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## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

# Fire destroys Salt Spring yacht



PHOTO BY BOB MACKIE

Twenty-one-metre Eagle Mar burns furiously off Maracaibo last Wednesday night. No cause for the blaze has yet been determined.

## Emergency crews ensured fire did not spread

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A boat fire in the waters near Maracaibo on the evening of Aug. 7 kept firefighters and other emergency responders busy all night.

The call came in at 5:38 p.m., and 10 Salt Spring firefighters and four trucks went to the scene. They were assisted by Canadian Coast Guard personnel and the Eagle Eye Vessel Assist company. Crews found the 21-metre yacht named the Eagle Mar moored around 100 metres from shore with heavy smoke coming from inside the vessel.

"The Coast Guard was unable to assist with suppressing the fire due to safety risks and a large propane tank," said Salt Spring Island Fire chief Arjuna George.

The yacht, built in 1975, was burned to the waterline and sank in the waters of Long Harbour.

Crews were on scene until 1:15 in the morning. They were unable to extinguish the fire, and patrolled to ensure that the fire would not spread onto land or to any adjacent vessels. Coast Guard personnel were able to secure a second anchor to the boat to prevent it from drifting ashore.

Bob Fielder was the mechanic for the boat, which was owned by the Vogel family of Salt Spring. Fielder said that the fire was a shock, and that it was the last worry on his mind.

"It was an older boat, so water ingress was my worry about it," he said. "We're quite positive it was not an electrically caused fire. There was virtually no power

on the boat."

Fielder had worked on the boat for at least 20 years. He heard about the fire from the family, but decided not to go to the scene.

"To be quite honest, I didn't have the heart to go down and watch," he said. "It would be very hard . . . She's an old woody, and the end result is what you'd expect."

Initially reported as a sailboat, the vessel was in fact a trawler-style yacht. Though it did have masts, Fielder explained they were for stabilizing sails, not propulsion.

The Vogel family declined to comment on the incident.

The cause of the fire is so far unknown. No injuries were reported.

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**MOONLIGHT CRUISE:** A BC Ferries vessel is caught in the light of the moon off Ruckle Park on Sunday evening. The full moon will rise on Thursday, Aug. 15.

ADVENTURERS

# Rowers travel from Washington

Pair use homemade boat to travel around the islands

BY MARC KITTINGHAM  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

This fall when they get asked, ‘What did you do over the summer,’ Heather Longfellow and Ryan Hashagen will have quite the story to tell.

The pair are rowing their 5.5-metre homemade boat from Anacortes, Wash. up to and around Salt Spring and Thetis islands, and then stopping in at several Gulf Islands before returning south and home.

“We’re having a wonderful little rowboat cruise around the San Juan and Gulf islands, just exploring the Canadian waters and having a wonderful time,” Hashagen said.

The pair live in Portland, Ore., where Longfellow works as an art teacher, and Hashagen runs a tri-cycle ice cream business. Hashagen has taken their boat to Salt Spring before. In 2006 he made a solo trip to the island for what he then described as “a diplomatic visit to discover common denominators in U.S./Canadian culture.”

While it is possible to purchase a boat to make this kind of trip, Hashagen and Longfellow decided to use the homemade variety.

“I’ve had it since high school, rebuilt it three times and it’s just a sturdy craft. We repainted it this winter,” Hashagen said. “We’ve navigated through tidal rips, across the border, through Rosario and Haro straits, up through Sidney channel.”

“I think he likes having stuff to tinker on,” Longfellow added.

Though they have experience in



PHOTO BY MARC KITTINGHAM

Heather Longfellow and Ryan Hashagen at the dock in Vesuvius with their 5.5-metre rowboat Hashagen made. The pair rowed from Anacortes, Wash. and are touring the Gulf Islands.

travelling all over the world, the pair wanted to explore a bit closer to home this time. They launched from Washington state and made their way north. Using a pair of oars and a small paddle for steering, they made it to Salt Spring with five days on the water. They plan on circumnavigating Thetis Island and exploring other islands.

“I love the Pacific Northwest, Canada and the North American continent, but I’ve never seen what’s really out here when you get out in the backcountry and out in the wild,” said Longfellow. “I was super excited to see the Gulf Islands.”

Their route planning was aided by the Salish Sea trail system south of the border, and the B.C. Marine Trails map once they crossed into Canada. They have been camping at

sites on the trail network, and have had serene nights on the water since they left.

“It was just super calm last night on the water,” Longfellow explained. “We came up through the strait and it was just dead silent; no other boats, phosphorescence in the water.”

The trip is a great way to get to see local wildlife too. Hashagen and Longfellow have a few stories of seals following them as they made their way through the Salish Sea. Besides wildlife, the main draw for the pair is the people they have met in the area.

“It’s been a slow, patient way to travel,” Hashagen said. “We’re watching the waters and tides. With the waxing full moon we’ve had great tides in our favour. It’s been really nice.”

## EMERGENCY preparedness

Salt Springer’s ...

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## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

AUGUST 2019 HNP Z+8							
DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
14	0223	2.9	9.5	18	0053	2.3	7.5
	1002	0.6	2.0		0529	2.7	8.9
	WE 1811	3.2	10.5		1217	1.1	3.6
	ME 2310	2.6	8.5		DI 1939	3.1	10.2
15	0309	2.9	9.5	19	0130	2.1	6.9
	1038	0.7	2.3		0622	2.6	8.5
	TH 1837	3.2	10.5		MO 1249	1.3	4.3
	JE 2343	2.5	8.2		LU 1958	3.1	10.2
16	0354	2.9	9.5	20	0210	1.9	6.2
	1112	0.8	2.6		0723	2.5	8.2
	FR 1859	3.1	10.2		TU 1321	1.6	5.2
	VE				MA 2018	3.1	10.2
17	0017	2.4	7.9	21	0252	1.7	5.6
	0440	2.8	9.2		0838	2.4	7.9
	SA 1145	0.9	3.0		WE 1355	1.8	5.9
	SA 1920	3.1	10.2		ME 2038	3.0	9.8

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## ECOLOGY

# Water conservation behind Burgoyne restoration plan

Public presentation on Thursday night

Members of the public are invited to attend an open house on Thursday, Aug. 15 about a proposed wetland restoration project set for Xwaaq’um, or Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park.

The B.C. Wildlife Federation has partnered with the Stqeeye’ Learning Society and B.C. Parks to put into action a wetland restoration project in the park.

According to the BCWF, the project will begin in September with the construction of a small wetland near the east boarder of the park boundary, and will be guided by several key objectives: Hul’q’umi’num cultural wisdom, to improve habitat for a diversity of wildlife and fish species, to restore naturally appearing functioning ephemeral wetlands in an area that was drained for

agriculture, and to provide an outdoor learning lab for science, technology, engineering, mathematics education and research. The wetland will be restored to follow the natural contours of the land, and once established, will quickly blend in with the surrounding landscape. This wetland will add beauty to the area, improve habitat for wildlife, and increase suitable habitat for local plant species and Species at Risk.

