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# Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday,  
JUNE 26, 2019

59th year  
Issue 26  
\$1.50

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## ROAD SAFETY

# Islanders tackle roadside trimming



Mid-level bush impedes visibility and concerns residents

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Islanders are taking roadside brush trimming into their own hands after failing to get action from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure contractors.

Castle Cross Road resident Keith Alexander spent some time deep in the ditch off Arnell Way last week trimming back brush at the corner of Fulford-Ganges Road. Alexander moved to the area in 2016 and has been concerned about visibility looking south ever since.

"Last summer I reached the company that does the contract roadside clearing for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. They replied that they only clear brush on Fulford-Ganges according to the specifications set out by MoTI. Fair enough; one can't expect them to do work they won't get paid for. So nothing changed," Alexander told the Driftwood.

Area residents have complained multiple times to no avail, according to Marguerite Lee.

"Repeated calls to Mainroad by concerned neighbours have had no response," Lee said. "The mower cuts the bottom grass, BC Hydro trims the top, but no one cuts the vegetation that is blocking the view towards Fulford. Ferry traffic cannot be seen, so it is only a matter of time until a serious accident occurs."

Alexander performed recent tests that showed the visibility of a car approaching from the south for a car stopped at the Arnell Way stop sign clocked in at just 2.5 to three seconds. That spurred him to action.

"Monday and Wednesday I took my tree loppers and climbed down into the ditch to wage war with the blackberry bushes that towered over me," Alexander said. "It took three-plus hours to prune down the bush from the corner to the first power pole, about 35 yards, plus some select bush and tree branches further south on Fulford-Ganges Road."

Visibility after the pruning job increased to seven seconds, Alexander reported.

"That may not seem like much, but those extra roughly five seconds mean a lot when you have traffic bearing down on you at 80 to 90 kilometres per hour," he said.

PHOTO BY MARGUERITE LEE

Castle Cross Road resident Keith Alexander peeks out from behind tall vegetation that obscures views for drivers turning on to Fulford-Ganges Road from Arnell Way as he prepares to do some pruning.

HIGHWAYS continued on 4

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## Advertising Deadlines Change

Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Monday July 1 - Canada Day and will reopen for usual business hours on Tuesday, July 2.

Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday July 3 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline: **Wednesday, June 26, 12 noon**  
Classified Display Deadline: **Wednesday, June 26, 12 noon**  
Classified Word Deadline: **Wednesday, June 26, 12 noon**

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## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JUNE/JULY 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
<b>26</b>	0653	<b>1.6</b>	5.2	<b>30</b>	0112	<b>3.1</b>	10.2
	1229	<b>2.1</b>	6.9		0857	<b>0.6</b>	2.0
WE	1640	<b>1.9</b>	6.2	SU	1716	<b>3.0</b>	9.8
ME	2352	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	DI	2054	<b>2.7</b>	8.9
<b>27</b>	0723	<b>1.4</b>	4.6	<b>1</b>	0144	<b>3.2</b>	10.5
	1421	<b>2.3</b>	7.5		0934	<b>0.3</b>	1.0
TH	1744	<b>2.2</b>	7.2	MO	1758	<b>3.2</b>	10.5
JE				LU	2149	<b>2.8</b>	9.2
<b>28</b>	0018	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	<b>2</b>	0221	<b>3.2</b>	10.5
	0753	<b>1.1</b>	3.6		1014	<b>0.1</b>	0.3
FR	1536	<b>2.6</b>	8.5	TU	1839	<b>3.3</b>	10.8
VE	1852	<b>2.4</b>	7.9	MA	2243	<b>2.9</b>	9.5
<b>29</b>	0044	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	<b>3</b>	0304	<b>3.2</b>	10.5
	0824	<b>0.8</b>	2.6		1056	<b>0.0</b>	0.0
SA	1630	<b>2.8</b>	9.2	WE	1919	<b>3.3</b>	10.8
SA	1955	<b>2.6</b>	8.5	ME	2340	<b>2.9</b>	9.5

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## ISLANDS TRUST

# Wildfire mitigation pondered

Climate action tools shared at Trust Council meeting on Galiano Island

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islands Trust Council is advancing thoughts on how to mitigate climate change in island communities in light of its declaration of a climate emergency in March, with wildfire prevention just one area of concern.

Different views on how wildfire threats should be best mitigated in the islands' ecosystem have been raised, however, including discussion of climate action tools during Trust Council's quarterly meeting on Galiano Island last week.

The question of how the FireSmart program is applied in the Trust area is one area of concern, particularly since preservation of the forest cover has emerged as a major issue for residents over the past year. Intact forests are also recognized as a crucial resource for capturing carbon emissions.

"I wonder if we can get some research on what's best for a rainforest in the Gulf Islands," Bowen trustee Sue Ellen Fast said during last Wednesday's session.

Fast said her understanding is that FireSmart principles were developed for the Interior, and may not take into account the way trees maintain soil moisture in this region.

"On the coast, are there better ways to do FireSmart that don't leave us at higher risk of fire?"

"There's a real conflict," agreed council chair Peter Luckham. "There's an urban/rural interface in the Interior where homes are being built right to the edge of the forest. Well, our homes are right in the forest."

"People are really struggling on how to adopt FireSmart principles in a way that has some ecological sense, and meets our 'preserve and protect' goals for the forest," he added.

Planning director David Marlor presented a report last Wednesday on various tools that local Trust committees could adopt to meet the challenges climate change is expected to bring. Major impacts identified for the region are sea level rise, wildfires, extended drought, more intense storm events and ecosystem changes affecting plant and animal species. Planning tools to mitigate the threats could come both through zoning and in creation of new development permit areas, Marlor explained.

Work is already underway on Salt Spring in relation to

some of the suggested tools for drought mitigation, which include aquifer mapping, creation of a water consumption budget and saltwater intrusion mapping. Salt Spring is also one of two islands in the Trust Area that sets out ways to cluster density in villages to leave larger parcels intact under its official community plan, which is a way to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation.

Other ideas, such as creating a development permit area to reduce GHG emissions related to home heating and cooling through building siting, materials and landscaping, have not yet been investigated by any local Trust committee.

Creating a DPA related to wildfire hazard is a potential tool that has been anticipated by the Salt Spring Fire Protection District. Fire district CAO Andrew Peat wrote to the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee in May specifically to request such a DPA be created. Peat wrote, "The optimal goals for the Wildfire Hazard DPA regulations will be to both reduce wildfire risk to the built environment of Salt Spring Island and to conserve the forest ecosystems which define its cultural heritage." The letter was included as correspondence in the Salt Spring LTC's June 25 meeting agenda.

An Islands Trust staff report describes how a wildfire DPA "could include requirements respecting the character of development, including landscaping, and the siting, form, exterior design and finish of buildings and other structures. It could establish restrictions on the type and placement of trees and other vegetation in proximity to the development."

A resolution passed at last week's Trust Council meeting will have the staff report on climate action forwarded to all the individual local Trust committees, which can then adopt the strategies that work for each island.

Islands Trust staff reported last week that as an organization, the Trust has reduced its carbon emissions by 10 per cent over the previous year, and 20 per cent since declaring a climate emergency. Further digitalization of reports and functions has helped reduced its footprint.

Trust Council also passed a motion last Wednesday to adopt a practice of providing the best option for low-carbon catering at its events, with a focus on locally produced food whenever possible. Council stopped short of ordering a ban on non-locally produced red meat at its functions, and making vegetarian meals the standard option, after hearing arguments about personal choice and the more limited capacity of caterers on the smaller islands.

## WATERWORKS

# NSSWD denies Summerside refund request

No proof old water meter created overcharge

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District board has decided against awarding any compensation to the Summerside strata related to meter readings from a unit that's since been replaced.

The water district's board of trustees announced their decision at Thursday's business meeting, explaining they had already spent money to replace the equipment but were still not convinced the previous meter was faulty.

"Considering the \$10,000 cost incurred in order to replace the meter in question, at this time we're directing staff not to take further action," said district financial officer Ken Roggeman.

Summerside strata council member Jack Braak said the council noticed water bills seemed high a couple of years back and undertook several measures in attempts to discover any problem, including testing water lines during the middle of the night, doing individual toilet leak tests and looking at the complex's pool usage.

"We originally thought it could be the

pool. It has a meter of its own but it's not a big user — less than what one unit uses each day," Braak explained.

Finding no significant leaks or problems, the council determined the meter must be at fault. They campaigned to have it replaced, which NSSWD agreed to last August. Registered water use at the strata dropped by 40 per cent immediately after the new meter was installed.

"I'm disappointed in the process. I'm disappointed that waterworks didn't check to see what we tried first to make sure the problem wasn't something beside the meter," Braak said after Thursday's meeting.

Since the Capital Regional District charges local sewage rates based on water usage from September through April, the strata believes they have probably also made a significant overpayment for their Ganges Sewer connection. Summerside residents have been paying an annual fee of more than \$1,400 per unit, but discovered another condo complex in the area was charged just over \$500 per unit.

Speaking during Thursday's NSSWD board meeting, the district's environmental manager Meghan McKee said the difference in usage recorded after the meter's replacement did not necessarily mean the old unit was faulty.

"After reviewing many technical documents ... there is a very large body of research on water meters under-registering, which happens commonly when they get old. There is virtually no information on meters over-registering," she said.

McKee explained the only way that type of meter can over-register is if the gears malfunction so that multiple numbers get turned at a time, but that would result in the readings being "orders of magnitude higher," which would have been noticed.

"Furthermore, it is the opinion of the board that it's more likely that given the concern over high water consumption and the high water bill, that the residents of the Summerside became more aware of their water use," McKee said.

Braak said the council reported being concerned about high water bills during their annual general meeting in February 2018. Unfortunately, the old meter was damaged when it was removed and therefore cannot be examined to see if a malfunction occurred.

Board of trustees chair Michael McAllister told the Summerside representatives they could appeal the decision to the Inspector of Municipalities. As of Monday the council had not yet made a decision on whether to move forward.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Weston Creek dam altered

Unusually high water rushing through Weston Creek last week was the result of the partial removal of a beaver dam at Weston Lake, according to a Capital Regional District investigation.

Morningside Road resident Kait Leslie noticed the high flow on June 17, and the striking difference with the nearly dry Stowel Creek not far away.

CRD staff who went to check on the situation determined that a beaver dam at the head of the creek had been partially removed by unknown persons. The situation had not harmed the drinking water source at Weston Lake, said Matthew McCrank, senior manager of CRD Integrated Water Services.

### Daylight savings input

British Columbians are invited to share their views on how time should be observed in the province, and whether B.C. should continue to "spring forward" into daylight saving time during summer months and "fall back" to standard time in the winter.

As several jurisdictions in the United States' Pacific time zone are considering a move toward permanent daylight saving, the provincial government has created an online survey that will help decide whether it's time to make a change in B.C.

The online survey opened June 24 and will be available until July 19. The survey website has background information on the history of time observance in British Columbia and the impact of various options. The survey takes approximately five minutes to complete.

Learn more about daylight saving time and complete the survey at: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/daylightsavingtime>.

### Toastmasters take it easy

Salt Spring Toastmasters club members are putting their feet up and resting their voices for the summer with fewer meetings until Sept. 9, when they will resume a full program.

People still looking for a fun experience while improving or developing their public speaking skills are invited to check out the club's website, [saltspring.toastmastersclub.org](http://saltspring.toastmastersclub.org), for the summer dates and come along to the Salt Spring Public Library at 7 p.m.

## ENVIRONMENT

# Islanders request forestry action

Ministry letter defers responsibility to Islands Trust

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands residents made their way to Galiano Island from Salt Spring and Gabriola last Wednesday to ask Islands Trust Council to do more to stop clear-cutting and protect forest cover.

Two delegations made presentations to council on June 19. A group from Salt Spring represented by Susan Hannon addressed the ongoing dispute that started with a 45-acre property on Beddis Road being cleared of its mature forest. The property is split-zoned Agricultural and Residential.

"We're calling on the Islands Trust to take action on all of the islands to stop clear-cutting on private lands not zoned for forestry. The tools are available; please use them," Hannon said. "We applaud islands such as Galiano that have enacted regulations to protect our forests, and we urge Trust Council to enact consistent policies against clear-cutting across the entire Trust area."

While the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee and Trust legal opinion have maintained the local government body has no ability to order logging work be stopped, Hannon referred to a response letter sent to concerned islanders by Jessica Brooks, executive director of the Planning and Land Use Management Branch under the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Brooks wrote that she was sympathetic to islanders' concerns but said the matter was not in provincial jurisdiction.

"The Islands Trust has responsibility for establishing the provisions in its official community plans and land use bylaws and for determining whether those bylaws are being followed," Brooks wrote.

"I note that you have requested the ministry's assistance in temporarily halting tree cutting on Salt Spring Island. However, as decisions about land use reside with the locally elected members of the Local Trust Committee, it is not possible for the province to intervene. I encourage you to continue to engage with your Islands Trust representatives and staff on this important issue."

A Driftwood request for more information from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Islands Trust Council meeting in session last Wednesday on Galiano Island at the south community hall. Two delegations were made to ask the Trust to establish better protection of private lands from clear-cut logging.

Housing supports the Islands Trust's position that it is powerless to intervene at present.

The ministry response states the Islands Trust has the ability to establish development permit areas in official community plans and to develop guidelines that would limit tree cutting in those areas. The Local Government Act also gives the Islands Trust the ability to establish tree-cutting bylaws that apply to areas it considers subject to flooding, erosion, land slip or avalanche.

