge . See last Wednesday's listing. Music Bingo . See last Wednesday's listing.
Thur. Nov. 9	Sat. Nov. 11	Mon. Nov. 13	Nov. 15
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT The Mousetrap . Good Company Entertainment Group presents Agatha Christie's classic play. Mahon Hall. Doors at 7 p.m. and show at 7:30 p.m. Book Event: Robert Crossland . Back by popular demand, local coroner gives an illustrated presentation about his book called <i>Death Calls – A Coroner's Memoir</i> . Salt Spring Public Library. 1 p.m. Open Mic . At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. Craig's Karaoke . At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 11 p.m.	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Remembrance 2023 . Bach on the Rock Chamber Choir and Orchestra present Ralph Vaughan Williams' cantata <i>Dona Nobis Pacem</i> and other works related to themes of war and peace. With soloists Suzie LeBlanc and Hans Grunwald, and the Makana Youth Choir. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. A singalong of World War I and II tunes takes place at 7 p.m. with island choir members and pianist Don Conley. The Mousetrap . See Thursday listing. Nick La Riviere and the Best Laid Plans . Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Marley Daemon Iredale . Mateada. 8 p.m.	ACTIVITIES ArtSpring Presents: PIQSIQ . Inuit throat singers Inuksuk Mackay and Tiffany Ayalik. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m. With post-show talkback. Tue. Nov. 14 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Open Mic . Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.	CINEMA A Haunting in Venice runs Friday, Nov. 10 to Sunday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. each night plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info. EXHIBITIONS Today, Nov. 8, is the last day to see Impressions 8 at the Salt Spring Gallery. Shannon Wardroper presents <i>The Beholders Share</i> at Salt Spring Gallery from Nov. 10-29, Tuesdays through Saturdays, with an opening reception on Nov. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. Jason Newport shows paintings in the library program room in November. Brian Purcell shows his photography show called <i>One's View of Humanity</i> in the ArtSpring lobby through November. Pat Page shows some of her photos at Country Grocer Cafe this month.
ACTIVITIES Mother Goose . Free group experience for babies, young children (0-4 years) and their parents/caregivers. Presented in partnership with Family Place at the Salt Spring Public Library. 10 to 11 a.m.	ACTIVITIES Remembrance Day Ceremony . Begins with parade from post office parking lot at 10:30 a.m. to Centennial Park where ceremony is held. No Stone Left Alone Open House . Visit the Ganges Community Cemetery to see where known veterans are interred and pay respects. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	ACTIVITIES Probus Club of Salt Spring Island . Guest is a person with very close connections to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service speaking on issues of foreign influence in Canada (including cyber issues). Lions Hall. 10 a.m. Trivia Tuesday . Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. 100 Women Who Care Meeting . Charitable organization meets at ArtSpring to determine disbursement of funds to one of three island charities. Doors at 6:30 p.m. Presentations begin at 7 p.m. Salt Spring SueBigOil Information Meeting . Library program room. 7 to 8 p.m.	

Remembrance 2023
 Bach on the Rock Chamber Choir and Orchestra, and special guests
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 Sun., Nov. 12 at 2:30 p.m.
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*Rita Eugenie
Marie Dods
(nee Hudon)*

April 13, 1931 - August 27, 2023

RITA DODS, known as "Mom" or "Grammy" to her treasured loved ones and extended family, passed away peacefully on August 27, 2023, with loving family and friends at her side, at the age of 92, after a brief battle with leukemia. She braved it all with her infectious smile to the end.

Rita was born in Rosetown, Saskatchewan, the youngest of eight children born to Léa and Joseph Hudon. She always said that she was the caboose and "they saved the best for last". The family moved to Victoria in 1943 where her Dad accepted work as a blacksmith. Rita, her sister Térésa, Mum, Dad, Grandfather and Uncle all resided together, supported with additional income from their family-run boarding house.

Rita loved attending school at Esquimalt Secondary. Her dream was to be a nurse but, as her mother became ill and required assistance with the boarding house tasks, she was forced to drop out of school in Grade 10, sadly never to return. After leaving school, Rita took on a myriad of jobs; a "presser" at the Standard Laundry, a customer service clerk at the Metropolitan Store, an usherette at the Odeon Theatre, and office assistant at Haney Cartage.

