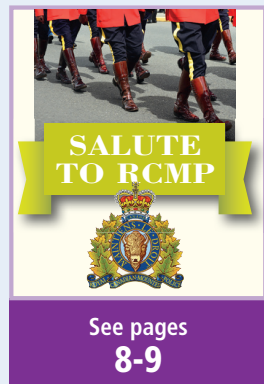


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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

WITH EMOTION: Logan Staats, a Mohawk singer-songwriter and activist from the Six Nations of Grand River, performs at Salt Spring Arts' Aug. 3 concert in Centennial Park. Staats was joined by island-raised Safiya Carroll-Labelle on violin and vocals for part of the set, and the opening act was Sarah Smith, who now resides on Pender Island. Next up in the free/by donation Summer Outdoor Concert Series is Krystle Dos Santos with opener Salome Cullen on Thursday, Aug. 10, followed by Astrocolor and Tarran the Tailor on Aug. 17. See page 11 for more information.

YOUTH SWIMMING

Club advances 19 to provincials

Salt Spring Stingrays make strong showing at regional meet in Duncan

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's summer swimmers had a great showing in Duncan over the weekend, as the Stingrays sent 33 to the Vancouver Island Regional Championship meet Friday, Aug. 4 through Sunday, Aug. 6 at the Cowichan Aquatic Centre pool.

Hundreds of youth took part in the competition, representing nearly a dozen clubs from far and near — including from Pender Island's Otters Swim Club. Most Stingrays were quick enough to qualify for

at least one final, according to Salt Spring Aquatic Society president Shelly Johnson, with 26 earning medals (finishing in the top three) and 19 qualifying for the BC Summer Swimming Association provincial championships, which will be held Aug. 17 to 20 at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre.

Stingrays board secretary Loretta Rithaler said the numbers were "as of press time" but there could be more through the possibility of "wildcard" entries — where a swimmer who might have been fourth is advanced when one of the slot-

ted swimmers does not attend the meet for some reason. These spots also help "fill the lanes" when needed, she added, which organizers say makes for a better racing experience.

"Our Salt Spring Stingrays displayed grit, tenacity, determination, resilience and team spirit," said Johnson. "We are very proud of them all and thank their amazing coaches for preparing them so well for this tough athletic event."

STINGRAYS continued on 16

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LAND USE

Salt Spring LTC sues AirBnB, farm stand owner

Court action comes after CRD and Trust claim failed attempts at compliance

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The numbered corporation the Islands Trust says owns two luxury vacation rental properties — and a popular retail farm stand — on Salt Spring Island is the target of a new lawsuit filed in B.C.'s Supreme Court Friday, July 28.

The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) took legal action with a notice of civil claim against the registered owner of 600 Walker's Hook Road and the adjacent waterfront property, alleging both are the site of short-term vacation rentals (STVRs) in contravention of the property's zoning.

The parcels, which together total some 24 acres, are zoned A1-Agricultural, according to Islands Trust land use maps, which also show them located within the provincial Agricultural Land Commission's protected Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

At the address is the Hen and Hound Farm, which through its website and AirBnB.com advertises an upland cottage and waterfront yurt for rent.

Owners Jason and Rochelle Roy-Allen provided the following written statement to the Driftwood.

"Although these matters have been settled in Islands Trust's biased form of 'appeals court,' they continue to pursue unfounded and inequitable claims, which have been brought to the attention of this publication to defame our farm, our family and our businesses.

"The Hen and Hound Farm is one of many small family-run businesses here on Salt Spring who have been harassed by this public body meant to protect the environment and our community.

"Our investment in this island community is great and our conviction to lead with kindness, innovation and commitment to betterment has come to a head in this Islands Trust initiated claim against our farm. We believe this to be a ridiculous waste of tax dollars.

"We welcome an unbiased court's opinion on the matter, and look forward to setting precedents which positively protect this island and its people. We will not be bullied; we will stand up for this island and everyone on it.

"See you in court Islands Trust — you picked the wrong Farm."

For its part, the LTC alleges in its notice of civil claim that in addition to land use contraventions, the deck upon which the waterfront yurt sits is closer to the ocean than would be permitted, and that the farm stand structure — and its two flights of stairs — lies closer to the roadway than allowed; neither received a building permit before construction.

The LTC is seeking a court order requiring the owner to stop offering use of the STVRs — which, it has said, are not a permitted use in any residential zones — and physically remove offending decks, stairways, the upland farm stand structure and presumably the yurt.

As the land use authority on Salt Spring, the LTC provided little background in its civil claim, other than an assertion that it had demanded the owners cease the contraventions and that they had not complied. But while the LTC rarely offers specific details on land use infractions in open public session, the same cannot be said for the Capital Regional District (CRD) — which administers building permits on Salt Spring Island upon approval by the LTC, and which responds to land use bylaw complaints.

CRD building inspectors have documented their attempts to, as one report phrased it, "persuade the owners to comply" with building regulation bylaws since a July 2020 public complaint, after which a Stop Work Notice was posted for "construction without permits" of a large deck near the water — which staff at the time said appeared to be constructed to support a yurt.

At a hearing in December 2022, a report to the CRD's Electoral Areas Committee noted that yurt was subsequently installed and "used as a rental accommodation," still without permits or approvals. Online reviews for the two rentals, which are listed at \$350 and \$550 per night before fees, go as far back as early 2021.

The "large stair and farm stand structure" has been on the CRD's radar since November 2021, according to another report presented at the same hearing, again for construction without permits but with the added concern of the encroachment onto the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) right-of-way along Walker's Hook Road.

"Although the owner has written to say that he has applied to MoTI for approval and that he will then follow up with Islands Trust, to date these approvals have not been received," said chief building inspector Mike Taylor at the December hearing, "and a building permit application has also not been received."

The CRD Electoral Areas Committee voted unanimously to file a bylaw contravention notice on both properties' titles; such notices, registered with the provincial Land Title Office, can sometimes negatively affect a property's potential sale, perceived property value, access to a mortgage, or financing, according to the CRD. The owners did not attend that hearing.

STVRs differ from B&Bs, says LTC

STVRs are distinct from "bed and breakfast" operations in Salt Spring's land use bylaw, the latter being a commercial use which is conditionally permitted in several island zones, including A1; among other restrictions, bed and breakfast businesses within A1 zoning must locate guest bedrooms within a principal dwelling unit.

Despite the LTC's standing resolution to proactively enforce against STVRs where not permitted, legal action is relatively rare; notable exceptions include one in 2019, which came just a day after the standing resolution was passed. The LTC took the owner of an Upper Ganges Road property to court; that STVR, which also was operated on land not zoned for that use, had been the subject of numerous complaints dating back to 2017, according to trustees.

Islands Trust bylaw compliance and enforcement officer Warren Dingman told the LTC in April that his investigations suggested that among the roughly 250 advertised STVRs on Salt Spring Island, about half represented an unlawful operation.

During a quarterly summary of compliance and enforcement files, Dingman told Salt Spring trustees some property owners simply did not voluntarily comply with bylaw violation notices (BVNs), and legal action sometimes needs to be considered to resolve "ongoing contraventions on multiple properties."

"While the majority of property owners pay, dispute and pursue adjudication, or enter into compliance agreements in response to BVNs, some of the BVNs are ignored — and there is a default and debt created," according to Dingman. "The non-payment of penalties for violation notices is placed on property titles, and the debt is usually collected during a future sale [of the property]."

The LTC's priority on enforcing against STVRs was prompted by concerns about the lack of housing options for long-term rentals on Salt Spring; Dingman has said his department would be doing another survey during high season to hopefully capture information about any new unlawful rentals entering the market.

Salt Spring's land use regulations — Bylaw 355 — can be read in detail at on the Islands Trust's website.

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RECREATION

Bridge work temporarily closes Jarrod's Grove

Creekside Rainforest Nature Reserve also not accessible for about a month

Island hikers and walkers are being advised that Jarrod's Grove Nature Reserve will be temporarily closed for one month as construction crews work to replace a bridge.

The eight-hectare nature reserve, managed by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), overlaps part of the salmon-bearing Cusheon Creek on the west side of the island and features a network of walking paths.

"The existing wooden pedestrian bridge that crosses the creek has decayed significantly, posing a potential safety risk to visitors to the nature reserve," the NCC explains in a press release. "From Aug. 15 to Sept. 15, crews will be working to construct a custom steel pedestrian bridge that will have a longer lifespan and will bet-

ter support streambank structure. Due to the presence of heavy machinery, no visitors will be allowed within the entirety of the reserve during this time."

The neighbouring Creekside Rainforest Nature Reserve, managed by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy, can only be accessed through Jarrod's Grove and, therefore, will also be closed for the duration of the bridge construction.

Jarrod's Grove was first conserved in 2008 and has been owned and stewarded by NCC since 2015. Jarrod's Grove and Creekside Rainforest nature reserves are considered to represent the largest section of pristine riparian habitat on Salt Spring Island. The NCC says the bridge construction is happening at the safest time of year for salmon-bearing systems as water levels are low and very few to no fish are present.

For updates on the bridge replacement project, people can visit natureconservancy.ca/jarrodsgrrove.

LAND USE

Court upholds Trust forest bylaws on Galiano

Galiano LTC prevails after being sued by forest land owners

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Another victory for Galiano's Local Trust Committee (LTC) came in B.C. Supreme Court this week, as a judge has once again upheld the LTC's author-

ity to regulate construction on forest land.

Justice Alan M. Ross dismissed a lawsuit brought by a group of property owners on its merits Tuesday, Aug. 1. The Galiano Forest Lot Owners Association, Preston Family Forest Ltd., Olaf Knezevic, Win-stanley Forest Ltd. and Boscher Construction Ltd. had argued that the LTC lacked jurisdiction over parcels they owned, provincially classified as "man-

aged forest land."

Galiano trustees passed a bylaw in 1992 prohibiting construction of dwellings on properties zoned forest land on that island, updating the regulation in 2000 to allow for a single small residential building.

