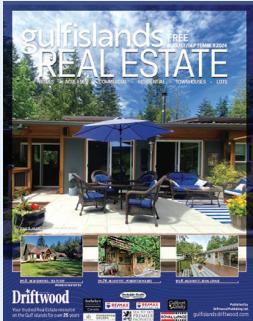


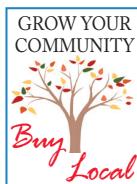
inside:



**3** Island student earns top U of T award

Arts and Entertainment...10  
Classifieds ..... 9  
Editorial ..... 4  
Island Life ..... 8  
Letters ..... 5  
Sports & Recreation.....12  
What's On ..... 11

**INSERTS:**  
• County Grocer  
• Pharmasave  
• The Local Liquor St  
• Thrifty Foods



# Driftwood

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SATURDAY MARKET

## Censoring sign policy in limbo



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Sofya Raginsky of Heyday Farm completes a transaction at her Saturday Market stall. The longtime vendor was asked to "tone down" or remove the Stop Genocide - Free Palestine sign, and then the market society board adopted a guideline stating that only signage or literature that promoted a vendor's business would be allowed at booths. The guideline has since been rescinded by the board while more information is gathered.

### Freedom of expression in public spaces in the spotlight

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A market vendor's sign expressing opposition to Israel's war on Gaza has prompted a firestorm of community controversy.

Sofya Raginsky of Heyday Farm first hung a simple hand-written "Stop Genocide, Free Palestine" sign at the back of her Saturday Market and Tuesday Farmers Market stalls last October, and did so again for the 2024 market seasons. On July 10 she received an email from a member of the Salt Spring Island Saturday Market Society (SSISMS) board — which does not run the Tuesday market — asking if she was willing to "tone down the signage in some way. If we don't have to create a policy to make sure you do, the option remains to express oneself in some less overt way."

At the next market day on July 13, SSISMS president Alvaro Sanchez came to Raginsky's booth and politely asked her if she would remove the sign for the sake of preserving neutrality. She refused to do so at such short notice and, as Raginsky said in a letter to the SSISMS board, "I wasn't interested in expressing myself in a less overt way."

Then all Saturday Market vendors received an email from the SSISMS advising that a new guideline for vendors was being added regarding signage and displays. It read: "All vendor

signage and literature on display and available for public consumption within the market may promote only the vendor's business name and products for sale. No other signage, literature or other material is permitted."

The board said its rationale for the change was to maintain a "safe space where all our vendors can share their passion for the items they make, bake or grow. We know that there are very concerning things happening all over the world. We believe during the market hours this should be a time to unplug from those things and celebrate the good that we are creating as individuals living on Salt Spring Island."

The email also stated: "We know this [guideline change] may be a challenge for some, but we feel this is the best approach to maintain a safe, neutral atmosphere for all to enjoy the products created by our vendors. This decision has been made through a consensus process by the board after much input from many places. It does not indicate the political opinions of the board or any of its members on any issue that is happening locally or globally."

In her written response to the SSISMS board, Raginsky said, "I do not think it's a market board's place to dictate how and when individuals engage with the world," referring to the suggestion that market hours "should be a time

to unplug" from negative things taking place elsewhere.

"I also believe that business and politics are inextricably linked. No business is neutral, ever," she said.

Vociferous support for Raginsky's position and opposition to the policy change was expressed directly to the SSISMS board and through social media channels.

Adina Guest was one of many addressing the SSISMS board in writing: "We should all be standing against these horrors, and I am grateful for people like Sofya who are doing so bravely in a general atmosphere of complicit silence . . . let us not silence the one among us who is brave enough to do so. We do not want our island to be known as one who oppresses and silences voices of dissent."

According to a July 25 Reuters news service, "Palestinian health authorities say Israel's ground and air campaign in Gaza has killed more than 39,000 people, mostly civilians, and driven most of the enclave's 2.3 million people from their homes."

"The war began on Oct. 7 when Hamas militants stormed across the border into Israeli communities. Israel says the militants killed more than 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took 253 into captivity in Gaza."

**MARKET** continued on 3

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## EMERGENCY PLANNING

# Emergency food sovereignty effort launched

Input wanted for new Neighbours Feeding Neighbours initiative

BY ROBB MAGLEY  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A project launched this summer on Salt Spring hopes to build resilience to emergencies through one of the island's greatest strengths: local food production.

Salt Spring's rich and diverse food production capability is the foundation upon which the broader emergency food sovereignty goals driving the new Neighbours Feeding Neighbours (NFN) initiative are built, according to co-coordinators Grace Wampold and Heather Picotte. The effort, partly funded by a grant from B.C.'s Investment Agriculture Foundation held by the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust, means to flesh out an understanding of how Salt Spring's food resources could be leveraged in an emergency, geographically organized — at least for now — through the extant Salt Spring Island Emergency Program neighbourhood pod system that covers the entire island.

"The idea is that we connect people with the farms and other food producers in their neighbourhoods, help build relationships between them," said Picotte. "Then when we have an emergency, those relationships will be in place."

The notion was built out from discussions during last November's Food Summit; in addition to developing a broad inventory of what food Salt Spring's growers grow, NFN is keen on looking at infrastructure. That includes storage — water and food storage, keeping things cold — and alternative ways of making things work if the power goes out.

The effort is structured so far around farms that already lie in individual neighbourhood pods. Picotte said the first iteration would focus on identifying 10 pods where food was produced, and organize gatherings so people could get to know their food producers. It's a "living list," said Wampold, for sharing with neighbours — think potlucks and other face-to-face gatherings, building community and imagining

ways they can work collectively in a crisis to increase capacity.

"Not all farms have the same resources," said Picotte. "They can't all be expected to go from a CSA box program with 50 boxes to like 100 instantaneously when there's an emergency, it's impossible. So we need to meet people where they are and see what they have to offer."

Salt Spring is a broadly agricultural island, observed Wampold. In addition to the relatively large number of crop farms, there are homesteads and people who simply grow food in their backyards; there are hunters and those who understand the resources of the island's food forests. There are also many who keep livestock — an asset that needs to be protected in any emergency.

"A lot of homeowners who live on a rural property might have a few goats, a few sheep, cows, ducks," said Wampold. "Maybe they keep bees. Part of this is connecting with those people so that they have a plan for evacuation."

Farms, said Wampold, have traditionally served multiple purposes in communities, being not just food producers but gathering spaces.

