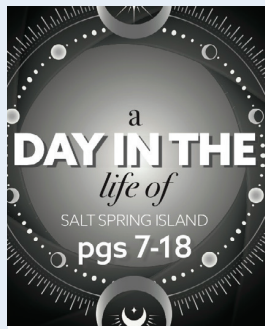


inside:



22 Shirley Valentine on stage this week



20 Sailors bring home Summer Games silver

lighter living GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY. GOOD FOR THE PLANET.

6 Transition Salt Spring series begins

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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

64th year
Issue 31
\$1.50

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PHOTO BY ROB LOWRIE

SWIRL OF COLOUR: Fanny Wightman of Tsunami Circus fame entertains the crowds gathered for the Pride Parade on Saturday. For more parade photos, see page 12.

ROADS

Ganges Hill work date set

\$22.9-million project goes to Victoria company

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A provincial announcement has pegged a start date to improve Salt Spring's busiest road, just meeting an announced goal to begin work this summer on what is now a \$22.9-million project.

Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation (MoTI) officials said construction on a 1.6-km stretch of Fulford-Ganges Road from Seaview Avenue to Cranberry Road — known locally as Ganges Hill — will begin after the Labour Day weekend, meaning crews could arrive as early as Tuesday, Sept. 3.

The contract for the extensive improvements has been awarded to Northridge Excavating, according to an announcement made Wednesday, July 24. The Victoria-based company was the lowest bidder, according to unofficial tender documents from procurement hub BC Bids, and was awarded the \$17.2-million contract through a competitive process.

GANGES HILL continued on 3

FIRE

Beddis residents contain brush fire

Arnell home also saved

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A brush fire at the corner of Beddis Road and Cusheon Place reported Sunday, July 28 at 2 p.m. was contained to an area of about 10 by 20 feet, thanks to quick action by neighbourhood residents, according to Salt

Spring Island Fire Rescue (SSIFR) Capt. Warren Nuyens.

"Pretty pleased to report the diligence of that neighbourhood," said Nuyens on Monday. "They had shovels and a bit of water on hand, caught it small and were able to react. Despite a little rain Sunday, everything is very, very dry right now."

Firefighters responded with two apparatus, including the department's new brush

truck, and blanketed the area with foam and water.

The fire was observed to have burned near the base of a power pole, Nuyens said, just up the street from a devastating wintertime fire that took six hours to contain; that structure fire started during a period of extreme cold and high winds back in January.

FIRES continued on 3

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Drake Road housing project gets underway

BC Housing expects supportive housing complex to open in 2025

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Work is underway at Drake Road, where contractors are preparing the site to receive a special delivery in early 2025: three dozen new housing units for Salt Spring Island, according to provincial officials.

Permanent purpose-built supportive housing is being constructed at a factory off-site using modular construction methods, BC Housing said, so islanders won't be able to watch the build over time. But the provincial housing agency said it expects the structures to be transported to 161 Drake Rd. and

craned into place in the new year, with occupancy slated for mid to late 2025.

The effort will bring 32 studios for supportive housing, as well as four additional affordable rental units to be made available for people with low to moderate incomes, according to BC Housing. The supportive and affordable housing will be accessible through separate entrances, the agency added.

Supportive housing is meant to provide homes for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. BC Housing had originally announced it would build 28 units of supportive housing at the 5.5-acre parcel back in January of 2022, as the agency — and then Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing David Eby — touted the fast-tracking of the project on land leased from the Capital Regional District.

When the new units are ready, BC Housing said, they will be offered through its

Coordinated Access and Assessment process, "to ensure an appropriate mix of residents with the right supports live in the housing."

Eligible people living at Kings Lane will be considered first, the agency added, referring to those currently supported at temporary modular units BC Housing erected on land leased from the Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association (GISRA), initially to house people displaced by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation's purchase of the Seabreeze Inne.

No pricing for rents for the four affordable units has been announced.

A non-profit operator will be selected to operate the site through a request for proposals (RFP) process, according to a BC Housing spokesperson, who told the Driftwood they expected the RFP to be posted before the end of this year.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Signs of excavation work at 161 Drake Rd., where BC Housing is funding 32 supportive housing units and four other affordable units.

RECONCILIATION

Trust advances Quw'utsun protocol agreement

Five member nations involved

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Islands Trust is moving forward with developing a protocol agreement with Quw'utsun (Cowichan) Nation, representing perhaps the most significant and collaborative effort yet by trustees hoping to fulfill commitments made through its 2019 Reconciliation Action Plan.

Through a unanimous vote Wednesday, July 24, the Trust's Executive Committee have tasked staff with developing the agreement in cooperation with the five member nations of Quw'utsun Nation — Cowichan Tribes, Stz'uminus, Penelakut Tribes, Halalt First Nation and

Lyackson First Nation.

The process stems partly from a follow-up meeting in June — characterized by staff as "overdue" — addressing a 2021 letter from Quw'utsun Nation to Salt Spring Island staff. Islands Trust staff met with Cowichan Tribes staff — as they were among signatories to the letter — and they learned that rather than individual protocol agreements with each of the five member First Nations, a collective agreement was preferred.

"It was a great meeting," said Trust planning services director Stefan Cermak. "We listened and learned a lot."

Currently, Quw'utsun Nation and the province have a government-to-government agreement, and the Islands Trust has the authority to enter into its own agreements under Section 9 of the Islands Trust

Act, according to Trust legislative services director David Marlor.

Protocol agreements with First Nations were among several steps Islands Trust Council (ITC) committed to in its Reconciliation Action Plan; the Islands Trust does have a current protocol agreement with Lyackson, although according to a staff report that has not been referenced or implemented in years. Staff said it was expected that agreement would be rescinded in favour of any broader agreement with Quw'utsun Nation.

Lasqueti Island trustee Tim Peterson, who also chairs Salt Spring Island's Local Trust Committee (LTC), said he hoped there would be some consideration for making the work of LTCs "a bit more nimble" when local committees want to meaningfully engage with First Nations.

"When we look at the interest

of Local Trust Committees wanting to do relationship building," said Peterson, "I think we've all experienced fairly long timelines in things that on the surface look fairly straightforward, such as letters."

Marlor noted that while ITC has not delegated the authority to enter into agreements to local committees, they likely could, to a point. "The process right now is a committee could ask staff to begin the work," said Marlor. "However, it would be a Trust Council bylaw to enter into an agreement."

Executive Committee chair and Thetis Island local trustee Peter Luckham seemed optimistic.

"We're often criticized as being slow at these things," said Luckham. "If we had a mechanism to do that, that might be a good way to go. Clearly, we've had difficulty with the management of existing

protocols, and existing conversations with nations, right down to the individual letter level."

But, he added, that has largely been a problem caused by lack of resources — specifically an excess of staff vacancies.

"We have now allocated resources to specifically handle that level of communications, and manage protocol agreements and meetings and the like," he said. "Presumably, we're not going to make those mistakes again."

Next steps will be a letter from Luckham as ITC chair to chief and council of Quw'utsun Nation. If they express interest, Trust staff will meet and work with Quw'utsun Nation staff and legal counsel to develop a draft agreement for Trust Council's consideration and forwarding to the municipal affairs ministry for approval.

WATER

NSSWD holds restriction level

Rainy June helps water provider stick with Stage 2

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Despite a mostly dry July, storage levels for the North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD) are hovering just above or at average, and water use restrictions for customers of the island's largest water provider are relatively tame — but that could change quickly.

Data presented to NSSWD trustees Thursday, July 25 showed both St. Mary and Maxwell lakes following the most recent five-year average trend quite closely, with staff noting customers have enjoyed a long period of more-permissive Stage 2 restrictions that could extend well into August — thanks in part to a relatively rainy June.

But, they added, without significantly more precipitation, the water storage picture is predictable.

"As we all know, it's been very hot and dry," said operations manager Ryan Moray. "And lake levels are starting to trend downward more rapidly now."

NSSWD board chair Brian Pyper noted that in 2023 the district went into Stage 3 restrictions earlier than usual — a "proactive" measure, he said, due to the province-wide drought conditions. By early August last year, the district had entered Stage 4 — a near-comprehensive ban on outdoor use that prohibited practically everything but every-other-day hand- and microdrip-watering for gardens.

"This year, it looks like at this point there won't be any decision until perhaps the board's next meeting?" asked Pyper.

"We'll just have to watch the weather," said Moray. "As we go later into August, and as lake levels start to plummet, we'll measure levels more frequently — watch them daily."

If it starts looking like Stage 3 would be necessary, according to financial officer Tammy Lannan, trustees could act between board meetings to advertise and enact the change.

"It's to give people a heads-up," said Lannan, "so they can think about their water habits, how they can keep their gardens."

A full explanation of watering restrictions — alongside charts showing when they are triggered — is available online at northsaltspringwaterworks.ca.

Buy this townhouse at Grace Point!

#6 - 111 Fulford-Ganges Rd

Rare opportunity to own a finely designed and impeccably maintained seaside townhouse in Grace Point on Salt Spring. The entire home has received a major upgrade with premium finishings since original build.

This 1900 sq ft 3-bedroom, 2½ bath home is spacious and light-filled. Top floor has master with walk-out deck and large bathroom with walk-in shower, heated tile flooring and six-foot air-jetted tub. Second bedroom is king-sized and third bedroom/office has a queen Murphy wall-bed, and they enjoy a bathroom with walk-in glass shower plus laundry.

The main floor has oak flooring and two gas fireplaces in the living room and den. With its harbour view and premium touches, the chef's kitchen is unparalleled: granite counter tops, built-in Wolf range (gas top/electric oven), and Sub-zero and Miele appliances including built-in coffee maker, steam oven, convection/microwave, warming drawer. The tile floor is heated and a large pantry is nearby.

Downstairs is the charming entry, attached heated single garage with work bench, and a spotless crawlspace lined with shelving. Among Grace Point's signature features are its ocean views, proximity to Ganges village, and private marina with moorage.

For sale by owner: **\$1,900,000**. Please call Susan at **604.880.3551**.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Three Salt Spring post-secondary students benefitting from the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) wage subsidy program enjoy a chat with Marci Ien, the federal Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth, who was on Salt Spring Island on Friday to meet with some students and employers in the CSJ program, asking what works for them and what could be better. Salt Spring Rowing Club employees with Ien are, from left, Cheyenne Sawchuk, Grayson Kubik and Zoe Clarke. Rowing club coach Stacy Mitchell also shared her program experience with the minister. In addition to making the trek to the club's Tripp Road site, Ien visited CSJ students and employers at Woodshed Provisions and Duck Creek Farm, and attended Friday night Pride Festival events at the Farmers' Institute. Ien represents the riding of Toronto Centre. The Liberal Party MP said she plans to run for re-election in 2025.