"Unlike municipalities, however, Islands Trust does not have the ability to regulate, prohibit or impose requirements generally in relation to trees outside of the two situations mentioned above," the ministry email explains, adding, "At this time, the province isn't considering amending the Local Government Act in relation to tree cutting."

Tree cutting is currently limited in some development permit areas on Salt Spring, including hazardous slopes, riparian areas and heritage village sites.

A second delegation presented to Trust Council on the forestry issue last week came from Susan Yates, who was representing the Gulf Islands Alliance and is a former Gabriola Island trustee. Yates spoke about the need to protect and restore carbon sinks and the primary mandate of the Islands Trust to preserve and protect the

natural environment.

Yates explained the Gulf Islands Alliance exists to support the Trust's mandate and its work. She said the organization understands the Trust does not have sufficient regulatory powers when it comes to tree-cutting, "except in very rare circumstances as a development permit area."

"We request Trust Council to ask the appropriate ministry to regulate logging in the Trust Area in a manner that supports the Islands Trust policy and mandate, or to grant the Islands Trust the regulatory tools needed to control forestry activities in the Trust Area," Yates said.

"The thing is, if the Trust had even just minimal regulatory control over logging, their preserve and protect mandate would actually mean something," she added after the meeting.

A related matter from last Wednesday saw Trust Council approve a resolution to advocate with the province for the ability to regulate but not prohibit forestry practices on properties registered as Privately Managed Forest Lands. Galiano trustee Tahirah Rockafella introduced the motion, noting the island has a high portion of PMFL and no ability to regulate activities there that can impact surrounding watersheds and ecosystems.

## BC FERRIES

### Vesuvius loading puzzles

Quinitsa queries answered

BC Ferries passengers who have been travelling on the Vesuvius-Crofton route have had many questions for the corporation about the new process.

Although the MV Quinitsa has a double-ended structure that can make loading and off-loading possible from either direction, some passengers have experienced a situation where the ship was turned at the terminals before departing.

BC Ferries explains they have been spinning the ship to take on water because the Quinitsa's fitting is at the wrong end for Vesuvius. The company is waiting on the necessary parts to install a new water hose.

"We have to load water every day. Once the water hose on order

arrives and is installed, it won't be an issue," said public affairs manager Deborah Marshall.

In the meantime, the crew are now turning the ship first thing in the morning and on the last sailing at night so the schedule will be more seamless for passengers.

BC Ferries has also responded to concerns that drivers who arrive in the final lane of the Vesuvius terminal (Lane 7) as overloads may not be getting priority loading onto the next available sailing. Some passengers have reported being left behind a second time when there are no terminal staff on duty because cars from the road have filled in the first few lanes and then got on the ferry first.

BC Ferries is looking into what can be done to make sure Lane 7 gets loaded onto the next sailing during unstaffed periods at the terminal.



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PHOTO COURTESY RCMSAR

**SAFETY STATION:** RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring members, from left, Chris Levan, Jerry Fitzpatrick and Tim Slaney stand at the recently installed Kids Don't Float kiosk in Fulford. The kiosk has loaner PFDs (personal flotation devices) for children to use while boating or swimming. The kiosk was built with the sponsorship of BC Ferries, Harbour Authority of Salt Spring Island and Mustang Survival. RCMSAR wants kids to stay safe in the water. If a child needs a PFD, parents are welcome to borrow one at the kiosk. Parents must ensure they choose the right size PFD for their child and it is properly worn while boating or swimming. Parents must return the PFD at the end of the day for other kids to use.

### RAINBOW ROAD POOL

# Vending machine model reviewed

Lack of formal CRD and Ssplash agreement noted

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The vending machine at the Rainbow Road pool facility is coming under scrutiny as the CRD Parks and Recreation Commission decided in their June 17 meeting to look into the service model over the next year.

Currently operated by the Salt Spring Pool Association (Ssplash), vending machine funds go directly to the organization to help fundraise for the eventual upgrades to the pool. However, no service agreement exists between the CRD and Ssplash, and the latter group does not have insurance for their volunteers or their sea can storage area on the pool property.

Darlene Steele, as a member of the pool association, put forward a letter to the commission requesting that the CRD pay the \$1,000 per year for the group's

insurance. Steele, also a commissioner on the PARC commission, was recused from the meeting.

Other user groups on the island have access to sea cans for storage on CRD property. These groups include the soccer association and the swim club, both of which have insurance on their sea cans, as well as group membership fees to help pay for the costs.

"We have them not only doing work on our property without an agreement or without insurance, but then there's the sea can that also requires the insurance," said CRD Parks and Recreation manager Dan Ovington in the meeting. "The perception is that if we do it for one, why don't we do it for all of the groups?"

Ssplash, however, does not have any income besides that from the vending machine at the pool. Insurance and liability would have to cover any work that is done on the site, including filling vending machines and stocking the storage area.

Other CRD facilities that operate vend-

ing machines do so in different ways. Ovington explained to the commission that other facilities he has worked with either operated the vending machines themselves or had a share in the profits to help cover costs like electricity. Currently, no agreement exists between Ssplash and the CRD besides an informal awareness that the money will one day go into the new facility.

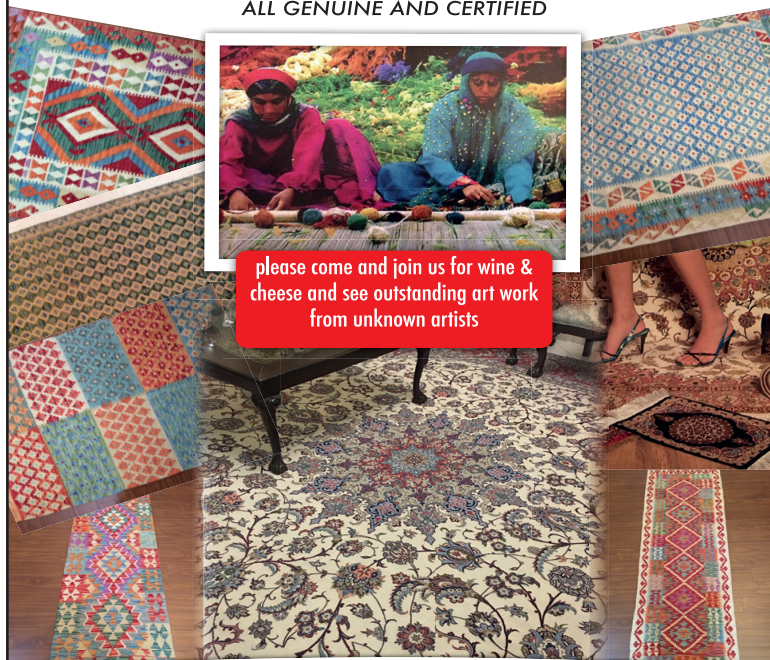
"Ssplash has said that they're using the money to eventually one day help with the pool expansion," Ovington said. "There is no agreement for that . . . They are essentially doing some work at our site by providing some food services. That needs to be put in a formalized agreement."

Ssplash had cancelled their insurance, Ovington said during the meeting. After finding out, the CRD was unable to let the status quo continue because they legally knew about the lapse.

Commissioners voted to take on Ssplash's insurance for the year, while reviewing the vending machine model and agreements.

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# Fire rating blamed

### HIGHWAYS

continued from 1

"Before, you could pull out, not seeing anything coming, and find as soon as you start accelerating that someone is right on your tail. I really felt that it was only a matter of time before somebody was T-boned at that junction."

Alexander suggested a truck mounted with forest mulching equipment could have done the same job in about 10 minutes, and added there are most likely other intersections on the island where increased visibility is needed.

Indeed, Driftwood editor Gail Sjuberg reported trimming back alder saplings at the intersection of Cranberry and Fulford-Ganges roads last year, where visibility was extremely poor. She was getting set to do the same last week when she noticed someone else had beat her to it.

The transportation ministry says the early onset of extreme fire ratings this year has limited the maintenance contractor's ability to clear the brush using machines. However, the ministry is working on plans for some hand-clearing of priority areas this summer and staff will be on Salt Spring this week to identify areas of concern. Despite Alexander's experience, the ministry encourages residents to contact current maintenance contractor Mainroad directly if there's a particular area that needs immediate attention.

## PARKS AND REC

## CRD child care plan advances

Operations model discussed by PARC

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Parents can look forward to increased child care opportunities on Salt Spring, as the Parks and Recreation Commission has adopted a project charter for establishing a recreation-based licensed child care program and facility.

Parks and Recreation manager Dan Ovington applied for grant funding for the project in January, after approval from the PARC board. The grant provides partial funding for the licensed child care program costs and facility, which will be a portable structure set up at the Rainbow Road pool property. The facility will also be used to house recreation programs like Camp Colossal and other to-be-determined programs while the CRD goes through the licensing process, which can take up to two years and still fall under grant eligibility.

Commissioners John Gauld and Darlene Steele expressed concern about the operation of the child care service during the commission's meeting on June 17. The two commissioners suggested considering a contracting model of service, where the CRD would pay an outside party to conduct the program. Though they did not specifically advocate for a contracting system, they suggested that any discussion of the oper-

ating model should include contracting.

"I think we should have that conversation, and it simply comes to the ability of an organization to effectively create a contract," Gauld said during the meeting. "In those situations there is lots of evidence that contracting out has worked very well in serving the public."

An independent contractor would be a licensed child care provider located on the island. Comparisons were made to the previous contract operating model at the pool. However, Gauld and Steele maintained that a child care contracting operation was not equivalent to a pool operating contract.

Commissioner Brian Webster argued that working with a contractor would make PARC unable to guarantee wages for the employees, and that the programmers would likely need to hire new staff regardless, since the new service would be adding child care spaces and would require more staff.

"I think we should be paying reasonable wages to staff for one thing. Childhood educators have a long history of being grossly underpaid and I don't particularly want us to be turning back the clock on that," Webster said during the meeting. "And to be able to recruit staff you have to be able to pay them enough to be able to afford a not-cheap island to live on."

The project charter does not tie the commission's hands when it comes to staffing, though the language in the document does assume that staff would

be hired directly by the CRD and that the CRD would likely run the program.

Budget total for the project is \$296,460. The CRD has allocated \$81,860, to be taken out of the 2020 PARC operating fund and the pool capital reserve fund. The remainder of the funding will be sourced from the grant.

Approval has been given by the Agricultural Land Commission, since the Rainbow Road pool facility is within the ALR. The building does not contravene the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's moratorium, since no new hook-ups will be required. A final approval from the Islands Trust has also been secured. The Trust holds a covenant on the property, but the portable does not fall under any of the restrictions set out in that development permit area.

An empty space behind the pool building and near the allotment gardens will house the new structure, which will be approximately six by 12 metres in size. The space in front of the main building was considered, but the water in the area causes an issue when it comes to setbacks.

Next steps for the project include gathering proposals from contractors for construction. A proposed timeline has a tentative opening date of June 2020, which will allow for a year to go through the licensing process and to purchase any equipment.

A community child care inventory undertaken in 2018 identified a need for 16 additional preschool spaces for children ages 3-5.

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## ISLAND ROADS

## Highway maintenance contract to change

New contractor will take over in October

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Highway maintenance in the Gulf Islands will no longer be conducted by Mainroad South Island Contracting after the contract between the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the company expires at the end of September.

Emcon Services Inc. will be the new highway maintenance company for the south island service area effective Sept. 30. The area includes the Gulf Islands, and extends from Victoria in the south to Crofton Road on Vancouver Island. The previous contract had been in place since 2004. Contracts are for a 10-year term, with the option for a five-year extension. Twenty-six road service areas in the province went to tender in 2018 and 2019. One service area was posted in 2015, and one will come to tender in 2021.

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure chief engineer Ian Pilkington explained that by going out to tender periodically, the ministry can ensure it is getting good value for the taxpayers' dollars.

"It is an open procurement process that is based 70 per cent on price, 30 per cent on the service proposal that the proponents must submit to demonstrate that they can do not only maintenance, but can do maintenance specific to the service area they're looking at," he said.

Increased maintenance standards are part of the new contracts, most notably with regards to winter maintenance. Contractors will be required to plow highways more quickly and be more proactive with their preventative maintenance and communications.

"These contracts were last tendered in 2003 or 2004, so in the last 15 years there have been changes in technology and also in what the travelling public want to see for maintenance."

Emcon is responsible for maintenance in the Selkirk region and the North Cariboo region in B.C. The Selkirk contract was awarded in November 2018, and North Cariboo in 2004. Emcon had the North Vancouver Island contract until last September when Mainroad was the successful bidder. Emcon is also responsible for around 40 per cent of Alberta's roads, as well as some in Ontario.

The value of the contract is yet to be announced due to the ongoing provincial procurement process. Pilkington explained that the ministry put an upper cap on the contract at approximately \$14 million for the South Island region. The outgoing Mainroad contract was valued at \$10,326,383 when it was awarded 15 years ago. Contractors are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of roads, as well as bridges. They are also contracted to clear snow and ice from road surfaces. Other duties include pothole patching, crack sealing and drainage management.

Surface rehabilitation falls under a separate section of the ministry, which looks at resurfacing side roads. According to the NDP budget, a total of \$330 million has been allocated for resurfacing side roads throughout the province, split into \$110-million increments each year until 2022.

