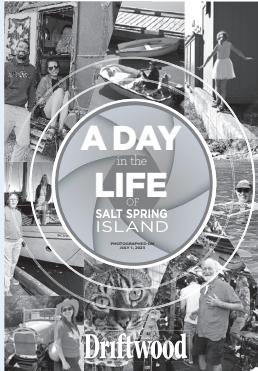


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**3** Portlock Park Master Plan options revealed

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Wednesday,  
July 26, 2023

63rd year  
Issue 30  
**\$1.50**



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

DIVING IN: Swimmers leap from the blocks on the first day of the Salt Spring Stingrays Invitational swim meet Saturday, July 22. More than 350 participants from almost a dozen clubs took part in the island's biggest swim event of the year, held at the Rainbow Recreation Centre. See more photos on page 26.

## LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION

# Speed limit reduction endorsed

Other Ganges pedestrian safety actions recommended

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's newest governing body is tackling pedestrian safety in Ganges village — and will be asking the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) to help it make several "big moves" recommended by a just-released Active Transportation Network Plan.

Under direction of the former transportation commission — and with the help of funding from a B.C. Active Transportation Network planning grant — Capital Regional District (CRD) senior transportation planner John Hicks and a team from both the CRD and the Watt Consulting Group have delivered a plan focused on making Ganges a more "walkable" community easily accessible by cycling.

This is hardly the first transportation plan for Salt Spring, Hicks reminded Local Com-

munity Commission commissioners at their meeting Tuesday, July 18, pointing to one centred on Ganges in 2014 as well as a very recent MoTI study that focused on cycling safety between the island's ferry terminals. But the commonalities between the studies, along with a seemingly refreshed interest on the part of MoTI to take action on the Salt Spring roads it controls, may present a new opportunity to increase safety and accessibility in the village.

"Anything we do on Salt Spring, as I'm sure you're acutely aware, requires a lot of collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation," said Hicks. "And we've brought them through this whole process from day one; every piece of this plan has been walked through with them as we've advanced it. Every recommendation has been passed through them."

The plan identifies five so-called "big

moves" that can be taken soon, if not right away — defined by planners as lower-cost, high-impact steps that would align not only with the MoTI cycling safety review but with Salt Spring Islanders' concerns heard during the exhaustive community engagement process.

And for their part, LCC members seemed eager to jump on as many of them as they could, as quickly as possible. Commissioners took action on the first — a recommendation to drop the posted speed limit through Ganges to 30 km/hr from the current limit of 50 — right after the presentation Wednesday, directing staff to draft a letter to MoTI indicating the LCC supported the change, and another to the CRD Board asking it to pass a similar recommendation and send that along to the ministry.

LCC continued on 2

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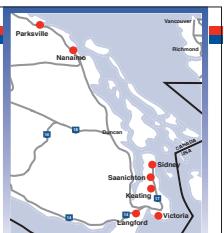




PHOTO COURTESY SSI RCMP

**FILL 'ER UP:** Salt Spring RCMP cruiser filled with donations for the island's food bank at a past Cram-the-Cruiser event. The next one is set for Thursday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Country Grocer parking lot. Salt Spring RCMP officers will be on site collecting food donations for the Salt Spring Island Community Services Harvest Food Bank. "This has been a great event, which raises much needed supplies for the food bank and offers the community an opportunity to visit with our officers about local issues," said Sgt. Clive Seabrook, detachment commander of Salt Spring Island RCMP. "We will have the recruitment posters and QR codes posted on the patrol car and can answer any questions people might have about starting a career with the RCMP." A second Cram-the-Cruiser event is planned at Thrifty Foods later this year.

# Funding options explored

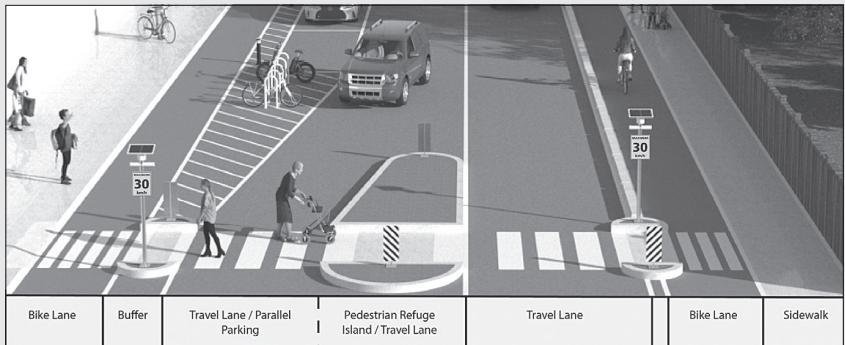


Image from the new Capital Regional District Active Transportation Plan depicts a possibility for a revised area of Fulford-Ganges Road at the bottom of Ganges Hill, including bike lanes on both sides and a "pedestrian refuge island" in the middle of the road, along with a crosswalk and a 30 km/hr speed limit.

## LCC

continued from 1

The remaining "big moves" — redesigning of McPhillips Avenue to make it more pedestrian friendly, increasing off-street parking with a few proposed locations, a comprehensive land ownership survey to identify where MoTI land ends and private property begins throughout Ganges, and a pedestrian "island" as part of a traffic-calming redesign at the bottom of Ganges Hill — would take a little more time. But commissioners received the report — which included a cost estimate for all the "big moves," just over \$1.6 million — and asked staff to move forward with exploring fund-

ing opportunities for the design work that would enable construction grants, as well as to what extent MoTI might be willing to incorporate the recommendations into its existing plans.

"[MoTI] see it as something very interesting, something new, that is potentially something which could be mirrored in other communities," said Hicks. "I think there's probably more of an appetite [there] than in the previous 10 years I've been working here on the island."

Beyond the five "big moves," the full Active Transportation Plan and recommendations can be read with LCC July 18 agenda package materials through the [crd.bc.ca](http://crd.bc.ca) website.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

# Beddis water system faces second advisory

Water main breaks cause problems

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For the second time in a week, Salt Spring residents connected to the Beddis Water System were told to boil their drinking water until further notice, due to another break in one of the main water lines Wednesday, July 19.

Five days after an all-clear message was issued from Island Health pertaining to the previous break and nearly week-long boil-water advisory, many users reported a drop in pressure Wednesday morning shortly before the new advisory was issued around 9 a.m.

The most recent advisory was issued in consultation with Island Health, according to the CRD, who suggested household tap water be boiled vigorously for at least one minute and cooled before drinking.

The second advisory was lifted on Saturday, July 22 at 5 p.m.

Notwithstanding the name, the Beddis Water System serves properties on several roads besides Beddis, and indeed some located on Beddis Road do not get their water from the eponymous provider. The notice from the Capital Regional District (CRD), who

administer the water system, included its customers on Beddis, Cusheon Lake Road (east of Stewart Road), Stewart Road, Creekside Drive, Hillview Place, Cusheon Place, Lionel Crescent, Miles Avenue, Wildwood Drive and Samuel Crescent — and all are advised to boil their water before drinking until further notice.

**The CRD issued the first boil water advisory Monday morning, July 10. The all-clear notice — indicating Island Health was satisfied the water posed no health concern — came Friday, July 14.**

The CRD issued the first boil water advisory Monday morning, July 10; the all-clear notice — indicating Island Health was satisfied the water posed no health concern — came Friday, July 14.

For information about boil water advisories, visit [crd.bc.ca/alerts](http://crd.bc.ca/alerts).

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## SOCIAL SERVICES

# Umbrella offers on-island and online services

Society provides wide-ranging support for individuals with substance use issues

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Members of a Victoria-based non-profit society made a presentation on Salt Spring Island Friday, July 21, hoping to spread the word about supports they offer for individuals experiencing substance use.

Umbrella Society's training and education manager Evan James said the organization was in its 22nd year of offering a range of programs aimed at addressing substance use issues and their concurrent mental health challenges. Umbrella facilitates transitional housing sites in Victoria, a model known as Housing Overdose Prevention Peer Support (HOPPS) that includes general support, advocacy and addiction resources alongside training and education for and with residents.

On Salt Spring, Umbrella has been the housing operator and support team for residents at the Kings Lane transitional housing site since October 2022 — now nearly at its



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

From left at the July 21 ASK Salt Spring session are ASK coordinator Gayle Baker with Umbrella Society's addiction medical consult service worker Rebecca, Kings Lane housing coordinator Corey, and training and education manager Evan James.

18-bed capacity, according to staff — through a partnership with BC Housing, and with intake through that agency's registry. But the group's central focus from the start has been client-centred care, according to James — to help guide and advocate for people as they move through the recovery process.

"Originally our introduction to Salt Spring Island came with some funding from Island Health," said James. "They recognized there

was a need for people over here who were struggling with substance use issues."

Umbrella offers one-on-one outreach and counselling on-island every Tuesday, sometimes in a structured format but often through a more informal check-in with clients' progress.

"Sometimes we facilitate referrals for getting people over to Victoria to a treatment centre, or whatever needs may arise," said

James. "Sometimes it's just having coffee and supporting them, helping them set goals for the next week."

On days — and evenings — when an outreach worker isn't on Salt Spring, Umbrella offers a host of regular online Zoom groups both on a pre-registered and drop-in basis.

"We try to remove as many barriers [to getting help] as possible," said James. "It's not a discriminatory illness, it affects all walks of life."

Many of the groups have a more general focus, such as a weekly check-in for people at various places in their recovery, and some are targeted to specific groups; the "Hammer Time" Zoom group, for example, provides those working in the trades with a specifically tailored opportunity for connection, support and education.

Umbrella's counselling services for people with substance use issues are available both in-person and online, and are free; James said often new clients can be seen within a week or two, sometimes sooner.

"The referral process is super easy," said James. "You just call — or text — our office, and our admin people will figure out what your needs are and guide you in the right direction."

For information, call or text 250-380-0595, or send email enquiries to [wecanhelp@umbrellasociety.org](mailto:wecanhelp@umbrellasociety.org).

## PARKS &amp; REC

# Portlock Plan master planning enters next phase

Three concepts going out for public input

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's park planners are rolling out conceptual designs for the future of Portlock Park — and once again, it's time for the community to weigh in.

Portlock Park's Master Plan process continues this summer, with a robust public engagement effort centred on three designs, incorporating what planners have heard islanders want most — including a new senior ball field.

According to PARC staff — still "PARC," avoiding logo design and printing costs by replacing the Parks and Recreation Commission name with "Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture" — the first round of community consultation involved stakeholder and staff workshops, as well as a community survey that garnered more than 900 responses.

