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MONEY MATTERS

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- Thrifty Foods
- Pharmasave
- Lowes West
- The Local Liquor St.
- Bumper to Bumper
- Cabela's



PHOTO BY MARC KITTINGHAM

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES: Bodhi Van Britsom is obscured by smoke as he extinguishes a vehicle fire last Wednesday. See story on page 5.

FIRE DISTRICT

Governance model divides fire board

Corporate structure decision based on local government standards

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A discussion about the core structure governing the relationship between Salt Spring Fire Protection District's elected officials and paid staff has marred the relatively smooth sailing that has characterized operations over the past two years.

Division at the table manifested in a heated debate at the board of trustees' meeting Monday night. It stemmed from a recommendation from the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee for the board of trustees to officially adopt a one-employee corporate model. That means the board has the authority to direct just one employee: the district's corporate administrator.

Under the model, all other district employees, including the fire chief, report directly or

indirectly to the administrator rather than to the board of trustees. The administrator is to be the link between policy makers and staff.

A majority of four trustees voted to support the motion, while trustees Howard Baker and Howard Holzapfel opposed it on grounds the elected officials were giving up too much power to staff. Baker and Holzapfel have argued at past meetings that trustees should have complete access to all the district's information, including human resources files and banking.

"I think the board needs to be a governing board, and this policy creates us into being an advisory board," Holzapfel said at Monday's meeting.

Baker said he felt the one-employee model had been pushed by Linda Adams, former CAO of the Islands Trust, when she gave a gover-

nance workshop for district trustees and committee members. He claimed that consultation with Adams was arranged by Fire Chief Arjuna George and CAO Andrew Peat, rather than coming at the behest of the board.

"So I'm suggesting that we're being led by staff to get into this single employee model, without really considering what some of the ramifications are," Baker said.

The arrangement leaves the fire chief clear to oversee fire protection operations without direct intervention of the trustees. Trustee ROLLIE COOK observed the previous board had gotten into trouble by taking the opposite course and trying to insert itself into every decision, including the colour of staff T-shirts.

FIRE BOARD continued on 2

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Notice of Review

2019 Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel

Notice is hereby given that the annual sitting of the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel, pursuant to Sections 204 and 205 of the Community Charter will be held.

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Time: 12:30 pm

Place: CRD Headquarters, Room 651
625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

The panel will consider any complaints respecting the parcel tax roll and authenticate the roll in accordance with legislation for the following services:

- ▶ South Galiano Island Fire Protection & Emergency Response Service
- ▶ North Galiano Island Fire Protection & Emergency Response Service
- ▶ Sticks Allison Water Service (Galiano Island)
- ▶ Small Craft Harbour Facilities (Southern Gulf Islands)
- ▶ Fernwood Dock Small Craft Harbour Facilities (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Fernwood Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Ganges Sewerage Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Highland Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Highland and Fernwood Water Service
- ▶ Beddis Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Fulford Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Disposal Service
- ▶ Cedar Lane Water Service (Salt Spring Island)
- ▶ Magic Lake Estates Water Service (Pender Island)
- ▶ Magic Lake Estates Sewer Service (Pender Island)
- ▶ Lyall Harbour/Boot Cove Water Service (Saturna Island)
- ▶ Surfside Park Estates Water Service (Mayne Island)
- ▶ Skana Water Service (Mayne Island)
- ▶ Gossip Island Electric Power Supply Service

The Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel will hear only those complaints or appeals filed in writing with the undersigned at least 48 hours in advance of its sitting.

A copy of the complete roll will be available for inspection at the Capital Regional District, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm M-F; the Ganges Building Inspection office, #206 - 118 Fulford-Ganges Rd. (above the post office), Ganges, BC, from 8:30 am to noon and 1 - 4 pm M-F; commencing February 27, 2019.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, this 27th day of February 2019.

Nelson Chan, MBA, CPA, CMA; Chief Financial Officer
Capital Regional District

FERRIES

Vesuvius route levels to increase

BC Ferries review released to public

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BC Ferries' Vesuvius-Crofton route will see a return to 2014 service levels as part of an agreement between the contractor and the province announced on Friday.

The provincial government stated Friday it would increase service on 10 minor and northern ferry routes that were cut as a cost-savings measure under the previous government, in response to a request from the Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs. "For years people living in coastal communities saw ferry fares increase and services cut," said Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. "Quality, affordable ferry services are a necessity and not a luxury for people in coastal communities. That's why we've turned the ship around — first by rolling back ferry fares on small coastal routes and now by reversing cuts to services that were making it difficult for people to get around."

Service on the Vesuvius route was originally reduced by changing from a year-round schedule to a peak and off-peak model. One roundtrip sailing was removed from the peak schedule and the off-peak schedule offered two fewer trips than before. A partial service restoration took place as the route demonstrated continued demand. That demand has only increased over the past two years, with overloads and late departures now frequent.

Salt Spring's Ferry Advisory Committee chair Harold Swierenga said another change to the Vesuvius-Crofton schedule planned to start in April

means the route's service level was already going to be back to 2014 levels. Extra sailing are being added to compensate for the smaller ferry coming onto the route in place of the Howe Sound Queen.

"The announcement really indicates a lot of what they've already been doing," Swierenga said. "The new schedule pretty well restores what was lost and then some with the Quinitsa coming on."

The other routes with service restoration are Earls Cove-Salter Bay, Horseshoe Bay-Bowen Island, Port Hardy-Mid Coast-Prince Rupert, Haida Gwaii-Prince Rupert, Powell River-Quadra Island, Nanaimo Harbour-Gabriola Island, Campbell River-Quadra Island, Quadra Island-Cortes Island, and Skidegate-Alliford Bay. Most inter-island routes will see their schedules change as early as April.

"The announcement really indicates a lot of what they've already been doing."

HAROLD SWIERENGA

SSI Ferry Advisory
Committee

The service is being funded through an increased provincial service fee to BC Ferries for the final year of Performance Term 4 and all four years of Performance Term 5, which starts in April 2020.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure announcement also came with the release of a full-scale operational review of BC Ferries that was conducted by special advisor Blair Redlin.

Redlin's report, which he submitted on June 30, 2018, provides 60 recommendations covering all aspects of the service, from BC Ferries' corporate governance to the language of the Coastal Ferries Act. The province said it will be amending the Coastal Ferry Act to implement some of Redlin's recommendations, although the details have yet to be shared.

BC Ferries CEO Mark Collins said Friday the company was pleased to increase service on many of its inter-island and northern routes, and by the company's overall good mark in Redlin's report.

"We are currently in the process of reviewing the document thoroughly. We look forward to meeting with the province to better understand which recommendations they are interested in exploring further," Collins stated.

The province made its initial move to support coastal ferry service in last year's budget, which reduced fares on the smaller and northern routes by 15 per cent, put a freeze major route fares and reinstates a seniors' discount. Fares will continue to be frozen this year.

Long-term planning goals may also serve to ease transportation in the southern Vancouver Island region with increased ferry service, if Redlin's recommendations are followed. He has suggested that multi-agency transportation planning should occur with potential new ferry services or terminals identified that would "support other transportation modes and/or reduce pressure on roads." Examples that he provides include a service between the Saanich Peninsula and Cowichan Valley, improvements to the Mill Bay Ferry, and a passenger-only service from Colwood to Esquimalt.

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019 PST Z+8							
DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
27	0118	2.9	9.5	3	0442	3.2	10.5
	0519	2.7	8.9		1012	2.5	8.2
WE	1001	3.0	9.8	SU	1356	2.8	9.2
ME	1804	1.0	3.3	DI	2117	0.9	3.0
28	0231	3.1	10.2	4	0511	3.2	10.5
	0724	2.7	8.9		1040	2.4	7.9
TH	1047	2.9	9.5	MO	1450	2.8	9.2
JE	1859	0.9	3.0	LU	2155	0.9	3.0
1	0325	3.2	10.5	5	0535	3.2	10.5
	0850	2.7	8.9		1106	2.3	7.5
FR	1147	2.8	9.2	TU	1541	2.8	9.2
VE	1950	0.9	3.0	MA	2230	1.0	3.3
2	0407	3.2	10.5	6	0556	3.2	10.5
	0939	2.6	8.5		1132	2.2	7.2
SA	1254	2.8	9.2	WE	1629	2.8	9.2
SA	2036	0.9	3.0	ME	2304	1.1	3.6

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Fire CAO role explained

FIRE BOARD

continued from 1

Fire board chair Per Svendsen brought the discussion back to the B.C. Improvement District Trustees Handbook, whose guidelines the board has previously

voted to respect.

"Almost the second paragraph says that trustees are not to be involved in the administration or operations but to provide leadership and oversight . . . Very, very definitely, we're not to be involved in administration and operations," Svendsen said. "And referral to the last board, they were heavily involved in administration and operations, and they self-imploded as evidenced by their mass resignations."

Trustee Ron Lindstrom said that he was actually the person championing the model as chair of the SPP committee. He explained the corporate model is commonly used in local governments all over North America. This includes the Islands Trust and the Capital Regional District, although specific language in the fire board's policy was adapted from the District of West Kelowna.

Trustee Mary Lynn Hetherington said she was in favour of the one-employee corporate model, as long as it did not impact the chief's autonomy over fire department management.

A staff report on the issue from Peat shows some of the impetus for updating the policies and guidelines arose from the fact that he will soon be retiring from his position. Peat told trustees that when seeking a new candidate, the job description should make the role and responsibilities clear.

Speaking at Monday's meeting, Peat said trustees' concerns about the need for checks and balances were legitimate, and spoke to the need to have good processes in place to give direction. But the policy does not give the administrator license to just do anything, he explained.

"There is nothing in this policy that takes away the board's responsibility for oversight," Peat said. "There is nothing in this policy that says the board is not responsible for setting the strategy and direction of the district. All this policy says is when you're looking to knock heads, I'm the one, and I ask that you keep that in mind."

NEWS BRIEFS

FireSmart workshop set

The Salt Spring Island Fire Department is holding an educational workshop promoting FireSmart activities for the community this Saturday.

The event will be held at 1 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall, lead by Lieutenant Mitchell Sherrin. Firesmart is an initiative set up by the B.C. Wildfire Service to help people take steps to reduce the impact a wildfire can have on their homes and communities.

The B.C. Wildfire Service website explains that "the time to reduce the threat of wildfire is now, not when a fire is at your doorstep."

The workshop is made possible by a Wildfire Community Preparedness grant that is offered by FireSmart Canada.

Questions about wildfire preparations or the workshop can be directed to Sherrin at msherrin@saltspringfire.com.

Counterfeit warning issued

Two businesses on the south end of the island reported receiving counterfeit \$100 USD last week.

RCMP say that surveillance footage has been obtained of the individual using the bills and are attempting to identify the male responsible for the counterfeit.

An email from the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce described the man as a large man with a bald head who is "easy to spot for his bold personality."

The RCMP would like to remind businesses to discuss counterfeit currency with their employees and report anything that is suspicious to the police for investigation.

Course on parenting

The Salt Spring library will present the fifth in a series of free parenting workshops this Sunday, March 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Community Room.

How to Teach Your Kids to Calm Down and Self-Regulate is facilitated by Colleen Adrian, an author, educator and retired nurse. Adrian will address questions from parents who worry about their young children who have emotional outbursts, have trouble settling down to sleep and/or have difficulty regulating their behaviour. For children ages preschool to 11. Child-minding is available with advance registration through the library.

AWARDS

Engineer earns Lieut. Gov. honour

Art Washuta's career recognized at gala Alberta event

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

One of Salt Spring's recent additions comes to the island after serving a distinguished career in engineering design and consultation.

Art Washuta was recognized by his longtime home province of Alberta earlier this month with the Lieutenant Governor's Award for distinguished service. It was presented at the Consulting Engineers of Alberta Showcase Awards Gala in Calgary on Feb. 8.

"It was such a nice surprise when I got the call about the award from the CEA. I'm quite

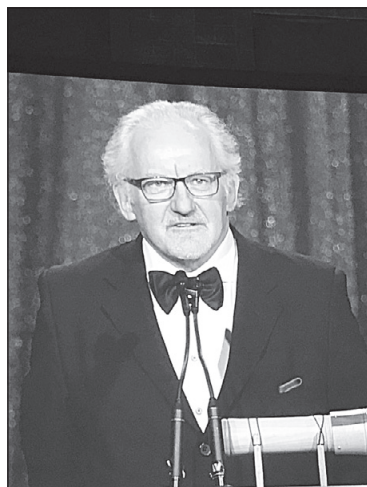


PHOTO COURTESY ART WASHUTA

Art Washuta at the Consulting Engineers of Alberta Showcase Awards Gala in Calgary.

honoured to be selected," Washuta said.

Washuta and his wife Tanya Kress have lived on Salt Spring since 2016. He is a past president of the CEA and was a member of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Canada board.

A profile in Alberta Innovators magazine explains that Washuta was born in Peace River and raised in Edmonton. He graduated with distinction from the University of Alberta with a degree in civil engineering in 1973.

Washuta worked for UMA Engineering Ltd. from 1977 to 2008, starting as a project engineer and eventually becoming the company's regional vice president. He then moved on to hold senior leadership positions at AECOM and Opus Stewart Weir, becoming president of Opus Canada.

Significant projects that Washuta worked on during his career include designing portions of the original Edmonton LRT that opened in 1978, structural design on the Goldbar Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Oldman River Dam spillway, and CF-18 fighter jet facilities in the Arctic.

One that he is particularly proud of was managing the project team that designed and implemented a \$500-million environmental cleanup of 21 Distant Early Warning Line sites across the Canadian Arctic from 1992 to 2014.

"I've taken pride in contributing to creating a better community," Washuta said. "People are often not aware of how engineering contributes to society."

PUBLIC HEALTH

Measles vaccine available at local pharmacies

No cases confirmed in Island Health area, unlike Lower Mainland

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As news of the measles outbreak in Vancouver spreads, concerned islanders can go to local pharmacies to get vaccinated for the disease.

Pharmacies on the island are licensed to provide the vaccination, which is provided through funding from the provincial government. Community pharmacists have had the authority to provide the injections since 2009, but demand for the vaccine has been low.

Pharmacist Christine Steffich said that in the 10 years since Ganges Pharmasave has had its licence, they have only provided one or two vaccinations.