In the meantime, the provincial government had legislated several changes to its regulations — "forest land reserves" became "private managed for-

est lands," for example — and there were court challenges to the regulatory authority of Galiano's LTC by multiple land-owners; Justice Ross noted relevant petitions against the LTC in 1992, 1996 and 2009 were unsuccessful, despite appeals.

In dismissing this petition, Justice Ross wrote the 2000 bylaw was reasonable, within the jurisdiction of the LTC, and not made unenforceable by provincial regulation passed

since; the LTC was also awarded costs in the case, according to the decision.

"We are pleased when the courts have upheld our bylaws," said Islands Trust Council chair Peter Luckham, speaking at a meeting of the Trust's executive committee Wednesday, Aug. 2 where the court result was shared.

That committee directed staff to prepare a news release regarding the decision.

ISLANDS TRUST

Streaming doubles meeting turnout

Analysis suggests better public engagement through online meetings

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Streaming meetings are here to stay, according to the Islands Trust, as staff presented viewership numbers pointing toward sustained interest over time — even as in-person participation has resumed.

"It was a huge eye-opener for me," said Mayne Island trustee David Maude, "because anecdotally, people have said 'nobody watches.'"

Quite the contrary, according to data prepared by information services manager Mark van Bakel. An analysis showed 16,709 views across 643 live-streamed LTC events since the full-streaming program began — an average of 19 viewers per event. For the wider Trust Council meetings — there have been four, the report said — the average was 107 viewers per day.

That's far above the historical five-to-10 in-person attendees that used to make up the public's participation, according

to van Bakel, suggesting interest in live-streamed events "remained robust even when in-person meetings were held."

"And the trend line is flat," said CAO Russ Hotsenpiller, who along with van Bakel presented the analysis to the Islands Trust Executive Committee Wednesday, Aug. 2. "You know, we come from an era when we would have LTC meetings with maybe six people in attendance; hot topics might get you 35. And we're still [also] getting live people at LTC meetings."

The Trust has been all-in on increasing accessibility to meetings since 2021, according to van Bakel, when it began implementing a comprehensive remote attendance strategy for Local Trust Committee (LTC) meetings and those of the broader Trust Council to offer both Zoom and browser-based streaming options during in-person meetings — and sourced the relevant equipment to broadcast them, including specialized microphones and cameras.

The most-viewed session since the service began was one hosted by North Pender Island's LTC in February 2022, according to the report — a community information meeting on the island's Land Use Bylaw Review Project that tallied more than 200 "unique pageviews," the metric used to count individual attendees.

Notably, all the most-attended events streamed online were community information meetings — commonly called "special meetings" on notices and agendas. Perhaps unsurprisingly, most of the busiest online meetings centred on Salt Spring Island issues, according to remote attendance data.

"I think this certainly shows that we have a very engaged constituency," said Maude. "I think these numbers are quite impressive."

Gabriola trustee Tobi Elliot agreed, noting the importance of finding ways to overcome the islands' "geographical challenges," and further suggested future data — including analytics, which van Bakel said would be forthcoming from the service provider — be shared with the Trust's nascent Accessibility Committee once it convenes.

Video recordings of past meetings can be viewed at islandstrust.bc.ca.

The next Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee town hall evening meeting is on Wednesday, Sept. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Beaver Point Hall. The regular LTC meeting runs the following day at the SD64 Learning Hub at 9:30 a.m.

The next Islands Trust Council meeting is on North Pender Island from Sept. 26-28.

PROVINCIAL REGULATIONS

Cannabis law outreach deadline missed

Regulators sought comment while LTCs not in session for summer

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An engagement by provincial regulators concerning changes to B.C.'s cannabis laws will likely end without input from Islands Trust, according to trustees — due to the feedback exercise closing before any Local Trust Committee (LTC) will have a chance to meet.

B.C.'s Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) wrote to local and Indigenous governments, Indigenous partners, cannabis retail licensees and cannabis industry organizations in mid-July, sending along proposed amendments to the Cannabis Control Regulation (CCR) that would remove both the prohibition on promoting a place to consume cannabis and that of consuming it on patios.

LCRB's outreach had asked for comments by Aug. 11, but most LTCs won't meet again before September; Gambier's is the only LTC with an upcoming meeting scheduled before then, but on Aug. 29 — still too late to submit feedback.

All Islands Trust planning managers were sent a copy of the letter, according to planning services director Stefan Cermak, who added that staff are engaged at their level with the LCRB;

but the moment may be past for trustees.

"It's unfortunate that we're getting this at a time when most LTCs won't have an opportunity to respond," said trustee Tim Peterson during the Islands Trust Executive Committee meeting Aug. 2. Elected on Lasqueti, Peterson also chairs Salt Spring Island's LTC.

"I can't guess whether there are specific concerns within LTCs or not, but it's a bit frustrating," he said.

It's unclear whether the proposed changes could directly affect businesses within the Islands Trust. The province's CCR, in force since 2018, currently prohibits anyone smoking or vaping cannabis on a patio; the proposed amendment would limit patio consumption to areas where smoking or vaping is already permitted.

Those areas exist, according to a provincial fact sheet from the Ministry of Health, but they are limited. Smoking (and vaping) is allowed on "hospitality patios" that are not "substantially enclosed," as far as the province is concerned; proprietors and some communities can designate patios as non-smoking.

There is no three-metre buffer zone around "hospitality patios" under provincial legislation, but community bylaws have created them; in the Capital Regional District (CRD), the Clean Air Bylaw prohibits smoking in any public place, building or structure, and in 2007 an amendment included all business patios with food and beverages service. Island Health enforces the CRD bylaw.

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Sunday will be an "Equine Show and Tell" with the equine community having their horses on show for the public to visit and ask questions, with horse tack and obstacles available for viewing.

Check out Section 25, page 40 of the 2023 Fall Fair Catalogue for details.

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

Thank You!

In spring of 2021, the Salt Spring Foundation granted \$5,400.00 to the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society. These funds were requested for the expansion of the Thrift Shop and the construction/relocation of the new administrative office of the Society.

Our members appreciate the continued support by the Salt Spring Island Foundation and the generous donors in our community who make these grants possible.



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OPINION

2020/2021 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Special Section | Gold - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)
Silver - Best Editorial (Gail Sjoberg) | Bronze - Best Editorial Page

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



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EDITORIAL

Good riddance

If you're reading this, thank you, and congratulations on choosing to access your local community news without use of Facebook.

In a fascinating moment for Canadian journalism, Meta — the company that brought us such innovations as “boost this post for \$36” and “the secret harvesting of 87 million users’ personal data for Cambridge Analytica” — has decided to pick a fight with its northern neighbour.

The Facebook parent company named so self-referentially has responded to the federal government’s legislative attempts through Bill C-18 to share its boundless revenue with news content creators by blocking them from sharing links through Facebook’s \$1-trillion market cap platform. It’s certainly a hardball negotiating tactic, which some have suggested is extortionate. However, if it provides an opportunity for media companies and others to explore alternative ways to connect readers with their content, it might not be such a bad thing.

The reporting of news — particularly community news — is a public good (and service) that retains value largely because it strives to be accurate, even succinct. We respect the readers’ precious time, and are grateful to be invited into your homes every Wednesday — or at any time, via our gulfislandsdriftwood.com website — to share it.

But Facebook’s value proposition comes from engagement, the clock critically spinning as time is spent looking and clicking. More clicking, more viewing, more attention, more money. News will never “win” in a competition for attention on such a playing field. A factual news brief will never beat a salacious, rumour-filled post, complete with dazzling graphics, deliberately inflammatory “headlines” and questionable comments.

Nor should it. Rachel Curran, head of public policy for Meta Canada, said, “We know the people using our platforms don’t come to us for news.” We agree, because Facebook has its own important roles to fill, both for arguing about how other people drive and possibly seeing whether a restaurant is open.

In the meantime, no need to share this on Facebook.



PARKER

New era of political honesty

BY MICHAEL WALL

Picture this: Faced with unavoidable evidence of imminent climate meltdown, Justin Trudeau announces a new bill to cap GHG emissions in Canada. Right after this announcement he adds “... of course this will do nothing to reduce Canada’s contribution to climate-baking emissions because we shall continue subsidizing fossil fuel production at the highest level in the G20, continue approving new oil and gas wells, and finish the \$30-plus-billion publicly owned pipeline to transport some of the filthiest oil on earth for the rest of this century. But we need to be seen to be doing something.”

It’s difficult to imagine that degree of honesty from politicians, but here, leading the free world in political transparency, we have two such paragons sitting on our Local Trust Committee. Faced with a national crisis in affordable housing and consequent difficulties finding rental housing for workers, medical staff and others, our trustees decide to introduce Bylaw 530, which would rezone most of Salt Spring to allow the building of accessory dwelling units – ADUs. They tell us this bylaw will swiftly ease our housing woes.

But our elected representatives also tell us very little will get built; construction costs on the island will stop anyone sane building an ADU for long-term rental; covenanting new ADUs as affordable would be too burdensome for owners; this is nothing, it’s just a start, a drop in the bucket of what we need; nobody wants to be a landlord; now we need to crack open the island’s official community plan.

I’m sure we’d all agree that such honesty is admirable, but it does beg some

questions: firstly, why enact such a sweeping bylaw when it will not solve the problem, is opposed by First Nations, doesn’t even contain the word “affordable” and may well cause serious problems such as increased water scarcity, raised property values, a flood of new vacation rentals and over-population in the long term?

This bylaw is supposed to help workers and other lower income residents of Salt Spring find homes, but those most likely to benefit from it are those who already own one, and absentee speculators.

The second question that comes to my mind is: is this simply another attempt to undermine the intentional restrictions on development, designed into the Islands Trust mandate, which some on the island, either through self-interest, political dogma or radical libertarianism find extremely irksome?

Certainly, there needs to be more affordable housing here, and there is a need for creative solutions. But creativity is not the same as the magical thinking evident in the belief, held by some, that Bylaw 530 will immediately turn sketchy illegal accommodation into healthy legal homes overnight. In order to do that, landlords will have to prove adequate water (and be outside of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District) and septic, and spend thousands to bring the structure up to code, having to declare the rental income, buy insurance and be subject to the Residential Tenancy Act.