'Hidden' Arnell Way fire detected

FIRES

continued from 1

The cause of Sunday's fire has yet to be determined.

It comes less than a week after firefighters doused a nearly-hidden fire in the eaves of a home at 185 Arnell Way Monday, July 22.

Firefighters that night were investigating a windstorm report of a maple tree that had fallen and interrupted a homeowner's BC Hydro service just after 11 p.m. According to a report from acting SSIFR Capt. Patrick Byrne, crews were shown the tree had taken out the residential service drop and had caused damage to the mast.

"Crews investigated further," according to the report, "and found evidence of a fire in the eaves. The fire had spread along the rafters and was hidden from view except for a small glow around the service mast and light wispy smoke coming from the eaves."

Byrne said firefighters laddered the building, removed the soffits and opened the gable end to expose and extinguish the fire. Eighteen firefighters responded to that call, with eight firefighters and three apparatus on the fire scene, and 250 gallons of water used to extinguish the fire.

The cause of that fire has also not yet been confirmed; no injuries were reported from either fire.

SSIFR crews also responded to a report of a structure fire in the Maracaibo subdivision, called in by a boater on the water on Friday morning. It was determined the caller had likely seen dust from a truck working in the area.



PHOTO AT TOP COURTESY SSIFR; PHOTO ABOVE BY GAIL SJUBERG

From top, light shows area where evidence of fire was found in an Arnell Way home on July 22; two tenders wait on Nose Point Road while fire personnel search for a fire initially reported by a boater that did not materialize.

Construction hoped to start after Labour Day



PHOTO BY ERIN MAGLEY

New road sign announces upcoming road work project.

GANGES HILL

continued from 1

The remaining \$5.7 million from the total budget, according to an MoTI response to Driftwood inquiries, covers all other costs associated with the project outside the construction contract value, such as engineering design, construction supervision and property acquisition. Plans included with early MoTI tender documents suggested some of the newly widened sections of roadway would need to be constructed — at least partly — on what had been privately held land.

During construction, single-lane-alternating traffic will be in effect while the contractor is working, according to MoTI, and delays through the project site could be as long as 20 minutes. The 50 km/h speed limit will be reduced throughout construction to 30 km/h.

Officials said Fulford-Ganges Road would likely be closed for short periods during construction, although MoTI confirmed any closures would be diverted to a temporary detour and none would take place within 20 minutes of a ferry arrival at Fulford Harbour. Transport trucks and wide loads will not be permitted to leave the main route, MoTI said, so all are being encouraged to "plan ahead."

"The ministry's contractor will avoid work during peak travel times to minimize traffic disruption where possible," according to MoTI.

Contractors will be resurfacing and widening the two-lane rural road, with improvements including paved shoulders for pedestrians and cyclists — 1.2-metre-wide shoulder heading north (or downhill into Ganges) and 1.8 metres in the southbound direction, according to MoTI tender documents — as well pedestrian crossings and refuge areas.

Additional work at the Beddis/Charlesworth intersection with Fulford-Ganges Road calls for relocating a notorious utility pole there and removing the island that sits in the middle of the first few metres of Beddis Road. Fresh white lines to indicate to cross traffic where to stop, combined with a narrowing of Beddis Road at the turn, should clear up long-time disagreements about whether southbound traffic turning left onto Beddis should turn before or after drivers turning right off Beddis onto Fulford-Ganges — with "after" prevailing, as the former option will no longer be present.

Ministry officials believe the work will be completed in summer 2025. To learn more about the project, visit gov.bc.ca/fulfordganges.



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2023 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Gold - Community Service Award



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

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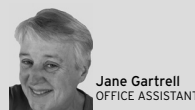
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EDITORIAL

Road wranglers

In the pantheon of long-running news stories, it's hard to top "Ganges Hill repaving plans."

Indeed, the Beddis-to-Seaview stretch of Fulford-Ganges Road has been specifically on Salt Spring's radar since well before 2013, when consultants for the Capital Regional District (CRD) concluded one could flank the roadway with a pair of bike lanes — and lay a sidewalk on one side — for \$2.3 million on the low side, not including any property purchases that might be needed.

More than a decade later, with many local advocacy efforts recounted in dozens of Driftwood stories — and with the movement of a decimal point one tick to the right on the price tag — a section of Salt Spring's busiest road may soon no longer require cyclists and pedestrians to take their lives in their own hands when choosing to use it.

THE ISSUE:
Ganges Hill work welcomed

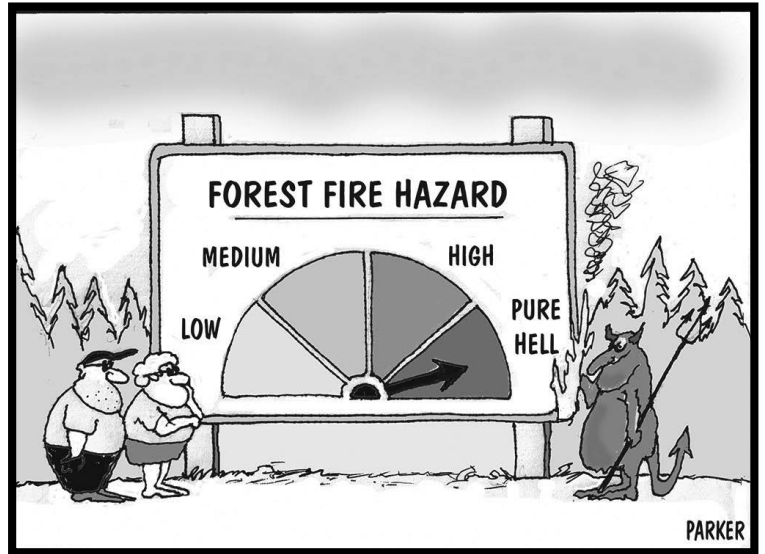
WE SAY:
Safety advocates deserve praise

There will be no sidewalk, and both of the new shoulders are not technically wide enough to be called bike lanes; but with more room to share the road, significant and much-needed sub-surface strengthening, and an underground storm-sewer drainage system that should resist even the roughest climate-change-addled storm, we feel Salt Springers who have advocated for safety here deserve recognition.

Perhaps most visibly our Local Community Commission, and before them the now-defunct Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission (SSITC) and Salt Spring's CRD director Gary Holman, worked to keep the issue in front of regional and provincial decision-makers. But the local stakeholders — as well-organized as Island Pathways or as improvisational as our ardent pedestrians — also helped literally pave the way through their dedication, and their voices.

At the risk of taking a victory lap before the first backhoe arrives, we see the challenge now — apart from deciding how to handle the inevitable rush of cars parking up the hill on summer Saturdays — lies in deciding what's next. As former SSITC commissioner Gary Lehman said about this project, we don't want the best we can get, we want what's best for Salt Spring.

Hopefully we won't have to wait another 10 years to find out which of those two options we got.



Unsettling stories continue

BY PHIL VERNON

I was speaking last week with James Charlie, chair of the Penelakut Sulxwe'en (Elders Group). James and his siblings were forced as children to attend the residential school on Kuper Island, just north of Salt Spring, now known by its original name Spune'luxutth or Penelakut Island.

James has given testimony numerous times of his experiences at the school, including at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and his brother Raymond (Tony) Charlie has spoken at the Salt Spring library to launch his book, *In the Shadow of the Red Brick Building*. Today, they continue to advocate for survivors and for increased awareness among the non-Indigenous public about the horrors experienced by children at the Kuper Island Industrial School and at other residential schools across Canada. They also feature in the recent CBC podcast called *Kuper Island* and in the 1997 film documentary *Kuper Island: Return to the Healing Circle*.

In 2020, following the revelation by the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc of 215 suspected unmarked graves at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, the Penelakut Sulxwe'en announced their own work on the issue, where they had already identified over 160 suspected burials near the site used by the since-demolished school in their community.

The Sulxwe'en envisioned a memorial walk through the town of Chemainus to begin the process of healing and reconciliation — for survivors and tribal members as well as for friends and supporters. That first year over 1,500 people poured up the streets of Chemainus, gathering at Waterwheel Park to hear songs, prayers and testimonials from survivors of the school.

In subsequent years the Penelakut Tribe's

search for more graves has continued, resulting in more burials identified at a new site near the grounds of the Kuper Island

School, James told me. Evidence found by technicians using ground-penetrating radar and drones indicate an additional 36 "small body" burials, expected to be the babies birthed by girls attending the school who were raped, according to survivor accounts, by the residential school brothers or priests with the collusion of the nuns.

James said that technicians working with the tribe are preparing to use a new type of sonar to scan the sea bed off the shore in an effort to corroborate other survivor testimonies. Tormented by their memories, some who were among the older boys at the school say they were directed by authorities to throw gunny sacks into the ocean from the wharf. Many times they were forced to do this and each sack, they say, contained a baby.

According to the technicians, traces of these remains may still be identifiable using their advanced technologies, despite the passage of time and tide.

This year, the Penelakut Tribe has invited us back for the Fourth Annual March for the Children, to take place Monday, Aug. 5 in Chemainus — once known as Sunuwne'ts, the largest Penelakut village before colonial authorities burned the longhouses and drove the families away. Supporters are asked to gather at 9 a.m. at the Salish Sea Market next to the ferry terminal, then the procession will wind up the hill to Waterwheel Park.

The Penelakut feel so supported by Salt Spring, and islanders are encouraged to attend. If you need a ride, or have room in your car for another, please email pcvernon@gmail.com with "car pool" in the subject line.

VIEWPOINT

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Canada Publication Mail No. 0040050837 | International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782
Member of News Media Canada + National NewsMedia Council, and BC & Yukon Community NewsMedia Association

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Have you adapted to the new 1.5-metre rule for cyclists' safety?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do islanders' driving habits seem to be worse than they were five years ago?



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

ISLAND VOICES

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

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED:
What do you recommend Salt Springers do to live a little lighter or more sustainably on this island we call home?

This Salt Spring Says is part of the Lighter Living initiative presented by Transition Salt Spring.

ADINA HILDEBRANDT



Collect your own water. We've been doing it for 20 years.

ALLAN COLLIER



Create and use more public transit.

GREG BARNES



Shop local.

LORI CARRIS



Reduce waste. Most people throw away so much food. I am guilty of it too.

LETTERS to the editor

Four-way claim refuted by manual

Peter Winton's interpretation of the rules at four-way stops is a little twisted (July 24 "Driving on Salt Spring Island — horrors!" letter).