"It's not usually one that people just come in off the street looking for," she said. "The vaccine would normally be in the school setting."

The Vancouver Island Health Authority sends a reminder through elementary schools to parents of kindergarten-aged children explaining the immunization clinics that are offered each year free of charge. The notice as sent out in January 2019 includes the measles vaccine (MMR: Measles, Mumps and Rubella), explaining that most children in kindergarten would have had one dose of the vaccine, and at that age a second dose is due. Parents are invited to make appointments for immunizations, but immunizations are not mandatory.

The B.C. Pharmacy Association recommends that children who have not received their immunizations get two doses of MMR. The first dose is typically administered at 12 months old, and the second from ages 4-6. Adults who were born after Jan. 1, 1970 should check their immunization records available at the Salt Spring Island Health Unit and get their vaccinations accordingly. It is assumed that adults who were born earlier than 1970 have either had measles or have been vaccinated against it.

The vaccine is not just for those at risk of contracting measles, but it works as a preventative measure to stop the disease's spread.

"Measles is contagious for anybody to get, but people who have poor health, the elderly and infants can be more susceptible to complica-

tions and things like that," Steffich said. "Even if people are healthy, they are protecting people who are less healthy from getting measles. If someone who is healthy gets vaccinated, then they won't ever contract the disease, and therefore won't be able to pass it on to someone who is unhealthy."

"It's not usually one that people just come in off the street looking for. The vaccine would normally be in the school setting."

CHRISTINE STEFFICH

Ganges Pharmasave pharmacist

Steffich explained that the risks associated with the vaccine are minimal. The rare cases of a bad reaction to the shot include pain from the injection or allergies to some component of the vaccine.

Those who are unsure of their vaccination history can call into pharmacies to ensure the vaccine is in stock and make an appointment for an immunization. There is no risk associated with having the shot multiple times.

According to Immunize B.C., measles causes fever, rash, cold-like symptoms and red, inflamed eyes that can be sensitive to light. It is contagious and spreads easily, and can lead to other infections like pneumonia. Around one person in 3,000 can die from complications. Complications are most common in infants less than 12 months of age.

Island Health had no confirmed cases in the region. South Island public health units do not immunize adults, but are able to direct patients to pharmacies that are stocked with the vaccine.

Those who have been exposed to measles or may think they have the disease should stay isolated from others to prevent it from spreading. Health Link B.C. recommends calling a health care provider before going in for an examination to ensure being able to be seen quickly without infecting others.

We Can Help Grant applications invited

The SSI Foundation is now accepting spring grant applications. This year, as well as supporting our regular granting priorities, we have additional funds available to benefit children's and youth recreation programs. Application deadline is March 31, 2019. For complete information, visit ssifoundation.ca.



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MENTAL HEALTH

Students get psychosis lesson



PHOTO BY MARC KITTINGHAM

Performing at a ReachOut Psychosis presentation at Salt Spring Island Middle School on Monday were, from left, Sydney Thorne, Jasper Wrinch, Gavin Youngash and Johnny Andrews.

Presentation at SIMS helps normalize mental health challenges

BY MARC KITTINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring middle school students had the chance to learn about psychosis and how to help themselves or others in dealing with it at a musical presentation by ReachOut Psychosis on Monday morning.

"Psychosis is a medical condition that affects the brain. It happens when a person can't tell the difference between what's real and what isn't real," explained Sydney Thorne, the MC of the event. "It can be helpful in a diagnosis of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, certain types of depression. We talk about psychosis as an umbrella term so we can touch on a bunch of those issues."

The presentation incorporated music, audience participation and sketches as a way to reach the kids and bring their message to a younger audience. Musi-

cian Sarah Jickling and Her Good Bad Luck band played pop-music influenced songs that discussed the experience of living with psychosis. Jickling has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and incorporates her experiences into her music. The group also invited students on stage to demonstrate how the combination of environmental stressors and genetic vulnerability (family history of mental illness, for example) can lead to psychosis.

Thorne explained that they bring the presentation to youth because psychosis typically first appears at around 16 years old.

"We come to youth for this because it shows up in youth," she said. "A lot of schools are dealing with students who have psychosis who they think are just acting out or are shy. A lot of these symptoms can fly under the radar, so it's really good for youth to know the signs and symptoms so they can help each other."

The presentation was not just for the students, however. Thorne said that often the students are the most comfortable with talking about mental illness,

and the presentation also gives teachers and administration staff the tools to help discuss mental health with students.

"Honestly, we just want to be able to normalize the conversation around mental health and mental illness the same way that someone would be able to talk really candidly about going to the doctor because they sprained their ankle or something," she said.

Even if students themselves do not experience psychosis, the prevalence of psychosis in the general population means that it is likely they will meet someone who is dealing with it sometime in their lifetime. According to ReachOut's website, psychosis affects three per cent of the population and is six times more common than Type 1 diabetes.

Tiffany Wightman, the counsellor at the middle school who helped coordinate the event, explained that "a lot of kids will say that they have an older sibling in their 20s who has some sort of diagnosis or mental health condition . . . This is the start of their support systems. It's super important to have these conversations."

PARC

E-bike charging stations coming to island

PARC approves Portlock and Rainbow pool sites

BY MARC KITTINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Electric bicycle riders will soon be able to charge their bikes at different island locations, after the Parks and Recreation Commission approved a plan to install the charging stations at Portlock Park and at the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre at its Feb. 19 meeting.

The concept was brought to the commission by Island Pathways, which advocates for alternative transportation options on Salt Spring.

The group ideally would like at least 10 stations around the island, and for the charging stations to be identified on their new cycling map. Initially, charging stations for both electric bikes and electric vehicles were proposed. Unlike electric vehicles, e-bikes do not need a specific type of plug-in, and riders will be asked to bring their own charging cables to the stations.

"The idea is to take some existing electrical outlets that we have [at Portlock] and at the pool and just putting up some promotional material letting [people] know that they can charge their bike when they come for a swim," said parks and

recreation manager Dan Ovington at the PARC meeting. "It's another way to promote people coming to the centres and to do it in an environmentally conscious way."

E-bikes typically have a 30 to 40-km range, depending on the settings of the bike and the terrain. To fully charge an e-bike, Island Pathways estimates that it takes around 0.5 kWh, and the cost on the electricity bill would be approximately \$0.05 per charge.

The project is expected to cost around \$1,000 for the promotional materials, a new bike rack at Portlock Park and any installation costs. A contingency of \$500

was budgeted for an electrician, since the plug-in at the pool is not close enough to the bike rack to be usable.

Commissioner John Gauld was concerned about the outlets being used for things other than electric bikes. However, it was explained that the promotional material and signage should be enough to deter other uses.

"There is an option to put things on timers," Ovington said. "More so, I think that when we promote a certain use, it is going to deter people."

The option for electric vehicle chargers will be explored at a future PARC meeting.

ISLANDERS

CRD building clerk set to retire

Sharon Sykes reflects on time with the trades

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A friendly face that's familiar to anyone doing business with CRD Building Inspection services on Salt Spring for the past 13 years won't be at the local office much longer.

Sharon Sykes is regretfully completing her work career on Thursday, although she has plenty of fun planned for the next stage in her life.

"I don't call it retiring, I call it rewiring," Sykes said. "That's really helped me through the retirement process."

Sykes started work as a building inspection office clerk through chance circumstances. She was sitting on a bleacher watching one of her daughter's softball games when a friend asked if she might be interested in a casual position. She went by the office the next day and was hired on the spot, despite having no previous knowledge of the building process or trades.

"I just learned as I was doing it, hands-on kind of thing," Sykes said. "I just kept asking questions — still do, to this day."

Sykes credits the patience of her co-workers for easing the transition, which she said took five or six years to get through before she really felt comfortable. People like Laurie Fiander, Barb Haydon, Cathy George, Lisa Butler-Cole, Lyne Moyes, Darryl Janyk and other inspectors made all the difference.

Working with island contractors was another positive aspect of the work, and something Sykes will miss once she's gone.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Sharon Sykes.

from a song in the Barbara Streisand version of A Star is Born.

Islanders will be happy to learn Sykes intends to continue one tradition, mounting the Christmas display window at Mouat's Home Hardware. She started out by bringing her own collection of Christmas scenes around five years ago, and the response has been so huge she'll keep going as long as the invitation is open.

Members of the construction trades and the general public are invited to an open house send-off taking place at the meeting room across the hall from the building inspection office this Thursday, Feb. 28. There will be coffee, tea, cake and the opportunity to wish Sykes well from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

"I just love them. I respect them and they respect me," Sykes said.

Sykes will also miss the excitement of early spring each year, when plans start coming in as contractors get ready for their next big projects. However, she's looking forward to more family time, travel by train and cruise ship, and some personal growth opportunities such as continuing education classes and writing a children's book. It's not surprising to learn the saying she lives by is "every day a beginning," a line

NSSWD

St. Mary plant nearing completion

Late March opening date to be confirmed

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

North Salt Spring Waterworks District ratepayers will have to wait just a little while longer for the new St. Mary Lake water treatment plant to come online, as the facility is in its final commissioning stages.

Construction was to be complete in August, but that date was pushed back into November. The commissioning stage was delayed for the Christmas break, and was slowed down with the Dec. 20 windstorm and the snow in February.

"It was a bit of a struggle getting all players back onsite," said district manager Ron Stepaniuk. "People had other commitments, so coordinating a week where all trades and all suppliers were available to answer the questions, to make changes and do their final [testing] was a bit of a

struggle."

"I recognize that it took longer than anticipated. We were very optimistic, but we're comfortable with the product that we have now," he added.

The plant is undergoing water-quality testing with Island Health with plans to go online in late March, though no definite date has been set. Systems are up and running, but the plant cannot put water into the system yet.

Commissioning the plant includes a disinfection stage, producing water and sending water off for testing from all stages in the process. The results of those tests will determine whether the plant is granted a licence to operate from Island Health.

"We have to make sure that the plant is meeting the intended water quality parameters," Stepaniuk said. "Then Island Health will issue our operating permit and they can put any special requirements, limitations or anything they want to see — pret-

ty much anything that they want — on that operating permit."

The testing stage is expected to take a few weeks, since the average turnaround time for lab results is one week and the plant needs multiple tests to be completed before it is operational. At the same time, operators will be familiarizing themselves with the plant, and they will be adjusting the programming for the automated systems that will keep the plant running.

"It's quite complex. There are many moving parts," Stepaniuk explained. "The actual physical parts that do the job of treating the water must be aligned with the programming. It needs to be able to operate without too much operator attention."

Though the timeline for the plant has been stretched by several months, the project has remained on budget. Stepaniuk said that remaining on budget has been a higher priority than getting the project done early.

KICKER

Vehicle fire slows Fulford-Ganges traffic

Driver used snow to douse flames

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Fire Department responded to a call for a vehicle on fire at the intersection of Cusheon Lake and Fulford-Ganges roads last Wednesday morning.

Ian Marcotte, the driver of the vehicle, said he pulled the truck over when he smelled something burning.

"Then all of a sudden flames were coming out," Marcotte said. "I threw some snow on it. It's a good thing

there was snow or else it would have burnt right up."

The flames were extinguished when fire crews arrived. The crews used a fire extinguisher and water from a rescue tender to put out any remaining hot spots and to cool down the engine. The cause of the fire was not immediately known because of the snow used to put out the fire.

Nobody was injured.

Both Cusheon Lake and Fulford-Ganges roads were reduced to single-lane traffic during the incident.

The truck was towed and roads were opened at around 11:30 a.m.

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OPINION



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Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best All-Round | Bronze - Best Editorial



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EDITORIAL

Ounce of prevention

It's discouraging to see civilizations stumble backwards after they have made progress on so many fronts.

One of those areas is in the use of vaccines, such as the one that prevents measles, mumps and rubella and has been in use since 1963.

As of Monday, Vancouver Coastal Health had reported 14 confirmed cases of measles in the Lower Mainland area. A number of those individuals have been identified as being in high-traffic exposure locations during their contagious phase, suggesting that many more people could be infected in coming weeks.

Last month, Clark County in Washington state declared a public health emergency due to the high number of measles cases in that area. In 2014, more than 400 cases resulted in a Fraser Valley community due to low immunization rates there.

THE ISSUE: Measles outbreak in B.C.

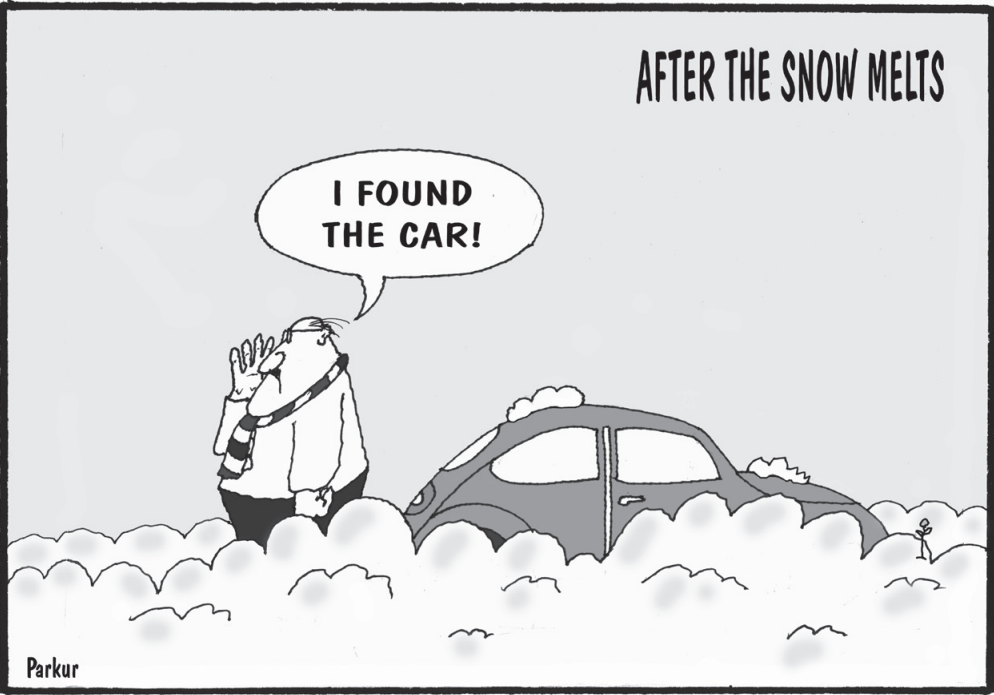
WE SAY: Immunization important

While measles does not have the deadly punch or profile of the Ebola virus, for example, it can cause serious illness and death. According to the World Health Organization, some 110,000 people died from measles around the world in 2017, with most being children under the age of five. The WHO also states that about 85 per cent of children worldwide received a dose of vaccine as infants that year. Between the years 2000 and 2017, the measles vaccine is estimated to have prevented 21.1 million deaths.