Having done all that, they’ll no doubt be delighted to recover less than half what they spent by renting to somebody they don’t know.

The writer has lived on Salt Spring Island for 36 years.

VIEWPOINT

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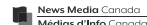
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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Would you create a rental suite if doing so was legal?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you changed your water-use habits this summer?

44 88
NO YES

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

ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Right-side steering wheel comment prompts memories

Just had to laugh at Mike Stacey's description of all of these foreign little diesel vans as "stupid steering-wheel-on-the-wrong-side abominations" ... har! ("Crosswalk idea ill-advised," Aug. 2 Driftwood Viewpoint.)

He is perfectly correct, and I am quite amazed that our transit authorities even allow this type of dangerous nonsense on our public roads.

Back in 1996, I bought a British-registered Ford van with a right-side steering wheel in Spain. I converted it into a camper and drove it through 10 different countries, all of which had "right lane" road systems, like ours. It was definitely a challenge, and on the rare occasions that I needed to pass a slow truck or something, the only way I knew it was okay to pass was if my passenger DIDN'T scream out from the left-side seat ... the "scare chair," as I called it! In the end, we survived, of course, but there were a few close calls.

When it comes to new road speeds through Ganges, I think 40 km/hr would

be more appropriate than 30, and sure, the more bike lanes the better.

Parking spaces are another issue. If the fire hall must go, how about using that area?

JIM RUSSELL,
BAKER ROAD

Water and resident increases conflict

The Aug. 2 Driftwood informs us of severe water restrictions and water use enforcements: "conditions where adverse impacts from low water availability are almost certain," ("Watering limits to be enforced" story).

My lawn withered a long time ago, my flowers are all dead and I limit watering my vegetable garden to the extent where the carrots and beets are almost non-existent. I use recycled water and we flush only when absolutely necessary.

But the Islands Trust — entrusted with the mandate to "preserve and protect the island and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents" — still envisions increasing the island's population with

a potential 5,200 more people.

What does it take to make people see that these conditions are not a passing phase but an ever-increasing threat to our environment, one that will ultimately affect us all?

MARGRIET RUURS,
SALT SPRING

Concept ranking required on survey

I wish to share that the Local Community Commission/Capital Regional District (CRD) Portlock Park survey requires you to rank order each of three different plans.

I liked one of the three options but found the other two equally unsatisfactory. I chose therefore only to rank my first choice. To my dismay, the survey was programmed by the CRD to not accept my submission. After spending 20 minutes completing the survey, I was dismayed that I was shut out.

I did ask if the program could be re-programmed and received a CRD non-answer. The purpose of this email is to let other community members know that it is required that you rank order all three options in order

to submit your completed survey and participate.

CURT FIRESTONE,
SALT SPRING

Updated plan thrills

What a delight to return from the Netherlands and learn that the 2013 Salt Spring Island Cycling Master Plan has finally been updated. Even better, I was thrilled to read its recommendations for achieving an integrated transportation plan with a focus on Ganges village ("Speed limit reduction endorsed," July 26 Driftwood).

During our brief stay in The Hague we experienced the joys and benefits of an integrated multi-modal transportation system and witnessed how it addresses mobility challenges for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. So very happy to see that some of these measures figure in the Capital Regional District's transportation plan.

JOHN ROWLANDSON,
FULFORD VILLAGE

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"It was a huge eye-opener for me, because anecdotally, people have said 'nobody watches.'"

DAVID MAUDE, MAYNE ISLAND TRUSTEE, ON CITIZEN USE OF LIVESTREAMED TRUST MEETINGS

Minding the gap: a cooperative proposal for drivers and cyclists

By DAVID GARRETT

Having just finished reading the Salt Spring Island Cycling Safety Review, released this past spring, I was inspired to put down some thoughts.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure-commissioned report is quantitative in nature, offering some suggested mitigation measures for better cycling continuity and safety. While providing value in the way of future planning, I believe it is the human relational capacity to establish trust, in this case in "sharing the road," that needs to be explored more deeply.

As a long-time cyclist on the island, I have been struck by a deep sense of polarization between drivers of cars and cyclists and it's only getting worse with the popularity of e-bikes and more visitors cycling and driving here. By way of a few unfortunate examples, I have been sworn at, given the finger and run off the road while cycling on the island.

In many ways our roads and pathways represent a kind of "commons," a public right to passage going back to the Magna Carta. The tragedy in this instance is that some cyclists and drivers on both sides feel that they own the road. This creates a culture of separation rather than connection.

Our shared intention should instead be to respect one another and feel safe. We all want to be seen.

B.C.'s "rules of the road" say that bicycles have rights and duties just like cars, meaning that bicycles are entitled to ride on most roadways and at the same time must follow stopping and turning rules and, yes, speed limits. For their part, cars are required to maintain one metre of distance from a cyclist. On Salt Spring, many roadways do not have shoulders and some, like the Ganges to Fulford road, have very poor shoulders. One issue that seems to irritate drivers is cyclists riding too far into the lane. In these instances, drivers must pace, often at a slower speed, behind the rider while waiting for an opportunity to pass. Remember, cyclists have the right to take the lane to avoid parked cars, crumbling pavement, soft shoulders, people, etc.

Another issue is cars crowding cyclists to the point that the cyclists are forced to ride off the road. I have been clipped by the side mirrors of passing cars on more than one occasion, nearly going down from the shock alone; and this while riding as far to the right side as possible.

One of the scariest situations I have seen on the island is when

visiting cyclists — sometimes families towing small children in trailers — come off the ferry with their bikes heavily loaded and make the ride from Vesuvius to Central (Portlock Park), a section of roadway with virtually no shoulder. Cars exiting the ferry crawl along behind the cyclists while waiting for a safe moment to pass. Cyclists become nervous, drivers become frustrated, some drivers in the queue honk to get moving, everyone is stressed. Another common sight is when cyclists, often riding in a pack, roll through stop signs and move too fast along shared roadways, especially through town.

With these observations in mind, I offer some possible suggestions.

Cyclists: If you are arriving by Fulford or Vesuvius ferries, wait for ferry traffic to be cleared before heading out. Stay as far to the right side of the road as is practical. Never ride abreast of another rider. Wear visible clothing. Taillights on bikes are an important safety feature. Daytime headlights can also help you be seen on Salt Spring's shaded roads. Helmets are a given. Learn proper hand signalling for turn-

ing or stopping. Always ride with traffic, not against.

The importance of this last point was made even clearer to me just the other day as I was driving down Ganges Hill towards town. On the opposite side was a cycling friend pedalling hard up the grade, well to the side of the shoulder. On my side was a man on an e-bike riding against traffic along the narrow shoulder. Yikes!

Pathway or stay on the road? If your bike has wider tires and you are okay with a slower pace, then use any available multi-use pathway, always yielding to runners and walkers. Follow cycle route directional signs. Remember that if you ride the road you are required to follow safe riding rules. E-bikes have some special rules.

On Salt Spring the two most dangerous areas for cyclists are the Vesuvius ferry to Central and Ganges to Fulford sections. This is true for both directions. These sections have safer alternative routes, at least partially. I recommend taking the Beddis Road, Cusheon Lake, Stewart Road route to Fulford. The straightaways on Fulford-Ganges Road have cars frequently reaching 90 km/hr racing for the ferry. For the Vesuvius section the directional signs that state "quiet route" to

Ganges or Vesuvius, depending on direction, are indeed quieter and safer. I rarely see that route being utilized by cyclists.

Drivers: Cyclists are not your enemy. Allow one metre (three feet) of distance between you and a cyclist.

Drivers and cyclists: If turning right, check your blind spot. Before opening a parked car door on the lane side, check for bikes.

We live in a time-sensitive world. Many drivers understandably feel pressure to be places on time due to ferries, deliveries, appointments, jobs. But can we as drivers take a deep breath and try a less dichotomous view regarding cyclists? The speed limit on Salt Spring's rural roads if not posted is 50 km/hr. In my opinion, too high.

My proposal is this: we all need to remember we are part of an interdependent system. We need to be mindful of others' safety and show respect for each other, drivers and cyclists and pedestrians alike. We are all swimming in the same pond. A positive relationship is only possible if we recognize this truth. Let's be kind to one another and strive to set an example as a conscious, visionary community. Let's mind the gap.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident and cyclist.

GUEST COLUMN

Director gives updates on housing and more



Gary Holman
CRD DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Salt Spring's Local Community Commission (LCC) is already hard at work, deciding on two meetings per month, inviting presentations from former island-wide commissions of the Capital Regional District (CRD) and moving forward important planning projects such as the Portlock Park Master Plan and the Ganges Active Transportation Plan.

The LCC will begin considering 2024 provisional budgets and capital plans for delegated services at its Aug. 22 meeting and will be announcing an early evening town hall for Aug. 31. I will leave future formal reporting on LCC matters to elected chair Earl Rook.

Affordable Housing AAP and Initiatives

The CRD will be seeking municipal consent, and voter approval in electoral areas, to borrow \$85 million for affordable housing investments in the region. This will be a successor to the CRD Regional Housing First (RHF) program, a partnership of CRD, BC Housing and the Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation that has funded about 1,800 affordable housing units in the region, including the 54-unit Croftonbrook project on Salt Spring. I urge support for this initiative at a cost of

roughly \$2.30 per household per month, which hopefully will be matched by senior governments, regionally or on a project basis.

I recently attended a useful inter-agency workshop organized by Salt Spring Solutions to discuss their report *Homes for All*. A key report recommendation is for the CRD to establish a local entity to better coordinate affordable housing efforts. While this proposal deserves consideration, it is important to first clarify its objectives, given that Salt Spring has a housing council and several capable NGO housing developers and providers.

The CRD also has a regional housing corporation and program, and will be considering a rural housing strategy this fall to better support initiatives in electoral areas. There are a number of properties on Salt Spring already zoned or designated for affordable housing, with development potential of over 200 units. The key challenge to develop these

properties, which will also free up existing rental stock, is to secure equity funding.