“One of the most important aspects of this project is equipping the community with the necessary tools to combat climate change,” explained biologist Robin Annschild. “Wetlands are an essential part of that toolkit, and they add resilience to the landscape over the long-term, both by combatting water scarcity and protecting biodiversity.”

Thursday’s presentation begins at the entrance to the park at 6:30 p.m.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Climate rally planning underway

Salt Spring Islanders are gearing up to add their voices to the global call to action on the climate emergency, which will include events taking place from Sept. 20-27.

Preparations are now underway for a rally to be held at Centennial Park on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Two meetings are set for next week. The first, on Wednesday, Aug. 21, is to plan for a Community Art Making Day on Sept. 2. The planning meeting begins at 3 p.m. in Peace Park.

Banners, signs, performances and other art will be needed for the rally, as well as people, materials, paints, signage, dancers, musicians and a sound system.

The second meeting is for overall rally planning. It is on Thursday, Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. in Peace Park.

People are invited to contact Vincent to advise if they can participate in the art making: vincentgiampalma13@gmail.com.

Anyone wanting to be involved in the larger event organizing should contact Darlene at missdarlenegage@gmail.com.

During the Sept. 20-27 week, people around the world will be walking out of work, school, home and regular activities for the Global Climate Strike called for by Greta Thunberg and youth organizers across the world.

### Public welcome at BC Ferries AGM

BC Ferries is inviting the public to attend its annual general meeting in Vancouver on Thursday, Aug. 15.

It takes place in the Pan Pacific Hotel, 999 Canada Place, beginning at 10 a.m.

The chairs of both the B.C. Ferry Authority — Shelley Chrest — and B.C. Ferry Services Inc. — John Horning — will address the meeting. President & CEO Mark Collins will review the past year and present an outlook for the future. Chief financial officer Alana Gallagher will review BC Ferries' financial performance.

All meeting attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and express their views.

## INSECTS

# Conditions ripe for annoying wasp year

Invasive European species also adds to the mix

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Islanders suspecting that picnics and patio dining seem to be more at threat from wasps than usual for this time of year are perfectly right, according to people who work around insects.

Dave French, a technician with Salt Spring-based Pest Control Services, said last week that he and his colleague James Wood had responded to 50 calls regarding wasps over the past 10 business days, and over 100 calls so far this season. That's compared to around 100 wasp calls in total three years ago, and still plenty of time before things die down in the fall.

"With the weather we've had and the weather we're expected to have, I suspect it's going to be a really big season, right to the end of the season," French said. He explained Dolichovespula arsenaria or yellow jackets are the most common wasp species seen on the Gulf Islands, followed by bald-faced hornets and mud daubers.

"Hornets are very aggressive and territorial. If you get close to them, they will attack you," French said. "We don't see a lot of them but when we do it's usually a very large, very well established nest."

The technicians have noticed the more common yellow jacket nests reached a size at the beginning of July that isn't usually seen until later in August. French said conditions such as the combination of heat and moisture over the early summer may have created the perfect conditions for populations to thrive.

"People are watching the nests grow, and when they decide to do something about it, they've grown to the size of a beach ball," French said.

"Wasp populations are on seven-year cycles. Looking at our records, we're in year six — so next year we could be in for even worse," he added.

Linda Gilkeson is a local master gardener and an entomologist who at one time worked for the provincial government promoting programs to reduce and eliminate pesticide use. She said insect populations like wasps naturally fluctuate, and can be different on different parts of the island.

"To me it's a wonderful year, because it means there are no caterpillars in the garden. I have nothing eating my cabbages this year," Gilkeson said.

Gilkeson suggested one reason people might be noticing more wasps in general is because European paper wasps have recently moved in. They look very similar to yellow jackets when flying. They are solitary insects, however, and don't nest together in social groups. They don't have a colony to protect and therefore don't pose much threat.

Native wasps are beneficial insects, despite their annoyance to humans. They act as pollinators and help protect crops from the insects they eat. However, the stings can be harmful, especially to small animals and children, and those bitten repeatedly can get more sensitive to the venom over time.

"There is a genuine health issue and safety issue when dealing with wasps and hornets. As much as we want to coexist with nature, sometimes we have to deal with them," French said.

Wasps commonly build nests on the sides of buildings, so one way to prevent a large colony is to walk around the home often in the spring. French said homeowners can safely knock down nests around the size of a golf ball to grapefruit. He recommends wearing a beekeeper's hat with a mesh veil and several layers of loose clothing. If someone is using an aerosol wasp killer, they should be sure to wear a double-respirator because there are pesticides that humans should not breathe in.

If a wasps' nest is located in a tall tree or somewhere further away from the house, French recommends just leaving it alone. Nests made in the

ground often pose the most danger and should be dealt with, however.

Gilkeson likewise recommends leaving nests be unless they are located close to someone with a wasp allergy. Aside from the queen, all the wasps will die in the fall and nests are not re-used the following year.

Her advice for people eating outside is to make sure the food is served from inside the house, and have people bring out their individual plates. One strategy Gilkeson uses is to open a tin of cat food and place it at the far end of the yard or deck to draw the wasps off. At the end of the night it can be collected and popped into the freezer to be used again.

Wasp traps that lure in insects with pheromones can be another tool for people who want to eat outside.

"If you can't find the nest but there are a lot of wasps around where you want to be, these work really well right in the middle of summer," French said. "Wasp traps can be incredibly effective at the right time."

Gilkeson noted people should be mindful picking fruit and berries at the end of the summer, when fruit is ripening and wasps have moved from hunting protein to just collecting sugar for the queen.

PCS technicians are equipped in many layers of safety gear and clothing, but the odd angry wasp still gets through sometimes. French said he usually gets two or three stings per year. His tip for treatment is a hemorrhoid cream, which is very effective at reducing itch and swelling in more than one location.



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Pest Control Services technician Dave French checks out a wasp nest before removing it from Mahon Hall in 2018.



## Have Your Say

When:  
Thursday,  
August 15, 2019  
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where:  
Mateada  
110-150 Fulford-Ganges Road, SSI

Who should attend?  
Anyone affected by the application.

Enquiries?  
Serena Klaver,  
Planner 1  
Islands Trust  
250-537-9144

Written submissions are welcome and can be emailed to: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca or, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office.

### Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch

#### Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsement Application

Address: 110-150 Fulford-Ganges Road, SSI (Mateada)

Applicant: Rising Tide Consultants

PID: 014-852-926

## OPEN HOUSE

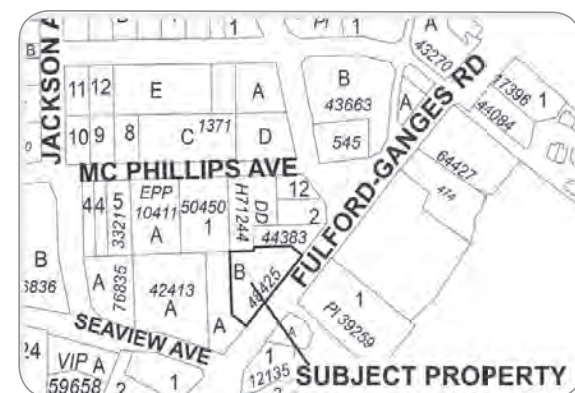
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

### What is being proposed?

An application by Rising Tide Consultants has been made to the Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) proposing the following changes to their current license. The purpose of this application is for a Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsement on the Food Primary License to allow patrons visiting Mateada to dance or move around at special events hosted by DJs, bands, and performers.