Road maintenance contracts separate roads into different classifications based on their traffic volumes. Summer classifications are from Class 1 to Class 8, with Class 1 being major highways and Class 8 being an unmaintained road. Winter classifications are from A-F. According to the 2013 Salt Spring pedestrian and cycling master plan, Fulford-Ganges Road is a Class 3-A until Cusheon Lake Road, and is a 2A until it reaches Ganges. Class 2 roads are given the fastest response time according to the new contracts, and Class 3 are slightly slower. Response times differ depending on the severity of the issue.

When the change occurs, current Mainroad staff will be kept on under the successorship portion of the new contracts.

"There's a requirement in the contract that any contractor taking over an area has to employ any unionized workforce and must honour their collective agreement," Pilkington said. "All of the unionized workforce, so the workers who drive the vehicles and the plows, anyone who is on the island there . . . The worker staff will stay the same."

Turnovers also often involve the new contractor purchasing the maintenance yard site, as well as some of the equipment. However, that is discussed between contractors and will be finalized as the turnover date approaches.

Though the new contract has updated standards, they will not be mandatory until that date.



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# OPINION



2018 CCNA Awards  
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan)  
Bronze - Best Local Editorial | Bronze - Best Front Page | Blue Ribbon - Best All-Round

2018 BCYCN Awards  
Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best All-Round | Bronze - Best Editorial



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## EDITORIAL

# Schedule departure

Few things enrage an island-dweller more than unexpected ferry waits.

With the current situation on the Vesuvius-Crofton route it feels like BC Ferries turned the gas burner on high under a constantly simmering anger. And guess what: it's boiled over.

People wondering how the 44-car ferry Quinitsa would be able to handle traffic on the route when the larger Howe Sound Queen was already frequently overloaded had their suspicions quickly confirmed. A recent situation saw multiple sailings overloaded from early afternoon onwards, even for those who arrived well in advance. This may have been the result of a "perfect storm" of unusual and unknown circumstances, as BC Ferries has suggested. But similar situations have also since occurred and it now takes very little to set off cascading overloads throughout the schedule.

### THE ISSUE:

Quinitsa overloads

### WE SAY:

Status quo not acceptable

With summer holidays starting and summer visitors on their way, the situation is bound to get worse before it gets better. Some reprieve may come in the fall or winter, but it will be brief, as the Quinitsa is scheduled to be on the route until 2021 or 2022.

BC Ferries has long known about the size concerns involved with the configuration, and went ahead with the ship assignment because it says there simply is no better option until new minor class ships start to arrive for the other routes. It downplayed the ferry size difference, which made the reality of the change even harsher. If using the Quinitsa really is the only option, the company needs to be more flexible and creative than it has in the past with how it operates this route.

Shuttling the ferry back and forth instead of sticking to a schedule is one solution that has been raised by residents, and it's something the ferry corporation has done in other places, such as the crossing between Hornby and Denman islands. Adding reservations, or assured loading for people with medical appointments and other priority needs, should also be considered.

Residents should bring ideas like this and any others to the next public meeting between BC Ferries and Salt Spring's ferry advisory committee, which is coming up on July 9.

The current situation is untenable. BC Ferries needs to look at all possible options, including putting the Bowen Queen on the route, as it has done in the past, this summer.



# Plastic grass odd choice

BY GLEN WILSON

The first time I heard about the idea of plastic turf on the BC Hydro field on Salt Spring I thought it was very odd and gave it very little thought. I have been caught by April Fools' Day pranks before and I checked the date of the article to make sure.

Plastic grass on Salt Spring? Do we not claim to be a generally environmentalist population here? The reasons for the new turf: summer water shortages and die off, and generally not being able to use the fields as is desired for soccer and other sports . . . so let's get plastic grass.

At first I thought, "No worries, it will never fly." Now I see that in fact it may fly and it may be moved to the GISS field. Yahoo! Plastic grass at the high school! Solar panels on the roof and plastic grass on the field. Quite conflicting attitudes. Now there are even more reasons to have it as it will also save the strapped school district money to not maintain the field. The district might not have to pay for the installation and there is almost no maintenance.

During this era of cli-

## VIEWPOINT

mate change and intense concern, resorting to plastic grass seems weird to me. Now more than ever we need to be facing the environment as it is right in front of us and acting accordingly.

**During this era of climate change and intense concern, resorting to plastic grass seems weird to me.**

Deciding to side-step nature for our human demand of uninterrupted use of nature is a large part of our problem today. We are faced with a new challenge to be good stewards of our planet's skin on the ground, in the water and in the air.

I am not a soccer player and confess that I may be out to lunch here with this opinion. I am open to new understandings that would make me

happy about the idea. I also appreciate the time and energy put into this idea by the people who are working on it, but I cannot help speaking out on this one. Somehow it feels fundamentally wrong.

The cost to install the artificial turf is being estimated at \$2.5 million. Surely for \$2.5 million we could install a massive rainwater harvesting system on the high school and bury an enormous underground water storage tank to connect to the existing irrigation system and have green, growing, living grass all year. It would be an awesome addition to the solar panels on the roof and a fantastic advantage of water supply for fire suppression if it was needed for that purpose.

I do not really know the dimensions of the roof of the school, but it may be close to the size of the field. With an average rainfall of one metre, one inch per week could easily be used for irrigation for 30 weeks of the year.

Mowing . . . yes. Maybe we can consider this option as well as the plastic grass option. Breathing, living grass.

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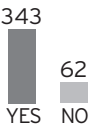
### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Will a new contractor improve Salt Spring road concerns?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will you support installing an artificial turf field at GISS?



Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://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: }

**"I took my tree loppers and climbed down into the ditch to wage war with the blackberry bushes that towered over me."**

KEITH ALEXANDER, CASTLE CROSS ROAD

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**WE ASKED:** *What would improve the Vesuvius ferry situation?*

**INEKE DE JONG**



A whole new terminal and a bigger ferry.

**SANDI MULLER**



A bigger ferry. There's just not enough room.

**BOB CHATER**



Either get a bigger boat or hire me and I'll run it all night long.

**NAOMI TWEDDLE**



I don't know if there is a fix, but I liked the idea of having assured loading tickets.

**TED ALTAR**



Why wouldn't they have more ferry runs? It seems like an obvious solution. It's supply and demand.

## LETTERS to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Send your letters to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

### Shuttle ferry

My suggestion to counter BC Ferries' planned two years of overloads on the Crofton Vesuvius run is quite simply to run the ferry as soon as it's full and not keep to a schedule.

The one saving feature of the new ferry, despite its small size, is that it is speedy.

It can make the trip in a hurry, so why not dispense with waiting for departure times and get going when fully loaded? This would be a logical reaction to having reduced the capacity for visiting tourists who actually enable our community amenities to be funded seasonally.

Another suggestion is to lease back our old ferry for two years until we have the new 70-passenger ferry and admit that this was spectacularly poor planning.

My final suggestion is that we

build a bridge across Sansum Narrows at Bold Bluff. After 10 years or so, locals would stop speeding to catch the bridge.

**GRANT WICKLAND,**  
SALT SPRING

### Turf wars

I wonder if fans of the proposed \$2.5-million artificial turf soccer field for the high school have done their homework. The risks of synthetic turf, from abrasion rates to cancer, are well known. They are among the reasons top athletes demand natural grass.

While the direst warnings relate to the toxic properties of the recycled tire pellets most often used as "infill," researchers at the world-renowned Mount Sinai Children's Environmental Health Center in New York are also worried about the new thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) granules that Gulf Islands

Secondary School is considering.

Mount Sinai's 2017 report called Artificial Turf: A Health Based Consumer Guide is worth a read. Our school board has been assured by the project architect that TPE is "safe," whereas the health researchers note that the plastic-rubber compound contains butadiene and styrene — both "classified as carcinogens by the World Health Organization" — as well as possible flame retardants, and that "few toxicological and risk assessment studies exist."

The school board has also been told that TPE is proven to have no chemical runoff. Yet a 2016 study by the Swedish Environmental Research Institute estimated the yearly release of TPE granules from playing fields in Sweden alone at between 115 and 195 tons. Artificial turf is one of the largest single sources

of microplastics.

Mount Sinai's Environmental Health Center has warnings for those contemplating artificial playing surfaces: first, beware of greenwashing; there's no such thing as "eco" ratings for synthetic turf. Safety advisements include: posting signage on playing fields, showering immediately after play, washing shoes before getting in the car, shaking off garments and equipment outside, and making sure to vacuum any infill tracked inside.

And where does it all go after that? The world is just beginning to come to grips with microplastic waste. Why would Salt Spring want to risk inviting long-term pollution, the ultimate costs of which are unknown?

**DEBORAH CAMPBELL,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Imagining a future where phone apps date too

It's only a matter of time. What with artificial intelligence, robotics, apps, platforms, social media, facial recognition, neural networks and a host of other systems that have been blended together to make up the omnipresent and pervasive smart phone of today, it won't be long before somebody is going to have to find a way for all these specialized technologies to get along with each other on the same device.

What we are proposing here is an online service for computer apps and hardware to make sure that all the digital spirits that inhabit your smart phone are compatible with each other. What we want is for your smart phone to be happy and for all the programs to coexist in social networking harmony. The last thing you would like to see happen is for Siri to tell your GPS finder that she's not talking to him anymore because the last time she asked for directions to Whistler you all ended up in South Surrey.

How do we go about making this a reality? The solution is as simple as it is brilliant. The apps on your phone will mesh perfectly and seamlessly if they are allowed to get to know one another and feel comfortable in each other's presence. This can be achieved in the identical way that humans accomplish the very same objective: online dating.

That's right. Your apps and various smart devices will have a much better chance of feeling good about a potential match if they develop a deep-seated trust in each other. As everybody who has tried to connect or "hook up" with a potential life (or single-night) partner in the last 20 years has learned, this trust can often be achieved by exchanging profiles through the online dating service that best represents a particular demographic. Any other form of direct contact, such as striking up conversations with total strangers in bars, cafes and jail cells, will merely result in wasted time and effort on total loser jerks.

Of course, online dating can be a slippery slope. Just like human computer dating, there's no way of knowing whether profile photographs have been touched up, airbrushed or even completely altered to make



**Shilo Zylbergold**  
**NOBODY ASKED ME BUT**

your "perfect match" appear much better than they are to the naked eye. Tom Cruise or Nicole Kidman may actually look more like Pee Wee Herman or Phyllis Diller. In the world of apps, a turn-of-the-millennium Motorola flip phone may stretch the truth by claiming to be a cutting-edge iPhone XS Max.

Likewise, human profiles are often enhanced on online dating sites to improve the chances of getting selected. If you believe what you read on your screen, just about everybody has a terrific sense of humour, loves to go for moonlit walks along a deserted beach, and is an expert at both Texas line dancing and Argentinian tango. Unfortunately, the shameless truth is more likely to reveal someone who believes WWE wrestling is not fake, walks only far enough to pick up the TV remote, and whose idea of romantic dancing is doing the funky chicken.

Apps signing into the online dating site must also be wary of wholesale exaggerations and downright lies when searching for compatible networking partners. Beware of app and hardware profiles that draw attention to their vast gigabyte capacity (size isn't everything), processor speed (it's not how fast you get there but how good a time you have getting there), extolling the virtues of virtual over real memory (once you've tried it, you'll never go back), and especially idyllic hobbies and pastimes such as "loves to spend romantic evenings downloading hundreds of Netflix seasons series."

How do your apps choose which dating sites would be best suited for their particular needs? There are dozens and dozens of them out there in the ether, so what parameters should you consider before enrolling

your device in such a personal information hub? As many of you readers who have or are currently playing the dating game have discovered for yourselves, some sites have more activity than others and cater better to the social niche to which you belong. Seniors, for instance, can try SilverSingles, EliteSingles or Match.com. If you are looking for a gay relationship, OKCupid, Zoosk and OurTime.com may fit the bill. Overweight and vertically challenged (i.e. short) males can gravitate towards ShortPassions or ShortPeopleClub, while tall females may want to register with TallConnections or SkysTheLimit.

Your apps will have to make similar choices in order to optimize their chances for long-term networking relationships with other apps on your smart phone or other devices. How will the previously mentioned GPS app coordinate with the restaurant finder, UrbanSpoon? When accounts have to be settled, will PayPal foot the eTransfer payment? Perhaps somebody should create an online dating site that matches your baby monitor with your singing doorbell app so you can see who is at your door and lullaby your toddler to sleep at the same time.

Maybe your apps aren't looking for long-term relationships at all. At the rate with which these things work, a lasting interconnection between willing devices could endure for only a fraction of a nanosecond (a billionth of a second, give or take the time it takes for a hummingbird to blink). This is approximately the same amount of time it takes for a new smart phone owner to feel their device has become outmoded and starts shopping for the latest model.

Nobody asked me, but it looks like online dating isn't going away any time soon. Like it or not, whether we are searching through updated profiles for ourselves or for those disembodied apps who live inside our smart phones, we should come to grips with the fact that the next time we hear a ring tone on our device, it might have nothing to do with us, but instead just be a "happy face" emoticon sent from our Bluetooth to the ever popular and available Siri.

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\*Photos must be minimum of 200 dpi



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# OCP supports STVR prohibition

BY PAM MISKEY

Several recent submissions to the Driftwood objecting to the Islands Trust's enforcement of the bylaw prohibiting short-term vacation rentals have espoused dire predictions as to the demise of tourism and the resultant collapse of the island economy. These assumptions are unfounded.