The CRD Electoral Areas Committee (EAC) recently requested a staff report on enforcement policy for alternative housing forms. The EAC and the CRD Board approved recommendations to continue the current approach — primarily complaint-based (i.e., not proactive) — and to advocate for a provincial review of alternative housing forms within the BC Building Code. However, it should be understood that tiny homes on wheels are still not compliant with the BC Building Code, and are potentially subject to CRD enforcement if there are health, safety or environmental concerns.

Ferries Plus Regional Transportation Proposal

Some disruption of local ferry service continues, primarily due to staffing issues.

However, the two extra sailings per day (except Sundays) during summer months recently implemented on the Fulford-Swartz Bay route appears to be having a positive impact on congestion that will be more apparent once construction on the Fulford terminal is complete.

BC Transit was also able to partly adjust to the new ferry schedule, although harmonization of these schedules should be improved next summer.

The additional sailings were advocated by the Salt Spring Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) and was part of BC Ferries' submission to the BC Ferries Commissioner. The FAC also supported BC Ferries' proposed deployment of two hybrid electric Island Class ferries on the Vesuvius-Crofton route in 2027-28, when both the Quinsam and Skeena will provide summer service at Fulford, further mitigating village congestion. More frequent ferry service at Fulford and Vesuvius will also facilitate improved transit service to these terminals.

With most of the public attention focused on BC Ferries service disruptions, the recent provincial government commitment of \$500 million to stabilize fares over the next decade has gone almost unnoticed.

CRD has initiated consultation with member municipalities and electoral areas regarding the merits of a regional transportation service. Electoral area directors and the Salt Spring LCC have been asked to respond to an initial survey.

My concern is that Salt Spring households would pay the same property taxes per dollar of

assessed value, but not receive the same service level as the Greater Victoria area. That is why I established a stand-alone transit service in 2008 rather than have Salt Spring join the regional system, and also to avoid the gas tax on fuel.

It is also very unlikely that BC Ferries and our provincial roads would be included in a CRD regional transportation service.

Emergency Preparedness and Water Conservation Measures

Salt Spring Island has so far escaped the destructive wildfires being experienced elsewhere in B.C., but we must continue to be vigilant. If you observe wildfire smoke, please call 911 to alert our local fire department.

I urge residents, if you haven't already, to sign up for the CRD Public Alert Notification System on the CRD website, and to join your neighbourhood POD. Also be aware that North Salt Spring Waterworks District and our local CRD water districts have declared water conservation measures restricting non-essential water uses.

As always, please contact me at directorssi@crd.bc.ca with any questions or comments.

More action needed to ensure safer travels

BY SIMON ROMPRE

While I am delighted to read the latest Local Community Commission action aimed at reducing the speed limit in Ganges — "Speed limit reduction endorsed," July 26 Driftwood — I am also well aware that dealing with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) has its challenges, since as many of us know, all of our public roads are owned by MoTI and under its jurisdiction.

All local initiatives, no matter how reasonable and beneficial to the community they can be, depend on MoTI's

willingness to act. I understand this is how it works. We don't want community groups doing their own thing on public roads we all use without due legitimacy, but there has to be some room for public involvement. As a result of this disconnect, it is pretty clear that bike paths and safety for vulnerable road users has not been a priority; if anyone needs any convincing just go for a bike ride or a walk along some of our narrow busy roads and see how safe you feel.

Recently, Island Pathways got a small grant from ICBC for purchasing speed

IN RESPONSE

reader signs. ICBC is well aware that drivers speeding create many accidents and often end up hurting vulnerable road users like cyclists, but also kids, older folks with mobility issues and pedestrians in general, as well as other drivers. Island Pathways is now in the process of getting government-approved speed reader signs, but unfortunately has been told by MoTI that these can't be posted anywhere along MoTI-owned and managed roads. I can't understand the reasoning behind this. This is a small example of a simple thing that could help make our community safer but appears stuck at a bureaucratic level.

Another example of this is the number of studies, going back decades, that have been done aimed at making our roads safer. We may be one of the most studied places in this part of the world. Unfortunately again, pretty much all of these studies have been shelved over the years with very few results to show for the effort. What a waste. It makes me wonder if the goal of those studies is to make whoever sponsors them look good in the public eye for a moment while doing very little or nothing.

As fires in Canada and abroad are currently burning and the climate crisis is getting worse, there are straightforward things we can do, like making our roads safer for non-drivers. Salt Spring is a perfect cycling destination, well located, with a vibrant island culture, but our local infrastructure is still very poor in spite of decades of advocacy. I really wish that MoTI will finally follow through with all the recommendations coming from vulnerable road users as well as experts.

We have had plenty of studies. Everyone knows that we need safer infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians and many of the studies say the same thing over and over. Engaging with the community and allowing simple community initiatives such as the posting of speed reader signs in strategic places would also be helpful and will help prevent accidents. This is just one small thing among many that needs to be done and we can't afford to delay any of these improvements.

As fires in Canada and abroad are currently burning and the climate crisis is getting worse, there are straightforward things we can do, like making our roads safer for non-drivers.

I remain hopeful that our roads will get safer, but so far there is nothing happening yet. What will it take to get things moving? If you think that this is something we desperately need as I do, please follow this issue closely, share the information and make sure our authorities are listening and acting accordingly. This way our dedicated, hardworking government officials will feel supported in making the right decisions.

The writer is an Island Pathways board member and serves on the Cycling Salt Spring committee.

TIDE TABLES

AUGUST 2023 PST (UTC-8h)

When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
9	0532	0.9	3.0	13	0023	2.9	9.5
	1400	2.8	9.2		0851	0.6	2.0
WE	1651	2.7	8.9	SU	1729	3.3	10.8
ME	2205	3.1	10.2	DI	2235	2.8	9.2
10	0625	0.8	2.6	14	0122	2.9	9.5
	1516	3.0	9.8		0932	0.6	2.0
TH	1904	2.9	9.5	MO	1800	3.2	10.5
JE	2237	3.0	9.8	LU	2301	2.7	8.9
11	0716	0.7	2.3	15	0216	2.9	9.5
	1608	3.2	10.5		1009	0.6	2.0
FR	2104	2.9	9.5	TU	1826	3.2	10.5
VE	2323	2.9	9.5	MA	2327	2.7	8.9
12	0806	0.6	2.0	16	0305	2.9	9.5
	1651	3.3	10.8		1043	0.7	2.3
SA	2202	2.8	9.2	WE	1845	3.2	10.5
SA				ME	2354	2.5	8.2

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MORE LETTERS

DAISSI thanks

On behalf of the DAISSI board, I am writing this open letter of thanks to express our heartfelt gratitude for your invaluable support in making the first-ever Salt Spring Pride Festival a resounding success. Your dedication, enthusiasm and contributions played a pivotal role in creating a memorable event that celebrated diversity, inclusivity and love.

To everyone who attended and embraced the spirit of Pride, including community members and 2SLG-BTQIA+ organizations, thank you for making the festival a vibrant and welcoming space. Your presence and engagement added a captivating sense of community to the festivities.

To our wonderful supporters, whether individuals, public funders, media partners and local businesses, your belief in our vision and generous contributions helped bring this dream to life. Your commitment to fostering an inclusive community is deeply appreciated.

To our dedicated volunteers, your selflessness and hard work behind the scenes ensured the smooth running of the event. Your efforts were truly inspiring.

Together, we created a profound impact and laid the foundation for future Salt Spring Pride Festivals that will continue to promote love, acceptance and unity.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being a part of this historic event. Your support has made a difference, and we look

forward to welcoming you all back for the next Salt Spring Pride Festival.

With love and gratitude,

JULI MALLET,

PRESIDENT, DAISSI (DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE SALT SPRING ISLAND)

Emcon appreciated

I want to say a huge thank you to Andrew Gaetz, operations manager for Emcon Services looking after roads on Salt Spring Island.

A friend of mine had the back tires of her mobility scooter caught in a rut at the very end of the off-road community pathway that parallels Atkins Road, just where it meets with Lower Ganges Road. Lucky for her some kind motorist saw her predicament and helped to get her tires out of the rut. My friend called me, as I chair the Partners Creating Pathways Committee of Island Pathways. I remember years ago filling in this rut with gravel. The rut had reappeared and enlarged.

I emailed Andrew as I was not sure if this was a road issue or a pathway issue. I asked him to have a look at it and let me know what he thought. Within a couple of hours the issue was fixed. I was very impressed and thankful that no one, especially my friend, will be trapped in this rut halfway into Lower Ganges Road.

Thank you to Andrew and his Emcon crew for quick action in response to this concern.

JEAN GELWICKS,

SALT SPRING



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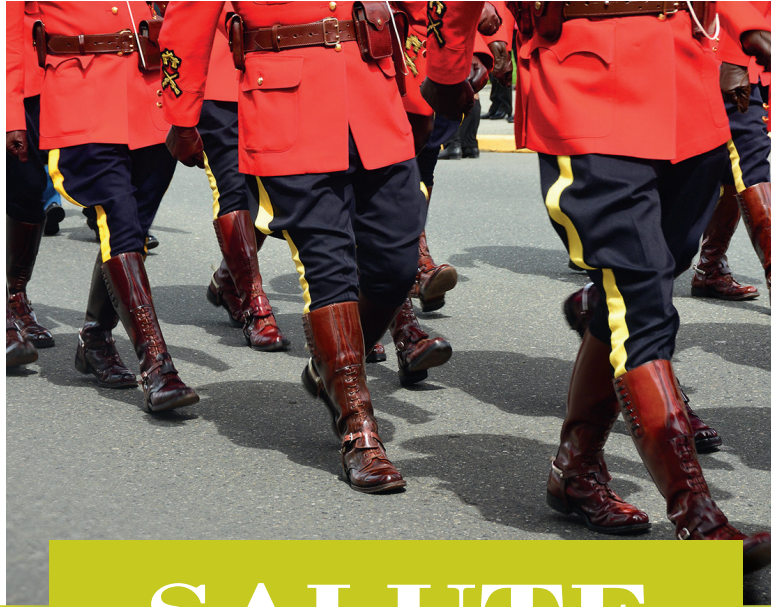
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SALUTE TO RCMP

Salt Spring residents and businesses give thanks to their local detachment of the RCMP.