Input from those efforts, alongside additional guidance from the former parks commission, went to the architects, who then came back with three conceptual designs. The next step is to see what the community thinks — through a new survey, according to PARC manager Dan Ovington, who presented the broad strokes of the three designs to Salt Spring's Local Community Commission (LCC) Tuesday, July 18.

"We'll take kind of the best we hear on each of the designs — including the negative things we hear, try to mitigate those concerns — compiling that all into

one," said Ovington. "That final draft master plan will then come back to the LCC for final approval."

The master plan will be a road-map to help guide PARC in spending its budget, setting priorities as infrastructure begins to need replacement; in addition, the highly structured approach will set up PARC for grant funding, much as the Centennial Park master plan did in 2016 and the Rainbow Recreation Centre master plan did last year.

In the outreach thus far, Ovington said, staff noticed there was some misunderstanding from the public about what a "senior ball field" even was, much less whether Portlock Park needed one. A senior ball field isn't for adults, he said, but rather for island kids over a certain age who want to continue in these sports.

"Right now, youth over the age of 12 wanting to play ball have to go off-island," said Ovington. "It's been a longstanding goal to try to acquire a larger parcel of land to develop additional playing fields, and specifically a senior ball field. But after several failed attempts, it was decided we needed to look at our existing assets and properties."

The more "holistic" approach staff and former commissioners came up with was for PARC to work with Salt Spring's schools, helping operate some of their fields to fulfill the more "junior" needs — re-locating, for example, the smaller ball field from Portlock Park to Fernwood Elementary School, perhaps building a second one there — and re-tooling Portlock to include a senior-

sized field. PARC is also working on upgrading the "hydro field" at Rainbow and Jackson for ball field sports.

While the goal has been to try to increase the availability of "green fields" — no artificial turf is contemplated, Ovington said — the wide range of stakeholders' interests prompted PARC to request that one of the architect's designs not include a senior ball field at all.

"Obviously there are people that use Portlock Park and enjoy it just the way it is," said Ovington, adding that PARC "heard a lot" from advocates for dedicated tennis and pickleball courts within the PARC system, as well as the

numerous users of the track who wanted to ensure its future. Given limited space across all properties — and that the Rainbow Recreation Centre is the only property with zoning that included indoor recreation — staff said it made the most sense for larger fields to be focused at Portlock.

Every option includes pickleball, and there are multiple re-imaginings of the existing surfaced track — including one that runs around the perimeter of the park; Ovington said staff were exploring the right surface for a new track, to allow the most year-round use for runners and walkers.

"Even the 'worst' of the options is so much better than where we

are today," said commissioner Brian Webster. "I don't see anything in these three options that I would suggest we change before it goes on for public input."

In addition to the inevitable online surveys, Ovington said the three conceptual designs will be printed out in large format and put on display in the lobby of the Rainbow Recreation Centre for the public to get a close look. Hard copies of the survey will also be available there and at the library, for pick-up and drop-off.

For more information on the Portlock Park Master Plan, and to sign up to be notified as soon as the survey is available, visit [getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/portlock-park](http://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/portlock-park).

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DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
26	0527	1.3	4.3	30	0830	0.2	0.7
	1324	2.4	7.9		1729	3.3	10.8
	1520	2.4	7.9		2102	3.1	10.2
	2207	3.1	10.2		DI		
27	0610	1.0	3.3	31	0051	3.3	10.8
	1529	2.7	8.9		0919	0.0	0.0
TH	1630	2.7	8.9	MO	1803	3.3	10.8
JE	2229	3.1	10.2	LU	2158	3.0	9.8
28	0655	0.7	2.3	1	0156	3.3	10.8
	1615	3.0	9.8	TU	1008	0.0	0.0
FR	1817	2.9	9.5	MO	1835	3.4	11.2
VE	2300	3.2	10.5	MA	2250	2.9	9.5
29	0742	0.4	1.3	2	0301	3.3	10.8
	1652	3.2	10.5		1055	0.0	0.0
SA	1950	3.1	10.2	WE	1904	3.4	11.2
SA	2349	3.2	10.5	ME	2346	2.7	8.9

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# OPINION

## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Local motion

**J**ust over a year ago in this space, we wrote with optimism concerning the then-aspirational Local Community Commission (LCC).

We predicted that, despite our initial skepticism that the LCC could deliver little better than the status quo, its unique — and necessarily broad — perspective, spanning what were then multiple commissions, could pave a path to real action on Salt Spring issues by eliminating the “silos” inherent in separate commissions each having their own independent mandates.

It is premature to issue a “report card” on the new LCC after just three meetings, but we note with satisfaction those silos have seemingly vanished already, and our commissioners, speaking so far with unanimity, are certainly interested in action.

As examples, we watched the commission receive a report on improving active transportation, immediately moving to get balls rolling on the “to do” list it proposed. We listened as they considered the plan options presented for Portlock Park’s renovation, and approved putting them out for public consideration without sending them back for additional revision.

And we heard as they laid out plans to use whatever authority they may have to combat the affordable housing crisis, including putting pressure on the government of B.C. to include Salt Spring in its speculation and vacancy tax.

They’ve politely, but insistently, pressed for two monthly meetings instead of one. They’ve pressed to schedule one of those meetings in the evening, rather than always during the work day. They are seeking authority to re-design the agenda format to include a proper public comment period. And they’ve asked CRD staff to explore how the commission can expand its delegated authority to include services not thus far on the LCC’s administrative plate.

This new commission is acting its age, in all the best ways. Young things “ping” their surroundings, searching out — and pushing against — the boundaries of their worlds. It is, to extend the metaphor, developmentally appropriate for the LCC to seemingly test the patience of the broader district and indeed the province to whom it advocates on behalf of Salt Spring Island.

It would seem that our optimism has so far been well-placed. We look forward to seeing what these actions may deliver.

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**2020/21 CCNA Awards**  
Gold - Best Special Section | Gold - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)  
Silver - Best Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Bronze - Best Editorial Page

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



## Preserve parking spaces

BY MAXINE LEICHTER

I was dismayed to learn that the Active Transportation Plan that has been before the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) proposes to remove between 31 and 42 parking spaces from the Ganges core to make room for wider sidewalks and outside seating. Part of the stated intention is to improve access for the disabled.

If they had asked someone who is disabled, like myself, they would have heard that wheelchairs and walkers likely come to town in a car and that many disabled persons manage by walking slowly, or using cane or crutches.

As it is, I mostly visit town in the early morning or late afternoon when parking is more plentiful. If close-up parking is substantially reduced, the options for me and others will be even more limited.

The plan also ignores the needs of Ganges businesses that are already disadvantaged by a lack of parking. That is why just turning more regular spots into handicap spots is not a solution.

The suggestion was made that substitute parking could be created in the upper ArtSpring parking lot on Seaview Avenue. But how are we going to get able-bodied persons to fill up the far-away lot to leave the places in town for the disabled?

I was a commissioner on the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission when this plan was commis-

### VIEWPOINT

sioned. It was part of an attempt to rectify lack of accessibility like curb cuts and crosswalks in the area between the post office, Thrifty Foods and Mouat’s. Yet the plan completely ignores this area.

Throughout the public consultation, little if anything was stated about removing parking spaces from town. People will not complain if they don’t know there is a threat, although I have often heard non-disabled persons wishing for a “car-free” Ganges.

The plan does have some good suggestions, such as slowing traffic through town.

But the commission was told the study was needed to apply for grants to various improvements such as more curb cuts, better sidewalks and possibly more crosswalks.

Although no specific plans are yet in place, please do not wait to express your concerns until parking places are being ripped up. You can speak at the LCC meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at the former Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS). Warning: that location is not disabled-friendly because of limited parking nearby or a steep climb uphill from Rainbow Rd.

If you cannot attend, you can email the Local Community Commissioners at saltspring@crd.bc.ca or drop off a note at the CRD office on McPhillips Avenue — if you can find a place to park.

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

**Do you avoid Ganges on Saturdays in the summer?**

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Do you primarily use wood to heat your home?**

60 93  
YES NO

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# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Family thanks

The family of Dinny Corcoran would like to thank the community of Salt Spring Island for their support during this extremely sad time.

We can't thank the locals enough for their involvement in the search for Dinny. We acknowledge the determined efforts of the Search and Rescue volunteers, especially Pete, for his help in finding Dinny. For their dedicated collaborative efforts we thank the Coast Guard, the RCMP, the RCMSAR and the Cormorant Search and Rescue helicopter.

To all those involved in locating his beloved dog Ninja and ensuring he was looked after, thank you. He is safe and happy in his new home with a close friend of Dinny's on Vancouver Island.

To Greg, Liam, Jason and all the team at BWL Marine, thank you for the friendship and support you showed Dinny, which you



Dinny Corcoran, whose body was found in Long Harbour after a boating mishap occurred on July 12.

have generously extended to his family during this time.

We received an outpouring of support and generous offers when we were having trouble finding accommodation on Salt Spring and have been overwhelmed by the kindness of this community. A huge thank you to Sandy and Jim for providing us with a home away from home and making us feel so welcome.

For the toy trucks lent to Dinny's nephew, the beautiful flowers left on Dinny's truck, the thoughtful gifts from strangers, the personal stories and kind words from everyone we've met over the past week, we are so grateful.

Dinny moved to Canada from Australia in 2010 and had made it his home. He moved to Salt Spring in 2021 where he began the ambitious project of single handedly building on Clamshell Island. He was living his dream and loving his life. We are devastated that he is gone but will remember his adventurous spirit and carry him in our hearts always.

**SIOBHAN CORCORAN AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, AUSTRALIA**

### CASHI fatigue

Last month, the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI) was told that their proposal held no interest for the Local Trust Committee.

**EMILY WHITELAW, SALT SPRING**

**FRANTS ATTORP, SALT SPRING**

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 6

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

shape this review and affect the outcome."

She did not address my main point: that the Local Trust Committee (LTC) is forging ahead with proposed Bylaw 530, allowing for 5,215 potential accessory dwellings units (ADUs) before the OCP review is completed. Trustees are justifying this by focusing on short-term uptake rather than long-term build-out.

An April 2022 staff report cites a legal opinion warning that allowing ADUs in all zones would violate growth limits in our OCP, and states: "An amendment to the relevant OCP policies should be considered. However, the direction from the LTC is to avoid the OCP amendment process to address the housing crisis." In other words, major changes first, visioning second.

We have already seen how trustee Patrick helped strip the draft Trust Policy Statement of its teeth. Rather than being bound by unequivocal policies, trustees throughout the Trust Area now need only give environmental protection "special and profound consideration."

Can we expect anything different when she tackles our OCP? How easy it will be to gut a document that has already been severely trampled!