Specifically, his comment about "it is NOT one vehicle at a time, it is two at a time" is wrong. The following excerpt is from the Drive Smart BC manual.

"The first vehicle to arrive at the intersection and come to a

complete stop should go first. If two vehicles arrive at the same time, the one on the right should go first. If two vehicles are facing each other and have arrived at the intersection at about the same time, the one making a left turn must yield to the one going straight through."

There is nothing in that statement that suggests two vehicles arriving at an intersection at roughly the same time MUST enter the intersection at the same time. Additionally, for the safety of new drivers, drivers who neglect to use their turn signals, or if you are unsure, it

is safer to adopt a more defensive position and wave the other driver through.

MIKE COTTON,
SALT SPRING

Drivers adapt to new law

Many cycling tourists (and residents) are on our roads. Last weekend I noticed that more Salt Spring drivers are giving a safe distance when passing a cyclist.

That usually means the vehicle crosses over the sin-

gle or double yellow centre line when passing, if it's safe to do so. B.C.'s new "safe passing" law permits that. If there's oncoming traffic, they are to slow down and wait to pass.

It's a learning experience for many of us. On roads with speed limits of more than 50 km/h, passing a cyclist without swinging out at least 1.5 metres isn't legal anymore.

STEVE NEW,
WHIMS ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Despite a little rain Sunday, everything is very, very dry right now."

SSIFR CAPT. WARREN NUYENS, ON WEATHER CONDITIONS AND BEDDIS BRUSH FIRE

E-gods might smile through tech support torture

This could happen to anybody. Your computer screen goes blank. Your phone won't charge. Your freezer is stuck on defrost. Your cable TV will only play if the sound is set on mute.

You get the picture. You have become the helpless victim of a technology that points a mocking finger at you and kicks sand in your face.

What are you going to do about it? Like most of the rest of us, you waste valuable time and effort trying to fix the problem yourself. Of course, nothing works and all your efforts only succeed in compounding the original malfunction. Finally, after you've been frustrated to the infinite degree, you decide to throw in the towel and seek help.

This is where the "tech support" comes into the picture. You dial the toll-free help line and wait for a knowledgeable professional to pick up. And wait and wait and wait. The very best you can do at this point is get a recorded voice message informing you that all agents are tied up helping other clients and will gladly come to your assistance as soon as is humanly possible. You are reassured that the company appreciates your patience and will play some horrible Muzak in your ear while you remain on hold.

An eternity later, you hear a voice asking how they can help you. You sigh in relief and begin to describe your particular technical issue. The voice cuts you off almost immediately and informs you that you have reached sales and marketing and not technical support. Before you can say a single word, you hear a "click," which tells you that your call has been transferred to some other department.

More ringing, more voice message, more hold, more terrible Muzak. Just as you are about to give up this useless exercise and disconnect, a voice comes on the line. A human voice!

Well, sort of. The voice seems to be coming from a long distance away. It could be coming from somewhere inside a massive warehouse or even an airplane hangar. The voice echoes at times and occasionally fades in and out. You can't help but notice that there seem to be hundreds of other



Shilo
Zylbergold
NOBODY
ASKED ME
BUT

voices chattering away everywhere in the background.

"Hello, my name is Jonny. How can I help you, please?" The voice comes with a far-off accent or dialect. Uganda? Sri Lanka? Calgary, maybe? You realize immediately that you are dealing with a tech support service that has been out-sourced. This is going to be tricky.

You begin to describe your problem, but your techie cuts you off because there appears to be some inexplicable need to verify your identity. Let's say you've forgotten your email password and want to retrieve it or replace it with another one. The techie tells you that a six-character code has been sent to your email to make sure you are who you say you are. You try to suppress the anger that is bubbling up inside, and explain that you cannot get into your email to retrieve the code because you don't have the password and that is why you called in the first place.

Let's try another scenario. This time you are just updating all your important financial files and managing all your computer codes and passwords when suddenly your screen goes blue, there is a loud beeping noise, and all your devices freeze up. A voice from inside your computer informs you that you have just been hacked and all your information will go public unless you pay the hackers a ransom.

Instead, you call your computer's customer service tech support department. After 17 dialings, 23 transfers to another department, and 57 minutes on hold listening to rap music played on sitar and tablas, you get through to someone in Mumbai who might be able to save the day.

Unfortunately, once you have described

your computer crisis, your technician explains that this is a very serious problem and will need a supervisor's expertise to avoid disaster. When you ask for the supervisor to be notified, you are informed that this is not so simple because the super works out of Calgary and phone connections are extremely dicey from Mumbai. You are ready to explode but manage to maintain your sanity and persevere.

You somehow get through to the supervisor in Calgary. The supe leads you through a flow chart of computer fixes. Is your computer plugged in? If yes, unplug it. If no, plug it in. Does the fan turn on at regularly spaced intervals? If yes, turn the screen off. If no, turn the screen off and then on three times. Do you know how many fingers I am holding behind my back? No, that's not part of the flow chart, but it might as well be for all the help it does.

You are still stymied and the supervisor tells you that you will now be transferred to the chief supervisor who is stationed in, you guessed it, Mumbai. Just as you are about to describe your computer predicament yet again one more time, your screen flashes suddenly and comes to life. Maybe your computer fixed itself. Perhaps the e-gods have smiled down on you. Or maybe all those virtual trips to and from Mumbai have created an electro-magnetic field that restored your computer to an earlier incarnation. Maybe you've watched too many Star Trek episodes.

Before you sign off, you are asked if you would like to complete a customer satisfaction survey questionnaire that will take only 45 minutes of your time. You beg off diplomatically with the promise that you will gladly fill one out the next time you are in their virtual neighbourhood.

Nobody asked me, but don't knock tech support, especially if it has been outsourced to the far corners of the planet. It puts you in touch with different cultures, introduces you to people whose paths you would otherwise not cross, and influences your musical tastes for the time you are made to linger on hold.

And occasionally it may even solve your technical problem.

Rants

+ ROSES

Send your submissions to
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Roses

A bushel of musical notes to Howard Jang for bringing Bentall, Taylor and Ulrich to a full house at ArtSpring on July 16. CF

From all of us at ArtSpring, roses galore to our intrepid Treasure Fair coordinator Catherine Griffiths and her team of over 50 volunteers who made ArtSpring's most successful fundraiser happen from beginning to end. From newcomers Elly Silverman, Susan Tinker and Sara Ratner to veterans Jenny Barrio and Carole Eyles, to Irish overseas volunteer Patricia Ayton and art expert Laurel Lemchuk-Favel, this was a groundbreaking moment to remember. Soliciting, cataloguing, inputting, pricing, displaying, selling, working the computers, helping customers – what a team effort with so much spirit, laughter and common purpose. Thank you all.

Bonding red roses to Kia, Michelle and all the volunteers who facilitated yet another amazing community bonding experience. What you have created brings me to tears with joy, witnessing the beauty humanity is capable of. In this day and age that is healing medicine at its finest. I look forward to it every year as it is my favourite event. Can music get any better than that? "Keep on rockin' in the free world." With much love and gratitude, PB

Long-stemmed copper roses to Kelly and her crew at the Harbour House Hotel for their contribution to the cause from the Copper Kettle BBQ crew. Our volunteers became very smiley when they saw those chicken wings. Thanks again, and thank you as well to all our BBQ regulars.

A big bouquet of red roses to CRD director Gary Holman for clearly communicating and updating us on the progress the CRD and other agencies are making towards affordable housing. Your commitment and hard work are appreciated by a great many. LB

On July 14 I was walking off the 3:35 p.m. ferry sailing from Crofton when I fell flat on my face. A wonderful woman named Angela helped me in every way, including mopping the blood off my face. She was my angel. Thank you, Angela. My apologies to those who were inconvenienced by the subsequent Crofton ferry sailing delay. Ruth Mills

Lighter Living series launched

SUBMITTED BY TRANSITION
SALT SPRING

lighter living

GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY. GOOD FOR THE PLANET.

Many islanders would agree that summer on Salt Spring is tough to beat. Lakes for swimming, forest trails for hiking and bike rides, ocean beaches for lounging and picnicing, farmstands with fresh local offerings around every corner, and plenty of beautiful places to be social or to take time to rejuvenate. We all agree we live in a very special place and if we would like to ensure that the natural resources we enjoy will be around for our children and grandchildren to enjoy, it's time to take action. Better yet, get your friends and neighbours involved as well.

What difference can a few of us here on a little island in the Salish Sea make, you ask? It's just too hard, and depressing. The current narrative is all about personal sacrifice: eat less meat, drive less, fly less, shop less, less, less. We retreat. We disengage. If the future of our planet depends on a few selfless individuals we are doomed! We know that to make significant systems change we need governments and big business to step up without a doubt, but it's time for everyone to get involved.

Climate change is not just an environmental issue; it also affects our economy, society, and our physical and mental health. Our young islanders are among the most profoundly affected. Transition Salt Spring (TSS) and the GISS Earth Club hosted a Clothing Swap and Textile Repair Cafe in the spring, drawing over 300 students. We conducted a survey and asked students one question: "How worried are you about the effects of climate change on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being 'I don't worry at all' and 10 being 'I can't sleep at night because I am so anxious about it.'" The average response was 8.5! While planning our Earth Day talk for the student body, one of the members of the Earth Club said in all seriousness, "Just tell all of us the five most important things we can do to save the planet and we will do it!"

Our children feel a deep sense of urgency and anxiety about climate change. They are looking for solutions and inspiration, whether through activism, innovation or community efforts. Highlighting positive stories, encouraging sustainable practices and advocating for systemic change can help foster hope and motivate action. Individual actions do matter; they embody our values and impact those we come in contact with. They

can lead to collective action, send market signals to business and trigger larger system change. We need both! We owe it to ourselves and our kids to do more.

Between 2019 and 2021, TSS developed a Climate Action Plan for Salt Spring. Then in 2023, a report card was completed with a full update on progress. Overall, Salt Spring is not on track to meet the emissions reduction and climate change adaptation goals set out in 2021.

What if we told you that there are plenty of actions we can take as individuals and neighbourhoods that do make a difference and do not focus on self-sacrifice?

TSS is launching "Lighter Living," a new initiative designed to promote more sustainable and balanced lifestyles. Lighter Living emphasizes living within our ecological means, balancing our consumption with the Earth's ability to regenerate its resources. There is plenty of science connecting behaviour change, happiness, climate change and carbon counting, which has resulted in evidence-based, low-effort individual actions that make real impacts!

