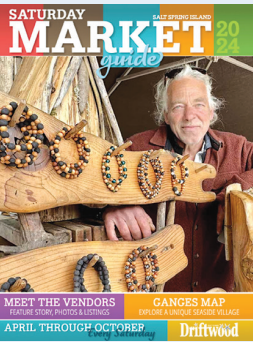


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PHOTO BY RON WATTS

SWEET SMILES: Welcoming people at the dessert table at Saturday's Beaver Point Hall Bean Supper are, from left, Jim Meadows, Donna Hall and Carola Heydemann. The fundraiser for the community hall was revived from a tradition that began in 1953, and had not been undertaken since 2013. See page 15 for more photos from the event.

FULFORD

Water agreement attempt fails

Ocean Estuary developer will proceed without Fulford system water

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A commercial project at Fulford now plans to draw and treat its own water after "impossible" requests from the water district there, according to the developer, who said he believed Fulford Water Service (FWS) commissioners had made up their minds on his application to join that service area well before a public meeting.

FWS commissioners met Friday May 24 to consider an application from the Ocean Estuary Development — once known as the Vortex — requesting the district expand to include it. The project — a commercial and retail development with 17 planned motel units within eight cottage buildings, a restaurant and accessory retail sales buildings all centred on an outdoor plaza — received approval for a development permit from Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee in early 2023.

Commissioners voted unanimously to defer consideration of the proposal, asking that responses to several written questions be provided and discussed in an in-person meeting with proponent David Fullbrook, consultants and the Capital Regional District (CRD) engineer and staff who had recommended the application's approval.

They also directed staff to ask Fullbrook to develop estimates of a full build-out, including "demographic changes in the service area and related water demands, in consultation with the Islands Trust" to gauge the potential impact on the district.

Fullbrook told the Driftwood on Monday the latter request was an "impossible task," and said he believed there was never any intention to consider the application on its merits.

"Not only did they tie [proceeding] to an engagement with the Islands Trust — which

is entirely dependent upon the Trust wanting to do that, a complete unknown," said Fullbrook. "Determining a build-out would take hundreds of thousands of dollars, and months and months — and in reality if we were to do that work and come back to that committee, they would go through the same puppet show."

At the outset of the May 24 meeting, Fullbrook registered — and later reiterated — an objection to the review process, saying it had come to his attention that commissioners had met "in private" in advance of the public meeting regarding the application.

Commission chair Carole Eyles said commissioners had indeed gathered, but insisted they had not discussed any determination on the basis of that meeting.

FULFORD continued on 3

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HOUSING

LCC gathers stakeholders

Commissioners get 'concrete' direction

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

If attendees at the Local Community Commission (LCC)-hosted "Salt Spring housing workshop" had scant idea of just what the event was when they walked in, commissioner Brian Webster got quickly to the point of what it was not.

"I don't want this to be just another Salt Spring 'check-in' meeting, important as they are," said Webster. "We have some responsibilities; we need to do some stuff."

So as equal parts listening workshop and silo-busting exercise, the large assembly at Meaden Hall Wednesday, May 22 welcomed leadership from various Salt Spring housing-issue-adjacent groups — a gathering of faces rarely seen all in one place at the same time, outside of a performance or picnic.

Moderated by the Capital Regional District (CRD) Southern Gulf Islands service delivery manager Justine Starke, who thanks to a secondment was on-loan to help the LCC address Salt Spring Island's affordable housing shortage, there were elected officials, CRD staff, leadership from groups ranging from Island Community Services to the North Salt Spring Watersheds District and representatives for local businesses.

On one hand, the meeting was



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Capital Regional District (CRD) Southern Gulf Islands service delivery manager Justine Starke speaks at a housing workshop Wednesday, May 22.

an opportunity to familiarize (or re-familiarize) attendees with the CRD's vision of a pilot rural housing program for Salt Spring Island; those plans tentatively include financial incentives such as forgivable loans for people to build accessory dwellings — or secondary suites — within their properties' existing zonings. Those would stack upon offerings from the province — because, Starke said, all agree that \$40,000 isn't going to "move the needle" much on whether someone would choose to build a rental cottage.

And that pilot program will — should the CRD board agree — provide some start-up funding for multi-unit projects, most of which would likely be shepherded by many of the groups represented in the room; federal and provincial seed funding, Starke said, while welcome, is "never enough."

There was also, inevitably, some airing of grievances — rebukes from attendees on past missteps were polite, but pointed. What successes there had been over the years in creating housing didn't go far enough; no one was suggesting (nor taking) a victory lap on the issue.

And there was reflection, and a frank admission that even the highly energized (and still relatively new) LCC needed direction if they wanted their plans to have real effect on affordable housing supply — direction from the experts Starke noted were already in that room, and "in the trenches" on the housing issue.

To illustrate, Starke invited attendees to consider Salt Spring's well-intentioned bylaw allowing secondary suites adopted back in 2013. Starke had asked CRD staff to put together a number before the meeting: how many building permits have there been for secondary suites in the decade since?

"Less than 10," said Starke.

Financial incentives, all agreed, would only be the start if there was to be a shift into a sustainable — and regulated — "islanders housing islanders" mindset on Salt Spring, where many of today's landlords operate without building permits. Absent those permits, Starke noted, the water, septic and safety of the buildings isn't guaranteed — "and that's truly uncontrolled growth," she added.

The LCC was looking for marching orders, and they trickled in: more data for planning housing projects, and a go-to coordinating body to help move them along. Resources for pre-construction planning — and post-construction operation — set out in ways that might even invite private capital to the table. There were worksheets seeking more direction distributed and collected; LCC chair Earl Rook said later that week they received "concrete and usable direction" from participants.

Rook told the Driftwood that his personal takeaway from the meeting was that the island's housing stakeholders believe there is a role to play for the LCC, primarily in coordination efforts — both at the local level and in marshalling the resources of other levels of government — and that he expected this to be a "major priority of the LCC" going forward.

The LCC began strategic planning over several days this week, and Rook said that between the suggestions they'd heard at the meeting and ideas they'd been "kicking around" over their first year since the election, the LCC felt ready to develop plans to advance the issue; but, he added, even as they digest what they've heard, it's still important to keep listening.

"There's an open invitation," said Rook as the May 22 meeting closed. "And if we think you've got some information we haven't got, we're going to come to you."

ISLANDS TRUST

Plan sought to enforce bylaws

Template could help guide LTCs, staff

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One size may not always fit all, but Islands Trust staff are hoping a model policy template might help local trustees with the sticky issue of bylaw enforcement.

Presented to the Trust's Regional Planning Committee (RPC) Friday, May 24, a draft Local Trust Committee (LTC) policy template is meant as a jumping-off point for local trustees — part of an effort to implement recommendations from B.C.'s Office of the Ombudsman that emerged last year following a rash of complaints.

Those ranged from charges of bias and lack of proportionality to allegations of "bullying," according to a staff report; after the Ombudsman's report in March 2023, Trust Council directed staff to implement its recommendations — and while not explicitly mentioned in that report, according to planning services director Stefan Cermak, these templates are the latest step in that process.

"If you look at their recommendations, it [reads] to 'clearly state roles and responsibilities of all staff and trustees,'" said Cermak. "This is what that does, it actually just puts a more fine-tooth comb into defining those roles and responsibilities, whether at the Trust Council level or at the LTC level."

Each LTC has its own bylaw infractions investigations bylaw, and (apart from Lasqueti and Saturna) each has adopted Bylaw Enforcement Notification (BEN) bylaws — alternatives to the court system where non-judicial adjudicators hear ticket disputes, and where penalties for contraventions can't be more than \$500.

Most LTCs also have a list of standing resolutions that provide specific direction to bylaw enforcement staff on specific matters — such as proactive enforcement against short-term vacation rentals, or deferral of enforcement on unlawful permanent dwellings.

The template is meant to help LTCs adopt policies — perhaps encompassing the policy directions behind the standing resolutions — in a more transparent way. That would include information about what contraventions are of most concern to each area, how and what notification islanders might receive prior to a property inspection, and clear policies surrounding various compliance deadlines before a ticket is issued.

"And we can provide a forward-facing document for the general public," said bylaw compliance and enforcement manager Warren Dingman. "So they can go to that document on the website, and say okay, here's how and why bylaw enforcement operates, and how they do what they do."

Also in the draft document are placeholders for what will likely be more contentious issues, such as addressing the specific circumstances when enforcement officers must be permitted access to properties regardless of notice given, and the matter of "frivolous, repeat or vexatious" complaints — and when staff should or should not take action after receiving them.

"Some of it's in the best practices manual based on the ombudsman recommendations," said Dingman. "A little bit of it is in Trust Council policies. But there's no comprehensive document that says okay, here's how staff is going to conduct themselves."

Draft templates will likely wind up back before the committee in September, with a set of final recommendations then going before the broader Trust Council for their approval.

In the meantime, a single webpage has been created to house all the relevant documents for the bylaw enforcement review, including extant policies and previous reports; visit islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/generalresources/bylaw-compliance-and-enforcement/bylaw-enforcement-review-project/.



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BROOM BUSTING



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Community Gospel Chapel's parking lot was a hive of activity on Saturday as the first Invasive Plant Drop-off Day was held, led by Transition Salt Spring and the Native Plant Stewardship Group and with the local Good as Wood company providing the chipping on site. A second date is set for Sunday, June 9 at the Fulford Hall parking lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. People can bring gorse, broom, ivy, blackberry and daphne, but should make sure there are no roots with dirt or rocks attached to the plants.

Developer questions meeting processes

FULFORD

continued from 1

"We met to work through the 426 pages," said Eyles, "because we could only get one printout. We were having trouble, so we got together just so that we could all have the same physical documentation."