Near the end of 1950, Rita met Kenneth Walter Dods, a young man from Sooke, answering an ad for new boarders. Strong, handsome and athletic, he captured her attention and they became a couple, marrying on July 5, 1952. In July 1955, Rita and Ken moved to Salt Spring Island, and welcomed their first daughter, Lorraine, on October 23rd. Loretta was born 8 years less one day later, on October 22, 1963.

Food was at the forefront of so much of Rita's life. Her involvement in the business of food provision was lengthy – as an employee in restaurants (The Log Cabin, Vesuvius Kitchen), and in her own endeavours as a "woman in business" before it became fashionable; door-to-door sales of Avon, Regal Greeting Cards & Gifts, Stockings; then pursuing her own food businesses ("The Bun House", Loriken Katering, The Reef Fish & Chip Shop, Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club, and Rita's Inn).

Rita was known for her baking – particularly her pies – which were a staple in all her business and volunteer endeavours, highlighted by the "Bun House" from 1966-1970. Baking continued into her retirement years, delivering goodies to various individuals and organizations, and her "kids' workplaces" – it was her way of giving them a nod of approval and appreciation for the work being done by all, every day.

Rita loved her community and the people in it. People were "her thing". She was a social individual and making people feel welcome, no matter the challenges, was a strength. Rita always had time to listen to, and engage with, people so they felt heard and appreciated, even while absorbing the pain and loss that life inflicted upon her and her family.

Nothing brought Rita more joy than delivering a fresh out-of-the-oven banana cake to the Country Grocer staff or a family in need, made with donations of "tired" bananas that would otherwise be tossed away. She knew how to "stretch a dollar" better than anyone and shared that skill with many along the way, always finding those teachable moments in whatever she did to share with others – and she taught many.

Rita volunteered in so many organizations and causes close to her heart: Our Lady of Grace Church and Catholic Women's League, the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary, and the ALS Society of BC, to name a few. Rita was proud to be honoured by the Province of BC in recognition of her "Outstanding Volunteerism in her Community" and by the ALS Society of British Columbia for 10 years of service coordinating the annual fundraising SSI Cornflower Tag Days.

Rita is survived by her daughter Loretta, son-in-law Mark, the apples of her eye – grandchildren Anna and William, and many beloved nieces and nephews who called "Aunt Rita" their favourite.

She is predeceased by her daughter Lorraine Evelyn (Dods) Moth (2007), husband Kenneth Walter Dods (1999), son-in-law Leslie Alfred (Spike) Moth (2022); siblings Marie Moure (Wilfred), Irene Paquette (Joe), Armand Hudon (Madeleine/Olive), Wilfred Maurice Hudon (one year), Marguerite Blais (Paul), Lorraine Olmsted (Charlie) and Térésa Toms (George).

Rita's chosen extended family was very important to her, and we know they will honour her by continuing to pass along her humour, love of music, dancing, cooking and baking, and kindness to others. Always waiting with open arms or a listening ear, she freely offered comfort to anyone that needed a warm hug or welcoming smile to brighten their day or offer words of encouragement.

Rita's family would like to extend special thanks for the loving care given to Rita by her dedicated companions, Paula, Linda, Crystal, Barb, Josie and Marina. You recognized her strength and determination to never give up. We are forever grateful for the friendship and assistance provided by all of you to help her enjoy her best life as she faced life's challenges and, in her words, "enjoy every day".

Heartfelt appreciation to dear friends Gail and Patrick, always ready with invaluable assistance.

Thanks to all Greenwoods staff who provided friendly support and smiles in a dignified and respectful environment she could call home, where she was lovingly referred to as "Queen Rita"; ensuring earrings, lipstick and colourful attire were in place. (She had the Royal Wave down pat.)

There will be a church service at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, as well as a celebration of life event in the Spring (April, 2024). Rita was a beloved member of our community who touched so many lives in one way or another – and we want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to say farewell. If you wish, please make a donation in Rita's honour to an organization of your choice or contact Loretta if you would like names of the organizations that were closest to Rita's heart.