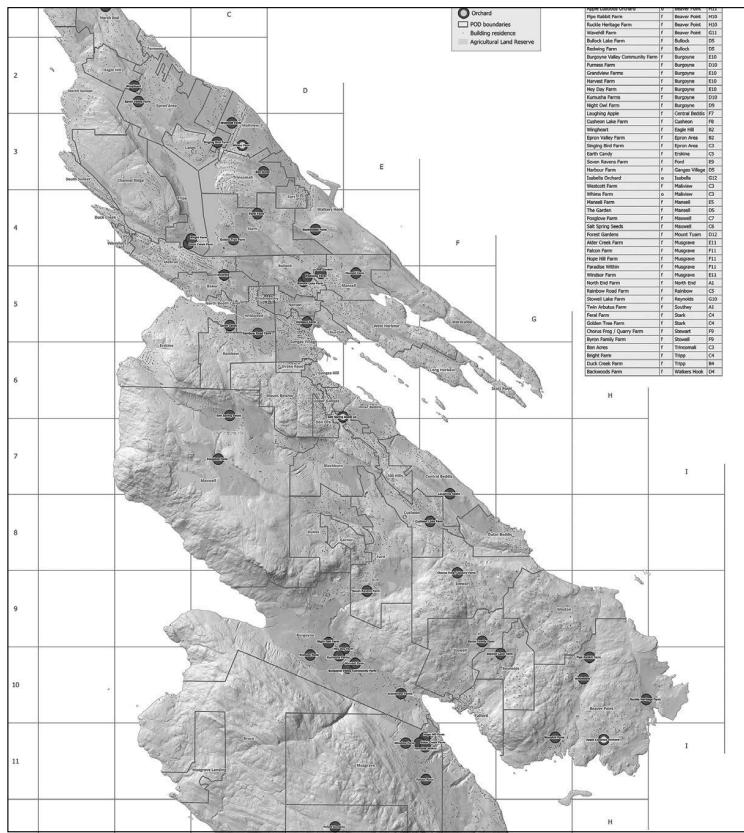
"That makes them great muster points in an emergency," said Wampold. "And they often have resources like water that are less common for people who are just kind of doing it on their own, living more remote."

Picotte said the duo had toured six farms already to talk about planning, and one question kept cropping up.

"They would ask, well, what kind of emergency are you planning for?" said Picotte. "I mean, that's it; it could be anything."

Top-of-mind threats always include fire, she said, and basic supply chain disruptions — imagine a flood that might cut off a highway, or longer storms that disrupt ferry service. Picotte said NFN had consulted with emergency services manager John Wakefield, who laid out the idea behind the "unforeseen emergency of two weeks' duration" as a starting point.

For those who might not get around that well in an emergency — whether anticipating a physical challenge like day-to-day difficulties with walking, or a geographical one like living at the end of a remote road



## ACHIEVEMENTS

# Maia Cassie earns U of T National Scholar status



PHOTO COURTESY MAIA CASSIE

18-year-old Maia Cassie, who is headed to the University of Toronto as a "National Scholar" this fall.

## Four years of tuition and residence fees covered

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's Maia Cassie knew she wanted to attend the University of Toronto when she started looking seriously at post-secondary options.

But scholarships were going to be "a big factor" in her ultimate choice of school, Cassie said last week in describing how she earned the U of T's top entrance award: the National Scholarship. It will cover all tuition and incidental fees and residence costs for her four-year undergraduate degree, and includes mentorship by a faculty member. Approximately 10 National Scholarships are awarded each year, valued at more than \$100,000. U of T material states, "These are students who demonstrate superior academic performance, original and creative thought, and exceptional achievement in a broad context. They excel in academic pursuits, demonstrate enthusiasm for intellectual exploration and have a strong involvement in the lives of their schools and communities."

The scholarship path was both rigorous and interesting for Cassie.

After receiving the required nomination from her high school — Queen Margaret's School (QMS)

in Duncan — she completed the application form. While it included all the standard kinds of questions one would expect, applicants also provided an open-ended writing piece based around a few random words.

"So that was really unique and I really liked that," she said. "From there they contacted me letting me know that they liked my application and I was going to have an interview. Before those interviews came, we had a lot of cool webinars and got to meet all the other finalists and hear more about U of T."

Then came a series of interviews with a few staff members, professors and a past National Scholar.

Cassie also submitted one of the video essays from her YouTube channel that looks at film, TV and social media through a sociological lens.

**"I think a lot of the stuff that I do currently — extracurriculars and such — is about examining the way that people interact with the world, and why and how social change happens, and understanding politics, and those sorts of things."**

MAIA CASSIE  
University of Toronto  
National Scholar

"I got to talk to a professor at U of T about that video and go into it more in depth and hear his thoughts, so that was a very exciting little taste of getting to talk one-on-one with a professor. And I'm very excited to do that more."

Cassie will be part of the faculty of social sciences, which she said "lined up perfectly with all of my interests."

"I think a lot of the stuff that I do currently — extracurriculars and such — is about examining

the way that people interact with the world, and why and how social change happens, and understanding politics, and those sorts of things."

She has been a Model United Nations participant, and worked and volunteered with organizations such as Volunteer Cowichan, Literacy Now Cowichan and at the Salt Spring Public Library, often in social media roles. She was one of two winners of the inaugural Judy Nurse Bursary for young library volunteers pursuing post-secondary education in 2024.

She won first place in the English-speaking category of the national Poetry in Voice recitation competition in 2023 and third place in the bilingual category this year.

Cassie moved to Salt Spring with her family from Port Moody, B.C. when she was two years old. She attended Salt Spring Centre School through Grade 5, spent Grade 6 at the middle school and then completed her education at QMS in Duncan. While there she was involved with musical theatre, the competitive theatre team and filmmaking club, and was editor of The Quill literary magazine, captain of the Ethics Bowl team, student council president and head prefect on the prefect council. She was also on a QMS team awarded the international Westmont Prize for their video on creating a sustainable fashion app.

She expressed gratitude to her parents, Aidan and Mike Cassie, for their role in her receiving the National Scholarship.

"I can attribute a good amount to support from my parents who have always been just super helpful and there for me in all these many application things, and in all the extracurriculars that led up to it. They definitely had to read a lot of drafts of my written application. They've been pretty instrumental, I think."

Cassie said she has never been to Toronto, but is excited to discover the city.

"It's definitely a very different style of living than growing up on Salt Spring."

The University of Toronto is Canada's largest university, with almost 100,000 students in 80 departments, according to the online Canadian Encyclopedia.

# Rook: CRD not involved

## MARKET

continued from 1

Raginsky observed that opposition to protests or signs in Centennial Park has never been an issue in the past.

"It was really that Palestine issue that — I don't know — there's just such a forceful opposition to it, and I guess the Saturday Market board was just trying to appease those complaints."

