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Green  
living

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2 First community sandbag filling event a hit



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# Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday,  
Nov. 16, 2022

62nd year  
Issue 46  
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PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**HONOURING THOSE WHO PASSED:** From left, Girl Guides of Canada Pathfinder Elizabeth Lee, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 member and veteran Bill McKenzie, and Royal Canadian Navy sailor First Class Ben Fleet pay respects after placing wreaths on the cenotaph in Centennial Park on Nov. 11. For more Remembrance Day photos from the Centennial Park and Gulf Islands Secondary School events, see page 15.

## GANGES

# Harbour walk plans get rolling

Project charter recommended by steering committee

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Ganges Harbour Walk project has some spring in its step with a project charter recommended for adoption by its Capital Regional District (CRD) steering committee last week.

The document outlines a process that will hopefully lead to construction of a walkway on the foreshore from Rotary Marine Park to the CRD park area near the intersection of Upper and Lower Ganges roads.

A request for proposals for a consultant to gather public and stakeholder input in order to develop detailed designs and cost estimates is expected to go out in January,

said CRD Salt Spring senior manager Karla Campbell at a Nov. 9 meeting. It was the first time the harbour walk committee had met since October of 2020.

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) was set to approve the plan at their Nov. 15 meeting (after the Driftwood went to press) and the transportation commission at their next meeting on Nov. 28.

CRD staff have recommended getting feedback about and designs for upgrading the CRD park at the north end of the project area, the harbour walk structure on the foreshore and a roadside pathway along Lower Ganges Road. The latter was originally envisioned as part of the CRD's North Ganges

Transportation Plan a decade ago.

Campbell said the consultant will look at all of the options, and then work with the community on a vision for the project.

"We're going to get cost estimates for different sections and for the whole construction, and you can extract out what the boardwalk will be, what the park construction upgrade is going to be and what the road right-of-way construction is going to be."

CRD director Gary Holman stressed the importance of contacting upland owners as soon as possible to advise them of the CRD's plans to proceed.

HARBOUR WALK continued on 3

**Zen Master Wolfgang says:**  
"There is no such thing as bad weather,  
only bad choice of clothing."

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## NSSWD

# Kings Lane site gets temporary water access

## Service request granted

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Residents around Kings Lane won't have to dodge water trucks in their neighbourhood this winter, at least not those formerly delivering to the temporary supportive housing complex there.

As part of a special meeting held Wednesday, Nov. 9, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) approved by a 3-1 vote the connection of a temporary water supply to 154 Kings Lane, with a March 31, 2023 termination date.

To underline that point, the board resolved to register a Section 219 covenant against the title, "to ensure there is no further use of the above water connection after the termination date."

The date, just less than four months from now, is not arbitrary; BC Housing, which constructed and operates temporary housing at Kings Lane, entered into a nine-month lease with that property's owners, the Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association (GISRA), in June of this year.

GISRA owns Meadowbrook on Atkins Road, and bought the Kings Lane property to build a similar seniors housing project. BC Housing

planned to use the land there until its own permanent, purpose-built supportive housing was operational at a site at 161 Drake Road. That land is owned by the Capital Regional District (CRD) and currently under a 60-year, \$10 lease to BC Housing.

BC Housing submitted a request for a water connection to NSSWD a little over two weeks ago, and had asked for a year of temporary water service, rather than four months; in that request, the agency cited the financial and environmental cost of trucking water into the site, as well as the impact of large vehicle traffic on the neighbourhood.

Current wells dug at the property

for GISRA's future development are yet to go through Ministry of Environment approvals, which could be months or years away.

BC Housing contractors last week tied into an existing NSSWD connection dropped years ago at Kings Lane, according to NSSWD staff, in anticipation of connection approval; the water can be turned on as soon as the covenant is signed by all parties.

Notably, BC Housing withdrew an earlier request for temporary water service at the Drake Road site, because the agency said it was "optimistic that the well water approvals [there] will align with the development timeframe." The most

recent indication of what that timeframe might be was in BC Housing's request to NSSWD, noting the temporary nature of the water connection it needed at Kings Lane: "The housing at Kings Lane is temporary housing to house people until the Drake Road permanent housing project is complete — Drake Road is anticipated to be completed in 2023 — BCH does not intend to drill a well for the Kings Lane site." What remains unclear is where Kings Lane's residents will find themselves at the end of March, should the Drake Road project not be completed before BC Housing's lease — and water service — ends at the temporary site.

## MARINE WATERS

# Port authority seeks input on Gulf Islands anchorages

## In-person and Zoom meetings

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An online "open house" will be the last in a series of regional meetings to learn about — and share input on — the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's Active Vessel Traffic Management Program.

In 2018, Transport Canada put in place temporary measures to reduce the impacts of commercial ships anchored outside of any port authority jurisdictions, including around the Southern Gulf Islands. This Interim Protocol asked the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to help by assigning anchorages around the Southern Gulf Islands with the goal of balancing the distribution of ships.

Officials said there has been "particular community interest" in an anchorage code of conduct for commercial ships around the Southern Gulf Islands; these open houses are meant to provide the opportunity to learn more about and provide feedback on a draft anchorage code of conduct, as well as the port authority's proposed approach to complaint resolution regarding anchorage usage.

The drop-in style open houses will also be an opportunity to speak with experts from the port authority and other organizations involved in ship traffic and anchorage management, including representatives from Transport Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard and the Pacific Pilotage Authority.

In addition to a Zoom meeting Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., there will be two earlier in-

person meetings Wednesday, Nov. 16 in Duncan at the Cowichan Station, 2375 Koksilah Road; and on Thursday, Nov. 17, in Ladysmith at the Diamond Community Hall, 4962 Christie Road. Those meetings will take place from 2 to 6 p.m.

To register for the online meeting, visit the website [portvancouver.com/avtmengagement](http://portvancouver.com/avtmengagement), scroll to the Nov. 22 meeting, and click "register here."



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## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

# Rainbow Road sandbag filling station makes debut

Islanders create sandbags in anticipation of rainy season

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

After receiving an early preview of winter rain, Salt Spring residents decided to prepare for the next storm in advance.

Dozens of islanders turned out to the new community sandbag filling station, above the community gardens at the Rainbow Road pool site, on Saturday, Nov. 12. The station was a coordinated effort by the Salt Spring Emergency Program, Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue, Emergency Management BC and the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission — and offered free sand and sandbags, and made shovels available, along with “shockingly comfortable” gloves.

“We brought in some supplies last year during the atmospheric river, but didn’t deploy them,” said John Wakefield, Salt Spring Emergency Program coordinator. “We wanted to be preemptive this year for folks so they’re ready; it’s not the kind of thing you want to be doing in the middle of the incident.”

According to Wakefield, 42 people came out and filled 314 sandbags — a total of four yards of shoveled sand — before the station closed. Several people at the Saturday event said they were preparing after having experienced flood damage last year.

“Our road was completely destroyed,” said Mario McNally, who lives on Devine Drive. “A couple of driveways washed away.”



Susan Charlet and Mario McNally fill sand bags with Salt Spring Assistant Fire Chief Mitchell Sherrin helping out behind them at the first Rainbow Road sandbag filling event on Saturday.

Typically for a community the size of Salt Spring, Wakefield said, the standard was to have several thousand bags on hand for an emergency scenario. For large-scale emergencies, machines can be deployed to assist with the bagging process.

“This is our first time doing it this way,” said Wakefield, “so we want to see how it goes and if there’s a demand.”

The Rainbow Road sandbag filling station will generally be open just for specific events like this one, he added, and when threatening weather — such as a “pineapple express,” a familiar kind of atmospheric

river — appears in the forecast, an announcement will be made and it will re-open.

“This will be the station, at least for the foreseeable future,” said Wakefield. “All these departments need to collaborate to make these things come together, so big thanks to PARC and the parks staff, they’ve been great to work with.”

For more information about flood preparedness, visit the [ow.ly/6Zrr30qoMJV](https://ow.ly/6Zrr30qoMJV) website. To sign up to receive alerts in the event of an emergency, join the CRD public alert notification system: [www.crd.bc.ca/pans](http://www.crd.bc.ca/pans).