For several decades, measles was a non-issue in North America due to widespread immunization, and many countries around the world had virtually eliminated the disease.

But ignorance and complacency have merged in recent years to reduce immunization rates, making children especially vulnerable to measles and other illnesses that are prevented by vaccines. It would be an unnecessary tragedy to see young children die in B.C. from a disease that can be kept at bay so easily and safely.

The measles vaccine is available through public health units and pharmacies. People should take the opportunity to ensure their family members — and therefore the wider community — are protected.



Trust should take action

By PETER LAMB

There should be no doubt that the climate crisis is real and that the Gulf Islands are already seeing the impact. The devastating windstorm on Dec. 20 is surely a wake-up call for priority attention to be given by all levels of government and local community groups to the rapidly changing weather patterns in our region.

The Climate Action Group on Salt Spring Island has expressed its concerns to the Islands Trust in recent years about the need to take more urgent action to lower the carbon footprint in the Trust Area, including the allocation of budget and staff resources to address this issue. Indeed, it has been one of the objectives in their 2014-18 Strategic Plan but was never implemented in practice.

The latest report from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates the urgent need to limit average global temperature increases to 1.5°C. The world is currently on track for more than 3°C of warming based on policies in place. Unprecedented weather patterns have resulted in major, costly emergency responses by all

VIEWPOINT

levels of government. The British Columbia government declared a provincial state of emergency in 2017 and again in 2018 over record-setting wildfires. Extreme weather events are expected to continue until atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are reduced to well below current levels.

In response, a growing list of over 40 cities and local communities around the world, including Vancouver and Halifax in Canada and B.C.'s Capital Regional District, have joined an international movement in declaring a climate emergency in their jurisdictions to focus attention and resources on resolving the climate crisis, while pressing senior governments for increased local power and resources.

Typically, a climate emergency plan includes reversing the growth of greenhouse gas emissions and achieving carbon neutrality by 2030, which is challenging but not impossible if all levels of government take the necessary actions.

In 2009, the Salt Spring Official Community Plan established targets for reducing GHG emissions.

A Climate Action Plan for Salt Spring was prepared in 2011, which identified two sectors that were primarily responsible for GHG emissions on our island: on-road transportation and food (production and delivery); the plan now needs a major updating to reflect the community initiatives that have been accomplished since that time and filling gaps that have been identified in the plan.

In this context, we have submitted a request to the Islands Trust Council to join with the Capital Regional District in declaring a climate emergency in the Trust area for consideration by Trust Council at its upcoming meeting on Gabriola Island from March 12 to 14. Also, that Trust Council take a leadership role toward achieving carbon neutrality in the Islands Trust Area by 2030 and consider specific measures that the Trust can take to achieve this target.

If you would like to support this initiative, please read and sign a petition to that effect at: www.thepetitionsite.com/take-action/975/183/497/

The writer is a member of Transition Salt Spring's Climate Action Group.

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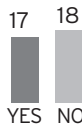
THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Do you believe children should be vaccinated?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you like the B.C. government's new budget?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Tuesday at noon or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

OPINION

{ QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

"All this policy says is when you're looking to knock heads, I'm the one, and I ask that you keep that in mind."

ANDREW PEAT, SSIFPD CAO

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED: *How would you improve cycling on Salt Spring?*

GARY LEHMAN



I'd like to see a path from one end to the other.

KURT INNES



I have young kids, so increasing education for kids would be good. Also increasing people's awareness that it is a viable alternative for transportation.

MARGARETHA NORDINE



I've biked to work for 20 years. We need lanes on the side of the road. Safety is really important.

MARY SMITH



Without a doubt, widening the shoulders. I'd also like to see the bike club pick up here.

SHERYL TAYLOR-MUNRO



Make it safer. Many of the roads are too narrow, even if you're a safe cyclist.

LETTERS to the editor

Listen to us

As a faithful reader of the Driftwood, I have seen two recent items that seem to highlight a "democratic deficit" here on Salt Spring Island. First, I see the Feb. 13 poll indicates that by a vote of 46 to 24 that the Islands Trust should not do anything about climate change. Then in the next issue, I read that the CRD (yes, I know, a different governing body, but governing over the same people) declares a "climate change crisis." As well as not consulting the people on this declaration, perhaps if they looked out the window, they may wonder about the relevance of this "crisis."

I am sure most people on Salt Spring would agree the main crises we face are affordable housing and reliable water supply. Which brings me to the second item, namely that the North Salt Spring Waterworks District has refused a new connection that would actually result in reduced water usage. Here is something that would actually bring an improvement to the community that was rejected on purely bureaucratic grounds, with no solicitation of views from the community. I think Peter Vincent's comments in last week's Viewpoint sum up the situation very aptly, and I for one am very glad to not be on

the NSSWD system. I can only hope that when the trustees are up for re-election, the voters remember these decisions. I hope these are isolated instances and that we can make sure the people's voices are heard in the future. **GLEN WILLIAMS,** SALT SPRING

True grace

Thank you, Helen Hinchliff, for your thoughts on aging with grace ("So what about this 'grace' stuff, anyway?") in last week's Driftwood. I wonder why so many elderly people take issue with you. Perhaps they interpret grace as

giving up, or feel there is something wimpish about accepting gracefully the limitations of old age? Let me tell them that it takes guts to accept these and still smile. Thank God for the many people on our island who do live with grace, concentrate on the good things of life and share with us their joyful lives. Grace comes from above. Let us accept this wonderful gift and live and, hopefully, even die with grace. **MEG HODGES,** SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

Bygone orchid trade among trivial matters

It all started innocently enough. "Is there any whipping cream in the fridge?" my wife asked as she stirred the cake batter in the mixing bowl. "WHIPPING CREAM," I yelled in her direction. "Why are you shouting and what is the matter with you?" she fired back, giving me that look. I explained to her that I like booming out "whipping cream" when I hear those two words because it reminds me of the saga of the Allman Brothers Band and their song "Whipping Post." My wife stared at me blankly. Okay, here's the story. The Allman Brothers were a highly successful southern rock and roll band in the early 1970s. One night, as they were playing to a sold-out audience in Atlanta, just as there was a perfect moment of stillness in between songs in their set, an extremely loud voice in the audience boomed out "WHIPPING POST." This was the title of one of the band's hit songs, which they usually reserved for their closing number or for their encore. However, the timing and sheer force of the call from the audience compelled them to change the set order and break into a boisterous rendition of the rocker. It wasn't long before that same voice from that same fan began following the band around from city to city, concert to concert. His timing was impeccable, always at the quietest moment in the show, the cry would go out for "WHIPPING POST." Soon the phenomenon caught on and others at Allman Brothers shows began yelling out the two dreaded words before, after, and during the songs the band was performing. It got to the point where, before founding member Duane Allman died in a motorcycle crash, all you could hear at an Allman Brothers concert was people yelling "WHIPPING POST."

Why relate this irrelevant tidbit? It's simply one example of the thousands of minutiae occupying valuable real estate in this overcrowded organ I call my brain. There has been virtually no room for any new information to be stored therein since about the time the Berlin Wall came crumbling down. You want more evidence of the minutiae clogging up my mind? Sure, I can tell you that 71 per cent of the earth's surface is covered in water, or that during coitus, the female praying mantis bites off the head of the male and later feeds herself by devouring the rest of his body. However. The minutiae I usually let loose are long, rambling tales that extend from nowhere to

nowhere. For instance, there's an island just a few miles north of Pender Harbour on the Sunshine Coast of B.C. called Nelson Island. One fine day back in the early '70s, I sailed up to the island with my friend, Roy. After anchoring in a sheltered bay, we hiked along one of the trails that led us to an area containing the remains of large semi-decaying wooden frames of buildings that looked like they might have been used as greenhouses long ago. Later that day we ran into a grizzled squatter who was a Yankee survivalist waiting for "the s---t to come down" (there was a lot of that kind of thinking going on at the time). He told us that the rotting structures we had seen earlier were indeed the last vestiges of a glorious era on Nelson Island when a large community of Finns had established a hugely successful commercial greenhouse operation that specialized in growing orchids. This was in the 1920s, and it wasn't too long before these plucky Finns had cornered the world orchid market. Weekly, large boats sailed into the harbour nearby and loaded up with the valuable flora cargo. Unfortunately, other countries realized the value of the orchid commodity. In just a few years, the competition grew exponentially and the global price dropped decidedly as the bottom fell out of the orchid market. The once thriving Nelson Island community went bust. Had enough? I've got more. Much, much more. On the south coast of Crete, the largest Greek island in the Aegean Sea, lies the town of Matala. During the '60s, this small fishing village became a mecca to hundreds of European and North American hippies and anarchists seeking the nirvana of a free life/love society. The large harbour and beach were lined with steep but climbable sandstone cliffs into which, over eons of time, the sea spray and weather had hollowed out dozens of deep caves. These very same caves, which had in their day housed

post Stone Age lepers and Roman crypts for the dead, now became makeshift dwellings for the freak foreigners who streamed into the little village. When I turned up there in 1970, the graffiti they had scrawled and painted on the sandstone walls still remained, often standing out in relief because the paint had kept the sandstone beneath from weathering and eroding. Pidgin English slogans such as "today is forever/tomorrow never come" and "make love/then make love more" remind us today of an era not quite forgotten. Even Canadian poet and folksinging legend Joni Mitchell spent time living in a Matala cave and references the experience in her song "Carrie" ("the night is a starry dome/and they're playin' that scratchy rock and roll/beneath the Matala moon"). Eventually, the despotic military junta dictatorship ordered the army in, and the hippies were rounded up and evicted from the caves. In 1984, I returned to Matala to find the village devoid of hippies and the caves barren. Instead, the beach had become a tourist beehive of seminude Germans, Brits and Swedes, and not a word of Greek could be heard except from the beach vendors hawking their coloured prayer beads to the sunburnt foreigners. On a whim, I hiked up one of the steep trails that led me up over the ridge and down into the next bay which was secluded in comparison to the Matala scene. As I descended, I was almost blinded by the glare of what looked to be a gigantic jewel on the beach. It glistened like the sun, in all its intensity, had half buried itself in the sand. When I finally reached the beach, I was able to make out the actual source of the glare. The blinding jewel was nothing but a monstrous pile of empty plastic water bottles reflecting the stark sunlight. They had been left behind over the decades by every hippie, anarchist and bloody tourist who had ventured over the same ridge as I had just done. In plastic talk, the pile proved indeed "today is forever."

Nobody asked me, but I can only hope that unloading these minutiae from my brain into yours will free up some space for new trivia to squeeze its way in. The worms are now free to roam about your little neural passageways. The only problem is that I have so many more to divest. So many, that I will have to save them for the next issue of "Nobody Asked Me But...."



Shilo Zylbergold
NOBODY ASKED ME BUT

Budget gets praise



Adam Olsen
MLA'S
REPORT

I was elected to represent Saanich North and the Islands in the British Columbia Legislative Assembly in large part because people in my riding lost confidence in government.

On each and every doorstep, I promised them that I would be passionate, bold and courageous in my work to rebuild their trust.

Budget 2019 is not a perfect budget. It's not an awful budget. It's a good budget, and it's a smart budget. It begins to make the investments in people and in environment that signal this government is interested in rebuilding trust in our democratic institution.

Budget 2019 continues the work of restoring confidence in government. It features many initiatives that were in the Green platform. CleanBC represents meaningful action on climate change. But it also has investments in education, youth mental health, PharmaCare and child care.

With the CleanBC plan and the \$900-million investment in this budget, it's a great step forward to putting British Columbia back on track and on the pathway towards a cutting-edge, low-carbon economy.

Salmon is an issue I've spent a considerable amount of time on with the Premier's Wild Salmon Advisory Council and I am disappointed to see no substantive investment in wild salmon. It is my hope that government steps forward soon with their commitment to this work as good salmon policy is good environmental, good social and good

economic policy.

Budget 2019 takes tremendous steps in recognizing lifelong learning and making post-secondary education more affordable and accessible. I applaud the \$550-million investment in public education and the \$31-million investment in independent schools.

Also, Indigenous leaders have long been asking for access to gaming revenues, and \$3 billion over 25 years is a remarkable advancement in government-to-government relations in British Columbia.

The \$50-million investment in high-speed internet connectivity is a start to better connectivity in rural communities. I know that Gulf Islanders will be eager to have part of that investment, and it will improve our communities.

Investments in innovation are not enough. We are facing disruptive technologies and innovations with the sole purpose of turning status quo markets upside down. It's time for government, labour, business and politicians to wake up to this new reality that we face together. We must embrace the reality that we need to change or we will be changed.

I will continue to be both an active, productive partner in the work to rebuild trust in this democratic institution as well as a thoughtful critic.

I will continue to push forward on innovation, habitat protection, restoration and less bureaucratic fragmentation.

I will continue to demand deeper, more thorough action on the allegations of corruption and bad behaviour. We can go further, faster.

I will continue to advocate with a loud and respectful voice for the interests of Saanich North and the Islands. To watch the video and/or read the transcript of my Budget 2019 response, visit: adamolsenmla.ca/its-a-good-budget-its-a-smart-budget-2019/.