Sanchez told the Driftwood on Friday, Aug. 2 that the board received a lot of feedback about the proposed signage ban — much of it vehement but not all of it against — and confirmed that the guideline change has been suspended as the board gathers more information, including further legal advice.

Sanchez said some of the comments made to himself and other board members about their proposal have been hurtful.

"I am trying to not take it personally and to just do what's best for the market."

Raginsky said the situation has

also been extremely uncomfortable and stressful for her, and she hopes a censoring policy will not be adopted.

She is not sure what her response will be if that did occur, but said, "I would think very seriously about not going to the Saturday Market anymore if they did pass that rule."

No guideline change has been raised as a possibility for Tuesday Farmers Market vendors.

Centennial Park falls under Capital Regional District (CRD) jurisdiction through the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC). However, as of this year, the Saturday Market is no longer under direct CRD control as it was in the past through its parks and recreation department.

"We are now at arm's length from day-to-day management decisions affecting market operations," said LCC chair Earl Rook. "That is not to say that the subject won't come up with the LCC, but any discussions or actions would have to respect the terms of the existing management contract."

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# OPINION

## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Free to speak

**C**entennial Park has long been Salt Spring's go-to spot for protests and displays of opinions about any number of local, national or international concerns.

Strongly worded signs are a natural part of such gatherings. In fact, singing and sign-carrying Raging Grannies used to be a common sight in the Saturday Market space itself. Canadians' right to express themselves in such ways in a public venue is guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

It shouldn't matter if the people expressing their opinions about important matters through words on a sign are also selling fruit, vegetables and flowers at the same time.

After the non-profit society board now running the market received some complaints about Sofya Raginsky's "Stop Genocide - Free Palestine" sign in her Heyday Farm booth, it decided to limit vendor market signage and literature to product promotion alone. The understandable backlash has caused them to put a pause on the change, for now, and to obtain further legal advice.

It is not only hard to see how the censorship move could be considered legal, it is also not called for.

It's okay or even good to feel uncomfortable sometimes. Maybe we don't want to be reminded of atrocities in the world, or political viewpoints we vehemently disagree with while out shopping, but that should never oustrip anyone's right to free expression that is not a call to arms, hate speech or a directive to harm others. Raginsky's sign is a simple, quiet but strong expression of disapproval of the large-scale killing of civilians being undertaken by the Israeli government.

Raginsky is willing to accept the consequences of expressing her opinion in a public space. People don't have to buy her produce and flowers, or look at the sign if they are offended by it.

In a letter to the Saturday Market board, she said one argument for censorship made to her was that without a policy, then "holocaust denying and [Make America Great Again] signs might also appear." Her response was spot on. "Most likely they won't. And if they do? If a vendor decides to display their MAGA sign, let them, and see what happens to their sales. And hate speech is a whole other ball game. There are laws about hate speech. And there are laws about free speech too."

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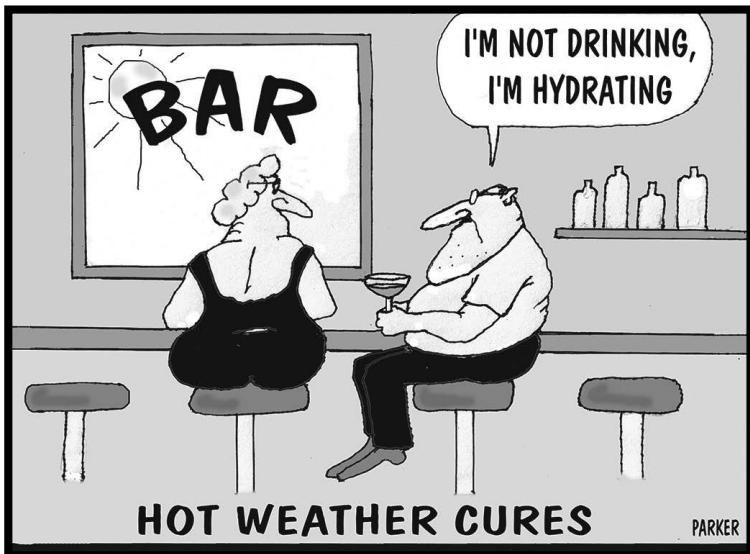
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Silver - Best Local Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Silver - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)



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



## Eby's complaints hollow

BY RILEY DONOVAN

At a recent press conference, Premier David Eby declared that British Columbia's "unprecedented population inflows" are "completely overwhelming." Visibly frustrated, he described how the province is buckling under the weight of growth: "Our schools are full. We are unable to keep up with housing starts."

According to Premier Eby, B.C. is adding a jaw-dropping 10,000 new residents every month. B.C.'s growth is not fuelled by inter-provincial migration. In the first quarter of 2024, 14,113 people moved here from other provinces, while 16,679 people left for greener pastures elsewhere in Canada. Neither is it driven by births; in 2021, B.C.'s mortality rate exceeded its fertility rate for the first time.

Our province's population growth is driven entirely by international migration. The federal government's immigration policy saw Canada grow by nearly 1.3 million in 2023, accounting for 97.6 per cent of national growth.

According to documents obtained by the Canadian Press, the Trudeau government disregarded a memo written by civil servants warning that its pedal-to-the-metal immigration strategy would strain housing and health care. B.C. is now paying the price for Ottawa's incompetence.

Almost a million British Columbians have no family doctor. A poll from the Angus Reid Institute found that one in three B.C. residents are considering leaving the province because of the cost of housing. Schools are facing skyrocketing enrolment.

Premier Eby's diagnosis is correct. Now, what's his treatment plan?

The only solution he has floated is for premiers to work with Ottawa to align immigration targets with provincial capacity. What

### VIEWPOINT

steps will be taken to move this vague desire into reality?

One option would be to play hardball like Québec, which is threatening to hold a referendum on giving itself full control over immigration.

Premier Eby recently complained about a \$750-million federal grant to Québec to help accommodate an influx of asylum seekers, arguing that B.C. also deserves a grant to deal with our own influx of foreign workers and students.

This fundamentally misses the point. Québec receives concessions because it exerts constant pressure on Ottawa. They aren't ashamed to look out for number one. Rather than being outraged about Québec's favourable treatment, B.C. should emulate their pressure tactics.

Another way to moderate population growth would be to bypass the feds entirely, and cut the number of nominees accepted under the Provincial Nominee Program, an economic immigration program which allows provinces to select permanent residents.

Prince Edward Island recently took this route, reducing immigration nominations by 25 per cent and refocusing the remaining nominations away from fast food and retail, instead favouring newcomers with skills in health care, trades and childcare. P.E.I. made this decision to slow growth on their increasingly overcrowded island. B.C. could do the same.

