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# Driftwood

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PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

**ZOOMIN' ZUCCHINIS:** A crowd gets a close-up view of a "Zucchini 500" race at the Salt Spring Fall Fair on Saturday afternoon. The Sept. 9-10 fair was back to full strength this year with loads of exhibition entries, event participants, vendors and attendees. See page 11 for more photos, and next week's Driftwood for the annual Harvest Time publication containing fair photos, trophy winners and prize-winning recipes.

**MVI**

## One injured in electric bike crash

Rider evacuated via air ambulance from farm

**BY ROBB MAGLEY**  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A collision between an electric bicycle and a camper brought a medical helicopter to a Salt Spring Island farm on Saturday, as emergency officials warned travellers to exercise caution on island roads.

According to Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Assistant Chief Mitchell Sherrin, the crash closed Cusheon Lake Road for at least an hour as fire, police and local ground ambulance crews responded near the intersection with Lord Mike's Road just after 3 p.m. on Sept. 9.

Sherrin said the air ambulance landed at Cusheon Lake Farm to transport the

patient, who was not wearing a helmet and suffered a "significant" head injury, warranting a higher level of care right away.

"We wanted to get definitive medical treatment for the patient as soon as possible," said Sherrin. "The air ambulance carries critical care paramedics, who have the highest level of training and were able to [further] treat and transport the patient immediately."

Sherrin said emergency responders were grateful to passersby for rendering assistance, and expressed concern and empathy for those who might have found the crash distressing.

"It's upsetting when someone is badly

hurt," said Sherrin. "There were a lot of bystanders, and they were very helpful."

It was not clear whether speed was a factor in the crash, but Sherrin said it was regardless a "good reminder" to always wear a helmet — and that when riders and drivers encounter one another, both should be aware that electric-assist bicycles are often moving faster than expected.

"We've seen a fair number of electric bicycle crashes, and some of them involved significant injuries," said Sherrin. "As a driver it can sometimes be surprising how quickly one is moving, since electric bicycles move so much faster than standard bikes. Please, take that extra moment to look and make an adjustment."

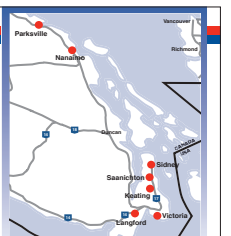
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## ISLANDS TRUST

# StatsCan data illustrates changing islands

Highly localized data portray shifts across Islands Trust LTAs

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As local Trust areas (LTAs) spin up their post-summer meeting schedules, they've got a new tool: highly localized census data, obtained through a special

contract with Statistics Canada.

As part of an effort to undertake more advocacy surrounding housing — and in collaboration with regional planning managers — Islands Trust staff procured localized datasets, broken down by LTA. They are being provided to all local Trust committees, for their information, and will also be posted to the “trend monitoring” section of the Islands Trust website in the form of downloadable “infographics” that aim

to present the data in a useful way.

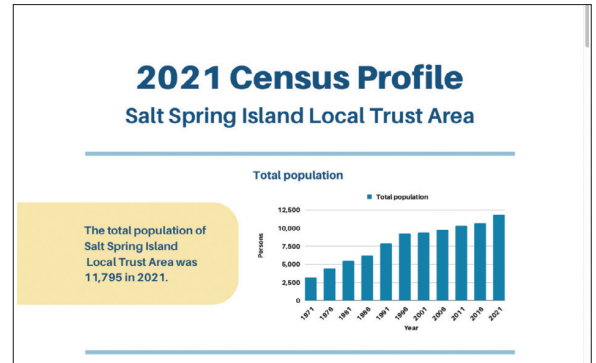
“There is a story to be told in reading those infographics,” said Trust CAO Russ Hotsenpillar back in May, when the Trust's Executive Committee had its first look at a draft version. “Some of it is counterintuitive.”

Generating the data required Statistics Canada to create custom location-specific tabulations of past census years — partly complicated, according to a report from Trust Area Services director Clare Frater, by the shifting of census boundaries through the decades. The work includes custom data from as far back as 1971 and as recently as 2021.

Notable Islands Trust-wide findings include that while British Columbia's overall population growth rate from 2016 to 2021 was 7.6 per cent, every local Trust area grew at a faster rate over those five years. Most dramatic was Gambier Island, with 70 per cent growth in that period, but Galiano, Mayne and Saturna islands all grew rapidly as well — 33.5, 37.9 and 32.9 per cent, respectively.

Perhaps surprisingly, the slowest growth among local Trust areas over the same period occurred on Salt Spring Island — a 10.9 per cent increase, according to localized census data.

The tabulations also examined home ownership, this time comparing 2016 to 2021, where the ownership rate — where owner households are defined as where some member of the household owns the dwelling, even if it is still being paid for — fell province wide, from 68 per cent to 66.8 per cent. Across the Islands Trust area, however, it grew — 81.1 per cent to 84.2 per cent — and about half the individual local Trust areas saw growth as well. On Salt Spring, that growth was pronounced — 76.2 per cent to 81.5 per cent — but it fell in others, notably South Pender (which tallied a near 100 per cent home ownership rate in 2016, falling to 86.2 per cent by 2021), Lasqueti (96.6



Sample infographic from new Islands Trust census profile data.

to 80.3) and Gambier (92.9 to 80.8).

Some data was presented surrounding the notion of second homes, with location-specific numbers — in 2021, at least — for percentage of dwellings “occupied by usual residents,” a figure that includes renters and owners. On Salt Spring, data showed 82.7 per cent of dwellings in that column, a relatively high number compared to an Islands Trust-wide figure of 72.7 per cent. Bowen Island was highest, with 84.7 per cent, and Gambier was lowest with just 36.3 per cent of dwellings occupied by usual residents.

Interestingly, on a longer scale, that Islands Trust-wide 72.7 per cent rate is the highest it's been, at least in the last 30 years. In 1991 that number was 68.2 per cent, falling to 63.9 per cent by 2001.

Of note — and perhaps in the “counterintuitive” category — were data showing the change in average monthly shelter cost for renters between 2016 and 2021. All LTAs — except Denman — were paying more in 2021 than five years earlier, but average monthly shelter costs increased less in the Islands Trust area than in the province generally — 12.9 per cent versus a B.C.-wide growth of 30 per cent.

In fact, excluding Bowen Island, renters paid less in both

2016 and 2021 than the provincial average. In 2021, where the provincial average monthly shelter cost for renters was \$1,494, across the Islands Trust that number was \$1,067; on Salt Spring, the average was \$1,118.

For owners, the difference in monthly shelter costs between the province and the Islands Trust was less dramatic; average monthly shelter costs for owners increased by 20.2 per cent in B.C. between 2016 and 2021, and 19.8 per cent across the Islands Trust, despite several smaller islands' owner shelter costs decreasing. But the provincial 2021 average of \$1,668 paid monthly by owners for shelter costs still — and again, apart from Bowen — was larger than that for every LTA, from Salt Spring (\$1,326) and South Pender (\$1,300) to Mayne (\$1,036) and Saturna (\$645).

The new data also looked at the percentage of households with inadequate housing — defined as housing needing major repairs, such as defective plumbing or wiring, or structural problems. Here the Islands Trust fell short, with an average of 8.9 per cent of households reporting inadequacies, versus a 5.8 per cent provincial average.

To view the infographics, visit [islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/trend-monitoring/](http://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/trend-monitoring/).



## Septic Awareness Week 2023

Did you know septic systems need regular maintenance? Malfunctioning systems can cause health risks and damage local waterways, watersheds, and biodiversity.