Lighter Living aims to provide resources and information to help islanders and their neighbours collaborate in creating a more resilient, thriving and sustainable community. We have consulted loads of experts who have derived low-effort actions that relate to our everyday choices and habits regarding what we eat, how we move and what we do with our stuff. Resources will be shared over the coming months and we are consulting with plenty of locals to find out what changes they are making at home, work and play in order to live a little lighter on this island we are fortunate to call home.

It's not too late to ensure a bright future for our children, but we need everyone to come along. We are well past the talking stage, it's time to take action! Transition Salt Spring invites you to sign up for free access to Lighter Living content at signup-can.keela.co/lighter-living-series-subscription. Learn how to take low-effort actions that make you feel good, are good for our community and good for the planet.

Editor's note: The Driftwood will be running Lighter Living features, as well as page 5 Salt Spring Says segments provided by Transition Salt Spring, in coming months.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

Poor policy

The following letter was sent to the Salt Spring Island Saturday Market Society and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

Recently, Salt Spring Saturday Market organizers received a complaint about a vendor displaying a STOP GENOCIDE sign at their market stall. In response to this complaint, market organizers asked Heyday Farms to tone down their signage or else they would have to create a policy. They ended up doing exactly that, sending out an email to all market vendors informing them that they had created a new policy stating that vendors' signage could only include their business name.

I'd like to know what basis the market has for doing this? Besides the incredible moral bankruptcy it takes to censor a message like "Stop Genocide", I'm very interested in hearing how market organizers feel entitled to silence their vendors in this way.

To underscore the impropriety of this type of censorship, I'd like to point out that vendors were never prevented from openly supporting Ukraine, have never been prevented from displaying and selling decidedly non-neutral items depicting Canadian flags, or Christian symbols. In fact, as a vendor myself

in years past, I was not prevented from displaying a LAND BACK placard at my table. As an Indigenous woman, I hope if I were a vendor today, I would not be prevented from doing so.

I'd also like someone to explain to me how the market can suggest that they have an obligation to "maintain neutrality"? If such an obligation has ever existed in the past, I will point out that market organizers have fallen short of meeting it as they have never censored vendors who sell religious or political items, and the market has certainly never exercised its power to remove culturally inappropriate goods from being sold by vendors. If neutrality is a goal that organizers want to be taken seriously with in this community, it needs to create a governing body around this specific issue that reviews vendors and their goods.

Although the market quickly backpedaled on their policy after being inundated with letters from the public, they have done nothing to regain the trust of the vendors except note that they are putting the policy "on hold." Seems wishy-washy at best.

If the market is truly concerned about causing offence, I'd like to know what steps the market is willing to take to ensure offence is not caused by other religious or political goods being sold at the market.

KRYSTA FURIOSO,
SALT SPRING

CRD aids housing plans

Major site preparation is finally underway on the CRD Drake Road property for BC Housing's \$10-million, 36-unit (originally 28-unit) supported and worker housing project. CRD has also approved inclusion of the Seabreeze Inne (being renovated by the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation for 17 health worker housing units) in the Ganges sewer area. I'm supporting \$100,000 in gas tax funding to help cover sewer connection costs.

A \$1.3-million Provincial Growing Communities grant will expand Ganges sewer capacity for up to 500 additional housing units, including Island Community Services' homeless shelter. A CRD bylaw will require the fire hall project to fund a sewer extension to Island Community Services' proposed Brinkworthy housing development.

CRD's Rural Housing Program, providing funding for a coordinating position, pre-development expenses and accessory dwelling unit incentives, will be presented for CRD Board approval this fall. The program description is on the CRD website, and comments and questions can be addressed to ruralhousing@crd.bc.ca.

GARY HOLMAN,
SALT SPRING CRD DIRECTOR

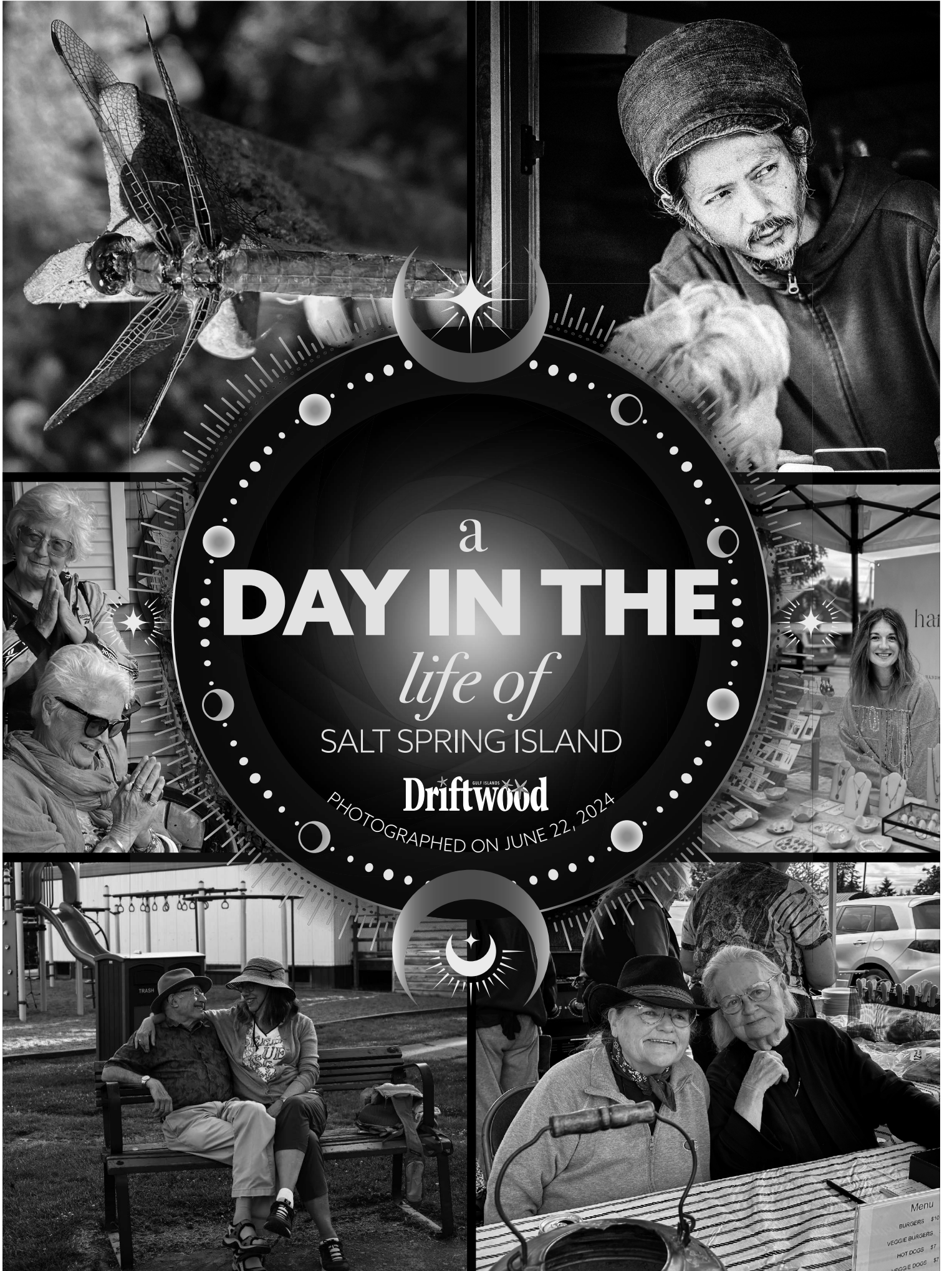
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Driftwood



a
DAY IN THE

life of

SALT SPRING ISLAND

Driftwood

PHOTOGRAPHED ON JUNE 22, 2024

Menu
BURGERS \$10
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HOT DOGS \$7
VEGGIE DOGS \$7

Photo excitement endures

I look forward to working on a number of the Driftwood's annual special projects, but the Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island is one of my consistent favourites.

I love how it comes together so organically with most of the pieces contributed from community members. We aim to get representation from certain activities or segments of the island, but it's not physically possible to ensure success in that way. And actually, I think over-organizing this venture would detract from its magic. There's something about the mix of images captured by roving out-and-about photographers and those who share a window into their personal lives and activities that just works. This year we even had a granddaughter

and grandmother team take photos together. How cool is that?

Thank you to everyone who submitted one or more photos, in addition to Driftwood publisher Nancy Johnson and myself, taken between 6 a.m. June 22 and 6 a.m. June 23, 2024, documented with names and/or times and of a printable size. They are: Andy Doyle-Linden, Avril Kirby, Brad Yahemech, Christopher Roy, Curt Firestone, Elizabeth Nolan, Jayne Lloyd-Jones, Jean Panepinto, Jerry Lewandowski, Johanna Hoskins, John de Bruyn, John Kyle, Judy H. McPhee, Julia Gilbert, Katie Lee, Kay Woodhouse, Leah Lee, Linda Burgess, Mackenzie Williamson, Susan Gordon and Wayne Stevens.

— Gail Sjuberg, Driftwood editor

6 to 9 am



PHOTO BY CURT FIRESTONE
Boater rows to shore from a vessel in Ganges Harbour.

6:49 AM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

James pushes Paul on the swing at Centennial Park.

7:50 AM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Sherry gives Honey some treats before their walk on Maliview Drive.

6:06 AM



PHOTO BY CURT FIRESTONE

Ganges Alley parking lot is empty before vendors set up for the market.

6:37 AM



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Thrifty Foods' David Clarke with one of the store's new self-check-out units.

8:38 AM



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Woodworker Derek Burgess is all set up for Saturday Market customers.

PHOTO BY LINDA BURGESS

8:30AM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Pat waters her garden with Beia at her side.

6:37AM



Claire Gien shows good form at the Salt Spring Tennis Association's Saturday morning drop-in session at the association's indoor courts.

PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

8:40AM



Karl goes to work at the Ganges Coast Guard station.

PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

7:30AM



Alan Moberg – also well known as a musician and songwriter – trims a bush in the Mout's parking lot.

PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

8:44AM



Indigenous sign installed at Fernwood in 2023 in a joint project with the Penelakut people and the Salt Spring Historical Society & Archives, and inspired by the Donna Martin Legacy Fund.