Possessing the Patron Participation Entertainment Endorsements allows establishments to have entertainment that involves audience or patron participation such as sing-a-longs, karaoke, comedy, or dancing as designated by the LCRB. The capacity of the interior area where the occasional entertainment will occur is 58 persons.

As the local government, the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) is requested to consider the application for this license. Public input on this application is being sought.



### How do I get more information?

Copies of the application are available for review at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

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## ENVIRONMENT

# Picnic lays out election focus

Millennial voters seen as key to averting climate catastrophe

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's MLA and MP joined forces Saturday for a community Green party picnic at Salt Spring Vineyards, where the potential ramifications of the fall federal election produced a sobering effect.

Hosted by Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen, attendees were closely attuned to the national political situation. The few questions from the crowd focused on how to get more representation in the House of Commons for quick action on carbon reduction, which the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently reiterated must happen by 2030 or it will be too late.

Both Olsen and Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May described the critical role that Greens can play, whether in a minority government, or even as the solo voice that May has provided in Ottawa for the past two terms.

"Our political system requires opposition," Olsen said. "It requires people to be demanding answers to the questions the incumbent industries don't want to answer. It requires there to be a level of transparency, accountability and push-back that frankly we haven't seen in the pipeline debate on the West Coast."

May has only recently received a fellow nationally elected Green in Paul Manly, who won the Nanaimo-Ladysmith by-election in May. She said it will be important to get more colleagues in the October election to help turn around a climate disaster, but feels there is a real chance a



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May and Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen address a gathering of supporters on Saturday.

productive minority government can be elected.

A question from one of the attendees was how to inspire millennials to vote. May suggested talking to people one-on-one about whether they vote, and if the answer is no, explaining why it is important to do so.

"We do have a lot of youth outreach, [but] I don't think anything works more than talking to each other," May said.

Another question was about federal grant programs that are focused on getting remote northern communities off diesel, and what could be done for communities that don't fit that picture.

"What we're calling for, as a Green party, is what the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change told us on Oct. 8 we need to do, which is daunting," May said. "When we crunch the numbers we come up with 60 per cent below 2005 reductions in greenhouse gases — by 2030. That means in a 10-year period slashing our dependence on fossil fuels

by 60 per cent. It's tough; it obviously won't happen with programs that have a very narrow focus."

May explained the Greens' approach would be to create a "survival cabinet" similar to the war cabinets created during the Second World War, which would ensure all political parties were part of the decision making. Nationally funded initiatives with masses of community volunteers are needed to do things like plant trees, install solar panels and retrofit homes to become carbon neutral, May said. Other measures would include banning combustible engines, and making the entire Canadian energy grid run on renewable sources, both by 2030.

"We face an existential threat. It's not one that can be dealt with by status quo decision making and incremental programs that work at the edge of the status quo," May said.

"Status quo decision making is over. For our survival we have to leap over it, so it's all hands on deck."

## ORCAS

# Officials meet with islanders on SRKW crisis

Orca numbers plummet with three presumed deaths

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Representatives from the federal departments of Fisheries and Oceans, Transport Canada and Parks Canada will be in the Gulf Islands this week to speak to residents about new regulations to protect the southern resident killer whales and ongoing resident concerns.

A meeting is taking place on Salt Spring today (Aug. 14) at Lions Hall at 4:30 p.m., to be followed by a meeting on Saturna Island the next night. A Pender meeting was held Tuesday.

With three more members of the southern resident killer whale population presumed dead, a troubling downward population trend has many people fearing that iconic species may soon disappear from local waters.

The San Juan Islands-based Center for Whale Research announced last week that whales J17, K25 and L84 have been missing long enough that they can't be expected back. J17 was a 42-two-year-old J-pod matriarch and mother of Tahlequah (J35), who carried her dead calf for 17 days last year. K25 and L84 were both adult males, ages 28 and 29 respectively. Although two new calves were born in 2019, the super-pod population is now down to 73 individuals.

The SRKW historically frequented the Salish Sea almost daily in summer months but have lately been shifting territory, apparently in search of better hunting grounds.

"Due to the scarcity of suitable chinook salmon prey, this population of whales now rarely visit the core waters of its designated critical habitat: Puget Sound, Georgia Strait and the inland reach of the Strait of Juan de Fuca," the Center for Whale Research said, noting L pod has not been seen yet in the Salish Sea this summer.

Gulf Islands residents who are used to seeing whales transit

through local waters have also documented the change. New interim sanctuary zones located along parts of Pender and Saturna islands that prohibit most vessel traffic between June 1 and Oct. 31 this year are not addressing the heart of the problem, according to some watching the situation closely.

"The residents haven't been around for two years now because there's no food. It's not rocket science. It's basic biology," said Susie Washington-Smyth, a Saturna resident who has experience in environmental research and law.

Washington-Smyth helped circulate a discussion document to islanders ahead of the meeting, which is being sponsored and moderated by the Saturna Local Trust Committee. Saturna Islanders have said they strongly support protections for the SRKW but are disappointed by the lack of consultation in the Gulf Islands. Consultation sessions were held only in Victoria, Richmond and Sooke.

Islanders also feel the new sanctuaries have created a burden on island residents, businesses and tourists, and were created through political motivation rather than scientific merit. As Washington-Smyth observed, the sanctuary zones mean locals are prohibited from using their waterfront properties even for non-motorized boating. But the greater source of chinook salmon shortage is not being addressed, with key fisheries such as the Fraser salmon run and the herring fishery remaining open.

Islanders are also questioning the efficacy of limits on whale watching, boating traffic and fishing without adequate enforcement, and how much of the consultation on the action plan under the Species at Risk Act was actually incorporated into the recent regulations.

"The issue is there is no food," Washington-Smyth said. "They're going to try to couch this as a NIMBY thing. We're all ready to do our share — if not taking my grandkids in a kayak in front of my house will help, I would be willing to do it."

"I think we're witnessing the extinction of the species, and it's not whale watching noise, it's lack of food. So let's focus on getting them more food," she added.

## CHILD CARE

## SD64 to hear child-care ideas

Provincial funding opens door to partnerships

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

School District 64 is accepting proposals from community organizations hoping to operate child-care facilities in the Gulf Islands, with new funding available from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

The Child Care BC Capital Funding Program offers grants to support the creation, expansion and relocation of child-care facilities where public sector organizations have the land to build them. The grant leverages existing facilities on school grounds, at recreation centres and other public places.