## New LCC will oversee Ganges projects

HARBOUR WALK  
continued from 1

Once designs and high-level cost estimates are set, grant funding can be applied for, said Campbell. The transportation commission has some — but not all — funds for the roadside pathway. A referendum would likely be required to cover the rest of the costs. First Nations consultation and an archaeological impact assessment will also be done.

Darryl Martin, who represents the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce on the committee, said the chamber board felt strongly that the harbour walk should continue along the foreshore to Moby’s Pub.

At the very least, he said, the design should anticipate a continuation of the structure beyond the park (which has been known as Peck’s Cove Park and is now being called Ganges Harbour Community Park by the CRD).

Committee members agreed it would be ideal to have that connection at some point in the

future, but to not include it in “phase one” of the harbour walk project. Adding another section would just delay the process, said Campbell.

She stressed that what is eventually built will be up to islanders.

“That’s a decision in the future, and how the public wants to fund it, because they’re going to be the ultimate decision makers.”

The project will proceed under the new local community commission once it is established and PARC is dissolved.

The harbour walk — previously known as the Ganges seawalk or boardwalk — was undertaken and partially constructed in the late 1980s. Attempts to revive or complete the project have faced numerous roadblocks over the years.

A project charter can be read in the Nov. 9 Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee agenda package in the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission section on the [crd.bc.ca](http://crd.bc.ca) website under the Agendas & Minutes tab.



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

On November 29 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 holiday inspired crafts, enjoy snacks, beverages and great company!

For more information and to RSVP, email [reed@saltspringconservancy.ca](mailto:reed@saltspringconservancy.ca).

[www.saltspringconservancy.ca](http://www.saltspringconservancy.ca)

## PHILANTHROPY

## Neighbourhood Small Grants fêted at Mateada event Sunday

Slide show and highlights

SUBMITTED BY SSI FOUNDATION

The Neighbourhood Small Grants program has had a fantastic year of community projects led by residents of Salt Spring Island and is inviting everyone to join a celebration this Sunday.

Funded through the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the NSG program offers grants of up to \$500 to help locals bring their ideas to life. Islanders can participate in the projects free of charge and meet their neighbours while attending an

event, learning a new skill or craft, gardening together, and much more.

An in-person event for project leaders will be held on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Mateada in downtown Ganges. A slide show of this year’s projects will be shown, and light snacks and drinks will be served.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend and learn more about the program and how to apply next year. RSVP to Ceridwen Ross Collins at [saltspring.nsg@gmail.com](mailto:saltspring.nsg@gmail.com) or visit the News section at [www.ssisfoundation.ca](http://www.ssisfoundation.ca) for details.



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# OPINION

2019 CCNA Awards  
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg)  
Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

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



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### EDITORIAL

## Luck and planning

It was luck, not advance planning, that caused our "Green Living" special section to print this week almost precisely on the anniversary of last year's "atmospheric river" weather event.

Salt Spring Island certainly felt the effects last November with flooded and washed-out roads, but through a little bit of luck — and yes, some advance planning — we were spared most of the tragic brunt of that storm, which took five lives in the province.

We all saw the flooded homes and farms, washed-out roads, infrastructure damage, and thousands of British Columbians displaced. And we all agreed that, like planting a tree, the best time to prepare is yesterday, and the second best is today.

### THE ISSUE: Emergency planning

### WE SAY: Small local steps add up

who took advantage of the event, filling more than 300 sandbags on a clear, rainless day.

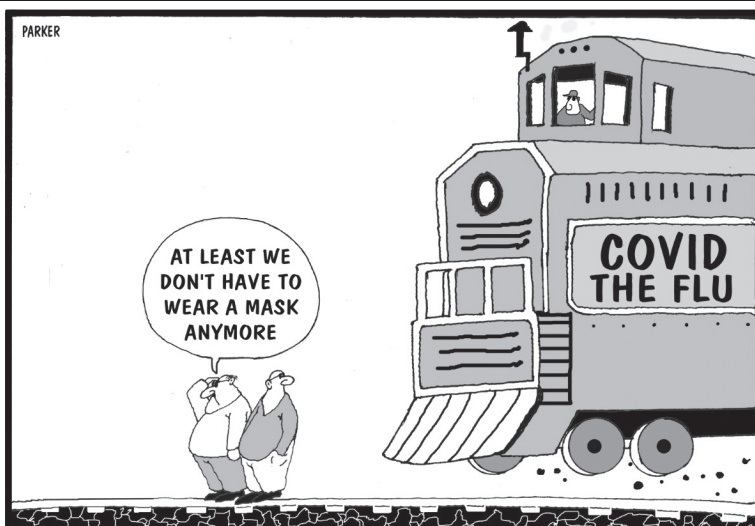
Advance planning can also include setting emergency meeting places for your household members; making grab-and-go bags, in case where you live becomes unsafe and you need to leave quickly; planning an evacuation route; signing up to receive emergency alerts from the CRD public notification system ([www.crd.bc.ca/pans](http://www.crd.bc.ca/pans)); and yes, taking early steps to protect your home and yourself, including keeping nearby storm drainage clear of debris and knowing how — and where — to lay sandbags when the rain comes.

Marking the atmospheric river's anniversary, B.C.'s Minister of Public Safety Mike Farnsworth noted we must "continue to adjust to the reality" of climate change, and noted work underway at the provincial level for better flood planning and mapping, and increasing funding for communities to mitigate disaster risk.

On a local level, islanders can (and do) advocate for additional funding from the province for emergency preparation, while simultaneously recognizing our collective responsibility to ready ourselves for the next emergency.

Put another way: we are glad for all the luck we can get, but making our own is equally important.

This was exemplified in iconic fashion this week with the first opening of the community sandbag filling station, courtesy of our Salt Spring Emergency Program. Literally filling sandbags before the storm is the kind of advance planning we are glad to see; program coordinator John Wakefield counted 42 people



## Ambulance service in focus

BY PEGGY SKELTON

The following is a letter to Chief Ambulance Officer Leanne Heppell, from the president of the BC Rural Health Network, of which the Gulf Islands are a member, and sent to the Driftwood.

The BC Rural Health Network wants to publicly thank you for engaging with our board of directors. We also wish to acknowledge how appreciative we are of your approach and ability to speak directly to the questions asked by our team. Many rural residents have felt left out of the conversation on their health services. Providing answers and honesty to the circumstances rural B.C. faces with our ambulances means a great deal to our network and we believe is needed by all 1.5 million rural residents.

Some of the items we see as being great potentials for improved services to our rural populations are:

- The temporary agreement made with the union is a good step forward. We agree rural ambulance service has many additional challenges to that of urban service provision and we believe the financial measures taken will help stabilize the system for more residents.
- The BCEHS is working on a plan to increase air ambulance services throughout the province and giving more options for helping the most vulnerable in the most isolated regions of B.C..
- Recent hiring campaigns have resulted in high application rates and although many are relocation applications these will also help stabilize service when paramedics can work closer to their home communities.
- Your interest in the work being done by communities on developing strategies for improving their local service and hearing their proposals was much appreciated. As we continue to engage, we hope to share

### VIEWPOINT

more potential solutions being derived from the grassroots of our communities.

- That you are keen to remove barriers to allow for more non-paramedic drivers to assist in communities facing reduced services and inability to transport.

At the meeting, following your departure, the entire board stated their gratitude for such an open and transparent conversation. These types of engagements are key to keeping the rural residents' support of the BCEHS. We believe your approach to us represents a capital "C" change in historical interactions with the BCEHS. We believe this serves as an excellent example to other agencies on how to effectively engage and interact with their rural communities.

Our optimism on changes is tempered with our past experiences of promises not being kept. This skepticism is due to many years of less than adequate ambulance service in rural communities, but it is also due to many years of not having the type and level of discussion we had yesterday. This was a big step in the right direction in our opinion and we hope in yours as well.

Our UBC liaison Jude Kornelsen of Salt Spring has also stated her desire to see participation from the BCEHS on our new Implementation Committee. That committee is all about bringing rural experiences forward and moving evidence-based research into policy. The committee's reach is broader than just Emergency Health Service issues, but all health issues tend to overlap. We welcome the help of the BCEHS to join our efforts on bringing solutions forward to policy makers.