Complaining about runaway population growth isn't working. It's time for Premier Eby's government to take concrete action to reduce growth and give our housing, health care and infrastructure some breathing room.

*The writer is a local journalist and editor of Dominion Review.*

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should political signs be banned from the Saturday Market?

Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you adapted to the new 1.5-metre rule for cyclists' safety in B.C.?

31

56

NO

YES

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

# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Drivers are captains of ships

This is a response to Mike Cotton's "Four-way claim refuted by manual" letter in last week's paper.

Perhaps Mike should read my letter from the following week again. His quote from the Drive Smart manual parrots my words almost verbatim. I never used the word "must" or any other modifier or auxiliary verb. As for Mike's mention of "a little twisted," methinks that only exists between his ears.

He goes on to pander to new drivers (who should be educated), neglect of turn signals (illegal) and the unsure (neurotic or senile).

Drivers are the captains of their ships. They need to be competent and obey the rules, otherwise the sea will eat them. Legislation for the lowest common denominator is a valid definition of Communism.

I am ex-Coast Guard, merchant marine and a retired professional driver. I use turn signals on an empty road because good habits are better than bad. Scrapyards and rocky shores are just waiting to turn our shiny steed to rust. Don't pander to the weak.

P.S. Have you all seen the Rogers TV ad where the guy is alone, dancing on a boat

while his PFD is on a rack behind him? Shame! Swifties and Taylor Swift herself should complain. But I digress . . .

**PETER WINTON,**  
SALT SPRING

### Distractions

*The following letter was sent to the Islands Trust and filed with the Driftwood for publication.*

Recently, the Trust arose, yawned, and decided to respond to "a concern from the general public that sandwich boards at this (Upper and Lower Ganges roads intersection) might be distracting drivers."

Over many weeks a notice was placed on the signs advising the owners of said signs that they must be removed according to Land Use Bylaw 355. The signs were on Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure easement land, so I'm not sure if Islands Trust controls everything that isn't water or air, but that's another issue. At a hearing, I would be the first to ask "how many" of the general public raised a concern about distracted driving at this intersection. I wonder if it was more about the crosswalk that has no light indicator when someone wants to cross? That would be considerably distracting.

They allowed one sign to remain for a

resident of Bayside Townhouses because that would be compliant with the bylaw clause (6.1.2 Signs must be located on the lot occupied by the use to which they refer). OK, but that sign is on MOTI EASEMENT as opposed to "the lot occupied by the use to which they refer." So the owner of that sign should be moved onto the lot they reside on (shared by 14 other residences that are not carrying on a business). Since it would be useless there, you are now enforcing a useless bylaw.

But more to my point: Three other businesses have now put up new signs (encouraged by the one sign the bylaw enforcement officer allowed to remain based on their loose interpretation of the bylaw). I'm wondering if it will be another eight years before Islands Trust bylaw enforcement gets around to sorting out this biased mistake.

And is not the advertising sign just around the corner from this intersection not equally a distraction to motorists? I would love to hear the rationale for why nothing needs to be done there. Or did the "general public" not target any other signs as dangerously distracting as the sign farm at the corner of Upper Ganges and Lower Ganges Roads?

Let's talk . . .

**MIKE ROULEAU,**  
SALT SPRING

### Portlock response

Regarding Curt Firestone's request in his July 17 letter for an update on the Portlock Park Master Plan, following several months of consultation, the draft master plan was presented to the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) in December 2023.

Feedback received on the draft master plan was mixed between user groups, with the removal of the oval track of particular concern. The LCC reviewed the draft master plan and heard from concerned users before referring the draft master plan back to staff for additional consultation with key stakeholders.

The additional consultation is now complete and has been compiled for LCC consideration during their regular meeting on Aug. 15. A revised plan will be posted this fall for "final thoughts" from the community. Any additional comments received will be presented to the LCC for final consideration.

If you have not already done so, please visit the Portlock Park page at [getinvolved.crd.bc.ca](http://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca) and subscribe to receive updates as this project progresses.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

**DAN OVINGTON,**  
MANAGER,  
SALT SPRING PARKS AND RECREATION

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**"We do not want our island to be known as one who oppresses and silences voices of dissent."**

ADINA GUEST, ON PROPOSED SATURDAY MARKET POLICY BANNING CONTROVERSIAL SIGNS

## No need to reach for a confounding tool when a red mallet will do

If there is one thing I have noticed about most men on the island, besides their penchant for an agrarian wardrobe and having more hair than is strictly necessary, it is that they are invariably handy with a hammer and saw. They are, in my experience, perfectly capable of knocking together a wardrobe in an afternoon and an entire bungalow in a week.

My neighbours, for instance. They've all had or have proper jobs that didn't involve them in the building trade or fine furniture manufacturing, as far as I know, but they are all apparently never happier than when knocking nails into wood. One or two of them even use a circular saw without losing a finger and can probably find the exact tool they need for the job in their very orderly workshops.

But somewhere along the way, when the Great Carpenter was handing them those skills, he inadvertently skipped me, a fact that was reinforced a few days ago when I needed to put up a bracket to hang a plant container from. One bracket, two screws and a wooden wall ... nightmare!

I don't plan to go all male chauvinist on you, but I grew up believing that hammering and sawing (and you'll notice how I deftly left "screwing" off the list because this is, after all, a family newspaper) was a manly pursuit, that men are inherently better suited to drills and screwdrivers than the fairer sex. Which would make me some kind of sissy, more inclined to crochet than carpentry, turning my hand to lace doilies, quilting and knitting puppy mittens. And why not? I was never destined to be a gnarly-knuckled wood worker and the idea of bending bits of white-hot metal into something useful still makes me sick to the stomach. I did that stuff reluctantly at school about a hundred years ago and nothing in the intervening years has improved its appeal.

In fact, it was likely those early days in classroom workshops being shouted at by the late and not much lamented Mr. Oettinger that first planted the seeds of incompetence. I spent interminable miserable hours turning out the next ugly project that was of no use to



**Paul McElroy**  
+ ANOTHER  
THING

man nor beast when I could have been learning something useful like conjugating Latin verbs or the topography of an oxbow lake. A gate latch, beaten copper ashtrays and a long metal rod with a screw thing on the end. To this day, I have absolutely no idea what it was for, although I do remember cutting the screw bit, but never finding a nut that would actually fit it. Oh, and the gate latch turned out to be unusable because I inadvertently welded the little knob for lifting on the INSIDE.

And I know I also took wood-working classes, but have absolutely no recollection, most likely having blocked the memory of them in much the way crime victims can be struck by amnesia. I do recall being given a balsa wood glider to build

one Christmas, but it was like giving a chimp a chemistry set. It never flew since there were more bits stuck to the kitchen table than to the airplane.