This September join the CRD and the Onsite Wastewater Management Association of BC for Septic Awareness week! Visit [crd.bc.ca/septic](http://crd.bc.ca/septic) for more information and to register for in person and online workshops.

Sept 18	Septic Savvy JDF Local Planning Office, Sooke	6-9 PM
Sept 19	Septic Sense for BC Residents via Zoom	7 PM
Sept 20	Septic Savvy Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney	5:30-8:30 PM
Sept 21	Septic Sense for BC Residents via Zoom	7 PM
Sept 26	Septic Savvy Webinar via Zoom	6-8 PM

Septic Savvy information kits are also available at most municipal halls and all libraries in the GVPL, SSI and SGI system.

Scan the QR code for all workshop dates!



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## LOCAL GOVERNANCE

# Three meetings on Thursday

LCC and LTC times conflict; fire meeting also on Sept. 14

### BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders engaged with local public affairs will find themselves having to make a tough choice this week as two major government bodies have meetings going on at the same time.

Both the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) and the Salt Spring Local Community Commission (LCC) will meet on Thursday, Sept. 14. The LCC meets at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space boardroom beginning at 9 a.m., while the LTC meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. just below at the School District 64 Learning Hub. Both meetings can

be accessed through livestreaming.

LCC chair Earl Rook apologized for the inconvenience resulting from the LCC inadvertently ending up with the same meeting date as the LTC, which sets its schedule for the calendar year. He said meeting guidelines are being worked on now for adoption in the next few months.

Also taking place on Thursday, Sept. 14, but in the evening, is the Salt Spring Fire Protection District's town hall meeting about the new fire hall project and the 2024 budget. That session is at Community Gospel Chapel from 7 to 9 p.m.

The night before (Sept. 13), the LTC will hold a town hall meeting at Beaver Point Hall from 5 to 7 p.m., which can also be livestreamed through the Trust website.

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BALLET KELOWNA PHOTO BY EMILY COOPER.

## ISLANDS TRUST

# Eelgrass map shelved

Proposal not advanced to financial committee

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The planning committee for Islands Trust Council (ITC) has decided an incomplete eelgrass mapping project should stay that way, declining to advance justification for its completion to another committee who would have decided whether to recommend ITC fund it — seemingly telegraphing a shift in trustee priorities.

The Regional Planning Committee (RPC) chose to not forward the latest eelgrass mapping project's business case — a report providing a project's background and cost justification — to the Financial Planning Committee, citing a hope that other agencies might do the work, and concerns on cost. As presented, eelgrass mapping would have taken a \$100,000 bite out of the Trust's \$9.7-million budget.

"I don't believe that we can afford to do this," said Saturna trustee Mairead Boland at the committee's Wednesday, Sept. 6 meeting. "I think the amount of money and, in fact, the scale of the endeavour is beyond us, and I think there are many others doing it."

Others on the committee also balked at the price tag, or questioned whether other agencies were already mapping eelgrass for their purposes — and, given the current Trust Council's emphasis on housing, whether such spending was even appropriate.

ITC has declared a "housing equity and workforce shortage crisis" exists on many of the islands, and already re-tooled the existing strategic plan to include language on increasing housing affordability; indeed, the RPC itself advanced two other business cases Sept. 6, both on housing. One would help update housing-needs reports for most local Trust areas for \$110,000, and a second for \$30,000 surrounding a housing strategy and housing options "toolkit." That would include a suite of informational tools from model work plans to an at-your-fingertips IT-centred analysis of various official community plans, all to assist with decision-making on housing issues.

Boland argued the \$100,000 for eelgrass mapping represented as much as "1.2 per cent of the entire budget, possibly 10 per cent of the capital projects budget" — and she specifically took issue with taking up a priority from a previous Trust Council.

"As they say, 'not my strategic plan,'" said Boland. "To me it's not just about the money, it's about [the fact] it's below high water. I mean, where does it end, our control?"

North Pender trustee Aaron Campbell agreed, saying current priorities have changed.

"Something that was actioned in 2018 is very much out of date, given what we went through with COVID and what we're seeing jump up as a need with housing," said Campbell. "If we have the ability to invest \$100,000 in anything we're working on right now, I think it would be better spent that way."

In addition to being habitat for various marine animals, eelgrass provides a wide range of recognized ecosystem services, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada, including sediment stabilization, wave force reduction, providing food for various marine organisms and creating an efficient carbon sink.

"I won't wax poetic about it," said planning director Stefan Cermak. "Suffice to say, it's

probably the most important exchange where the foreshore meets the marine area."

And mapping eelgrass along the 1,360 kilometres of relevant shoreline is indeed identified in the Islands Trust Strategic Plan, and has long been considered an important decision-making resource for land use planning. Expansive, often community-led and volunteer-driven mapping efforts on many islands have collected data during multiple projects, going back more than 20 years.

Cermak said mapping eelgrass was identified to him as among the top priorities for the Islands Trust Conservancy, as even data from 2014 mapping has likely changed. And good data, he noted, is vital for policy makers and property owners.

"[The Islands Trust] cannot make a bylaw based on inaccurate or known to be faulty information," said Cermak. "For example, on Salt Spring we have setbacks required from known eelgrass, and that's captured in the bylaw itself, that mapping is provided — so people know ahead of time where they can and cannot do — or put — things."

Much of the work for the 986 kilometres meant for this round of surveying was already completed; in March of last year, the RPC received a report from Victoria-based Coastal and Ocean Resources on its Islands Trust-commissioned aerial imaging survey. But that data, using high-resolution imagery taken from helicopters during low tides in August 2021, remains incomplete; only 59 per cent of the total area surveyed produced data accurate enough to inform policy makers, according to the report, due to confounding factors such as sun glare (or shade) and turbid water conditions.

That leaves, according to the report, 682 hectares of "low confidence" — or meaningfully unsurveyed — coastal habitat.

The dollar estimate brought to the RPC was built on another common eelgrass mapping method — a towed camera in the water, according to Cermak, although he suggested the estimate could likely be reduced with alternative methods — such as using drones.

"I recommend putting a placeholder here for \$100,000 for the eelgrass mapping based on a proven methodology which has been done before, and would still work today," said Cermak. "And then that you request I reach out to the drone operators of B.C. My hunch is, based on the amount of time it takes to put things in a boat and drag it around in the water, versus getting onto an island and zooming a drone around, it should be a reduced cost, but I can't guarantee that."

While Hornby Island trustee Alex Allen expressed concerns about drones disturbing bird habitats — and otherwise quiet waterfront neighbourhoods — RPC chair and Salt Spring Island trustee Laura Patrick echoed a suggestion made by Denman's David Graham: perhaps if a landowner found themselves adjacent to an area that fell within the "low confidence" area, the burden for surveying could fall to them.

"I would encourage you not to totally kill the idea because it's too expensive," said Cermak. "If you do that, we would [still] want to get to a place, I would think, where maybe you're ready to respond to grants if they're available."

RPC members ultimately requested staff to prepare terms of reference before the end of the current fiscal year, to look for potential grant funding for eelgrass mapping and explore "partnerships" with other agencies that might be doing the work.

## FRIENDLY FIREFIGHTER



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Assistant Fire Chief Mitchell Sherrin reads Mary Calhoun's *Euphonia and the Flood* to eager young children — and their caregivers — Friday, Sept. 8, during the Salt Spring Island Public Library's weekly Neighbourhood Storytime. Sherrin, who taught elementary school several years ago, brought a number of emergency and safety-related books with him, and also offered a curated selection of books people can check out from the library. Guest readers from the Salt Spring community read aloud in the library's children's area every Friday at 11 a.m.