Please watch for a notice in the Spring, announcing the details of Rita's Mass and Celebration of Life. We hope you will join us. We would be grateful for your written stories, memories, and photos you may wish to share as we put together memory books for this event. Please contact Loretta or send an email to lritahaler@telus.net.

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Coming Events

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INFORMATION MEETING
Tuesday, November 14
Library Program Room
7 – 8 pm
Please join us!

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A huge "Thank you" to the Antiques Roadshow 'Saltspring Style' team who dedicated long hours of free appraisals, house visits and advice, filling the coffers of Saltspring folks!

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ISLAND LIFE

NATURE

Salish Sea season presentation at the library

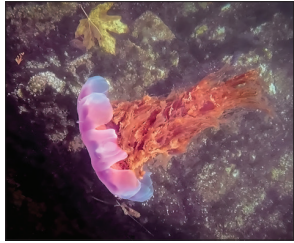


PHOTO BY ANN DONAHUE
Lion's mane jellyfish.

Wildlife centre benefit

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

Have you ever wondered if there are seasons in the underwater marine environment of the Salish Sea?

Does the environment change when the water gets cooler and the daylight gets shorter? What happens to the animal life and the seaweeds large and small?

Underwater photographer Ann Donahue and marine biologist Anne Parkinson snorkel year round along the shoreline of Salt Spring. Join them for a dive into the seasons of the Salish Sea. Through a collection of anecdotes and short videos, you will swim through spring, fall, summer and winter around Salt Spring, including areas off Vesuvius, Fulford Harbour, Beddis Beach, Xwaaqw'um (Burgoyne Bay), Churchill Beach

and Isabella Point.

This visually rich presentation is sponsored by the marine stewardship group of Transition Salt Spring to promote local awareness of the precious marine ecosystem surrounding the island.

The event takes place on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 2 to 3 p.m. in the community program room of the Salt Spring Library. Entry is by donation with proceeds going to the Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre.

HISTORY

Indigenous place names project updated

Library presentation on Sunday

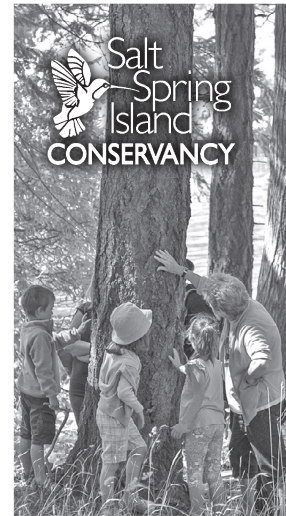
SUBMITTED ARTICLE

In 2003, the late Frank Neumann of the Salt Spring Island Historical Society (SSIHS) and historian Chris Arnett began a project to record local Indigenous history and place names on Salt Spring Island, collaborating with First Nations Elders and families.

In 2023, the Salt Spring Archives secured a Young Canada Works grant to enlist Molly Akerman, a local UVic Indigenous Studies student, in creating a publicly

accessible webpage about First Nations history using some of these valuable archival resources. Chris Marshall, the SSIHS archives director, led the project with support from Arnett and webmaster Brian Smallshaw. This initiative combines local First Nations archival information, family histories, informative panels, origin stories, a historical timeline and a newly interactive place names map.

Join us Sunday, Nov. 12th at 2 p.m. in the library's program room for an informal update on this project, featuring a talk by Arnett on his two decades of research on Indigenous place names and more.



It's Time to Celebrate! Calling all Volunteers...

On December 4 from 3-5pm, the Salt Spring Island Conservancy will be recruiting new Stewards in Training Program volunteers and celebrating the current ones!

Join us at Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve to learn more about this program, make nature inspired holiday crafts, enjoy snacks, beverages and great company!

For more information and to RSVP, email reed@saltspringconservancy.ca.

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BOOKS & BLING



PHOTOS BY MAGGIE O'SCALLEIGH

Seen at Salt Spring Literacy's Books & Bling fundraiser at the Farmers' Institute on the weekend are, clockwise from top left, happy customers Bernice and Len Thew; three generations: Ann Cronin with grandson Danny Tannas, Erica Cronin, Darren Tannas and youngster Jane Tannas; book sale volunteers Stan Garrod, left, and John Munro, who have been friends for well over 50 years, beginning in their university days.



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