Today, the ever-angry Mr. Oettinger must be turning in the coffin he probably knocked up himself in a shed at the bottom of his garden.

Not that I wouldn't love to be able to do that kind of stuff – mending things, putting them back together, a screw here, a nail there, all arranged in alphabetical order in my immaculate workshop. For a start, I don't have a workshop, I have a corner of the garage which is a cobweb-ridden repository of neglected hardware, most of it bought for a specific job because I naively assumed that if I spent a small fortune on a new tool it would somehow transform me into someone who knew what the hell they were doing. It never worked, and as a consequence I have an array of tools for which I have no use nor even know what most of them were for in the first place.

One of my few useful tools, however, is a mallet with a red

plastic head that came with the tent we bought 50 years ago in Helsinki. It was intended for knocking in tent pegs, and while the tent disintegrated a generation ago, the mallet has become my go-to tool for hammering things that don't fit as they should. Brackets for hanging baskets, for instance.

My youngest son and his très chic partner were coming from France to stay, and Mrs. Mac, who knows a thing or two about making très chic guests welcome, decided we needed a large basket of brightly coloured vegetation hanging outside the guest suite.

"No sooner said than done, my dear," I chirruped, confident that only a total moron could make a mess of a bracket and two screws. Well, I'm sorry, Mr. Oettinger, but I don't remember you telling us screws came with a variety of heads, none of which matched a screwdriver I owned and all of them softer than putty, and now, six screws later, I have a black bracket with shiny silver screws holding it to the wall. Hammered safely home by my trusty red mallet.

Hoorah!



Salt Spring residents  
their local detachment

# SALUTE TO RCMP

## Q&A WITH RCMP SGT. CLIVE SEABROOK

### SALT SPRING'S DETACHMENT COMMANDER ON EXTENDING HIS POST, THE ISLAND'S IMPAIRED DRIVERS, MENTAL HEALTH AND MORE

#### First off: we hear you're sticking around?

I requested an extension back in April, and that was granted! So now my tenure here goes until the end of October 2025. It's a limited duration post, as we all know, and there are policies surrounding that. So in my four-year post, I can say for sure now I have a fifth year. And that's a good thing, I think. I've heard time and again the community wants some stability; if the community doesn't feel it's getting from me what it needs, that might be time for a fresh outlook and a new commander. But I think as long as we're continuing to be productive, where I'm contributing, I feel like it's worth staying. My family's well established in the community, my wife volunteers for different things, we have really good friends we've made here. Headquarters knows all that; no one wants to change something if it's working.

#### What's working particularly well?

The number one thing? The community engagement. There's such a thirst for us to engage with the community, and we're trying to participate in as many different things as we can. I'd heard in previous years, the community felt like they didn't see enough of us -- certainly if they needed us, they could call and we'd come, but proactively being involved in things, intersecting with things at a lower level before they become bigger issues, I'd heard we could do better in that regard.

#### Have you struggled with staff this year?

I'm really appreciative of our staffing office, they've done a good job of working with me to keep the office more or less fully staffed. Of course we have had gaps, but in previous years those gaps were for months, or even a year or more in some cases. Now we find our gaps are more manageable, say being down one member for a few weeks before a replacement gets here. In fact one of the officers that transferred out this year, his replacement was here before that officer even left! So we were actually at surplus for a few weeks. That sort of stability for the detachment definitely helps me do my job, and it's good for my members' wellness too.

#### Are you seeing any trends?

Well, you have to be careful with statistics. But five years ago our calls for service were in the 3,400 range per year, and last year they were just over 2,700. So being able to take several hundred calls out of a calendar year is definitely a decrease. People are calling us less, which is nice. In Ganges specifically, the kinds of calls I was seeing back then -- smearing of feces on walls, that sort of thing -- I mean, I don't want to paint a picture that it's all roses now. But you don't see those types of examples anymore. We still have challenges for sure, but those assaults, vandalism, breaking and entering, property crime -- we rarely get those types of calls now.

#### Does that include Centennial Park?

The number of calls we get to Centennial Park are general vagrancy, that hasn't really changed in the severity. The reality is, Salt Spring is a small town, we'll get calls someone is drinking alcohol there and it's coffee. Not always, but that's the community's view of that area is in a bit of a decline in the rest of the summer especially we will see a presence down there, to ensure that's still there for granted -- and understand there's a lot of people who are expected to be able to go there.

#### How much does having a detachment help?

I find with social issues, I haven't really seen a difference in the public solely relying on the police to solve them. As long as public safety isn't thrown out the window, we're still willing to support attempts to avoid them. Like the Ambassador Program that we have, we have people in the community doing things like filling out forms to rent a place, listening to someone's problems. From the volunteers will be there year after year, then as our members come and go, the community to help make introductions.

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# THANK YOU RCMP

Salt Spring Island RCMP detachment  
commander Sgt. Clive Seabrook.

Centennial Park for  
dropped, but it's about  
ngers are still calling the  
n the park; but now sometimes  
lcohol, and we'll get down  
t more often. It's clear that the  
lot of ways unchanged, so for the  
ll have an increased enforcement  
t people don't take our leniency  
e are lines in the sand where  
enjoy the park equally.

**you do that**

lly seen a lot of success with the  
"arrest the problem away." As  
t the window, I think we should  
oid that. That's why to me things  
e started is so important -- to  
g that outreach, just day-in-the-life  
lace or access health care, or just  
om a police point of view, those  
ear to provide some continuity;  
we have this group working with  
tions. I think it's a win-win.



## How are the island drivers this year?

Salt Spring Island still has  
an impaired driving problem.  
Unfortunately, it still seems to be  
relatively easy to find an impaired driver.  
Right now I don't think we go a week  
between stopping them. We stepped up  
our enforcement on impaired driving last year, and easily doubled the  
number of impaired drivers we took off the road. I'm sad to say -- and  
I'm proud of the officer -- but at the same time sad to say there's one  
who's getting the Team Alexa Award for personally having more than  
50. Just the one officer.

## How do you tackle that problem?

This year we're continuing that enforcement, but also spending more  
time trying to stop it from happening in the first place. That will be  
visible as more bar walks, for example, and we have educational  
materials we're handing out. Even if patrons don't take them, they'll  
still see it up on the wall and hopefully that can jog their memory a  
bit about their plans to get home safely. We're working with ICBC  
and Island Health this fall, and hope to implement a program at the  
high school again where we speak with students about the dangers  
and consequences. I'd rather people not become aware about the  
consequences because they've been caught by police, or worse  
because someone has been hurt or killed. The best thing for everyone  
to do is, of course, to avoid drinking and driving in the first place.