PHOTO BY SUSAN GORDON

8:59AM



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9 am to 12 pm

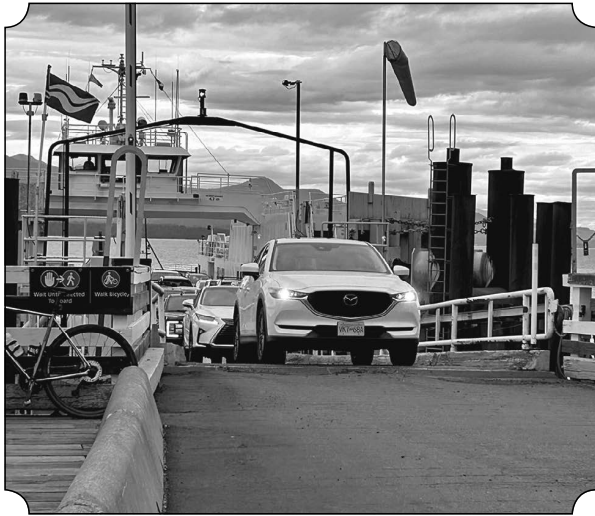


PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

The first car unloads at Vesuvius from the Quinsam's 8:55 a.m. sailing from Crofton.

9:28 AM

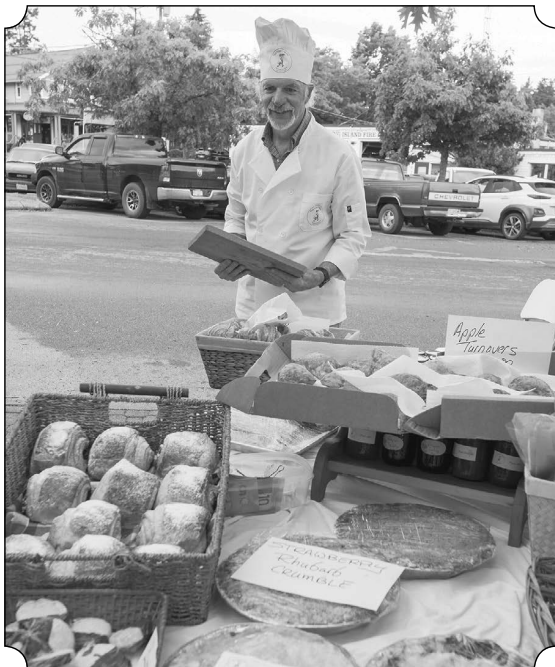


PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

Chris Levan of The Piper's Buns sets out his wares for the Saturday Market. Levan also plays the bagpipes, which explains how the bakery business got its name.

9:17 AM



PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

Cherie Geauvreau, left, and Jewel Eldstrom sell tickets for the Copper Kettle Community Partnership fundraising BBQ in the Country Grocer parking lot, with volunteers Michael and Helga Bagnell and Mary Ann McColl doing the cooking behind them.

11:00 AM



PHOTO BY KAY WOODHOUSE

Wendy Lau readsies the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop for its first customers of the day.

9:45 AM



PHOTO BY BRAD YAHEMECH

Participants enjoy a choral workshop led by the renowned Eva Bostrand from Edmonton, and organized by the Salt Spring Singers. The three-day event was offered free to all community members thanks to a grant from the Salt Spring Island Foundation, which will celebrate its 40th year in November.

11:08 AM

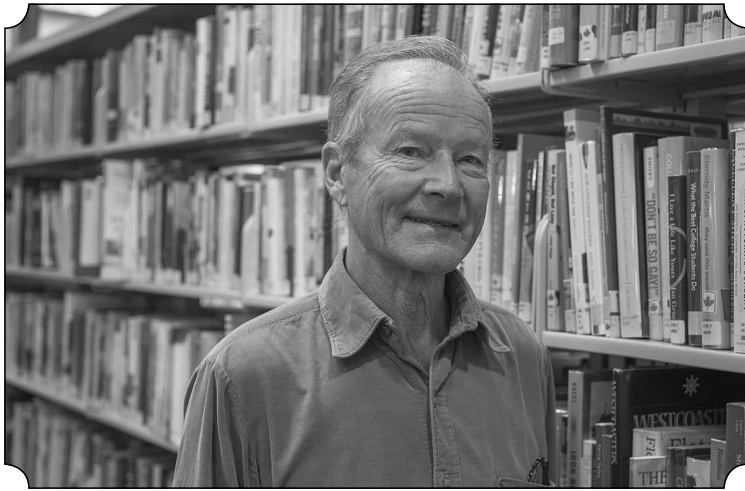


PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

Jamie Squier volunteers at the Salt Spring Public Library.

10:37AM



PHOTO BY JUDY H. MCPHEE

Emily Reynolds of Hart & Stone Jewelry in the Saturday Market.

11:55AM



PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

Sisters Constance and Celeste Dufayet from San Diego, Calif. check out the fairy door in Vesuvius before getting on the ferry to head to Nanaimo after spending two days on Salt Spring with their parents.

9:07AM



PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

Jaya plays the community piano next to the Creekside building in Ganges.

10:26AM



PHOTO BY CURT FIRESTONE

Pickleballers face off on a wet court at Portlock Park after a morning rain shower.

11:00AM

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PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

Ida Marie Threadkell welcomes visitors to Coast Gallery in Grace Point Square.

10:16AM



PHOTO BY SUSAN GORDON

Five members of the Salt Spring Sneakers running club set off from Fernwood for their regular Saturday morning run.

9:02AM



PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

Sue Earle of Duck Creek Farm sells produce at The Jam Factory property on Upper Ganges Road.

9:46AM



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Salt Spring Lions Club member Dorothy Christopherson accepts donations at the club's garage sale that takes place every Friday and Saturday morning at Lions Hall on Bonnet Avenue from September through June.

11:39AM



PHOTO BY NANCY JOHNSON

Country Grocer cashier Rob LeMarchant serves customer Carrie Hoadley.

10:51AM



PHOTO BY JOHANNA HOSKINS

Al Hoskins starts his task of sprucing up the "Froggy Rock" on Stewart Road, which led to it being repainted later in the morning. Hoskins said he first painted the the rock in June 2011 "after driving past it so many times and thinking 'That sure looks like a frog, somebody should paint it.'"

9:30AM

12 to 3 pm



PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN

Howard Grenon of Heart & Bone Provisions serves a customer at the store's market-day outdoor booth.

1:07PM



PHOTO BY JERRY LEWANDOWSKI

BC SPCA volunteer serves a "customer" at the Doggie Daycare in Centennial Park, allowing the dog's owner to visit the Saturday Market, which is a no-dog zone.

1:25PM



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

A mega antenna erected at the Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club property for the Salt Spring Amateur Radio Society's field day event, which saw members make more than 200 contacts with other radio operators near and far throughout the day and overnight. While the antenna was tricky to set up, it managed to stay put all night.

2:46PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

Nancy Fraser tends the plants at Fraser's Thimble Farms nursery.

2:14PM



PHOTO BY MACKENZIE WILLIAMSON

Christina Penhale, left, and Rosie Algoet during a rehearsal of exitStageLeft Productions' *The Tempest*, which ran at Bard Owl Manor for eight shows in July. Algoet stole the show in her role as the spirit Ariel.

2:17PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

Everyone locks their car doors on Salt Spring, don't they? Removing the key from the lock is optional, though.

2:22PM

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PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN

Four members of the band called Une Petite Pause – from left, Alexandre Lussier, Courtney Hughes, Jeremy Stevens and Bruce Cobanli – busk in the Saturday Market.

1:41PM



PHOTO BY JAYNE LLOYD-JONES

Felix, left, and Bella appear to be having a chat while enjoying a ride in the woods with Patricia Lockie and the photographer.

2:59PM



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

Bryan Dubien, right, helps two visitors from Victoria find a new game in his Foxes Board Game Shop.

1:09PM

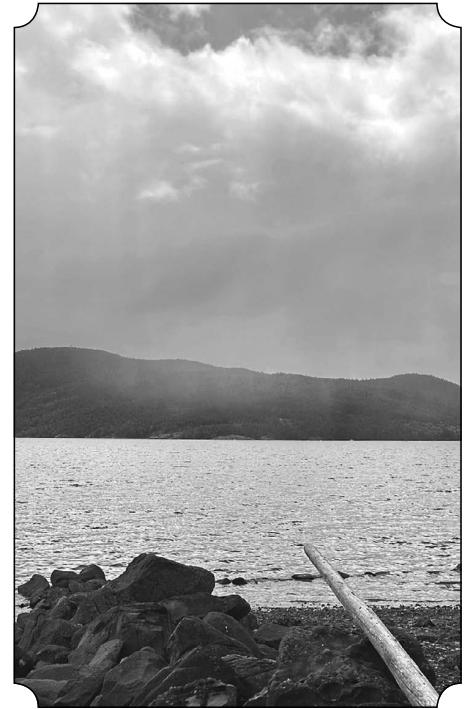


PHOTO BY KATIE LEE

Clouds portend a change in the weather looking towards Maple Mountain on Vancouver Island from the beach accessed off Quarry Drive.

2:29PM



PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN

Irja Kriegel at her Pixie Glassworks booth at the market. Some 121 vendors were registered to participate in the formal part of the Saturday Market on June 22. This year marks the first year the market has been operated by the Salt Spring Island Saturday Market Society, a new not-for-profit organization, rather than the parks and recreation department of the Capital Regional District.

1:50PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

Lucy, Jack and their little one play at Southey Point beach.

2:53PM



PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN

Hideki Shibata of Vital Kitchen prepares to make a transaction at his food stand at the Saturday Market.

1:49PM



PHOTO BY LEAH LEE

Exploring big rocks at the Quarry Drive beach.

2:01PM



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Quw'utsun beader Katie Phillips gives a demo at Artcraft as part of Indigenous Peoples Weekend events, which brought members of the Indigenous and settler communities together from June 21-23.

12:30PM



PHOTO BY JEAN PANEPINTO

Patricia Page, standing, and Margaret Benmore, say "Namaste" after a tour of Benmore's garden, with the reflection of a pink flamingo in a similar pose seen in the mirror at right.

2:50PM



PHOTO BY JEAN PANEPINTO

Got Something to Live For, right, skippered by islander Bill Cote with local crew John Hillier and James Hall, competes in the Scott Point Western Canadian Lightning Invitational race in Long Harbour.

12:24PM



PHOTO BY KATIE LEE

Purple sea stars seen clinging to rocks on the beach off Quarry Drive. A low tide of 0.1 feet (0.03 metres) was at 11:42 a.m. on June 22.

2:13PM



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SAANICH-GULF ISLANDS

3 to 9pm



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Adrian rides his bike at the Kanaka Skatepark, which the Salt Spring Skatepark Society hopes to expand in the coming year.

9:28PM



PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN
Entertaining the Tree House Cafe crowd are, from left, Jena "Goldie" Gogo, her dad John Gogo and Eric "The Duke" Duquette. Duke & Goldie were the duo on the bill for the evening in the cafe's 26th annual Music Under the Stars nightly live music series.