Recognizing the opportunity to apply for up to \$1 million per location, the Gulf Islands school board approved criteria at their June meeting to evaluate community partnership proposals. The criteria include community need, available space and organizational strength, among other specifications. School District 64 will manage the capital project of any proposals approved, but it will take a nonprofit organization to manage the actual child-care operation.

"It seems like a good approach, so everyone is very positive about it," said SD64's secretary-treasurer Jesse Guy, who is overseeing the program for the district. "We see it as a really good initiative. It feels like a natural partnership."

Daycare facilities that are attached to community schools already exist on Mayne, Galiano and Pender islands. The SD64 school board has now approved in principle a project that will apply for MCFD capital funding on Saturna. Guy said the decision was not hard because the island has no daycare, but it does have the space to add on to the existing two-room schoolhouse, plus a committed local group to run the program long-term.

Salt Spring is the school district's next focus with its recognized need, especially in the central island area. Challenges will be finding the right space, ensuring water connection and having commitment from a nonprofit group for long-term oversight. The right proposal will also need to have a capital project the district is equipped to manage.

"We are open to proposals," Guy said, adding, "We're absolutely encouraging people to get together and apply as one group. If everyone could work together on Salt Spring, we would have one group within the community that we could work with."

The board will evaluate proposals as they come in. There is currently no deadline to the grant opportunity.

"The idea is to access the funding in a way that works best for the district and for the community," Guy said.

Having enough early child-care educators on island to staff a new facility is another potential challenge. Guy said there is additional provincial funding that could help costs for people taking the certification.

## Parent group seeks members

Island parents facing child-care needs have an immediate problem to solve, but they also see adequate daycare as an important step for the community's health overall. Jennifer

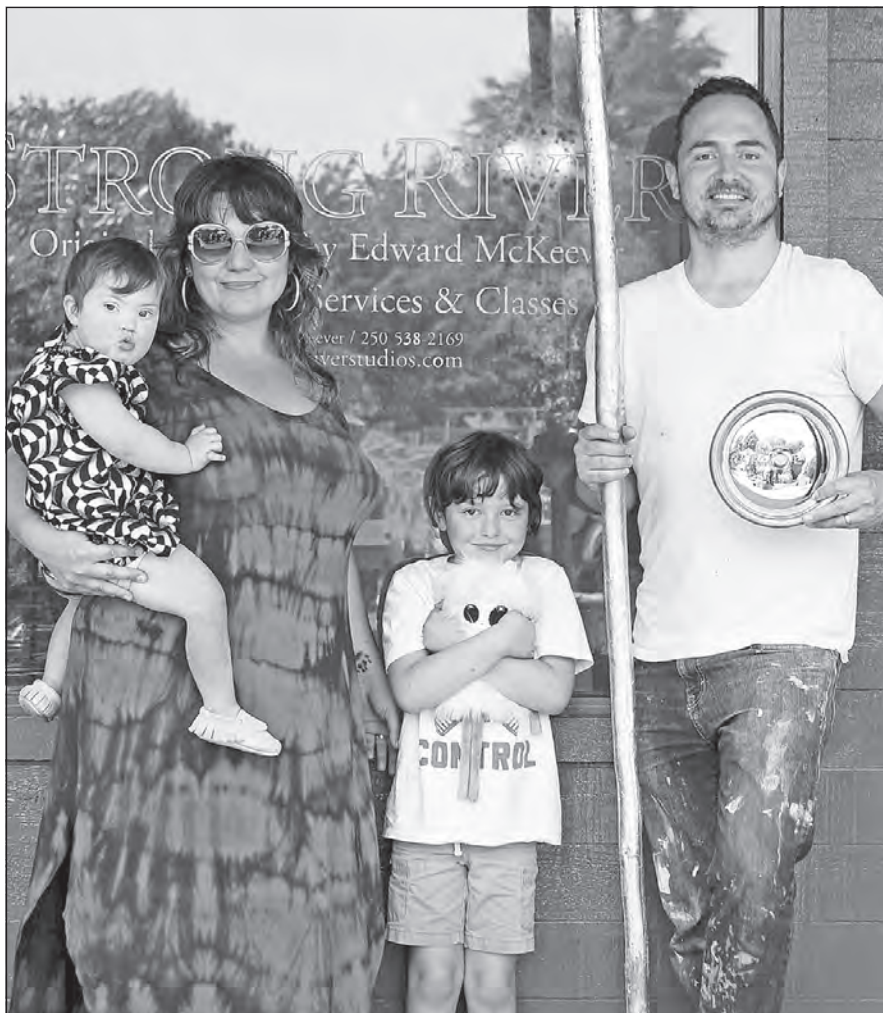


PHOTO BY NORM EDWARDS

The McKeever family, seen outside their Strong River studio in Ganges, are among many islanders facing child-care difficulties. From left are Nina, Marta Jaciubek McKeever, Romeo, and Edward McKeever.

Emekoba, who is spearheading the new Salt Spring Parents Advocacy Group along with Marta Jaciubek McKeever, said the issue goes far beyond individuals.

They point out that investing in daycare facilities and early childhood education training could result in stable enrolments from kindergarten to Grade 12 in years to come. The dearth of services can make it difficult for working parents to stay in the communities where they wish to live, which in turn impacts school district funding.

"I feel like when you look at the balance of things and what services are being offered, it's totally out of whack, just like housing is," Emekoba said. "But I feel like housing has become the trending issue . . . There are parents here with abilities that aren't being utilized because they can't find child care."

One of the advocacy group's aims is to make islanders' real experiences and needs known to elected officials, including MLA Adam Olsen and CRD director Gary Holman.

"Yes, I'm a parent that needs help and needs assistance to be able to function and work properly, but I also feel like I'm an advocate that can potentially step forward and help the situation," Emekoba said. "Somebody needs to step forward and do the work for the community."

Emekoba feels the information on what is actually available and how many families there are with young children needs to be updated. The Salt Spring Vital Signs Report, based on information collected in 2016, found there was a child-care space for one out of every three children

younger than school age.

A recent survey of facilities put together by Salt Spring Parks and Recreation found there were 220 children in the three to five age group, with 83 child-care or preschool spaces available. PARC has applied for its own MCHD funding, hoping to establish a licensed preschool at its Rainbow Road recreational property that would run two or three mornings per week.

Island Health reports that 59 babies were born to Salt Spring parents in fiscal 2017-18, suggesting another large cohort needing care is coming up.

McKeever, Emekoba's partner in the advocacy group, has found the child-care challenge is amplified considerably for parents of children with special needs. Her family is desperate for help with their young daughter, but cannot afford private care and cannot access government funding.

"The wait lists for local daycares are long. Somehow we got a spot at one of the daycares but because of my daughter's Down Syndrome, she needs an inclusion support worker, for which there is also a huge wait list," McKeever explained.

"Our social worker said our only hope for government funding for our child is if we get her into this type of child care. Otherwise we don't get any support."

McKeever is now exploring the idea of starting a foundation and a daycare that would focus on families with different-abled children first.

Parents who are interested in sharing their experiences with the advocacy group or want to get involved can email saltspringparentadvocacy@gmail.com.