Rants + ROSES

Roses

Just a day before snow! A torrent shower of celestial cosmic lights with sweet fragrant petals will fall upon my dear friends Brian, Mana, Klaus, Mila and Jim, who helped with my relocation in Croftonbrook on time with great success after many, many days of stressful struggle to get moved. With my whole heart, I thank you all. I couldn't have done it without you. Juanita Parry

To the person or persons who found my scarf and tied it to the Channel Ridge gate, a huge thank-you! You made my day! I thought it was lost forever in the snow. The scarf has great sentimental value, as my late husband's mother gave it to me. I smiled from ear to ear when I saw it. What special people you are. Diana Robson

Twenty-four long-stemmed pink and yellow scented roses to Dina Hermann for the years of stellar, warm and professional service at Dr. Bob McGinn's. We support you wherever you go. M. Fertig

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Join Seniors

Salt Spring Seniors Centre across from Country Grocer continues to be the best place on Salt Spring for adults over 55 to explore their own creativity, meet new folks and participate in ongoing programs such as choir, games, art and more.

During the great "blowdown" in December, the Seniors Centre across from Country Grocer was used for eight days as a warming and charging centre for those without electricity or water at their homes. Many of these were seniors, young and old, who had never been in this building before and were surprised at the many uses to which 379 Lower Ganges Rd. have been put: conference rooms, conversation rooms, a lounge, accessible washrooms, a new well-equipped kitchen, library, large program room with piano and audio-visual equipment, offices and public use computer.

The Salt Spring Seniors Services Society board of directors needs new members. This year's AGM is in April, and Seniors needs a new president, secretary and other directors to round out the board. Meetings are monthly, short, and

only require members to care about and participate in decision-making about seniors issues in our community. It's a very collegial group.

We need volunteers of every sort: drivers, kitchen help, front desk reception as well as board members. Seniors is always open to new programs: you could even start a vegetarian cooking group, armchair travel to exotic places using the excellent audio-visual projection equipment or karaoke, dances, public lectures, exercise groups, quiz nights, darts competitions and the like. It just takes a good idea and some like-minded folks.

Please call the office: 250-537-4604 or call Neva at 250-537-6426. Seniors is now open from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., so come on down and find your place at Salt Spring Seniors.

NEVA HOHN,
SS SENIORS

Whims history

In honour of Black History Month in February, I nominate Whims Road on Salt Spring named after black pioneer Hiram Whims, who came from Missouri in 1859.

His family were free slaves and bought land to farm near St. Mary Lake.

Their descendants were Robert Clark and James Douglas Whims, who volunteered in the First World War and were among the first blacks allowed to join the forces. As a matter of fact, according to research done by the late Gillian Watson of the Salt Spring Archives, James Douglas Whims lied about his age in order to enlist. They were found physically fit and worked in hard labour digging the trenches. Robert Clark came home but James Douglas did not. His name is on the war memorial in Centennial Park in Ganges.

We shall always remember their sacrifices.

LING WESTON,
NORTH BEACH ROAD

Feminism

Following up on my letter of Jan. 30 regarding the formation of a monthly feminist group, I have now heard from numerous interested people. The first meeting will be held on International Women's Day, Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Ideas and perspectives are open for discussion and development.

All ages, genders and sexual leanings are welcome. For more information contact me at helani@shaw.ca.

HELANI DAVISON,
SALT SPRING

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Financial Advice

I'm worried about my savings, especially with all of the negative headlines. Can you help?

If you're looking for some reassurance when it comes to your investments, I always recommend going back to the original objectives you set for the money you invested. Have those objectives changed? Do you need the money sooner than you expected? No? Do you have a plan in place? Short-term market fluctuation is normal and corrections do occur, producing all manner of headlines including some negative ones. However, if you have a solid plan in place, you can usually remain confident about the long term outcome. That's not to say you can't also make adjustments to your investment strategy along the way, of course. But if you've done the groundwork in the beginning, it's often just a matter of doing regular reviews and updates as your life changes. If you haven't yet built a solid plan, or if you feel it's time to review your original plan, a professional financial advisor can help. Then when you're tempted to panic, remind yourself: this too shall pass.

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SCOTT HOWE

Mechanic

Winter does seem to be holding on

With the recent return of colder weather and snow it is setting our regular maintenance back a bit.

Let's be optimistic and say we will probably only be a couple of weeks behind last year by the time we are into the last week of March.

So take your snow tires off the middle to end of March along with your spring check over and plan for any major work to be done in time for summer holidays.

If your vehicle is due for an oil change don't put it off just to fit the weather. If you are hearing odd noises or feeling something different in your car get it checked out before it becomes a major problem.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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MONEY MATTERS

FOURTH IN A FOUR PART SERIES

INCOME TAX

Seniors: Don't miss important tax breaks

Long list of items to consider at tax time

Seniors may be eligible for a wide range of tax benefits and credits. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has tips to help make sure seniors get everything they are owed this tax season.

Protect yourself from tax scams

Did you get a suspicious email, telephone call, letter or text message claiming to be from the CRA? If you're being asked for personal information such as your credit card number, bank account number or passport number, this is a scam. Learn how to protect yourself.

Claim benefits, credits and other expenses

As a senior, here are some of the most common things that you may be able to claim:

Pension income splitting – As a pensioner, you may be eligible to split up to 50% of your eligible pension income with your spouse or common-law partner to reduce the amount of income tax you may have to pay, if your spouse or common-law partner is in a lower tax bracket.

Registered retirement savings plan deduction – Deductible contributions to your plan can reduce your tax owing. You can contribute to an RRSP up until the end of the year you turn 71. You can also contribute to your spouse's or common-law partner's RRSP until the end of the year they turn 71.

Medical expenses – You may be able to claim eligible medical expenses you or your spouse or common-law partner paid in any 12-month period ending in 2018.

Age amount – If you were 65 years of age or older on Dec. 31, 2018, and your net income was less than \$85,863, you may be able to claim up to \$7,333 on your return.



Disability tax credit – If you have a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions, you may be eligible for the disability tax credit (DTC). If your spouse or common-law partner or your dependant have a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions, are able to claim the DTC, and they don't need to claim all or part of the amount, they may be able to transfer the amount to you.

Canada caregiver credit – Do you support a spouse or common-law partner, or a dependant with an impairment in physical or mental functions? The Canada caregiver credit (CCC) is a non-refundable tax credit that may be available to you.

Pension income amount – You may be able to claim up to \$2,000 if you reported eligible pension, superannuation, or annuity payments on your return.

Guaranteed income supplement – The Guaranteed Income Supplement provides a monthly non-taxable benefit to Old Age Security pension recipients who have a low income and are living in Canada. If you live on a low-income and receive the GIS or allowance benefits under the OAS Program, you must file your return by April 30 to make sure your benefits are renewed.

Goods and services tax / harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit – You may be eligible for tax-free quarterly payments that help individuals and families with low and modest income to offset all or part of the GST or HST that they pay. When you file your taxes, the CRA automatically determines your eligibility.

Registered disability savings plan – This type of plan helps families and others

save for the long-term financial security of a person who is eligible for the disability tax credit.

Working Income Tax Benefit – The working income tax benefit is a refundable tax credit that provides relief for eligible working low-income individuals and families who are already in the workforce.

MORTGAGES

Reverse mortgages an option

One way to reduce financial stress

SUBMITTED BY MORTGAGE DEPOT

Oh yes! Or at least . . . maybe?

If you are 55 or older and fit into the demographic that doesn't meet the current stress test standards for qualifying for a mortgage, or don't have the income to pay monthly mortgage payments, the CHIP (Canadian Home Equity Plan) mortgage could be a perfect fit for you.

It's pretty much guaranteed that this is a much better choice than alternative financing (private mortgages), which have significantly higher interest rates plus fees that could repeat every year or two — not to mention the higher payments on that mortgage — and payments may be what you are trying to avoid in the first place.

Many people find themselves without a lot of income at retirement, especially with the higher and forever rising costs we now all face for food, medical, home maintenance, property taxes and just living in general. Using the equity in your home to make retirement much more enjoyable can be a great option and one worth exploring.

There is a lot to take into consideration and it would start with an assessment of your current financial situation and your future needs.

There may be other opportunities that could be considered instead — for

instance, a fixed-rate interest-only mortgage that reduces mortgage payments significantly and makes easier to manage on a fixed or low income. Or maybe just a regular mortgage or line of credit would work as well.

Here are some facts you may not know:

- CHIP mortgages are purpose-built for homeowners 55 years and older
- No regular mortgage payments are required
- You maintain ownership of your home.

We can fit the plan based on what you want, such as a lump sum payment (for immediate expense), and/or monthly payments that can enhance your income and make life a lot more enjoyable while remaining in your home. The money you receive is tax free. And you don't have to make mortgage payments.

The decision is ultimately yours, but you can't decide until you have all the information and costs.

For those who question this product and would never consider it based on "hearsay" — have they considered the alternative — what happens to someone who finds themselves without enough income to meet their needs and keep them in the home they love and close to the people they know? They may be having a very hard time managing, the stress could be affecting their health — and yet maybe they have enough equity to give themselves a comfortable retirement in their own home instead?

The numbers don't lie

It pays big dividends to have a reliable accountant

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FOCUS on EDUCATION

UNIQUE PROGRAMS

Stowel Lake students dive into publishing

New Yurt Times joins ranks of island publications

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A new monthly publication that just started production on Salt Spring last fall is already on the radar for Canada's top political leaders.

Issue 2 of the New Yurt Times features a front-page photo of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in his office, looking at NYT Issue 1. It's a remarkably speedy trajectory for a new voice in reporting.

The Times is created and produced by students of the Yurt Class at Stowel Lake Farm, which operates under School District 64 as a satellite of Phoenix Elementary School. The program has a focus on ecological and outdoor education, with around a dozen students between the ages of nine and 13 taught by Amy Cousins.

Cousins is senior editor for the paper, while a different student acts as junior editor for each issue. The students are responsible for content including news stories, interviews, fiction and artwork, and for putting the material together into the printed broadsheet.

Stowel Lake students were interested to

hear about the Driftwood process during a recent visit to the yurt; part of the learning for the program has been reading the local paper. They were quite intrigued to hear that mistakes happen no matter how much editing and proofreading takes place, and that many people are involved in the paper's creation even though there are only two reporters.

"What I was noticing is this project really emphasizes the whole editing process," Cousins told the class. "With the newspaper and the way it's getting published, I think you're getting exposed to how long the editing process takes and what a collaborative project [it is]."

Students have found that some of their biggest challenges in creating a newspaper are deadlines and how long it takes to complete a production in all its stages, especially lay-out.

"How do you get a whole newspaper done in a week?" was one of their first questions.

Producing the New Yurt Times meets a number of educational goals in a fun and innovative way. In addition to their literacy skills, Cousins has built science and social studies aspects into the issue themes. The Dec. 20 issue had a climate change theme and a feature interview with Saanich-Gulf Islands MP/Green party leader Elizabeth May



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Yurt Class members with copies of their New Yurt Times newspaper.

done by Kai Nash. May promised during her visit to personally deliver Issue 1 to Trudeau and clearly lost no time in following through. The students hoped the prime minister actu-

ally took the time to read their paper, since the first issue had a pipeline theme.

STOWEL continued on 11

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FOCUS on EDUCATION

Paper has reached prime minister

STOWEL
continued from 10

Issue 2 included a news story on derelict boat removal on Salt Spring, and one about a group of children suing the U.S. government for not acting on climate change; information pieces on Douglas firs, coral reefs, the rainforest and climate change; Christmas stories, a book review, a cartoon and artwork inspired by the First Nations calendar.

Every issue has a student profile as well as a feature interview; December's publication saw junior editor Max Kellow talking with fellow student Seb Raulston.

This coming issue, now in the beginning stages of production, has a theme of "diversity." Under junior editor Kumi Nash, students are starting their work on individual projects addressing biodiversity, as well as diversity in culture, religion and gender expression.

Keo Oudry is working on the lead interview with Joe Akerman, which touches on issues including First Nations' experience in residential schools.

With many important topics underway, and the paper having already reached the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, the Yurt Class at Stowel Lake is wondering just how far their message might reach. As one student proposed:



Front page of the New Yurt Times showing Prime Minister Justin Trudeau holding a previous issue.

"Maybe we can get Elizabeth May to give it to Justin Trudeau, to give to Donald Trump, you know?"

BOARDING SCHOOL Brentwood builds confidence

University prep

Brentwood College School is a university preparatory and boarding school located just a short hop across the water from Salt Spring in the beautiful Mill Bay area.

As the school's website explains, "As a university preparatory school, the pursuit of academic excellence is one of our school's fundamental aims. We strive to help students reach levels of achievement that truly reflect their ability, attitude, and effort."

Use of technology, small class sizes and low student-teacher ratios help students achieve their best in programs that prepare students for post-secondary education and careers in a rapidly changing global workplace.

Brentwood also offers strong arts and athletics programs.

"At Brentwood, we believe the arts promote creativity, self-expression, and teamwork. The arts help students visualize an idea



BRENTWOOD COLLEGE SCHOOL PHOTO
Aerial view of Brentwood College School.

and see a complex process through to reality."

Brentwood's athletic history includes championship banners at regional, provincial and national levels and 24 alumni who have represented their country at the Olympics.

The school environment is also a collegial one.

"People may think that our oceanfront campus or unique tripartite program is what makes Brentwood special, but what stands out to me is the shared mentality of the students," explains one student. "Everyone is genuinely happy to be here, and I think that makes all the difference in the relationships you form at Brentwood."

Brentwood College School director of learning David McCarthy has a rewarding job.

"The most rewarding part of my job is seeing the students on Graduation Day: Seeing a student who struggled to find their feet initially graduate as a confident, young person equipped and excited for the next phase of their lives."

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FOCUS on EDUCATION

TRADES EDUCATION

Females get rich immersion in trades education

Camosun College showcase hosts kids

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A group of 32 female students from the Gulf Islands School District got the chance to get their hands dirty at a Women in Trades and Technology showcase event at Camosun College on Feb. 21.

The event gave female students the chance to explore future careers in the trades and technology sectors

by bringing them into shop environments for hands-on experience.

"It was a great opportunity for students who identify as female, or even for any student, to go to an event like this," said Gulf Islands Secondary School shop teacher Darrell Watson, who was a chaperone at the event. "It really allows them to see what it is rather than a presentation by a college or university. It's a lot more visual. It connects them to what's happening more than a presentation would."

Five school districts in the Vancou-

ver Island area were invited with 160 students from grades 9-12 taking part. The girls were given the chance to explore the electrical, carpentry, sheet metal and automotive trades, and computer science, civil engineering, electronics and mechanical engineering tech sectors.