Our currently zoned commercial accommodations are not yet at their zoning capacities and there is no limit to the number of B&Bs. Every official community plan that our community has produced has prohibited STVRs, especially stand-alone houses. It is difficult to conceive a more democratic process than that involved in the OCP reviews, where islanders meet for days, weeks and months to create a vision for our community. It is the responsibility of the Local Trust Committee to actualize that vision. In this matter, the Trust is not acting as a "they" imposing a prohibition, the Trust is us — we, the community.

STVRs have caused difficulties for residential neighbourhoods such as higher traffic volume and noisy parties. Residents are often disturbed by the frequent turnover of tourists, as some have occupancies of well over a dozen people. Further, since there is no one on site to inform tourists of island issues such as a limited water supply or an outdoor fire ban, there can be serious risks for the entire community.

Our OCP is very supportive of home-based businesses, including B&Bs. The prohibition of STVRs is to prevent commercial activities in residential zones. Some on and off-island investors are buying one, two, three houses each for the sole purpose of renting them commercially. They are not anyone's "home" or principal residence. Many operate as "mini hotels" with occupancies of 10 to 20 tourists nightly and advertise availability year round. Many have commercial names and professionally designed commercial websites. These commercial tourist rentals bring in upwards of three times the revenue that a residential rental would earn. Profitability is the usual motivation for engaging in illegal activity.

Contrary to some assertions that STVRs are "mortgage

## IN RESPONSE

helpers" for struggling locals, there are many obvious examples of them being operated as lucrative investments. Google Airbnb, Vacation Rental to Go, Home Away and other similar rental platforms and you will find multiple houses owned by off-island professionals and multiple houses owned by comfortably retired islanders. The advertised hundreds on these platforms do not even account for all of the STVRs. For example, a Calgary dentist can buy a Salt Spring house and only advertise it for short-term rental to his/her Alberta clients. The only people who would know that house was an STVR would be the immediate neighbours.

While STVRs are not the sole cause of our housing crisis, they are definitely a major contributing factor. The Globe and Mail reports that a recent study by McGill University researchers found that "Airbnb likely removed 31,000 homes from Canada's rental market . . . more than enough homes for everyone in North Vancouver." Communities all over the globe are attempting to curtail the STVR surge as it is removing housing from rental markets and inflating rents.

Locally, we have considerable anecdotal evidence that tenants are being evicted so that the owner can rent as an Airbnb. If the prohibition continues to be enforced, not all property owners would choose to rent residentially. Some might elect to sell, but it is implausible that investors would let their former STVR houses just sit empty.

Rather than perpetuate the alarmist fear that without STVRs "the sky will surely fall," we need to address our provable current housing crisis now. A thriving tourism sector cannot be sustained at the expense of our residential community. The fact that we are losing teachers, health-care professionals, service personnel, cooks and business employees is our present reality. If we continue to enforce the prohibition of STVRs, there is a high probability that some homes would become available to Salt Spring working people and their families.

*The writer is a long-time island resident.*

## MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

### Shower/laundry are basic needs

More than 100 of us have signed a request for Salt Spring Island Community Services to extend laundry and shower services from one to three days each week, with volunteer help.

This small request comes on behalf of our most vulnerable, who do odd jobs around town and share our public places. The response was "No, not a priority."

Staying clean is a basic need that most of us can meet and our taxes and donations support those who can't. How can we refuse such a small request for dignity, and especially one that would make our community a more pleasant place to be?

**SALLY CARR,**

LADY MINTO THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEER

**JO ANN GAINOR, BRYAN ADDERLEY,  
TOM MITCHELL**

SSI UNITED CHURCH

### Step up to save Norton Road development

For those of you who are not aware, and it's hard not to be, there is a massive housing crisis happening right now within our community.

There are many reasons why we are struggling to respond to this crisis. Finding appropriate land on the island is extremely difficult, the ongoing water moratorium means obtaining potable water is almost impossible when dealing with multiple units, rezoning has never been more complicated. We could go on, but you get the idea.

Over the past few years we have,

along with many other like-minded individuals and groups, been working on several affordable housing projects for Salt Spring. One of these projects is for a 26-unit subdivision for rental housing on Norton Road.

The bad news is that, after 13 years of effort by the current owners of the property, Norm and Diane Elliott, they have finally decided that they have had enough and have now instructed their lawyers to sell the property.

It had been their vision to subdivide their existing 12-acre property and donate five acres of it for an affordable housing project for the Salt Spring community. Health issues and advancing years and spending fatigue have all taken their toll and the property is now about to be listed.

The tragedy is that we are so close to success. The property has already been rezoned, it has an adequate water source (wells), a preliminary design has been completed and we are on the verge of subdivision approval, but we are now almost out of time.

We are writing this letter for the following reasons: For one thing the community needs to know this is happening and secondly, we want to appeal, as a last desperate attempt to save the project, to anyone out there who might have the financial resources to step in and purchase the property. If this were to happen, the project might still be saved.

The land is to be listed at fair market value so the five acres could be acquired at minimal cost when the subdivision is completed. Buying the property would buy the extra time that we need to achieve success.

We've come too far to let this chance slip through our fingers and if the community of Salt Spring feels it's a worthy cause then it has to act now.

**DON GUNN AND FERNANDO  
DOS SANTOS,**  
SALT SPRING

### Vesuvius-Crofton proposal is not working

Today the Bowen Queen is tied up at Buckley Bay near Courtenay.

The Bowen operated on the Vesuvius-Crofton ferry route for six weeks in 2007 while the Howe Sound Queen was in for a major refit. BC Ferries spent a considerable amount of money at that time re-configuring the berths at Crofton and Vesuvius for her.

In a Driftwood story published on May 17, 2017, BC Ferries CEO Mark Collins assured Islanders that "The ferry corporation would like to bring the Quinitsa back for a trial period on the Vesuvius-Crofton run based on improved scheduling . . . Certainly, if it doesn't work, we'll do something else. We're not in the habit of floating proposals that don't work."

Well, Mr. Collins, despite the best efforts of our hard-working ferry crews to run on time, and to implement the promised extra sailings, your Quinitsa trial proposal seems to be a spectacular failure. There are daily long traffic lineups in Vesuvius and Crofton, even a three-sailing wait last Wednesday morning in Vesuvius, and the tourist season has scarcely begun.

I am sure that our island's ferry advisory committee will take this opportunity to invite you to spend a day at Vesuvius and Crofton to witness the chaos, inconvenience and traffic jams being endured by islanders travelling to and from Duncan for medical and other appointments.

We have been assured by you, that "sometime in 2021" the Quinsam may take over Route 6 and provide better service. Until then we need the Bowen Queen back from its tie-up berth, and now!

**KEN LEE,**  
VESUVIUS

# Marine conservation plan needs public input

BY CHRISTOPH ROHNER

Parks Canada is presenting its proposed changes to the policy objectives and regulations of National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCAs) and is asking the public for comments.

**Why is it important for us?** The future of Salt Spring Island's surrounding waters is determined. After years of planning, the following concept is emerging: Some small areas near the existing Gulf Islands National Park Reserve are receiving a high level of protection. Almost the entire remaining area in the southern Gulf Islands will receive some marine protection, but is intended for "multiple use" and will not bring restrictions for residents and visitors. More details and maps are at Parks Canada's website: [tiny.cc/NMCA](http://tiny.cc/NMCA).

The new changes describe four different zones. Most likely, all of Salt Spring Island's surrounding waters will be Zone 4 (Multiple Use).

**What marine protection will we receive?** While Parks Canada's information package is filled with attractive pictures and soothing words, the facts are sobering. Parks Canada is planning to allow the industrialization of this marine zone around Salt Spring Island. Except for a no to drilling for oil/gas and mining at the sea bottom, there would be little or no protection at all.

The following will still be allowed: freighter and tanker anchorages, giant windmills and other power plants, industrialized aquaculture on shorelines, commercial and industrial fishing with contact to the ocean floor, and more.

**Do we share this vision of industrializing the marine environment and shores around Salt Spring Island?**

Anchoring freighters and tankers are not peacefully resting ships. They are a type of industrial expansion more like floating factories or refineries. Engines or massive diesel generators are roaring around the clock. Noise, bright lights and other pollution have turned out worse than feared. These large seagoing vessels are so close that nothing would stop a fuel or oil spill from reaching our shores. Slicks would be trapped in places like Ganges Harbour.

Transport Canada is in process of allowing the establishment of more anchorages around Salt Spring Island. The proposed changes for the new National Marine Conservation Area will do nothing to stop this.

None of our shorelines will be protected from heavily industrialized aquaculture under the zoning proposed by Parks Canada.

Imagine the following. A summer camp for children is educating

## INDEPTH

about life in the intertidal zone. They will have to apply for a permit and will be strictly regulated by Parks Canada. At the same time, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will be allowing industrial aquaculture companies to devastate the shorelines by placing plastic netting over the shoreline to keep out animals that eat shellfish, or plant ten thousands of vertical white PVC pipes into the intertidal zone for farming geoduck, forming something like an anti-tank barrier for any person who would like to swim, launch a kayak, or enjoy the beaches. Who will benefit?

A group of residents on Salt Spring Island is concerned about the industrialization of our surrounding waters. They give more information at their [www.protect-the-islands-sea.org](http://www.protect-the-islands-sea.org) website (or simply type ptis.info) and suggest the following adjustments to the proposed changes.

**(1) A clear and efficient commitment in policy and regulations to exclude industrial activity** that by nature of its scale, emissions, risk of pollution, or alteration of both habitat or visitor experience is taking away from these objectives.

"Multiple use" also means

respecting others. Any use should only be allowed if the nature of the activity is within certain limits and not reducing the experience and living quality of other users enjoying this unique and protected marine area.

**(2) The proposed zoning needs to be expanded to provide the necessary flexibility for marine protection.** It is impossible to apply only four general zones across Marine Conservation Areas in all of Canada, and hope to provide adequate protection in each case. Think of conservation areas containing hundreds of kilometres of ocean surface in the Arctic or in the open Pacific. The proposed zoning may work well for such areas. They could be called Type A, with "multiple use" Zones 3a and 4a.

The southern Gulf Islands are entirely different. We have a lot of shoreline, islands, inlets and bays, adjacent residential areas, recreational and tourism values, all intertwined at a very small scale like a mosaic. There simply is not enough space to allow industrialization without affecting everything else. In such a Type B situation, the proposed "multiple use" zones could be called 3b and 4b and need to specifically exclude industrialization.

**(3) Minimize the regulation of local businesses and of research.**

It seems unreasonable that Parks Canada is allowing industrialization in multiple use zones, while asking for powers to regulate ecotourism and environmental research that are usually respectful activities and well suited for a zone with multiple use. It would make more sense to only apply a permitting system for tourism and research to regulate access to the small and sensitive zones 1 and 2.

**Where are we in the planning process?** Parks Canada is now presenting the general framework for marine protection to the public. Then they will publish a report called "What We Heard" and will move to more specific decisions. It is important that anyone who is concerned is adding their voice and expresses their views to Parks Canada at an early stage, before a weak framework and rigid zoning will prevent adequate marine protection in our area.

A public consultation on National Conservation Marine Areas is open for comments until July 10 at their website: <https://www.letstalknmcas.ca>.

*The writer holds a PhD in Zoology and has worked in a variety of wildlife and environmental projects. He is a resident of Salt Spring Island.*

## Rants

+ ROSES



### Rants

May weeds begin to grow profusely in the garden(s) of the person(s) who have harvested the seed pods from the profusion of poppies that were planted along the Atkins Road pathway. Firstly, by doing so it robs the community of the wonderful array of different poppies as one walks or drives along Atkins Road. Without seeds to reseed there will be no poppies next year. Secondly, the seed pods have been harvested prematurely. The pods need to dry out before the seeds can mature and propagate. They are useless. G. Lehman

### Roses

I would like to express a sincere thank you to the Canadian Federation of University Women Salt Spring Chapter. I have been on the receiving end of their annual Second-Chance Bursary. Their financial support helps pay

for my post-secondary studies while raising my kids on this island. CFUW's mission to assist women to help better themselves through continuing their education is much appreciated, and I hope I soon can pay this gift forward in the near future. Inga Michaelson

A heaping pile of compost (which is a good thing!) to the amazing supporters of the Green New Deal Town Hall meeting. This community knows how to get s@!& done! Thank you so much to CRD director Gary Holman for covering printing costs, Phil Vernon for creating the poster, Elizabeth Zook for preparing the food, Chris Marshall for taking photos and all those who helped with donations, organizing and facilitating the meeting: Jan Slakov, Vivian Chenard, Tyger Stafford, Elizabeth White, Gayle Baker, John and Karin Millson, Tony Beck, Pierre Mineau, Murray Reiss, Diane Fay, Helani Davison, John Borst, Sandra Leckie, Daryl Martin, Deborah Miller, Mitchell Sherrin, Joe Akerman, Samantha Sanderson and Nikita Pardiwala. You folks give us hope! Ruth Waldick, Erinanne Harper, Darlene Gage

Brownie-covered roses to Zelly of the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary for the lovely tea party in the hospital room last Wednesday. Sharon Cooke

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## Spirit of Salt Spring

Inga Michaelson, right, receives a 2019 Second Chance Bursary from Canadian Federation of University Women Salt Spring Island Club bursary committee member Sheila McEachern. Nissa Pillay was also awarded a Second Chance Bursary this year.