## How about mental health resources?

There's still more work to do there, but I think we have a good grasp of  
the situation now. There were a couple of examples earlier this year  
where people were in and out of psychiatric help for a period of time,  
and that shone a light on how Salt Spring maybe needed a little more  
support. And to the credit of the people at Island Health, and Lady  
Minto staff especially, there were more conversations around what  
else we could do, what does the Mental Health Act provide, what are  
our strengths and limitations? We're seeing more examples where a  
more meaningful long-term support that doesn't necessarily involve  
the police is provided to a person, which is ultimately what they need.

## So it's less often a police matter?

We're still generally involved -- in a lot of these circumstances,  
people are apprehended under the Mental Health Act, we're still  
coming to the hospital -- but wherever we have the luxury of time  
to have a conversation, then we can build a solution together, get  
them connected with family or remind them who their doctor is, or  
that we do have a mental health team here where if it's a client we can  
contact them. Police, ambulance, fire, the search and rescue team,  
all the first responders, all these well-established agencies -- it's  
such a wide gamut -- between a bunch of us if someone needs help  
we can get to the right person. Someone has the right phone number,  
someone knows just the right person. It's that web of professionals  
and volunteers that really makes Salt Spring work. We all have official  
policies and ways to do things, but it's those relationships with each  
other that solve the most problems.

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# ISLAND LIFE

## EDUCATION

# Music and fun the focus of youth band camp

### School and Bandemonium Concert Band leader offers new program

BY KIM THOMPSON

FOR BANDEMONIUM MUSIC SOCIETY

There's a new summer camp option for young musicians eager to brush off their instruments and get back into practice before school starts.

Ben McConchie, music educator, jazz trumpeter and veteran Pender music camp instructor,

teams up this summer with the Bandemonium Music Society to present a new Summer Band Camp for students aged 12 and up.

"It's not easy to start a brand new camp from scratch, but a generous grant from the Salt Spring Island Foundation has made this possible," said Bandemonium president John Moore. "We are very grateful for the strong community support for music on Salt Spring. And we've definitely found the perfect instructor in Ben!"

McConchie is well known in the Gulf Islands for establishing music programs on Galiano, Mayne, Saturna and Pender islands, where he has worked as a school music teacher for over five years. For the past two years he has also conducted the Bandemonium Concert Band, Salt Spring's community band for adults and youth.

According to McConchie, Salt Spring Summer Band Camp is for "students who are looking to have fun and make music with friends, while also gaining important musical skills like reading music, understanding rhythms, improving their playing and ear training. Through music games, small ensembles and group rehearsals, camp-goers will be exposed to a variety of music experiences in a relaxed, fun and inclusive learning environment."

The five-day camp will be held Aug. 26 to 30 in the music room at SIMS. Students can sign up for Concert Band (mornings, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) or Jazz Band (afternoons, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.), or they can choose the full-day option and take part in both bands. Concert Band will focus on music notation reading skills and developing better technique on their chosen instrument. Jazz Band will provide an introduction to jazz music and improvisation. McConchie emphasizes that



PHOTO COURTESY BEN MCCONCHIE

Youth have fun at a past band camp led by Ben McConchie, left. A one-week camp with three different options, presented by the Bandemonium Music Society, takes place from Aug. 26 to 30 in the music room at the Salt Spring Island Multi Space. People can register and get more information by contacting Kim Thompson at [kim.saltspring@gmail.com](mailto:kim.saltspring@gmail.com).

students do not need any previous experience with jazz to participate in the Jazz Camp.

"I am into teaching anyone who is keen and interested," he said.

Salt Spring Summer Band Camp is designed to complement the school

band program, and as it occurs at the end of August, students will emerge energized and ready for the school band start-up in September.

For more information and to register, contact Kim at [kim.saltspring@gmail.com](mailto:kim.saltspring@gmail.com).

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### JIM PASUTA IS RETIRING

After providing legal services on Salt Spring Island since 1986, Jim Pasuta announces he will be retiring from the practice of law at the end of 2024. Anna Pugh will be accepting wills currently held at Jim's office, as well as offering corporate records services to Jim's current clients, from her office at Unit 1105 Grace Point Square.

For real estate, probate of estates, new estate planning, and new corporate files, Anna will take on Jim's clients, based on capacity within her firm.

Anna and Jim intend to work together to ensure a smooth transition and continued local option for Jim's clients.

Any questions can be directed to Jim at 250-537-9995 or Anna at 250-537-5505.



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### Fall Fair Focus

**SALT SPRING ISLAND FALL FAIR 2024** ATTENTION FALL FAIR PARTICIPANTS!

Entry Form Submission Deadlines!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup>**

For Livestock, Poultry & Horses

**NOTE:** All Horse entries go directly to: [giha.saltspring@gmail.com](mailto:giha.saltspring@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>**

For all other Sections of the Fair



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## Obituaries

## Obituaries



It is with great sadness that we share the news of the sudden passing of Susan Janet Davidson on July 19, 2024. This bright light left us quickly and painlessly, with her children at her side.

Mom was born on October 20, 1942 in Vancouver, BC, to Winnifred Winona Wheat (Wink) and Robert Watson.

She grew up in North Vancouver, was a Delbrook High graduate, and attained a Degree in Education from UBC.

In 1966, Susan married Alex Biddlecombe, whom she met at Delbrook Highschool, and had three children, Michael, Robbie and Erin.

Susan travelled the world: Australia, New Zealand, England, Greece, Scotland, Malaysia, and Japan, but eventually found her home on Salt Spring Island.

Once on Salt Spring, Mom worked at West of the Moon, and found her calling teaching at Tree Frog Daycare.

Many connections were formed, and Mom had the good fortune of getting to know several generations of Salt Springers.

Predeceased by her beloved Jerry (Gerald-Me-Darling), her passing marks the end of an amazing journey filled with laughter and love. Susan was mother to Erin, Robbie and Michael, grandmother to Alex and Damien, and grateful other-mother to Kelly(1) and Richard, Kelly(2) and Scott, Mia and Carolyn. She is survived by her brother Bob and his wife Dale, and her cousin Artie. She is also survived by her dear friend and father of her children, Alex and his wife Diane. Susan is also predeceased by her second husband, David Brynn-Jones.

Susan will be dearly missed by her precious Ferry Queens: Mary, Judith, Norma, and Lois and also all the delightful Salt Spring daughters and son: Andrea and Tara, Meghan, Gail, Shellaine and Martin, whom she collected and cherished along the way. She will also be missed by the many friends too numerous to mention here.

Her family and friends filled her life with joy and happiness, courage and support, right to the very end.

Our family would like to express a heartfelt thank you to Sandi and the folks at Heritage Place as well as all the staff at Lady Minto that took such great care of her.