Watson took 19 middle school and eight high school students to Camosun.

"There were good presentations from instructors and department heads," he said. "Students came

in, a few different mechanical engineering students came in and there were keynote speakers talking about their direction and just being in high school not knowing what they wanted to do and finding direction in their lives through the trades."

Watson has been pleased to see more female students take an interest in the trades since he began working at the high school two years ago. One of his woodworking classes is 50 per cent female. When female students are encouraged

to take part in shop class, he said, they can explore opportunities they would not be able to otherwise.

"I'm trying to change the culture here to make it a more conducive place. We're starting to see the return on that," he said. "There's a paradigm shift, and you can see that when you go to Camosun too. There are a lot of female students in the halls, on their breaks, in the classrooms and working in these different trades. It's great . . . That diversity has taken far too long to get here."

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Top-notch girls' STEM school offers five-day boarding

Prep for university experience

Founded in 1908, St. Margaret's School is Vancouver Island's only all-girls school and was the first independent school in Canada to offer an all-girls STEM curriculum.

Blessed with a breathtaking 22-acre green campus, SMS provides a safe and secure environment for girls from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12. With approximately 350 students enrolled each year, about half the girls are

boarding students from around the world.

"Our curriculum is STEM focused, so there is an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math," explains Barbara Sutton, director of external relations, "but that does not mean we don't offer art, music and drama classes. STEM provides our students with a skill set for problem-solving across the disciplines."

There is also an emphasis on experiential learning and students are encouraged to take the lead in decision-making at the school. The

goal is to increase self-esteem and ensure girls take full advantage of all the opportunities available to them in life.

"We think every girl deserves the opportunity to experience life at SMS," says Sutton, "and that is why we are offering five-day boarding for students who live a ferry ride away from Victoria."

SMS is inviting girls to challenge themselves during the week at the top all-girls school, then relax and enjoy the weekend at home with

family and friends. It is a chance for students to experience independent living and get ready for the transition to university. Staying in a double room with an en suite bathroom, five-day boarders have the chance to live, study and make friends with girls from India, China, Germany, Mexico, Nigeria and Japan.

For more details or to book a campus tour, see www.stmarg.ca or contact St. Margaret's School Admissions at 250-479-7171 or admissions@stmarg.ca.



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AUTHOR VISIT

Eden Robinson shares new Trickster stories

Joint reading with
Philip Kevin Paul next
week

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The next Open Poetry Mic at the library will include a special double bill showcasing two acclaimed First Nations writers on Thursday, March 7.

Featured poet Philip Kevin Paul is a member of the WSÁNEC Nation from the Saanich Peninsula. His third book of poetry, *I'm Still Your Pitiful One*, will be published by Nightwood Editions this year, while his second book, *Little Hunger*, was short-listed for a 2009 Governor General's Literary Award. In addition to writing poetry, Paul works with the University of Victoria's Department of Linguistics to ensure the preservation of the SENCOTEN language.

Paul is joined by Haisla and Heiltsuk novelist Eden Robinson, the author of *Monkey Beach* and a two-time Giller Prize finalist. Robinson will present *Trickster Drift*, the follow-up to *Son of a Trickster* and the second book of her *Trickster* trilogy.

Reached at her home in Kitimat, Robinson talked about



LAUGHING RED WORKS PHOTO

Author Eden Robinson.

coming from a family of storytellers who were always trying to one-up each other after dinner. Stories about the trickster in particular would come at increasingly fast and funny rates.

"When I started writing *Son of a Trickster* it would bring me back to that time," Robinson said.

Her *Trickster* trilogy was partly born of a wish to pass on the stories to the next generation in a context that would make sense to them. She started with a short story and soon realized she had much more to say, as well as an attachment to the web of characters and their relationships.

The trilogy centres on Jared, a 16-year-old expert baker of pot cookies. In the first book he's just trying to finish Grade 10 while assuming too much responsibility for his divorced, drug-abusing parents. Jared's tenuous balance becomes upset by an unwanted entry into the supernatural world that he at first attributes to too much partying. *Trickster Drift* sees Jared trying to accept his new reality and reconcile the two opposing worlds. The final novel, which is now in its first draft, will see Jared achieve some important personal growth, including dealing with his mother and father issues.

Robinson memorably explored the coming of age of troubled youth in her first two novels, *Monkey Beach* and *Blood Sports*, and her entry into Jared's world feels just as authentic. When asked what attracts her to that age group, she said the teenage years are a fruitful time for writers, mostly because of the "sheer angst" of that period of life.

"You're trying to figure out who you are and what you believe; you're noticing what other people are saying versus what they're doing. So it's a time that's ripe for fictionalizing," Robinson said.

Robinson's writing is hugely influenced by her own physical and emotional state. She said there is a noticeable break in *Blood Sports* where everything starts to go wrong for the protagonist, and it coincides exactly with quitting her two-pack-a-day smoking habit. (This book was deemed too dark for international publishers and Robinson said no one in her family has been able to finish it.) Jared's wild childhood, zero-boundary mother and supernatural craziness seem partly influenced by the fact she did all her writing for *Son of a Trickster* between the hours of 4 and 5 a.m., because that was the only time available to her in that period.

"There's less of a censor at 4 a.m.," Robinson reports. "I considered not writing but it brings a sense of creative satisfaction that I can't find anywhere else."

A sharp wit with a generous disposition, Robinson comes from a culture that places high value on word-play: the ability to pun is considered very high art in Haisla. And while her characters are coming of age into broken families where substance abuse is prevalent and violence is a constant threat, Robinson's later work in particular finds a way to balance darker themes

with her keen sense of humour.

"It always makes me grateful that I write for CanLit, because in CanLit I'm about medium-level darkness," she laughed. "Usually the stories I'm attracted to are the darker stories anyway — usually in my heart of hearts I'm still the teenage goth girl. It's just a personal quirk."

"As I get older I'm also drawn to the goofy, so that has been an interesting element. That's not where I expected to be."

The March 7 event includes the regular poetry open mic format, with reader sign-up at 6:45 p.m. and open mic at 7. Featured author readings begin at 7:30.



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MUSIC

Visiting acts make for exciting musical weekend

Two evening shows and one
daytime family show planned

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Music lovers will have plenty to do this weekend, with two evening shows and one daytime family show being held at different venues on the island.

The Myrtle Sisters are bringing two shows to the island, the first on Friday with a daytime family show at Mahon Hall and a nighttime show when they join Petunia and the Vipers at Beaver Point Hall.

The Myrtle Sisters are a family band straight out of the year 1919, states press material. "The sisters have been trapped in our year because they cannot agree on where to go next. They bring singing, tap dance and humour to the stage through original and historical music as they try to find their way back to the past. Their show incorporates porch stomping, wash-tub traditional jazz and twinkling tap numbers as they explore the importance of listening and cooperation, perfect for young families."

The Myrtle Sisters will be playing at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, with doors opening at 2. Tickets are available at the door.

Later that evening, the performers will



COURTESY THE MYRTLE SISTERS

The Myrtle Sisters.

take to the stage again at Beaver Point Hall when they open for Petunia and the Vipers. They blend rockabilly, country swing, melodic ballads and a bit of darkness and grit. With influences dating back to the 1920s, Petunia and the Vipers bring something for everyone. Be sure to bring dancing shoes to this event, as the band is sure to keep everyone on their feet.

Tickets are available online through brownpapertickets.com or at the door. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show begins at 9.

Antibalas bring New York-style Afrobeat to Fulford Hall

On Sunday evening, New York City's Afrobeat legends Antibalas will be playing at Fulford Hall, with opening and closing DJ sets by Andrew Ross Collins.

Antibalas is a 13-piece superband made up of some of the heaviest and most talented roots and jazz musicians in New York City. Their songs pay tribute to the forefathers of Afrobeat, some spanning up to 15 minutes in length. They add their distinct grit to the classic Afrobeat sound, blending influences from punk rock, free jazz and hip hop.

Daryl Chonka, a local musician and record producer, is responsible for bringing the group to the island.

"They are among the absolute best dance bands in North America and probably the most legitimate Afrobeat band on the planet," Chonka said. "There is no question that they are a match for our community of movers and shakers. This will be one amazing dance party!"

Tickets are available through brownpapertickets.com or at the Mateada Nitro Mate Lounge in Ganges. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Capital Regional District CRD

Notice of Deadline

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The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service is accepting applications from non-profit organizations for three grant programs.

Apply by: March 28, 2019 at 4:30pm

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what's on this week



Wed. Feb. 27

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Burrows/Morena Jazz Quartet.
Italian jazz pianist Carlo Morena, guitarist Jared Burrows, drummer Joe Sorbara and bass player Rob Kohler perform in an afternoon concert at All Saints at 2 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program.
Join Nomi and Hannah on Wednesday mornings in the Salt Spring Public Library program room. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. For parents and children ages 0-6. Preregister at the library.

2019 Tapping World Summit.
Annual free online event on Emotional Freedom Techniques. Salt Spring Public Library. Room 106. 1 to 2 p.m. Info/registration: Judith Gane, 250-537-5322 or Judithgane@sympatico.ca.

Joni Mitchell 75th Birthday Concert film.
At The Fritz. 7 p.m.

Salt Spring Garden Club: Vegetable Gardening – Tips & Tricks for Growing Great Grub.
CBC gardener Donna Balzer is the first SS Garden Club presenter of 2019 at Meaden Hall. Parlour show at 6:45 p.m., with plant sale and seed exchange, tea, coffee & goodies; business meeting at 7:15 p.m.; speaker starts 8 p.m.

Music Bingo.
Wednesdays with Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Thu. Feb. 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic Night at the Legion.
Thursdays at the Legion. 7 p.m.

Open Mic at Moby's.
Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Sharon Sykes Retirement Send-off.
Open house for CRD Building Inspection clerk Sharon Sykes on her retirement. Coffee, tea, cake and wish Sykes well at CRD meeting room, 118-Fulford Ganges Rd., from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Joni Mitchell 75th Birthday Concert film.
At The Fritz. 3 + 7 p.m.

Survival in the Wild.
Tudor Davies of SS Search and Rescue and the SS Trail and Nature Club gives a talk called Survival in the Wild. Salt Spring Library. 7 p.m.

2019 Tapping World Summit.
See Wednesday's listing.



Fri. Mar. 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

The Myrtle Sisters Family Show.
Show of original and historical music, comedy and dance. The Myrtle Sisters are stranded in 2019 because they can't agree about where to go next! The show is suitable for families and kids of all ages. Mahon Hall. 2:30 p.m. with doors open at 2 p.m.

Fri. Mar. 1

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Friday Night Shakedown with DJ Boomtown.
Mateada Nitro Lounge. 7 to 10 p.m.

Petunia & The Vipers + the Myrtle Sisters.
Rockabilly, country swing, sweet melodic ballads from Petunia and the Vipers, and porch stompin', wash-tub bass-bouncing jug-time traditional jazz from the Myrtle Sisters. Beaver Point Hall. 8 p.m.

Sue's Blue Shoes.
Blues music with Sue Newman and band. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.



ACTIVITIES

StoryTime.
Stories, games and crafts for ages 3 to 6 and their caregivers on Fridays at the Salt Spring Public Library. 11 a.m.

Family Movie Matinee.
Family-friendly movies every Friday at the Salt Spring Public Library Program Room at 2:30 p.m. Today's movie is Ice Age: The Meltdown.

20th Annual Salt Spring Film Festival.
Opening Night Gala with The Serengeti Rules film. GISS. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and film starts at 7 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 2

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Buckman Coe & Tonye.
Big band soul and roots shakedown party for Buckman Coe's 6th album release, with special guest Tonye Aganaba. Beaver Point Hall. 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Buck Dodgers String Band.
Folk, bluegrass band at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

20th Annual Salt Spring Film Festival.
First films run at 10 a.m.; last ones at 4:15 p.m. Plus Social Justice Bazaar, Intermission Cafe and more. See www.saltspringfilmfestival.com for all details.

Met Opera: La Fille Du Regiment.
Donizetti opera screening at ArtSpring. 10 a.m.

Wildfire Community Preparedness.
Presentation on FireSmart activities for Salt Spring to aid in wildfire prevention/preparation. Ganges Fire Hall. 1 p.m.

SS Film Fest: Metamorphosis.
Special presentation at ArtSpring with filmmakers in attendance. 7:30 p.m.

Sun. Mar. 3

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Antibalas Live at Fulford Hall.
New York Afrobeat legends Antibalas at Fulford Hall. Doors at 7:30 p.m.; DJ Andrew Interchill at 8 p.m. and Antibalas at 9 p.m.

Sun. Mar. 3

ACTIVITIES

20th Annual Salt Spring Film Festival.
See Saturday's listing.

How to Teach Your Kids to Calm Down and Self-Regulate.
Salt Spring Library presents 5th in a series of free parenting workshops. 1 to 3 p.m. in the program room. Childminding available with advance registration.

Badminton.
All levels of play. Must have your own racquet and non-marking gym shoes are necessary. GISS gym. Sundays from 7 to 9 p.m. Info: Gail Temmel, 250-653-4613.

Mon. Mar. 4

ACTIVITIES

Metamorphosis Journey – Transforming the Climate Crisis Workshop.
Led by award-winning filmmakers and certified professional coaches Nova Ami and Velcrow Ripper. Mahon Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

Tue. Mar. 5

ACTIVITIES

11th Annual Scrabble Fundraiser.
Pay to play games at Salt Spring Inn, 2 to 4 p.m., or support others in Grand(m)others to Grandmothers fundraiser for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Tue. Mar. 5

ACTIVITIES

100 Women Who Care Salt Spring Island.
Postponed meeting convenes at ArtSpring. Orientation and social starts at 6 p.m. Meeting runs from 7 to 8.

Sacred Chanting.
First of a monthly series with sacred chanting from differing traditions — including time for reflection in between chants — led by Elaina Hyde and Usha Haywood at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). Sessions will be held on the first Tuesday of each month. 7 to 8:30 p.m. By donation.

Trivia Tuesday.
Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Wed. Mar 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea à Tempo: Sacred Music and Dance.
All Saints' choir, under the direction of music director David Storm, performs a mixed program of music and dance. All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m. Optional tea and treats follow the concert.