**FRANTS ATTORP, SALT SPRING**

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

**"Even the 'worst' of the options is so much better than where we are today."**

BRIAN WEBSTER, LCC COMMISSIONER, ON PORTLOCK PARK MASTER PLAN OPTIONS

## Forest to desert scenario no longer variety comedy sketch material

Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner were a very popular comedy duo who worked the clubs and television variety shows over 50 years ago. In one of their sketches, Reiner interviews Brooks, a 2,000-year-old man who has been around since biblical times. Brooks reminisces about the good old days when he was still young and how he used to run around freely and play hide and go seek in the Sahara Forest. Reiner corrects him with "You mean the Sahara Desert," to which Brooks replies, "NOW it's a desert."

As we chug along towards the end of July 2023 and watch each scorching day become a Xerox photocopy of the day before, we must be starting to suspect that we are living out the punchline of the aforementioned joke. Aren't we supposed to be the human inhabitants of a rainforest? Isn't the joke supposed to be how June should be called "June-uary" on account of the fact that the sun rarely makes an appearance during that month and gumboots are usually the way we make our footwear fashion statements?

Let's face it; we're in the midst of a severe drought. If I was less sensitive to the feelings of other mammals, I would say that it's drier than a camel's fart out there. It doesn't really matter whether we

have totally bought into the climate change disaster scenario and believe that it's already too late to take any kind of reparative action, or whether we deny the whole planet warming theory and view it all as a government conspiracy to control the population, in the end we are all going to be riding in the same lifeboat. The only question will be whether we will still have any oars or paddles left to allow us to move in any particular direction.

Fire, of course, is the biggest fear. Even as the writer of a supposedly mildly entertaining humour column, it's hard to treat the subject of wildfires lightly. A look around the province, the country and the globe in general demonstrates the havoc and destruction caused by these infernos, which are at least partially the result of our lack of rain. If it wasn't for the devastation resulting from floods, landslides and mudslides, we could almost rejoice at the thought of reliving the times of Noah's ark when the rain came down for 40 days and 40 nights. I can almost imagine the rainwater pounding down in those 18.9-litre blue-tinted plastic bottles and bouncing along as they hit the ground.

Brooks and Reiner may not have been too far off the mark with their 2,000-year-old man sketch. Perhaps



**Shilo Zylbergold**  
**NOBODY ASKED ME BUT**

an enormous green Sahara oasis did exist way back then. Research has shown that natural phenomena known as the Milankovitch cycles affect changes in the earth's orbit every 40,000-100,000 years and result in a planetary wobble, which causes the tilt of its axis to get all confused to the point that it doesn't know which way it's supposed to point. (I know about this because my wobble has quite often caused my personal axis to be thrown out of kilter.) It's quite possible that these drastic alterations in weather patterns and the resulting rainfall may be the reason why the 2,000-year-old man had a forest in which to play instead of the parched desert that exists today.

Meanwhile, the leaves of our tomato plants curl in a desperate attempt to conserve the evaporation of precious drops of water, as our spinach and chard crops grow bitter and bolt to seed mere sec-

onds after they've popped up out of the ground. Those lovely ponds that we had dug to provide summer swimming holes as well as year-round water reservoirs have now been reduced to muddy wading pools.

It's all turning topsy-turvy. Glaciers are melting and large chunks are breaking off to form icebergs floating as if their sole purpose was to chill an ocean of Scotch. Whales are beaching themselves for no apparent reason and confused great white sharks are migrating to our northern neighbourhood in search of more familiar sea water temperatures.

Pity the poor salmon, which are desperately scrambling to make reservations for assured loading this coming autumn upon those sorry-looking fish ladders presently poking out from dry streams and parched river beds. Will they not feel like stranded tourists who have had their travel plans dashed by yet another ferry sailing cancellation? Right now, a salmon's chances of reaching its happy spawning grounds are about as likely as the odds of survival for an upside-down crab at low tide.

How dry can it still get? It seems like each passing day brings a new record for high temperatures and low water levels. Municipalities and

regional districts are racing each other to enact more stringent rules and regulations restricting water usage for wasteful behaviours such as lawn sprinkling and Super Soaker wars.

The lack of rain here on the West Coast even accelerates the wear and tear on our public roads as potholes and washboards are left behind after the dust has been sucked up and blown away by those of us driving or cycling along. The deteriorating scene reminds us of "the Dirty Thirties," when drought conditions during the Depression caused thousands upon thousands of acres of fertile farmland topsoil from the American Great Plains to be scooped up and blown away, leaving nothing but barren dirt behind.

Nobody asked me, but I think I'm ready for this endless summer to take a time out. I will gladly accept a few days without any beach time or a dip in the lake in exchange for a nice little downpour that would help to revive our shrivelling environment. It might just be a drop in the bucket, but I'm willing to do my part to turn back the clock to the days of the Sahara Forest.

After all, maybe it's time we stop burying our heads in the sand and begin to realize that we can't see the forest for the lack of trees.

## MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

## Hugging hub

We're a social species. We survive by helping each other. Too many things in the news are very unhelpful. I was deeply delighted when Mike Stacey refreshed a cherished memory of two pedestrians stopping in mid-street to hug each other (July 19 Viewpoint). Public hugging, like private hugging, is hugely important for long-term survival.

Still, it should be controlled so the business of life goes on efficiently. How about a public hugging area in Ganges, maybe in the expanse of asphalt near the aging fire hall? We'd mark it with alternating white and rainbow lines into numbered hugging spaces. Would-be huggers would take a number as sick folks do

at the hospital, and electronic signs would tell you approximate waiting times. We'd likely want camera surveillance to assure proper hugging.

We do need to get all the good we can from public affection, which means giving everyone a chance to watch and learn. We could build an elevated boardwalk — though that might involve a multigenerational wait — paid for by coin-op telescopes and accessed from every downtown coffee shop. Schedules for school and touring groups would be helpful.

If this newsworthy project succeeds we may find that people want to go to Ganges, not avoid it. No need for by-passes or 30 km/hr speed limits.

There are a few glitches, of course, but, hey! Anything worth doing is worth overdoing.

**BOB WEEDEN,**  
SALT SPRING

# Remembering lessons learned at summer camp

When I was 12 my parents sent me away to camp for three weeks. I don't remember ever expressing a desire to go to camp. I didn't even know what camp was. None of the kids on my street knew about camps. As usual, no one asked me if I wanted to go to camp.

True, I had been to a "day" camp a few years before. Then, too, I was not consulted but suddenly found myself with a sandwich in a bag on a bus whose destination was a mystery to me. So much of my young life was like this: shipped off somewhere for unknown reasons. Once, when I was five years old I was sent from my home in Toronto to Manitoba with my grandparents for a few months. It may have been for a good reason but I was never told what it was.

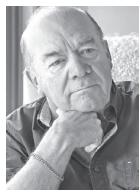
The day camp had been terrible. A busload of boys dropped off beside a muddy creek for a day of stupid games with a bunch of other inner-city kids. The creek was two-feet deep in places and probably the absolute best place to get polio for miles around. I don't know who chose it but it sure wasn't me. I didn't get to choose anything in those days. The best part of day camp was that it was only during the day. I got back home to my street and my friends before supper. There was one over-nighter that was so awful I can't put it down on paper.

So when I heard that I was going to be sent to a camp for three weeks I was not happy. On the one hand I would be away from my mother but on the other hand I would be away from my friends. You will recall how important friends were at that age. This camp was considered the best YMCA camp in Ontario and was pretty expensive. It was a boys' camp. We heard that there was a girls' camp across the lake but none of us could swim that far at first. Just as well.

There were eight boys in each cabin which held four bunk beds. Each cabin had a counsellor who slept in a separate part of the cabin. Every night someone came in and sprayed a dense cloud of DDT into the cabin to quiet the hordes of mosquitoes, which probably explains a lot of the health issues I had in later life. All the boys went to sleep pretty fast after lights out because being a camper was not relaxing.

Nowadays families go camping to escape the rigours and demands of city life. As a worried kid I found that at camp there was a plan to impose unusual demands and wholly new rigours on my unsuspecting self. These were innocently called "activities." They were not optional.

There was rifle shooting. It was not a good idea putting lethal weapons into the hands



**Chris Rideout**  
AND THAT WAS  
**WHEN**

and begged for a proper knife but they were socialists and did not care for knives. My dad had what he called his "camping knife" and it had a knife, a fork and a spoon on it, but I didn't take it to my camp.

In spite of all that, the best part of camp was the chance to go on an overnight canoe trip into the Northern Ontario bush country. But to be able go on one, I had to pass a series of tests. I passed the swimming test, but then there were the canoe tests. I had bought a paddle and painted an eagle on it, but that meant nothing. I had to demonstrate that I could handle a canoe by myself. These were canvas and wood canoes designed to hold three people and five nights worth of sleeping bags, food, tents and utensils. It was a tough test and I did well enough to earn a "middleman" stripe for my paddle. I wanted a "bowman" stripe, but didn't get one. The counsellors were the stern paddle. Three canoes, six boys and three counsellors. For five nights.

Just to be clear, the real power in a laden canoe is in the stern. The stern paddle does most of the steering and is mainly responsible for the canoe. The bowman is also involved in steering but his main challenge is in rapids or other kinds of fast water. His eyes see what the stern cannot. The middleman (me) is mostly just muscle — important but not critical.

Before we left, we had to be shown how to pack. We were responsible for our sleeping bags and clothing as well as our portion of supplies. This was considerable weight. We were shown how to roll a sleeping bag into a watertight bundle. I thought it was all nonsense but, as usual, I was wrong. It is no fun sleeping in a wet sleeping bag, as some of the campers found out.

**It is no fun sleeping in a wet sleeping bag, as some of the campers found out.**

And of course there was canoeing, which involved learning how to paddle a canoe. The boys in my cabin were all city kids who had never seen a canoe up close. So we all jumped in and it flipped over, which was so much fun we did it again until the counsellors saw us and yelled. If you are at all familiar with William Golding's Lord of the Flies, it may give you some insight into how the boys in my cabin behaved. If there was the slightest opportunity for carelessness, flagrant breaking of laws, rules and customs, the boys in my cabin were right there. They didn't hold back. Whether it was electrocuting frogs in light sockets, lighting fires in the privies, or throwing little Robbie into the lake in the night zipped in his sleeping bag, the boys were on it.

The five nights included paddling all day, portages around serious rapids, overturning in rapids, shooting rapids and eating high-energy food. One snack has remained with me: after paddling all day in the summer sun, we stopped to make camp. We ate handfuls of peanut butter from a can laced with corn syrup. It was delicious.