8:19PM

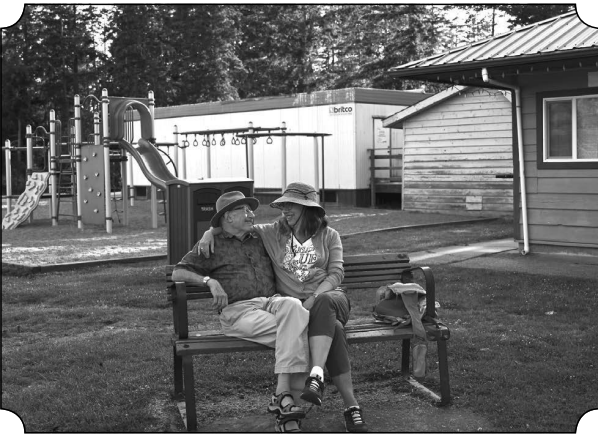


PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Reuben Kaufman and Susan Rogers snuggle on a Portlock Park bench while watching a grandchild on the swing.

7:15PM



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT
Cousins Ayla and Keeha "make a wish" with a dandelion gone to seed.

4:38PM



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER ROY

Tyee Joseph, left, an Indigenous land steward with the Staqeeye' Learning Society, leads attendees in a dance at the community-wide potluck feast at Xwaaqw'um, as part of Indigenous Peoples Weekend activities.

5:09PM



PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

RCMSAR Station 25 volunteers Cheryl Wilkinson and Chris Levan train on the water off Vesuvius.

6:48PM



PHOTO BY JULIA GILBERT

The Stevens family's guinea pig is buried after suffering a month-long illness. RIP Amber.

8:00PM



PHOTO BY JOHN KYLE

Harpichordist Christophe Gauthier, tenor/countertenor Shane Hanson, and countertenor Nicholas Burns perform in the satirical opera Henry Purcell (mostly) in Love, presented by the Salt Spring Baroque Music Society at All Saints.

8:29PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

2024 Raven Chapbooks poetry contest winner Andrea Scott reads from her book called In the Warm Shallows of What Remains at the library, with digital art by Joseph Reville (aka CJ) and Sherman Sherwood seen behind her.

7:42PM



PHOTO BY IULIA GILBERT

Dragonfly enjoys the sunshine in the vegetable garden. June 22 saw a mixed bag of weather, from showers to clouds of all kinds and bright sunshine too.

4:46PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Hannah and Evan at St. Mary Lake.

6:50PM



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY

Adam and Bia dance to Duke & Goldie's music outside the Tree House Cafe.

8:28PM



PHOTO BY IULIA GILBERT

Alura Gilbert gets more plants from the greenhouse into the garden.

4:15PM



PHOTO BY JOHN DE BRUYN

BC Ferries employee Terry Mayer chats with a passenger in the Vesuvius terminal parking lot.

3:32PM

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PHOTO BY ANDY DOYLE-LINDEN
Bruce Everett plays harmonica with Everyday People at Moby's Pub.

9:34PM



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG
Lulu licks her bowl clean, having decided at almost 14 years of age that she must now be fed breakfast at or soon after dawn's first light, despite her sleep-deprived caregiver's protests.

4:53AM



PHOTO BY ANDY LINDEN-DOYLE
Tara Hollingsworth belts it out at an Everyday People gig at Moby's Pub. Behind her, from left, are some bandmates: Bruce Cameron, Dave Campbell and Billie Woods.

9:56PM

9 pm to 6 am



PHOTO BY AVRIL KIRBY
Josie, left, and Morven in the early hours of June 23 at Embe Bakery.

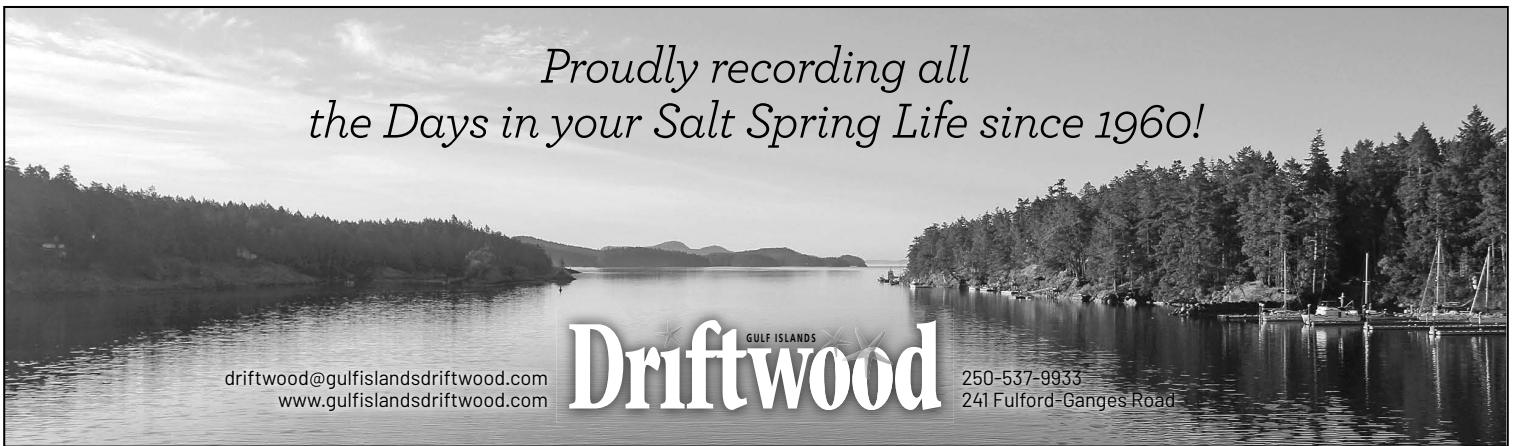
5:58AM



PHOTO BY WAYNE STEVENS
View to Vancouver Island from the Quinsam ferry docked in Vesuvius Bay, ready for its first run of the day to the Crofton terminal at 6 a.m.

5:16AM

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ISLAND LIFE

AUTHOR EVENTS

Harrington on Salt Spring for book launch

Lasqueti-based sailor's 'Voices' retells the stories behind island conservation efforts

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A former Salt Spring resident is returning next week to celebrate the launch of a book with stories related to this island and 16 others.

Voices for the Islands: Thirty Years of Nature Conservation on the Salish Sea is about the creation of local nature conservancies — beginning in the 1990s — and the people behind them. Many of the names and stories will be familiar, but Harrington's book provides an intimate look at local protests, the history and the evolution of conservancies. She also includes her experience of a three-year sailing journey through the islands while interviewing more than 50 veteran conservationists. The foreword was written by Briony Penn.

Harrington currently lives off-grid on Lasqueti Island.

On Thursday, Aug. 8 at 7 p.m., she will read from and talk about her book at the Salt Spring Public Library's program room.

"Voices for the Islands will inspire readers to turn apathy into action and support the cause of conservation and reconciliation in an era of species extinction and climate change," states promotional material from Heritage House Publishing. "Full of colour photos, maps and fascinating first-hand stories by unsung heroes of conservation — many of whom are now elders — this book reveals how local people and grassroots movements have the power to transform the future of our precious planet."

Harrington was the founding executive director of the Land Trust Alliance of B.C. (from 1997 to 2011) and a director of the Lasqueti Island Conservancy for more than 12 years. She co-edited with Judi Stevenson the bestselling and award-winning Islands in the Salish Sea: A Community Atlas book.

"As a sailor, I have had the privilege of visiting every one of the islands in this book and hiked many trails in the parks and protected areas," writes Bob McDonald, author, journalist and host of CBC radio's Quirks & Quarks show, about Voices for the Islands. "Each Gulf Island holds a distinct beauty . . . It is a delight to follow in the wake of fellow sailor Sheila Harrington as she meets the people and organizations that have fought tirelessly to preserve these unique ecosystems for future generations to enjoy."



PHOTO BY DOANE GRINELL

Former director of the Lasqueti Island Conservancy and one-time Salt Springer Sheila Harrington, above, will be anchoring and coming ashore to promote her new book — Voices for the Islands: Thirty Years of Nature Conservation on the Salish Sea — at the library on Thursday, Aug. 8.

UTILITIES

BC Hydro looks to 'flat' rate option

Change could save customers in near term under new BCUC application

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An application from B.C.'s electric utility offers a glimpse into a likely future where we can expect higher electricity costs for most island households — but there may be a softer landing for islanders who are changing their habits to use fewer fossil fuels today.

BC Hydro has filed an application with the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) proposing some changes to its residential rate options, notably introducing a single-rate choice structured pricewise to sit between "steps" on its current two-tier pricing.

Today, most B.C. residential customers pay a discounted energy charge at "Step 1" for an initial amount of electricity used, and a higher rate at "Step 2" for the remainder. The 'flat' rate, according to a BC Hydro statement July 8, could be a better deal for many energy users — and, according to the utility, changing would create an average bill savings for those who benefit of around \$60 per year.

BC Hydro recently initiated an optional time-of-day rate structure, essentially adding a 5-cent discount for each kWh of electricity consumed between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. — what BC Hydro calls its "Overnight period" — and an additional 5-cent upcharge for each kWh of electricity consumed between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. — the so-called "On-Peak period" for energy use.

That option seemed squarely aimed at people who charged electric vehicles at home, given the flexibility those customers would have in shifting what is for many their most energy-consuming "device" to use power overnight. In this filing with the BCUC, BC Hydro said some 6,000 customers had already signed up to participate in that time-of-day rate structure within the first month of it being available.

"This application aims to build upon that progress," said the

utility, "by making additional rate design changes and offering additional rate choices that will benefit customers and respond to emerging trends and system needs."

From a cost perspective, according to BC Hydro, the expansion of the schedule to include an option for the flat rate would most benefit customers with electric heating, those charging electric vehicles at home, those who have larger households, live in colder areas or who have no access to natural gas — essentially those who use enough electricity to where the majority of their bill is made up of "Step 2" pricing.

That higher-rate pricing, introduced with the objective of encouraging conservation, has held constant over the last three years, while Step 1 has slightly risen; the reduced differential has largely been a product of BCUC decisions, one of which last year noted that there was "no conservation-related justification for increasing the Step 2 energy charge to maintain the current gap" between the two rates.

But as generation costs seemingly rose, so did Step 1 pricing; BC Hydro's application seems to expect that pattern to continue, although it does forecast increasing the flat rate charge at roughly the same intervals — leading inexorably toward all three rates "meeting" by around 2028, at which point the utility says it would apply to merge the rate schedules.