Capital Regional District

CRD

### Committee Membership Opportunity

#### Lyall Harbour/Boot Cove Water Local Services Committee

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 1875, real property owners or residents in the Lyall Harbour/Boot Cove Water Local Services Area are invited to nominate themselves or another owner or resident who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2024.

Total membership on the committee is six (6), including the Electoral Area Director, four (4) owners or residents of the Local Service Area, and the current holder or representative of the holder of Conditional Water License No. 26480.

Nominations are being accepted for the following vacancies:

- Two (2) owners or residents who are prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

#### Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, please clearly print the Committee name in the subject line, your full name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full name, telephone number and residential address.

New appointments to the Lyall Harbour/Boot Cove Water Local Services Committee will be made by the CRD Board based on the Electoral Area Director's recommendation.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, October 2, 2023.**

#### Mail or email your submission to:

Attention: Electoral Area Director, Southern Gulf Islands  
479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC, V9B 1H7  
Email: iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca

Bylaw No. 1875 is available for viewing on the CRD website at:  
[www.crd.bc.ca/lyallboot-ws](http://www.crd.bc.ca/lyallboot-ws)

# OPINION

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

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



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### EDITORIAL

## Numbers game

Newspaper people, like policy-makers, love numbers.

In a world where perspective is myriad and perception often myopic, numbers give us a chance to find broad common ground or a shared foundation we can use to talk about larger issues.

Here, much credit is due the Islands Trust staff in Victoria for starting the work to query Statistics Canada and bring us all some highly localized numbers. We can particularly thank Trust Area Services director Clare Frater, who has clearly been a driving force for the initiative.

Now we have local numbers to confirm, or contradict, what we've all "seen." The population on Salt Spring, for example, is indeed growing quickly — there are 50 per cent more of us than there were 30 years ago. But it happened even faster on some other islands, like Mayne, where population grew by 77 per cent, Bowen where it doubled, or South Pender's Local Trust Area, where it grew by 126 per cent.

### THE ISSUE:

#### New local statistics

### WE SAY:

Knowledge is a good thing

And as the "shelter cost" for both renters and homeowners grew across B.C. over the last five years, it grew slightly less within the Islands Trust, where it's still somehow less expensive to put a roof over one's head than the provincial average — less surprising, perhaps, if one remembers half of B.C. lives in the upscale confines of Metro Vancouver, or that on several of our islands the percentage of "inadequate" housing is double the average.

Indeed, numbers often deliver as many questions as they do answers. Why is the gender wage gap so pronounced on Bowen, but narrowed to nearly zero on Lasqueti? With Salt Spring and Mayne islands having nearly the same population density, why did the home ownership rate climb on one and fall on the other? And why is the percentage of households spending 30 per cent or more of their income on "shelter costs" so different from one island to the next? Wages? Housing availability?

Policy-makers, like the rest of us, have a lot to work out with all this new information. But surely we can agree that knowing more is a good thing, and we welcome better opportunities for more informed decisions.

Now we'll see if our elected officials take advantage of those opportunities as a result.



## Polluters should pay costs

BY RYDER BERGERUD

Exxon knew. It was a headline in the New York Times, on the BBC and the CBC, and almost every major news outlet at the beginning of this year.

In the late 1970s, Exxon built its own research group, hiring leading scientists of the day to get a sense of how big the climate problem might be. At that time, Exxon's own research did more than confirm burning fossil fuels was covering our planet in a blanket of pollution that would overheat the planet. They also were able to predict with accuracy rivaling today's climate models the temperature rise we've experienced over the past 40 years.

So what did Exxon do once they had made their findings by the 1980s? With a coalition of other oil, gas and coal companies, they spent the intervening years deceiving the public, denying the science and now delaying action.

How do we know this? Over the past decade lawsuits against these companies have forced oil companies to hand over internal documents, everything from research reports to private messages.

Big oil's sophisticated sabotage of our collective ability to respond to this crisis is why, over the past five years, the global number of climate litigation cases has almost tripled, now well into

the thousands.

And now right here on Salt Spring, we are bearing the costs. Some of these

costs we bear alone or as families — not being able to access insurance due to increased fire risk, having our driveways washed out in floods and having wells running dry at the end of summer.

Many of these costs will be shouldered by our local government. Here on Salt Spring, we will need to do more work each passing year to keep our community safe from catastrophic fire. The potability of water in Maxwell Lake is particularly at risk from fire and erosion with extreme weather. This is a lake that provides thousands of islanders with drinking water.

Elsewhere in British Columbia, our provincial government estimates that the Lower Mainland will have to spend \$9.5 billion to protect that area from sea level rise. This is just one example of the overwhelming cost that profiting polluters need to pay, not us.

Sue Big Oil is a class-action lawsuit of local governments in B.C. joining together to stick it to these fossil fuel companies and make them pay for these costs. You can sign the declaration of support at suebigoil.ca, and write to our local Islands Trust trustees and/or our Capital Regional District electoral area director to encourage them to join.

**Here on Salt Spring, we will need to do more work each passing year to keep our community safe from catastrophic fire.**

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

**Should oil companies contribute to climate change adaptation costs?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

**Do you plan to attend the Salt Spring Fall Fair?**

55 84  
YES NO

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

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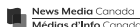
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# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Claims and facts

Many of the major land-use changes now planned for Salt Spring reflect the agenda of the Salt Spring Solutions housing group. But how accurate is the information on their website?

Claim: The group's housing "solutions" will address "deforestation," "stressed freshwater resources" and "increased vehicle trips and greenhouse gas emissions." Fact: Bylaw 530 alone will add the potential for thousands of new dwellings without any data on water. And since they will be spread across the island, vehicle traffic will increase, not decrease. As for deforestation, cottages, like principal residences, usually require extensive tree removal for buildings, septic fields, driveways, gardens, light, etc.

Claim: "The Official Community Plan (OCP) vision is still relevant today, but the strategies for achieving it have, quite necessarily, changed." Fact: Bylaw 530 and other

proposals such as "eco-villages" require gutting the "limits to growth" defined in OCP policies and expressed in the vision.

Claim: The "solutions" will "enhance island rural community characteristics." Fact: Allowing thousands of additional dwellings across the island will erode and eventually destroy, not enhance, rural character.

Claim: The "solutions" will "improve the availability and/or affordability of long-term housing options." Fact: Bylaw 530 requires no covenant or housing agreement to ensure affordability or long-term rental.

Differences of opinion are normal, but there's something called reality, and the real question is this: Will the island remain mostly rural or does Salt Spring Solutions envision a Saanich Peninsula-like configuration with mere pockets of green surrounded by semi-urban development — without the benefit of piped water?

**FRANTS ATTORP,**  
SALT SPRING

### Bylaw 530 not the answer

Investor groups are now capitalizing on short-term vacation rentals (STVRs), snapping up homes and apartments everywhere for profitable conversion. This business model, attractive on Wall Street, Bay Street and among global big-money players, threatens rural and urban tourist destinations alike, contributing to shortages in affordable housing.

Here on Salt Spring, getting illegal STVRs back into the long-term rental market should be our priority, not opening up the entire island to more development as Bylaw 530 would do.

Bylaw 530 lacks a definition of what's "affordable," nor, indeed, does it include any mention of the word "affordable" in its wording. It provides no effective means for enforcing who rents to whom or for how much. Bylaw 530 is also remarkably

vague about possible long-term implications on the environment and population growth. It's my feeling that construction beyond what's already allowed on Salt Spring — which is, by the way, a protected area — should occur only near town, schools and/or bus routes.

Without "affordability" requirements and location restrictions, Bylaw 530 is nothing less than a high-risk gamble. We might as well build a casino, with profits to be spent building affordable housing. That'd be a way better crapshoot gamble than any accidental scatter-shot, half-baked proposal as proposed Bylaw 530.