CRD director Gary Holman, who sits on the board, clarified that he did not meet with other commissioners himself, adding that while there had been "some email exchanges" they had been to ask technical questions about the application, not to further any decisions.

"We had a problem with the download from the internet," added Eyles. "So it was not possible for us all to have all the information without getting together."

As the meeting continued, commissioners repeatedly expressed frustration with the timeframe they had to consider the application — eight days, they said — and Fullbrook for his part agreed somewhat, noting he had asked the CRD to consider moving the meeting to a later date.

"From my perspective, it was extremely quick," said Fullbrook, who said he had submitted the relevant reports to the CRD six months ago, but had only days to plan to attend the meeting once it was scheduled — and ultimately did so remotely. "It didn't give me time to actually make a formal presentation — which I would typically have done. But I don't have control over that schedule."

Ian Sander, senior project manager with Ocean Estuary-retained McElhannay Consulting Services, said with a treatment plant capacity of 4.6 litres per second — and a projected maximum daily demand, including the full build-out of 102 properties in the Fulford district plus Ocean Estuary, of 2.8 litres per second — there could be plenty of treated water.

"We're projecting that the maximum daily [production] of the plant, no matter which way you look at it, is considerably high," said Sander. "It was designed very conservatively; there's a significant amount of flow that can be produced with that plant, way more than you'll need in any of these events."

Commissioners took exception to that full build-out number, however, and expressed

concern about future water demand — saying they lacked an authoritative answer to the question of how many taps they might eventually need to service.

Fulford district water users are not metered, and the district does not charge a per-litre use fee.

"There do seem to be conflicting numbers," said Holman, adding it was the responsibility of the district to consider both existing and future demand. "Everybody in the room is aware of North Salt Spring [Waterworks District], which declared a moratorium on new connections because they didn't come to grips with existing and future demand. If we don't do our homework, we run the risk of getting into that situation."

Fullbrook agreed those numbers were important, but asked why it was "on him" to pay to study the entire district.

"Why hasn't this work already been done?" asked Fullbrook at the meeting. "It's clearly in everyone's interest to understand the capacity and the long-term viability of the water district. Most of the analysis and data that's been collected is as a result of our application — we've paid for all this work. Why haven't you implemented procedures to actually understand your own water system?"

"We're quite satisfied with our water system the way it is, thank you," said Eyles.

"It's your responsibility to do that work," said Holman, "because it's your project that's creating incremental demand, and we want to make sure that we're taking into account future growth in the service area. Staff should have made it clear that you have to do that work."

Fullbrook said the project — which received its development permit in February 2023 — encompasses land with water licences for both Fulford and Soule Creeks, and would proceed regardless of inclusion in the water district.

"This decision is not going to stop this project from moving forward," said Fullbrook, calling events "shameful" and a missed opportunity for the district, given his proposed infrastructure improvements. "We will move forward with our building permit, and we will build the project and house all the water on-site; we have the resources and licenses to do that."



**NORTH
SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT**

HAVE YOUR SAY & ENTER TO WIN

North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) is undertaking a review of the way it communicates and engages with NSSWD ratepayers, renters, and other Salt Spring Island residents who are affected by NSSWD activities. This includes treating and supplying water from St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake to over 5,500 island residents.

WCS Engagement + Planning is assisting us with this project and will be leading the engagement process to inform the project deliverables.

Critical to this review is gathering input directly from ratepayers, renters, and other residents to learn about their preferences, challenges, and ideas for improvements. If you are a ratepayer who rents out your unit, please share the survey with your renters — we want to hear from them too.

Please take the 15-minute survey before June 9, 2024.

Once complete, you can enter your name into the draw for a \$100 gift card to a local grocery store of your choice.

To access the survey and for more information about the project, visit www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca or scan the QR code.



If you want a paper survey mailed to you or you'd like it in a different language, email: info@nsswaterworks.ca.

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OPINION

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Gold - Community Service Award



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EDITORIAL

Shared ground

A new project just added to the Islands Trust's review of its bylaw enforcement procedures seems like a simple one, but we think it will have an outsized effect on how islanders interact with staff tasked with compliance work.

Later this year, the Islands Trust Council will receive a bylaw enforcement template, a set of basic policies and procedures that will then head off to each Local Trust Committee for modifications. This is meant to replace the current confusing mix of procedures that vary between the islands, informed by each LTC's various standing resolutions — hammered out and voted upon in different meetings over the years.

THE ISSUE: Bylaw enforcement

WE SAY: Template a good start

It's been a heavy lift for bylaw enforcement staff to keep it all straight — not every resolution concerns enforcement, so before every action a review of what's still in play on a particular island has been required. And for the residents who find themselves at the business end of an enforcement proceeding, sorting out the arcane specifics of how things are meant to proceed has clearly been a problem.

Islands Trust staff assembled every standing resolution the various islands' Local Trust Committees have put together over the years regarding bylaw enforcement, and there are plenty — one from Gabriola, two each from Galiano and Hornby, three each from Gambier, Mayne, North Pender and Salt Spring, and — somehow — six from Denman Island. From bylaw officer notification-of-visit policies to whether and how to enforce on outhouses, sawmills or short-term vacation rentals, each island has its own preferences and priorities.

But as much as a shared template for achieving bylaw compliance is an exercise in simplification and transparency, it may also be a reassuring demonstration of what harmonies exist between neighbouring Local Trust Areas.

We expect an explicit statement of common ground and shared values from one island to the next — particularly around the uncomfortable but necessary plan on how to proceed when individual residents seem in conflict with the community consensus our land use bylaws should represent — will be illuminating.

MEMBERS OF
THE COURT. THE
ROOSTER WOULD
NOW LIKE TO
TESTIFY ABOUT
BEING TOO
LOUD.



PARKER

Crofton route disappoints

BY DAVID COURTNEY

On March 22, 2024 BC Ferries advised: "As a result, we have had to defer or adjust the scope of some of our previously planned projects to work with available funds."

For more on project impacts for Salt Spring Island [and Crofton], please read on... Crofton and Vesuvius terminal projects will focus on the berth replacements in their original location to ensure the continued reliability of our infrastructure and to prepare the terminals for the introduction of two new Island Class vessels in 2027.

Meanwhile, BC Ferries management has commissioned four new all-electric Island Class vessels to be built for approximately \$200 million for delivery in 2027 for Route 19 Nanaimo-Gabriola Island and Route 23 Campbell River-Quadra Island. We receive the two hybrid vessels from Route 19, at that point in service for five years. BC Ferries has recently secured a \$75-million loan from a federal government entity to electrify the above terminals for approximately \$40 million.

We are now told the cupboard is bare for terminal improvements at Vesuvius Bay and Crofton for the first time in 50 years.

VIEWPOINT We are now told the cupboard is bare for terminal improvements at Vesuvius Bay and Crofton for the first time in 50 years.

Meanwhile, the BC Ferries management team have decided they can't provide proper washroom facilities and a boarding lounge for our school children and workers going back and forth on a daily basis at both terminals. In this day and age it's basically a dismal situation. Why? We've allowed it to happen due to our own inaction over the last 25 years. The Town of Crofton has always been left out of the equation. They should sit and be represented by the Salt Island Ferry Advisory Committee as a joint team effort for Route 6. Since the mid '70s we as Salt Springers have made a parking lot out of Chaplin Street in Crofton.

"The Fix for Route 6" petition began 29 months ago and is still an ongoing concern with 2,256 petitioners, simply because we were skeptical of BC Ferries making good on their commitments. Sadly, we've had the rug pulled out from under us with the recent news release from BC Ferries management team.

The most salient question for the BC Ferries management team is how do they intend to dismantle the Crofton trestle and berth and build a new steel pile and concrete deck/trestle simultaneously on the same site? To date there has been no reply on the logistics.

Can we assume that there will be no answer other than to shut down the Crofton terminal for months in the summer of 2026?

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Do you use the ferry more often during the summer?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Should the Fulford Water Service area be expanded to include the new Ocean Estuary (Vortex) project?

57 101
YES NO

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

Outdated and dangerous

I am not one to put my head above the parapet often, but the May 22 letter to the editor headlined "Men are pigs" cries out for a response.

I first want to say that I hope that it was not written to cause offence but rather to tickle the funny bone. Unfortunately, this joke is outdated at best and dangerous at its worst. To be frank, this is a classic rape-culture joke. It begins with blaming the victim in her "scantily" clad attire. How old is this excuse? She wore it and therefore the man has no power against it?

From here we move on to the good old predator and prey analogy. Man is a mere animal and cannot be blamed for his actions and it is up to the woman to keep herself safe. The writer goes as far as to imply that his brain ceases to work due to his erection. While the writer doesn't mention violence directly, I have yet to see a lion and a gazelle work out their differences over coffee. The perpetuation of women as prey needs to stop.

There is then a section that tells the little tale, a "classic example" of an old man checking out a young woman. There is nothing

wrong with enjoying the look of a person of either sex to a point, and that point is before they get uncomfortable. I have faith in men today that they can master this trick.

What finalizes the aggressiveness of this joke is the last paragraph. Ladies, we are here told that the state of affairs is unchangeable and we will therefore have to listen to this man and "Deal with it." To this I say, "No."

NAME WITHHELD

Access criticized

Salt Spring's CRD parks and recreation department has recently acquired 75 acres alongside Mount Maxwell Provincial Park, and are now entertaining ways to both access the new area and develop it for a number of widely differing uses: hiking, dog walking, mountain biking, horseback riding and of course disc golfing.

As Kees Ruurs, who has years of experience with trail design, opined at the last public meeting about this plan, these activities are not mutually compatible and would each require their own trail structure. If implemented, it seems to us that this would leave a relatively small acreage riddled with trails and looking more like a clear-cut logging opera-

tion than a healthy forest containing a few hiking paths.