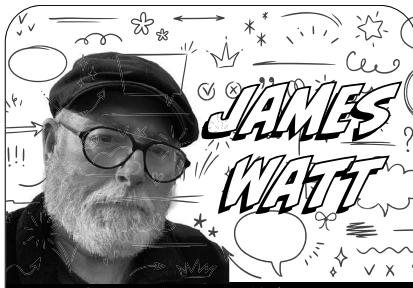
Arrangements for a gathering to exchange memories, stories, and her favourite one-liners is to be held on her birthday, at 1pm on October 20th, at Bullock Lake Farm.

Please join us to celebrate this joyful, effervescent, exuberant, and absolutely unconditionally loving individual.



## Obituaries

## Obituaries



Boat builder, cabinetmaker, cartoonist, sculptor. James brought an artist's eye to all that he undertook. Remembered by friends and family as generous and kind. He lived on Salt Spring Island, Crofton, and Duncan over the last 30 years of his life. A Celebration of Life for James will take place on Saturday, August 17, 2024, from 2-4 PM at 8-133 Corbett Road on Salt Spring Island.

## In Memoriam

## In Memoriam



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## Request For Proposal

## 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](http://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](mailto:corpadmin@saltspringfire.com)

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

## Coming Events

THERE WILL BE A  
MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE CENTRAL  
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Wednesday  
August 21st, 2024 at  
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# HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF  
AUGUST 4 TO 10, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:  
LIBRA, SCORPIO AND SAGITTARIUS



## ARIES

This week, you'll attend large gatherings or be active on social media. You'll consider organizing a party for your nearest and dearest to wrap up the week.



## TAURUS

Even if you don't have children, back-to-school advertisements remind you of similar responsibilities, including caring for certain loved ones. Prepare yourself for commitments with similar demands.



## GEMINI

Although you've planned some social activities, professional obligations could dampen your excitement. Prioritize your responsibilities, but don't forget to set aside time for fun. This will make your activities more enjoyable.



## CANCER

Whether you're on holiday or not, you'll want to get away from it all. Make time for new discoveries and treat yourself to a change of scenery by hitting the road.



## LEO

Despite experiencing strong emotions, it's essential to find opportunities to celebrate your happiness and remember that after rain comes sunshine. The simple act of smiling can boost your mood and make you feel happier.



## VIRGO

A particular situation will be an irritating waste of time. Think before you speak to avoid future misunderstandings. Work on developing a faster understanding to help maintain harmony.



## LIBRA

Work will take up a lot of your time. However, spending quality time with your loved ones is still important. Striking the right work-life balance will bring you peace.



## SCORPIO

Prepare for change when returning to work after the holidays. You could be offered a promotion or a management position after a senior executive leaves the company. This situation will astonish you.



## SAGITTARIUS

You could invest in a home improvement project, such as a redecorating a room. Explore your new talents and take pride in the results. Personal fulfillment lies in your achievements.



## CAPRICORN

Shopping for bargains and treasures will bring you happiness. You could even unearth a precious antique in a relative's attic or basement. Your hunt for unique finds will be fruitful.



## AQUARIUS

After a stressful period, treat yourself to some well-deserved relaxation at a spa or engage in other forms of self-care. Take care of yourself and enjoy the present moment to recharge your batteries.



## PISCES

Give yourself a break. If you're returning to work, get organized by rearranging your files and adjusting your schedule. A systematic approach will help you get back on track.

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## SALT SPRING ARTS

# Two island bands share headline spot in park

Daryl Chonka band and Caraluna on next SOCS bill

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

Next week's Summer Outdoor Concert in Centennial Park features a unique lineup, with two co-headlining sets by local acts: Daryl Chonka and Caraluna.

Chonka and his band have broken onto the west coast Canadian music scene in a warm wave of wonderful world rhythms, island-born folkadelia and ocean-deep songwriting. Steeped in this vibrant musical experience and backed by some of B.C.'s finest roots musicians, the band's compositions range from high-energy world-flavoured dance music to deep, woody and water-coloured Canadiana. With Chonka on vocals, acoustic guitar and keyboards, Daniel Howlett on vocals and electric guitar, Sam Mitchell playing bass and flute and Mat-



PHOTOS COURTESY SALT SPRING ARTS

Salt Spring performing artists Daryl Chonka, left, and Jesse Edward Thom, who will perform in Centennial Park next Thursday, Aug. 15.

thew Brain on drums, this is truly a musically diverse show of high calibre music with a giant heart. Chonka and his band obviously love what they do and have created a moving music experience that is a wonderful and

healing balm for the times.

Caraluna ("beloved moon" in Gaelic/Latin, "moon face" in Spanish) is the multilingual indie-world-folk project of singer-songwriter/producer/multi-instrumentalist

Jesse Edward Thom. Inspired by old-world singers such as Jacques Brel and by minimalist composers like Yann Tiersen, Thom infuses simple, emotionally compelling melodies with poetic, life-affirming musings from his years of travel throughout Latin America, Western Canada, Spain and the U.K. Caraluna features Thom's rich and relaxed voice accompanied by tiny guitar as the foundation of its sound. The songs are filled out by a plethora of instruments, including horns, accordion, piano, bass and drums.

Next Thursday, Aug. 15, bring a blanket, a picnic and dancing shoes to Centennial Park for this special concert showcasing local talent in the beautiful setting of Ganges Harbour. And don't miss the concert set for tomorrow, Aug. 8, featuring Blue Moon Marquee with Chico Eh.

For more information about the Summer Outdoor Concert Series, visit [saltspringarts.com/socs](http://saltspringarts.com/socs).



## PHOTOGRAPHY

# McDonald and Firestone exhibit images

Her and Him Photography Show  
at the library's program room  
this month

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

An eclectic photography show by Gwen McDonald and Curt Firestone — called the Her and Him Photography Show — opened last Thursday in the Salt Spring Public Library's

community program room.

McDonald and Firestone are a Salt Spring Island couple who have been actively engaged in photography from young adulthood, photographing for personal enjoyment, to capture their fascination with the world around them, and to document their many worldwide travels, both singly and together.

McDonald and Firestone began their dive into photography while living in the San Francisco Bay area. Their inventory of images grew exponentially. Self-taught photographers, they photographed and printed what they liked, filled their home with photographic art, but until moving to Salt Spring Island in 2007 had never shown their work publicly.

Shortly after their move, and embracing their new island home, they decided to enter a few images in the Salt Spring Fall Fair photography competition. To their surprise and delight, each won awards for their entries. This sudden boost in confidence led to their joining the newly forming Salt Spring Photography Club, an effort spearheaded by several outstanding photographers. This new group provided a supportive, collegial community of photographers, ranging from rank beginners with basic equipment and very few computer editing skills to highly successful seasoned professionals.