Either drop Bylaw 530, or make it more specific regarding location(s) and with respect to use restrictions, along with implementing a credible means of enforcement.

**DENNIS LUCARELLI,**  
ISABELLA POINT ROAD

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 6

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I won't wax poetic about it. Suffice to say it's probably the most important exchange where the foreshore meets the marine area."

STEFAN CERMAK, ISLANDS TRUST DIRECTOR OF PLANNING SERVICES, ON EELGRASS MAPPING

# ADUs are a Salt Spring tradition that should be brought back

### SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING SOLUTIONS

Salt Spring Island needs more effective ways to learn about and discuss important, complex and controversial issues. At Salt Spring Solutions, our goal is to bring more people power into our island's decision-making processes. We hope to see Salt Spring evolve into a community that can work effectively together on solving complex issues and make the sometimes-difficult decisions on how to improve lives and protect our island ecology.

Take housing, for instance. We're interested in solutions to our housing crisis that minimize environmental impacts, maximize forest and farmland preservation, make efficient use of existing infrastructure and resources, and improve the diversity, availability and affordability of long-term homes for locals.

Although Salt Spring is widely known as an idyllic place to spend a weekend in a cozy cabin, a yurt in the forest, or a tiny home on an agricultural property, did you know that these, and other types of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), are mostly prohibited here as long-term rentals?

ADUs, sometimes known as granny flats, secondary suites and small cottages, were a small but integral part of the housing stock up until the 1970s on Salt Spring Island. Since the days of early homesteads and family farms, most properties had one

or more small dwellings in addition to a larger primary house. Islanders have lived in cabins, above barns and garages and in secondary suites for generations. These accessory dwellings housed adult children or extended family members, farm workers or other employees, or were leased for rental income.

According to the Salt Spring Island Housing Needs Report (CRD, 2020), secondary suites constituted roughly one in 13 homes permitted before the 1980s. Since 2000, virtually no legal secondary suites have been constructed. The rise of 1970s zoning practices largely prohibited the construction of suites in favour of detached homes. This has resulted in the homogeneous and imbalanced housing stock that we have today that is not serving our community's needs.

ADUs are a unique housing solution because they are funded, built and managed by individual property owners, usually home-owners who reside on the same property. The property owner can generate income to help pay their mortgage or house extended family or community members, or age in place on their property by moving into the smaller dwelling and renting out the larger house, or house an on-site caregiver in the ADU. ADUs provide affordable housing in a unique way, and also:

- maintain the existing character of the neighbourhood while

## GUEST COLUMN

gently increasing density, and reduce sprawl by making use of already developed residential land, infrastructure, and services;

- require fewer resources to build and maintain than larger detached homes, and are easier to finance and less expensive to build than multi-unit housing like townhomes and apartments;
- respond to the overall trend toward decreasing household size and increasing demand for small dwellings;

- support multi-generational and communal living, informal companionship, and child-care, increased safety and shared maintenance.

Several attempts to reprioritize ADUs for long-term rentals have been made in the past 20 years. Many policies in our most recent Official Community Plan (2008) support the need for a range of housing types, including ADUs. Studies indicate that, without any regulation or subsidy, about one in five ADUs are occupied for rents that are zero or far below market rates. That's because the great majority of these units are being built for friends and family, such as grandparents or adult children. Homeowners who build ADUs are often not doing it as a for-profit real estate investment, but rather are choosing to prioritize something other than financial return.

Some people are concerned that legalizing ADUs will contribute to overpopulation, stress freshwater resources, negatively impact the natural environment and be misused as short-term vacation rentals. While these are legitimate questions to raise, the experience of other small communities where ADUs are legalized for long-term housing demonstrates that those hesitations can be addressed.

### Overpopulation

Given the high cost of construction, legalizing ADUs for long-term occupancy is more about creating a path for legalizing existing ADUs and allowing modest increases in specific areas, especially for multi-generational living, rather than creating a lot of new housing stock all over the island. It is an important homeowner-initiated and -funded solution.

### Water and Wastewater

The permit process requires that potable water and wastewater requirements are addressed prior to getting a building permit for an ADU. Construction of ADUs is only allowed if there is enough potable water and proper wastewater treatment. In addition to this safeguard, data gathered by Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance shows that current standards require far more water to be available on each residential property than is typically used.

### Sensitive Ecosystems

The same setbacks, development permit area guidelines, and provincial and federal regulations that safeguard ecologically sensitive areas (wetlands, shorelines and community well capture areas) from the potential impacts of building detached houses also apply to ADUs.

### Short-Term Rentals

Currently, short-term occupancy in ADUs is widely allowed for seasonal cottages and tourist accommodations, while long-term occupancy is not. This needs to be flipped to allow more legal long-term rental homes for locals. Zoning and business licensing are the existing tools used in other communities that could equitably regulate short-term rentals without preventing long-term occupancy.


At Salt Spring Solutions we envision being part of a community that works across areas of interest and issue-based divisions to identify key problems that require attention, to open up closed or obscure decision-making processes and convene respectful fact-based dialogue to find community-led solutions to our big hairy problems.

What do you think about using ADUs as one part of the solution to solve our community's housing crisis? To join the conversation and learn more visit [saltspringsolutions.com](http://saltspringsolutions.com).



PHOTOS BY NANCY JOHNSON, LEFT, &amp; GAIL SJUBERG

**IN THE FALL FAIR SPIRIT:** Two of four businesses taking up the Salt Spring Fall Fair decorating challenge were, from left, first-place winner Love My Kitchen (with just a portion of the window display shown) and Foxglove Farm and Garden Supply, with jeans hanging from a clothesline inside the fence juxtaposed with sunflowers. Businesses used the 2023 fair theme of Blue Jeans and Healthy Greens and helped promote the fair to the general public. Thrifty Foods and Country Grocer also participated.



## The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District will be holding a:

**What:** Town Hall Meeting  
**When:** September 14, 2023, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.  
**Where:** The Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road.  
**Why:** To present:

- the draft 2024 Budget
- the 5-year Strategic Plan
- an update on the new fire hall construction

The Board of Trustees, Chief Administrative Officer, Fire Chief, and the new fire hall Project Steering Committee will make presentations and receive feedback from the public in attendance.

## MORE LETTERS continued from 5

### Slap on the wrist for 'firebug'

As an immediate neighbour to Mouat Park I was made aware of the multiple fires set there two weeks ago while I was at work. We've all been on pins and needles for the last few months of this exceedingly dry summer, especially after witnessing the traumatic scenes in Maui, the Okanagan and Shuswap.

What a surprise to learn the Mouat Park firebug was given a relative slap on the wrist with a \$575 fine, as reported in the Driftwood last week. Would there have been too much paperwork involved in filing a criminal charge?

I have a few more questions. Was the perpetrator a local individual, perhaps a minor? The Driftwood's reporting did not give any details, including a name. Or does the individual not have a fixed address? If the latter, then this fine will almost certainly not get paid, especially in the absence of possessing a valid B.C. driver's licence.

We're talking arson here. Malicious intent. Had we not been blessed with some precipitation just days earlier the outcome could have been drastically different. Next time you walk

through that park, take note of the fuel load of debris. Had I been home and witness to this fire being lit and acted out physically, you can bet I would be viewed more harshly by the law. And I'm sure claiming temporary insanity would be flatly dismissed. We're supposed to believe law enforcement's role is to protect and serve, but in light of the rather soft fine handed out for . . . did I already mention arson(?), do we feel served and protected?