Q&A with Salt Spring's Sgt. Clive Seabrook

Detachment commander on staff, village and harbour challenges

As Salt Spring RCMP Detachment Commander Sgt. Clive Seabrook gets ready to begin his fourth year on the island, the Driftwood sat down with him to talk about the state of his detachment, the state of the island and islanders, where the challenges lie and what's going well.

To start out: can you give us some good news?

The detachment is fully staffed! We've had some changes in the past year, we had Cpl. Steve Davidson transfer here in December with his family, from Kamloops. Steve's in charge of day-to-day operations. And we've had two new members from Depot, they've worked out fabulously. We'll have a new member next month from Surrey — Const. Kevin Lloyd is coming with his family. There are vacancies throughout the province and we're competing with those; but we get

lots of support from headquarters. They're doing their best to keep us fully staffed, and as a commander I definitely appreciate that, because that's helping everything; having more members means when one is off, they can actually get some rest — and we can have an officer on shift through a larger portion of the night, covering more of the clock.

Has that helped with, say, community policing in Ganges village?

When I first moved here, there were quite a few issues in Centennial Park, Gasoline Alley,

Grace Point, the whole area; there was a lot of conflict between the business owners — and their customers — and the people that frequent the park and who are there all day. So we spent a lot of time just working with all sides to get a good open dialogue going. Not just "standing by" in the park, but checking in with people to see what's up with them, where they're at in their day. Are they struggling? Are they in conflict with somebody? You can help people see some of the harm they're doing, but also recognize that they have rights and need to be treated in a kind,

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How about in Ganges Harbour?

We've really taken that same proactive approach out into the harbour. We've been doing routine patrols on the water since I've been here, but in the past two years we've started regularly seeing, for example, people out there with no life jackets at all, or no operator cards or vessel registration. We had a couple of boat fires, and then of course the tragic incident recently with the drowning. So our focus on the water lately has been all about keeping people safe. Obviously if there's an old boat that nobody's using anymore, we'll work with Transport Canada in seeing what can be done. But mostly we're just trying to make sure if someone's living on a boat, they're in a safe, proper spot; we're among the few people really checking up on them, and making sure they're OK out there. There's a demographic that is maybe more reluctant to call the police if they need help, but if we're out there having regular conversations, they can let us know when something's happening — maybe to them, or to a friend — and if they're experiencing something that we can assist with, we're available.

Ganges sounds like it's moving in the right direction. What's something that isn't?

We've definitely had to step up our traffic enforcement. Over the past year, we're starting to see things that are more than just a statistical spike, like impaired driving and speeding, especially on roads from St. Mary Lake and around Cusheon Lake, or any areas where the public is meeting. People are going through too quickly.

Can we blame the tourists?

Sorry, not completely. Maybe some of the "extreme" speeding examples seem to more often be from out of town; unlike locals who are used to allowing time to make the ferry, they're leaving from a B&B at St. Mary Lake to try to hit the Fulford ferry that leaves in 15 minutes. But I would say the locals are every bit as guilty on things like load securement — many are super careful, but sometimes we'll see a piece of large equipment on a trailer with just one tie-down on it, or nothing at all, just sitting there on the deck. And we need to say it: the impaired driving stats are up. Partly because we're more focused on it, so we're picking up more impaired drivers, but they're out there. So we'd like to get that message out, we'd obviously prefer people just leave their keys at home if they're going to be drinking.

Islanders love to talk about the speeding, or the park, or the harbour. What are people not talking about that maybe they should be?

Police are doing a lot of mental health calls, trying to support people who maybe, because they're not in a good place, just can't see what's right for



SGT. CLIVE SEABROOK

— so more than one a day was mental health related. Right now, we do quite often apprehend people under the Mental Health Act and we take them to Lady Minto. I definitely feel for the staff there, it's already a busy place, and a lot's being asked of them. There is a mental health outreach team here, and they do a fantastic job — but again, there's only so many hours in the day. In an ideal world, there would also be an ACT [Assertive Community Treatment] team here, something more proactive to give people support before they're in crisis. So from a policing point of view, it seems like there's not enough resources for what Salt Spring needs. Although [detachment members] definitely have more training on it than ever these days, every training and recertification has components of that built into it. It's unfortunate that in a lot of these cases, police have to be the ones to resolve it — it's not like it can wait. If someone's in crisis we need to get them connected with whatever it is they need. And people call us because they're genuinely worried for a person's safety.

What's something to be thankful for?

I'm super thankful for the people in the Ambassador Program who have taken it on. Having these community connections is huge; any time you find a community solution to a community problem, it's probably going to "stick" better. I know it sounds cheesy, but all the detachment members — me included — we genuinely want to help, and so we have a hard time saying no. But we are only eight people, and we're seeing a lot of the things that we get called to help with are more suited to the community addressing them. If there's something we need to do, of course we will — Salt Spring is the way it is because people want to help other people. And we don't have the crime rates here we see elsewhere, so we can be flexible and help out when we can. But it's a tricky balance. Fortunately, people have been so good at offering, or just introducing themselves — "this is who I am, this is what I do," so when the right situation pops up, we can give them a call. It's

them. They're not able to make a decision on what's best to do; some people don't want that help, because they can't see that they even need it. We "peaked" last year at over 500 mental health calls



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Salt Spring RCMP Const. Hardip Gill and Robert Steinbach of Country Grocer collect food items from shoppers at the July 27 Cram-a-Cruiser event, which saw the vehicle filled to the roof with items and some \$1,000 donated. "In addition to collecting donations to the food bank, we especially enjoyed speaking with the public about a variety of topics, ranging from ongoing community issues to answering questions from those interested in starting a career in the RCMP," said Salt Spring RCMP Sgt. Clive Seabrook. Three Cram-a-Cruiser events have taken place in the past year, with another scheduled for Thrifty Foods later this fall.

been good to have a wide demographic among the Ambassadors — some focus more toward people who are insecure in their housing, or who suffer with mental health or addictions, some connect more with businesses or with tourists or with the Saturday Market people. A lot of people might not see how much work some of the organizers like Willie [MacPherson] and David [Norget] are doing, but they certainly are getting used to seeing the Ambassadors around. And these grassroots solutions are so effective.

Great People... Great Coffee!

JJ Beans

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VISUAL ARTS

Nature and materials in focus with four artists



PHOTOS COURTESY SS ARTS

Peter Pierobon's 11-foot-long Coast Range cabinet and Jan Smith's Tidal Tangle are two of the pieces in the next Artcraft Showcase exhibition. Pierobon and Smith are joined by Sibéal Foyle and Paul Oeuvray in presenting A Closer Look: Nature and Materials.

Final Showcase exhibit opens Aug. 18

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 FOR SALT SPRING ARTS

Artcraft's final Showcase exhibition of the summer will present four highly accomplished artists working on themes related to the local environment and climate crisis.

A Closer Look: Nature and Materials features Sibéal Foyle, Peter Pierobon, Paul Oeuvray and Jan Smith. Artworks featured in the show will include painting, drawing, woodworking, metalsmithing and fine art jewelry. The artists have diverse skills and experiences, but all draw inspiration from the natural environment that forms the foundation of their art practices.

The show is the result of an interlinking set of partnerships, and features two married couples (Smith and Oeuvray, and Foyle and Pierobon). The two women in the group started working together through a bi-weekly art practice check-in exercise last year, and have exhibited together in the past. When they decided to submit a Showcase proposal, each of their husbands turned

out to be interested in joining in. Then Pierobon and Oeuvray developed their own duo bond, with Pierobon providing expert advice and support as he and Oeuvray worked through their respective wooden furniture projects.

Oeuvray is a computer scientist and software architect who has mainly created woodwork for the homes he's built and renovated with Smith, although they have also collaborated on some pieces. He explained he is drawn to the work of iconic mid-century modern furniture makers Charles and Ray Eames. He has been working toward an even more minimalist approach.

To create his own Eames-inspired chairs, Oeuvray has been creating wood laminate from scratch using scraps of local Douglas-fir left over from building his island home. The gruelling process involves gluing thin layers of the fragile wood together, vacuum sealing them and then molding the laminate into shape, convincing the wood to stay that way afterwards.

"Wood is a brilliant medium to work in; it's completely made by nature. The challenge of working with a natural material and turning it into a man-made object but still allowing the essence of the material to remain motivates me," Oeuvray said.

Pierobon has been designing and building furniture for over 40 years. He opened studios in various locations, including Toronto, Philadelphia, San Francisco and back home in Vancouver before moving to Salt Spring Island, and his work can be found in lofty collections around the world such as New York's Museum of Art and Design.

His 11-foot-wide cabinet promises to be a monumental presence at the exhibit, with inspiration stemming from the coastal landscape of mountains rising out of the ocean. Functionally, the cabinet comprises five separate boxes, each of which provides custom storage for various items related to serving drinks, with the three centre boxes pulling open and the two end ones accessed by opening a door.

"It's a truly spectacular composition," Pierobon noted of B.C.'s signature geography. "Secondarily, the area is riddled with fault lines that suggest an ever-present danger to the region and I wanted to incorporate their presence in the piece."

Foyle's work ranges from clean, colourful nature-based drawings with expansive white space to expressive oil paintings, such as an evocative swimming scene that was a 2017 Salt Spring National Art Prize finalist.

"As an immigrant to Canada, I find the beauty and vastness of the wild both stunningly compelling and terrifying," the Irish-Canadian artist explains in her statement. "I share my life with others who feel equally drawn to the wilderness and as an artist, I am inspired by the memories and stories of times spent hiking, camping and exploring."

Her work in this exhibition reflects the essence of those memories, and seeks to convey the wonder and awe Foyle feels when immersed in nature. The focus is on abstract painting this time, but she maintains her base in nature, with a palette that stems from her garden and the nearby sea. The dynamic movement in her brushstrokes is variously inspired by kelp swirling in the waves and bees' flight patterns.