You have our support. We are encouraged as the BCEHS steps into a new era of dynamic leadership that will ensure all residents have access to emergency transport and paramedic care in their times of need.

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Could a sandbag filling station be useful for you?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Did anyone in your family serve in World War I or II?

16 64  
NO YES

Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.



# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Time to sign up for gift program

Santa's Workshop 2022 applications will be available online from Nov. 16 until Dec. 2.

If you are a parent or grandparent who might be concerned that you may not be able to provide Christmas to your loved ones, we may be able to help. Santa's Workshop is open to children age 0-12 on Salt Spring Island. To apply online go to the following link: and fill out the appropriate questions and submit. You will receive a follow-up phone call to discuss the details of the program and arrange a time between Dec. 12 and 17 when you can come and "go shopping" for your children and choose appropriate gifts.

Santa's Workshop volunteers have come together every year for more than 30 years to help all children on Salt Spring to wake up with beaming faces on Christmas morning. We are very generously supported by the Salt Spring Island Toy Run, Salt Spring Lions Club, Country Grocer, the Driftwood, Salt Spring Women's Institute and many merchants and individuals on the island.

There are a few simple guidelines we ask our applicants to follow:

- All applicants and their children must live on Salt Spring Island.
- The applicants' children must be

between the age of 0-12 at the time of application.

- Only one applicant can apply for specific children. Be sure that parents, grandparents, godparents, etc. communicate to be aware of this stipulation.

If these guidelines are found not to be followed their current and future application would be in jeopardy.

We look forward to receiving your applications and seeing you for your shopping spree!

**WENDY EGGERTSON,**  
HEAD ELF,  
SANTA'S WORKSHOP

### Support The Circle

As a retired child psychologist specializing in child protection, who moved from Winnipeg to Salt Spring Island 13 years ago, I learned about The Circle Salt Spring Education Society in 2018.

The Circle Education has been delivering innovative, evidence-based, social-emotional educational programs for children and youth in School District 64 for more than 20 years. Almost every child on this island has learned through their programs about respect and empathy and gained important life skills to have and maintain healthy relationships with themselves and others.

I wish there were such programs while I was working for over 50 years with children and youth in rural and northern communi-

ties. I saw kids that were often neglected and abused. I wish they had benefited from programs that The Circle Education offers, so they could have recognized unhealthy relationships or situations and maybe had the ability and the words to speak up.

It could have saved them from a lot of pain and grief.

As The Circle Education launches its fall appeal, I encourage you to support the important work of this organization, reaching our community and those farther afield, to improve our children's lives.

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

### Drastic action needed on climate

Climate change is escalating out of control. In just the last few days the media has reported:

- 1 - Extreme heat causing heart and lung issues increased 68 per cent between 2017 and 2021.
- 2 - People's capacity to work and exercise is diminishing.
- 3 - Severe weather, drought, forest fires, flooding and damaging storms are already upon us.
- 4 - Economic costs are skyrocketing and costs are rising so fast that replacement costs are racing out of reach.

5 - Fossil "fools" are raking in cash and sitting idle on climate action.

6 - Greenhouse gases reached new record in 2021.

7 - Right-wing politicians threaten environmental protections.

8 - Our environment is so toxic that indoor growing may be the only future of food.

9 - Wars are escalating and exploiting the use of fossil fuels to maximum extraction. It's the ultimate in planned obsolescence as the usage is to blow up the fuel.

10 - Species are being exterminated by droughts, forest fires and changing climate temperatures that make their environments unlivable.

11 - The Estuary of the Nile in Egypt is contaminated with salt from a rising ocean.

We have been always been trying to fix problems one at a time. Perhaps we should spend some time focusing on what a solution would look like at a policy level.

For example: what if it was global policy to restrict all investments to activities that promote the health and wellbeing of the planet?

Canada, the provinces and localities down to the planning and zoning departments could start this policy to motivate the creation of the solutions for the world.

**SUE HISCOCKS,**  
**JIM WIGHT,**  
VICTORIA

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**"We wanted to be pre-emptive this year for folks so they're ready; it's not the kind of thing you want to be doing in the middle of the incident."**

JOHN WAKEFIELD, SSI EMERGENCY PROGRAM COORDINATOR, ON NEW SANDBAG FILLING STATION

## Time to get serious about calling the climate and biodiversity 'COPS'

BY DAVID SUZUKI

Other than a small number of people who've bought into fossil fuel industry propaganda or who simply haven't examined the evidence, everyone knows we're in a climate crisis. It's why negotiators from every nation are meeting in Egypt in November for the 27th annual United Nations Climate Change Conference (officially Conferences of the Parties, or COP) — followed by the 15th UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in Montreal in December.

From Nov. 7 to 18, representatives of the 197 signatory parties are examining the latest science compiled by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and work on agreements to forestall even worse climate consequences than we're already experiencing — most of which have been predicted since way before countries started meeting in 1995.

From Dec. 7 to 19, representatives will discuss the related biodiversity crisis. Much of the horrific loss of animals and plants over the past few decades has been driven by fossil fuel exploi-

tation and climate disruption, as well as other human activities such as agriculture and development.

So, with 27 years of negotiating, how are we doing? Tragically, not so well.

Atmospheric levels of three major greenhouse gases — methane, carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide — have reached record highs, the World Meteorological Organization reports. As for biodiversity, we recently wrote about the dismal findings of the WWF's 2022 "Living Planet Report," which outlines a catastrophic 69 per cent average decline in vertebrate species populations since 1970.

Our understanding of human-caused climate change has increased dramatically since the IPCC's founding in 1988. That's sparked a global quest for solutions to the crisis and its impacts, from renewable energy to nature restoration. With so much knowledge and so many existing and emerging solutions, the upcoming conferences are critical.

But the UN says current national commitments to cut

emissions wouldn't prevent the world from heating more than 2.5 C above pre-industrial levels — which would bring about catastrophic climate breakdown. Under the 2016 Paris Agreement, countries pledged to keep global average temperature rise under 2 C, with an aspirational goal of 1.5 C.

Even though countries agreed at last year's COP26 in Glasgow to submit strengthened plans, known as "nationally determined contributions," only 24 had done so as of late October, the Guardian reported, and many of those were not substantially stronger. Delegates have a host of climate-related issues to deal with, from compensating vulnerable nations for "loss and damage" to curbing greenhouse gas emissions, and they need to take it all seriously. Of course, agreements are only as good as the actions they inform.

But halting and reversing the twin biodiversity and climate crises is possible, necessary and

more urgent every minute. The 2022 Lancet "Countdown" report describes what the world is already experiencing, from devastating floods in Australia, Brazil, China, western Europe, Malaysia, Pakistan, South Africa and South Sudan to wildfires in Algeria, Canada, Greece, Italy, Spain, Turkey and the U.S., and record temperatures in many countries — with impacts exacerbated by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The 99 wide-ranging experts who collaborated on the report for the world's leading medical journal say continued reliance on coal, oil and gas will increase food insecurity, infectious disease and heat-related illness and death, at staggering costs.

We need to push political representatives to be bolder at the climate and biodiversity conferences. To do so, we must speak louder than the fossil fuel industry, which has used its enormous power, wealth and influence to water down agreements and downplay impacts. At COP26, the industry had 503 delegates — more than any single country!

More evidence surfaces daily about the industry's decades-long efforts to downplay, deny and hide evidence — often from its own scientists — that using its products as intended puts human health and survival, and that of all life, at great risk. It's short-term gain for long-term pain. Investigative journalist Geoff Dombicki's The Petroleum Papers offers a chilling exposé of the ongoing campaign by industry and others that's prevented timely climate solutions and led to the mess we're in.

We can't turn away, and we can't be fooled by the greedy, immoral fossil fuel industry and its media and political supporters. Get informed. Sign petitions. Talk to your political representatives, your friends and family. March in the streets. It's time to speak up and demand action!

*The writer is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with contributions from David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington.*

### GUEST COLUMN



# A dog attack story: from trauma to triumph

BY TAMAR GRIGGS

Zuri, my toy poodle, was attacked by a big dog at my property in Sansum Narrows on Oct. 19 when the crew was packing up from their day's work building my cabin.