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EDITORIAL

Valuable  
resources

As the need to act rather than just talk about fighting climate change becomes more apparent, government inaction in certain sectors is puzzling.

Take the issue of clear-cut logging on private land in the Islands Trust Area. For almost a year, a group of Salt Spring residents have pressed the provincial government to do something to stop trees from falling.

Official responses pass the buck back to the Islands Trust, which holds local land-use planning authority. Government bureaucrats penning such responses are clearly unaware of the reality of how toothless the Trust really is when it comes to the clear-cut logging question.

Every time large tracts of land are deforested on one of the Gulf Islands, the rare but important Coast-al Douglas-fir ecosystem disappears a little more. The province has given special protected status to the Islands Trust Area, yet its powers to regulate one of the major ecological assets is hampered by a suite of laws that favour resource harvesting over conservation.

THE ISSUE:

Forest cover protection

WE SAY:

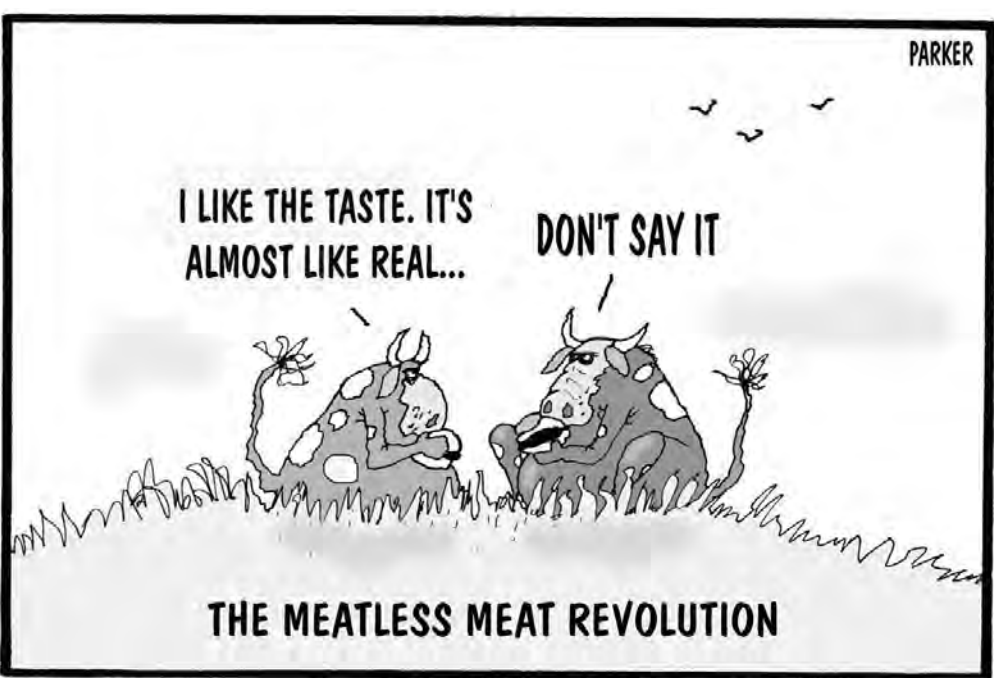
Local action must start now

As Driftwood reporter Elizabeth Nolan found in her three-part series called “Stumped,” which we published in July, the Islands Trust’s existing land-use planning tools against private land clear-cut logging are limited. More worrying, B.C. law states no local regulations apply to the 1,000 acres with Privately Managed Forest Land status located on Salt Spring.

We could not say it any better than a group of island residents who recently wrote to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson and other B.C. government ministers: “It is beyond ironic that a local government established by the province to ‘preserve and protect’ a region is denied this basic authority.”

The lack of controls on clear-cutting is another stark example of how Canadian governments at all levels are declaring their commitment to fight climate change, all while letting business continue on as usual.

A commitment from the province to at least look at giving local governments stronger legislative tools to protect tree cover is overdue. But without putting in the tough work at the local level to create new development permit areas, increase setbacks to protect forest cover and/or other measures unpalatable to the individual property owner, clear-cuts will continue to be a problem.



No rapid climate action

BY MURRAY REISS

All those climate emergency declarations local governments are busy declaring these days? Their true value lies in revealing just how wrenchingly difficult responding to the climate crisis on anywhere near an adequate scale can be.

Take cruise ships — one of the fastest growing sectors in the mass tourism market. Some 28.5 million people went on cruises in 2018, seven per cent more than the year before. Cruise ships are also the biggest per-capita polluter in the history of travel. Large ones can burn more than 150 tons of diesel bunker fuel per day, spewing out more — and far more toxic — fumes than millions of cars and emitting huge amounts of black carbon, sulphur dioxides and nitrogen oxides that accelerate global warming. Black carbon alone causes almost 50 per cent of the Arctic’s warming.

Then take Victoria. Its mayor has declared: “We’re in a climate emergency, and to address it we need nothing short of a rapid and wide-reaching transition.”

Victoria is Canada’s busiest cruise-ship port. This year it expects 264 vessel visits with more than 700,000 passengers. This cruise activity has an economic impact of

VIEWPOINT

\$100 million annually, providing 700 direct and indirect jobs. Victoria expects to grow its share of future cruise business by four to five percent per year over the next five years. They’re even considering expanding capacity, most likely by building an additional berth.

So when it comes to cruise ships — and all the jobs directly and indirectly dependent on them and their economic spin-off they — what will a “rapid and wide-reaching transition” look like? How rapid is rapid enough? How wide-reaching is a wide enough reach? How will these questions be answered? And by whom?

These are the challenges the climate crisis poses in just about every economic sector: forestry, aviation, shipping, industrial agriculture, manufacturing, resource extraction . . . and on and on. The group Extinction Rebellion has taken to the streets proclaiming, “We’re facing a climate emergency; business as usual cannot go on.”

On the evidence so far, though, it’s an open question whether governments at any level will take their

emergency declarations seriously enough. Yet what entity other than governments can act at the necessary scale?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change calls for “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” if we are to slow climate disruption’s accelerating pace and limit its disastrous effects to maybe not a whole lot worse than what we’re already enduring. But we must begin making those changes now.

A federal election is months away. Only one question matters as candidates start campaigning. Do they grasp what David Roberts calls the climate crisis’ most inconvenient truth: “The facts of climate change mean that there is no such thing as a ‘moderate’ position. You do the radical things necessary to meet IPCC targets or you sit back and let radical impacts unfold.” Whoever doesn’t understand this basic fact, has no business seeking power. Whoever does should commit to forming a national unity government to bring all the resources of the federal government to bear on the defining issue not only of our times but for the planet’s foreseeable future.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Have you started to think about the federal election?

☐ Yes ☐ No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you concerned about dogs on the loose in Ganges?