Capsizing was exciting and very dangerous, but to us it just added to the fun. There were no life jackets in the canoes. We paddled down Moon River and other rivers that I have forgotten until we reached Georgian Bay.

I never went to summer camp again and I don't miss it. I have gone camping since then, but it's not the same. The frogs are safe, there are no weak campers to jump on and no opportunity at all for mayhem. It's all very civilized. But, just in case, I keep a sharp eye out for 12-year-old boys in groups. You can't be too careful.



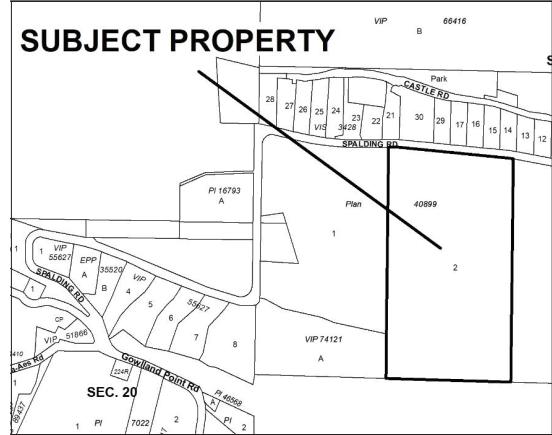
## NOTICE SP-TUP-2023.1 SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

**NOTICE** is hereby given pursuant to Section 494 of the *Local Government Act* that the South Pender Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) will be considering a resolution allowing for the issuance of a Temporary Use Permit. The proposed permit would apply to LOT 2, SECTIONS 2 AND 4, PENDER ISLAND, COWICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 40899 (PID: 000-583-456). This property is located at 9861 Spalding Road, South Pender Island.

The purpose of the temporary use permit is to allow for storage and transfer of aggregate rock material.

The establishment of these uses would be subject to the conditions specified in the attached proposed permit. The permit would be issued for three (3) years and the owner may apply to the LTC to have it renewed once for an additional three (3) years.

The general location of the subject property is shown on the following sketch:



A copy of the proposed permit may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing **July 14, 2023** and continuing up to and including **July 25, 2023**.

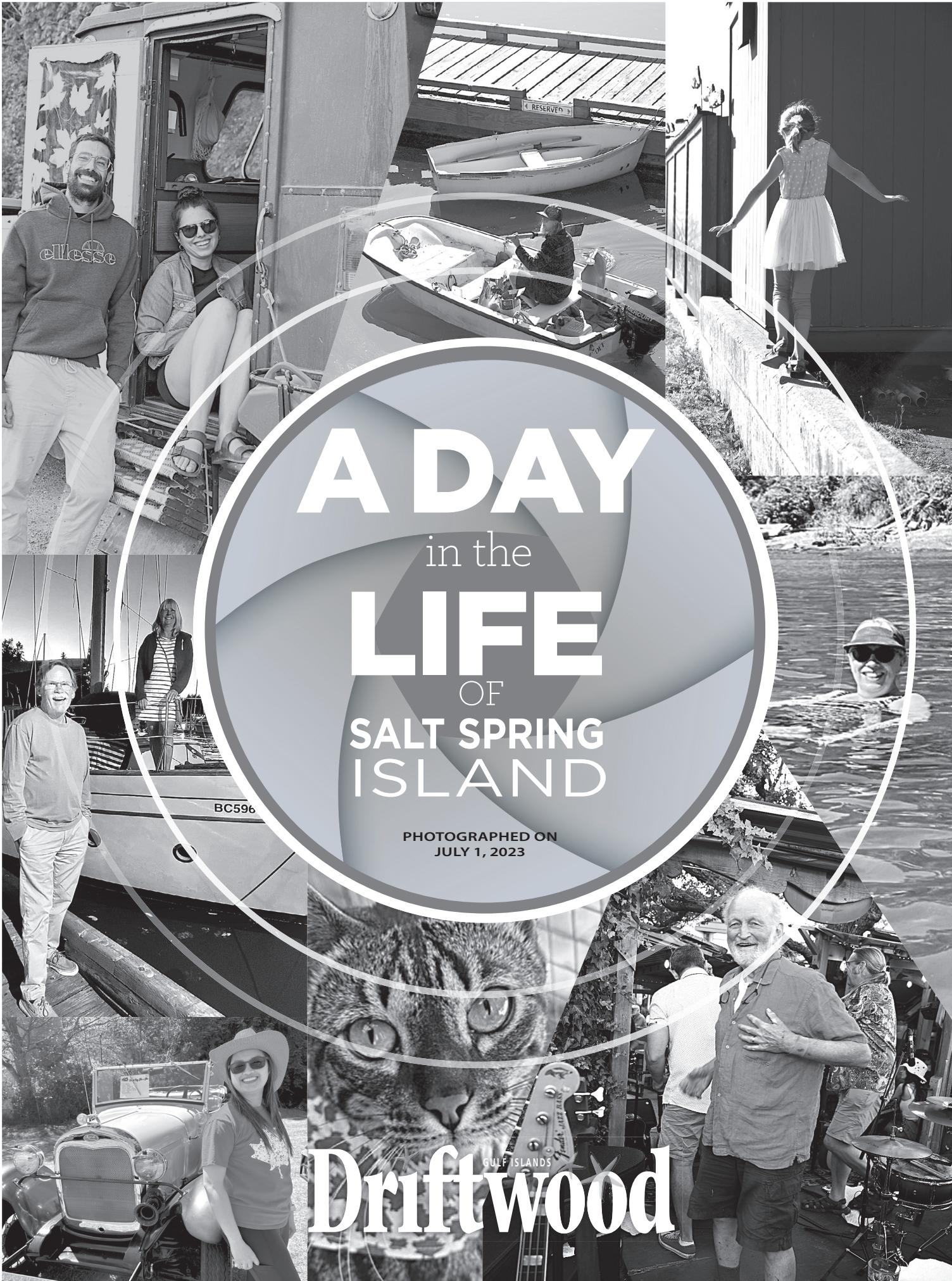
For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 499(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act*, additional copies of the Proposed Permit may be inspected at various Notice Boards on South Pender Island.

Enquiries or comments should be directed to Charly Caproff, Planner 1 at (250) 405-5172, for Toll Free Access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867; or by fax (250) 405-5155; or by email to: southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca before 4:30 p.m., **July 25, 2023**.

The South Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider a resolution allowing for the issuance of the permit during the electronic special meeting starting at **10 a.m., August 1st, 2023**.

All applications are available for review by the public with prior appointment. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Jas Chonk, Deputy Secretary



# ADAY in the **LIFE** OF **SALT SPRING ISLAND**

PHOTOGRAPHED ON  
JULY 1, 2023

**Driftwood**  
GULF ISLANDS

# Love for our island captured on Canada Day

It was way back in 2004 when the Driftwood publisher of the day, Penny Sakamoto, introduced the Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island project to our community, using six professional and Driftwood staff photographers.

That makes this version the 20th annual publication, now and for several years using photos submitted by community members, with one or more Driftwood staffers usually contributing as well.

Participating this year were Merv Anderson, Jane Armstrong, Marie Beaudoin, John de Bruyn, Ishbel Galloway, Julia Gilbert, Susan Gordon, John Howe, Avril Kirby, Rob Lowrie, Jen MacLellan, Colleen Shantz, Kath Webster and myself. While this edition had fewer people

behind the camera than usual, I think it has more faces than ever — and of course a healthy number of non-human inhabitants — and beautifully reflects the events of July 1, 2023.

One of the day's highlights for me was running into photographer Rob Lowrie outside of the Tree House Café as his shooting day came to a close, sharing some of the wonderful interactions he had during what he called "a great day" of roaming around the island and taking pictures for this project. His and others' enthusiasm and love for their island home comes through loud and clear in these pages. I hope you will consider joining the photographers list next year.

— Gail Sjoberg, Driftwood editor



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG  
7:34 am A doe stops to check out the source of crackling arbutus leaves as she travels with her family on a regular morning route.

## 6 to 9 am



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT  
8:55 am Dan Clements has a cup of coffee after donning his Canada Day Salt Spring T-shirt.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

8:57 am Tony rows into the Ganges Marina dock.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY  
9:05 am Off-island visitors Alyssa and Lexi enjoy the tire swing at Centennial Park, celebrating Canada Day with their cousins.

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PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**8:57 am** Mimi tackles the rope and wood climbing structure, one of the upgraded Centennial Park apparatus installed in 2019 thanks to the CRD Parks and Recreation department and Lions Club of Salt Spring Island funds.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY  
**8:56 am** Scarlett Bellavance, visiting from Nanaimo, tests her balance on a wall near Centennial Park.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**9:09 am** Muriel Hale enjoys a sunny morning in Centennial Park, seeing the world through her heart-shaped sunglasses.



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**7:14 am** Luna provides a wake-up call for her human underneath the blankets.



# 9 am to 12 noon



**11:42 am** Salt Spring Pipes and Drums group members play at the car show on the Hydro Field.

PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG



**11:47 am**  
Breanna, Hugo and Grady Lawlor are excited to be able to experience Francis Bread while house sitting in the north end.

PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT



**11:55 am** Part of the Salt Spring Cruisers' Show & Shine field, with well over 100 entries from Salt Spring and off-island attending. All vehicles did not remain until the scheduled 3 p.m. end time due to a notice issued by BC Ferries that later afternoon ferries would be cancelled between Vesuvius and Crofton due to a lack of crew. The requisite amount of crew members were secured and sailings proceeded, but several off-island vehicle owners had already left in order to ensure they could get home that evening.

PHOTO BY MERV ANDERSON



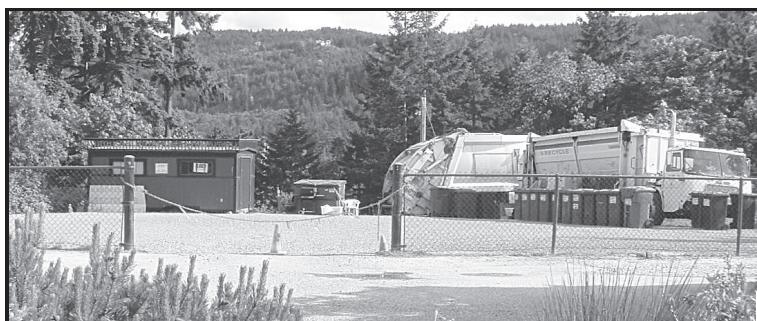
**10:06 am** Vylan with crutches on Beddis Beach. She said she had broken her leg after walking in mud.

PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY



**10:18 am** Sloane takes a turn on the swing at Beddis Beach with brother Sawyer and cousin Luna in the background.

PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY



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PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**11:20 am** Nyasha outside The Wardrobe on Fulford dock, where she works.



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**10:01 am** Photographer Julia Gilbert, left, with her friend Melinda Ford, taking a selfie while enjoying the Southe Point view.



PHOTO BY COLLEEN SHANTZ

**11:07 am**  
Car show patron checks out a beautiful 1930s Model A Ford.



PHOTO BY MERV ANDERSON

**9:51 am** Ford Mustang Shelby Cobra steering wheel at the car show.



PHOTO BY SUSAN GORDON

**9:00 am**

Salt Spring Sneakers meet up for their annual Canada Day run starting from Fernwood Dock. From left are Eric Ellis, Peter Freeman, Karen Clark, Julie van Soeren, Susan Gordon (Centre), Eric van Soeren, Dawna Lewis, Keith Cloete, Jill Thompson and Donna Cloete. The Sneakers club was started in 2008 by hiking club members Lynn Thompson and Janice Dickie with Greg Taylor, Lise Fraser and Keith Cloete. The group currently lists 134 members on its Facebook page. Some runners attend Vancouver Island Race Series events, while others prefer to run just for fun and participate in group workouts on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Runners of all abilities, ages and interests are welcome to join. This photo also appeared on the front page of the July 5, 2023 edition of the Driftwood newspaper in full (very red) colour.



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# 12 to 3 pm



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**12:29 pm** Guinness greets his girlfriends Maggie and Sadie – kisses all around.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**2:41 pm** Longtime Saturday Market vendor Cheyenne Goh of Tweed and Bananas holds some of her beautiful notebooks that have joined her many fabric "green goods" at her market stall. Many of the notebook covers are designed by other Saturday Market vendors.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**12:10 pm** Derek Sowden stops to have a chat with Salt Spring Crankcase Club members and others at the car show on his 1962 Vespa. (His 1973 MG isn't yet ready to join the classic vehicles on the Show & Shine field.)



PHOTO BY JANE ARMSTRONG

**1:15 pm** A busy Cusheon Lake beach and dock scene, taken while the photographer was following a Canada Day tradition started by Kelly Waters. Her fellow Salt Spring Seals members Sue Robinson and photographer Jane Armstrong swam in 12 places around Salt Spring, both ocean and lake sites. Things were very quiet in the morning, but the number of beach-goers picked up as the day got warmer, as the photo shows.

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PHOTO BY COLLEEN SHANTZ

**1:54 pm** Kingfisher Cove residents gather for their annual Canada Day party.



**1:17 pm** Vintage vehicle collector Henry Baade with his latest acquisition: a 1940 Dodge truck bearing his name – "Henry's" – on the door. His 1940 Indian motorcycle is seen in the box of the truck.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**2:36 pm** Roger Brunt with one of his handmade wooden fairy doors for sale in the Saturday Market. Brunt is also the author of several books about fairies and elves, featuring Erskine the Elf and others.



**1:30 pm** Cusheon Lake dock was the cool place to be on a sunny Canada Day.



**2:27 pm** Canadian Coast Guard vessel Cape Naden, with crew on the bridge, just tied up at its Ganges base after doing a local patrol. The vessel was also seen flying a large Canadian flag while out on the water.



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PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**2:04 pm** Wearing Canada Day red and white, Tah Jaemjaeng poses with a replica Model A Ford owned by Salt Spring Country Grocer store owner Leigh Large.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**12:47 pm** Kim McIntyre on her mare Tara, left, and Christine Steffich on her mare Copper take a Canada Day stroll to town along with Steffich's dog Mojo.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**2:09 pm** Car show volunteer Rene Van Hullebush manages traffic as vehicles leave the field.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**1:38 pm** Rajah and Tao visit the local BC SPCA's Doggie Daycare in Centennial Park.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**12:42 pm** Tracey Cameron serves up red velvet cake at the new Hen & Hound Brasserie at Fernwood.

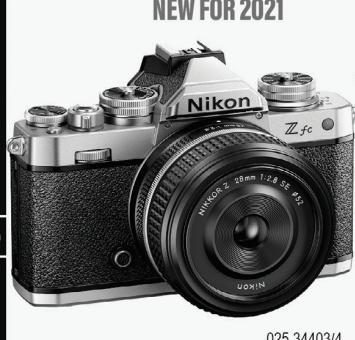
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PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**1:10 pm** Bruce Twentyman shows the 1951 Studebaker belonging to fellow islander and classic car aficionado Gary LeMarchant at the Salt Spring Cruisers Show & Shine.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**1:50 pm** Al's Gourmet Falafel and Fries founder Alex Lyons, right, on the day a transfer of his Rainbow Road business to "PV," left, occurs. In the centre is assistant chef Keven Snowden.



PHOTO BY ISABEL GALLOWAY

**12:00 pm** Bengal cat Rupert waits for his Canada Day lunch in his catio in Ganges.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**12:02 pm** Crankcase 2023 Rally decal on the hood of a 1960 Triumph T3 owned by Gordon Heisch, who was one of six participants in the first ever Salt Spring-to-Jasper-and-back event that saw owners of four MGs, a Maserati and the Triumph venture off the island the next day. The men are all members of the Salt Spring Crankcase Club for owners of classic British or European cars.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**12:37 pm** Among musicians playing at Al's Gourmet Falafel and Fries are, from left, Mark Laberge, Alex Lyons and Gerry Jones.

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# 3 to 6 pm



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**3:34 pm** Cyclists Katrianna Skulsky and Jack Desante from Vancouver sport their just-bought Salt Spring T-shirts.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**3:07 pm**

Melanie Furman of Culturalive fermented foods, left, with Saturday Market customers Sam and Cara Graci.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**3:21 pm**

Mark LeCorre, wearing his cool Charlie Brown shirt, does the sound for Two Point Oh at the Legion, following he and his bandmates in Everyday People having had their turn on the stage.



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**4:17 pm** One-week-old BC SPCA kittens in foster care snuggle between meals.



PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

**4:14 pm** The Two Point Oh band performs under the Legion tent as part of an all-day music extravaganza.

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PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**3:55 pm** From left, good buddies Marion Caverhill, Ayla Stevens, Isla Hammond and Leda Ford excited for the first playdate of summer holidays after completing Grade 5.

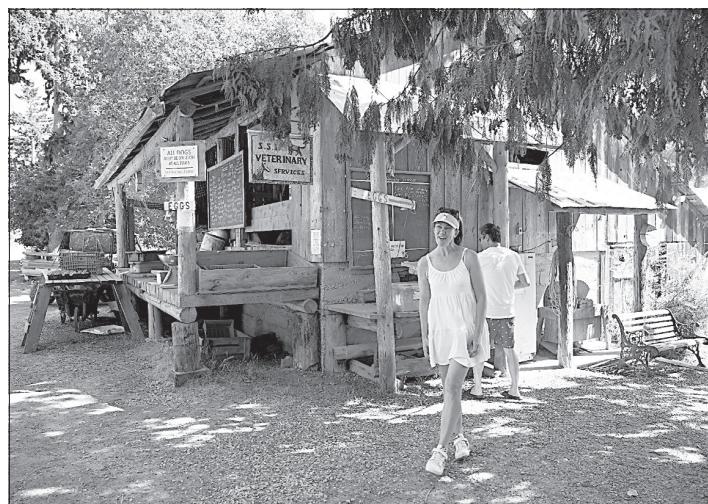


PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**3:59 pm** Jen and Matt buy eggs at the Bond family's Bon Acres Farm, and bought a new house on Salt Spring as well.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**3:58 pm** Salty Dog Retreat manager Luna Berthelot, left, and owner Jaime Halan-Harris with Taiga, a young rescue pup who's looking for the right home. That day they had just finished finding homes for eight of their rescues with hopes for more before the close of the weekend open house.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**5:50 pm** Doris St. Germain does some repair work on her bridge.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**4:14 pm** Margaret and Ron MacKenzie enjoy the Legion's Canada Day event.

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PHOTO BY IEN MACLELLAN

**4:59 pm** Christie Roomé, left, and Christina Penhale look at scripts and finalize the outline for the upcoming Salt Spring Youth New Creatives Festival, a first-ever week-long immersive experience for young actors and playwrights aged 13 to 18.



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**5:26 pm** Cinderella says, "I have my eye on you!" as she eats dinner.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**3:15 pm** Emily Creasy and Micah Penner, visitors from Port Moody, enjoy their Glad's Gelateria treats.



PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

**5:37 pm** Guitarist Tony Brinks entertains diners at the Canada Day hog roast at Off the Hook restaurant in Fernwood, another of the island's new eateries.



PHOTO BY JOHN HOWE

**4:15 pm** Susan Rogers cools off while floating in the refreshing waters of Vesuvius Bay.



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PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

**5:34 pm** Justin Oppman, left, and Chad Adams roast a hog for a special Canada Day dinner at Off the Hook restaurant.

PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

**5:38 pm**

A peaceful, purposeful hole in the fence on North Beach Road.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**5:15 pm** Recently married Marie and Jim Raddysh dance up a storm under the tent on the Legion grounds.

PHOTO BY MARIE BEAUDOIN  
**4:33 pm** Ian Franey does cement work on a door sill at his home.



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

**5:23 pm** Momma hen with her newly arrived Canada Day chicks.

**SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS**

**EXPLORE, ISLAND STYLE**

# 6 to 9 pm



**8:14 pm** Tania Aguilera enjoys her night at the Tree House, where her husband Jose Sanchez was playing drums with the Duck Creek Trio turned quintet, including Bruce Everett, Ken Lunn, Valdy and Mark Laberge.

PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE



**6:34 pm** From left, Ojima and Rosa Clarke, with Leith and Darryl Martin, find a good spot to wait for their table at the Tree House.

PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE



**6:16 pm** An eastern cottontail rabbit cleans up the dandelions in the photographer's yard on Castillou Way.

PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN



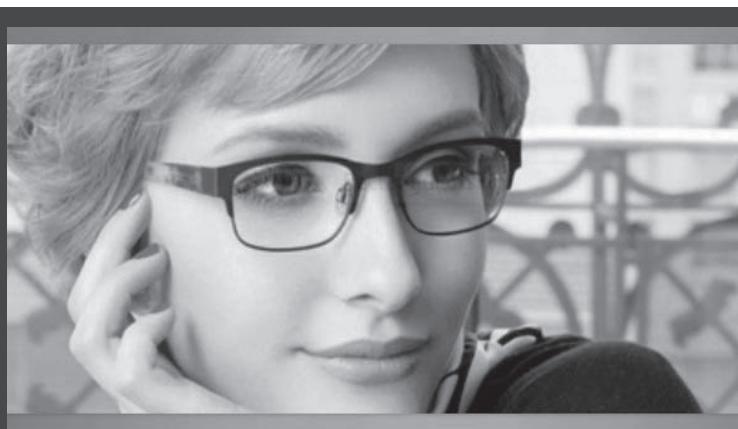
**8:16 pm** Laura and Stefan relax on a bench on the boardwalk by Mouat's Mall and Tree House Café.

PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY



**6:00 pm** Neighbours have fun at their Mount Baker Crescent Canada Day party.

PHOTO BY KATH WEBSTER



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PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**8:22 pm** Tom Hooper sings and plays guitar for the crowd on the patio of Shipstones pub.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**6:27 pm** Jan Mangan volunteers to pass the bucket for the band at the Tree House Café.



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**8:39 pm** Mikel Lopez from Spain and Julia Di Paolo from Canada, who met in Paris and are travelling around Canada in their camper van.



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**6:15 pm** Rick and Chris at the urinals in the Salt Spring Legion men's washroom.

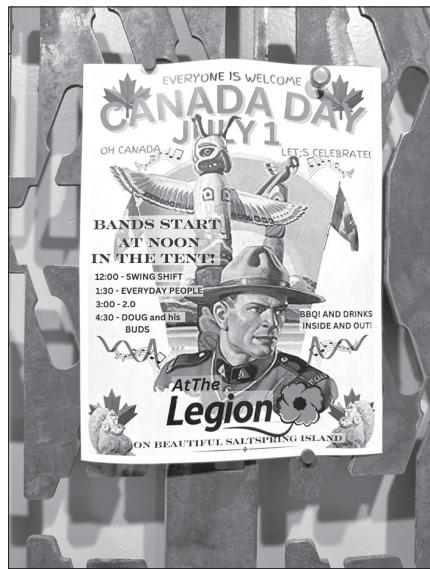
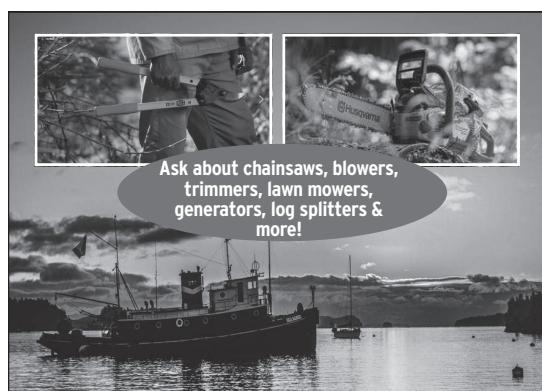


PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**6:16 pm** Washroom poster outlines the day's events at the Legion.



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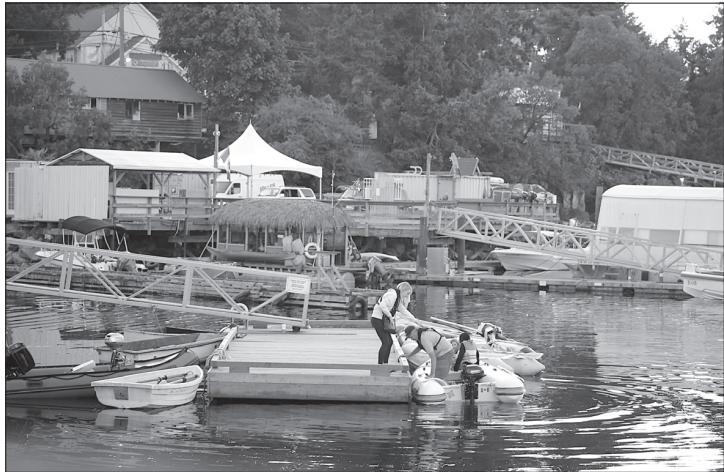
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# 9 pm to 6 am



**9:15 pm** A family gets into their tender at the recently expanded and upgraded dinghy dock next to Rotary Marine Park.



**9:34 pm** Tika: always ready to play ball – day or night!



PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

**10:10 pm** Ron and Venetia Inglis from Delta retire for the night on their sailboat at Kanaka Dock as the sun sets.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**9:07 pm** Tamar Griggs and Zuri enjoy Tree House Café music and socializing with island friends.

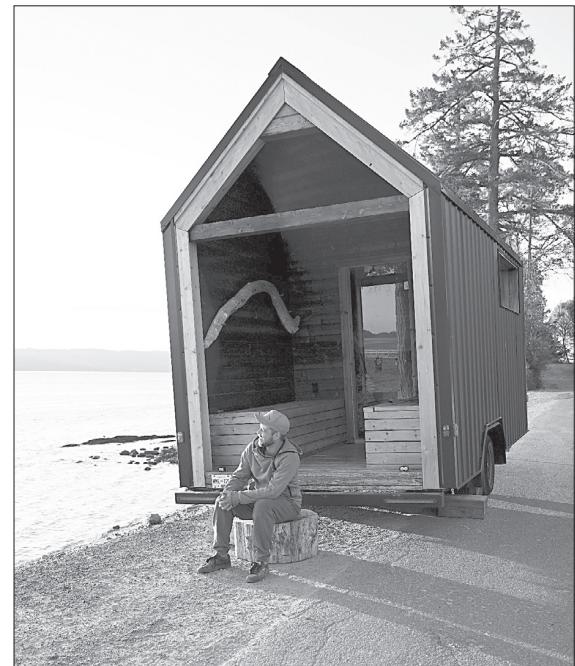


PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

**5:59 am** Eben Finer contemplates a crack-of-dawn swim and wishes his friend's mobile sauna was up and running.

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# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## FINE ART

# SSNAP and PAS exhibit finalists announced

Five Gulf Islanders on national list

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Last week was a momentous one in the 2023 Salt Spring National Art Prize (SSNAP) calendar as the exhibition competition's 52 finalists from almost 2,200 cross-Canada submissions were announced.

That was followed in short order by the Parallel Art Show (PAS) finalist names being released. The PAS is an exhibit of work submitted to SSNAP by Gulf Islands artists.

The SSNAP finalists exhibit will run at Mahon Hall from Sept. 23 to Oct. 23. PAS shows at ArtSpring from Sept. 23 to Oct. 22.

Ronald Crawford is a founding director of SSNAP who has been intimately involved with the con-



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Vancouver artist Kriss Munya receives the top prize in the 2021 Salt Spring National Art Prize exhibition — the Joan McConnell Award — during the awards gala for that show, held when the COVID pandemic was a major factor in both the submitted work and the exhibition itself.

cept and execution of SSNAP since before the first exhibition held in 2015.

He said the chosen pieces will form an exciting, interesting and very figurative show.

Crawford observed how the

2021 SSNAP exhibit reflected what everyone was going through in the pandemic period.

"I could almost call this [2023 show] post-COVID. It still is more contemplative. It's like everybody's gone through a lot of changes

— artists too — and their work is reflecting that self-search and those changes."

Finalists hail from all of the provinces, except for Prince Edward Island. No northern territory artists are in the exhibit this year.

Crawford was happy to note that four Salt Spring artists and one from Mayne Island were chosen as 2023 finalists. Those people are Salt Springers Martin Herbert, Susan Huber, Robert Moss and Alicja Swiatlon, and April Winter from Mayne Island. Huber was also a finalist in the first show in 2015.

Forty-four of the 201 Gulf Islands artists submitting work were also chosen for PAS. They are Kenna Barradell, Chintan Bolliker, Charles Breth, Marianne Campbell, Stefanie Denz, Barbara Edwards, Jeanne Erickson, Seb Evans, Josephine Fletcher, Sibeal Foyle, Mimi Fujino, Anna Gustafson, Martin Herbert, Ed

Hughes, David Jackson, Elisabeth Jahren, Garry Kaye, Bly Kaye, Jane Kidd, Margie Korrisson, Connie Kuhns, Cheryl Long, John Mackintosh, Jennifer Maksymetz, Rosalie Matchett, Peter McFarlane, Jane McKenzie, Robert Moss, Carol Narod, Doreen Palme, Patricia Parkes, John Reid, Karen Reiss, Diana Sanderson, Anette Schrage, Sandy Shreve, Lorraine Surcouf, Melanie Thompson, Barbara Tipton, Nancy Walker, Katie Watt, Sal Wiltshire, April Winter, Dan Zak.

SSNAP and PAS finalists are chosen through a blind juried process where no names are attached to submitted pieces.

SSNAP jurors were Pierre-François Ouellette, Richard Hunt, Géétan Verna and Helga Pakasaar.

PAS jurors were Sophia Burke, Helen Mears and Richard Steel.

For more information about SSNAP and PAS, visit [saltspringartprize.ca](http://saltspringartprize.ca).

## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Logan Staats headlines second outdoor park concert

Winner of The Launch reality TV music comp on island Aug. 3

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

Salt Spring Arts presents the second event of this year's Summer Outdoor Concert Series in Centennial Park with an exciting show on Thursday, Aug. 3 beginning at 6 p.m.

Logan Staats, veracious Mohawk singer-songwriter and winner of CTV's The Launch music competition in 2018, will

be headlining the show. Staats' breakthrough success led him to Nashville and Los Angeles, with his single The Lucky Ones occupying the number-one chart spot in Canada and winning the Indigenous Music Award for Best Radio Single. He made the decision to return home to Six Nations of the Grand River, re-rooting and reclaiming his sound through honest storytelling and unvarnished reflection.

"I wanted to bring my songwriting back to the medicine inside of music, to the medicine inside of reclamation," he said.

Warming up the stage for the series' second concert at 6 p.m. is Pender Island-based artist Sarah Smith. Powerful song-

writing and a compelling stage presence are what drive her roots-rock music. After years as a member of the punk band The Joys, she has spent the last 15 years touring as a solo artist and recent reflection brought her from Ontario to finding a home in B.C.

The five-concert series begins this Thursday, July 27 with Mikey Jose and The Cowichan Tzinquaw Dancers, starting at 6 p.m.

Marquee presenters for the Salt Spring Arts series are Salt Spring Country Grocer and Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union.

For more information about upcoming concerts, visit [saltspringarts.com/socs](http://saltspringarts.com/socs).



PHOTO COURTESY SS ARTS  
Mohawk singer-songwriter Logan Staats, who performs at Centennial Park in the Salt Spring Arts series next Thursday, Aug. 3.