The aggressive, unpredictable dog was tied to a rope in a builder's boat. She broke loose while we were chatting on the dock, and raced straight to my wee dog, grabbing him on his back and shaking him violently. She then tossed him on the cement dock, where he landed on all fours.

Zuri couldn't move. He just stood there, in total shock, tail between his legs, looking up at me.

"What happened?" he seemed to say.

I rushed by boat to Burgoyne Bay and raced in my car like a bat out of hell to our vet's office, which was closing in half an hour. The vet examined him and handed the little fellow back to me, saying simply, "There is nothing I can do for him. You need to take him to the emergency vet hospital in Victoria."

I totally lost it then. I wept, stamped my feet, and screamed. "You mean he is going to DIE?" I challenged. He said, "I don't know."

"But the next ferry isn't until 10 to six!"

"That's what happens when you live on an island," he replied reasonably.

I swore something awful, called my

daughter Maya and begged her to drive us to Victoria, because I was in no shape to be behind the wheel. She dropped everything she was doing, packed some food and her toothbrush, and drove us to the ferry. Zuri was bleeding and could hardly breathe. I was in total shock, and angry, too. This never should have happened.

We arrived at the hospital by 7 p.m., and the ICU took the little fellow in to see what they could do. He was in bad shape. The kind vet told us calmly that we may expect a call that night to let us know we could come to say good-bye to him. Maya phoned a friend, who welcomed us to stay the night in Victoria.

The night passed with no phone call.

We were told that they were going to see if he was stable enough that day to endure anaesthesia and exploratory surgery to see how much damage he sustained.

By 4 p.m. his heart rate and blood pressure were normal, so they got permission from me to proceed with surgery, with the understanding that he may not survive.

We sent messages to all our friends who loved Zuri, and they lit candles for his little soul, and prayed for his healing power. Larger prayer circles included him, and the energy went world-wide.

I hung around the hospital until Zuri was



PHOTO COURTESY TAMAR GRIGGS

Tamar Griggs' toy poodle Zuri with popsicle-stick rib brace.

ready to see me after his surgery. He was in an oxygen tank, covered up with a tiny blue blanket. He lifted his head when he heard my voice, and I reached into the tank and rubbed his sweet head.

The next morning, I was welcomed into the ICU and could not believe my eyes. He was standing up on all fours, walking drunkenly, all decked out in his popsicle stick rib brace, and all the IV tubes dangling from his neck. I cried. I couldn't believe it. My dog was alive!

Zuri had 11 broken ribs. All the ribs were askew on his right side. The muscles between his ribs were torn to shreds. His chest cavity was punctured deeply, and the surgeon saw straight into his heart. His lung collapsed when he inhaled. (They fixed that!)

Zuri spent the next eight days in the ICU, and I visited him twice a day, giving him love and encouragement. Susan Rolph, his other mama, drove over from Salt Spring to see and love him numerous times. He sure was excited to see her – every time! The prayers kept flowing his way.

The ICU team loved this courageous fellow who defied all their predictions. He was their "star patient," and Susan and I think he really enjoyed being at the party where he got all the drugs he needed and all the attention from so many fabulous people.

He returned home to Salt Spring Island on Thursday, Nov. 3 with all the IV tubes removed and only one popsicle stick remaining. A week later he returned to the hospital and got a raving report on how he was thriving.

What brought him back? Most little dogs would have died.

I think that the outstanding treatment he got from the ICU team, and all the prayers and love sent his way kept his inner flame for life strong.

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# Green living

## CARBON SEQUESTRATION

# Biochar activities heating up on Salt Spring

Turning yard waste into better soil and reducing carbon emissions in the process

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It's such an elegant solution — and to such relatable island problems — it's hard to imagine it not catching on.

Over a coffee on a grey afternoon, and still chilled from a damp bicycle ride into town, Brian Smallshaw leans in as we discuss how to best frame a discussion about biochar on Salt Spring.

"It's small-scale carbon sequestration," he says.

"Boutique?" I suggest.

"Artisanal!" he laughs.

Understanding biochar isn't difficult, thankfully — it's just charcoal, incompletely burned wood produced in a low-oxygen environment. There is, of course, a rich history of charcoal here in the Gulf Islands; pit kilns have been found on nearly every island, and most in Ganges know of the two in Mouat Park built by Isaburo Tasaka in the early 1900s.

But the Biochar Working Group — led by Smallshaw, and part of Transition Salt Spring — is aiming for more than just producing cooking fuel. Smallshaw has been experimenting with special portable open-topped kilns, designed to turn our yard waste into charcoal — and solve a dilemma faced by thoughtful neighbours after every storm.

"You get all the branches and stuff that comes down in winter storms," says Smallshaw. "And what do you do with it all?"

The usual solution, of piling it up and setting it ablaze, is a smoky endeavour that can irritate neighbours — and their lungs. Wood chippers are loud, burn fossil fuels and need a fair bit of maintenance. Those are fine measures for some situations, according to Smallshaw, but if all that feels a little wasteful, it's because it is.

"From my point of view, as somebody who's

been using biochar, it's a waste of resources," he says. "You've got something that you could turn into a something useful for your garden, for your fruit trees, instead of burning it up and sending it all up the atmosphere."

And there it is, the real rabbit in biochar's hat: a carbon sequestration process you can touch and feel, and actually get on your fingers. Burning wood to ash sends practically all of its carbon potential into the air, letting it decompose on the ground over decades eventually produces the same result. But halt the process, and you keep a large fraction of that carbon in the biochar. It's incredibly stable — more or less pure carbon — and tends to stay right where you put it.

Smallshaw, naturally, recommends putting it in your dirt.

"Biochar is charcoal, but for soil amendment purposes," he says, "charcoal that you're going to put into the ground to make your garden grow better, or around your fruit trees."

It was European settlers in the Amazon basin who stumbled across how wonderful charcoal-amended soil was, Smallshaw says; in a region particularly known for poor crops, they found distinct "islands" of high fertility where their plants were flourishing.

"The Portuguese who were there referred to those areas of 'dark soils,' and for the longest time, they didn't understand why these places existed, or why they were so good for cultivating crops," he says. "Eventually they learned the Indigenous farmers had cleared an area, making a huge pit where they would pile up and burn organic material; days or weeks later they would put the fire out with dirt, and plant crops on top of it."

The charcoal they created remained in that soil for centuries — like a permanent fertilizer, says Smallshaw. There are several reasons why it seems to work so well — biochar improves water retention, helping regulate moisture in areas that get big rains and long dry spells, and charcoal has millions of tiny crevices and cavities where beneficial microbes thrive.

Back on Salt Spring, Smallshaw's kilns create a little ash alongside the biochar in their process — it's unavoidable, you won't get much charcoal out of leaves and tiny branch-



PHOTO COURTESY BRIAN SMALLSHAW

Participating in a debris burn in a biochar kiln are, from left, Steve Abbott, Bob MacKie, Tom Mitchell, Cathy Lenihan and Brian Smallshaw.

es — but that seems helpful, too. In small amounts, ash has a proven track record in "sweetening" soil, changing the pH to make it less acidic.

But the charcoal is the thing. Smallshaw describes his kilns as having an optimal design for ease of use and yield working with post-storm yard debris. The inverted pyramid shape creates airflow from the top, creating very hot, very tall and quite narrow flames. The heat from the walls is kept off the ground, reducing the chance of igniting nearby roots, and reflects back into the fire to aid combustion and reduce smoke. As woody debris is added to the top, it gradually halts combustion of material on the bottom, and — done properly, Smallshaw hosts workshops — eventually leads to a kiln full of biochar.

The final party trick: Smallshaw's kilns have a hose attachment. When the kiln is full, you turn on the water and flood the compartment from the bottom, completely putting out the fire.

There are more than 20 of these kilns in private hands across Salt Spring Island, according to Smallshaw, and the Biochar Working Group just received a Salt Spring Island Foundation grant to deploy three for public use —



PHOTO BY BRIAN SMALLSHAW

Charcoal in kiln after a burn.

and that's just a beginning, he says.

"What I'd like to do is have one in every neighbourhood," says Smallshaw, "so people could borrow the neighbourhood kiln for a week, bring it home and make some biochar, then bring it back."