ACTIVITIES

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program.
See last Wednesday's listing.

Music Bingo.
See last Wednesday's listing.



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Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

see horoscope on page 15

THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **Joni Mitchell 75th Birthday Concert** film shows Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. and Thurs., Feb. 28 at 3 and 7 p.m.
- **Mary Queen of Scots** plays Friday, March 1 through Sunday, March 3 at 7 p.m., with an additional Sunday matinee at 3 p.m.
- **The Favorite** (Oscar Best Actress) runs Monday, March 4 to Thursday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Salt Spring Island Painters Guild** presents its **Lobby Show** of eclectic work by guild members at **ArtSpring** from Saturday, March 2 to Friday, March 29.
- **Erotica** art show — a multi-artist sensuous art show about love, sexuality, pleasure and the body — runs at **Salt Spring Gallery** until March 12.

- **Margarite Sanchez** shows new work in an exhibit called **From Seed to Canvas** in the **Salt Spring Public Library Program Room** through February.
- **Double Vision** presents **Questionable**, an exhibit of contemplative photography by **Karin** and **John Millson** at **Fernwood Road Cafe** until March 16.
- Today, Feb. 27, is the last day to see **Looking Up 5**, a co-show of photography and art by **Bill Underwood** and **Suzanne Prendergast** in the **ArtSpring** lobby.
- **Salt Spring Gallery** artists have work hanging in **Island Savings**.
- **Salt Spring Photo Club** members **Jean**, **Sylvia**, **Pat**, **Fifi** and **Margaret** show photos of women from around the world to celebrate International Women's Day at the **Country Grocer Cafe**.

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com/events/

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ISLAND LIFE

- Remember When
- Star of the Week
- Let's Talk

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



ISLANDERS

One-of-a-kind Sam celebrated

Meaden Hall overflows for man who was an island institution

BY GAIL SJUBERG

DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Meaden Hall was crowded well beyond standing room only for a celebration of life for Sam Chan on Saturday, Feb. 16.

The well-loved face of Golden Island Restaurant died at his home on Jan. 6 at the age of 64. He had retired last fall after he and members of his extended family sold the restaurant that his sister Winnie and her husband Ted Kwong opened in the early 1980s.

Sam's nephew Brian Kwong emceed the formal part of Saturday's event, telling his uncle's life story, which was also detailed in a six-page keepsake card. Kwong's narrative contained ample humour, as might be expected from a close relative of Sam's.

Coming to Victoria from Hong Kong along with his older brother Richard, Sam had been among the first cohort to earn a computer science degree from UVic in 1979, although he did not end up pursuing that career in Canada, and returned to Hong Kong for a time after graduating.

Family was always important to Sam, said Kwong.

Sam had three older and three younger siblings, and he took a lead role in looking after his father until he died last year.

"He saw it as his duty to do. He was proud to do it . . . and that was very indicative of the kind of person he was."

The printed biography explained that Sam's father had carried Sam to the hospital for daily treatment due to the polio he contracted as an infant.

Kwong addressed Sam's sons David and Andrew in telling them they "got off easy" when it came to discipline from their father.

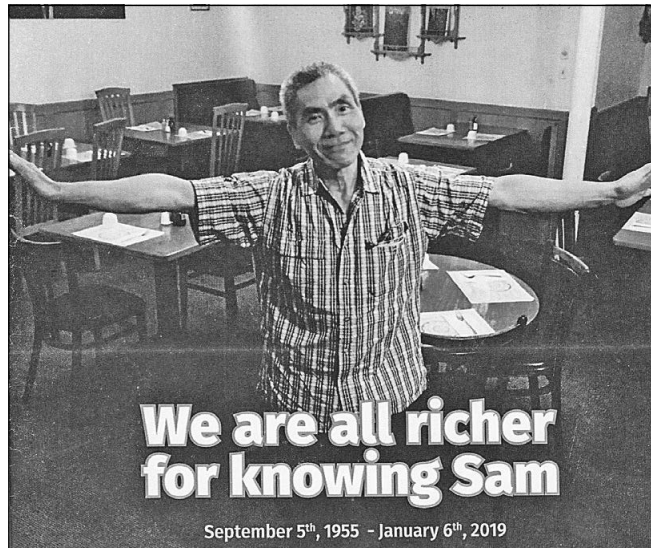
"We are a tight-knit Chinese family and we were not afraid to discipline each other's kids," Kwong explained, drawing laughter from the crowd. "He really mellowed out when you guys came along."

He also said it was evident "how proud [Sam] was of the men you guys had become."

Kwong noted that their uncles would now have to tease them about their girlfriends, as Sam had done with the chosen partners of his nieces and nephews, and the many young adults he came to know through the Golden Island.

Kwong said interacting with the Salt Spring community as he did in the restaurant for more than 30 years brought Sam great fulfillment and the admiration of his customers.

"He wasn't the Pope, but look around," said Kwong, indi-



Cover of celebration of life keepsake for Sam Chan, with a photo of him in Golden Island Restaurant, where he was customers' favourite host for more than 30 years.

cating the number of people who had come to pay respects to their favourite server, who always took the time to ask his customers about their life and families and remembered all the details, as well as their favourite Golden Island dishes.

Both David and Andrew Chan described how they didn't get to spend much time with their father until their adolescent years when they worked with him.

"Only when I worked at the restaurant did I realize what a great human being he was," said Andrew. "How nice he was to everyone . . . and how he was just so involved in the community."

David shared how he hosted his parents at Christmas time in Victoria when they lost their power after the windstorm. On Boxing Day he and his father ate food rescued from the family freezer on Salt Spring and watched a basketball game, even though neither of them follow the sport.

Following a slide show put together by John Malcolm, people enjoyed food and refreshments hosted by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary, and shared memories amongst themselves.

The celebration of life was organized by Sam's wife Jane Chan and Samantha Chamberlin, a longtime colleague of Sam's at the restaurant.

People are welcome to send messages of condolence and memories to samchanmemorial@gmail.com.

COMMUNICATION

Feelings: connecting the heart to the mind

Educating the mind, without educating the heart, is no education at all. Aristotle

Over 2,000 years ago, the Greek thinker Aristotle recognized and made clear that there is great power in speaking from the heart. Today, we are rediscovering the positive effects of engaging the heart along with the mind. When we speak from our emotions it stirs the same feelings that reside in others, creating a vital energetic connection. This is where we can bridge the gap between different perspectives and move toward mutual understanding.

We know that sharing our feelings connects us to one another yet often our attempts go sideways. Confusion arises when we use the words "I feel," followed by words that describe a thought, rather than an emotion. For example, "I feel ignored" or "I feel like that's unfair"



Laura Dajoe

LET'S

TALK

sound as if we're expressing a feeling, but we're really stating a thought. These thoughts are described as pseudo-feelings.

Pseudo-feelings usually begin with phrases such as:

"I feel you..." or "I feel that they..."

"I feel like..." or "I feel as if..."

Comments expressed this way often cause the listener to react defensively, creating conflict and distance. Recognizing the distinction between our thoughts and

feelings shifts us toward taking responsibility for our feelings and articulating them in ways the listener will understand. For example, "I feel ignored" becomes "I feel sad because I think you're ignoring me." And, "I think that's unfair" becomes "I'm frustrated because I think there's a more equitable way." Whether a discussion is personal or professional, connecting our minds with the wisdom of the heart eases the process of working together toward solutions.

Using words to articulate our emotions takes practice. During the following weeks, take some time to reflect on your feelings and see how clearly you can define them. Word lists of feelings are helpful and available online.

For more information on head-heart coherence refer to heartmath.org

Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom. Aristotle

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Spring may not exactly be in the air yet but it is on the horizon. Pisces time marks this transition. What is not commonly understood about Pisces is that it is the sign of the soul between lives. When Aquarius symbolizes the elder or senior and Aries the newborn, Pisces is in-between. More generally, Pisces is linked to the subconscious and thereby to dreams, illusions, memories and the power of the imagination. What is so interesting about the subconscious is that we are literally 'in' it, as in it is our 'auric field' which both contains dimensional layers and pervades our entire physical body right down to the cells. In other news, Venus enters Aquarius today and Mercury turns retrograde in Pisces on March 5th, Mardi Gras Tuesday. On March 6 we have our next New Moon in Pisces on the heels of Uranus entering Taurus and the Sun conjunct Neptune occurs about 9-hours later. An exciting line-up indeed!

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Arriving at the peak of the mountain comes with the irony that shortly thereafter the focus is on going home. This serves to describe the mix of triumph, power, and fatigue that you may feel. The main exception is that you might want to escape for a while before you do in fact go home. Yet, securing your base remains your next great feat.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Your front hooves are out of the gates and you are poised to charge. However, right at the last moment, another influence is coming in that could prove distracting. Like the intoxicating scent of roses, kryptonite to the compelling draw of the red flag, you are drawn to linger among friends or to simply dream a little longer, first.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

The trumpets have been sounded. A summons has begun. Yet, you must discern between what constitutes the call of destiny versus the song of sirens tempting you away from your focus. You may find yourself wondering and wandering for a while, perhaps on a tangent down the garden path. You can choose to enjoy it and make the most of dreaming.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

Sometimes our truth is as clear as blue skies and then clouds can suddenly roll in. Already, the blue is obscured by a misty haze, at least. You can ride it for a while but it may prove wise to drop the sails soon and take shelter below deck. Expect strong winds and big waves. As eager as you may be too fight it, sometimes temporary surrender is the best solution.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Whether you realize it or not, you have slipped into the deep end. As though underwater in a dream a mix of euphoria and perplexity dances in the back of your mind. Meanwhile, your alarm bell beckons you to awaken. But you can't, not quite yet, and you may not want, though you feel you must. A significant other is trying to shake you awake, but this is a deep dream.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Like a tide that comes in quietly yet surely, a new cycle of changes on relationship fronts is underway. Whether personal or professional, more is expected of you. In some respects, you feel rebellious while in others you understand the value and purpose and are willing to make the extra efforts required. Life is about giving and when done with love you receive.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

How are you? Do you feel healthy? Have you had a check-up lately? Are you overworked and under stress? These are other such questions are important for you to ask now. With your ambitions on the rise, it might prove wise to take extra measures to raise your health levels and change your lifestyle patterns accordingly.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Dreams are often sweet and sour. This may feel truer these days. Practically, you are in the mood to make home improvements, or at least to do a deep clean. You want to enjoy a more beautiful home environment. To this end, you are happy to welcome in the movers and shakers to help your cause. Yet, be sure to clarify your goals and pay attention during the process.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

You are something of a mystic and dreamer at heart. This aspect of you will prove especially strong over the coming weeks. While you are sober to the demands of your physical life, you yield begrudgingly. Feeling a little cynical about it all is always close to if not right on the surface. This is because you want to be able to dream more. This is your opportunity.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

A steady stream of ideas has begun to flow into your mind. You may even feel a bit high or want to so as to engage the flow more fully. Yet, you also have some practical ambitions brewing and want full access to your sense faculties. Then again, one step at a time usually works best, at least at an individual level. So, how can you align to capture some of these epiphanies?

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

The current Pisces influences are, ironically, supporting your focus. However, you may also feel swamped in terms of your workload. Mars and Uranus entering Taurus do indicate that you have been digging deep to make some needed changes and this trend will not only continue but will deepen significantly. Be willing to venture into new territory.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

New initiatives that began a couple of weeks ago are poised to enter into their next phase. Positively, you have already noticed that your energy levels are higher and your focus is sharper. Neptune in your sign must be contended with and this involves an active expression of creative inventiveness. Venus in Aquarius is supporting this cause.

ISLAND HISTORY

Cusheon Cove pioneer recalled

William E. Bulman had entrepreneurial drive

BY EMMA AND IAN LAURENSEN

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

A Salt Spring pioneer has been commemorated with a sign placed at Cusheon Cove by his great granddaughter and her family from England.

The event honouring William E. Bulman (1876-1948) took place last summer, when Emma Laurenson and children John and Hazel were accompanied by current residents Chris Hatfield, his wife Janthra and the family of Tom and Dtik Boivin.

They were assisted by Emma's late mother Gillian and her aunt Cara, who had visited Salt Spring some 11 years ago, having tracked down details about Bulman through islanders Hatfield and Charles Kahn.

In the early 20th century, Bulman founded a lumber business, which, at its height, had around 150 workers on site, with a mill and pier, visited daily by steamers plying their trade between Ganges and Victoria. Bulman's wife Sarah had spent some years there, but later returned to the U.K. with their two sons Arthur and William. She never returned, but Bulman remained at Cusheon Cove for the rest of his life.

The mill continued, but with many challenges of the time, including labour disputes, drowning of a senior manager in a steamer accident and a major pier collapse with loss of much lumber. As need be when funds were short, Mr. Bulman would sell some of the land he owned to enable him to survive. Ultimately, he died on a considerably reduced holding, having never seen his wife again. One son paid a short visit to him before he died in 1948.

William Bulman was the youngest of 10 children from Ebchester, near Newcastle, England. The first to emigrate to B.C., he was followed by four siblings, scattered from Vancouver Island to the Kamloops area. While on Salt Spring Island, Emma and her family met for the first time several cousins through another Bulman branch in Nanaimo.



PHOTOS COURTESY TOM BOIVIN

From top, William Bulman, left, and his secretary in the office of the lumber business that operated at Cusheon Cove in the early 20th century; a plaque installed by Bulman descendants last summer that marked the spot where a memorial tree was planted on the property in 2007.

When Hatfield bought the property in 1984, he had little idea of this history. Once retired in 2004, but still with an active mind, enthusiasm and energy, aided by examination of aerial photographs, he began to uncover a wealth of artefacts from middens on the property. These included tools, bottles, shoes, personal bowls and utensils from Japan and China, helping to piece together some of the story.

Complemented by old photographs from Richard Bulman, William Bul-

man's grandson in the U.K., as well as documents unearthed from the B.C. Archives in Victoria, the recent history is on display in the Bulman Museum at Cusheon Cove. Hatfield and Boivin regularly show groups of children and other interested individuals the property by arrangement. Also on the site, separately owned, are the Bulman house and office building, which have in part been restored.

Hatfield is also the donor of 100 acres of land contiguous with Ruckle Provincial Park land.