The photographs in the library show include favourite images from the past two decades, in both colour and black and white formats. Over the course of these years, they have shown and sold their images on Salt Spring Island, in Victoria and in Mexico. McDonald's focus tends to be on travel, people, landscapes, architecture and nature, looking for natural beauty, for patterns of light and shadow, and for images that tell a story. Firestone is especially good at street photography and in the post production editing of his images, where he is constantly trying out new techniques.

The Her and Him Photography Show runs through Aug. 30 and is open to the public during normal library hours (10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays). They will be present to discuss their work from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, Aug. 17 and 24.

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## LIVE MUSIC

# Trip back to the '60s with The Sonic Cocktail

Aug. 14 Tea à Tempo recital at All Saints features island trio

SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

On Wednesday, Aug. 14, the popular Tea à Tempo weekly summer concert series features the welcome return of musicians Suzanne Gay, Jim Shultz and Bruce Grey – this time as The Sonic Cocktail – offering a “locally shaken and stirred musical concoction” for your enjoyment.

They will be featuring some of their favourite tunes from the revolutionary and prolific musical decade of the 1960s. You’ll hear their take on artists such as Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Nina Simone, Janis Joplin and The Beatles.

Gay is a Salt Spring-born vibrant pianist and singer known for her versatility of musical styles and sultry voice, creat-



PHOTO COURTESY MUSIC MAKERS

From left, Bruce Grey, Suzanne Gay and Jim Shultz, a.k.a. The Sonic Cocktail, who will entertain at All Saints church next Wednesday, Aug. 14.

ing an ambience of emotionally charged beauty and soul. She is a graduate of VIU’s jazz program and currently teaches piano and voice on the island.

Shultz has made Salt Spring his home for the last 12 years and has played with a variety of local groups and vocalists over that time. He currently plays guitar with the Afternoon Shift jazz combo, the Swing Shift Big Band and The Sonic Cocktail. He has also been part of more than two dozen musicals over the last 20 years, playing a variety of stringed instruments.

Grey has been involved in music in a variety of line-ups for many years on Salt Spring Island. Whether it’s lead vocals, harmonizing as an accompanying vocalist, playing electric bass, or on the percussion kit to add colour to a composition, serving the song and enjoying the process with the band members are the key elements to his musical journey.

Music by donation begins in All Saints by-the-Sea at 2:10 p.m., followed by tea and treats at a cost of \$5.

Donations provide the honoraria awarded the musicians and contribute to the running of the series.

# what's on this week

Wed.	Aug. 7	Fri.	Aug. 9	Sun.	Aug. 11
	<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
	<b>Tea à Tempo: Afternoon Shift.</b> Quintet of members from Swing Shift Big Band. All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.		<b>Jessica Benini.</b> Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.		<b>Weekly Food Exchange.</b> Exchange home-grown and home-made foods. A Farmland Trust Salt Spring Food Share program at The Root. 2 to 3 p.m.
	<b>Morien Jones.</b> Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.		<b>The Radio Grande.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		
	<b>Gord Ross, Dan Smith &amp; Bobo Czarnowski.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		<b>Karaoke.</b> At the Legion. 7 p.m.		
	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>DJ Boomtown.</b> Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.		
	<b>Bittancourt Museum.</b> Open on the Farmers' Institute grounds. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		
	<b>Swing Dancing.</b> Legion. 6 p.m.		<b>ASK Salt Spring.</b> This week's guests are LCC commissioners. SIMS. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.		
	<b>Music Bingo.</b> Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.		<b>Bittancourt Museum.</b> See Wed. listing.		
<b>Thur.</b>	<b>Aug. 8</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Aug. 10</b>	<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Aug. 13</b>
	<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>		<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>
	<b>Morien Jones.</b> Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.		<b>Jessica Benini.</b> Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.		<b>Harry Warner.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.
	<b>The Radio Grande.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		<b>The Bruce Collective.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.		<b>Folk Jam.</b> With open mic. Legion. 6 to 9 p.m.
	<b>Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Blue Moon Marquee.</b> With Chico Eh opening the show. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.		<b>Adam &amp; Friends.</b> At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.		<b>Tuesday Farmers Market.</b> Every Tuesday at Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
	<b>Jennifer Castle &amp; Ashleigh Ball.</b> Legion. 7:30 p.m.		<b>Man Cubs Band.</b> Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.		<b>Trivia Tuesday.</b> Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.
	<b>Mary Ancheta Quartet.</b> Mateada. 9 p.m.		<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		
	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>Saturday Market.</b> Centennial Park. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.		
	<b>Book Launch – Sheila Harrington.</b> Voices for the Islands: Thirty Years of Conservation on the Salish Sea. Library program room. 7 p.m.		<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Aug. 11</b>	<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</b>
	<b>SSI Local Community Commission Meeting.</b> SIMS CRD board room. 5 p.m.				<b>Tea à Tempo: The Sonic Cocktail: Suzanne Gay, Bruce Grey and Jim Shultz.</b> All Saints by-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.
	<b>Bittancourt Museum.</b> See Wed. listing.				<b>Morien Jones.</b> Moby's Pub, lower patio. 5 p.m.
					<b>Shelder the Electric Clamfish.</b> Tree House Cafe. 6 p.m.
					<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
					<b>Bittancourt Museum.</b> See last Wednesday listing.
					<b>Swing Dancing.</b> Legion. 6 p.m.
					<b>Music Bingo.</b> Moby's Pub. 8 p.m.

**CINEMA**

• **Despicable Me 4** runs Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 7-8 at 7 p.m. **Twisters** is the movie from Friday, Aug. 10 to Thursday, Aug. 15 each night, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See [thefritz.ca](http://thefritz.ca) for more movie info.

**ART EXHIBITIONS**

- **And Now For Something Completely Different – New Paintings by Patricia F. Brown** is a Show in the Garden at 300 Lower Ganges Rd. on Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 10-11, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Rosie Schinners: A Place Called Home** is the Artcraft Showcase exhibition at Mahon Hall daily until Aug. 26.
- **Cheryl Long: Recent Work** runs at Salt Spring Gallery through Wednesday, Aug. 14.
- **Her and Him Photography Show – photographs by Gwen McDonald and Curt Firestone** – runs in the library program room through August. Gwen and Curt will be present to discuss their work from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, Aug. 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.
- **Painter Don Hodgins** has an art show at Country Grocer Cafe until Aug. 31.

**Salt Spring Toy Run**

Aug. 16-18  
SSI Farmers' Institute  
See [saltspringtoyrun.com](http://saltspringtoyrun.com) for details

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