A pilot program is looking for hosts. Smallshaw said anyone interested in "adopting" a kiln and helping administer the process of loaning it out should contact him via email at b@pixelmap.ca.



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# Green living

## CONSUMERISM

# Tips for a green holiday

'Island economy' celebrated

BY JANE SHAW  
TRANSITION SALT SPRING

Holiday season. It's a time when half of Canadians would like to receive fewer gifts; when 25 per cent think gift-giving is out of control in their family, and we produce 25 per cent more waste than at any other time of the year.

These statistics from Global News make for difficult reading. Yet one of the many things that makes us so fortunate to live where we do is that it's a bit easier for us to do things differently. When we do? We don't just lighten our environmental load. We lighten our mental load too, giving ourselves the time and opportunity to focus on connection and coziness, rather than consumption and consumerism.

For many people, the alternative to excess gifts is to give nothing at all. But our island lifestyle offers us another option.

Our "island economy" — where it's the norm to gift, swap and buy pre-loved — means that it's acceptable to offer a thoughtful but pre-loved book here, whereas many modern-day communities wouldn't feel comfortable gifting something that's not new. Similarly, many of our families and neighbours are deeply appreciative of an unusual cutting from a friend's garden, a donation to an island charity on their behalf, or the treasures of times past garnered from a garage sale.

It's not just what we gift where we can

think differently, it's also how we gift. Many of us already steer clear of gift wrap made with foil, glitter or velvet because it can't be recycled. But even this isn't an ideal solution, while recyclable paper is clearly "better," it's still going to be used once and discarded.

That's what inspired one local family to try something different: the Japanese art of Furo-shiki, using cloth to gift wrap everything from bottles to boxes.

"It's now become part of our family tradition now," says Pauline Gardner. "Each year my daughter and I get out the cloth wrap that we've been reusing for about six years now. We sit down together and wrap all our gifts while we chatter, plan, admire and laugh. Often, seeing the wrap reminds us of previous Christmases, so we end up reminiscing about when the kids were younger. I'm not particularly artistic, so I also really appreciate that it's far easier to make cloth look really pretty than it is with paper. That's the start of the holiday season for us."

Pauline sees other benefits in their lighter living, too. "We've cut down the amount we buy. We still gift, but the children don't expect a lot and it makes the holidays calmer. They really appreciate the gifts they do get. They play with them more, and you don't see stuff just discarded in a corner and forgotten about. At first I found it hard to buy less for my grandkids, but now I see it as a benefit for them. They seem happier and less overwhelmed, and they put a lot more value on sitting down for a fun family meal than they do on wishlists of toys."



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#### Try these conservation tips:

##### For Outdoor Water Use

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

##### For Indoor Water Use

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

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## FILM

# Canadian legends explored in two films

Leonard Cohen and Buffy Sainte-Marie featured

SUBMITTED BY SS FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY

Two legendary Canadian music icons are featured in the Salt Spring Film Festival's "Best of the Fests" monthly film series at ArtSpring, beginning next week.

Canada's best-loved poet and troubadour is the subject of *Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song*. Chronicling the surprisingly inauspicious origins of one of Cohen's most successful and beloved compositions, which was initially rejected by Cohen's record label before being recorded by an astonishing 300 artists, this must-see film was recently nominated for the Hollywood Music in Media Award for Best Music Documentary.

Inspired by Alan Light's 2012 book *The Holy or the Broken* and directed by Emmy Award-winning husband-and-wife documentarians Dan Geller and Dayna Goldfine, *Hallelujah* features interviews with Bob Dylan, Judy Collins, Clive Davis, Brandi Carlile, Eric Church, Regina Spektor and Rufus Wainwright.

Advance tickets are already sold out for the one-night-only screening at ArtSpring on Nov. 23, although a limited number of secondary seats will be sold at the door starting one hour prior to the 7:30 p.m. screening.

One of the most widely-recognized and respected Indigenous people on the planet is profiled in the inspiring new documentary *Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On*, which had its world premiere at the Toronto International



PHOTO COURTESY SS FILM FEST

Buffy Sainte-Marie, the subject of *Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On*, which shows at ArtSpring on Dec. 7.

Film Festival in September.

Directed by Madison Thomas — who was recently awarded the Directors Guild of Canada's Allan King Award for Excellence in Documentary — this intimate retrospective of Sainte-Marie's personal journey traces the 81-year-old self-taught musician's groundbreaking career and improbable rise to international fame, and includes rare archival material and interviews with Joni Mitchell,

Alanis Obomsawin and Robbie Robertson.

Taken from her birth parents as an infant and adopted out to an American couple who predicted that she'd never become a successful musician, Sainte-Marie defied the odds by flourishing despite a childhood of dislocation and abuse. Her natural musical ability protected her spirit and propelled her from her birthplace on the Piapot Reserve in Qu'Appelle Valley, Sask., through the folk music coffeehouse scenes of Toronto's Yorkville and New York's Greenwich Village, and ultimately to international concert halls and the Academy Awards.

Sainte-Marie broke new ground when she breastfed her son on television in 1977 during her five-year stint on *Sesame Street*, and went on to become the first Indigenous person ever to win an Oscar, for co-writing *Up Where We Belong*, the duet made famous by Jennifer Warnes and Joe Cocker, from Taylor Hackford's 1982 film *An Officer and a Gentleman*.

Named Best New Artist the year the Beatles came to America and later blacklisted by American radio stations at the urging of presidents Johnson and Nixon and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, Sainte-Marie has relentlessly spoken truth to power while challenging perceptions of Indigenous people in music and popular culture.

"Sometimes," she says, "you have to carry the medicine a while before people are ready for it."

Tickets for *Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On*, which screens on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at ArtSpring, are available in person at the box office, by phone at 250-537-2102 and online via [artspring.ca](http://artspring.ca).

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Quintet from Québec ready to thrill

Pentaèdre performs Bach, Mozart, Assiginaak and Maslanka

SUBMITTED BY ARTSPRING

The Montreal musical ensemble Pentaèdre — which is a French nod to the words "polyhydron," "penta" or "five faces" — indeed features five talented performers expertly wielding their woodwinds in this concert centred around the universe of Johann Sebastian Bach.

The group returns to Salt Spring for the first time since 2012 on Monday, Nov. 21.

The quintet, led by young flutist and artistic director Ariane Brisson, demonstrates not only the virtuosity of its five brilliant musicians but the great variety of colours and atmospheres the flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon can create together. Kicking off with Bach's 17th century Toccata and Fugue in c minor, they tackle a piece that has been described as a veritable "toe tapper" with dazzling "octave leaps and scalar runs."



PHOTO BY MARTIN GIRARD/SHOOT STUDIO

The Pentaèdre quintet returns to Salt Spring for the first time in 10 years with a concert on Nov. 21 at ArtSpring.

Audiences are then moved into amorous arias from Mozart's Magic Flute opera; Mshkodeng, composed by Odawa First Nation Barbara Assiginaak; and American composer David Maslanka's Quintet No. 3, directly inspired by a Bach choral, to complete this accessible and lively program.

The group was founded in 1985 and has seen several personnel changes over the years. The per-

formers who will be appearing at ArtSpring are an acclaimed lineup. Brisson was first invited to join the ensemble in 2016. Only a couple of years ago, she was selected as one of CBC's "30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30," and she regularly performs in orchestras and as a soloist around the world.

Elise Poulin (oboe) has played throughout Quebec and is also

an English horn player. Clarinetist Martin Carpentier is another highly sought-after musician and performed on Salt Spring in 2012. Horn player Louis-Philippe Marsolais has a particular interest in contemporary music and often premieres new works by international composers. Mathieu Lussier (bassoon) was also here in 2012. Since then, he has undertaken artistic director positions with orchestras and music festivals, travelling throughout North and South America and Europe.

The Nov. 21 concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

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# ISLAND LIFE

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Books & Bling sale on its way

Donation drop-off days this week, with sale on Nov. 25-27

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Pages are turning on one of Salt Spring Island's most popular events, with Books & Bling donation drop-off days at the Farmers' Institute this week from Nov. 17 to 20 and the sale itself on Nov. 25-27.

Mary Rose MacLachlan is a Salt Spring Literacy board member and coordinating the donation part of the book sale this year. This is the second year that books will be accepted for the sale in a four-day period the week before, rather than at specific year-round donation events, or bins in financial institutions as happened in years past.