Remember
WHEN

Five years ago

Users in the popular Channel Ridge trail network were shocked to discover widespread destruction of natural areas and trails at the hands of dirt bikers and ATVs. "This is going to damage the park significantly if it keeps going," said Lorraine Brewster, manager of the island's Parks and Recreation Commission. "We don't want to see it continue because it would basically destroy the ecosystem up there."

Ten years ago

The provincial Court of Appeal supported a court order that the "float camp" structure be removed from the Ganges Marina property immediately. The Islands Trust was considering a final deadline for the removal, and would seek a contempt order against the marina if the barge was not removed by the deadline. "At the end of the day, it always comes down to the owner," said Miles Drew, an Islands Trust bylaw enforcement officer. "They could sell it or take it to a salvage yard." The two-storey floating structure at 161 Lower Ganges Rd. housed a reception area, offices, meeting rooms and a marine supply store. The Islands Trust found that the structure did not comply with zoning bylaws and asked that it be removed.

Twenty years ago

Salt Spring RCMP investigated a report of youths throwing things from cars at the Fernwood Store. The police were called to the store at approximately 1 a.m. after a caller said two carloads of youths were throwing different items at the building. The vehicles were identified, and police spoke to the youths involved.

Thirty years ago

A major snowfall blocked roads and shut schools. Canada's "Hawaiian Islands" were knee-deep in the white stuff, and the continuous downpour of flakes showed no signs of letting up. For the second time in three weeks, cars were sent careening off roadsides, school buses took a day off and hydro and road crews were called into around-the-clock action. Most of the island's main access roads were kept relatively clear during the storm, but residents living on secondary roads had to wait for two days before they could drive to their homes. The privatization of the provincial department of highways' road maintenance division was criticized.

Forty years ago

The CRD Outer Islands director Jim Campbell of Saturna Island said that Salt Spring had more than its share of small, malcontent groups. The statement was directed at a group of islanders who expressed disfavour with a three per cent gasoline tax that would be administered through the district. "People choose their representatives and the vast majority are prepared to watch what they do and either dispose of them or put them back again at the time of the next election. But what happens is that small malcontent groups, and Salt Spring Island has rather more than its share of them, want to pre-empt the elected person's job."

Fifty years ago

Near-record winter weather brought near-record spring road upheavals. On every island there were seas of mud beyond which no traffic could pass and there were potholes and mud pockets that restricted movement. Accompanying the road collapse in many places were criticisms of the department of highways and road crews. Islanders were particularly hostile to the department because they had been pressing for road work for several years. "Side roads we expect to bring troubles, but not even main roads are usable," protested one Mayne Island resident.

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PERSONAL GROWTH

Toastmasters thrives

New members guide now in place

If you are terrified by the idea of speaking in public or would simply like to bolster your confidence as a speaker or debater, Salt Spring Toastmasters club has developed a bold new plan to help.

Toastmasters International recently introduced a new education program called Pathways, while the island's Toastmasters have created their own new member orientation program to help new members quickly become comfortable with the learning program and the club's resources.

The Salt Spring club has been meeting since 2004 as one of the over 16,000 Toastmasters International groups in over 140 countries worldwide.

Toastmasters is for anyone who would like to gain confidence in getting up to speak in front of a group of people, and have some fun doing so.

"We know a new member needs to get comfortable with how their meeting participation and speaking opportunities lead towards Toastmasters International certification," explains club member Karen Kobierski. "Our orientation program gives our new members everything they need to complete the first level of the Toastmasters Pathways program in as little as four months."

The group meets every Monday evening (except holidays) at the public library at 7 p.m.

For more information about the club's activities, visit their website at www.saltspring.toastmastersclubs.org/

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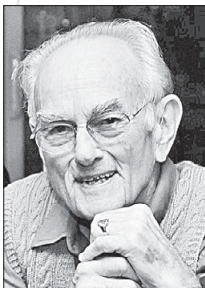
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Obituaries**Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****In Memoriam****HAROLD J PAGE, P. Eng.**

With profound sadness we announce that Harold died peacefully on January 19, 2019 at his residence on Salt Spring Island surrounded by family. Predeceased in June 2018 by his beloved wife Gladie, he is survived by daughters Judy, Louise, Shirley, Yvonne; 4 grandchildren, 4 great-granddaughters and extended family. Harold was an outstanding husband, father, professional and citizen. A true gentleman, his integrity, competence and kindness were widely recognized and will be deeply missed.



A celebration of Harold's life will be planned and announced at a later date.

*Catherine Anne Peters
(nee Pepin)*

JULY 10, 1969 – FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Catherine was born, raised and lived the majority of her life in Saskatoon. She attended St Thomas Elementary School, Holy Cross High School and earned post secondary degrees from the U of S. Her working career ranged from Military Reserves to computers/website development.

The constants throughout her life were family, friends, music (especially piano), baking, knitting and, of course, her cats!

Cathy married David Peters in 2001 and she went from being a city girl to her home on "the ranch".

In 2018 Dave and Cathy headed west, spending 4 months with her parents on Salt Spring Island before moving into their new home in Ladysmith, BC. Cathy was having a wonderful time planning and overseeing the house renovations and she was happily anticipating all the good times she was going to enjoy during her retirement.

Catherine is survived by her husband, David Peters; parents, Ruth and Louis Pepin; brothers, Christopher (Maureen Bachman) Pepin, and Steven (Marjorie) Pepin and their sons Ethan and Austin; mother-in-law Tina Peters; brother-in-law Dan Peters; sisters-in-law Cathy (Will) Peters and Susan (Gerald) Harron and their children David, Tina, Anne, Lisa and Shelley.

She was pre-deceased by her father-in-law Isaac Peters.

A Celebration of Her Life will be held on Salt Spring Island later this year.

In lieu of flowers a donation, in her memory, to the charity of your choice would be appreciated.

FRANK NEUMANN

1942 - 2019



Frank passed away quietly February 23, with his wife Gail by his side. Born in Berlin, Germany, Frank immigrated to Canada in 1968. He perused blacksmithing, commercial fishing and a variety of careers before becoming a local computer genius and historian, first on Saturna and then Saltspring Island. Frank made island history come alive for thousands through the Saltspring Island Archives website. He faced a battle with muscular dystrophy with courage and humor. What he lacked in physical strength he more than made up for with his sharp mind, humour, and technical abilities.

Frank also volunteered for the Farmers Heritage Society, the Legion, the Eggheads, and numerous community groups. He was always happy to lend a hand to anyone in need. Frank leaves behind his wife Gail, children Carla, Lyra, Lee, Heidi, Anya, grandchildren Kurt, Gwen, Duncan, Jackie, Harley, greatgrandsons Troy and Ronin, his sister Jutta, and a cast of thousands who loved and respected him. We will all miss him terribly. In lieu of flowers donations to the Saltspring Archives or the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #92 would be appreciated. A celebration of life will be announced soon.

Florence Joyce Jamieson

July 27, 1925 - February 3, 2019



On Sunday Feb 3, Joyce Jamieson (nee Fisk) passed away peacefully at Lady Minto Extended Care in her 94th year. Mom enjoyed excellent health during her life but her body succumbed to the effects of end-stage Parkinson's disease.

She is survived by her son Paul (Will), daughters, Stephanie (Tom) and Leigh-Anne (Mike). Grandchildren, Alexandra, Cameron, Jennifer (Jay) and Lindsay (James), and 4 great grandchildren.

Joyce, pre-deceased by her husband Cam in 1977, continued her nursing at RCH, New Westminster and later as campus nurse at BCIT, Burnaby. Upon retirement in 1981, mom moved over to her paradise on Salt Spring Island where she continued to thrive and enjoy a productive & happy life volunteering countless days at the Lady Minto Hospital Thrift Shop. Joyce shared the goal of all involved at the Thrift Shop to raise the vital funds that were re-directed back to the Hospital Auxiliary for new equipment and to support other people in need throughout the Gulf Islands. An avid supporter of preventative health care, mom was instrumental in organizing and producing the Island Health Fair for many years. She will be remembered by many as a loving, caring and generous person that always put the needs of others ahead of herself.

Her passion was her home that she created and enjoyed over the years with the help and love of her many friends and family. Those involved will cherish the many great memories of the fun that we had with Mom and most notably, the numerous tins of her delicious oatmeal cookies.

In the last year of her life, she was thoroughly loved and cared for by the amazing nurses and support staff at Lady Minto Hospital and Extended Care. All involved exchanged daily hugs and received Mom's bright smiles of appreciation, (her personal signature).

Joyce spent most days (when not raining) outside on the wonderful garden patio enjoying all the flowers, hummingbirds, and the peace and quiet. This was her favourite spot in Extended Care.

Mom requested that in lieu of flowers, donations to "Joyce's Memorial Garden Fund", c/o Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, would be greatly appreciated and used to update and maintain this garden sanctuary with beautiful plants, flowers, and bird feeders for all to enjoy.

Mom, "We love you to the moon and back".

"Celebration of Life" will be announced when date confirmed.

**DR FRANK
CORBISHLEY TEE
COOPER**

Feb. 8, 1933 - Feb. 11, 2019

Dr Frank Cooper died February 11th at Lady Minto Hospital. He leaves his wife of 58 years, Lynne as well as his 4 children Stephen (Sarah), Ben (Jeanie) Jane (Rob) and William (Laurel) and 12 grandchildren.

Frank was born in Wilmslow, England Feb 8th, 1933. He attended Manchester Grammar School followed by medical school and 3 years of military service in the Royal Navy. He met Lynne Sparkes in Portsmouth in 1960 and they were married a year later.

Frank and Lynne emigrated to Canada in 1966 with their 2 boys to work as a GP in rural Ontario. In 1970 the now family of 4 moved to BC to specialize in Radiology, settling in the Fraser Valley to raise their family on a small farm with room for their dogs.

In 1976 a fortuitous conversation led to purchasing a share of the Maracaibo Estate on Salt Spring Island. The property became a happy retirement home in 1997 after many happy summer vacations.

A celebration of Frank's life was held at Lady of Grace on February 18th. We know Frank would have appreciated everyone who was able to attend or would of liked to attend.

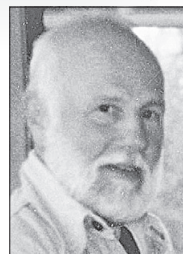
The family thank all those that were so supportive in his last weeks of life, including Dr Beaver, the kind nurses at Lady Minto Hospital, Christie Doyle at Hayward Funeral Services and Father Scott Whittemore.

Memorial donations in memory of Frank Cooper can be made to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation by visiting their website: <http://ladymintofoundation.com>

Online condolences to be made at:
www.haywardsfuneral.com
250-537-1022

**GARY CARTER**

MARCH 1933 - JANUARY 2019



This is to let his many friends on Salt Spring Island know that Gary Carter has gone on his next adventure. To say the very least, Gary had a full and interesting life, often doing what others said couldn't be done. Even as recently as this past December shortly before his passing, as always, Gary was planning his next big project

for this upcoming spring.

He enjoyed fishing, first with a penny line and worms and then, with flies until an injury to his shoulder made it impossible to use his fly rod. He started out removing tree limbs for B.C. Hydro and became an artist at dangerous tree removal, sometimes, as some might say, even becoming a danger to himself. Over the years, he became adept at reading a stand of trees and could tell you how many board feet of good timber it contained.

He loved a bargain and could often be found looking through the damaged or "use immediately" goods at the grocery store. He was full of tall tales which amazingly turned out to be true.

Left to mourn are his daughter Candise Carter Macdonald White (Frank White), grandson David White (Becky Dusenbury), grandson Derek White, granddaughter Sarah White (Aaron Labey) and great grandson Myka White (parents David and Becky) and many cousins and relatives near and afar.

He will also be missed by his constant companions Marley and Ku and by all those who enjoyed a real character.

The family would like to express their sincerest thanks and appreciation to the staff at Harmony Health in Duncan who, in his final years, took such excellent care of Gary's needs.

At Gary's request, there will be no service, H. W. Wallace Funeral Services (Duncan) are in charge of the arrangements.

"He gave me life, and for that I am eternally grateful" - (Candise White).

*"The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
And bring you peace."*

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remembrance
from
one who
thinks
of you.**

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

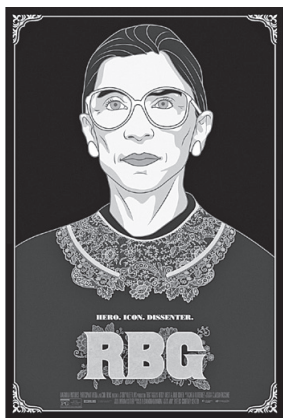
Women's day films presented

Ruth Bader Ginsburg
documentary and
Why Women Run

The Island Women Against Violence Society and SVOVA are joining forces to celebrate International Women's Day on March 7 by holding a screening of the film RBG, a documentary chronicling the career of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader-Ginsburg.

The film will be shown at Mahon Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the film beginning at 7 p.m. The film will be followed by a panel discussion with Salt Spring Island women sharing their own stories of gender imbalance.

Ginsburg was appointed to the supreme court in 1993, and is known for her work for gender equality and civil rights. The film looks at her journey to the supreme court, and her becoming an unexpected pop-culture icon in her eighties. It has won multiple festival awards and was named the 2018 Best Documentary film by the National Board of Review.



"The screening of the film about 'Lady Justice' Ruth Bader Ginsburg seemed a fitting choice given this year's International Women's Day 2019 theme of 'Balance for Better,'" said Janine Fernandes-Hayden, SVOVA's acting Executive Director.

The event will be held in conjunction with International Women's Day, which is celebrated on March 8 every year. This year's campaign emphasizes more collective action and working towards establishing gender balance in the world.

"IWD is a time to reflect, to celebrate and acknowledge the actions and achievements – big, small, documented or never-spoken; all the ways women have promoted change," Dana Ypma, IWAV's executive director said.

Tickets are available at the door by donation, with a suggested donation of \$10. Movie theatre-style treats will be available for purchase.