57 NO

136 YES

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 think we're witnessing the extinction of the species, and it's not whale watching noise, it's lack of food."**

SUSIE WASHINGTON-SMYTH, SATURNA ISLAND

## SALT SPRING SAYS

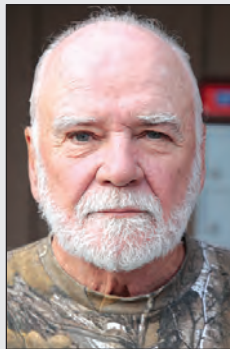
**WE ASKED:** *What is one thing you want to do before the end of the summer?*

**ANGIE TRARUP**



I'm going to go on a hike.

**WAYNE GOODWILL**



Catch a big salmon if the government will let me.

**GEORGINA O'FARRELL**



I would like to see my mom.

**GLORIA HILDEBRANDT**



I think get my garden in order.

**ELIZABETH BECKMAN**



Just enjoy Salt Spring and all it offers.

## LETTERS to the editor

### Tax hike talk alarming

I was troubled by many of CRD director Gary Holman's remarks in the Aug. 7 "Commission affirms priorities" article.

1. "Salt Spring is already known as the most successful rural transit system in B.C.," said Holman.

Then why does it have to be supported by increasing local property taxes to astronomical levels? Frankly, for the Salt Spring Transit system to be successful, it must be wholly supported by the fare box. If increased funding must be found, then our MLA should approach the provincial government for financial aid.

2. Holman said that tax rates for transit were not increased greatly during the previous term under director Wayne McIntyre.

That is great. Too bad Mr. McIntyre is gone. Tax rates for transit must only be increased at the cost of living level. Property taxpayers on Salt Spring Island are already facing "death by a thousand cuts" due to increases in taxes, fees, levies, etc.

3. Holman said a 20 per cent increase will be required at the minimum, although he will likely suggest a higher increase.

Yikes! God help the middle-class property-taxpaying Salt Spring Islanders.

**WILLIAM STEINER,**  
SALT SPRING

### Speed limit lowered

For those fellow islanders who may have missed the change, the speed limit along a section of Cusheon Lake Road has now officially changed to 30 km/hour.

This speed zone shows respect for those who reside along this narrow stretch of road, but most importantly, it recognizes the risk of injury to those who use the public lake access.

Please respect both the suggested speed on this road and now the official speed limit of 30 km/hour.

I could not agree more with others who are posting signs along island roads. Slowing down is the kind thing to do.

**JOAN HENDRICK,**  
CUSHEON LAKE ROAD

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)

### Wake-up time

Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old Swedish student addresses the G-20 World Summit on the climate emergency in a YouTube video that can be found by searching "Greta Thunberg's speech at the R20 Austrian World Summit, Vienna, May 2019." She is an astounding girl. You will find the video not only powerful but eye-opening.

I heard it as part of a greater presentation on climate change held on Salt Spring on Saturday. We learned that Greta is presently on a sailboat crossing the Atlantic to address a high-level delegation in New York. She refuses to fly because airplanes contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. This is a truly remarkable young woman, who I hope will wake up many politicians, including Canada's.

We learned that Canada has not met its commitment to the Kyoto emissions target, while the U.K. for example has reduced its emissions by 38 per cent.

We learned in the greater presentation that govern-

ments of the world have just 18 months in which to begin to take serious reduction measures, which will each decade from 2020 to 2050 reduce carbon emissions to 1.5 parts per million atmosphere, the maximum tolerable limit to avert a global climate disaster, environmental disaster and human disaster. This is an opportunity to change. It can be done.

But it will require a will to make the necessary change. Denial and indifference have no hope.

Awareness, understanding, action are the keys, and politically we are poised for just such an opportunity, conceivably our last, under the above scenario, in a Canadian federal election. If enough Greens are elected to hold the balance of power, Elizabeth May has vowed they will not hesitate to use it on the 1.5 issue.

What can we do? Get off the fence, or from under the cloud of unknowing.

**RON HAWKINS,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Passing the buck frustrates in clear-cutting issue

### INDEPTH

*The following was sent to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson and other members of the B.C. government and filed with the Driftwood for publication.*

BY PETER MCALLISTER, MARIAN HARGROVE, DARRYL MARTIN, KATHLEEN MASER, ROB MASON, SUSAN HANNON, CHARLEY MILLER, DAMIAN INWOOD, DIANE FAY, PIERRE MINEAU, SHEILA DOBIE, JEAN WILKINSON

In late March we wrote a letter to you and other ministers of the Crown responsible for various aspects related to uncontrolled clear-cut logging on Salt Spring Island. We urge you to read it again in full, as in it we outlined a number of our concerns, including the negative impacts on watersheds, natural ecosystems, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, slope stability, neighbouring property values, community values and tourism.

In some areas we're witnessing the loss of rare and irreplaceable and endangered older dry coastal Douglas-fir stands recently recognized by your government as needing protection. Given the current climate crisis and accelerated loss of biodiversity, this degradation of the island's natural environment is completely unacceptable.

In our letter we pointed out that this clear-cutting contravenes the legislated mission of the Islands Trust to "preserve and protect the Trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust area and of B.C. generally." We explained that we had been told by our elected representatives to the

Islands Trust and the staff that they were unable to stop the logging. Therefore we asked the provincial government to provide the Islands Trust with the tools and authority necessary to meet its mandate, and to temporarily suspend logging operations to allow time for proper regulations regarding selective harvest, cutting permits and reforestation to be established.

Two months later we received a reply from Jessica Brooks, executive director of the Planning and Land Use Management Branch of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. She stated that "Consistent with legislation for all British Columbia's local governments, under the Islands Trust Act, the Islands Trust has the authority to make local land-use planning decisions and is accountable to island residents. 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."

She suggested we "continue to engage with your Islands Trust representatives and staff on this important issue..." We have certainly continued to express our concerns to the Salt Spring trustees, and made a presentation to the entire Islands Trust Council in June. Furthermore, we have been in contact with Trust regional planning manager Stefan Cermak and other staff members regarding this issue since November. We have consistently

been told by them that Islands Trust does not have adequate authority to regulate logging on private land.

It appears to be various aspects of provincial legislation that restrict the ability of the Islands Trust to regulate tree-cutting on private property. It is beyond ironic that a local government established by the province to "preserve and protect" a region is denied this basic authority. Clearly this needs to be addressed through immediate changes to these provincial laws.

We know that development permit areas can be established within the official community plan and bylaws written for them, but only under certain strict conditions. We have learned that there is no easy method to enforce these regulations, as the only recourse is to take offending parties to court. Furthermore, a precedent was set in the courts disallowing the use of DPAs to protect forests on Denman Island, leaving the trustees throughout the entire Islands Trust region with very limited powers to meet their mandate of "preserving and protecting" our forest ecosystems.

We are extremely frustrated with this situation, in which the provincial government claims this to be a local responsibility, and the local government claims that the province has limited its authority to carry out this responsibility.

We ask that the two levels of government meet without delay and work together to stop this assault on our island, and truly preserve and protect the unique natural amenities and environment of this special region.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Beware of health call

The other day I had a phone call from what sounded like “Region Healthcare.”