While the amount of work is extra-concentrated with the new method, a phenomenal number of quality books were collected in 2021 and committee members felt it was the preferred way to go.

"I think it worked well, for a few reasons," said MacLachlan. "Everything was compressed, so it was kind of exhausting, because you had that intense two weeks. But you also didn't have to keep finding volunteers throughout the summer and fall to collect and sort books."

(The group has continued to do some home visits for estates or people who are moving when it seems excellent books could be missed if the opportunity is not taken.)

Jewellery can also be dropped off at the same time as the books, although it will be saved for next year's sale as it takes more time to sort, clean, repair and price jewellery donations, explained Bling committee co-chair Pat Campbell. She and co-chair Wendy Vine have 44 helpers. Bling volunteers have held a number of work bees to process donated jewellery for the 2022 sale and take shifts for set-up and sale days.

Campbell said the sale will have even more jewellery to offer than at the previous six sales, from vintage to costume to designer pieces, as well as precious gems.

"We've never had this much jewellery. The community's been really really generous this year. It's been unbelievable," she said.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Literacy board member and Books & Bling committee member with a treasure from last year's sale.

One example of generosity is a woman who donated all of her mother's and grandmother's Birks-quality jewellery, with pieces worth \$200 to \$300 each.

"If you like pearls we have oodles and oodles of pearls, and we still have a large selection of jewellery donated from the former Frankly Scarlet store," Campbell said.

There's a teen and kids' table, bags of beads for crafters, watches and something for everyone on a Christmas list. Tables are constantly refreshed with new stock throughout the event's three days.

While the sale has a number of valuable diamond and

sapphire rings and earrings this year, Campbell said most of the jewellery is costume jewellery, with prices starting at \$2.

Affordability is also a hallmark of the book sale, as MacLachlan explains.

"Where else are you going to get books for a dollar — 50 cents still for the children's books — or two or three dollars?" she asked. "Even in a secondhand bookstore, you're not going to find that. And many of them are in such good condition."

Every imaginable category of book is available and displayed in clearly labelled sections.

MacLachlan is like many



PHOTO COURTESY SS LITERACY

One small part of the bling section from a past sale. This year's event will have more jewellery than ever.

bibliophiles who use the sale almost as a "lending library" with a small cost attached.

"I'll buy about 30 books," she said. "And then some of them I don't end up keeping, I just donate them back to the sale again next year."

"If there's an author that I've never read before, but the book looks interesting, it's going to cost me \$2 to read that book, and it's going to a good cause, so then why not buy it?"

For real bargain hunters, purchases are made by donation for the last three hours of the sale on Sunday, Nov. 27 from noon to 3 p.m.

Sale hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 25-26 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the 27th.

One of the thrilling parts of Books & Bling is the treasures that are found; either that perfect piece of jewellery or a unique book.

"You can find some real gems," said MacLachlan. "There are books in the specials section that are either potentially first editions, or just really cool books that have been out of print but are in great condition."

Volunteers for collection, set-up and sale days are welcomed for the book sale. See the [saltspringliteracy.org/books-and-bling/](http://saltspringliteracy.org/books-and-bling/) website for sign-up information.

The book sale was established by the former Salt Spring Community Education Society in 2007, and that group passed the torch to Salt Spring Literacy in 2013. The jewellery sale was added in 2015.



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<b>9</b>	0646	3.3	10.8	<b>13</b>	0109	0.6	2.0
	1125	2.7	8.9		1007	3.5	11.5
WE	1555	3.1	10.2	SU			
ME	2321	0.5	1.6	DI			
<b>10</b>	0737	3.4	11.2	<b>14</b>	0149	0.8	2.6
	1225	2.8	9.2		1052	3.4	11.2
TH	1614	3.1	10.2	MO			
JE	2355	0.5	1.6	LU			
<b>11</b>	0827	3.4	11.2	<b>15</b>	0232	0.9	3.0
	1337	2.9	9.5		1132	3.4	11.2
FR	1631	3.0	9.8	TU			
VE				MA			
<b>12</b>	0031	0.5	1.6	<b>16</b>	0320	1.1	3.6
	0918	3.5	11.5		1206	3.4	11.2
SA	1520	2.9	9.5	WE			
SA	1631	2.9	9.5	ME			

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SEE OUR

*What's On Calendar*  
ON PAGE 13

## BOOKS & BLING BASICS

At the Farmers' Institute, 351 Rainbow Rd.

### DONATION DAYS

Thurs., Nov. 17 - Sun., Nov. 20  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please see the  
[saltspringliteracy.org/books-and-bling/](http://saltspringliteracy.org/books-and-bling/)  
website for donation criteria.  
Not all books are accepted!

### SALE DAYS

Fri. - Sat., Nov. 25 - 26  
from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. +  
Sun., Nov. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sign up to volunteer on the website.





PHOTO BY ELIZABETH ZOOK

**HAPPY HALL:** Attendees at the 10th annual Abattoir Bash enjoy drinks before a farm-to-table dinner prepared by chef Brody Paine at Fulford Hall on Saturday night. The evening also included a silent auction, with all funds supporting the Salt Spring Island Abattoir Society, which operates the island's abattoir.

## GARDENING

# Garden design the topic at club's Nov. 23 AGM

Digging Art with  
Jeff de Jong

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One of the Salt Spring Island Garden Club's favourite speakers is the special guest for the club's annual general meeting set for Wednesday, Nov. 23 at Meaden Hall.

Jeff de Jong is a garden designer and horticultural instructor in the Continuing Education Department at the University of Victoria. He has been the director of the Abkhazi Gardens in Victoria and has led several gardening tours around the world.

His Digging Art presentation on Salt Spring will give gardeners new ideas to consider and "be packed with botanical

delights, creative ideas and humorous anecdotes," said the club in press material.

"Garden spaces come alive in a special way with the addition of a personal statement in the form of art. These focal points can add a dramatic punctuation to the site or be a subtle discovery. As the dark days of winter arrive and our gardens wilt, a great way to keep the interest going is with the addition of a nonliving element which reflects our taste and interest as gardeners."

De Jong loves photography and uses as many of his own photos as possible in his presentations.

Next week's meeting runs from 6:45 to 9 p.m.

More club information is available on the website at [ssigardenclub.ca](http://ssigardenclub.ca).

# what's on this week

Wed.

Nov. 16

## ACTIVITIES

**Teen Lounge.** Activities for ages 13-19 at the Salt Spring Public Library's Teen Zone every Wednesday. 4 to 5 p.m.  
**Music Bingo.** Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday Night Meditation.** Weekly meditation program with Nicola Bishop. A Star of the Sea event at St. Mary's Church. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Thur.

Nov. 17

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Mic.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.  
**Jonas Shandel.** At Mateada Lounge. 8 to 10 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Books & Bling Donation Drop-off Day.** Bring good-quality book and jewellery donations to the Farmers' Institute for this year's Books & Bling Sale (which is on Nov. 25-27). 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Mother Goose.** Free songs and storytelling for parents and their children under 4. Library program room. 10:30 a.m. to noon.  
**Book Launch: Lolla Devindisch.** Salt Spring writer reads from new memoir A Dancer's Pilgrimage. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Fri.

Nov. 18

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Coal Dust Gang.** At Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.  
**Karaoke.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Books & Bling Donation Drop-off Day.** See Thursday listing.  
**Antiques Road Show Buying Event – Salt Spring Style.** Free expert appraisals and purchases of silver and gold jewellery, coins, bank notes, stamps, art, antique books and estate items at Steffich Fine Art. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Neighbourhood Story Time.** Stories and activities for babies through 7-year-olds and caregivers led by community members. Library. 11 a.m.  
**ASK Salt Spring.** CRD director Gary Holman is the guest, with the new local community commission the main topic. In the lobby of SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fri.

Nov. 18

## ACTIVITIES

**Info Session: 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge.** Learn about the dangers of radon and get your free test kit at an info session at SIMS (multi-space in the former middle school). 2 to 4 p.m.  
**Youth Games.** Card and board games for youth aged 9 to 13. Library program room every Friday. 2 to 4 p.m.  
**Friday Games Nights.** Card and board games for ages 13 to 19. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Sat.