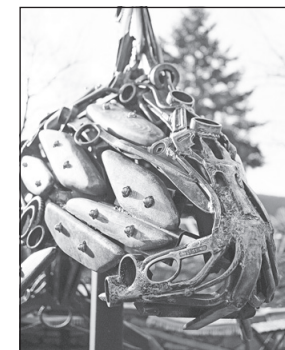
Women in Politics

Then on Friday, March 8 at 12 noon in the Salt Spring Library Program Room, the NFB film called Why Women Run will be shown.

The local Canadian Federation of University Women chapter has organized the showing of the film by Dr. Meredith Ralston, which highlights the accomplishments of women in politics and the problems many of them face as they participate in the political process. A discussion will follow the screening.

What is this?
Where is it?

Can you identify what and where this is on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or send a note to us on Facebook, or drop off a paper copy to the Driftwood office at 328 Lower Ganges Rd. The first person to submit the right answer gets their name published in this space.



We thought this would be an easy one, but it wasn't! We will give everyone another chance to identify the spot for this highly visible piece of island artwork. Extra marks for naming the artist.

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Coming Events

Coming Events

Art/Music/Dancing

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Tenders

Tenders



The Annual General Meeting
OF THE

salt spring arts council

Sunday March 17, 2019 at 10 am
will be held at Mahon Hall
114 Rainbow Road, Ganges

Everyone Welcome. Memberships available.
Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

Join us find out about SSAC accomplishments in
2018, and plans for 2019.

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Information

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WHAT'S ON

page 14

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Land Act:
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Take notice that I, SS MARINA LTD., INC.
NO. 710073 from Ganges, BC have applied to
the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD),
for a Lease – Commercial Marina situated
on Provincial Crown land located at Ganges
Harbour.

The Lands File Number that has been established
for this application is Crown Land File # 1401966.

Comments may be submitted electronically via
the provincial Applications, Comments & Reasons
for Decision webpage at <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/>. Alternatively hard copy comments may
be directed to the Senior Land Officer, Ministry of
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development at 142 - 2080 Labieux Rd,
Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9.

Comments will be received by FLNR up to April
11, 2019. FLNRORD may not be able to consider
comments received after this date.

Please visit our website: <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/> for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement
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Resource Operation and Rural Development office
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FUNDRAISER

Scrabble event scores big points



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Salt Spring Grand(m)others to Grandmothers members and event host Penny Jones practise their Scrabble strategy for the 11th annual Scrabble Fundraiser, which features March 5 and 7 games at the Salt Spring Inn and a grand finale at Penny's Pantry on the Green on March 9. From left are Connie Holmes, Beth Gessinger, Jones, Stan Garrod, Oni Freeman and Joi Freed-Garrod. People can support the team through the Stephen Lewis Foundation website.

Grandmothers group raises funds for African families

In support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, the Salt Spring Grand(m)others to Grandmoth-

ers Group is sponsoring their 11th annual Scrabble Fundraiser next week.

Recreational and competitive Scrabble players are invited to participate in games at the Salt Spring Inn from 2 to 4 p.m. on March 5 and March 7. Final games and a silent auction will take place at

Penny's Pantry on the Green at the Salt Spring Golf Course on Saturday, March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m.

"There are many options to help the cause and have fun," explains a press release. "Come and pay to play at event venues, enjoy the silent auction; gather pledges and/or donate online under the Team Name, Salt Spring Scrabble for Africa," on the Stephen Lewis Foundation website.

According to the foundation, strides have been made to combat HIV and AIDS. Nonetheless, in 2017 globally there were 1.8 million new cases reported. In Africa, 25 million people are currently living with HIV with only one third receiving treatment. Between 40 to 60 per cent of orphaned children are estimated to live in grandmother-headed households.

"These grandmothers have buried their own adult children, and then taken on the responsibility of caring for their grieving grandchildren. They have little or no support as they also face their own deteriorating health. We cannot be complacent. AIDS remains a global pandemic," says the Salt Spring Grand(m)others to Grandmothers group.

For more information, contact Jo MacDonald at 250-653-0179 or Oni Freeman at 250-537-1293.

SALT SPRING **Star** of the WEEK

Lee Sollitt



Lee Sollitt has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer driver for about 20 years! As part of the Monday crew, she delivers between six and 12 hot meals from the Greenwoods kitchen to island seniors in their homes. Not only that, but Lee is famous for the delicious homemade cookies she brings to share. Lee has lived on Salt Spring with her husband Bud for about 35 years.

FILM FESTIVAL

Expert tips for a stellar festival

20th documentary film festival runs this weekend

BY THERIN GOWER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The Salt Spring Film Festival starts Friday, March 1 at Gulf Islands Secondary School. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. Here are a few pro tips to give you an excellent festival experience.

Grab a program! If you like paper, the festival program can be found at several locations around town. Or you can go online at www.saltspringfilmfestival.com. Plan what films you would like to see, but be sure to have alternates lined up. Some films become sold out, but there is always another excellent film just waiting to be discovered. Surprise yourself!

Pamper yourself. Bring a cushion or rent one from Grandmothers-to-Grandmothers for a minimum \$2 donation. They will even park a rental cushion for you between films.

Bring cash. There is no ATM on the premises and the festival is cash-only. You can buy a weekend+gala pass at ArtSpring in advance by credit or debit, but any of the other admission options are by cash only at the door, as is all the scrumptious food. Be ready to take advantage of the hot meals, bar, popcorn, snacks and desserts at the Gala, and the many choices at the Intermission Cafe on Saturday and Sunday.

Expand the experience! For our 20th anniversary, we have added the amazing film *Metamorphosis* at ArtSpring Saturday night with director/producers Nova Ami and Velcrow Ripper, and they will lead a workshop called *Metamorphosis Journey* to deepen and personalize your response at Mahon Hall on Monday, March 4 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Be mindful of the environment. Bring a water bottle and/or coffee mug. The only thing you can bring into the classrooms is water in a sealable container. There are permanent and temporary water stations for your convenience.

Consider your fellow film-goers. Tall hats and strong perfumes can take the fun out of films for those around you. Sneaking in late disrupts the attentiveness of the audience, and loud discussion of the film afterwards may make it hard for people in other films to hear the end of theirs.

Be nice to our volunteers! We are so grateful to the over 100 volunteers who make it possible to hold the festival. They are eager to help you.

Enjoy our new conversation nook and food area. We have moved the Intermission Cafe down the hall and added some comfy seating beyond it. So you can enjoy the Social Justice Bazaar without obstruction, and carry your food back into the multipurpose room to eat at a table, or cuddle into the cushy seats with a snack or two to fuel your film discussion. If you're there on Friday night for the gala, we are serving meals prepared by Farm's Gate Foods and Catering in the GISS Cafeteria.

Share the experience. Talking to other attendees and filmmakers adds to the richness and clarifies thoughts. There will be an attending filmmaker discussion this year on Saturday afternoon so the filmmakers can interact with each other as well as you. We love it when you rate the films so that we can compare our choices to yours and refine our film selection for next year. The purpose of the festival is to educate, inspire and activate us all, so share your thoughts, feelings and actions with us and each other. See you at the festival.



Renovating this year?

Some dangers are easy to see. Others—like the asbestos found in thousands of old building products—are invisible but deadly.

Before you renovate, hire a qualified professional to test for asbestos and remove it safely.

Learn how to properly dispose of your reno waste at crd.bc.ca/renowaste to avoid being turned away at Hartland Landfill or private facilities.

For step-by-step guides
and a list of professionals:
crd.bc.ca/renowaste

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SPORTS + RECREATION

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



CYCLING & WALKING

Bike club merges with Island Pathways group

Trail network report also provided at AGM

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Expanded pathways, new maps and initiatives were all topics of discussion at the Island Pathways annual general meeting held on Sunday afternoon.

The group announced the merging of two existing Island Pathways entities — the Bicycle Working Group and Helmets for Life program — with the Salt Spring Island Bike Club, which spearheaded the Mouat Park bike park, to create the new Cycling Salt Spring Island committee.

Sean Mulligan, one of the bike club's founders, explained that the club was created to help work on what Salt Spring Island was lacking for cycling.

Merging with Island Pathways gives the bike club more reach and more resources to help build cycling on the island.

"This is the perfect time for us to be joining in," Mulligan said at the meeting. "We do have a lot of shared goals and initiatives. It is going to be great to have a much bigger team made up of cycling enthusiasts working on this. And we do need to get new people on who want to tackle some of these fun activities."

Initiatives include the development of more cycling-specific infrastructure, and building people's skills and confidence to be able to ride comfortably on the roads.

"It is possible to ride on Salt Spring, if you have the right education around bike skills and navigating traffic. It is possible to feel comfortable. It just takes time," Mulligan said. "If it can be done in a social setting, it really lightens the load and makes it a lot more fun."

Another major update from the meeting includes the announcement that last year's Partners Creating Pathways trail building project from Booth Canal Road to Baker Road was delayed because



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Partners Creating Pathways chair Jean Gelwicks shares details about the next trail network project from Booth Canal Road to Central.

of an additional bit of funding that was unexpected. PCP chair Jean Gelwicks explained that previous CRD director Wayne McIntyre gave an extra \$200,000 to the project to complete the trail to Central. With that addition, the project had to go back to the design phase to incorporate the new section. The entire project is expected to be complete this year.

The Bicycle Working Group hopes to take part in the upcoming review of the official community plan to advocate for cycling infrastructure on the island.

One of the group's major goals has been to finish the Salish Sea Trail Network that connects the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, the Lochside Trail and sections of the Great Trail to build a regional loop

in the CRD. The project will necessitate upgrades to Fulford-Ganges Road, including repaving and widening the shoulder.

Island Pathways president Brenda Guiled said that Transportation Minister Claire Trevena was interested in completing the loop, and mentioned the potential for funding from her ministry to do work on Fulford-Ganges Road.

"We're the last 30 km to be done," Guiled said. "If they're going to put money up anyway and the minister of transportation Claire Trevena is really keen on finishing the informally named Salish Sea Trail Network . . . There is possibly even some more good news coming, but we don't know for sure."

The meeting ended with a video created by Island Pathways that highlights the potential hazards of cycling on Salt Spring for those coming to the island for the first time. The video could run in a loop on B.C. Ferries vessels coming to the island, but that has yet to be confirmed.

MEN'S SOCCER

Old Boys open help line to quell anxiety caused by erroneous reports

Play resumes Sunday on Lochside turf

BY FRASER HOPE
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

In the words of Mark Twain, "The report of the Old Boys' demise was an exaggeration!"

Regular readers of the Driftwood who may have thought that the Old Boys' season had ended or the team had gone into receivership or bankruptcy, or any other calumny that had been mooted, can rest assured that

all is well within the organization. To dispel rumours that the Soft Drink Cooler Funds were depleted and that a dire financial situation had forced Old Boys management to sell off or loan their star performers to satisfy their creditors, a help line was set up to provide accurate information for fans and readers alike.

Should you need someone to talk to, counsellors are standing by 24/7 to help you in your time of need and stress. (Call 1 888 OLD BOYS toll free day or night.)

The obvious reason for the lack of game

reports is not scandals — financial or otherwise — but basically the Old Boys have played no games since a Feb. 3 loss to the Centaurs. Jet stream changes and cold Arctic outflows producing heavy snowfall caused cancellations throughout the SVICSA League with natural and artificial fields closed to play. Soft Drink Cooler Funds have taken a hit as clients/players/hangers-on have had to find alternative sources of health and restorative sports drinks. Like the stock market, cash flow is in a time of flux but our financial consultants believe Old Boys can ride out the drop in funds.

There is some concern that certain players may themselves be in flux, although coach Graham Tweddle has no obvious concerns over his goalkeeping crew. The thought of player dissension over substitution witnessed in the Carabao Cup between Chelsea FC v Manchester City FC in the final on Sunday could still raise its ugly head. The Old Boys' GK crew do have filial connections to the "pensioners" and there is a fear that Abramovich will come with oodles of roubles to entice our GK to jump ship. What with Trump barriers to the south, Abramovich Roubles to the East, "SteelGate" takes on greater significance (Old Boys report v. Centaurs, Feb. 4.).

It looks like Tweddle is secure in his position, unlike Sarri, whose jacket is definitely on a shoogly peg. Tweddle is the longest-serving manager more secure than Guardiola, Klopp or even Big Sam Allardyce!

It also appears now that the possibility of a breakaway seniors league in Yucatan, Mexico has receded with the principals rumoured to be financing the new venture having returned to Salt Spring after blowing all their funds on a riotous orgy of food, drink and musical entertainment at their oceans-

ide resort. (Not in any way connected to an internal Old Boys review of policies and procedures whose publication date, like Brexit, is to be kicked into the long grass.)

Thankfully the majority of staff and players have been responsible in following the training regime outlined to cope with the unexpected interruption of the schedule. Strict dietary guidance, following the newly revised Canada Food Guide, allied to the opportunities to increase stamina and endurance, have seen players using the snow drifts on the high terrain to indulge in a sort of "winter" Fartlek training regime.

Tactics and skills training has been encouraged with the virtual reality software updated so that players can emulate and practise the moves of their famous mentors custom-tailored to their own challenges as team players. The only concern is that the variety of languages — Spanish, Portuguese, Croatian, German, French and Scouse — may interfere with on-field communication.

Of more importance was the request that any goals and assists earned in virtual reality chambers would be counted towards the Golden Boot Award. Some players have managed to score in virtual reality dimension way beyond any performance on the field of play. Reporter Hope will accept "gifts" of sausage rolls or any other comparable sweet meats to keep this information safely in a security box at the bank. Which bank, you may ask? "Keep them guessing" is Tweddle's maxim!

The team is looking forward to resuming hostilities, er, engaging with Cordova Bay 48s this Sunday, March 3 at Lochside Turf Field at 2 p.m. when all the hard work of the last few weeks will bear fruit. More importantly, the Soft Drink Cooler Funds will be replenished!

Official Notice Annual General Meeting

MID ISLAND CONSUMER SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE

Meeting will be on Wednesday May 29th, 2019 at the Cavallotti Lodge, Nanaimo at 7:00PM.

Any Special Resolutions regarding the rules of the association must be submitted in writing before March 22, 2019.
c/o Resolutions Committee
Mid Island Consumer Services Co-operative
#103 - 2517 Bowen Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 3L2

Members as of the date of record "April 12, 2019" will be eligible to vote at the AGM.

Administration Office:
#103-2517 Bowen Road, Nanaimo
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