If I ignorantly lit my burn pile, I'd be faced with double the fine for disregarding the fire ban. We're routinely shaken down for traffic and seat-belt tickets in the name of "safety." In my opinion those tickets are a revenue generator. Yet these fires lit in Mouat Park put all of our safety in an extremely precarious position.

**DAVE CAMPBELL,**  
GANGES

### Brilliant

In his Aug. 30 Nobody Asked Me But column, Shilo Zylbergold was brilliant with his analogy comparing the need for cooperation among humans for their survival as it is with the trees in the forest for theirs.

Well done, Shilo!  
**CHUCK HARRIS,**  
PENDER

## Capital Regional District



### Committee Membership Opportunity

#### Skana Water Service Committee

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3133, real property owners or residents in the Skana Water Local Service Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner, resident or other person who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2024.

Total membership on the committee is five (5), including the Electoral Area Director, three (3) real property owners and one (1) resident, real property owner or other person who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

Nominations are being accepted for the following vacancies:

- ▶ One (1) resident or real property owner who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area.
- ▶ One (1) resident, real property owner or other person who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

**Nomination Instructions:** when submitting your nomination, clearly print the Committee name in the subject line, your full name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full name, telephone number and residential address.

New appointments to the Skana Water Service Committee will be made by the CRD Board based on the Electoral Area Director's recommendation.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, October 2, 2023.**

#### Mail or email your submission to:

Attention: Electoral Area Director, Southern Gulf Islands  
 479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC, V9B 1H7  
 Email: iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca

Bylaw No. 3133 is available for viewing on the CRD website at:  
[www.crd.bc.ca/skana-ws](http://www.crd.bc.ca/skana-ws)

### Headlight check time

I drive the island and see a lot of cars with only one headlight on.

Pretty soon, in the next while, by 6 p.m., daylight will be gone.

And then it will be hard to keep your car in sight,

When I'm out driving at night,

And you are without your headlight.

So please take the time to check over your car . . .

Make sure your lights work so I can see you from afar.

So let's keep our roads safe and accident free,

And I'll also make sure you can always see me!

**REBECCA CHIDLEY,**  
SALT SPRING

### Sound of Freedom rocks

This is my synopsis of the brilliant must-see movie, Sound of Freedom, which I saw in Victoria in July and will see again when it's shown at The Fritz theatre, Friday, Sept. 15 through Tuesday, Sept. 19. (I'm the pest that pestered them to bring it to Salt Spring.)

The Sound of Freedom movie is a thriller based on a true story of Tim Ballard, a courageous man who was a federal undercover homeland security agent in America. His job was busting child porn and trafficking rings, but the job description did not include rescuing any children. He quit his job, with the

encouragement of his wife, and he formed an underground railroad team to start rescuing as many children as possible. The film focuses on two segments of their rescuing operations. (Keep in mind that all movies based on true stories have artistic licence, but there's nothing graphic.)

This powerful movie also has a dramatic back story. In a nutshell it's a low-budget independent film that had been shelved for approximately five years because no mainstream movie conglomerates would take it on, of course. Finally, after overcoming numerous obstacles, it was released to theatres by Angel Studios in America on July 4, 2023.

Soon after being released it was lambasted with controversy and vile smear campaigns reared their ugly heads that targeted everyone and everything regarding this movie. No surprises there. However, despite all that malicious crap, the positive rave reviews by the viewing public went viral and Sound of Freedom became a huge success throughout the Western world and beyond.

Since this film deals with exposing the sordid underbelly of society and the horribly dark subject matter of child abuse, it's emotionally heartbreaking, indeed. Henceforth, it's also helping to be a part of the solution by raising awareness and inspirational hope that those despicable child porn and trafficking rings will all be busted and wiped out of existence forever.

In my view, I believe we all have the responsibility of doing our part as individuals, families, communities etc., along with government policies to vigilantly protect defenceless innocent children from ALL forms of child abuse, period.

**IZADAURA GODCHILD,**  
SALT SPRING



# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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## TEA À TEMPO

# Missed 270's show rebooked at church

David Storm and Bill Morrison

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH

Although Tea à Tempo, the concert series in All Saints by-the-Sea, is now into its monthly programming, the Music Makers team has scheduled an extra performance this month, welcoming the return of two popular local musicians, David Storm and Bill Morrison.

The postponement of their scheduled concert in August proved disappointing to their many fans, so their appearance on Wednesday, Sept. 20



PHOTO COURTESY MUSIC MAKERS

David Storm, left, and Bill Morrison are the 270's, set to perform at All Saints next Wednesday, Sept. 20.

will be a treat.

When the pair met a few years ago, they discovered a shared joy in playing music together. Since Bill was 70 and David was about to turn 70 at the

time they met, they called themselves the "270's."

Storm has been the organist, pianist and music director of the Anglican Parish of Salt Spring for almost 15 years. Since

moving to Salt Spring Island from Vancouver in 2005, he has participated in numerous Music and Munch and Tea à Tempo concerts over the years. Storm has played gigs at Meadowbrook, Greenwood, Heritage Place and Lady Minto Hospital Intensive Care Unit with a number of different musicians. He was the accompanist of the Salt Spring Singers choir for five years.

Morrison, a Victoria native, was lead singer of the eight-piece R&B dance band Backstage Betty for 10 years. Over the past few years, Morrison has continued to perform with the Jukebox Junkies.

When Morrison and

Storm got together just as COVID hit, they started with a plan to play the music of Elton John and Billy Joel. While Wednesday's audience will still hear Elton John and Billy Joel songs, their repertoire now also includes artists such as Fleetwood Mac, Paul Simon, The Eagles, Mark Knopfler and Bruce Springsteen. Morrison is happy to be the singer as Storm looks after all accompaniment on his new Roland RD-2000 digital piano.

Music by donation begins at 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats at a cost of \$4. Donations provide the honoraria for performers and contribute to the cost of running the series.

*Thank you*

Thank you to everyone who took part in the **Gulf Islands Senior Residence Association's 20th Anniversary Celebration** at Meadowbrook on Saturday, September 9th, 2023. We are so grateful to be celebrating 20 successful years of seniors independent living in the Southern Gulf Islands. Thank to our GISRA Board, staff team and Meadowbrook residents past and present. A huge thank you to BC Ferries, Country Grocer, Salt Spring Natureworks, Francis Bread, Mouat's Trading Co Ltd, Glad's Gelateria, The Hen & Hound, Auntie Pesto's, Foxglove Garden Center, and Salt Spring Books for your generous donations for our gratitude give away. Thanks to Jane Beach for wonderful decorations and Erin Jory for delicious food and our 20th Anniversary cake. To learn more about GISRA: <https://www.gisra.ca>

## LITERARY FESTIVAL

# Storytelling and creativity celebrated



PHOTOS COURTESY PAPER COVERS ROCK

A few of the Paper Covers Rock Festival participants are, from left, Carli Blume, chef Deb Peña and Jen Currin.

## Paper Covers Rock Festival returns for fourth year

SUBMITTED BY PAPER COVERS ROCK

The annual Paper Covers Rock Festival is back, bringing together writers, readers, artists, creators and storytelling enthusiasts from all walks of life from Sept. 22 to 24.

Now in its fourth year, Paper Covers Rock has become an anticipated event on Salt Spring, attracting visitors and locals alike who are passionate about literature, storytelling and the arts. With an exciting lineup of engaging workshops, thought-provoking discussions and inspiring performances, the festival aims to ignite imaginations and foster a community of literary enthusiasts.