In answer to my persistent questions I eventually learned that this is ReGen Healthcare of Markham, Ont., which is targetting Salt Spring seniors, using lists from a data vendor. The purpose of the call was to find out what health problems I suffered from so that they could recommend the purchase of natural vitamins and supplements, to be sent by mail.

Be warned that what they really want is your money. If you answer the health questions you are probably helping to flesh out some for-profit health database.

Don't let them waste your time!

MARGARET THOMSON,  
NORTH BEACH ROAD

Management the problem

Regarding BC Ferries, in my humble opinion the main problem is not management. After all, they have a plethora of it.

As I see it the problem for many years has been a lack of intelligent management. Past managements have been on ego trips, building horribly expensive monuments to their horribly expensive management at the expense of the fleet as a whole. Now we are in a crisis situation brought on by years of inept management and they have to play catch-up. As a result, the entire coastal community pays for their lack of planning.

Some people think nothing can be done since BC Ferries is a “private” corporation. The “Fiberals” “privatized” the ferry system as a way to remove ferry debts from their books. Since there is only one share in this corporation and it is wholly owned by the B.C. government, does that not mean that the ferry system is still government owned?

Premier Horgan, Transportation Minister Trevena, how about stepping up and cleaning up the inept boondoggle that ferry management has become? Here is a thought: get rid of a few hundred managers and put their bloated paycheques and huge unearned bonuses towards building much-needed ships for the people whose communities and livelihoods rely on them.

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Human waste could be black gold

Poop isn't sexy. Well, to most of us anyway.

What I mean is that human waste, although an ecological and human health issue of dire importance, gets much less attention than issues that we feel more comfortable discussing.

"It" has a PR problem.

I compost my poop. There: I said it. I could also say I deal with my poop. This makes me an extreme minority in modern times, where the "ew" factor tends to win out against just *dealing* with the stuff. Instead we depend upon leaky septic systems or sewage plants, most of which aren't dependable in extreme weather events (which will only be increasing as climate change causes more and more weather instability).

The fact is that we aren't, as communities and globally, treating poop as though it were important. It is, though. Incredibly important.

Millions of litres of raw sewage contaminate North American waters every year, sickening and killing wildlife and devastating ecosystems.

Last year there was a day-long systems failure at the Ganges waste facility and raw sewage poured into Ganges harbour.

So no, our systems aren't ideal.

But the danger in North America doesn't compare to the scope of the problem in developing countries where, on average, 90 per cent of human waste enters the environment untreated.

Approximately a third of all humanity has no sanitation for their feces whatsoever. People use water-



Lea Weir  
**CLIMATE:**  
CHANGE

ways, bushes, etc. and this is a major cause of disease-related deaths, as people track the sewage back to their homes or drink contaminated water. Twenty million tons of sewage goes untreated every year, causing diseases that kill children and adults alike at a rate higher than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined: one child dies from this problem every 20 seconds.

And the question that begs to be asked is: What if we just dealt with it?

When we compost human fecal matter, the end product is the aptly named and extremely rich soil additive called humanure. It is extremely easy to compost safely, in a manner very similar to how food waste or animal waste is composted. Furthermore, just like the compost derived from food and animal manure, humanure is a desperately needed carbon sink and restorer of health to depleted farmland.

And, if you'll permit me to wax sentimental for a moment, there is just something so beautiful about knowing that the natural processes of my life are adding more beauty and health to the earth, rather

than depleting its resources and destroying its natural systems. We are creatures who are *supposed* to poop! And nature has perfect ways of dealing with that — to the benefit of all — if we could just stop making it so complicated!

In Haiti, the non-profit SOIL treats human poop with the respect it deserves. Haiti is a nation in which less than one per cent of human waste is safely treated. Along with the above-stated consequences of this, there is the additional concern of a lack of safety for women who have to travel alone for long distances at night to reach a place to defecate. SOIL has set up a system that provides individuals and families with free, safe indoor toilets. They then collect and compost the waste, and the humus-rich humanure is sold to local farmers, at a price that encourages them to enrich the soil rather than deplete it with chemicals.

I wonder, if we could get past our squeamishness and gain a little know-how, we could change the bylaws that prohibit humanure, and start dealing with our own s\*\*t!

Resources: The Humanure Handbook by Joseph Jenkins is available in the Salt Spring library.

SOIL non-profit - [www.oursoil.org](http://www.oursoil.org). Donations to this incredible organization would be put to good use!

*Salt Spring Islander Lea Weir will contribute her Climate:Change column to the Driftwood on a monthly basis. It will focus on positive action that can be taken in the fight against climate change.*

Start planning your wake to find happiness

BY GREGORY AST

An odd thing happened to me during the course of 2019. I rediscovered myself. I'm a changed man and all I had to do was find the key to unlock the real me.

Now, I'm not talking about attending a Tony Robbins seminar. That's a completely different kettle of fish. If you're heading in that direction, stop right now. Go google Tony and good luck with your journey down that road. No, it's the other folks I want to talk to here.

Here's what happened to me:

A person who is very good at predicting the future told me that I was probably going to die in the next year. This person is not a medical professional or a psychic. Nothing like that. But, in my past, they had predicted the birthdates of both of my children, down to the week and they also told me the name of my wife-to-be three years before I'd even met her. That's credibility, in my opinion.

So I took the warning seriously.

What do you do when you've been told news like this? Some would immediately book a cruise or look into guided treks up Mount Everest or down the Nile. Others might try to bump up their life insurance. But me? Well, I decided to organize my funeral. I started with a list of the people I wanted present. It took a few days and the analysis of several photos of classmates, workmates and soulmates. It ended up being over 200 people. Yikes! I needed a caterer. I wonder if the library's event room was large enough? Maybe El Loco Taco could do the food and someone could walk it over.

The other thing I did was not tell anyone. I couldn't think of a good way to explain why I was planning for something so . . . nebulous. I mean, when you get right down to it, every one of us is going to go sometime, right? It's not like I'm getting any younger, so it probably won't surprise anyone when it happens. So, no one knew. No one.

But I discovered that I started to be nicer to people.

I guess my thinking was that I wanted the invitees to really want to come to good old Greg's shindig. Sorry, the celebration of my life; you don't have funerals anymore, they're passé. But I wanted everyone who would come to remember me fondly. And to be perfectly honest, there were quite a few on my invite list who might not remember me quite the way I wanted them to.

Oops, my bad.

The first person to notice was my wife. She started to look at me suspiciously. After a month or so, she even asked me if I was messing around on her. Really. When I told her that I was just trying to be a better friend to her and to the rest of her family and to my kids and to my co-workers, she just smiled.

Knowing my motives, she could relax and just let all my goodwill kind of help her relax and just have some fun with it.

That was three months ago. I have to tell you that I've never been happier. She wants to spend more time with me. My kids are way more solicitous of my opinions. My buddies all want to go do whatever I suggest. It's like I have a new life. All because I thought I was about to die.

Who knew?