Having said that, we are also deeply concerned about the proposal to build yet another expensive access to the new area, starting from the cul de sac at the end of Wright Road. This is not a well thought out idea, for several seemingly obvious reasons. Wright Road is already used to capacity by local residents, and a massive increase in traffic would affect our safe access to our homes. There is absolutely no room to park horse trailers, pickups and cars in the existing cul de sac, particularly since there is one residential driveway in place, which further reduces the parking area, and more importantly will make it impossible for emergency vehicles to deal with the inevitable risk of human-caused forest fire in already existing drought conditions. This would not only threaten our vibrant farming community in the Cranberry Valley, but would also threaten the Maxwell Lake watershed. What's more important, folks, Disneyland or drinking water?

Any increase in fire risk is simply unacceptable in our present parched environment, and we find it alarming that parks and rec personnel have not taken this issue into account when they suggest opening our neighbourhood to unlimited public access! By way of

a positive suggestion, there is already a road up to Mount Maxwell Provincial Park and it would be more practical, safer and a lot easier on the taxpayer to build a properly designed parking lot at a designated location within hiking (or horseriding, or biking) distance that would serve both parks, and would also help to avoid introducing a threat to our farming community.

CAROLINE AND ANDY HICKMAN,
GANDERS HATCH FARM,
WRIGHT ROAD

More lanes better

Regarding last week's "Vesuvius terminal gets LTC nod" story and editorial, my take on this announcement is different from the Driftwood's editorial.

Building more terminal lanes will be very effective in holding the frequent overloads that result from BC Ferries providing a ferry that is too small to accommodate the traffic. That's the real problem BC Ferries needs to solve.

DOUGLAS MACDONALD,
LONG HARBOUR ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"We're quite satisfied with our water system the way it is, thank you."

CAROL EYLES, FULFORD WATER SERVICE COMMISSION CHAIR

'Return from the other side' tours next for legendary rock stars

They're back at it again. As you read this, the Rolling Stones, arguably the greatest rock and roll band of all time, are in the midst of their April to July 16-city North American tour. Following many decades after their first rock tour, which some archeologists have narrowed down to having taken place in a cave in south-central France during the Triassic Age, these bad boys of popular music keep on refusing to end the chapter on their influence on modern culture.

Faunting wrinkles galore, lizard-faced front man Mick Jagger, and iguana-visaged lead guitarist Keith Richards, both aged 80, have been rolling out an 18-song, two hour set bound to keep their legends alive for at least one more go-around. Along for the ride is relatively baby-faced 76-year-old guitar virtuoso Ronnie Wood. Of course, all the venues were instantly sold out as soon as tickets were made available, thereby leaving everyone involved in this entertainment business venture with a great deal of "satisfaction." No siree bob, these rolling stones may indeed be gathering more than a bit of moss, but the cash continues to flow in.

This brings us to the subject of the "farewell tour." There comes a day when the members of a band are so weary of the demanding rigours of life on the road, of sleeping in a

different city every night, of living in a moving tour bus, of consuming buckets of alcohol and handfuls of pills, and of servicing legions of groupies between shows that they come to a collective decision to put an end to their creative entity and exit stage left with a grandiose farewell tour. This move is often precipitated by the fact that record sales have started to decline and attendance at concert dates has begun to dwindle. Added to this desire for closure is the inescapable realization that the group members have developed a deep hatred for each other but are aware that dissolving the band has far fewer consequences than murdering one another.

The farewell tour gives the band one last chance to squeeze a remaining few drops from the cash-cow rock audience. The iconic band The Band played one final concert, dubbed The Last Waltz, at San Francisco's Winterland Ballroom in 1976, although they were at the point where they could hardly stand to play together, let alone dance a spirited waltz. Simon and Garfunkel kissed each other (and Mrs. Robinson, presumably) goodbye metaphorically with their final concert in New York City's Central Park in 1981.

The Eagles ended their breakup tour in 2004 with a final concert in Melbourne, Australia. Ironically, this tour has been given the name



Shilo Zylbergold

NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

"Final Tour 1" because the band has gone on to perform at a number of final tours. They may have wrapped it up last fall with one last farewell tour which they appropriately named "The Long Goodbye." A sidebar to the Eagles and their precarious formats as a band can be witnessed by drummer Don Henley, when asked in 1980 after the Eagle's first breakup, when the band would play together again. His answer was "when hell freezes over." Displaying a touch of humour in their irony, when the band reformed 14 years later, they called the resulting tour The Hell Freezes Over Tour. Other founding member, the late Glenn Frey, commented in 1982 on the band breakup with "I just rule out the possibility of putting the Eagles back together for a Lost Youth and Greed tour."

As often happens, a successful farewell tour can rekindle the passion for group members to the point where they are again willing to perform together as well as record new

material. This happens so often that they might as well call the exercise "The Just Kidding Farewell Tour." Putting money back in their pockets again also doesn't hurt.

As the Eagles have demonstrated more than a few times, farewell tours can be revived and even superseded by the ever popular "reunion tour." These kinds of tours are especially popular once the band members have aged only to discover that the endless sums of cash have been whittled down to zero by constant indulgence on beer and blow. The obvious solution is to reform the original band in hopes that the target audience will buy tickets in order to recapture the youth that was in such abundance so many decades ago. Even if it means banging their canes against their walkers in time with the beat, it will give audience members fond memories of times when they could still flick their BICs.

As often occurs with these reunion tours, not all of the original band members are available or attracted to resuming life on the road. Some are just in plain poor health while others are among the dearly departed. The Grateful Dead, for instance, had to endure the "keyboard seat curse" as one after another after another of their keyboardists kept dying off.

Sometimes lawsuits rear their

ugly heads when disputes occur over which of the original band members can use the band name in their reunion tour. The resulting animosity has torn apart life-long in bands as diverse as Pink Floyd, Steely Dan and Canada's own Guess Who. Perhaps the reunion tour name for the latter should be Guess Again.

Drugs remain a recurring problem in these reunion tours, except instead of cocaine, LSD and marijuana, the culprits tend to be Geritol, statins and Ozempic. An unlimited supply of reading glasses and hearing aids are commonly written into the contracts.

Nobody asked me, but it seems obvious that the next logical step after farewell and reunion tours would come after the last surviving member of a rock group passes on to that great bandstand in the sky. This would set the stage for the posthumous or post-mortem tour, where our favourite rock and rollers return from the "other side" in order to give us yet another chance to sing along with those golden, mouldy oldies. Surely, with the advances in cloning technology, cryogenics, and artificial intelligence, this scenario is more than just a pipe dream.

Don't think it's possible? Take another close look at the Rolling Stones.

The good, the bad and the ugly about new park

BY PATRICIA DONNELLY AND
ABRAHAM RUBEN

We are lucky enough to have a local government that thinks the acquisition of a new park is a priority.

With the assistance of generous landowners and concerned citizens they have recently acquired the new Mount Maxwell Community Park. It's called a community park for two reasons. First, we already have an incredibly beautiful park called Mount Maxwell Provincial Park right next door. The second reason is because the word "community" gives the illusion of inclusiveness.

Unfortunately, this luck is tempered with cost. New parks mean more administrative, insurance and maintenance costs at a time when property taxes and rents are sky high. Many islanders must choose to live off-island because of housing costs.

The environmental cost of this

venture must also be noted. PARC claims that it will be saving this wilderness by preventing development and by planting trees. Anyone who has walked through Mouat Park or hiked Mount Erskine will know that no amount of trees or trails will prevent humans from degrading land. Both areas are worn out by people and need renewal because of people. Every trail on the island is a dog walk and few things are more destructive than unleashed dogs in the woods. Every trail on the island has off-leash dogs no matter what signs are posted. Mountain bikes are also destructive. Those who ride off-trail leave tracks through the soft soil that cause erosion in the winter rains.

But the really ugly part of this beautiful park idea is the notion to put a trail head at the end of Wright Road. PARC wants to park horse trailers at the cul-de-sac. They want to make access to the

INDEPTH

new park easier through an existing right of way. There are some serious problems with this notion. Access to the cul-de-sac may be level (excluding the 20-foot drop to the start of the trail) but Wright Road is an over-used, under-serviced dirt road. The Cranberry Road that leads to it hasn't been maintained properly for years. It's a winding mountain road with many blind corners and too much traffic. The idea to send people up these roads for easier access is a mistake. Direct access to the park with a provided parking lot would be more sensible. If PARC wants people to park at parks, they should provide a parking lot. The cul-de-sac is a requirement for fire safety. The size of the turnaround is directly linked to the length of the dead-end road. While parking is

permitted, it must remain clear for emergency vehicles. Taking away the cul-de-sac from emergency services would create a direct threat to our neighbourhood's safety.

And that brings the story to the fire hazard created by people in the woods where there is no emergency access. Forest fires are a very real possibility. The rest of the province is looking for ways to mitigate forest fires while PARC is helping to create a new threat.

The Cranberry Valley has been a farming community for almost as long as there has been farming on Salt Spring. The proposition of increased traffic, fire hazard and dogs that are a threat to livestock are causing fear and anxiety in that community. We have a lifestyle that is not compatible with urban outdoor recreation. If PARC decides that it's in our best interest to allow a trail head at the end of Wright Road, then I suggest that we bring our geese down to Centennial Park

to pasture in the afternoons to demonstrate that incompatibility.

There doesn't have to be an ugly part to this story. The park is a reality and will happen. But the trail head and trail from Wright Road can be prevented. The community up here will not benefit from it and will be put in danger from it.