Of interest to islanders interested in self-sufficiency, the application also sets out a proposal for structural changes to how BC Hydro deals with customers who generate their own electricity, establishing a new compensation mechanism to simplify how customers shrink their hydro bills through at-home solar generation.

And, to the collective delight of solar system operators and installers, the utility proposes to enable "community-based self-generation" — a method for multiple account holders to collectively contribute to and benefit from community-based generating facilities.

The BCUC has appointed a panel to review the application, according to a letter from commission secretary Patrick Wruck; a decision will likely come in 2025.

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SWEETWATER RIDES

PHOTOS BY MURRAY SIPLE

Samuel Erck, left, goes up on two wheels negotiating a turn on Sunday, July 28 during the 2024 Sweetwater 500 lawn mower racing event. About 150 spectators came to race day at the end of Toynbee Road, according to Salt Spring Island Lawn Mower Racing Association (SSILMRA) founder Bradley Damsgaard, to see 11 racers compete. "There was a lot of action," laughed Damsgaard. "A couple of roll overs, my mower lost a front tire - which made for a dramatic spin-out on the back straightaway." The event, presented by Mid Isle Marine and SSILMRA, is in its second year. Damsgaard said anyone interested in taking part in future racing should "Put your mower where your mouth is, and get welding!"



At left, Andrew Hawthorne flies the checkered flag; above, Damsgaard leans into a turn. More information on lawn mower racing is available at ssilmra.ca.

YOUTH SAILING

Sailors earn Summer Games silver

Season's success continues for teams

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING JUNIOR SAILING TEAM

Two junior sailing teams had a successful competition at the 2024 BC Summer Games from July 18 to 21, with each team garnering a silver medal in their events.

Izzi Pugh Aucoin and Reuben Sol captured silver in the C420 Open category (mixed and male teams) while Malika Clement and Maeve FitzZaland won silver in the C420 Female category.

Pugh Aucoin and Sol said conditions of very light winds and hot weather during the first day of games competition led to an early end to competition that day. The sailing teams were only able to complete two heats of the course, set in the harbour of Port Moody, before the winds became too light and unpredictable and the remaining heats for the day were called off.

Competition resumed the following day with the course set further out in Burrard Inlet. The sailors had increased wind and stronger currents to contend with, as well as temperatures around 30 Celsius, and they raced five heats in rapid succession. The Salt Spring sailors said that because they practise in a relatively sheltered area near Ganges, they have less experience in the stronger winds than teams that practise in areas of higher winds.

In spite of the change in conditions, the Salt Spring sailors had very consistent finishes, with both teams in the top



PHOTO COURTESY SS JUNIOR SAILING TEAM

From left, Reuben Sol, Izzi Pugh Aucoin, Maeve FitzZaland and Malika Clement sport silver medals earned in sailing competition at the BC Summer Games in Maple Ridge.

four for each of their races. Clement and FitzZaland were particularly pleased with their results, given that this was only their second regatta as a pair.

Because the Games were primarily located in Maple Ridge, sailing teams had long commutes from Port Moody back to the high school where they were staying, and found themselves eating cold dinners outside their classroom dormitories at 10 o'clock at night.

"The food at the Games was not great, and we didn't have time to eat much in between races," said Clement and Pugh Aucoin. Nonetheless, they were enthusiastic about their medals, and about the experience of the Games.

Sol, Pugh Aucoin, Clement and FitzZaland all expressed appreciation for their local coach, John Hillier, as well as the support of the Saltspring Island Sailing Club and local donors who have made their successes possible.

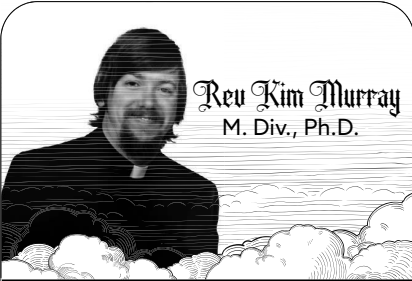
The Salt Spring Island junior team will finish off its season with the Fall Dinghies Regatta in Victoria on Sept. 28-29. The C420 racers will be joined by younger Opti sailors, some of whom will be attending their first regatta at that time.

Any donations to the junior team are welcome and can be made via the dinghy fleet captain, Douglas Woolcock: ssidinghy@gmail.com.

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Obituaries



Rev. Kim Murray
M. Div., Ph.D.

October 31, 1952 – July 6, 2024

Father Kim Murray died on July 6, 2024, shortly following admission to Victoria Hospice, after a six-month struggle with congestive heart failure while living at home. Born with cerebral palsy, Kim spent his last four years wheelchair-bound after one fall too many.

After earning an M.Div. from Trinity College, Toronto, Kim began his church ministry at St. John's Anglican Church, Edmonton. He married Janet in 1979, and a year later, they started the parish of St. Margaret's, Edmonton, which is still going strong.

Kim completed his Ph.D. in church history from Durham, UK, while working at St. John's the Divine, Victoria. Subsequent postings in BC included Parksville and Salt Spring Island. Kim is survived by his wife Janet of 44 years, and their greyhound, Shadow. He will be deeply missed by his many relatives, friends, and parishioners.

Taking early retirement in 2008 enabled the Murrays to continue their love of travel, mainly with repeated trips to New Zealand, and to pursue volunteer work. Kim was a great cook and storyteller, usually at the same time. While living on Salt Spring Island, Kim volunteered at the weekly free community meal "Soups On!", as well as at the Visitor Information Centre on Saturday mornings. He was a stalwart supporter of the local gay community, GLOSSI, now called DAISSI.

A Requiem Mass celebrating Kim's life will be held at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 1525 Begbie St., Victoria, on September 6 at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the BC Cancer Agency: 2410 Lee Avenue, Victoria, BC V8R 6V5. Condolences may be offered at www.mccallgardens.com



TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JULY - AUGUST 2024 PST (UTC-8H)
When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS	DAY	TIME	FEET	METERS
31	8:39	1.2	0.37	4	0:04	9.1	2.77
	17:52	10.6	3.25		3:21	9.6	2.93
	21:05	10.2	3.11		11:32	1.1	0.34
1	0:19	10.5	3.2	5	19:39	10.8	3.29
	9:27	0.9	0.27		0:44	8.6	2.62
	18:19	10.8	3.29		4:24	9.3	2.83
2	22:26	9.9	3.02	6	12:09	1.5	0.46
	1:10	10.2	3.11		20:03	10.7	3.26
	10:11	0.8	0.24		1:23	8.1	2.47
3	18:46	10.9	3.32	7	5:23	9	2.74
	23:21	9.6	2.93		12:45	2.1	0.64
	2:14	9.8	2.99		20:26	10.5	3.2
3	10:53	0.9	0.27		2:02	7.5	2.29
	19:13	10.9	3.32		6:22	8.7	2.65
					13:20	2.9	0.88
					20:47	10.4	3.17

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In Memoriam

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Request for Proposal

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District invites qualified accounting firms to submit proposals to perform annual financial audits for the District. Audits must be planned and executed in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, the provisions of the Local Government Act, and Community Charter. Audits will result in an opinion to the District's Board of Trustees as to the fairness of the annual financial statements and related schedules. The Auditor should have experience and expertise in performing municipal and/or improvement district audits, be free of any obligations or interests that may conflict or affect their ability to perform and act as the Auditor of the District and have the capacity to provide this service in a timely manner.

The Request For Proposal is available at the Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue website at www.saltspringfire.com

Any inquiries regarding this Request For Proposal should be directed to Rodney Dieleman, Corporate Administration Officer, at telephone number (250) 537-2531, or email: corpadmin@saltspringfire.com

ISSUE DATE: July 29, 2024 **CLOSING DATE AND TIME:** 4:00 P.M. Pacific Time, August 30, 2024

Legal

NOTICE

Notice of intention to dispose of multiple vessels under section 39 of the Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act

"Ding Ho" 32ft white Trimaran beached in Ganges Harbour, Salt Spring Island B.C. TC File#W2019-500022 is considered Abandoned.

This notice serves as official notice of the Minister's intention to dispose of these vessels after 30 days from which this notice was given. Should you have any questions, you may contact, Transport Canada's Navigation Protection Program at **NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca** or **604-775-8867** and reference file numbers above.

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WEEK OF JULY 28 TO AUGUST 3, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK: CANCER, LEO AND VIRGO

ARIES
You'll be worried about money this week, so you'll work hard to improve your situation. You may be able to put together the necessary funds to achieve a big dream or at least pay off some of your debt.

TAURUS
You'll feel inspired to take a new direction in life. You'll have the determination to transform your reality altogether. You'll start fresh and finish a significant project.

GEMINI
You must rest after being in a large crowd. You prefer passive and relaxing activities while on holiday, such as visiting museums and walking in nature.

CANCER
You'll bring many people together by organizing a surprising event. This project will expand your social circle. You may become quite popular on social media.

LEO
You'll spontaneously head off into the unknown. You could seriously consider returning to school or starting a new career in line with your values. At the very least, you'll be inspired to travel.

VIRGO
You must make changes to improve your inner well-being. You may adopt a more spiritual lifestyle. You could also plan a pilgrimage to explore the depths of your soul.

LIBRA
You may spend too much money on your credit card while on vacation. Although you're concerned about your finances, you'll continue being a little frivolous before reigning things in.

SCORPIO
You should wait until after the holidays before making any big decisions. Take the time to weigh the pros and cons. This will remove some pressure that could lead you to make regrettable choices.

SAGITTARIUS
Many details will require your attention between tasks at work and home. You'll need to deep-clean your home to clear your mind.

CAPRICORN
You'll attend shows and artistic events during the holidays. All eyes will be on you as you perform, receiving well-deserved applause.

AQUARIUS
A family story could hold your attention, or perhaps just decorating your home. While on holiday, the comfort of home and the company of family will bring you happiness.

PISCES
You have a way with words. This will get you noticed on the phone and social media. You'll enjoy chiming in on various subjects. You'll be on the move a lot, which will satisfy your curiosity.



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EXHIBITIONS

Artist explores 'home' concept



PHOTOS COURTESY ROSIE SCHINNERS

At left, Rosie Schinners at work in her studio; above, a hummingbird nest piece that forms part of her *A Place Called Home* exhibition seen on the stage at Mahon Hall from Aug. 2 to 26.

Next Artcraft Showcase features Rosie Schinners

SUBMITTED BY ARTCRAFT

Artcraft's summer Showcase exhibition series continues on the Mahon Hall stage with a solo show by Rosie Schinners opening this Friday, Aug. 2.

Working with techniques such as mono-printing and collage, Schinners explores the potential of paper as a versatile medium of expression in both two- and three-dimensional approaches while asking the question, "What goes into making a 'home'?"