## CHAMBER MUSIC

# Film sounds in focus at festival

Reel Music at ArtSpring

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON  
FOR ARTSPRING

It is impossible to imagine such iconic films as The Godfather or Star Wars without their powerful and deeply affecting musical scores. Now in its 25th year under founding artistic director and violist David Visentin, the 2023 Salt Spring Chamber Fest focuses its curious lens on the musical talents of composers who also wrote for film with its theme Reel Music: Composers Writing for Film.

"This richly visual music is often overlooked, sometimes denigrated as 'not serious' because it was written for, or its creators wrote, for film," explained Visentin. "And yet, in the magical darkened world of the movie theatre, great music complements and enriches story and theme so powerfully it becomes an art form on another level."

The festival, running Friday, July 28 to Saturday, July

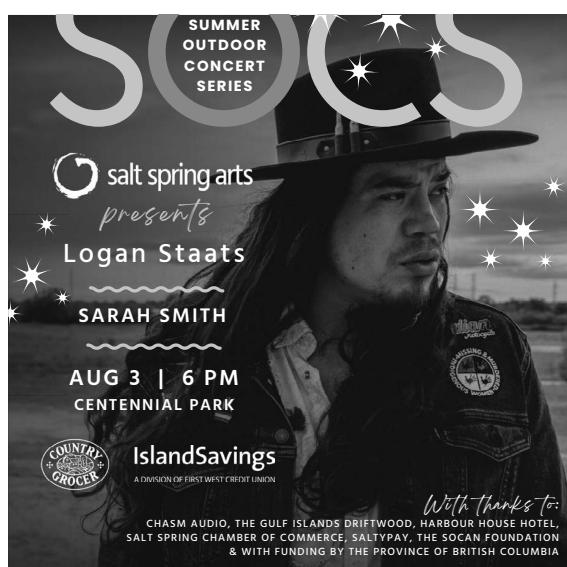
29, will present two distinct evening concerts with different repertoires that salute the spirit of camera-action-music. Familiar music from films like Cinema Paradiso and Scent of a Woman will be interspersed with music composers write when they are not writing for the cinema — a soundtrack to their inner lives.

Each 7:30 p.m. concert features a pre-show talk starting at 7 p.m. Eric Harper — film composer, flamenco guitarist and vocalist — joins the conversation at the Saturday concert to share his experience scoring for film, and will give a short vibrant performance.

Salt Spring Chamber Fest has engaged island audiences for decades. Most valued of all, said Visentin, is "everyone performing on stage is a very long-time friend and dearest musical colleague, which makes playing together all the more treasured."

Performing with Visentin on viola are Catherine Ordroneau, piano, Kai Gleusteen, violin, Hiroko Kagawa, violin and Amy Laing, cello.

Tickets are now on sale at ArtSpring.



## RECITAL

# Alan Moberg shares coastal history in music

Singer-songwriter at All Saints

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

Tea à Tempo is once again honoured to have Alan Moberg, Salt Spring Island's Saltwater Cowboy, on the All Saints by-the-Sea stage.

Moberg will sing songs and tell stories from the eight decades of his coastal experience on

Wednesday, Aug. 2 beginning at 2:10 p.m.

Moberg was born in 1941 in Pender Harbour, B.C. His dad was a logger who became a fisherman that same year. At 82, Moberg is two years into his ninth decade on these shores. His mother was a city girl who became an up-coast wife and mom. She learned to slice frozen bait in Fitzhugh Sound, shoot a marauding mink who was killing their chickens and raise two kids,

largely on her own, as her husband was away fishing for up to five months of the year.

The first word Moberg spoke was "boat." As a toddler, he could tell whose boat it was before it came around the point by the sound of its engine. He migrated with his mother to Rivers Inlet for the fishing season in 1945 and for three more years, with his mom and younger sister Lynda, from 1950 through 1952.

Moberg deep-sea-trolled with his dad, in the summers, from the age of 11 and later seined both salmon and herring on bigger boats. At age 22, he returned to fishing with his father to make up for the sea legs and abilities he had lacked as a youngster. His dad would say that this more mature Alan was the best man he ever had on the boat.

Recently, John Lugsdin of the Salt Spring Sailing Club said that

Moberg is one of the few people who remembers the B.C. coast as it once was and invited him to play a concert for the club's members. Moberg told stories and sang songs of his beloved West Coast. It was a smashing success, the folks loved it.

Moberg would like to offer a similar experience to a Tea à Tempo audience next week. His wife Christine Hunt, a Kwakiutl elder and noble woman, will make some remarks as well.

# what's on this week

Wed.

JULY 26

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo: NOMAD.** Simon Millerd and musical friends from across Canada. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.

**John Herbert.** With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Tom Hooper.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Sam Woy and Gus Englehorn.** Mateada Social Club. 8 to 10:30 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt Museum.** Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Drop-in Tennis.** The Salt Spring Tennis Association invites players of all levels to play drop-in tennis at the indoor courts at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club every Wednesday and Saturday from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

**Music Bingo.** Moby's Pub. 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Thurs.

JULY 27

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Arts Summer Outdoor Concert Series:** Mikey Jose and opener Tzinquaw Dancers. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Sharon Bailey.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Open Mic.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

**Craig's Karaoke.** At Moby's Pub. 8 p.m. to midnight.

**Everyday People.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Cram the Cruiser.** Bring food bank donations to the Salt Spring RCMP vehicle outside Country Grocer. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Neighbourhood Story Time.** Stories for young ones read by community members or library staff in the library's children's area every Thursday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

**Green Drinks.** On the deck of the golf course restaurant. Chat about solar, rainwater catchment, electric bikes, etc. 5 to 7 p.m.

**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Fri.

JULY 28

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Chamber Fest: Straight From the Heart.** Music written for film. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Pre-concert talk with musicians at 7 p.m.

**Boa Pride Karaoke.** Part of Salt Spring Pride Festival. Farmers' Institute. 8:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Salt Spring Pride Festival.** See saltspringpridefestival.ca for all details of events taking place at the Farmers' Institute, including dance with Goodnight Sunrise at 8:30 p.m.

Fri.

JULY 28

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Carolyn Mark.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Fridays With DJ Boomtown.** Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. til 12:30 a.m.

**Salome Cullen Band.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Karaoke.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

**Something Else All Vinyl Night.** Mateada Social Club. 8 p.m. to midnight.

## ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Pride Festival.** Gates open at Farmers' Institute at 1 p.m.; welcoming ceremonies from 3 to 5 p.m. See saltspringpridefestival.ca for full schedule of activities for the festival running to 1 p.m. on Monday, July 31. Tickets online or at the gate.

**Tennis at Portlock Park.** Salt Spring Tennis Association invites people self-rated at 3.0+ to play at the Portlock Park courts every Friday, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

**ASK Salt Spring.** MP Elizabeth May is this week's scheduled guest in the SIMS courtyard. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Family Movie Matinee.** Every Friday in the library program room at 1 p.m. This week's movie is *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*.

**Youth Board Games.** For ages 6 to 13. Children's library area. 1 to 3 p.m.

**Friday Game Night.** For ages 13 to 21 at the library program room. 7 p.m.

**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Sat.

JULY 29

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Chamber Fest: Shades of Epic Love.** Music written for film. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. Pre-concert talk with musicians at 7 p.m.

**Old Times Cafe.** Open stage at the Fulford Hall Annex. 7 to 11 p.m. (and on the last Saturday of every month). Refreshments available.

**Doug and His Buds.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Carolyn Mark.** Lower deck. Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Pride Festival.** See saltspringpridefestival.ca for all details of events taking place at the Farmers' Institute, including dance with Goodnight Sunrise at 8:30 p.m.

Sat.

JULY 29

## ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Pride Parade.** Muster at Rainbow and Jackson at 11 a.m. Parade starts at noon; goes down Hereford Ave. through the Thrifty's parking lot; along Fulford-Ganges Rd. and ends at the library. Speakers and music at 1:30 p.m.

**Drop-in Tennis.** See Wednesday listing.

Sun.

JULY 30

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Goodnight Sunrise.** Afternoon acoustic set at Mateada. 1 to 3 p.m.

**Blues Jam.** Singers, players and fans welcome. The Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

**Vixx.** Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Don Alder.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Pride Festival.** See saltspringpridefestival.ca for schedule.

**Reflecting on LIFE in the Cemetery: An Evening of Thoughtful Conversation, Contemplation and Self-discovery.** With guests Sheryl MacKay and Christa Ovnell. SS Natural Cemetery.

**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Mon.

JULY 31

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Terry Warbey.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Musical Theatre Camp.** For ages six to 13, led by Sue Newman and guest teacher Amy Haysom, begins today. Beaver Point Hall. Register through spiritofadventure.ca/kids-programming.

**Salt Spring Pride Festival.** See saltspringpridefestival.ca for schedule of events taking place at the Farmers' Institute.

**Salt Spring Toastmasters Hybrid Meeting.** Library program room. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Tue.

AUG. 1

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Ashton Bachman & Guest.** Lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Country Band With Open Mic.** At the Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Caoimhe Merrick Trio.** Tree House. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Tuesday Farmers' Market.** Hosted by the Salt Spring Community Market Society in Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

AUG. 2

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo: Alan Moberg.** All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.

**John Herbert.** With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Auntie Kate Trio.** Tree House. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Bittancourt Museum.** See last Wednesday's listing.

**Music Bingo.** See last Wednesday's listing.

## CINEMA

• **Asteroid City** runs Wednesday-Thursday, July 26-27 at 7 p.m. Then **Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny** is the movie from Friday, July 28 to Thursday, Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. nightly plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.

## EXHIBITS

• **Carol James** presents **On the Lighter Side**, a collection of 2D and 3D work, at Salt Spring Gallery from July 28 through Aug. 16. Opening reception is on Friday, July 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

• **Elemental: Wood and Metal**, a multi-artist Showcase Exhibition on the stage at ArtCraft at Mahon Hall, runs daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., until Aug. 14. Artists' talk on Friday, July 28 at 5:30 p.m.

• **League 181** members present **Connections** in the ArtSpring lobby through August.

• Today, July 26, is the last day to see Cheryl Long's show of paintings called **Almost Unseen – Angels and Spirit Forms in Landscape** at Salt Spring Gallery.

• **Jeanne Lyons: Journeys: Paintings, Sculptures and Works on Paper** shows in the library program room until July 31.

• **55th annual ArtCraft gallery and shop** of work by 100 Gulf Islands artisans is on at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Old Times Cafe

Open stage at Fulford Hall Annex

Saturday, JULY 29

7 to 11 p.m.

Refreshments available

On the last Sat. of every month

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# ISLAND LIFE

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Treasure Fair fundraiser achieves new record

Social and financial goals surpassed

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON  
FOR ARTSPRING

With a goal of raising \$55,000, ArtSpring's recent Treasure Fair announced a record-breaking total of \$67,346, making it the most successful Treasure Fair in the organization's 23-year history of hosting the popular fundraising event. Organizers could not be more pleased.