Why not make lemonade and promote the use of the unmaintained Mount Maxwell park road as a hiking, trail running, mountain biking and horse riding trail. We could then skip the danger and expense of a Wright Road trail head and trail while offering an alternate access point to the community park through Mount Maxwell Provincial Park. PARC could save a bundle, not worry about fire insurance for the Wright Road trail and we could make use of the existing infrastructure.

The writers own Elderberry Farm on Wright Road.

Meeting format lauded

Something special happened on May 22. The Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) held a ground-breaking meeting to discuss affordable housing.

It was groundbreaking because it utilized an open and inclusive

format that I have hoped for but not experienced in a government-sponsored meeting on Salt Spring in the 21 years I have lived here.

Here is why this meeting was unusual and effective: 1) Although housing groups were specifically invited, the meeting was open to everyone. 2) After a staff presentation about CRD housing initiatives, including the new CRD Rural Housing Pro-

MORE LETTERS

gram, the audience was invited to ask questions or make comments. No one abused the lack of time limits and some valuable insights were offered. 3) Staff and elected officials were up front and able to respond to comments from the audience.

We all heard some new ideas about addressing the lack of affordable housing and had some misconceptions corrected. I certainly left with a clearer idea of what the LCC and CRD are doing and can do to help address this problem. I urge the LCC to have another such meeting, this time for a full day and with more publicity to the wider community.

On Salt Spring, as elsewhere,

lack of affordable housing is a serious problem. We will only build more such housing if we accurately identify the causes and barriers and look to the appropriate level of government to assist. I believe that the LCC and CRD are those bodies. Let us all contribute our ideas and support their efforts.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
SALT SPRING



Thank You!

The Saltspring Island Sailing Club wants to thank the community, and especially our generous local sponsors and supporters, for making the 49th annual Round Saltspring Race a success!

Island Sponsors and Supporters:

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Harbour Air	Salt Spring Island Vinegar
Harlan's Chocolates	Salt Spring Kitchen
Hidden Realm	Salt Spring Sea Salt Co.
Island Soaps	Salt Spring Wild Cider
Magic Mountain	Saltspring Car & Scooter Rental
Moby's Pub	Saltspring Cheese
Mondo	The Woodshed
Mouat's	Thrifty Foods
Mouat's Clothing	West of the Moon

Part of rural life

Every community has its own distinctive soundscape. If you move to this island from the city, you exchange the din of sirens, traffic and construction for the prehistoric screeches of herons, the hum of chainsaws, the occasional ferry fog horn, and yes, the crow of roosters. These things are part and parcel of our rural way of life; you know, the lifestyle that attracted you here in the first place.

RILEY DONOVAN,
SALT SPRING

Trust leadership off course

I would like to thank the 34 former trustees who signed the letter printed in last week's Driftwood ("Former trustees press Islands Trust over 'unique amenities' decision").

The claim by the Islands Trust Governance Committee chair that last September's in-camera reinterpretation of the Trust mandate "doesn't change policy" has now been proven false by a reading of the just released draft of the new Trust Policy Statement.

That document, which will direct all official community plans in the Trust Area when finalized, has been severely weakened. Some examples are: removal of the mandate as a guiding principle; the strategic insertion of the newly reinterpreted words "unique amenities" to protect everything imaginable; the decoupling of "the rate and scale of growth" from environmental protection; and the repeated use of slippery words like "should" and "strive to."

The Islands Trust's Climate Emergency Declaration of 2019 has been similarly undermined. Rather than the original commitment to "pursue an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions," the require-

ment now is to simply "minimize" emissions without them being a factor in limiting growth.

The leadership at the Islands Trust continues to veer seriously off-course. When will the minister responsible intervene and demand that the Trust Act be applied as it was intended — to protect the islands from unconstrained development? Before it is too late, write to execadmin@islandstrust.bc.ca and demand that the draft Trust Policy Statement be strengthened to actually protect the natural environment and rural character of the islands, not just give the erroneous impression that it will do so.

ALLAN HENSHALL,
GALIANO ISLAND

Advice for 'male brain' letter writer

Kudos to Mike Stacey's May 22 "deal with it" letter for kick-starting my misanthropy. It had been a slow week.

As Stacey scrapes the barrel for new material, a field trip — educational, yes, but fun in no way — could yield results.

To a former pig farm in Port Coquitlam, for instance, where dozens of women "dealt with" one man's unwanted attention by dying. Or: across the border in Washington, where at least 71 women met terrible fates because of another "male brain." There's also that scenic drive north to the Highway of Tears, where guys, those misunderstood victims of "evolution," have been helpless to stop themselves for decades.

Then again, Stacey might write a companion piece to explain how women should learn to prize the compliment of unwanted attention. Unsolicited advice: giving it is another male prerogative. We're dudes, we just can't help ourselves.

BRETT JOSEF GRUBISIC,
SALT SPRING



MOVEMENT ARTS

Moving meditation of tai chi offers benefits

Salt Spring group meets
Wednesdays at All Saints

SUBMITTED BY TAOIST TAI CHI®

Salt Spring's Taoist Tai Chi® group welcomes new people of all levels of experience to join them every Wednesday evening in the All Saints lower hall.

Taoist Tai Chi® teaches people that health comes when body, mind and spirit are one. Working on all aspects of the person, this moving meditation reduces stress and helps us find energy, balance and joy.

In Taoist Tai Chi® practice, strength comes when natural, soft movement penetrates and transforms every system and part of the body, from muscle to connective tissue to bones. This strength is also mental and emotional. As participants become more resilient, they experience less worry and struggle and are able to calmly meet whatever challenges life puts in their path.

TAI CHI continued on 8



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

Salt Spring Taoist Tai Chi® group members in action at All Saints by-the-Sea's lower hall during a recent Wednesday evening session, led by Patti Field, who is facing the others in a turquoise shirt, and Stephanie Artz in the photo at left.

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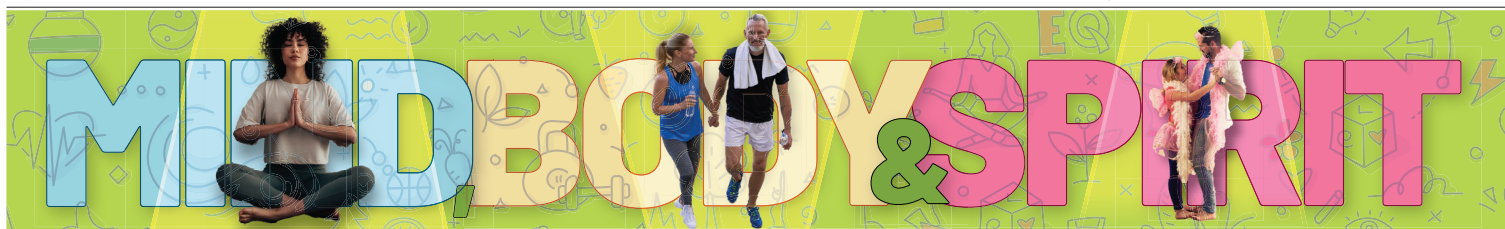
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Balance and harmony achieved

TAI CHI

continued from 7

The practice builds elasticity in muscles, tendons and fascia, which helps the body function naturally and allows it to move more freely. At the same time this flexibility extends to the mind, helping people feel freer, more balanced and more in harmony with those around them.

When strength and flexibility work deeper into the body, people discover the powerful effects of meditation. Stillness grows and the mind calms, becoming clearer and more dynamic. At first this feeling starts in the moving meditation of Taoist Tai Chi® practice but then deepens to penetrate and enrich all aspects of life.

For more information, people can phone 250-383-4103 or email victoria.bc@taoist.org.

HEALING

Massage therapy hits all bases

Pain, mental health, stress can be addressed

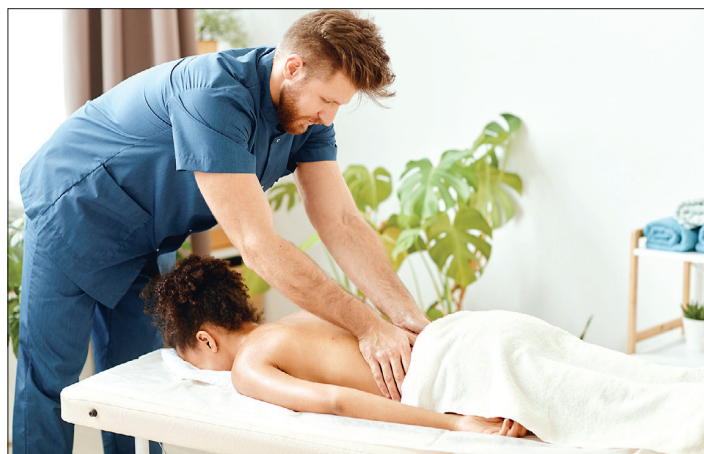
Massage therapy is a rapidly growing therapeutic discipline focused on improving a person's overall well-being and relaxation. It has become very popular in Canada and provides not only physical but also mental benefits. It can also help reduce pain and ease anxiety.

More than just deep relaxation!

Massage therapy is suitable for people of all ages. It offers several benefits beyond deep relaxation. For example, massage therapy can help relieve tension, reduce stress and improve blood circulation. Massage therapists customize their treatment plan to meet the needs of each client.

Massage therapists use a variety of techniques to help relieve back pain, alleviate tension caused by daily stress and aid muscle recovery after strenuous physical activity. Some professionals specialize in specific treatment areas like energy or prenatal massage.

Professional massage therapists are qual-



NEWSPAPER TOOLBOX PHOTO

Massage therapy provides much more than just deep relaxation to clients.

ified to provide safe and effective massages to help you relax and sleep better. Don't hesitate to contact a massage therapist and schedule an appointment for yourself or a

loved one.