The award is made each year to assist mature women returning to school after some years away from studies.

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations. First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

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EDITOR GAIL SJUBERG  
FOR DETAILS.

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 HAPPENINGS,  
 SEE OUR  
 WHAT'S ON CALENDAR  
 ON PAGE 16.

## MUSIC

# Spots open in final Fiddleworks camp

July concerts for whole community detailed

Spaces are still available in the 20th annual and final Salt Spring Fiddleworks Camp, set for July 23 to 26.

Players of all ages and abilities are warmly invited to choose classes from a large variety of music and arts offerings: fiddle, viola, cello, guitar, bass, choir, ukulele, piano, percussion, art, dance, recording techniques and more.

Each year world-class musicians and ensembles form the Fiddleworks instructor team. This year's stellar line-up includes band-in-residence The Bills (Chris Frye, Marc Atkinson, Adrian Dolan, Richard Moody and Scott White) plus Zavallennahh (Jaime RT), Calvin Cairns, Karen and Ryan Dignan, Clara Rose, Julia Hensley, Jeff Faragher on cello, and Lisa Lipsett teaching art. From music making basics to fine tuning technique and style, these professionals cater to all levels and abilities with a focus on collaboration, fun and inspiration.

For more information and to register, see [www.fiddleworks.ca](http://www.fiddleworks.ca).

The camp kicks off with the amazing Instructors Showcase Concert at Fulford Hall on Monday, July 22 at 7 p.m., which is considered a truly inspiring way to start the week and meet the teachers.

"Each day of camp has a planned schedule of classes and optional evening events



PHOTO COURTESY FIDDLEWORKS

The Bills are this year's band-in-residence at Salt Spring Fiddleworks Camp, featuring, from left, Scott White, Marc Atkinson, Richard Moody, Chris Frye and Adrian Dolan.

with plenty of time to rest, eat and revel in the natural beauty of the Salt Spring Centre while experiencing the inspirational community spirit of Fiddleworks," said Zavallennahh, the camp founder who now lives in the Kootenays and will be starting a new camp in that region.

In addition to the July 22 instructors concert, the general public is also invited to join the group for a community fiddle dance at Beaver Point Hall on Tuesday, July 23, a jam night (participate or watch) on Wednesday, July 24 at Bullock Lake Farm, and the gala concert at Centennial Park on Friday, July 26.

## EXHIBITIONS

# Painters' Summer Show 2019 opens Saturday

Two guild members share perspectives

### SUBMITTED BY SSI PAINTERS GUILD

The spotlight will shine on new works by the Salt Spring Island Painters Guild in a show opening on Saturday, June 29 at ArtSpring.

The guild's annual Summer Show and Sale promises viewers a wide range of paintings and original prints with something for all tastes. The opening reception, on Sunday, June 30 from 2 to 4 p.m., is an opportunity to meet the exhibitors and learn more about what drives them to make art.

We asked last year's Viewers' Choice Award winner and runner-up about their artistic backgrounds. Margot Garwood (The Painter) was encouraged as a child to create and she kept at it, studying painting for five years at the University of Alberta and since then, taking "many, many workshops."

She says, "I was utterly stunned to hear of the win for Viewers' Choice Award! The Painter has great personal significance for me, but I did not imagine its great appeal to others."

Patrick McCallum (What's Stopping You From Coming Home?) learned to draw at his father's knee.

"By the time I was 10 my dad and I would spend afternoons together drawing from the same reference photos so I could imitate his approach."

A native islander, he was fortunate to have teachers who encouraged him and by his early 20s he says, "I'd work any jobs I could find — construction, landscaping, farm-work — just to collect enough weeks to go on unemployment insurance. Then I'd empty the public library of books on anatomy, perspective, composition, etc. and cloister myself away for months on end with a roll-end of newsprint and a cheap box of pencils. I like to think of it as my 'state-sponsored art education.'" When he learned about the Viewers' Choice Award he was "humbled, grateful and genuinely surprised."

When asked about the Painters Guild, McCallum told us: "After years as a commercial artist I've learned to love drawing again, and have met a group of fellow artists that I am lucky enough to now consider good friends. It is a community of people willing to suspend their anxiety, their trepidation, and an otherwise enjoyable morning, by pouring all their energy into trying to create something that might just exceed the sum of their invested effort."

Both artists stress that time in front of the easel is what counts when it comes to learning and painting. To emerging artists, Garwood says: "Focus on the joy of doing the work, let go of needing to paint 'good' paintings' and never forget that the only way to paint good paintings is to keep painting. You can do it!"

She went on to say that people should take in this year's Summer Show to support our creative culture on Salt Spring.

**"It takes courage and tenacity to show the whole world your inner voice, and every person who commits such an act of bravery, from complete beginner to accomplished professional, deserves support."**

PATRICK MCCALLUM  
 Salt Spring artist

McCallum agrees, saying, "Because creating art is one thing, publicly displaying it is another matter completely. It takes courage and tenacity to show the whole world your inner voice, and every person who commits such an act of bravery, from complete beginner to accomplished professional, deserves support."

The show runs June 29 to July 7, admission is free, and it is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

**HARRY MANX**  
 with Kevin Breit

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DANIEL RUCKLE HOUSE

## SHOWCASE GALLERY

## Dodd and Edwards work combines for exhibit

Next Artcraft Showcase runs at Mahon Hall from June 28 to July 24

BY HELEN MEARS

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Barbra Edwards' dedicated and focused explorations of nature continue in a new body of work called "re:ani:mate," presented along with basketry artist Carol Dodd for Artcraft's next Showcase Gallery.

Immersing herself in the direct observation of dying flowers results in an abundance of ideas in a variety of media: large oil paintings, small watercolours, photographs and collage, exhibited together and connected by theme, complex colours and inventiveness.

Edwards' work shows us the grace

of nature in life and in states of decay — an ongoing muse for her creative process.

Enigmatic, biomorphic shapes are Edwards' signature pictorial language, showing up in the large paintings as volumetric, robust forms that hang in front of the viewer, within an esoteric environment.

In contrast, delicate, clear and lyrical watercolours on paper are small, gestural environments, dense with varied mark-making.

Edwards includes photography — a starting place and constant reference in her creative process — capturing fading flowers as "portraits." Groups of roses, dahlias, tulips show their changing colours, papery surfaces, hardening into shapes that Edwards refers to in her work.

"I visually reanimate my subject by creating a connection between the



Dying Tulip by Barbra Edwards, part of the re:ani:mate show opening this Friday at Mahon Hall.

various media," she said. "It's all about where the mood of colour and rhythm of brushstrokes go."

Capturing images of waning flora and investigating forms and colours in nature is a useful tool: a portal for artistic reincarnation and reinvigora-

tion of a subject that Edwards continues to share her reverence for.

Dodd moved to Salt Spring 20 years ago and was always an avid collector of baskets. Once settled on the island, she joined the "fledgling" basketry guild, making functional, purposeful pieces for her own use from willow and cedar, influenced by "working basketry in Europe" and cedar, "the mainstay material of the West Coast Indigenous communities."

Participating in re:ani:mate allows Dodd to reinvigorate her process by trying out new materials — lichens, bark, pine cones — and working them into functional and non-functional pieces, expanding her creative process and finding new shapes and inventive ways to incorporate diverse materials.

Re:ani:mate opens at Mahon Hall on Friday, June 28 with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m., and continues to July 24.

## CONCERTS

## NWT performer headlines park show

Juno-winning Leela Gilday

The next show in the Salt Spring Arts Council's free Summer Outdoor Concert Series features Juno-award winning singer and songwriter Leela Gilday.

Running every other Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. until Aug. 27, the series showcases a range of accomplished visiting acts, with local Salt Spring musicians opening each show.

The Gilday concert is on Tuesday, July 2.

"Born and raised in the Northwest Territories, Leela Gilday writes about the people and the land that created her," explains SSAC press material. "The power in her voice conveys the depth of her feelings of love and life in a rugged environment and vibrant culture, as if it comes straight from that earth. Leela's family is from Déli ne on the shore of Great Bear Lake."

Gilday has toured festivals and concert halls through every province and territory in Canada.

She has played in the United States, Greenland, Denmark and New Zealand and this year embarked on an ambitious European tour.

"Her live shows are where she connects with fans who have followed her on a 20-year career and where new fans are born. She believes music has an inexplicable effect on people: it is a place where she shares both light and dark and the most vulnerable moments, as a storyteller and songsmith."

Opening for Gilday is the newly formed Calliope Community Women's Choir, directed by Salt Spring-based musician and teacher Marley Daemon.

The Summer Outdoor Concert Series is made possible by local sponsor Country Grocer, and support from CreativeBC and the Province of British Columbia, the Capital Regional District as well as the Salt Spring Island Foundation.

Concert details are at [www.ssartscouncil.com/](http://www.ssartscouncil.com/) events.

Leela Gilday  
& Calliope Women's  
Community Choir

Tuesday, July 2, 6pm  
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salt spring arts council



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## Financial Advice

## Downsizing

I'm thinking about downsizing and I'd like to increase my cash flow. Any ideas on this?

Downsizing is a great strategy for many. Maybe the house where you raised your kids is simply too big and has become more difficult to keep up. Maybe you simply want to free up some of the equity that you've built up in your property. If you decide to buy something smaller and easier to look after—or even if you decide to rent—the extra funds you're left with can be used to generate extra cash flow.

Because it's such a big consideration, I think it's essential to get some help with this—not just from your cousin's neighbour's second-best friend. You must consider the risk you're comfortable to take on, the amount you have to invest, the amount you'd like to have to supplement your cash flow each month or year, the importance of leaving a legacy (or not) and how long you figure you'll need the money to last.

Once all these factors are considered, you can get down to the actual products that you can use to achieve your objectives. These options include annuities, dividends from shares, distributions from mutual funds or managed accounts, and of course, the highly-taxed interest from term deposits or savings accounts. If it seems a bit much, remember there is qualified help available—feel free to reach out to me.



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## Real Estate

## Moving Checklists

**BUYERS:** Before removing all subject conditions measure your new home as required, for draperies, carpeting & future furniture arrangement as you will likely not be inside the house before moving day.

**INSURANCE:** Be sure to inform your insurance agent of the dates, especially if the house is vacant, to ensure valid coverage & arrange to have the house checked as per requirements of insurance policy.

**UTILITIES:** Arrange electricity, cablevision, water, sewer & private garbage collection as applicable. It is advisable to book phone/internet WELL AHEAD of moving day to avoid delays.

**BANKING:** It is handy to set up affiliation or transfer accounts BEFORE moving in order to arrange direct debit for mortgage & utility payments.

**SELLERS:** If necessary, book professional carpet & house cleaners in advance as time evaporates as the moving van rolls up! Phone me for an excellent cleaner!

Plan ahead, minimize stress & be kind to your self!

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2018 (VREB)

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JAN  
MACPHERSON

## Mechanic

## How do I get my vehicle ready for summer holidays?

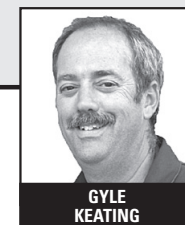
If you are planning a trip of any length, or just several shorter jaunts locally, your vehicle needs to be ready to handle a wide range of conditions.

Hot dry weather puts extra strain on the engine cooling system, air conditioning, brakes and tires. Cooling system components and drive belts need to be thoroughly checked. Your antifreeze has an anti-boil component as well, and must be at the proper concentration to be effective. Try your air conditioning through its full range on a hot day and have it inspected for leaks and serviced if it's not performing properly.

Rain after an extended dry spell will make for a slippery road surface that worn or under-inflated tires will not grip safely. Have tires replaced as required. New windshield wipers and properly operating washers can make a huge difference to safe visibility.

As always, a complete vehicle inspection while changing oil and filter will spot problems you may not have noticed yet. This will give you and your technician an opportunity to repair worn brakes, steering, and suspension and bring other vehicle systems back normal before leaving on a trip.

Drive Safe, Gyle



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# ISLAND LIFE

- Star of the Week
- Remember When
- Where is This?

**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](mailto:dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com)



## EDUCATION

# Students unveil First Nations map for island



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

AJ Griffiths describes the lessons he learned as part of the First Nations place names mapping project at a public library event last Thursday.

Sense of place emphasized through Salt Spring Elementary School project

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Students from Salt Spring Elementary School presented a map outlining the Indigenous history of Salt Spring Island through place names at the library on June 20.

The map, which is available online, includes four Indigenous locations on the island that were visited by the Grade 3/4 Owl Class. The class visited Southey Point (P'q'unup), Ganges (Shiya'hwat), Burgoyne Bay (Xwaaqw'um) and the Tsawout reserve at Fulford Harbour (Hwune'nuts) to get a sense of place and understanding of the First

Nations people of the area. With the help of archaeologist Chris Arnett, the students were able to learn about the Hul'qumi'num language, history and culture on the island.

Each field trip taught the students about a new facet of Indigenous life on the island. During the trip to Southey Point, the students learned of the cautionary tale of the Wild Woman of the Woods. They learned about the First Nations village at Ganges, as well as the history of the Grace Islet burial site. In Burgoyne Bay the students were taught how storytelling was a part of Hul'qumi'num culture, and worked on a collaborative retelling of a First Nations fable. Finally, at the First Nations reserve site, the students learned about the last residents of the area and their disappearance.

Student Macey Cox said

that her favourite part of the experience was "going to Fulford, hiking and learning about the people who lived there."