Nov. 19

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Bach on the Rock: Two Requiems.** Chamber orchestra and choir under artistic director Jean-Sébastien Lévesque perform Mozart's Requiem in D minor and Luigi Cherubini's Requiem in C minor. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m. Tickets through [bachontherock.com](http://bachontherock.com) or the door.  
**Bassos Rancheros & Andrew Interchill.** DJs at Mateada Lounge. 9 p.m. to midnight.  
**Ange Hehr.** At Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Books & Bling Donation Drop-off Day.** See Thursday listing.  
**Antiques Road Show Buying Event – Salt Spring Style.** See Friday listing.  
**Canadian Federation of University Women Meeting.** With guest speaker Greenwood's Eldercare executive director Aletha Humphreys talking about Greenwood's and the services it offers within our health-care system. Baptist Church. 10 a.m. Guests welcome.

Sun.

Nov. 20

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**CANCELLED DUE TO GREY CUP.** Blues Jam. At the Legion.

## ACTIVITIES

**Books & Bling Donation Drop-off Day.** See Thursday listing.  
**Antiques Road Show Buying Event – Salt Spring Style.** See Friday listing.  
**Quieting the Mind.** A Star of the Sea event facilitated by Marcia Burton. St. Mary's Church, Fulford. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register at [starofthesea@gmail.com](mailto:starofthesea@gmail.com).

Sun.

Nov. 20

## ACTIVITIES

**Neighbourhood Small Grants Wrap-up Celebration.** Salt Spring Island Foundation hosts a session to acknowledge this year's Neighbourhood Small Grants projects and encourage future applications. Mateada Lounge. 2 p.m.

Mon.

Nov. 21

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**ArtSpring Presents: Pentaèdre.** Montreal-based woodwind quartet performs at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

## VIA ZOOM

**SS Community Alliance AGM.** At 7 p.m. via Zoom. Email [ssispeaks@gmail.com](mailto:ssispeaks@gmail.com) for the link.

Tue.

Nov. 22

## ACTIVITIES

**Lunch & Learn.** Presentation for business owners by WorkBC wage subsidy coordinator Mike Watts on how WorkBC Employment Services can assist your company. WorkBC Centre in the Community Services building. 12 to 1 p.m. Lunch provided.  
**Trivia Tuesday.** Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Wed.

Nov. 23

## ACTIVITIES

**SSI Garden Club AGM.** Annual general meeting with guest speaker Jeff de Jong on Digging Art. Meaden Hall. 6:45 p.m. Guests welcome.  
**Salt Spring Film Fest: Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song.** ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets sold out. Some may be available at the box office one hour before showtime.  
**Jack Little: The Battle for Salt Spring.** Historian presents a talk on the anti-Texada Land Company campaign from 1999 to 2001. Library program room. 7 p.m.  
**Teen Lounge.** See last Wednesday's listing.  
**Music Bingo.** See last Wednesday's listing.

## VIA ZOOM

**Greenwoods Eldercare Society + Greenwoods Foundation AGMs.** Eldercare society AGM at 10 a.m.; foundation meeting at 11:15 a.m. For members only. Email [wayne.glover@greenwoodseldercare.org](mailto:wayne.glover@greenwoodseldercare.org) for the link.

## THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **3000 Years of Longing** is on from Friday, Nov. 18 to Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee. Rated PG. 1 hour 48 minutes.

For more movie info, see [thefritz.ca](http://thefritz.ca).

## EXHIBITIONS

• Today (Nov. 16) is the last day to see "I See You Paul Crouch" — A one-time exhibition of the paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures of the late Paul Crouch at Salt Spring Gallery.

• On Friday, Nov. 18, **New Works - Sav Boro and Paul Bryans** opens in the A Space at Salt Spring Gallery. Reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery is open from Wednesdays through Saturdays.

• The ArtSpring lobby space features **The Social Landscape** by photographer Seth Berkowitz through November.

• **Raised by the Sea: Painted with Tea - Six Generations of Painters on Salt Spring Island.**

• An exhibit of the art and photographs of the settler **Tyrwhitt-Drake/Bridgman family** is in the Salt Spring library's program room until Nov. 26.

• **Dragonfly Art Supplies** is featuring Jane Sellwood in the gallery for the month of November: Portraits, florals, and abstracts in oil and graphite.

• **Dulcy Wilson** is showing oil paintings at the Salt Spring Coffee Cafe through Dec. 19.

## Bach on the Rock: Two Requiems

Chamber orchestra & choir  
present requiems by  
Mozart and Cherubini  
Saturday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.  
at Fulford Hall

[www.bachontherock.com](http://www.bachontherock.com)

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## Obituaries

## Obituaries

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## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer

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TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Venus entered Sagittarius on Nov. 16, followed by Mercury on the 17th and the Sun will make its entry on the 22nd. This new cycle of influence will have a direct impact on Jupiter in Pisces for the 3rd time. I mentioned previously how rare this is. Generally, it refers to a spiritual influence. With so much chaos and corruption on social and political fronts, as with the efficacy and integrity of voting laws, people are turning within to focus more on higher powers to offset the distrust and lack of faith in many of the world's leaders and media. Although the advances of science and technology will continue to change the social and economic stage and climate, relying solely on these material advances does not hold the same appeal it once did. Changes in the economy are a major theme all the while, with digital currencies and crypto-currencies as well both advancing to new levels of sophistication. Perhaps divine inspiration will lead us also to higher reaches of our collective humanity.

**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)** With eclipse season having delivered its payload, you should know by now what the destined impact of it was for you. However, sometimes there is a delay. The main emphasis is on your financial status. Meanwhile, a steadily growing influence from Sagittarius should serve to boost your spirits.

**Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)** Last week's Lunar Eclipse in your sign is bound to be reverberating in your world. Increasing your sense of individuality is a central theme. Deepening of certain relationships, especially the one with your own self, and pulling away or outright endings regarding other associations continues.

**Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)** A regenerative process linked to your health, diet and lifestyle in general continues. Meanwhile, a new impulse is rising which bodes well for your social life. This will become increasingly evident this week as circumstances lead you to reach out and engage friends and new cultural experiences.

**Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)** A strong creative impulse is steadily rising. It does include cooperation and a new balance of power on relationship fronts. Circumstances are pushing you to make some very real changes. The beauty is that you are meant to be more creative, not less, so use that as your guiding principle.

**Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)** In the deepest sense, changes close to home have and continue to unfold. These may have to do with interior design and renovations. However, the changes may be deeper, yet also subtler, regarding new attitudes. Improvement is a keyword, in this regard, so direct your focus accordingly for best results.

**Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)** Destined changes in some of your perspectives continue to unfold. A rising sense of determination is featured. You may feel inspired to advance to the next level on a variety of fronts. Creating a more beautiful and functional home environment is on the list. Outline a to-do list.

**Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)** Questions regarding what you feel you truly want and need continue to occupy your thoughts. This process can manifest as doing research for the sake of making sound investments, or you may be assessing what you want to purge. Themes of freedom are a core motivation guiding your choices.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)** Last month's eclipse in your sign has likely had a larger impact for you than for most others. Yet, you may still find yourself deliberating and discerning regarding your best approach. Why are you doing what and how you are doing it? Are you being reactive or genuinely visionary?

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)** It is quite possible that your confidence levels have been shifting. You may have experienced some dips over the past several weeks, but also some rises. Now, with a fresh activation due to planets entering your sign, you will likely be feeling boosted, empowered and determined.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)** Deciphering who you are and are not is an important theme of late. Of course, this connects to what you do and do not want to do. Questions of career are featured, but may reach to deeper, inner levels, as well. In other words, you have possibly embarked on a soul-searching journey, which will continue.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)** Endings, completions, graduations and other such changes and processes in your career and public life continue. In some respects, what was might have disintegrated or your own interest has diminished. Positively, this will lead you to explore new options and opportunities.

**Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)** Changes in your beliefs and philosophies continue. Meanwhile, some of the energy is directed to your home and living environment. A renovation process is quite likely and could linger through to spring. The emphasis is also already shifting to your career and social responsibilities.

### Elizabeth Ann Burridge, nee Jenkins

JULY 20, 1928 – OCTOBER 27, 2022.