To learn more about the massage therapy profession, visit the Canadian Massage Therapy Association website at crmta.ca.



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SENIORS' HEALTH

UBC study connects health and hearing

Staying active crucial

FROM UBC OKANAGAN

As Canada's population continues to age — people 65 years and older are part of the fastest-growing age group in Canada — researchers and health-care providers continue to look for ways to keep seniors as healthy as possible.

Dr. Kathleen Martin Ginis, director of UBC Faculty of Medicine's Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and Management and a professor with UBC Okanagan's School of Health and Exercise Sciences, is part of a team that recently examined the link between a senior's hearing and their physical activity level.

Using data from an American National Health and Aging Trends Study, the research team studied the association of hearing loss with activity level. More than 500 participants, with a mean age of 79 years, participated by wearing accelerometers for one week and self-reporting their vigorous physical activity and walking exercise for one month. Results were published recently in The Journals of Gerontology: Series A.

Ginis explains why studies like this are necessary and the important link between hearing capacity and keeping active.

Q. Why is it important to understand the relationship between physical activity and the ability to hear well?

A. Hearing loss is associated with frailty, poorer physical function and falls. Low levels of physical activity are also related to these health problems. There has been very

little research on whether physical activity levels and hearing loss are related in older adults, and whether the use of hearing aids makes a difference. If we can determine that link, then health-care providers can better support older adults in maintaining an active lifestyle and researchers can focus on studying the impact of hearing interventions.

Q. What's the connection?

A. There are several potential mechanisms through which hearing loss may contribute to physical inactivity. These include a decline in the perception of environmental auditory cues while moving about, a feeling of social isolation and increased allocation of cognitive resources for listening, leaving limited attention for simultaneous tasks.

Think about the places where older adults might go to do physical activity — to community centres, public swimming pools, for walks in their neighbourhoods. If their hearing is impaired, it is going to be difficult to interact with fitness leaders or staff in these public spaces, and it may even be frightening or dangerous to move about the community if you can't hear what is going on around you. These factors limit activity levels.

Q. What did the study determine?

A. We found that older adults with hearing loss did less physical activity than adults who could still hear well. As hearing loss increased, the number of minutes of physical activity performed each day decreased. The good news, however, was that among adults with hearing loss, those who used a hearing aid were more likely to report that they walked for exercise compared to those who did not use a hearing aid. These patterns held for both men and women in the study.

HEARING SOLUTIONS

Oticon Intent improves daily life

Keep being you with personalized hearing care

SUBMITTED BY HEARINGLIFE CANADA

Recognizing that no two individuals have the same hearing needs, HearingLife Canada — a leading provider of personalized hearing solutions — offers a tailored approach to ensure every client receives the perfect fit for their lifestyle and preferences by providing modern hearing aid solutions.

Today's hearing aids have undergone a remarkable evolution, offering groundbreaking technology in sleek and discreet packages. The latest of these hearing aids is called Oticon Intent — the world's first hearing aid with user intent technology.

Here's How Oticon Intent Can Improve Your Daily Life in Various Situations:

Morning Routine: As you wake up, Oticon Intent™ detects your movement and bedroom noise levels, adjusting to prioritize natural sounds that gently wake you while minimizing background noise like traffic.

Work Meetings: During meetings, Oticon Intent™ detects your environment based on

factors like your posture, movement, and the presence of multiple voices. It then focuses on enhancing speech clarity, isolating and amplifying the voices of your colleagues while suppressing distracting noises like shuffling papers or keyboard typing.

Fitness Time: While you're at the gym, Oticon Intent™ monitors your movements and exercise intensity. It understands that you're engaged in physical activity and adjusts its settings to maintain a stable connection with your audio device, ensuring uninterrupted playback of your workout playlist.

Family Dinner: During family dinner, it recognizes the social setting and picks up the voices of your family members while reducing the noise from clinking utensils or rustling tablecloths.

Relaxing Evening: As you wind down in the evening, it transitions to a more relaxed listening mode, by prioritizing quieter sounds like the dialogue in your TV show or the pages turning in your book.

Keep loving your ears with a hearing centre located on Salt Spring Island. Find the clinic at 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Unit 1108 or call 1-888-547-0471 for assistance. Visit hearinglife.ca for more details.

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*A comprehensive hearing assessment is provided to adults ages 19 and older at no cost. The results of this assessment will be communicated verbally to you. If you request a copy of the Audiological Report, an administrative fee will apply. Child hearing tests are conducted at select locations for a fee, please contact your customer per year. Offer not valid in Quebec. Offer not applicable for industrial hearing tests. Some conditions apply, see clinic for details.**90-Day Risk-Free Trial begins at the date of purchase. If you are not completely satisfied, you can return it within 90 days for a full refund or exchange. Trial period varies by state.***If you are quoted a lower price on an equivalent hearing aid with the same features, options and services, HearingLife Canada Ltd. will match that price. Conditions Apply. Ask our hearing care professionals for more details.

SALT SPRING ISLAND PARKS & RECREATION



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SUMMER CAMPS

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Additional \$5 fee will apply to all same day registrations. Detailed schedules for Adventure Camp and Quest Camp will be available at the end of June and will be posted on our website. Printed copies will be available at the Rainbow Recreation Centre. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather. Swimsuit and towel, snacks, lunch and water bottle are required.
ONLINE: www.ssiparc.ca BY PHONE: 250-537-1402



LITTLE EXPLORERS CAMP (3-5 yrs)

Big fun for little ones! Enjoy story time, sharing, creative arts, games, introductory sports and more. We will fill your little camper's morning with activities, imagination and creative play. Please bring snacks, a water bottle, outdoor wear and a spare change of clothes. **Weekly registration only.**

INSTRUCTOR: PARC PROGRAM STAFF

M-Thu, 9am-11am Jul 2-Aug 22

Excluding Holidays. \$20.50/day.

LOCATION: HERON'S NEST PRESCHOOL

ADVENTURE CAMP (5-8 yrs)

Fill your summer with daily adventures at Adventure Camp! Each day will be spent participating in new activities, exploring the island, learning about our local environment and swimming at the pool. Participants will get opportunities to play games, conduct experiments, learn about nature and world cultures, create art, problem solve and gain leadership skills. **Individual day registration - Online registration not available.**

INSTRUCTOR: PARC PROGRAM STAFF

M-F 8:30am-3:30pm Jul 8-Aug 30

Excluding Holidays. \$42/day.

LOCATION: SIMS HOME EC ROOM

QUEST CAMP (8-12 yrs)

An action-packed camp full of challenges and adventures on water and dry land! Campers will take on new physical challenges and skills, go on off-island adventures, play cooperative games, swim at Rainbow Recreation Centre and have fun! Swimmers must be comfortable swimming in deep water without a life jacket. **Weekly Registration only.**

INSTRUCTOR: PARC PROGRAM STAFF

M-F 8:30am-3:30pm

Jul 8-Aug 30, No Session Aug 5 or Holidays. \$220/week.

LOCATION: SIMS FITNESS ROOM

NEW! ART CAMP

A creative camp for children with passion and curiosity! Unlock the power of imagination week with a different art focus or technique. Participants should bring a healthy lunch, snack and water bottle and their creativity! Camp is offered in partnership with Salt Spring Arts.



INSTRUCTOR: SALT SPRING ARTS COUNCIL STAFF

M-F 9:30 am-3:30pm \$475/week

Jul 8-12: Mythical Creatures and Legends (6-9 yrs)

Jul 15-19 Art of the Masters (9-12 yrs)

Jul 22-26 Inside Out- Express Yourself (6-9 yrs)

Jul 29-Aug 2 Dreamscapes and Surrealism (9-12 yrs)

LOCATION: SIMS ROOM 2

NEW! LIFESAVING CAMP (8-13 yrs)

Learn about self-survival skills in, on and around the water! Learn how to save others and keep them safe from water-related injuries. Bathing suit, towel, and water bottle are required.

PREREQUISITES: COMPLETION OF SWIMMER LEVEL 4 IN THE SWIM FOR LIFE SWIMMING LESSON PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR: PARC PROGRAM STAFF

Tu-F 10am-3pm Jul 2-5 \$175/4 Sessions

Tu-F 10am-3pm Aug 6-9 \$175/4 Sessions

LOCATION: RAINBOW RECREATION CENTRE

SPORTS CAMPS:

KARATE CAMP (6-12 yrs)

An immersive camp where kids learn Karate and aspects of Japanese culture. Learn about the history and culture of Japan while practicing new skills! Karate will take place both inside at SIMS and outdoors in the fields.

INSTRUCTOR: MARTIN MONGARD

M-Th 10am-2pm Jul 15-18 \$160/4 sessions.

LOCATION: SIMS ROOM 1

JIUJITSU CAMP (7-13yrs)

Jiu-jitsu camp is an opportunity to build confidence, meet new friends, develop athleticism, learn self defense, and have fun! Games and activities including Ninja Obstacle Course and Brazilian Jiu-jitsu classes to give your child the exercise they need and the fun they want!

INSTRUCTOR: RACHAEL GILLIAM

M-Th 10am-2pm Aug 12-15 \$200/4 Sessions

LOCATION: SIMS GYM

ELI PASQUALE BASKETBALL CAMP

These upbeat, instructional sessions are perfect for players wanting to learn the FUNDamentals of basketball. This camp provides Eli's classic half day program plus full day campers will learn offensive and defensive skills. Progressive skills are taught using fun games, drills, and scrimmages under the supervision of Eli Pasquale's enthusiastic coaches. Full day ends with a swim.