Smith, a printmaker, metalsmith and jewelry artist, has been working on art jewelry pieces reflecting her ongoing preoccupation with ocean- and wind-generated marks and gathered natural materials.

"My artwork evolves from an intimate connection to place and reflects my sense of identity and home. My practice involves walking, gathering and studying; I am absorbed by the complexity of the ephemeral natural ecosystem," Smith said. "Impermanence and the fleeting moments that take us by surprise are the foundation of this work."

A Closer Look: Nature and Materials is at Mahon Hall from Aug. 18 to Sept. 17, open daily during Artcraft hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Aug. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. and an artists' talk is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 20 from 2 to 3 p.m.



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UTE HAGEN ABSTRACTS

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SALTY PEAR GALLERY
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Exhibition Open Until September 30th, Check www.saltyppear.ca for hours.



CONCERT PREVIEW

Astrocolor set to perform

Tarran the Tailor opens the show

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

Salt Spring Arts' Summer Outdoor Concert Series (SOCS) is in full swing with the fourth free community event on Thursday, Aug. 17, beginning at 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to bring a picnic, a blanket or a lawn chair to Centennial Park and to support live music.

Western Canadian Music Award-winning band Astrocolor will be headlining the fourth concert of the series. Their sound blends elements of jazz, psychedelia and electronica, resulting in an experimental genre of their own cosmic invention, aptly dubbed AstroJazz. The band's catalogue has over 10 million streams on the major platforms and regular national radio airplay in Canada. Astrocolor's dynamic live show has brought them to notable festivals, including Rifflandia, Burning Man and more.

Local artist Tarran the Tailor opens the Aug. 17 show. His legendary performances have been delighting, confounding and seducing audiences across the world for many years. His show features looped vocals, found sound and strange trips through the music of the world.

This Thursday's SOCS concert, which also begins at 6 p.m., features headliner Krystle Dos Santos and Salome Cullen.

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Astrocolor

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what's on this week

Wed. Aug. 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Double Digits Duo. Catharina de Beer and Rykie Avenant perform a four-hands piano concert. 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.

K-Tones. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

Moms Stop the Harm Meeting. All welcome on the 3rd Floor of the Core Inn. 12 noon.

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. until Sept. 1.

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

Thur. Aug. 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Salt Spring Arts Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Krystle Dos Santos and opener Salome Cullen. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

Morien Jones. 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.

Jasper Snow Rosen & Tyger Jackson. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

K-Tones & Sarah; DJ Aika. Mateada Social Club. K-Tones and bellydancing and Latin sets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Aika from 9 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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.

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Fri. Aug. 11

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Morien Jones. 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.

Billie Woods. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

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

Andrew Interchill & Bassos Rancheros. Mateada Social Club. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tennis at Portlock Park. Salt Spring Tennis Association invites people self-rated at 3.0+ to play at the Portlock Park courts every Friday from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. to Sept. 1.

ASK Salt Spring. CRD director Gary Holman is this week's 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.

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

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Sat. Aug. 12

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

El Jose. Lower deck. Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

Buck Dodgers Band. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

OK Dope Comedy Night. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

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

Che Aimee Dorval and Sash Rose. Mateada Social Club. 8 to 11 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the Park. Centennial Park market. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Drop-in Tennis. See Wednesday listing.

Sun. Aug. 13

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

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.

Chamigos. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 13

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Mon. Aug. 14

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Mike Aviano. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Tue. Aug. 15

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.

Wherpeter. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Family Adventures in Nature. All About Birds. Play bird games, learn all about birds through hands on activities, go for a bird walk on the reserve and more! At Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. For children aged 3 to 10 and their adult. Drop in between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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

Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Aug. 16

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: The 270's. David Storm and Bill Morrison perform at 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.

Sasha Rose. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.

Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.

CINEMA

• **Mission Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One** runs Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 9-10 at 7 p.m. Then **Barbie** is the movie from Friday, Aug. 11 to Thursday, Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. nightly plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info or phone 250-538-7718.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Carol James presents On the Lighter Side,** a collection of 2D and 3D work, at Salt Spring Gallery through Aug. 16. 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 Monday, Aug. 14.

• **League 181 painters — Borbas/Eyles/Hodgins/Wickland/Wilson — present CONNECTIONS,** an exhibit of paintings in the Artspring lobby through Aug. 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and around events at Artspring.

• **PK Macdonald** shows Summer, colour field paintings, in the library program room through August.

• **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. through the summer months.

Family Adventures in Nature

All About Birds at the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Tues., Aug. 15. Drop-in between 10 am and 1 pm

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ISLAND LIFE

EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES

Fun Day gets riders ready for upcoming fall fair

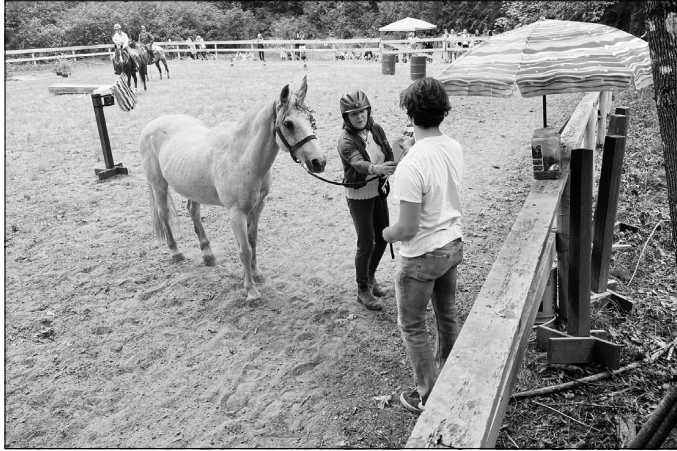


PHOTO BY DIANE GUTW

A past Gulf Islands Horse Association clinic in progress at the refurbished Mouat Park riding ring, which will be celebrated at an upcoming event.

Aug. 20 event at the Mouat Park riding ring

SUBMITTED BY THE GULF ISLANDS HORSE ASSOCIATION

Attention horse riders: the Gulf Islands Horse Association (GIHA) is inviting anyone thinking of signing up for this year's Salt Spring Fall Fair horse show to a dress rehearsal at its Fun Day pre-show on Sunday, Aug. 20 at the Mouat Park riding ring.

Even if you're not planning on entering classes at the fall fair, the Fun Day show is a low-key way to spend time with fellow horse lovers and celebrate recent improvements made to the riding ring.

GIHA acknowledges the generous contributions of time, labour and machinery provided by Ryan Bradley of Bradley Excavating and his very capable team. The ring improvements have also been supported by donations from Hawthorne Hill Gravel, Windsor Plywood, Island Trucking and Key Pawn Trucking.

The pre-show is a chance for riders and their horses to get familiar with the ring, do some practice classes and have a lot of fun with other members of the island horse community. Judge for the day is Susan Gordon, co-author of The Compassionate Equestrian, a former trainer and coach in the U.S. and Canada.

Classes include Walk/Trot in Western or English riding disciplines. This is an equitation class and is a great opportunity for riders who want a starter class in which their riding skills are judged at slower paces. If you want something to show off your horse's canter or lope, you can sign up for English Pleasure, Western Pleasure or Road Hack. There will also be halter and showmanship classes to test handling skills. And what would a horse show be without a couple of fun classes? Barrel rac-

ing and ride-a-five are on tap, and if you like to dress up, maybe your horse, too, there's a costume class as well.

Cost for the day is \$25 for non-members, which includes the membership fee. There is no charge for current GIHA members.

All participants must have an up-to-date Horse Council BC membership.

To sign up for the Fun Day, or for more information, email giha.saltsspring@gmail.com or phone 250-537-1116.

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HEALTH

Programs help reduce child hunger

After the Bell program and BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupons well used on Salt Spring

SUBMITTED BY ISLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Almost 15 per cent (or 732,000) of people in B.C. struggle to put food on the table, according to the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), which recently released its biennial report on food costs in B.C.

Salt Spring Island is no exception.

The report establishes the average monthly cost for a household to purchase the food required to provide a sufficiently nutritious diet. According to the report, about four per cent of people in B.C. experience severe food insecurity, which means missing meals or not eating for a day or more at a time.

The report lists the Island Health region as having the highest monthly cost for healthy eating in B.C. and suggests that children facing food insecurity are at an increased risk for poor health and academic outcomes.

At Island Community Services, we are seeing firsthand the higher need for access to food supports in our community, including support for children. In the annual Hunger Count conducted for Food Banks Canada, 116 children



PHOTO COURTESY ICS

Child receives an After the Bell program healthy food pack through Island Community Services.

were represented among the 225 island households that utilized Salt Spring's food bank in March of this year.

Food Banks Canada has offered more support for these local children through their After the Bell program. Island Community Services' food bank was a chosen recipient to distribute 480 After the Bell healthy food packs to children in need.

The goal of the program is to replace the extra food that children would otherwise receive through school meal programs no longer available to them while school is out on summer break.

Along with the pre-bagged, shelf stable goods, Food Banks Canada disburses a monetary grant for food banks to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and dairy products to add to the AFB packs.

Island Community Services is also supporting childhood nutrition by administering the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program. With provincial funding, the BC Farmers' Market Association (BCFMA) provides coupons to be distributed to low-income seniors as well as families with children. These coupons can be spent at the Tuesday Farmers' Market here on Salt Spring.

In addition to the coupons received from BCFMA, Island Community Services was able to purchase additional coupons with funds obtained through generous donors such as the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation. In total, 120 island households, including 129 children, are receiving market coupons.

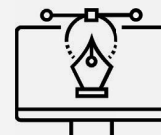
The food security programs administered by Island Community Services (operating under the Harvest Food Programs umbrella) do not receive any core government funding and rely on private donations and community organized fundraisers.

For more information on the Harvest Food programs see harvestsaltsspring.ca.

More details on the BCCDC report issued in May 2023 are available on the bccdc.ca website.