Betty was a devoted wife to Tony for nearly seventy years; a mother to three children: Wendy, Katharine and David, grandmother of five, great-grandmother of nine, scattered across Alberta, Australia and Salt Spring Island.

Betty was born in Vancouver and spent many childhood summers on Galiano, Gossip and Salt Spring Islands, though her family moved to Ottawa during the 2nd World War. She met Tony, a childhood friend of her brother's, when he visited Ottawa one university summer holidays. They married in 1951.

She was an elementary school teacher and never lost her love of children and learning, which continued on Salt Spring with her long commitment to the library and the Arts in Schools Program. Tony's career as an RCAF officer meant many moves across Canada, Colorado and France. Betty particularly loved their time in France as they travelled widely, became fluent in French and made life-long friends.

Her love of horses began when she was two, when they lived in Colorado, she was finally able to have a horse of her own.

While in Colorado, she and Tony began to build a ten-metre sloop which was finished in the backyard in Scarborough, launched at Trenton, and for her maiden voyage, sailed down the St Lawrence to Shediac NB – complete with three children, two dogs and two guinea pigs. (The horse, who had also travelled from Colorado to Toronto and then Nova Scotia, was trailered separately.) For three years home was an Annapolis Valley farm, where another four horses, another dog and a cat were added to the family. On Tony's transfer to Halifax, they, with son David, started building Takuli, a 13 m cutter, to fulfill a lifelong ambition of ocean sailing. In 1976 the three of them, with another crew member, two dogs and a cat, set sail for the Caribbean, then through the Panama Canal, to the Galapagos Islands and across the Pacific to Hawaii before eventually arriving in Salt Spring. While still living on the boat, they began building their house on Sunset Drive, where Betty established a wonderful garden. For her 80th birthday, they started rebuilding a Nordic Tug to continue exploring the Gulf Islands.

One great source of pride for Betty was her success in the Baking Category at the Fall Fair. She routinely took home trophies and ribbons in many of the categories, right up until the end and died peacefully at home with her family and the assistance of MAiD and Dr Holly Slakov. She will be greatly missed.

Betty was a committed dog lover and was rarely without a dog in her life – from her first childhood Scotty to her last little Missy, now settled happily with her daughter Katharine. Betty maintained her sharp wit and enquiring mind until the end and died peacefully at home with her family and the assistance of MAiD and Dr Holly Slakov. She will be greatly missed.



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# LEST WE FORGET . . .



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Salt Spring Pipes & Drums member Rod MacDonald plays at the cenotaph service.



PHOTO BY BILLIE WOODS

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 president Bruce Angus addresses the crowd in Centennial Park.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Piper Jack Martin leads ceremony participants at the GISS event on Thursday.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY  
Hadel Cuambe, a Grade 12 student who was one of two youth MCs for the GISS ceremony.



PHOTO BY BILLIE WOODS

Caroni Young leads the Makana Youth Choir in singing The White Cliffs of Dover in Centennial Park.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Participating in the GISS Remembrance Day ceremony on Nov. 10 are, from left, piper Jack Martin, Cadet Corp. Alexis Massender, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 executive member and poppy campaign chair Ken Jackson, Salt Spring RCMP Const. Ted Turgeon and Salt Spring Fire Chief Jamie Holmes.

## BOOKS & BLING

7th Annual  
Books & Bling  
Sale

One of Salt  
Spring's most  
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More than 10,000 gently used books as well as designer, vintage and costume jewelry for sale.

November 25th – 27th  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday)  
Farmers' Institute

Book and Jewelry donations can be made from November 17 to November 20 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Farmers' Institute



All proceeds go to the Salt Spring Literacy Society, which provides free literacy support to youth, adults and seniors.

Rotary  
Salt Spring Island

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## Holiday Story Writing Contest

Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to the Holiday season.

The deadline for our annual writing contest is Friday, December 9th.

Win a Salt Spring Books gift certificate for a story of up to 500 words about the Holiday Season.

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- All Gulf Islands students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Send entries to the Driftwood, 241 Fulford-Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3, email to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com).
- For more information, 250-537-9933.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 2

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# SPORTS & REC

## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# Scorpions qualify for provincials



PHOTO BY KENTA KIKUCHI

GISS senior boys soccer team following their fourth-place finish at Vancouver Island championships last week. They now head to Nov. 21-23 provincial championships in Burnaby. Funds are needed to help cover the approximate \$5,000 cost.

**Donations welcomed to  
help offset Nov. 21-23  
tournament costs**

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary School's senior boys Scorpions soccer team has earned a berth at AA provincial championships after placing fourth in the Vancouver Island tournament last week.

According to coach Ciaran Ayton, GISS' first game at St. Michaels University School in Victoria on Monday, Nov. 7 saw a 0-0 draw with Stelly's from Saanich.

He said the next game against Mark R. Isfeld secondary from Courtenay was crucial, with both teams needing a win, or at least not a loss, to keep their hopes alive.

"One nil down at half time, the GISS boys played with commitment, skill and determination to seal a 2-1 victory and place themselves in the top two of their pool and just about on the way to provincials in Burnaby," Ayton said in a game report.

Tuesday morning's games were repeatedly pushed back as teams waited for Monday evening's snow to melt, he said.

"With a short warm-up and the injuries piling up, eventual tourney winners Lambrick Park defeated GISS 2-0, but the boys had done enough against Isfeld to qualify. The game for third or fourth place against host St. Michaels University School saw more injuries and a tough loss.

Ayton said qualifying for provincials is a

huge success for the team and marks the first GISS boys team appearance at that level since 2014, when the team finished eighth in B.C.

The provincial tournament will be held at the Burnaby Lake Sports Complex West from Nov. 21 to 23 with 16 teams from across the province. The cost of attending provincials before food expenses is approximately \$5,000: three nights accommodation, tournament entry fees, ferry fares for the players and the minibus, and fuel costs for the minibus.

Ayton invites community members to consider a donation to help reduce the cost for players and their families. The tight timeline prohibits organizing and publicizing fundraising activities.

"Lots of small amounts can make a big difference," he said.

Donations can be e-transferred to [jwilson@sd64.org](mailto:jwilson@sd64.org) with the title of Senior Boys Soccer Donation.

Cash donations can be brought to the GISS office.

"The group effort of the 21 players involved on and off the field has made for a successful season," said Ayton. "The boys played through local league play, won north islands and competed at islands to qualify. Players will be recuperating, practising and dreaming as they prepare to represent GISS at the biggest competition of them all."

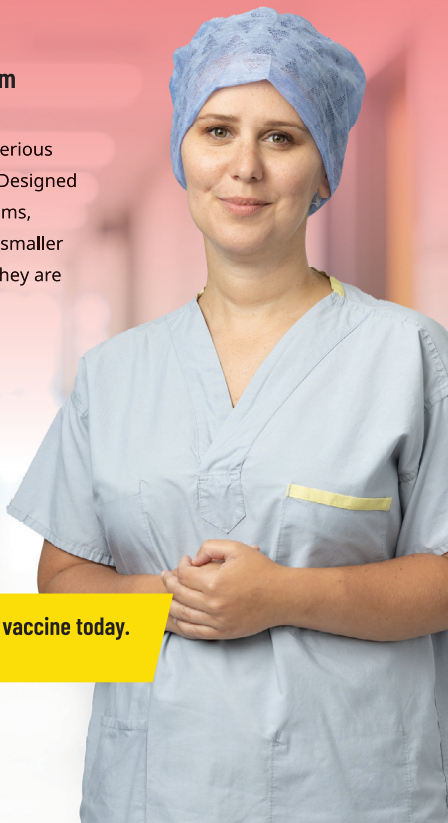
Games will be livestreamed at <https://bcss.tv/>. The provincials championships website is <https://bcssc-com.webs.com/aa-provincial-championships>.

## COVID-19 IN BC

**"While most kids get mild COVID, some become seriously ill."**

**Vanja Ryan  
Registered Nurse,  
Pediatric Operating Room**

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## Cookies and Carols

Featuring cookie recipes and  
your favourite carols. Publishing November 23.

Email your recipes to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

*We'd love to print your favourite  
Christmas cookie recipe!*

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