INSTRUCTOR: ISIAH PASQUALE COACHES

M-F Jul 15-19

8:30am-11:30am 6-9 yrs \$140/5 Sessions

9:30am-12:30pm 10-14 yrs \$140/5 Sessions

8:30am-3:30pm 8-14 yrs \$230/5 Sessions

LOCATION: SIMS GYM

SOCCERTRON

These upbeat, instructional sessions are perfect for players wanting to learn the FUNDamentals of Soccer. This camp provides Eli's classic half day program plus full day campers will learn offensive and defensive skills. Progressive skills are taught using fun games, drills, and scrimmages under the supervision of Soccertron's enthusiastic coaches. Full day ends with a swim.

INSTRUCTOR: ISIAH PASQUALE COACHES

M-F Jul 22-26 & Aug 12-16

10:45am-11:45am 3-5yrs \$90/5 sessions

9am-12pm 6-9 yrs \$140/5 Sessions

1pm-4pm 10-14 yrs \$140/5 Sessions

9am-4pm 7-14 yrs \$230/5 Sessions

LOCATION: PORTLOCK PARK PICNIC SHELTER

SCIENCE, TECH & NATURE CAMPS:

LEGO ROBOTICS AND SCIENCE CAMP:

BATTLEBOTS EDITION (6-9 yrs)

Dive into the world of engineering using LEGO's WEDO 2.0 sets and software. No experience? No worries! Learn the basics of coding on DAY 1! Choose from 150+ awesome builds, from easy to difficult! On Friday teams will build and program Battlebots for a fun tournament! Take home a science experience everyday! Participants will get their own LITTLUNIVERSE camp t-shirt!

INSTRUCTOR: LITTLUNIVERSE

T-F 9am-4pm Jul 2-5 \$336/4 Sessions

LOCATION: SIMS CLASSROOM 2

VIDEO GAME DESIGN AND SCIENCE:

2D PLATFORMER EDITION (9-13 yrs)

Join our LITTLUNIVERSE for an exciting week of CODING and SCIENCE! Using Gamedesigner, participants will create their very own 2D Platformer game! Take the game home at the end of the week! Take home a science experiment everyday! There's something for everyone with plenty of indoor and outdoor activities. We also have game consoles, air hockey, foosball, arts/crafts, board games, and MORE! Participants will get their own LITTLUNIVERSE camp t-shirt!

INSTRUCTOR: LITTLUNIVERSE

M-F 9am-4:30pm Jul 8-12 \$435/week

LOCATION: SIMS MUSIC ROOM

Minecraft Modding - Explosive Edition (8-11 yrs)

Wait, is that an RPG? Ruuuuuun! Watch out for Steve holding the grenade! Oh no it's an airstrike! No creeper or villager is safe! Participants will transform the way they experience the game by learning how to mod by creating different custom objects designed to cause destruction! Using blocky coding they will program and test each mod they create thus adding a new level of gameplay to their Minecraft experience. Note: Participants should already have some experience with the world of Minecraft. Participants will not need access to their Minecraft account as they will be using our accounts and will be playing on private servers. No prior coding/programming experience is necessary.

INSTRUCTOR: LITTLUNIVERSE

T-F 5pm-6:30pm Jul 2-5 \$108/4 Sessions

LOCATION: SIMS MUSIC ROOM

MINECRAFT MODDING- PVP EDITION (8-13 yrs)

Participants will transform the way they experience the game by learning how to mod by creating different custom objects designed to improve your chances in PvP! Using blocky coding they will program and test each mod they create thus adding a new level of gameplay to their Minecraft experience. Note: Participants should already have some experience with the world of Minecraft. Participants will not need access to their Minecraft account as they will be using our accounts and will be playing on private servers. No prior coding/programming experience is necessary.

INSTRUCTOR: LITTLUNIVERSE

M-F 5pm-6:30pm Jul 8-12 \$135/week

LOCATION: SIMS MUSIC ROOM

AQUATIC FITNESS



WATER DANCING (14+ yrs)

A NEW kind of ecstatic dance offering, in the water! Allow the water to hold you as you explore a greater range of motion and emotions. Alongside a curated play list, the facilitator offers suggestions for movement, expression, and reflection to take you on a journey into yourself

INSTRUCTOR: NATU MBANEFO.

Single Session Pre-Registration \$25

LOCATION: RAINBOW RECREATION CENTRE



Masters Swim Training

Improve your strength with a coached swim workout! For swimmers who can swim at least 16 lengths (400m). Drop-ins and late registrations welcome.

INSTRUCTOR: ELYSE WALSH

M 6:15pm-7:15pm May 13-Jun 24 \$54/6 sessions

W 6:15pm-7:15pm May 15-Jun 26 \$63/7 sessions

Single Session Drop in \$11/Session

LOCATION: RAINBOW RECREATION CENTRE.



ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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OPERETTA

Pirates of Penzance sets sail this weekend

Chamber choir and orchestra have fun with brilliant Gilbert and Sullivan classic

BY MARGARET FISHER
FOR BACH ON THE ROCK

Salt Spring's Bach on the Rock presents their final concerts of the season this weekend.

After a year of performing diverse repertoire, the group's series ends with the ever-popular *Pirates of Penzance*: on Saturday, June 1 at Fulford Hall at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 2 at Pender Island Community Hall at 2 p.m.

With an all-local cast, this hilarious show highlights the foibles of the kindly pirates and features young Frederick falling in love with Mabel, the daughter of the local Major-General. Now that he is finally coming of age, Frederick — sung by a youthful John Whitelaw — plans to abandon the vile profession of piracy and begin a life of virtue in society. Of course, he falls in love at first glance with Mabel (played by Patricia Flannagan) and is determined to make her



Rehearsal scenes for Bach on the Rock's presentation of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *Pirates of Penzance* include, from left, Linda Quinn as Ruth and John Whitelaw as Frederick, and John Moore as a pirate frightening Patricia Flannagan in her role of Mabel. The show runs this Saturday night on Salt Spring at Fulford Hall and Sunday afternoon at the Pender Island Community Hall.

his wife. (The author wonders what on earth a woman today would think of such a prescriptive plan from a young man she's barely met!)

The Pirate King, an impotent pirate if ever there was, is played by Damian Inwood, who is doing double duty as stage director for the show. Loathe to lose a fledgling pirate, he pronounces

that Frederick's period of indenture is not finished. Given that Frederick's birthday is Feb. 29, he cannot yet be of age and must remain with the pirates. (How do you think that's going to go over now that Frederick has been struck by Cupid's arrow?)

Ruth (played by Linda Quinn) is Frederick's nanny, and she has, in a grotesquely Freudian twist,



PHOTOS BY MARGARET FISHER

fallen in love with Frederick and wants him to marry her. She is uncomfortably passionate, a little worse for wear and definitely hard of hearing. She almost succeeds in convincing Frederick that she's beautiful before he spies the fair maiden Mabel.

Mabel is one of a gaggle of girls whose father is the bombastic Major-General Stanley, played

and sung by Jean Brouard. The audience will immediately recognize the popular aria "I am the very model of a modern major general," a tongue twister sung admirably by Brouard.

For her part, Mabel's fervent wish is to find a handsome fellow to become her devoted husband.

The plot becomes quite complex, with the pirates capturing the girls with the intent of a mass marriage, but then releasing them when the Major-General claims to be a poor orphan boy himself. The twists and turns continue as the police get involved, but, at the conclusion, not only do Frederick and Mabel end up together but the entire pirate crew finds love and marriage.

Bach on the Rock's music director Jean-Sebastien Lévesque holds orchestra and actors together throughout the chaos. The entire crazy group of singers and musicians are thrilled to be presenting this Gilbert and Sullivan classic and look forward to sharing their talent with both Salt Spring and Pender Island audiences.

Tickets are available at bachontherock.com or at the door, if available.

RECITAL

BackStage trio kicks off Tea à Tempo summer series



PHOTO COURTESY BACKSTAGE

BackStage members, from left, Edgar Hann, Em (Marilyn) Walker and Adam Huber, who will perform at Tea à Tempo on Wednesday, June 5 at All Saints by-the-Sea as recitals run weekly during summer months.

Adam Huber, Edgar Hann and Em Walker at All Saints

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

Tea à Tempo begins its weekly summer concert series with lively music featuring the local group of musicians known as Backstage.

Playing on Wednesday, June 5 in All

Saints by-the-Sea will be Edgar Hann, Em (Marilyn) Walker and Adam Huber, with a repertoire that includes Irish, Newfoundland, folk and gospel music.

BackStage is named after the studio that Edgar and Marilyn built for performances — house concerts, drumming workshops, and other classes — on their property in the south end. They have played at the Mahon Hall Homage Concert and at the Fall Fair, Lady Minto Hospital, the Gumboot Gala, Tree House Cafe and other local venues.

Walker, who records and performs as Em, gives workshops in drumming, shamanism, consciousness studies, ethnobotany and other topics. She contributes the Newfoundland ugly stick, along with guitar and lead vocals (not all at the same time!).

Hann is a button accordion player from Newfoundland. Between Hann and Walker, they have recorded four CDs that include traditional Irish/Newfoundland music as well as original jigs, waltzes and ballads.

Huber is a musician, author, carpenter/inventor and energy healer, currently offering bi-weekly crystal bowl and toning sessions on Salt Spring. He plays with many other Salt Spring Island musicians, contributing

guitar, harmonica, and lead and harmony vocals.

Music by donation begins at 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and treats at a cost of \$5. Donations contribute to the honoraria for performers and to the running of the series.

ArtSpring 25TH ANNIVERSARY

TREASURE FAIR 2024

REGISTER TODAY

Register to create your account for bidding. All registrants invited to Preview Gala July 10. Last day for donations is June 19.