"The people lived in a house there, and they were saving up money for a potlatch," added student Ben Powers. "They went missing and their bodies were never found."

Two versions of the story say that the couple either travelled to Yakima, Wash. to work, but never came back after contracting measles, or were robbed and murdered for their savings kept in the house.

By mapping out their field trips, the students were able to foster a sense of place and relate that to their learning.

"It was a great way to display our learning journey and to give the evidence of our learning. Since it was very much place-based, it was all about exploring the island, so it started with a map and understanding what our island looked like and how there were connections," said teacher Katharine Byers. "It gives them a depth of understanding, appreciation and perspective. It was very useful for them to be out there on location to make it really real."

Byers and fellow teacher Linda McDaniel were able to weave the lessons in to various subjects in their class. The students started the project with a letter-writing campaign in their English language arts class to help raise money for the various field trips they would take over the course of the year.

"As an elementary school teacher, you get to teach all of the subjects, so you can weave it all together and make it meaningful," Byers said.

Byers explained that more First Nations sites on the island will be added to the map in future years, and that it is intended to be a long-standing document showing the history and importance of the First Nations people on Salt Spring.

The map will be made available to the public on the Salt Spring Archives website. Physical copies, printed with funding from the Salt Spring Island Foundation of Youth, are available at the visitors' centre in Ganges.



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ARTCRAFT SHOWCASE PRESENTS

**re.ani.mate**  
june 28 - july 24



barbra edwards carol dodd

salt spring arts council





PHOTO COURTESY CRD

**CAPITAL HONOUR:** Levi Cook, centre, is presented with the Ed MacGregor Memorial Bursary by the Capital Regional District at its June 12 board meeting. With him, from left, are his mother Sheralin Cook, Salt Spring CRD director Gary Holman, CRD Board chair Colin Plant and grandmother Sheri Hickman. The bursary is awarded to a Salt Spring student once every five years, based on grades and school involvement. Cook earned his A-student standing while working at Home Hardware and Country Grocer, and he was also involved in peer counselling and tutoring at school. He will be attending the University of Victoria in the fall.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

# Foundation grants released

Almost \$150,000  
disbursed to island  
charities

The Salt Spring Island Foundation has announced more than \$148,000 in spring grants for local charities, including \$30,000 targeted to youth recreation programs.

### BC Parks/Friends of Ruckle Park Heritage

To create and install six new interpretive signs for Ruckle Provincial Park to increase the appreciation of Ruckle heritage farm, the oldest operating family farm in B.C. and a living link to Salt Spring Island history.

### Graffiti Theatre Company

For a secure and permanent storage container for the theatre company's technical equipment, props and costumes.

Towards a feasibility study for a multi-use performing arts education and recreation centre.

### Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association

For updated computers and a new phone system to increase the organization's capacity and communications efficiency.

### IWAV

For new computers in order to securely and effectively carry out programs that are vital to our community.

### Salt Spring Arts Council

In support of six free summer music performances in Centennial Park, pairing a touring B.C. act with a local opener.

### Salt Spring Centre School

Towards an outdoor classroom in a wooded area at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga.

### Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust

Towards the furnishing of a residential unit at The Root, the food

storage, processing and education centre on Beddis Road. This apartment will be offered at an affordable rate and will ensure that the property is not vacant after office hours.

### Salt Spring Island Historical Society

- To purchase and install a flat-screen monitor on the main floor of the library to display historical pictures and videos, as well as regular updates about ongoing historical projects, displays and presentations in the community.

- For cultural interpretive panels on two different sites in Ganges. The panels will deepen commitment and awareness of Indigenous and Japanese-Canadian history on Salt Spring. Consultations will be held with the various First Nations communities that have traditional ties to the island.

### Salt Spring Literacy Society

To support early literacy by providing books to be distributed to children in various local programs.

### Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue Society

Towards a custom aluminum cargo box to be attached to the society's new Ford 350 truck.

### Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society

To fund equipment and materials for use in a volunteer program that collects field data regarding island freshwater resources.

### School District #64

- For the purchase of a replacement rowing scull for the GISS Rowing Club, which suffered severe equipment loss during the December 2018 storm.

- For the Literacy and Technology Project at the Middle School, which aims to provide tech tools to help students with literacy and learning challenges.

### SWOVA

To redesign the Peace Kids pro-

gram, which builds social and emotional learning skills in Southern Gulf Islands primary-grade school-children to prevent bullying and support their mental health and social wellbeing with family, friends and in future relationships.

Thanks to a generous bequest from Joan Nicholson, the foundation has granted over \$30,000 to the following youth recreation projects:

### KidSport Victoria

To help children and youth on Salt Spring Island whose families do not have the financial means to register their children in organized sports, and to increase outreach on the island to ensure that local families in need know that funds are available to support their children.

### Capital Regional District

To purchase two new soccer goals for Portlock Park. The lightweight goals have wheels for safe and easy transport.

### School District #64

For instruments and music to help reinstate the GISS Concert Band and Jazz Band, which have not existed in the school for over a decade. As the Middle School band program continues to grow, this will provide a valuable opportunity for students to continue developing their musical skills in high school.

### Fulford Community Hall

Towards replacing outdated and worn gymnastic equipment used by the Salt Spring Gymnastics Association at Fulford Hall. Every year over 250 families benefit from the gymnastics program, which involves children and youth from ages 1 to 18.

### Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association

To assist in expanding the therapeutic riding program by providing a shelter for additional therapy horses.

## Remember WHEN

### Five years ago

Salt Spring's radio station, CFSI-FM, was ordered to cease broadcasting after the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission revoked the station's broadcasting licences as a result of non-compliance issues. The CRTC said its decision to withdraw the licences for the station and the transmitter on Mount Bruce came after the station failed to comply with six mandatory orders during the licence term. Station owner Sukhdev Dhillon was summoned to a CRTC hearing in January 2014 to discuss the issues. After a second chance to come into compliance, Dhillon appeared again in May to try to explain the lapses.

### Ten years ago

Salt Spring got the chance to see The World, a large cruise ship that docked just outside of Ganges Harbour for two days. The ship attracted the curiosity of many islanders who were able to get a close-up look of the 196-metre, 12-deck vessel. However, only 47 of the estimated 200 passengers chose to make landfall on Salt Spring and explore the island. "I think there was a fair number of people who had hoped more passengers would come on shore," said Kees Ruurs, the Parks and Recreation Commission's operations manager. "A lot of vendors in the market had anticipated a large increase and that didn't materialize. There wasn't as much of an increase in the sales based on what I've heard."

### Twenty years ago

By Sunday afternoon, remains of the fire department's foam was washing away in the day's light rain. With it flowed the future of Salt Spring's sports and recreation programs, victims of a Saturday night fire that destroyed the Portlock Park headquarters of the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission. The fire started at around 11 p.m. in a lost-and-found locker near the Shelby Pool. Flames spread to the building's attic, burning stored documents and the roof of the building before firefighters gained the upper hand. PARC administrator Tony Hume suspected that the fire had been started intentionally. "It is definitely arson, started in two places using an accelerant," he said. "They really had to work hard to get it going."

### Thirty years ago

Owners of Montague Harbour Marina got fed up with the noise from float planes, so they told Harbour Air that it could no longer use the facilities at the dock. Richard Coulter informed the company that his marina dock and fuel float were out of bounds. Montague Harbour was a flag stop of regularly scheduled flights to Ganges and Duncan and the sea plane company had used the dock since service began. "Seaplanes are noisy creatures but we try to keep the noise to a minimum," said Harbour Air manager Brian Embrey. Coulter said that Harbour Air never had permission to use their dock. He said boat traffic is his "bread and butter" and boaters don't appreciate being woken up at 7 a.m. by the noise of float planes.

### Forty years ago

Two Salt Spring Islanders were taken to hospital after their pleasure boat blew up at Vesuvius Bay. The Hanson couple suffered extensive burns and were transported to Victoria for treatment the same day. Their boat was running badly when the couple came into Vesuvius. Art Hanson worked on the engine. Observers reported that they started up and ran from the wharf for several hundred metres before the fire. Hanson was unable to release the dinghy because of burns to his hands. Two other boaters lent a hand, and the boat was damaged beyond repair by the time the Salt Spring Fire Department arrived on scene. It was pulled ashore to be extinguished.

### Fifty years ago

Plans to fill the foreshore area between Mouat's Trading Company and Lower Ganges Road were announced. The area, which was close to an acre in size, would be served by a yet-to-be-constructed road running from Lower Ganges Road. Official plans had not been compiled, but it was announced that the majority of the area would likely be used for parking. Other uses included some stores to be built in the area.

# what's on this week


**Wed. June 26**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Tea à Tempo Presents Wesley Hardisty.**

Singer-songwriter, fiddle and piano player Wesley Hardisty plays recital at All Saints By-the-Sea church. 2:10 p.m.

**Sky Valley.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Music of the Night: The Concert Tour.**

A concert celebration of Andrew Lloyd Webber's 70th Birthday and his acclaim as the most successful musical theatre composer of all time. Featuring Webber's most iconic theatrical music performed by an internationally acclaimed professional cast. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**
**Bittancourt House Museum.**

Open Wednesdays through Fridays at the Farmers' Institute grounds, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., until June 28.

**Salt Spring Garden Club.**

Guest speaker is Linda Gilkeson on Gardening and Climate Change. Meaden Hall. 6:30 p.m. Meeting opens with the parlour show and refreshments, followed by the speaker.

**The Mind Matters.**

Public session on psycho-oncology and the power of mindset with Dr. Rigobert Kefferputz, naturopathic doctor. Salt Spring Public Library. 6:45 p.m.

**Music Bingo.**

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

**Wed. June 26**
**ACTIVITIES**
**Shifting Paradigms: From 5G to Wired Fibre.**

5G-Free Salt Spring and Let's Connect Salt Spring host experts who will share their knowledge about the biological effects of non-natural electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs) and 5G, and the many benefits of community-owned wired-to-the-premises fibre optics networks. Gulf Islands Secondary School. 7 to 9 p.m.


**Thu. June 27**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Gene Grooms.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

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

**ACTIVITIES**
**Bittancourt House Museum.**

See Wednesday listing.

**Public Health Forum.**

Island Health's board of directors visits for a report on Gulf Islands health care, its direction for 2019, and public presentations. All welcome to attend. Fulford Hall. 1 to 3 p.m.

**Green Drinks- Climate Change Action.**

Transition Salt Spring event at Penny's Pantry on the Green. 5 to 7 p.m.

**Fri. June 28**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**The Comedy of Errors.**

The Shakespeare classic with a pirate twist, presented by exitStageLeft Productions. Centennial Park. 7 p.m.

**Brent Shindell.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Dreamland Silent Disco.**

Enjoy three stations of music transmitted wirelessly and noiselessly to colored LED headsets. Moby's. 9 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**
**Bittancourt House Museum.**

See Wednesday listing.

**Art Show Opening: Barbra Edwards and Carol Dodd.**

Opening reception for ArtCraft Showcase exhibition featuring abstracted studies of nature in paint and basketry. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Art Show Opening: Susan Haigh.**

Tranquility exhibit of new paintings by Susan Haigh celebrated at Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Sat. June 29**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Viva Chorale!**

Free choral concert at Salt Spring Vineyards (weather permitting). 4 to 5 p.m.

**Everyday People.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Auntie Kate and the Uncles of Funk.**

Live music at the Legion. 8 p.m.

**Sat. June 29**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Soul Shakedown.**

Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.

**The Comedy of Errors.**

See Friday listing.

**ACTIVITIES**
**Salt Spring Saturday Market.**

Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.


**Let's Connect Salt Spring – Community Fibre Launch Party.**

Family-friendly event sees includes two scientists, several inspiring musicians, and some surprise guests join forces to promote low-EMF wellness and 5G awareness on Salt Spring. Centennial Park. 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guest speakers Dr. Martin Pall and Dr. Timothy Schoechle begin at 12:15 p.m.

**Ruckle Heritage Farm Dinner.**

Lamb dinner at Ruckle Heritage Farm, part of the 2019 Ag Alliance fundraising dinner series. 5:30 p.m. Tickets available at Eat Drink Ferment or online (see Farmers on Salt Spring Facebook page or plantofarm.org).

**Art Show Opening: Josephine Fletcher.**

A reception for Houses, new paintings by Josephine Fletcher, runs at Duthie Gallery from 5 to 7 p.m.

**Sun. June 30**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Rod Run.**

Live music presented by Salt Spring Cruisers. The Legion. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Duck Creak.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Chamigos.**

Live music at Moby's. 7 to 10 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**
**Teddy Bear Picnic.**

Story time, crafts and teddy bear tea! Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the hayfields. 182 Furness Road. 12 noon to 2 p.m.

**Artists' Reception: SSI Painters Guild.**

Opening reception for Painters Guild's annual show and sale. ArtSpring. 2 to 4 p.m.


**Mon. July 1**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Buck Dodgers.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Canada Day Party with Simone and The Soul Intentions.**

Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.

**Mon. July 1**
**ACTIVITIES**
**Canada Day Show & Shine.**

The 19th annual car and motorcycle show and celebration runs at the Hydro field from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Schedule includes Viva Chorale at 10 a.m., Black Powder Cannons and National Anthem at 11:59 p.m., cake cutting with MP Elizabeth May at 1:30 p.m., plus Salt Spring Concert Band, GISS band Bella and the Bois, and the WannaBeatles throughout the day, and trophy presentation at 2:45 p.m.