One of the festival's highlights will be the Storytellers' Dinner, taking place on Friday, Sept. 22 at The Jam Factory. Chefs Haidee Hart and Deb Peña will curate a delightful multi-course meal, carefully crafted to prompt storytelling around food. Attendees will have the opportunity to indulge in this unique sensory experience, accompanied by wine pairings and a musical performance by author and festival speaker Darrel McLeod.

Throughout the weekend, attendees can engage in a diverse range of workshops led by esteemed industry professionals. Poet Jen

Currin will explore The Music of Poetry, using words and sounds to unlock the power of poetic expression. Award-winning food photographer and cookbook author DL Acken will share insights on crafting a compelling book proposal in the Book Proposal Playbook workshop. Additionally, McLeod will delve into the realm of memoir and fiction, offering participants a chance to enhance their narrative prowess in both genres. Salt Spring Books will host a free author reading and book signing with McLeod on Sept. 22 at 3 p.m. to celebrate the launch of his new novel, A Season in Chezgh'un.

The festival also offers opportunities for aspiring authors to receive personalized feedback through Blue Pencil Sessions. Participants can book limited 30-minute manuscript reviews with Anna O'Keeffe, head publisher at Douglas & McIntyre, gaining valuable insights and guidance on their writing projects.

"We are thrilled to present the 2023 edition of the Paper Covers Rock Festival," said Terri Potratz, festival founder and director. "This year's lineup features an incredible array of talented speakers and workshops that will inspire and empower individuals to explore the art of storytelling. We invite everyone, from seasoned writers to curious readers, to join us on Salt Spring Island for this extraordinary celebration of creativity."

Tickets for the Paper Covers Rock Festival 2023 can be purchased on the festival's website. Early ticket purchase is encouraged, as workshop capacity is limited.

For more information and to acquire tickets, visit [papercoversrock.ca](http://papercoversrock.ca).

**ARTSPRING**  
October 28

**Songs of Life & Love**  
with Cicela Månsson & Don Conley

Capital Regional District

CRD

## Committee Membership Opportunity

### Sticks Allison Water Local Service Committee

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 2558, real property owners in the Sticks Allison Water Local Service Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2024.

Total membership on the committee is five (5), including the Electoral Area Director, and four (4) owners of real property within the Local Service Area.

Nominations are being accepted for the following vacancies:

- Two (2) real property owners who are prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

#### Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, clearly print the committee name in the subject line, your full name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full name, telephone number and residential address.

New appointments to the Sticks Allison Water Local Service Committee will be made by the CRD Board based on the Electoral Area Director's recommendation.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, October 2, 2023.**

#### Mail or email your submission to:

Attention: Electoral Area Director, Southern Gulf Islands  
479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC, V9B 1H7  
Email: [iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca](mailto:iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca)

Bylaw No. 2558 is available for viewing on the CRD website at:

[www.crd.bc.ca/sticks-ws](http://www.crd.bc.ca/sticks-ws)

## CONCERT PREVIEW

## Island welcomes Tia Wood and band for benefit

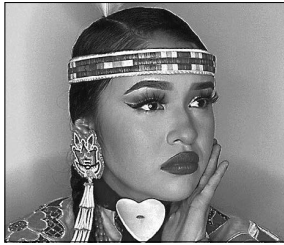
Music calls listeners into deeper understanding of Indigenous struggle

SUBMITTED BY RAVEN

Salt Spring Island is about to welcome a legend in the making.

Though only 23, Tia Wood is a seasoned entertainer, having toured the pow wow trail extensively with her family, many of whom are members of Grammy Award-winning group Northern Cree.

Audiences at Tia Wood's concert at Fulford Hall on Wednesday, Sept. 20 will be treated to a studio show of unreleased music from this



PAQUIN ARTISTS AGENCY PHOTO

Tia Wood, a rising star Indigenous performer from Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Alberta.

rising star and her band.

A singer-songwriter from Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Alberta, Wood left her rural Alberta home at the age of 20 and made her way to

Los Angeles, where she became part of a phenomenal cultural and spiritual movement led by Indigenous creators. Joining forces with Earth Arrow and Edgar Hernandez, this vanguard of progressive voices bring together decolonizing messages with a passion for revitalizing ancient traditions.

"I have been singing ever since I could talk," said Wood in a Vogue magazine profile. "I grew up in a family of singers. When we were little, it was normal to hear powwow, peyote, handgame and poetry in the background, whether we were crafting, eating dinner or playing outside. We also would do a lot of shows as a family, as a way to practise and put food on the table as a tribe of six."

The young Indigenous singer

and activist has gained an enormous audience on Tik Tok (2.3 million and counting) for her hot takes and cool refrains about Indigenous realities and culture. Wood champions her Cree and Salish cultures on the app, using it as a platform to educate others about her people's history and traditions, through singing, informational videos, and doing Indigenous takes on popular trends. Now, her many followers and fans are keen to support her first album, part of which she is recording here on Salt Spring Island.

Wood has an iconic sound that pulls from her grounding in traditional Cree medicine songs, "rez life" and the craft of using pop culture and media to call people into deeper understanding of Indig-

enous struggle and wisdom traditions. With songs like Dirt Roads, Wood strings timeless sounds with modern realities, crafting a new vision for Indigenous youth and lovers of authentic soul sounds alike.

The show is a benefit concert for RAVEN (Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs), a Victoria-based organization that raises legal defence funds for Indigenous nations that are in court to protect land, air and water for future generations. Wood and her band will play a set of songs from the new album, with an intro set by Vancouver-based hip hop artist HK (AKA Higher Knowledge).

Tickets are available at fundraiser.raventrust.com/tia.

# what's on this week

Wed.

Sept. 13

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**John Herbert.** With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Joseph Aigner.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Bridge.** Every Wednesday at the Salt Spring library program room. Bring a partner and enjoy yourself. 12:45 p.m.  
**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Town Hall Meeting.** Beaver Point Hall. 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Bittancourt Museum.** Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Music Bingo.** Moby's Pub. 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Thur.

Sept. 14

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**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.  
**Stephanie Rhodes.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Regular Meeting.** Salt Spring Island Multi Space Boardroom. 9 a.m. or via the Microsoft Teams meeting link on the CRD website.  
**Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee Meeting.** SD64 Learning Hub. 9:30 a.m.  
**Salt Spring Fire Protection District Town Hall Meeting.** Hear about the new fire hall project and 2024 budget at Community Gospel Chapel. 7 to 9 p.m.  
**Bittancourt Museum.** See Wednesday listing.

Fri.

Sept. 15

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Fridays With DJ Boomtown.** Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. til 12:30 a.m.  
**Renee Layla.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.  
**Karaoke.** At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Fri.

Sept. 15

## ACTIVITIES

**Neighbourhood Story Time.** Stories for young ones read by community members or library staff in the library's children's area every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.  
**ASK Salt Spring.** Robin Williams of the Housing Council is the scheduled guest in the SIMS courtyard or lobby. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Youth Games & Chess Club.** For ages 9 to 13. Children's area at the library. 1 to 4 p.m.

Sat.

Sept. 16

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Convergence.** Family-friendly community festival with music, art, Stqeeye land campaign launch. Musical acts include Qairo, Sade Awele, Mo Mishiri, Hilltop Pranksters, GISS Music, Something Else Vinyl Crew, Tzinquaw Dancers and more. Mateada parking lot. 1 to 10 p.m.  
**Fawkes & Hownd.** Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.  
**Transcendent Talas.** A rhythmic odyssey with Trichy Sankaran and Friends. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.  
**Coal Davies.** Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Copper Kettle Community Partnership BBQ.** Country Grocer Parking Lot. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Book Launch: Amanda Lewis.** Author reads from Tracking Giants – Big Trees, Tiny Triumphs and Misadventures in the Forest. Library Program Room. 2 p.m.  
**Saturday Market in the Park.** Centennial Park market. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sun.