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treasurefair.artspring.ca

Makana Youth Choirs Spring Concert

ArtSpring 25TH ANNIVERSARY PRESENTS

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tickets.artspring.ca
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CHORAL MUSIC

Youth choirs set to perform

On Top of the World concert at ArtSpring on Saturday

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

After giving a short preview performance at ArtSpring's 25th Anniversary Festival in April, the Makana Youth Choirs take to the stage this Saturday, June 1 to share the season's full repertoire in their spring concert entitled On Top of the World.

The two choirs, directed by Caroni Young and accompanied by Jennifer Howard (Kids, grades 2-5) and Shirley Bunyan (Youth, grades 6-9), will sing with their respective ensembles and then combine for the namesake song of the concert itself by Imagine Dragons.

"The kids are so looking forward to sharing what they have been working on," said Young. "We're certain audiences of all ages will not only feel on top of the world but be taken on a journey around the world with-

out ever leaving their seats."

Makana Kids are set to present music from Japan in a beautiful partner song called Sakura, Sakura before travelling to the Caribbean with a fun Calypso-style number — Shake the Papaya Down. Closer to home, a piece from Klee Wyck is brought to life, dedicated to the life of Emily Carr. The Kids program finishes with a work called The Fox, a fun narrative of Americana with a story reminiscent of Roald Dahl's The Fantastic Mr. Fox.

The Youth program begins in Germany with a baroque-era piece called Bist Du Bei Mir, before moving on to South Africa with an ode to music and dance called Dansi na Kuimba.

From the new Mulan movie's Loyal, Brave, and True to a work called Wau Bulan by Malaysian Canadian composer Tracy Wong — in which students sing in the Dikir Barat style — to an exploration of Peter Pan's Neverland with Ruth B's Lost Boy, the concert delivers on its imaginative and ambitious vision for the term.

Tickets are on sale at tickets.artspring.ca and at the box office.

CREATIVE DANCE



PHOTO BY SONIA LANGER
Young Salt Spring dancer Siena Haase uses a pink ribbon as part of a creative dance routine during a weekly ballet class. Haase will join dancers from three youth groups, plus the Gulf Islands Secondary School dance program, and guest soloists from Studio North in Campbell River for a Friday, May 31 Community Dance Performance at ArtSpring at 6 p.m. Tickets are available through ArtSpring.

what's on this week

Wed. May 29

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

GISPA Presents: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime. Play by Simon Stephens based on the Mark Haddon novel. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Tyger Jackson. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. Opens at Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Central Hall Society Board of Directors Meeting. Lower hall. 7 p.m.

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Thur. May 30

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

GISPA Presents: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

An Evening of Improv. Featuring Ari Lazer, Michael Mann, Simone Cazabon, Piet Sues, Kate Nash. Mateada. 8 p.m.

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

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

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Seniors Services Society AGM. Annual general meeting at the Seniors Centre. 12:30 p.m.

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee. Special electronic-only meeting to discuss agricultural priorities for the island. 5 p.m. Link through islandstrust.bc.ca.

Green Drinks. Talk about solar panels, rainwater collection, EVs and anything electric. Bring your questions and we will find answers. Host Tom Mitchell. Salt Spring Wild Cider House. 5 to 7 p.m.

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Fri. May 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Leif David Magic Show. Library program room. 10:15 a.m.

Community Dance Performance. Dancers from several Salt Spring programs and guests from Studio North Dance Academy presented by GISS Dance at ArtSpring. 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Alec Shaw. Performs at Mateada as part of his Manic Love & Madness tour. 9 p.m.

Duck Creak. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Karaoke. At the Legion. 7 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

ASK Salt Spring. Restorative Justice group members are this week's guests at SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Story Time. In the children's area at the library. 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Youth Games & Chess Club. For ages 9-13. Library children's area. 1 to 4 p.m.

Sat. June 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Makana Youth Choirs Concert. Singers in grades 2 to 9 perform at ArtSpring under the direction of Caroni Young. 7:30 p.m.

Pirates of Penzance. Bach on the Rock presents a lightly-staged concert version of Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious classic operetta. Fulford Hall. 7 p.m.

The Unfaithful Servants. With opening act Adam Dobres. Mateada. 9 p.m.

Woodland. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Doug and his Buds. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Best Laid Plans. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

Sat. June 1

ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market. In Centennial Park. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Books & Bling Donation Drop-off-Day. Bring good-quality books and jewellery donations to the back of SIMS (Park Drive and Aldous Rd. Intersection) for Salt Spring Literacy's fundraising sale later this fall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Salt Spring Laundro-mat Anniversary Celebration. Enjoy cake and camaraderie at the laundromat. 2 to 4 p.m.

Sun. June 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Blues Jam. With open mic at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

Alan Moberg. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Intimate Singer Songwriter Night. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.

Mon. June 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Moonlighters. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Open Mic. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Tues. June 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Harry Warner Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Folk Jam. With open mic. Legion. 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Market. First weekly produce, food and drink products market of the season. Centennial Park. 1:30-5:30 p.m.

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

Wed. June 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Backstage. First concert in weekly summer recital series at All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

The Yazoo Brothers. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

GISS Music Presents Wipeout! Term-end music concert. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

CINEMA

• **Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes** runs Friday, May 31st to Tuesday, June 4th at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. Matinee on Sunday.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• **Salt Spring Photography Club's annual Eclectic Visions exhibition** is on at Gallery 8 daily until May 30.

• **Matthew Hildebrandt – Remembering the Joy of Life** is the Salt Spring Gallery A-Space exhibit until June 12.

• **Contemplative Threads**, an exhibition of textile art by Medwyn McConachy, runs in the library program room until June 8.

• **Rolando Lampitoc** is displaying artwork at the Salt Spring Coffee Cafe & Kitchen.

• **Sheri Standen** exhibits watercolour paintings at the Country Grocer deli wall display for the month of June.

Makana Youth Choirs

Concert at ArtSpring
Saturday, June 1
7:30 p.m.

THRIFTY FOODS
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ISLAND LIFE

COMMUNITY ACTION

'Fancy dress' beach event on World Oceans Day

Islanders to gather for clean-up and Heiltsuk Nation legal costs fundraiser

SUBMITTED BY RAVEN

June 8 is World Oceans Day, where people around the world celebrate the marine ecosystems that sustain so much abundant life.

Here on Salt Spring, the day is being marked with a fun, fancy dress, all-ages beach clean up.

The theme of the event is "Salt Spring Cleans Up Real Nice!" Attendees are encouraged to dress up in three-piece

suits, gowns, tiaras, tutus and fedoras.

"Wear what you'd wear to the Met Ball," said organizer Andrea Palframan. "But make sure you can still manoeuvre because, though it's low tide, the beach will be muddy." Participants are also invited to bring large Tupperware bins, and to accessorize with their favourite pair of work gloves.

Photographers will be on hand to take photos of people's "shabby chic" looks, pairing outfits with rubber gloves, grabbers and garbage bags. Gumboots, of course, are encouraged.

Everyone is invited to meet at 2 p.m. at Beachside, and to bring cash to buy cold drinks, snacks and make donations.

Contributions by credit card are also accepted at fundraiser. raventrust.com/ssibeach. The event is expected to last two hours.

With proceeds from donations collected going to Heiltsuk Nation, the World Oceans Day clean-up aims to clear debris from the area south of where Ganges Creek empties into the harbour. It also aims to raise funds for a remote Indigenous community that needs support to recover a clam harvesting site that was devastated by an oil spill. Tax deductible donations will be sent to support legal costs for Heiltsuk Nation as they go to court to press for title to the seabed and foreshore where the Nathan E. Stewart spilled tens

of thousands of litres of diesel, engine oil and effluents. The court case is vital to restoring a key harvesting area, Gale Pass, that has provided shellfish, salmon and herring to Indigenous peoples since time immemorial.

"Oil spills take decades to recover from. It's not so simple for Heiltsuk to clean up their shoreline and waters by just getting out there and picking up garbage," said Palframan. "But we can do a nifty two-for-one by both cleaning up an area of this island that is often neglected, and by making donations to support Indigenous marine protection."

"Getting dressed up is just another way to make something serious into something

silly, fun and family friendly. And who doesn't have sparkly, satiny, swanky clothes that are stuck at the back of their closet because . . . well . . . where on Salt Spring would you get to wear them?"

On Saturday, June 8, Beachside will be the place to be seen . . . cleaning.

The photos and the funds that are gathered on World Oceans Day will be shared with Heiltsuk Nation through RAVEN, a Victoria-based registered charity that raises legal defence funds for Indigenous nations to protect land, air and water for future generations.

RAVEN stands for Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs. See raventrust.com for more information.

FOOD

Tuesday market opens for the season

New vendors joining tried-and-true for food and drink focused event

SUBMITTED BY TUESDAY MARKET SOCIETY

The Tuesday Market is excited to welcome back shoppers for another season.

The first market is on Tuesday, June 4, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Centennial Park, and it continues every Tuesday until Oct. 29. Expect to find your favourite returning vendors, including Duck Creek Farm, Heyday Farm, Salt Spring Sprouts & Mushrooms, Jane's Dough, Windsor Farm, Gaia Foods, Vital Kitchen and many more.

There will be some new faces at the market this season with a number of first-time vendors joining this year. They include a variety of bakers, new farms and other exciting food producers. The market brings new and unique vendors to you that you won't find other places on the island. It gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to try out new products in a supportive public space.

With over 10 farms attending the Tuesday Market, the produce variety is the best on island. Freshness is unbeatable, with vegetables, fruits and flowers harvested just for the market. Farmers bring an astounding variety each week, with new crops being harvested throughout the season. Week to week the selection changes as things grow and ripen. Spring greens, radishes and peas shift into summer crops like tomatoes, summer squash and peppers.