**Canada Day at the Legion.**

Canada Day Celebrations at the Legion include live music outdoors, family activities, food & Ladies Auxiliary tea starting at 1 p.m. Then live music by Coal Davie and the Rockabillionaires from 4 to 7 p.m.

**West of the Moon Kidz Zone.** Canada Day games, activities and treats hosted by West of the Moon in the Rotary Park. 6 p.m.

**Canada Day Fireworks.**

Annual Canada Day Fireworks Show gets going at dusk around 10:15 p.m. in Ganges Harbour.

**Tue. July 2**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Leela Gilday.**

Leela Gilday from NWT and opening act Calliope Women's Community Choir perform as part of the Salt Spring Arts Council's free Summer Outdoor Music Series. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Open Mic with Richard Cross.** Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Tue. July 2**
**ACTIVITIES**
**Tuesday Farmers Market.**

Food-only market with all homegrown or handmade goods. Runs June through September at Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.


**Sacred Chants.**

Elaina Hyde-Mills and Usha Haywood lead sacred chants, accompanied by Adam Huber. Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice, St. Mary's Church, Fulford, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participation is by donation and registration is not required.

**Trivia Tuesday.**

At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**Wed. July 3**
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
**Tea à Tempo presents Peter Prince.**

Music Makers welcome Salt Spring artist Peter Prince back to the Tea à Tempo stage at All Saints By-the-Sea. Music starts at 2:10 p.m. Optional tea and treats for purchase after recital.

**Chamigos.**

Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**
**Bittancourt House Museum.**

Open Wednesdays through Sundays at the Farmers' Institute grounds, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. through July and August.

**Music Bingo.** See last Wednesday's listing.

**THE FRITZ CINEMA**

• **Toy Story 4** — Continues daily at 7 p.m. to Thursday, July 11, plus 3 p.m. matinee shows on Sundays.

For more movie info go to [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca)

**EXHIBITIONS**

• **Salt Spring Photofest** has its final day today (June 26).

• Tranquility, a show of new paintings by **Susan Haigh**, opens at **Salt Spring Gallery** with an artist's reception on Friday, June 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. The show runs to July 10.

• **Duthie Gallery** shows Houses, new paintings by **Josephine Fletcher**, from Saturday, June 29 to July 21. An opening reception takes place this Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours are Friday to Monday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**EXHIBITIONS**

• An **ArtCraft Showcase Exhibition** featuring abstracted studies of nature in paint and basketry by **Barbra Edwards** and **Carol Dodd** opens at Mahon Hall Friday, June 28 and runs to July 24. An artists' reception takes place Friday from 6 to 8 p.m.

• **Salt Spring Painters Guild's** annual Summer Show and Sale opens Saturday, June 29 at **ArtSpring**, with an opening reception set for Sunday, June 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. The show runs to July 7 daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Nicola Wheston** shows the oil paintings that illustrated the new book Love of the Salish Sea Islands with an exhibition running from June 22 to July 8 in Unit 5, **Merchant Mews**.

• Photography by **Connie Kuhn** and **Jen Holmes** shows at **Pod Contemporary**.

**EXHIBITIONS**

• **Kizmit Galeria** shows paintings by **Ian Thomas** and handmade cribbage boards by **Liam Johnson** through June.

• **The Group of Six** shares their Black and White Photography Exhibit at the **library program room** to June 29. The Group of 6 is comprised of **Larry Citra, Kahsia Hartwell, Simon Henson, Ross McLeod, Bruce McPhee** and **Judy McPhee**.

**SSI Painters Guild Summer Show & Sale**

June 29-July 7

ArtSpring Galleries

Opening reception: June 30, 2 to 4 p.m.

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# AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

- Vehicle tips
- EVolution column
- Local auto deals

## EVs tackle climate change

*This is the first monthly column by Jim Standen, team lead of the Salt Spring EV Group, on electric transportation. This month, Jim reports on the impact of the island's use of electric vehicles in achieving greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.*

### WHERE ARE WE?

We are now at 215 EV units registered in our database. Our stats team has performed a multi-year study of our estimated average annual usage (about 9,600 km/year). By applying standard accepted emission conversions, we can estimate that as of today, we have avoided producing over 800 tonnes of GHG emissions and the need for about 255,000 litres of dangerous fuel (about 10 average-sized delivery trucks) to be delivered to us on dedicated dangerous goods ferries. And our island air is cleaner and the streets are quieter.

### HOW ARE WE DOING?

The 2011 Salt Spring Climate Action Plan documented our overall island GHG emissions reduction goal of 70,000 tonnes/year and set targets for reducing our emissions. It reported that of the total,



**Jim Standen**  
**EV**  
OLUTION

island cars contribute 13 per cent (or 9,100 tonnes). At the time, electric cars were not considered in the report. They were just beginning to become an option.

The report set emission reduction goals of 15 per cent by 2015, 40 per cent by 2020 and 85 per cent by 2050. Personally I am very uneasy about goals set in the future as I suspect it promotes confusion and deferral. I would prefer goals we can aim for "today," "this week," "this month" or "this year." Immediate goals encourage immediate action. I therefore tasked my stats team members to determine how many cars in a given time frame, for example, per week, do we need to gain to achieve our goals. These figures are more difficult to calculate. Stay tuned for updates.

### SHOW ME THE NUMBERS

By 2015, Salt Spring had an estimated 40 EVs and had reduced GHG emissions by 150 tonnes. Our spreadsheets calculated that we missed the goal of 1,365 tonnes by 1,215 tonnes. Or, we achieved 11 per cent of the desired goal. We made progress.

As of today, we have at least 215 EVs. There is not a goal for June 2019 in the report, but we have estimated that we have achieved close to 25 per cent of the target (3,175 tonnes). The gap is closing.

We forecast that by 2020, the next documented goal, we will have 270 EVs on Salt Spring and we will have achieved 28 per cent of the target.

True, we have not achieved the targets, but with each additional year we are getting closer. The EV group will continue to crunch the numbers in order to establish precise and immediate EV adoption targets. We are confident we can catch up and meet targets of the 2011 Climate Action Plan.

Want to join a great volunteers organization or is your EV not in our database? Please approach me, Jim Standen, at jstanden@ucalgary.ca.

## Keep auto costs in check

Maintenance plans are important

### Major repairs to a vehicle can be expensive.

Whether your vehicle is brand new, a few years old or reaching milestones on its odometer with every mile driven, there are ways to care for the vehicle so you aren't caught off guard by costly repairs down the road.

### • Read your owner's manual.

A vehicle owner's manual is a great resource that can help drivers keep their cars and trucks running strong for years. Every vehicle, whether it's purchased brand new from a dealership or preowned from a preowned dealer or private citizen, should come with an owner's manual. Don't worry if you purchased a preowned vehicle from a private citizen who lost the manual, as many manufacturers have manuals available for free on their websites. Once you have the manual in hand or on your computer, visit the maintenance section to familiarize yourself with the manufacturer's recommended maintenance guidelines.

• **Protect the engine.** The engine is arguably the most expensive part of your vehicle to replace, so protecting it should be a priority. Routine oil changes and oil filter replacements is a great way to protect the engine. Manufacturer guidelines vary in regard to oil change and oil filter replacement intervals, but such recommendations can be found in your manual.

• **Perform routine inspections.** Older vehicles may or may not alert drivers via noises or leaks that they're in need of repair. Routine inspections of hoses, brakes and tires, which should always be properly inflated, can let drivers know if their vehicles are experiencing problems before those problems grow and become something costly.

• **Vehicle maintenance costs** tend to be most expensive when drivers ignore routine maintenance or miss signs that their cars and trucks might be struggling. By adhering to manufacturer maintenance guidelines and paying attention to their vehicles, drivers can reduce the cost of keeping their cars on the road.

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**Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Legal Notices****Business Opportunities****FREE****MICHAEL EDGAR MURRAY**

January 5, 1941 - June 15, 2019

Michael left us too quickly and well before his to-do list was done, as a result of complications following emergency open-heart surgery in May.

Michael grew up in the Montreal area and came to Vancouver with his partner Marilyn and their young children Trevor and Brenda in 1965. Michael worked for Mainland Engineering and then Crown Zellerbach but had trouble with the tie-wearing corporate environment and found himself on Salt Spring in 1973. He built his first house from the trees of his Cranberry Road property with help from Trevor and Brenda, his second partner Cheryl and friends. He went on to build more log structures on the island and did conventional construction work as well. He also tried commercial fishing for a few seasons. He bought the island's ACE Courier franchise in the later 1980s and then opened an office for ACE in Duncan. Eventually he acquired a parcel delivery contract for Canada Post before retiring in 2009.

Michael is survived by his long-time partner Gail Sjuberg of Salt Spring; their daughter Chloe (Evan) in Vancouver; his daughter Sylvia (Paul) and granddaughter Ruby in Australia; his daughter Brenda (Guy) and grandchildren Carmen and Luc (Miguel) in Quebec; nieces and nephews in Arizona and Missouri; and beloved dogs Buster and Lulu. He was predeceased by his son Trevor, brothers Dave and Danny, and parents Leslie and Olive.

Michael always said he wanted his obituary to contain the phrase "He tried hard but his skates were dull." It is true that he gave his full heart to everything he did, whether building the best bridge possible over the pond on his property, growing heirloom tomatoes and other plants from seed, raising farm animals, maintaining his classic cars, or being a fully devoted and loving partner and father.

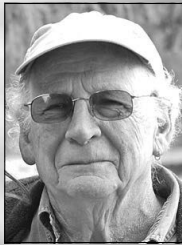
Michael loved downhill skiing and was a Mount Washington season's pass holder until he died. He read quality fiction voraciously, enjoyed roots, blues and classical music, and was a lifelong Major League Baseball fan. He had a strong sense of social justice and gave what he could to important causes. He was not afraid to share his point of view on any topic.

But throughout his life Michael battled with depression and anxiety, which held him back from some of the things he wanted to do. At the same time, the nature of his illness contributed to the compassion he brought to his relationships. In his later years he took every opportunity he could to educate people about mental illness. (The Royal Jubilee Hospital staff heard lots about it during his weeks there!)

He also liked the phrase "It's a great life if you don't weaken." Life was not always easy for Michael but he did not weaken.

A memorial will take place on Sunday, Aug. 4 at Meaden Hall at 2 p.m.

Thanks go to RJH and Lady Minto Hospital staff, Dr. Dan Kalf, Medi-Van, Christie at Haywards, and everyone who has provided dog-sitting and other support, kind words, hugs and food.

**GERARD (GARDY) HENRY WEBSTER**

Oct 16, 1932 - June 23, 2019

Our dear Dad passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family. He was predeceased by his wife Ruby, his parents Marguerite and Alfred Webster, and his siblings, Marilyn, Elizabeth, and Alfred.

Gardy was born in Williams Lake, B.C. He grew up on a farm in Horsefly, B.C. during the hard times of the Great Depression. Gardy learned from a very young age to work hard and live with very little. He acquired life skills such as farming, logging, carpentry, and even knit his own socks and mittens. It was a simple and enriching life that taught Gardy a skill set and work ethic that paved the road to success in his various occupations and business ventures.

Dad moved to Terrace at age 18 after his high school graduation. The following year in 1951 he met and married the love of his life, Ruby. Gardy and Ruby had four daughters and a son during their 16 years in Terrace.

Dad worked in the bush falling timber and purchased his first business selling and repairing radiators and batteries. He was a wonderful provider and always dreamed of owning a farm one day. In 1967 Dad moved his family to Salt Spring Island, where he and mom purchased a farm on Reynolds Rd. He spent the next few years subdividing part of the farm and was employed in construction. He eventually bought the construction business and built many homes on the island.

Dad and Mom enjoyed their nearly 50 years on the island. They joined the bowling league and were members of the golf club where they made many life-long friends. They enjoyed many years of travel together. In retirement Dad enjoyed falling and milling his own lumber and became an accomplished wood turner. He especially loved the forest, and the character, colour, and grain of the various species of trees that the island has to offer.

Dad was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He will be deeply missed by his friends and family. He is survived by his daughters Carolyn (Ray), Debbie (Bob), Pam (Allan), Cindy (Bob), and son Scot (Elaine), 11 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren.

He also leaves to mourn his sister Maxine and brother Ray, brother-in-law Ken (Sherrill) and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

The family would like to thank Dr. Crichton and Savvy Seniors for their loving companionship. A special thank you to Greenwoods Eldercare and the Hospice Society for their thoughtful, gentle care of Dad.

Those wishing to leave condolences may do so at [www.haywardsfuneral.com](http://www.haywardsfuneral.com).

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Greenwoods Eldercare Society or the Hospice.

**In Memoriam****JOHN MYERS**

MAY 25, 1933 - JUNE 26, 2012

Remembering you is easy  
I do it every day.  
But this pain in my heart  
will never go away.

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**YOUR COMMUNITY****Your Classifieds****Legal Notices****Legal Notices****Land Act:****Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land**

Take notice that **1045015 Bc Ltd** from **Salt Spring Island, BC**, have applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRD), for a **Licence - Industrial** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island, Long Harbour**

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **Crown Land File # 1414833**.

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 FLNRD up to **July 10, 2019**. FLNRD may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the Freedom of Information Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development office in Nanaimo.