Sept 17

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Jazz Jam.** Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Terry Fox Run.** Registration begins at 10 a.m. at Portlock Park. Run/walk/ride begins at 11 a.m. run.terryfox.ca/28976

Sun.

Sept 17

## ACTIVITIES

**Day Long Meditation Retreat** on a theme of "Where are we in all of this?" With Nicola Bishop at Star of the Sea. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Participating for a half day from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. is an option. Info/register: www.starofthesea.ca.  
**Madrona Integrative Health Open House.** Meet practitioners and ask questions; topic-specific talks (beginning at 1:30 p.m.); prizes; refreshments and more. Madrona Integrative Health on Rainbow Road. 1 to 4 p.m.

Mon.

Sept. 18

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

NO EVENTS SUBMITTED

Tue.

Sept. 19

## ACTIVITIES

**Tuesday Farmers' Market.** Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
**Sacred Poetry.** Poetry That Grounds Us. Facilitated by Brian Day. Star of the Sea. 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
**Trivia Tuesday.** At Moby's Pub. 8 to 10 p.m.

Wed.

Sept. 20

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea & Tempo:** The 270's. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.  
**Morien Jones.** Lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Tia Wood.** Rising-star singer-songwriter from Saddle Lake Cree Nation. Opening act is **Higher Knowledge.** Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Tickets through raventrust.com

## ACTIVITIES

**Knitting Circle.** All knitting/crochet levels are welcome every third Wednesday of the month in the library program room. 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Bridge.** See last Wednesday's listing.  
**Bittancourt Museum.** See last Wednesday's listing.  
**Music Bingo.** See last Wednesday's listing.

## CINEMA

• **Sound of Freedom** is the movie from Friday, Sept. 15 to Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. with a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info or phone 250-538-7718.

## EXHIBITIONS

• **2020 Vision** — abstract art by Jeff Lederman and poetry by Margaret Sullivan — runs at the ArtSpring gallery to Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.  
• **A Closer Look: Nature and Materials** is the Artcraft Showcase exhibition on the stage at Mahon Hall featuring work by Sibéal Foyle, Peter Pierobon, Paul Ouevray and Jan Smith. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sept. 17.  
• **Salty Pear Gallery** presents Ute Hagen's exhibition titled Abstracts - an expressionist's vision of emotions in motion until Sept. 30.  
• **Enchanted – A Mother-Daughter Perspective** with artwork by Sage Szkabarnicki-Stuart and Olga Szkabarnicki is at Salt Spring Gallery Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Sept. 27.  
• Through September, **Seth Berkowitz** shows photographs in a series titled A Torn and Splintered Ridge in the ArtSpring lobby from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and around events at ArtSpring.  
• **Wendy Wickland** shows paintings in the library program room through September.  
• **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. until Sept. 17.

## Terry Fox Run

**Sunday, Sept. 17**  
**Portlock Park**  
**Registration from 10 a.m.; run/walk cycle at 11 a.m.**

**THRIFTY FOODS**  
Ganges, Mout's Centre 7:30am to 9pm  
Customer Service 250-537-1522



# ISLAND LIFE

## SENIOR LIVING

# Meadowbrook fêtes 20 years



PHOTO BY RICHARD DICK

Meadowbrook residents, staff, society board members and others gather for a group shot at the 20th anniversary party held at the Atkins Road residence on Saturday, Sept. 9.

## Positive legacy celebrated

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Meadowbrook seniors residence celebrated its 20th anniversary on Saturday with cake, the honouring of its founders and acknowledgement of the independent living complex's 205 past and present residents.

Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association (GISRA) owns the facility, after becoming a charitable organization in 1999 and then purchasing the land and an existing house at 121 Atkins Rd. the following year.

With no government funding available at the time, acquiring the property and building the 38-unit complex relied on significant financial contributions from a number of dedicated and capable individuals. GISRA executive director Harry Barnes said when reviewing Meadowbrook's history it was amazing to see how much time and money those people put into making the vision a reality, noting Mary Toynbee, in particular, as well as Gordon English and a number of others.

"If there's one person we want to say that we owe the most to it's Mary Toynbee," said Barnes.

Not only was her name on most of the letters going out to various parties, but she and her husband Manson ended up forgiving a substantial loan they had made to GISRA.

Interestingly, Toynbee lived for 19 years at Meadowbrook, the longest of any other resident, until her death last year. That fact emerged while current GISRA president Helen Hinchliff was compiling a list of everyone who had lived at Meadowbrook and for how long since it opened. With that information she created a number of "posthumous prizes" related to age and longevity during her presentation at the party on Saturday.

It turns out the "grandest-age person" to move into Meadowbrook and continue living there to the "ripest age" was Nancy Keith Murray. She became a Meadowbrook resident in 2005 at the age of 97 and was the first to celebrate her 100th birthday as a resident.

Others who were at least 90 when they arrived and in a similar category were Marjorie Beggs, Hilda Bennett, Pat Herchmer, Bob Kertland, Don "Goodie" Goodman and Anne Mouat.

Barnes and Hinchliff note that the more common denominator at Meadowbrook is that residents are happy there.

"People love living here," said Barnes. "It's interesting to know why they would love it because, obviously, a lot of the people are not in the best of health and they're at the time of their lives where death is around the corner. So why would this be a happy place? But it is. It's interesting... What chemistry is happening here that makes it be that way? I don't know."

Hinchliff said the key is that residents like each other.

"They really get a lot out of their daily chats together, you know, over coffee or dinner or whatever," she said.

Barnes and Hinchliff said residents also love the staff, and GISRA has made a concerted effort in recent years to retain those valued individuals through improved compensation and a pension plan.

People also appreciate the safety and security Meadowbrook provides, perhaps not realizing how stressful it was to be maintaining a large home and property, especially if that person was widowed.

Meadowbrook has a thorough screening process to ensure applicants are a good fit. Residents must be able to live independently, although some services such as the evening meal and housekeeping are available. A variety of social and recreational activities also take place.

"That's the legacy, isn't it?" said Barnes. "In 20 years, we've provided a wonderful home for lots of people."

Unfortunately, he said, many seniors postpone the decision to make the transition and by then it is too late to go the independent living route.

"They think they want to stay in their own homes — they see this as 'the home' rather than a way of life and a place where they can come and live. This is not just the situation for us. The whole independent living industry has the same problem."

GISRA also owns a property on Kings Lane that includes the Salt Spring Island Health Centre and a portion currently being leased to BC Housing for supportive-housing purposes where it has planned for a number of years to build a second residential complex for seniors. But Barnes said that plan is now being re-examined as the business case may

no longer make sense. A consultant will soon be looking at the different scenarios with options for the GISRA board and staff to consider.

## Ask the Expert



**Q: How can I instill good financial habits in my children?**

**Expert:** Siobhan McKenzie,  
Assistant Branch Manager—Ganges

**A: Start early** The best way to raise money-smart kids is to instill financial education as early as possible and incorporating lessons into everyday activities. Bring your child grocery shopping and tell them why you chose one product over another. Pay with physical cash sometimes too, so kids can see that it's finite.

**Make it fun** Kids love games. So, a fantastic way to make financial literacy stick is to play an activity that involves money. Set up an imaginary grocery store and give your child a budget to purchase items for your "dinner." This will teach them how to effectively manage cash.

**Set savings goals** Once kids start to earn a bit of cash, teach them about saving for something special, like a toy or tickets to a hockey game. By introducing long-term savings habits, they'll better understand the value of having a nest egg later in life.