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RCMP

Local police report on second quarter calls

Impaired driving incidents trend upward

SUBMITTED BY SSI RCMP

As of June 30, 2023, Salt Spring Island RCMP have responded to 1,342 calls for service in the first half of 2023. In the second quarter, local RCMP officers responded to 771 calls, averaging almost 8.5 calls per day.

In addition to the 8+ calls per day from April to June, police also issued 328 traffic warnings and violation tickets, caught 42 impaired drivers, and conducted 132 licensed premises checks (bar walks). Also, RCMP conducted 419 foot patrols in areas like Centennial Park, Propane Beach, Grace Point and elsewhere. As stated in the last quarterly report where police committed to increasing foot patrol enforcement for the summer, SSI RCMP increased the spring/summer foot patrols by an additional 30 per cent, conducting an average of more than four foot patrols daily.

Salt Spring RCMP continue to respond to a variety of calls for service on the waters around Salt Spring Island. Some of these calls include boat fires, mental health related files, assaults and tragically a recent drowning. During our boat patrols our officers regularly encounter boaters without basic safety equipment, which can include lifejackets, fire extinguisher, bailers, a buoyant heaving line, bilge pump, navigation lights and flares. Often boat operators are unable to provide a Pleasure Craft Operator Card and/or vessel registration.

Some of the calls for the second quarter are detailed below:

April

- Police responded to a report of an impaired driver on Musgrave Road; the driver was located, their impairment was confirmed and their vehicle towed and impounded. The driver's licence was subsequently suspended and driving prohibited Canada-wide for 12 months as a result of the Criminal Code impaired investigation and court decision.

- After receiving a report of trespassing on private property and threats made with a sledgehammer, police attended and mediated the situation with the trespassers subsequently leaving the property.

- Salt Spring RCMP assisted York Regional Police with the seizure of a firearm from an unlicensed firearms owner.

- Police responded to an intoxicated person at a local business who was yelling at staff members; upon arrival, the suspect left the business at police direction and picked up their car keys the following day from the RCMP detachment.

- An impaired driver was



Clockwise from top left: stolen traffic signs recovered by Salt Spring Island RCMP; motor vehicle incident; beer found in vehicle of impaired driver.



found in downtown Ganges on Lower Ganges Road; the driver's vehicle was towed and impounded for 30 days and their licence suspended for 90 days.

- SSI RCMP were called to a domestic dispute at a local address; the two parties were separated with one of the people leaving the residence with some of their personal belongings.

- Police received a report of an intoxicated and confrontational person at a local AirBnB; due to the person's level of intoxication and inability to care for themselves, the person was arrested and held in cells overnight until sober.

- A person with outstanding warrants was arrested by Salt Spring RCMP and transported off-island to attend court and answer for their actions.

- A person was arrested and placed in cells for being intoxicated in a public place; the intoxicated person was subsequently released hours later once deemed sober and able to care for themselves.

- A person was arrested for impaired driving on a scooter in downtown Ganges; the scooter was subsequently impounded for 30 days and the operator's licence seized and revoked for 90 days.

- Police responded to a report of a theft from a local business; the suspect was located, arrested and subsequently banned from the property with a charge laid.

May

- Police conducted a traffic stop on Stewart Road for a traffic violation. The driver told RCMP they were a sovereign citizen and that police were not allowed to make an arrest; the driver was subsequently arrested for driving while prohibited and their vehicle impounded.

- RCMP responded to a person wielding a hammer and threatening people; upon arrival, the suspect told police they were having visions of something trying to kill them. The suspect was apprehended by police under the Mental Health Act and transported to Lady Minto Hospital for further assessment.

- Salt Spring RCMP assisted Fort Saskatchewan RCMP by issuing a subpoena to a local resident.

- Police conducted a search for a missing person who was believed to have travelled to Salt Spring Island. The person was subsequently located in another jurisdiction.

- Salt Spring RCMP conducted a traffic stop on Fulford-Ganges Road and found the driver to be impaired; an immediate roadside prohibition was issued with the driver's licence seized, their vehicle towed and impounded for 30 days and a prohibition issued from driving for the next 90 days.

- Police stopped an individual who threw a burning cigarette out from their car window while driving. Police are reminding the community that this type

of activity can result in a \$1,700 fine.

- Police conducted a traffic stop on Atkins Road where alcohol impairment was suspected of the driver; the driver refused to provide a sample. As a result the vehicle was impounded for 30 days, their driver's licence seized and a 90-day driving prohibition was issued.

- A person waving an axe and threatening people was arrested by police and removed from the property.

- A person on Salt Spring was extorted for money after posting intimate and compromising photos of themselves online. Police want to remind residents to be aware of the dangers of posting suggestive photos or videos online.

- A residence was broken into and numerous items stolen; there are no suspects at this time.

- A prohibited driver was found driving on Fulford-Ganges Road; the driver was given a promise to appear document for court and his vehicle was impounded. If convicted the driver could face an additional one-year driving prohibition.

June

- Stolen traffic signs were recovered by police.

- Salt Spring Island RCMP were called for an elderly individual with dementia who was lost; the person was re-united with friends and taken back to their residence.

- RCMP conducted a traffic stop with a person on a motorbike who immediately fled from police; the person was located a short time later, arrested for dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and the motorbike impounded.

- Police were called to a boat fire in Ganges Harbour. It was determined that the lone occupant of the vessel was suffering from a mental health crisis and refused to get out of the water. Police were able to eventually safely extract the person from the harbour waters. Officers apprehended the person pursuant to the Mental Health Act and escorted the individual to Lady Minto for assessment. At the same time other officers remained on scene with Eagle Eye Marine to ensure the boat

fire did not spread.

- A vehicle was stopped for excessive speed in downtown Ganges and it was then determined the driver had been drinking liquor and driving. The driver refused to provide a breath sample and attempted to walk away from police. The drivers was subsequently arrested for impaired driving, their driver's licence suspended for 90 days, and vehicle impounded for 30 days.

- A vehicle tried to avoid a check stop when police were checking for impaired drivers at Central. The vehicle was subsequently stopped by police and the driver checked for alcohol impairment. The driver provided two breath samples, both resulting in "fail" readings; their driver's licence was seized, their vehicle impounded and a driving prohibition issued.

- Salt Spring RCMP assisted the RCMP Shiprider program with a vessel transporting drugs in the Gulf Islands; a suspect was arrested and illicit drugs were seized.

- Police responded to a vehicle collision and upon arrival determined the driver to have been drinking and driving. The driver refused to provide a sufficient breath sample and was subsequently charged with impaired driving due to failing to provide an adequate breath sample; the vehicle was impounded for 30 days and driving was prohibited for 90 days.

- Police responded to a report of a person wanting to commit suicide; police located the person and confirmed they were wanting to commit suicide. The individual was apprehended under the Mental Health Act and transported to Lady Minto Hospital for assessment.

- RCMP received a report of a human foot found in Duck Creek; members attended, seized the suspected foot, and with the assistance of the BC Coroner's Service, confirmed the body part was not human and was in fact a bear paw.

Salt Spring RCMP continue to find impaired drivers driving throughout the island. Based on the number of impaired driving files in the first half of 2023, police are sadly expecting the number of drunk driving files to more than double last year's total.

PHOTOS COURTESY SALT SPRING ISLAND RCMP

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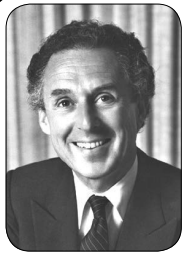
Obituaries

Obituaries

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

In Memoriam



DANIEL D. PHELAN

Daniel D. Phelan of Salt Spring Island B.C. died in his 93rd year (August 5th,) at his home surrounded by his family. Predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Barbara (nee Southern). Loving father to

Mary Julia (deceased), Tracey Dorey (nee Phelan), Jaime Phelan (Mark Barry), of Ensenada, Mexico., Darragh Phelan of Toronto, Ont. and Maurcen Phelan of Salt Spring Island, B.C. Loving grandfather to Conor Phelan-Barry of Vancouver B.C., brother to Peter Patrick of Vancouver B.C. and sister to Darralyn Bonnor of Victoria B.C. Uncle and great uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Dan was born in Toronto, Ont. on October 10th, 1930, son of Darragh Phelan and Margaret (Peggy Pike) Phelan. He attended Toronto's Del La Salle, then onto Loyola College, Montreal, Que. where he was president of the student body. He attended Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and received a Hotel School Administration B. Sc., in 1955. Sports included fencing, tennis, track, and football. His fraternity was Chi, Alpha Phi Chapter. He was hired by Sheraton Hotel Corp. in the Sales and Marketing Department from 1955-1959. He was then promoted to Sales Manager for Canada Sheraton Ltd., in 1960. He joined Skyline Hotels Ltd., Toronto as Manager from 1960-1963, and was then promoted as General Manager in 1965.

In 1965 his uncle, Paul J. Phelan asked him to join the family business, Cara Operations Ltd., as the General Manager Regional Division (1965-1969). He was promoted to Vice President in the Restaurant and Hotel Division in 1969. At Cara he introduced the revolutionary Remenco automated equipment system to the hotel and restaurant industry. He retired from Cara in 1989, after 25 years of service.

In addition to his business successes, Dan was very active in the community he served. He was Chairman of the National Committee Red Carpet Canada in 1967, and a member of the CRFA, (Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association). From 1980-1988, he was chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto Convention and Visitors Association, and sat on the Board of Directors in 1985. In 1991 he was honoured with the Ontario Hospitality Institute Gold Award for Excellence. Additionally, as a member of the Toronto Board of Trade.

In retirement Dan sat on the board of the Lady Minto Hospital, S.S.I., where he was an active fund raiser, including the Phantom Ball. He became treasurer of the Grace Point strata on Salt Spring Island. He greatly enjoyed his participation and numerous victories with Toast Masters International on S.S.I., and his many endeavours with the Salt Spring Tennis Association. Dan's other passions included tennis, nature, skiing, travel and scuba diving. In 1989, Daniel and Barbara retired to Salt Spring Island, B.C. where they lived a full and active life which included boating, with Dan deftly skipping his beloved Grand Banks boat, the Mary Julia, up and down the B.C. coast and included a memorable trip to Alaska. He loved spending winters on Sanibel Island, and St. Lucia.