Expect to find other delicious foods at the market as well, including a wonderful variety of baked goods (yes, gluten free too), ice cream sandwiches, locally milled flour, hand blended teas, samosas, beverages and more. Everything you'll find at the market is grown and produced right here on Salt Spring. Come early for the best selection or skip the crowds by shopping a little later in the day.

The Tuesday Market is a proud member of the BC Association of Farmers Markets, which enables the market to participate in the province-wide Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program. This program is a healthy eating initiative that enables lower income families, pregnant people and seniors to use market money to purchase fresh food at the Tuesday Market. This money goes directly to farmers/producers and allows more of our community access to fresh nutritious food.

The Tuesday Market is more than just a place to buy food. It is an opportunity to support local businesses and buy directly from the makers. This midweek market has a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, giving shoppers an opportunity



PHOTO COURTESY TUESDAY MARKET

Table full of Salt Spring-grown produce at the Tuesday Market in Centennial Park.

to chat with local producers. Vendors love the chance to showcase their harvest, connect with customers and share favourite recipes with regulars. The market runs every Tuesday until the end of October.

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DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS	DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS
29	6:16	8.6	2.62	2	1:35	11.3	3.44
	6:59	8.6	2.62		8:51	3.5	1.07
	15:43	2.1	0.64		15:49	8.3	2.53
30	0:09	11.5	3.5	3	19:34	7.4	2.26
	6:56	7.7	2.35		1:58	11.3	3.44
	9:01	7.8	2.38		9:28	2.2	0.67
31	16:34	3.3	1.01	4	17:15	9.3	2.83
	0:41	11.4	3.47		20:43	8.6	2.62
	7:34	6.5	1.98		2:20	11.2	3.41
1 JUN	11:33	7.3	2.22	5	10:07	1	0.3
	17:28	4.6	1.4		18:17	10.3	3.14
	1:09	11.4	3.47		21:52	9.4	2.87
	8:13	5	1.52		2:43	11.1	3.38
	13:52	7.5	2.29		10:45	0.2	0.06
	18:28	6.1	1.86		19:09	10.9	3.32
					23:00	9.9	3.02

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Annual General Meeting Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.

SSI Conservancy members, please note that the AGM will be in person at the Conservancy office, 265 Blackburn Road. Please RSVP to debra@saltspringconservancy.ca, or call 250-537-0318, no later than June 10.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SALT SPRING ISLAND SENIOR'S SOCIETY

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 12:30pm

SSI Seniors Centre - 379 Lower Ganges
(across from Country Grocer)

Everyone welcome. Members in good standing are eligible to vote. Memberships available [\$5] at the door.

Immediately follows the regular Thursday lunch 250-537-4604
Salt Spring Senior's Society

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

Wednesday
May 29th, 2024 at
7:00 pm in the lower hall
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Public welcome.

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PHOTO BY RICK NEUFELD

Tangachee Goebel with her plate of delicious food at the Beaver Point Hall Bean Supper held Saturday as a fundraiser for the hall, with event volunteer Mana Nakata at right.



PHOTO BY RON WATTS

Lou Ellis pours cooked beans into a roasting pan as part of preparations for two sittings of dinner at Beaver Point Hall. Tofu and pork main dish options were also available.



PHOTO BY RON WATTS

Servers helping to make the event go smoothly are Maryjane Coffey, left, and Stella Grand.



PHOTO BY RON WATTS

A happy crowd enjoys socializing and dinner on Saturday, May 25 during one of two sittings for the first Beaver Point Hall Bean Supper held since 2013.

The very first bean supper fundraiser took place in 1953, using beans all grown and donated by Henry Ruckle. A June 14, 1978 Driftwood story by Lillian Horsdal marking the event's 25th anniversary recalls, "For the initial bean supper, 25 pounds of beans were cooked along with 20 pies and 15 dozen buns. Cole slaw was served then as it is today. The only changes have been in quantities."

The Laundr-O-Mat
AND SALT SPRING ISLAND SOAP EXCHANGE

3RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
FROM 2 - 4PM

The Laundr-O-Mat will be closed but **PLEASE** join us for cake & celebration!

People Helping People Through Social Enterprise!

PHILANTHROPY

Neighbourhood grants announced

Thirty-six community-building projects funded

BY DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Foundation's (SSIF) Neighbourhood Small Grants program is wrapping up its sixth year of helping some big ideas that need just a little bit of funding, announcing Thursday, May 23 there would be 36 local projects included in the program for 2024.

First offered by SSIF in the fall of 2018, more than 160 creative project ideas have received a small grant — up to \$500 — to help enhance our community "connections, safety, and sense of belonging," according to the foundation.

Projects supported by this program are incredibly varied — from Indigenous medicine workshops to a roving street hockey "flash mob" — but all touch on one or more of the following priorities: celebrate and honour diversity, connect neighbours, include

isolated and new community members, share local knowledge and/or share skills to enhance community safety and creativity.

The grant money can be used to offset costs associated with projects, such as materials, rental of community spaces, promotion, and honoraria for guest speakers/workshop providers.

Information on how to participate in this year's projects will be forthcoming, according to SSIF communications and marketing manager Mary Kastle.

People should look for event titles such as:

- Artful Legacies: Honouring Elder Stories Through Art;
- Intergenerational Story Playshop;
- Shabbat on the Beach;
- Good Vibrations Equestrian Drill Team;
- Connections Within Diversity at the Salt Spring Pride Festival;
- Mama's Dance;
- Learn to Weave an Egg Basket;
- Being a Forest (BaF);
- Friends, Flowers, and Farms;
- Haunted Forest Walk.

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SPORTS + RECREATION

DRAGON BOAT RACING

Spirit Point Dragons bring home silver medals

Veterans and new racers hit the water for the first time this season

BY DONNA COCHRAN
FOR SPIRIT POINT DRAGONS

In their first dragon boat festival of the season, Salt Spring's Spirit Point Dragons won silver at the Fairway Gorge Super Sprints on Sunday, May 26.

The Sprints kick off the dragon boat season with fast and furious 200-metre races. The sold-out festival hosted 18 women's teams and 21 mixed teams competing in three races — a placement heat, semi-final and final.

Spirit Point took the first two races to refine their race starts, which are crucial for such a short

distance. Still their combined race times placed them at the top of the Mixed B final. The final race was a study in precision — a quick start and fast-paced sprint to the finish. Spirit Point silver medal finish time of 1:05.388 was nosed out of gold by No Drama Llamas (1:05.288). It was a photo finish with a difference of 1/100th of a second! Snogard Dragons came third (1:06.723) followed by Phoenix Express (1:07.640).

This was coach Michael Peirce's debut with the team and he aced it! A huge thanks goes out to the team's manager Barry Green, coach/caller Lynda Green and steersperson Tom McEachie.

Team paddlers included Cora Platz, Donna Cochran, Audrey Denton, Sheena Frisch, Robyn Huntley, Wendy McEachern, Sam Goddard, Lesley Grott, Wendy Eggertson, Melynda Okulitch, Michael Peirce, Ann Marie Davidson, Andrew Okulitch, Wendy Andrews and (retired coach) Mary Rowles, who joined us for the races. Special paddles up to our newbies who raced for the first time: Laura Mulks-Elworthy, Louisa Taylor, Stewart Rimmer, Melanie Marshall and April Ray.

It was an awesome start to the new paddling season. New paddlers are welcome, with practices held on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, contact coach Peirce at mpstripad@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL PEIRCE

Spirit Point Dragons paddler Cora Platz holds up her team's silver medals earned at the season-opening Fairway Gorge Super Sprints festival in Victoria on Sunday, May 26.

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TENNIS

Rajsic Classic tradition continues



PHOTO COURTESY SSTA

Mixed doubles combined age 120 runners-up in the Rajsic Classic tennis tournament on the May long weekend are, from left, Tim Dubois and Deb Orange from Salt Spring and winners Rita and Art Hobbs from Victoria.

Visiting and local players enjoy fundraising action

SUBMITTED BY SSTA

Twenty-four teams participated in the sixth annual Rajsic Classic tennis tournament, making for a great turnout and some exciting matches for the May long weekend fundraiser.

The event was created in memory of Roy Rajsic, a Salt Spring Island tennis fan who loved supporting junior tennis and died in 2016. His

partner Margaret Benmore continues the tradition.

Funds raised benefit junior tennis players through the Salt Spring Tennis Association (SSTA) and the Tomorrow's Champions program. New this year will be a \$500 donation to the Gulf Islands Secondary School's newly formed tennis team.

Tournament director Pete Schelling was thrilled to host teams from Salt Spring, Vancouver Island and Vancouver for the two-day event. This year categories consisted of combined ages adding up to 100, 120 and 140 years of age in ladies, men's and mixed doubles.

This year's winners and finalists were:

Ladies 120: Vancouver Island's Debra Hayhoe and Cathy Karam defeating locals Lorna Kerr and Cathy Patel 8-3.

Men's 120: Locals Tim Dubois and Michael Berendt defeating Salt Spring's John Lapointe and Vancouver's Ray Pollard 8-4.

Men's 140: Locals Wayne Wrigley and Gordon Speed defeating other locals David Cummings and Humberto Martinho 8-0.

Mixed 100: Vancouver Island's Debra Hayhoe and Dennis Tasic defeating Victoria's Jian Zhang and Ken Blatherwick 6-3.

Mixed 120: Victoria's Rita and Art Hobbs defeating locals Deb Orange and Tim Dubois 8-5.

Mixed 140: Salt Spring's Rosa Alcaraz and John Lapointe defeating locals Judy Kirk and Michael Goolbar 8-4.

Organizers thank the Capital Regional District Salt Spring parks and recreation department for hosting the event, and sponsors SSTA and Salt Spring Wild Cider, as well as volunteers and hosts Babette Arnoldus, Tim Dubois and Deb Orange.