*Teaching your children how to responsibly handle money is a great way to prepare them for a more secure financial future.*

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DISTRICT**

## NOTICE TO RATEPAYERS OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE:

### 2024 Budget, 5-Year Financial Plan and Updated Strategic Plan

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) is pleased to announce we will be holding a public open house on:

**October 5, 2023**

**3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

We will be sharing with residents the Draft 2024 Budget, 5-Year Financial Plan along with the updated Board Strategic Plan.

**Please join us on October 5, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the SSI Community Gospel Chapel (147 Vesuvius Bay Road).**

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## Obituary

## Obituary

## Obituary

## Real Estate

## Celebration



## JUSTIN (WOODY) MONTCRIEFF SCOTT

Feb 24 1972-Aug 21 2023

Woody was predeceased by his father Jim and is survived by his mother Wendy, brothers Corbin(Jenn) and Morgain(Ramona)and sister Alanna. Mary Lou who knew and loved him his entire life,nieces Kyra and Helena and nephew Liam, Aunt Karen, family Greg (Kyla), Brandon and Tanner.

Woody you are one of a kind! You always listened and responded with kind and well thought out advice. You gave people the benefit of the doubt never judged or looked down upon anyone and would always put others before yourself. You will be missed deeply but never forgotten. Rest in peace.

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**Congratulations to Tom and Yvonne Toynbee upon celebrating your 65th wedding anniversary on September 5, 2023.** Your love and devotion for each other has always been the heart of our family. With loads of love from Tom, Colleen and Pat, Emily and Mark, Caroline and Sam and Jesse.

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## Coming Events

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

Wednesday  
Sept. 20, 2023 at  
7:00 pm in the lower hall  
at 901 North End Road.  
Public welcome.

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## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

SEPTEMBER 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
13	0240	2.7	8.9	17	0000	1.6	5.2
	0943	1.0	3.3		0616	2.8	9.2
WE	1716	3.1	10.2	SU	1149	1.7	5.6
ME	2246	2.2	7.2	DI	1807	3.0	9.8
14	0336	2.8	9.2	18	0032	1.4	4.6
	1016	1.1	3.6		0715	2.8	9.2
TH	1730	3.0	9.8	MO	1222	2.0	6.6
JE	2308	2.0	6.6	LU	1820	3.0	9.8
15	0428	2.8	9.2	19	0107	1.2	3.9
	1048	1.3	4.3		0822	2.8	9.2
FR	1742	3.0	9.8	TU	1258	2.3	7.5
VE	2333	1.8	5.9	MA	1833	3.0	9.8
16	0521	2.8	9.2	20	0147	1.0	3.3
	1119	1.5	4.9		0942	2.8	9.2
SA	1754	3.0	9.8	WE	1341	2.6	8.5
				ME	1846	3.0	9.8

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## SUPPORT LOCAL NEWS

## In Memoriam

## In Memoriam

## In Memoriam



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# 2023 Fall Fair Photos



Caroline Hickman of Gander's Hatch Farm in the livestock barn with her freshly shorn Suffolk ewe, who is also for sale.



At left: prize-winning loaves of bread.  
Below left: Heather Adshead and James Sinclair coordinate tractor-pull participants.  
For more Salt Spring Fall Fair photos, see the Driftwood's Harvest Time publication inside next week's paper.



Gordo, left, and Terry Warbey entertain fair-goers on Sunday. Live music ran non-stop on both days of the fair.



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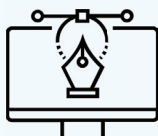
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Firefighters Abe Hohn, left, and Cameron Proudfoot with the Salt Spring fire department's historic Willys Jeep, which was its first vehicle purchased in 1960. The Jeep was sold to Musgrave Farm in 1987, but was donated back to the department in 2007.

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Capital Regional District



## Committee Membership Opportunity

### Surfside Park Estates Water Service Committee

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 3131, real property owners or residents in the Surfside Park Estates Water Service Area are invited to nominate themselves or another real property owner, resident or other person who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area to stand on the committee for a two (2) year term commencing January 1, 2024.

Total membership on the committee is five (5), including the Electoral Area Director, three (3) real property owners and one (1) resident, real property owner, or other person who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

Nominations are being accepted for the following vacancies:

- One (1) resident, real property owner or other person who is prepared to represent the Surfside Park Estates Water Service Area.
- One (1) real property owner who is prepared to represent the Local Service Area.

#### Nomination Instructions

When submitting your nomination, clearly print the Committee name in the subject line, your full name, telephone number and residential address along with the nominee's full name, telephone number and residential address.

New appointments to the Surfside Park Estates Water Service Committee will be made by the CRD Board based on the Electoral Area Director's recommendation.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, October 2, 2023**

#### Mail or email your submission to:

Attention: Electoral Area Director, Southern Gulf Islands  
479 Island Highway, Victoria, BC, V9B 1H7  
Email: [iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca](mailto:iwsadministration@crd.bc.ca)

Bylaw No. 3131 is available for viewing on the CRD website:  
[www.crd.bc.ca/surfside-ws](http://www.crd.bc.ca/surfside-ws)



# SPORTS + RECREATION

## TENNIS

# Goddard wins island men's title

Gulf Islands Open tourney offers excitement

BY MARJORIE BLACKWOOD  
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

When Mother Nature decreed a rainstorm take place on the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 3, tournament director Justene Tedder and competitors were sent scurrying across the road from Portlock Park to the Salt Spring Indoor Tennis Centre to finish the final matches of the Gulf Islands Open under cover.

It was a changing of the guard in the men's singles, with Salt Spring Island's 15-year-old Scott Goddard taking down former local David Barclay, a multiple past winner of the men's singles title who now lives in Victoria.

Goddard has been training with Salt Spring coaches Marjorie Blackwood and

Peter Schelling for seven years, and is currently working with the new highly regarded Salt Spring Tennis Association coach Mukul Karthekanian (AKA McKoolio). The local adult tennis community has been instrumental in mentoring and hitting with Goddard over the years, giving him much needed matchplay and practice hours, something all our aspiring juniors will need as they develop their skills.

### Gulf Islands Open Results:

Men's singles: Scott Goddard defeated David Barclay 6-1, 6-3.

Men's consolation: Nate Kray-Gibson defeated Michael Powell 4-6, 6-4, 10-4.

Men's doubles: Andrew Ross-Collins/Blair Carley defeated Goddard/Kray-Gibson 6-3, 7-6.

Women's doubles: Deborah Orange/Tracey McKinlay in a round-robin.

Mixed doubles: Carley/Orange defeated Jenny Pickering/Ross-Collins 6-3, 6-2.



PHOTO COURTESY SSTA  
Scott Goddard, 15, with the 2023 Gulf Islands Open tennis tournament men's singles trophy.

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## FOX FUN



PHOTO COURTESY SHILO ZYLBERGOLD

A photo taken for the Terry Fox Run in 2000 shows, from left, Betty Fox (Terry's mother), with islanders Jim Black and Shilo Zylbergold. "The run did the north end loop and started and ended at Fernwood Elementary," recalls Zylbergold. "Jim Black and I wanted to do something different, so we decided to get people to pledge donations if we completed the course by wheeling each other for the entire 10-km route in a wheelbarrow. We took turns being in the wheelbarrow and pushing. When we got to the last stretch, uphill from North Beach Road to Fernwood school, we were both too pooped to continue and it looked like we were bound to fail in our objective. Luckily for us, the Salt Spring chapter of the Girl Guides and Brownies came to the rescue and collectively slogged that wheelbarrow (with both Jim and me squashed together in it) up the hill to the finish line." This year's Terry Fox Run takes place Sunday, Sept. 17 beginning from Portlock Park.

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