Two streams of work are in conversation with one another in *A Place Called Home*. One is a series of treehouses, symbolizing places Schinners once called home, that exist in a space between reality, memory and

dreamscape. The complement is a collection of bird nests that come from the same surreal place.

"For humans, we gather and carry materials through time to surround ourselves with distinctive character, identity and what eventually become memories of places we once existed in. Birds also spend time gathering a unique combination of materials to create an ideal nest to call their home," Schinners observed. "Whether crafted by human hands or shaped by animal instinct and necessity, our dwellings speak to a shared desire for sanctuary amidst the chaos of the world."

Schinners is a multidisciplinary artist who resides on Salt Spring. Working primarily with vintage print imagery, she combines hand-cut collage with vibrant splashes of colour to bring new life to old images. She looks to explore and express fleeting moments of magic, memory and nostalgia.

Originally from Barrie, Ont., Schinners holds a Bachelor of Art from the University of Guelph as well as a Bachelor of Fine Art from NSCAD University in Halifax. Although focused on oil painting during her formal art education, collage and paper-based art was always in the background. It became a primary medium after a meaningful workshop with long-time favourite artist and author Nick Bantock in 2014. In 2019, she was selected and collaborated with *Kolaj Magazine* as the World Collage Day Featured Artist and has since led collage-based residencies and workshops in Canada and the United States.

She has been inspired to create her current work in part by her rural landscape and the variety of birds, both large and small, that she can see from the window of her current home. Her colourful artworks reference nests and treehouses, and make use of upcycled and foraged materials that some might consider scrap, "as if birds themselves were exploring my art studio to create new homes," Schinners notes.

"The fragmented nature of collage and the inherent glitches and imperfections of the mono-printing process speak to the characteristics of memory itself," she explains in her artist statement. "Repetitive layering of printing acts in much the same manner as how our thoughts revisit the same recollections frequently — sometimes welcomed, sometimes not. My use of vibrant colour is an invitation into an aspirational space, where joy, magic and playfulness are celebrated."

An opening reception for the Showcase takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Aug. 2, and an artist talk is set for Sunday, Aug. 4 at 2 p.m.

Showcase exhibitions run during Artcraft hours at Mahon Hall, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

LIVE THEATRE

One more time, Grace Jordan is Shirley Valentine



PHOTO BY BRETTE LITTLE

Grace Jordan in her role as Shirley Valentine, which she will present nightly from Aug. 1 to 5 at her family's Stonewell Farm property.

Renowned comedy unfolds at charming venue this week

BY GAIL SJUBERG
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It was 20 years ago on Pender Island when Grace Jordan first thrilled audiences with her embracing of the role of Shirley Valentine in an outdoor live theatre show.

For people unfamiliar with the award-winning play by Willy Russell, it centres on a middle-aged woman who is unhappy with her housewife role in life, and who transforms as a result of taking a trip to Greece with a friend. While the theme is a serious one, the play is full of humour.

After performing as Shirley Valentine a number of times since her Pender debut, Jordan is mounting the show one last time, from Thursday, Aug. 1 through Monday, Aug. 5, at her family's beautiful Stonewell Farm property at 1860 Fulford-Ganges Rd. on Lee's Hill. The gate opens at 5:30 p.m. and people can get into the spirit of the play by purchasing Greek tapas, desserts, wine and other beverages, with the show beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Jordan production is unique in its intimacy and charm: put on by a family-run theatre company hosted outside on their own farm property and with homemade treats as well.

Tickets are available online through eventbrite, or via cash at the door. People should bring lawn chairs, blankets and cushions, although some bench seating is also available.

The event is also a benefit for Islanders Working Against Violence. All of Jordan's Shirley Valentine shows in the past 20 years have benefited social or environmental justice causes.

SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

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OPENING RECEPTION
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ARTIST TALK
 AUG 4 | 2 - 3PM

EXHIBITION
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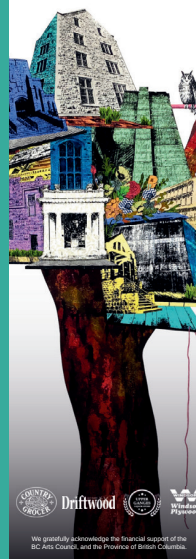
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SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERTS

Blue Moon Marquee struts stuff next week

Chico Eh opens Aug. 8 concert

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

Salt Spring Arts' Summer Outdoor Concert Series (SOCS) is in full swing, presenting live music for free in Centennial Park in collaboration with Salt Spring Country Grocer and Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union.

Every Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. through Aug. 22, join locals, island visitors and music lovers alike in the heart of Ganges to enjoy incredible performers. Next week's concert features JUNO award-winning duo Blue Moon Marquee with local support from Chico Eh.

Blue Moon Marquee members A.W. Cardinal and Jasmine Colette write and perform original compositions influenced by anything that swings, jumps or grooves.

According to the duo's website, "Colette not only commands the upright bass but also brings the rhythm with her feet on a custom foot drum kit, all while singing in her signature honey-dipped tone. Cardinal's distinctive and soulful vocals barrel out like a raging bull while his guitar crackles with the swinging energy of jazz-tinged blues.

"Carving a path through blues, jazz, jump jive, folk, country, swing and Indigenous soul with an authentic spirit, their sound does not idle easily in one certain

category. Unbound by genre or era, Blue Moon Marquee has an edge that demands you take notice."

After 14 years of playing live together on Salt Spring Island, Billie Woods and "eljose" have come together to form their new duo, Chico Eh, writing music with the rhythm being the heartbeat and the melody being coloured by Spanish, Portuguese and English lyrics. With over 40 years of combined performance experience, they strive to make you move your body and light up your soul.

Tomorrow evening's SOCS concert in the park features Mazacote with Peach & Quiet.

For more information about the concert series, visit saltspringarts.com/socs.



PHOTO BY WENDY WEI

Jasmine Colette and A.W. Cardinal of Blue Moon Marquee.

what's on this week

Wed. July 31

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: The Roly Poly String Trio. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.

Bruce & John. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. Open on the Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

POSTPONED DUE TO ILLNESS: Getting to Know Our Neighbours: Carleton university geology professor emeritus John Moore speaks about his postings to Ethiopia, and Nedjo Rogers speaks on being a fieldwork volunteer in Latin America.

Snorkelling Around Salt Spring Island in 80 Images. Presentation by scuba divers and photographers Ann Donahue and Catherine Griffiths. Library program room. 7:30 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Thur. Aug 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shirley Valentine. Grace Jordan presents her 20th anniversary production of the comedy by Willy Russell. Stonewell Farm, 1860 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Gates open for Greek tapas and wine at 5:30 p.m.; show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets in advance through eventbrite or at the gate.

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub, patio. 5 p.m.

Woodland. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Mazacote. With Peach & Quiet opening the show. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

Open Mic With Rough & Tumble. Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Blackwood. JUNO-nominated performers at Mateada. 9 p.m.

Thur. Aug. 1

ACTIVITIES

Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.

Annual Community Yoga Retreat. Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. See saltspringcentre.com.

Fri. Aug. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shirley Valentine. See Thurs. listing.

Eljose. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

The Awakeners. Mateada. 8 p.m.

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

ACTIVITIES

Free Drawing Night with Sean Karemaker. For teens and adults at Salt Spring Public Library Program room. 7 to 9 p.m.

ASK Salt Spring. On hiatus this week.

Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.

Annual Community Yoga Retreat. See Thurs. listing.

Sat. Aug. 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shirley Valentine. See Thurs. listing.

SugarBeat. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Everyday People. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.

Andrew Interchill & Adham Shaikh. DJs at 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

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

Annual Community Yoga Retreat. See Thurs. listing.

Sun. Aug. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shirley Valentine. See Thurs. listing.

TwoPointOh! Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Jazz Jam. At the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

Sunday Sessions With Guest Artists. Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Weekly Food Exchange. Exchange home-grown and home-made foods. At The Root. 2 to 3 p.m.

Annual Community Yoga Retreat. See Thurs. listing.

Bittancourt Museum. See Wed. listing.

Mon. Aug 5

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Shirley Valentine. See Thurs. listing.

Salome Cullen. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Tues. Aug. 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Terry Warbey. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Country Jam. With open mic. Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Farmers Market. Every Tuesday at Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Trivia Tuesday. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

Wed. Aug. 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Afternoon Shift. Quintet of members from Swing Shift Big Band. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.

Morien Jones. Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.

Gord Ross, Dan Smith & Bobo Czarnowski. Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.

Wed. Aug. 7

ACTIVITIES

Swing Dancing. Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.

Music Bingo. Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

CINEMA

• **Despicable Me 4** runs Wednesday, July 31 through Thursday, Aug. 8 at 7 p.m. each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.

ART EXHIBITIONS

• **Salt Spring Painters' Guild 52nd annual Summer Show and Sale** runs at ArtSpring through Aug. 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

• **The new Artcraft Showcase exhibition features work by Rosie Schinners: A Place Called Home** at Mahon Hall from Aug. 2 to 26, with an opening reception on Aug. 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. and an artist's talk on Aug. 4 at 2 p.m.

• **Cheryl Long: Recent Work** runs at Salt Spring Gallery on Friday, July 26 through Wednesday, Aug. 14.

• **Her and Him Photography Show – images by Gwen McDonald and Curt Firestone** – runs in the library program room through August. They will be present to discuss their work from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, Aug. 3, 17 and 24.

• **Artcraft show and sale of work by Gulf Islands artisans** runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **A photographic exhibition by Cherie Geauvreau called A Family of Trees** will be on display at the Salt Spring Laundry-O-Mat for the month of August.

Shirley Valentine

Live theatre, plus Greek tapas & wine at Stonewell Farm with Grace Jordan
Thurs.-Mon., Aug. 1 to 5
Gate at 5:30 pm; show at 7:30

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

SALT SPRING PRIDE PARADE 2024

Photos by Rob Lowrie, except as noted



John Dolman, left, and Tim O'Connor of TJ Beans Cafe, supporters of all things Pride and keepers of the McPhillips Avenue rainbow parade arch.



Transition Salt Spring (TSS) executive director Darlene Gage walks with the TSS group.



Michelle Kinney, left, and Kristie Straarup have dancing, skating fun.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Walking with Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May, who also spoke at the pre-parade ceremony, are Murray and Karen Reiss, and Tisha Boulter, with a Pride flag behind May.



Lisa Dahling and her tutu-wearing dog Sadie, with the rainbow arch seen behind.



Salt Spring Public Library Association members sport Pride colours.



People of all ages participate in the parade, which started at McPhillips Avenue and wound through Ganges to Rainbow Road.

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