"As a charitable arts centre that relies heavily on donations to support daily operations and sustain, develop and grow programming for our community, this flagship fundraising event is absolutely key in our calendar," said executive and artistic director Howard Jang. "We couldn't be more thrilled and grateful for the turnout, the positivity and the engagement this year."

It is a sentiment that long-time Treasure Fair committee chair Catherine Griffiths shares. "There was a lot of excitement this year,"



PHOTO BY KIRSTEN BOLTON

A busy ArtSpring gallery scene during Treasure Fair weekend.

she said. "So many visitors, much less COVID anxiety, people wanting to be social and the quality of the donated items this year was extraordinary. It all factored in to build momentum."

Noticeable elements that made a difference included the pre-bid gala event with the auction site going live at 6 p.m. in the evening rather than in the morning. The well-attended Saturday concert performed by charismatic Juno-nominated folk group The Fugitives reportedly added to the buzz, and

an uptick in "Buy It Now" deals, where bidders pay 150 per cent of the stated value to lock down a favourite item, happened faster and more substantially than ever before.

Big ticket items, experiences and smaller special pieces were curated so there was something for everyone at any price point. The spotlight item this year was the baby grand piano evaluated at \$12,000, selling to a bidder and now going to a loving new home. Trips, accommodations, concert experiences and wine

collections all went quickly. High value outdoor furniture sets, interior furnishings and quirky décor items and collectables all found their audiences.

More than 140 donors of these treasure items and experiences stepped up this year. Each will receive a tax receipt for the winning bid on their donation. Griffith's tireless volunteer committee, which has not rebounded to full capacity since the pandemic, invested hundreds of hours receiving, cataloguing, moving, storing, packaging, presenting and manning the website and exhibition space.

For the first time, the local Girl Guides manned the concession station as a fundraiser, offering visitors home-baked items and refreshments to enhance their Treasure Fair touring experience. This level of grassroots community connection is a priority to Jang.

"There are some misperceptions out there that ArtSpring shouldn't need to organize fundraisers like this because we have massive government support, grant support or

tax support to facilitate us bringing in off-island artists, and that's simply not the case," he said. "The majority of what we do is to facilitate community groups and local artists in presenting their work year round, and to bring artists from all over the world to engage and inspire our community. Our annual budget is very tight compared to similar community art centres in other jurisdictions, so everything helps."

Some of the items that did not sell are stored and will be re-presented at next year's Treasure Fair in hopes of connecting with the right buyer.

"On top of the money that was raised, we had people come back multiple times and genuinely express how much fun they were having," said Griffiths. "Our committee worked hard but also had plenty of laughs too, which makes the Treasure Fair a winner across the board."

With the results tallied, this year's Treasure Fair surpassed 2022's fundraiser by just \$850.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

# Reasons to join Mental Wellness Initiative shared

People involved talk about their motivation to help others

SUBMITTED BY THE MENTAL WELLNESS INITIATIVE

*This is the second in a series of stories from Salt Spring Health Advancement Network's Mental Wellness Initiative (MWI Initiative), whose mission is "co-creating a community of caring and belonging."*

Bringing diverse voices together is one of the goals of MWI whose mission is to co-create a community of caring and belonging. Our first story from William McPherson highlighted Willie's own journey and the impact that being involved in the Initiative has had on him personally. This time, we asked people involved in the Mental Wellness Initiative some questions; what follows are responses from individuals active in different aspects of the Initiative's work in our community.

**Why is working with the Mental Wellness Initiative important to you?**

• The groups in the MWI that I have participated in have been exceptional experiences! I'm always pleasantly surprised when my name comes up because someone values my contribution and mentions me attached to some great idea! The check-ins we share have value and hold an important space for me to share and in turn listen. I feel relief and pleasure knowing that I am speaking with people who hold me in high regard. (Longtime traveller who settled on Salt Spring to find their place in the community. Discovered a passion for producing and broadcasting through Salt Spring radio CFSI and now CHIR. Has joined the Coalition and Communication groups since 2021. New mom and multifaceted job-holder.)

• When my daughter was homeless, I realized that it wasn't up to me to keep her safe, nor could I. So, I prayed for her to be in the company of caring and kind people and now I strive to be that to others. I'm a Jesus follower and my life goal is to live as close to his example as I am able, which includes loving my neighbour, feeding the hungry, etc. (Ambassador, Peer Support Working Group member since 2022, healthcare background as nurse and director of long-term care. Lived experience supporting daughter who is now housed and not using and well.)

• My professional and personal experience with systems that support mental health influenced my desire to contribute. I believe that the health of any group, school or community can be gauged by how their most vulnerable are treated. Genuine compassion supports the health of everyone and I see this approach in the work of Mental Wellness Initiative where a culture of care drives the agenda, physically and metaphorically. The work of the MWI serves to connect our community. It's a bridge to and for agencies and individuals supporting mental health efforts. (Member of the MWI Coalition and Communications Group since 2022 Island resident for 40 years. Member of several community nonprofit boards, including Gulf Islands Families Together Society.)

**What do you think the MWI makes possible that wouldn't otherwise be so?**

• There is still a touch of inclusionary diversity left here, which, when we encourage each other to work together for all . . . all can still come back from where we are currently heading and benefit from. (Lived experience consultant in the fields of drug addiction, crime, dual-directional broken family structures and homelessness. Frequent visitor to Salt Spring for many years and permanent resident for six years. With the MWI Coalition and Communication Group since the beginning.)

• I think this work is one of many ways that will help to create a healthy community on the island of Salt Spring. I believe what we are doing will help people have a better sense that they are cared for and will help to bridge some of the divides between people groups that live here. (Member of MWI Peer Support Working Group since 2022. Board member with Salt Spring Community Alliance. Volunteer with Harvest Food Bank. Neighbourhood co-captain for Emergency Services POD Network, pastor with Canadian National Baptist Convention.)

• Given our crumbling social, environmental and economic systems, a grassroots effort like the MWI is filling increasing gaps in our community — around services like mental health support, peer support and counselling, safer drug access and response to overdoses, along with advocacy to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable in our community continue to be heard, acknowledged and responded to. (In leadership positions with several nonprofits on Salt Spring Island, and on the board of several others.)

If we embrace the belief that the way forward is together, then

is one measure of our success as a community how we take care of each other? In a future story we ask the question: What does it mean to have a healthy community?

To get involved with the Mental Wellness Initiative on Salt Spring, people can contact David Norget davidnorget@gmail.com or William McPherson willieonsaltspring@gmail.com.

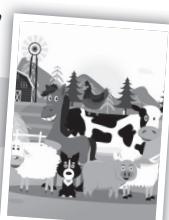
For information about donating, contact davidnorget@gmail.com or Martha Taylor at marthataaylor02@gmail.com, or the online version of this story at gulfislandsdriftwood.com.

## Fall Fair FOCUS

*Did you know that a SSIFI Membership not only supports the Salt Spring Island Farmers' Institute and the importance of agriculture on our island, but also provides you with FREE admission to the Fall Fair?*

**Memberships are available until August 25th**

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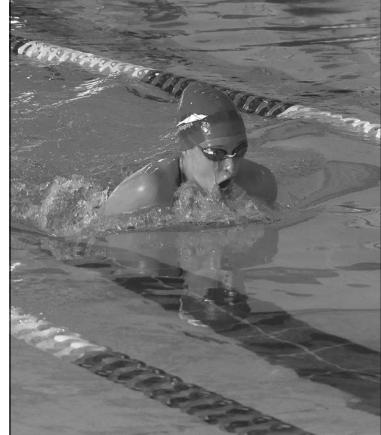
*SSI 2023 Fall Fair is September 9th & 10th!*



# SPORTS + RECREATION



**BIG SPLASH:** Scenes from the annual Salt Spring Stingrays Invitational swim meet, which hosted some 380 swimmers July 22-23. Clockwise from top left, Zoe Sanchez Wickland swims backstroke; Mikayla Langdon celebrates a great race; teammates Jack Jacquest and William Harder race one another in the 200 individual medley; Zoey Johnson, who also coaches the Stingrays, swims breaststroke; Pender Island Otters Swim Club president and long-time swimmer Helen Moore gives a thumbs-up after placing first in a freestyle race; backstrokers dive to start off a side-by-side race between two Stingrays boys relay teams near the end of the meet.



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**GULF ISLANDS**  
**Driftwood**

## HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF JULY 30 TO AUGUST 5, 2023

The luckiest signs this week: PISCES, ARIES AND TAURUS

**ARIES** You'll organize an event that will bring many people together. The full moon will make you more charming, and you'll be quite charismatic with those around you. In love, you must take a step back to get closer.

**TAURUS** You'll be promoted after a colleague quits. The holidays will allow you to let go and define your plans more precisely. Friends will invite you to go on a nice getaway or rejuvenating trip.

**GEMINI** You'll be interested in participating in the activities in your community or municipality. You'll take on one project after another. Even if you're shy and reserved, you'll follow through on your ideas. Nothing can stop you!

**CANCER** Be patient, and you'll realize your dreams; good things take time. Rome wasn't built in a day! Collaboration is a great tool for developing your ambitions and goals. Sometimes you must start fresh and rebuild.

**LEO** Professionally or personally, you must be patient to reach an agreement. Stop being stubborn with the same people. You'll win your case if you have to settle something in court.

**VIRGO** If you're struggling with a health problem, you'll finally get the treatment you need. You could suddenly move up the corporate ladder at work. Your significant other will make a serious commitment to you.

**LIBRA** You'll achieve something great that fill you with pride. You could save someone, if only by listening to them. They'll offer you their gratitude. At work, you may be given significant responsibilities that are a burden.

**SCORPIO** Make time for family, especially your children or elderly parents. You'll give them all your time and devote yourself to them. If you're in a relationship, it's important to express how you feel through words.

**SAGITTARIUS** You could go back to school, or at least take a training course to benefit your career. Even though you're short on time and must work hard, you'll accomplish a remarkable feat.

**CAPRICORN** At work, you'll likely have to put in some extra hours. However, you'll be generously rewarded. This extra effort will boost your salary and improve your working conditions. In love, you'll be showered with affection.

**AQUARIUS** Just as you're making a fresh professional start, you'll discover a more promising position. The salary will be attractive, and you'll finally be able to save money. Above all, you'll no longer have to pinch pennies.

**PISCES** You're intuitive and imaginative. You'll define your priorities and visualize a future that suits you. You'll have the enlightenment to guide you along this new path.

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