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**A thought of sweet remembrance from one who thinks of you.**

**In Memoriam**

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## DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES  
TUESDAY 9:00 AM

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## Help Wanted

**The Salt Spring Island Conservancy is seeking an Executive Director**

See [saltspringconservancy.ca](http://saltspringconservancy.ca)  
for job description & application instructions.  
Priority given to  
applications received by July 12, 2019.



## Help Wanted

## Help Wanted

## Help Wanted

**Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue**

Emergency 9-1-1

The Board of Trustees of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District is searching for its next talented and creative Administrator / Chief Administration Officer.

A copy of the Job Advertisement is posted on the District's website (<https://saltspringfire.com/job-opportunities/>). If you are ready to take on this rewarding leadership role, forward your resume and cover letter with 3 related references to James R. Craven & Associates, by 5:00 pm on Friday July 5, 2019. A Supplementary Information Package containing details on the position will be emailed to all interested parties.

**Contact: Jim Craven, 250-744-9455**  
**craven@telus.net, www.jrcraven.ca**

## Misc. for Sale

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## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

[www.sunstarastrology.com](http://www.sunstarastrology.com) | [sunstarastrology@gmail.com](mailto:sunstarastrology@gmail.com)

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

Summer has begun, yet the Moon has been waning ever since. This has been producing something of a complex crosscurrent. The Cancer New Moon occurs on July 2nd. So, for Canadians we will have a Balsamic or late waning Moon on our national birthday, just like when our country was signed into existence as a legal entity back in 1867. Our nation's birth chart is not very impressive, actually. Yet, the Canada Act or Patriation of the Constitution, which was the political process that led to full Canadian sovereignty and which was signed on April 17, 1981, was a strong chart. This was a fortunate and wise action which has served to make Canada much stronger than it was or would probably otherwise be as it is now. For the United States, the Moon will be in its New Phase indicative of fresh and bold initiatives. Mars at 29 Cancer for Canada indicates a year of overcoming while in early Leo for the U.S. signifies ardent ambition.

**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)**

Fresh starts close to home are in the spotlight. These will be accompanied by a creative and playful impulse. Getting your priorities straight includes setting the work focus aside for a while. June was probably a busy month and now it is time to enjoy some quality time. Memories in the mind of the child need not be many so much as meaningful.

**Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)**

The time has come to make some needed improvement. This can also be described as beautifying processes. The weather is probably right to tackle some projects that can only be done in summer. Yet, you will want to cover a lot of bases and this includes weaving in fun in the sun as well. One way or another you are inspired to bring it home.

**Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)**

A spike in your energy levels has already begun and this will continue. This will be amplified by creative expressions. Social interactions will also serve to lift your spirits. To this end, you have and will continue to take the initiative. Yet, starting this week you will be that much more assertive and this trend will continue throughout most of the summer. How much fun can you have?

**Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)**

Summer is now on a roll and you are keeping pace. The momentum will build steadily so now is the time for festivity. Your passions will increase as well and with them your stamina. This is a call to be fully present. Background influences have perhaps been a source of some worry or lack of faith so it may help to acknowledge these so you can consciously override them.

**Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)**

Mercury is the first to enter your sign this week and that will prove inspiring. Mars will follow suit before the week is out and this will serve to boost your drive and determination. As well, if you are engaged in creative projects, your imagination will begin to soar. So, as much fun as social activities are, this inspirational wave might be better expressed constructively.

**Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)**

A process of exploring a fuller scope of your sense of individuality continues this week. Yet, it will also take a turn toward the deep end. This could manifest as a somewhat serious and sober determination to achieve goals. While others are out playing, you could find yourself in the studio, lab or workshop. Great works are not just fun and games.

**Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)**

Things are taking off in your career. This process has actually been underway for many months already. Yet, this is one of those spike-in-the-graph times. Paying attention to the details of the bigger picture has somehow been featured in this plot. This week you will push to be seen and heard even more and you want your distinction recognized.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)**

Your sights remain set on the future. Yet, this week you will take a whole new step towards realizing your goals and ambitions. You will make your presence known, even louder than before. This will include or require measurable changes on relationship fronts. Positively, it could manifest as abundant financial returns.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)**

You have been swimming in rather deep waters of late. These are possibly having a regenerative and transformative effect on you. Although this process continues, you are beginning the first phase of resurfacing from it and this could become apparent this week. Although subtle, the synchronicities will be there.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)**

Sharing quality time with family and friends continues. Yet, the tone will change this week and quite possibly for the better. The momentum has been steadily building and it could prove to reach a peak point or phase even over the next few weeks, perhaps longer. This phase can be described as engaging and passionate.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)**

You will experience a shift this week leading you into a more playful cycle. Social and cultural events will hold extra special appeal. Travel is also a distinct possibility, especially for pleasure. This window may not, however, be very wide so be sure to take full advantage of it. Make every effort to not mix business with pleasure even, this one is all about R&R.

**Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)**

A busy time with creative projects at the forefront of your focus continues. It will shift this week such that the work focus will actually increase. Yet, your passion and determination will as well to match it. Sometimes getting away is great but it can also amount to escape and lack the satisfaction that comes from realizing your goals. Focus!

## salt spring arts council

## JOB POSTING

The Salt Spring Arts Council seeks interested candidates  
for the position of Temporary Artcraft Manager  
(covering a maternity leave).

## SCOPE OF POSITION:

Artcraft, a long-standing program of the Salt Spring Arts Council, is comprised of a gallery and retail program showcasing the work of Gulf Island artists and craftspeople. The Artcraft Manager is primarily responsible for managing the programs and operations of Artcraft, including Artcraft, Wintercraft, and Showcases which take place between April – December (35 weeks).

Full Job posting is available at:

<https://ssartscouncil.com/artcraft-manager-2019/>

## APPLICATIONS:

Please send resume and cover letter, including 3 references to:

**Artcraft Manager Hiring Committee,  
Salt Spring Arts Council**

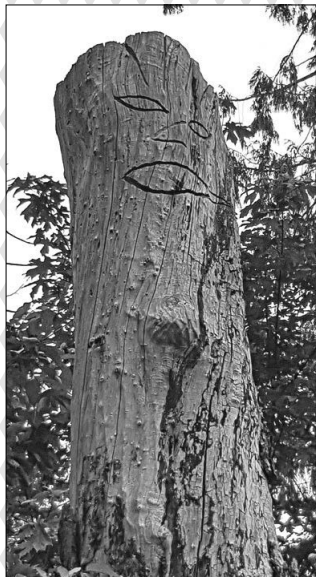
Applications should be emailed to [info@ssartscouncil.com](mailto:info@ssartscouncil.com)

Deadline: Monday, July 8, 5pm

What  
is  
This?

Where is this found on Salt Spring? Send your answer to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or via Facebook: [facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood](https://www.facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood).

Last Week's Answer: **Jamie Holmes** was the first person to correctly identify the Portlock Park jungle gym spiral.



## SALT SPRING Star of the WEEK

**Susan Benson**



Susan Benson is a renowned stage and costume designer for major theatre productions who now calls Salt Spring Island home. She has been focusing on painting and promoting the arts on Salt Spring. Last year she captured the spirit of some 170 islanders via portraits exhibited in the Portrait of an Island exhibition at Mahon Hall.

She is the subject of a just-released book by Patricia Flood called *Susan Benson: Art, Design & Craft on Stage*.



# 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



PHOTO BY DREW STOTESBURY

**RAIN OR SHINE:** Some of the 14 Special Olympics athletes learning to play golf each Wednesday evening gather in the rain on June 19. Spirits of the highly engaged group of athletes and volunteers were not dampened by the rain, which made Don Nemeth (hidden) the most popular coach as he was holding the only umbrella.

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## DRAGONBOAT RACING

# Local Dragons race the river in tough regatta

Members step up into new roles at Campbell River event

BY DONNA COCHRAN  
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Spirit Point Dragons were in Campbell River this past weekend for the 2019 Race the River dragonboat festival.

The protected channel of the Campbell River estuary is ideal for dragonboaters and the weather cooperated with light winds.

Twenty teams competed, 13 women's and seven mixed, in three 380-metre races. In the first race, our youngest dragon, Samantha Goddard, steered her first competitive race and did a fantastic job. Tom McKeachie took the tiller for races two and three. Ann Marie Davidson made her debut as the team caller and kept the team motivated for all three races.

The second race for Spirit Point was the day's high point, finishing with a time of 2:01 a second behind River Spirit (2:00) but knocking six seconds off our first race finishing time of 2:07. The combined times from the first two races placed us in the consolation round vying for fourth and fifth place. Spirit Point gave it their all but conceded the win to the younger and stronger Dragon Ryders.

Coach Mary Rowles paddled with the team as we were

short a couple of benches. The team lineup also included Lorhainne Ekelund, Donna Cochran, Mary Lou Cuddy, Robyn Huntley, Lorenne Ekelund, Sam Goddard, Melynda Okulitch, Wendy McEachern, Carmelle Labelle, Shirley Julien, Rob Huber, Lisa Coles, Carol Spencer, Andrew Okulitch, Susan Ahn, Brian Campbell, Janet Bright and Lynda Green.

**Ann Marie Davidson made her debut as the team caller and kept the team motivated for all three races.**

Spirit Point Dragons give a "paddles up" thanks to Gabrielle and Ken for giving us space at their dock on Long Harbour for the past few years and another to Jean Davis for offering her dock for our new home on St. Mary Lake.

The team is most appreciative for the support of our local sponsors: Country Grocer, Harbours End Marine, Moby's, Royal LePage and extends a big welcome and thanks to our newest sponsor, Salt Spring Communication Station/Telus.

New members are welcome. Contact coach Mary Rowles, onthewater181@gmail.com.

## COMPETITIVE SWIMMING

# Stingrays shine in Courtenay

Swimmers continue progress at early season meets

BY ZANDER GLATZ  
SS STINGRAYS COACH

Continuing their exciting start to the season, the Salt Spring Stingrays competed in the Courtenay swim meet on June 22-23.

Swimmers showed a tremendous amount of progress from the last meet; most swims were a personal best and the technical skills worked on in practice were demonstrated. This competition was a first of many to

start off the summer swimming season. Swimmers are looking strong individually and collectively.

Despite the cold and cloudy weather on Sunday, Stingrays were able to persevere and make the most of their races. Special congratulations to Sashi Sanchez Wickland and Erika Sharp for competing in the 100 IM for the first time.

Assistant head coach Jake Beyak is enthusiastic about the season going forward.

"Stingrays athletes performed well this weekend, both in terms of attitude and athletics. We are excited for what the next weekend has in store," he said.

# Canada Day Weekend

# Schedule of Events

Come down and enjoy  
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Have fun and be safe this Canada Day!

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Saanich North & the Islands

Constituency Office  
215 - 2506 Beacon Avenue  
Sidney, British Columbia  
adam.olsen.mla@leg.bc.ca  
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**HAPPY Canada Day**

Legion Week June 24-30  
Check out our Facebook and Webpage for updates on events!

**Friday Night Karaoke**

• **Saturday, June 29, 8pm** - Auntie Kate & the Uncles  
• **Sunday, June 30** - Free pool & snooker all day; 5-8pm - Rod Run (Classic car event) Beer & Burger night  
• **Monday, July 1 - CANADA DAY** - Live Music outdoors - The Regulars 1pm; Lisa Maxx, The Rockabillionaires 4pm; family activities & games, food & fun for all

**Starting July 1, new memberships 1/2 price!**

**Royal Canadian Legion branch 92**

**JUNE 29 - SATURDAY**

**Salt Spring Saturday Market in the Park**  
9am to 4pm Centennial Park

**The Comedy of Errors**  
June 29 @ 7:00 pm  
The Shakespeare classic with a pirate twist, presented by exitStageLeft Productions. Centennial Park. 7 p.m. Tickets at Salt Spring Books. Beer and wine available for purchase.

**Everyday People**  
June 29 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**Auntie Kate and the Uncles of Funk**  
June 29 @ 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Live music at the Legion. 8 p.m.

**JUNE 30 - SUNDAY**

**Teddy Bear Picnic**  
June 30 @ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Story time, crafts and teddy bear tea! Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the hayfields. 182 Furness Road. 12 noon to 2 p.m.

**JUNE 30 - SUNDAY continued**

**Rod Run**  
June 30 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Live music presented by Salt Spring Cruisers. At the Legion. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Duck Creak**  
June 30 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

**JULY 1ST - MONDAY**

**Canada Day Show & Shine**  
July 1 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
19th annual car and motorcycle show and celebration at the Hydro field from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Schedule includes:  
Black Powder Cannons and National Anthem at 11:59 p.m.  
Cake cutting with **MP Elizabeth May** at 1:30 p.m.  
Live music by Viva Chorale, Salt Spring Concert Band, GISS band Bella and the Bois, and the WannaBeatles throughout the day, plus trophy presentation at 2:45 p.m.

**JULY 1ST - MONDAY continued**

**Canada Day at the Legion**  
July 1 @ 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Canada Day Celebrations at the Legion include live music outdoors, family activities, food & Ladies Aux tea starting at 1 p.m. Then live music and fun hosted by Coal Davie and the Rockabillionaires from 4 to 7 p.m.

**West of the Moon Kidz Zone**  
July 1 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Canada Day games, activities and treats hosted by West of the Moon in the Rotary Park. 6 p.m.

**Canada Day Fireworks**  
July 1 @ 10:15 pm  
Annual Canada Day Fireworks Show gets going at dusk around 10:15 p.m. in Ganges Harbour.



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