Dan/Danny Boy is remembered for his Irish charm, sartorial splendour, eclectic hat collection and his tremendous warmth and devotion to family and friends.

Many thanks to the staff of Lady Minto Hospital over the years, particularly to his G.P., Dr. R. Reznick and Jean. And to Dan Bouchard, and his team at Access Care Management, particularly Marni, who understood the value of a good party.

A celebration of Dan's life will take place on Salt Spring Island at a later date. His funeral mass on Salt Spring will take place at Our Lady Of Grace, 135 Drake Rd. (TBA). A visitation and funeral mass will be at Rosar-Morrison's Funeral Home on (TBA) #467 Sherbourne St. Toronto, with a reception to follow at the home of Darragh Phelan, #15 Amelia St. Toronto.

Private burial at Mount Hope Cemetery, Toronto.

GILLIAN ANN (MINSHULL) COBANLI

May 12, 1938 - July 27, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the beautiful & serene passing of Gillian Cobanli on Thursday, July 27, 2023 at the Hospice of Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria.

After an irrecoverable stroke six weeks ago, Gill peacefully passed away, surrounded by family.

Gill is survived by her children, Richard John (Susan); Bruce William; and Selma Jane. She also leaves behind her four grandchildren, Sara Athan, Matilda Canan, Gillian Emma Catherine, and Theo Cem. She was predeceased by her husband, Basri Cevat, in 1997, and her granddaughter Leyla Rose in 2021.

The Cobanli family would like to thank all of the incredible and dedicated doctors, nurses, caregivers and staff in the Neurology wing of Victoria General Hospital, Palliative Care and Hospice at Royal Jubilee and V.I.H.A.

Gill's Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, August 27th, 2023 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 92, at 121 Blain Road, on Salt Spring Island, from 12 noon to 3:00pm.



Salt Spring Island NATURAL CEMETERY

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250-653-9884

saltspringcemetery.ca

Coming Events

THERE WILL BE
A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE CENTRAL
COMMUNITY HALL
SOCIETY

Wednesday
August 16, 2023 at
7:00 pm in the lower hall
at 901 North End Road.

Public welcome.

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HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF AUGUST 13 to 19, 2023

The luckiest signs this week: Virgo, Libra and Scorpio

ARIES

You'll be in the spotlight this week. You'll lead a group that defends your community. You're charismatic and important to the people around you. This could boost your self-esteem.

TAURUS

If you have children, you'll spend a lot of time getting ready for back-to-school season. You could decide to move or tackle a major home renovation. If you're single, you fall in love at first sight.

GEMINI

You won't be afraid to speak your mind and will say out loud what others are thinking. This will draw attention to your opinions. You'll find the necessary solutions to get out of a difficult financial situation.

CANCER

At work, you'll be courted by the competition and receive an offer that's hard to refuse. You'll have to do a lot of running around for a family member. In love, someone in your circle of friends could make a statement that leaves you perplexed.

LEO

A new job or life is taking shape. Your dreams are finally coming true! You'll be most excited about the new opportunities that come your way. In love, life will put someone very romantic in your path.

VIRGO

If your energy levels are low, brew a second cup of coffee before starting your workday. If your health is fragile, you'll find the right treatments to improve your quality of life. Stress can be a source of momentary energy.

LIBRA

You have no choice but to tackle the obstacles in front of you and overcome the pitfalls. You'll have to negotiate with many people at the same time, which could prove stressful. You'll make new friends and expand your social networks.

SCORPIO

At work or elsewhere, you'll have to deal with constant emergencies. Everything is falling behind. Someone close to you will help you take a step back. If you're in a relationship, you must establish common goals to secure your future together.

SAGITTARIUS

You'll have fun organizing an interesting getaway in nature. You must take some time off. Make sure you prepare in advance to make this adventure possible and create unforgettable memories with your loved ones.

CAPRICORN

Major projects often cause anxiety. Perseverance is the key to success. Don't be afraid of change; it's good for you. If your emotions are running high, simmer down by taking a step back.

AQUARIUS

Before making a decision that will affect several people, consult them and get their consent. At work, you'll reach a profitable agreement after long negotiations.

PISCES

It's time to take care of yourself. If you change certain habits, you'll feel more energized, and your love for life will be contagious. You must improve your health; your doctor will tell you what you need to do.



SPORTS + RECREATION

SOCCER

Salt Spring United preps for coming season

New club board members needed to ensure smooth operations

Although we are in the middle of summer and soccer season is the furthest thing from people's minds, there is some news from Salt Spring United in preparation for the upcoming season that should be noted.

Teams and Programs

The 2023-24 soccer season starts in September, but Salt Spring United has identified its teams for the coming season:

- Boys small-sided teams: U11, U12 (two teams) and U13
- Girls small-sided teams: U11, U12 and U13
- Boys 11-a-side teams: U14-15 and U16-18
- Girls 11-a-side teams: U14-15 and U16-18

The House Program (U6-10), Tots Program (U3-5) and House League (U10) will also be operating for the younger boys and girls.



Malcolm Legg

SOCCER ROUND-UP

Most of these teams have coaches in place and technical director Josip Bratanovic will be coordinating with them in the coming weeks. If you are interested in coaching in the club, please contact Bratanovic at jbratanovic@shaw.ca.

Registration

Registration has been ongoing since March 1 and the team rosters are filling up quickly, so if you have an interest in playing on any of the travelling teams (U11 and up) you should get registered now on our website at salspringsoccer.com.

Once rosters fill up, players who then register go on a wait list to see if they can get on the team.

Registration for House and

Tots Programs are not as critical, but getting registered by Sept. 1 helps us with planning those programs that start in September. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Maggie at ssiuregistrar@gmail.com.

Other Programs

Salt Spring United will be offering other programs in the fall with the dates still yet to be confirmed, as follows:

- Fall Academy – 10-week program to help with players' skill development, run by technical director Josip Bratanovic and his staff.
- Fall Goalie Clinic – a 10-week program to assist goalies with their skills. Led by Sue Spencer.
- The Women's Recreational Soccer Program – a 10-week program highlighting skill development and small-sided games for women who want to play soccer recreationally. Program will be led by Malcolm Legg with youth staff.
- Referee Training Program – monthly sessions to help referees develop their knowledge

and game control, led by myself, head referee Malcolm Legg.

Watch for these programs on our salspringsoccer.com website as we will be posting their details in next couple of weeks.

New Directors

With the loss of Colin Walde from the board after several years of great service, Salt Spring United is actively seeking people who would like to sit on the board.

The club board meets about 10 times a season and makes the decisions that keep the program successful. You may have an interest that you would like to be involved or just want to contribute to the youth of Salt Spring. If so, please contact me at mallegg@shaw.ca.

Well, that is it for now, but there will be more soccer news to come. If you have questions, feel free to email me to get the info you need. For now, back to the FIFA Women's World Cup, although Canada being eliminated is a disappointment, but the soccer is great quality and full of upsets.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Colin Walde, centre, applauds at the 2022 Salt Spring Challenge Cup tournament. Walde has retired from the Salt Spring United executive after several years of service. Salt Spring United Club board members are needed.



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**SOUTHERN
GULF
ISLANDS**



Swimmers earn medals

STINGRAYS

continued from 1

Regional medalists who also qualified for provincials were James Penner, Grace Cole, Jasper Beerends-Meisner, Ruben Beerends-Meisner, Mikayla Langdon, Sashi Sanchez-Wickland, Pasley Hayden, William Harder, Arthur Cabello-Maclean, Elyse Walsh, Indigo Marshall, Zoe Sanchez Wickland, India

Hayden, Matthias Woodley, Druehn Pinney, Keegan Otsubo-Papp, Aiden Otsubo-Papp, Clara Dickieson and Zoey Johnson. Swimmers who finished in the top three to earn medals were Logan Harder, Jacob Harder, Liam Walsh, Emerson Hayden, William Rithaler, Molly Magley and Renee Hayden.

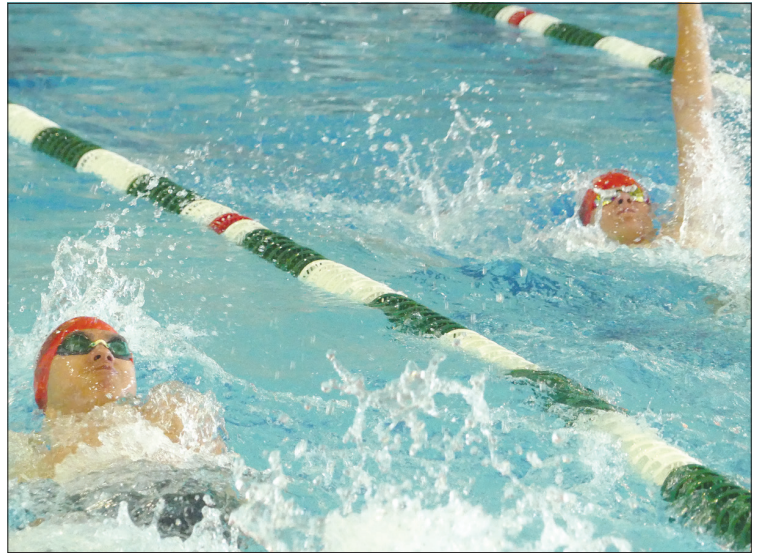


PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Keegan Otsubo-Papp and Druehn Pinney race side-by-side during the Div. 6 100-metre backstroke at the Vancouver Island Regional Championship meet Friday, Aug. 4 in Duncan. Both swimmers will go on to the provincial championship meet later this month.

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**SOUTHERN
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Our islands should be places where people live, work, play, learn, and visit. Where residents, businesses, and visitors have a shared responsibility for improving the environmental, economic, and social health of our communities. We're rethinking visitation in a way that harnesses local innovation and creative solutions that address our unique needs.