So, what's my point? What am I trying to say? It's simple, actually. If you want to start enjoying your life more, and I mean a lot more, then just try telling yourself that you're going to die soon. Then sit back and see what happens. See if you don't change. You kind of stop sweating the small stuff, right? I sure did and it's all for the better.

One thing though. Don't tell anyone that you know you're going to die. They'll think you've lost it. Keep the secret. There's no upside to sharing that with anyone.

Oh, don't tell your dog. Dogs know when you're going to die already.

Really. It's a dog thing.



# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

## ART SHOWS

# Colour comes to Mahon Hall

Guild exhibit opens  
Aug. 23

### SUBMITTED BY THE SALT SPRING ARTS COUNCIL

The final Showcase of the Artcraft season begins its run on Aug. 23 and ends when Artcraft closes on Sept. 15.

Artcraft is very excited to welcome the Salt Spring Island Weavers and Spinners Guild to the stage at Mahon Hall to present Seasons in Colour. This is a collective exhibition of new works by 15 members of the guild rising to the challenge of representing the colours of the seasons in their own unique way.

Following guidelines on dimensions creates a certain uniformity in the pieces, but that is where the similarities end, as different materials, techniques, abstractions and representations mark each work with the stamp of the artist.

It is the colours that immediately strike the eyes of the visitor; from the subtle to the blazing; from a monochrome look at lush spring foliage by June Simmons to a vivid mix of reds and yellows in the heat of late summer and fall by Sandra Hodgins.

The weavers and spinners have created a collection that invites the visitor to sit, look and wonder at the visual feast that the seasons bring.

Having met for more than 40 years, the guild aims to maintain traditional practices and approaches to their art, whilst also exploring the boundaries of technique and new materials. In Seasons in Colour they have done just



PHOTO COURTESY SALT SPRING ARTS COUNCIL

Piece called Starry Night by Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild member Nancy Coté, which is part of the next Artcraft Showcase exhibition.

that, and in spectacular fashion.

During the run, members of the guild will take to the stage and demonstrate both their weaving and spinning techniques to create a new shawl made from local wool spun on the island.

This touch brings a closer bond between artist and public and should be a fascinating addition to the work on the walls.

An opening celebration for the show will be held on Friday, Aug. 23 from 6 to 8 p.m.

## RECITAL

# K-Tones perform

Next All Saints show

The Music Makers team at All Saints Anglican Church welcomes the K-Tones Duo to Tea a Tempo on Wednesday, Aug. 21.

"We are mainly a flute and keyboard duo, although I do bass on a few songs that feature Kate Leahy on piano," explains flutist Tone Prosk.

"We specialize in doing tasteful arrangements of modern — 1930s to the present day — classic songs, though if the occasion warrants it we can play classical music. We have an extensive repertoire of familiar but not overplayed songs, and play a number of different styles, so can't really be labelled as blues or rock or jazz, etc."

The performers emphasize musicianship, showmanship and professionalism, and are very well received wherever they play.

The 50-minute recital begins at 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats served immediately following the show.

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## CREATIVE WRITING

# Yellow Submarine group publishes anthology

Launch event on  
Thursday, Aug. 15

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

For several years, Salt Spring's Ahava Shira has been facilitating groups of people in an innovative writing workshop.

It is based on concepts and processes described in the Writing Alone Together book she co-wrote with Wendy Judith Cutler and Lynda Monk, which was published in 2014.

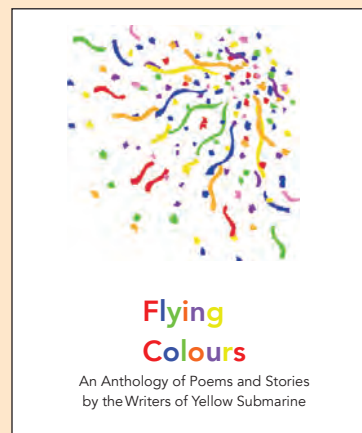
The latest group to express themselves in writing is islanders who use the Yellow Sub Mental Health Drop-in Centre at Community Services.

"It was supposed to be an eight-week pilot program and it turned into — well, we are still writing — so about a year and a half," said Shira.

The group fluctuates in size up to a maximum of nine each week.

"In January I said, 'Let's put an anthology together.' So we have been doing that."

The celebration and launch for the book called Flying Colours - An Anthology of Poems and Stories by the Writers of Yellow Submarine runs Thursday, Aug. 15 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Yellow Sub centre in the Salt Spring Community Services building.



"I am not surprised that they are beautiful writers and that they have strong, diverse voices," said Shira. "I am just happy to give them the chance to share their voices and stories and philosophies and imagination and histories."

Because participant Norman Page is also an artist, the book is illustrated with some of his drawings as well.

Shira explains that through the creative process of "writing alone together," the authors get to see what is possible, where they can go and what they have to express. The workshop creates a space where each person listens to and learns more about the others, which contributes to community building.

"It's been really supportive for them."

**GRETCHEN PETERS**

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AT FULFORD HALL

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SHOW AT 7:30 PM

FOOD ON THE LAWN AT 6PM

TICKETS AT:  
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## JAZZ

# Vocalismo! concert on tap

Seattle singer joins stellar trio

Award-winning Seattle jazz vocalist par excellence Kelley Johnson performs on Friday, Aug. 16 at All Saints By-the-Sea with an all-star trio in a Vocalismo! Series concert.

Johnson brings a wealth of experience performing internationally and as one of Seattle's most respected singers for over 20 years. She has toured the world with renowned pianist John Hansen

and reunites with Victoria's power-house drummer Kelby MacNayr and groove-master bassist Peter Dowse for the concert that begins at 7:30 p.m.

Downbeat Magazine describes Johnson as having "wisps of Carmen McRae's ginger snap, Betty Carter's yawning reach, Anita O'Day's feline purr and Nancy Wilson's crystalline enunciation . . . eminently convincing musicianship."

Tickets are available at the door.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Seattle jazz singer Kelley Johnson, who will perform with a trio on Salt Spring this Friday night. Organizers have provided a free pair of tickets to this concert. The first person to email news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com gets them!

## celebrating SENIORS Aging with Pride in care centres

Last month the BC Care Providers Association launched an Aging with Pride program, an initiative to strengthen and promote LGBTQ2+ inclusiveness and competency within the continuing care sector when it comes to supporting seniors in British Columbia.

"As advocates for B.C.'s seniors care sector, our association must use its voice to champion inclusiveness and create learning opportunities that will result in better support for LGBTQ2+ clients," says BCCPA CEO Daniel Fontaine. "With more education and awareness, we can help people feel that they are supported and safe to be themselves, whether it is in seniors' housing or in a care setting."

In B.C., it is estimated between three and 10 percent of the population are lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, two-spirited, or transgender. It is clear that seniors' living and wellness operators are already supporting LGBTQ2+ clients in the work they do. Yet, when it comes to moving to a seniors' living residence, or entering a care home, many LGBTQ2+ seniors feel that they must mask their sexuality or moderate their gender expression to "fit in."

"In the past, people worried that they would receive less or worse care as a result of their sexuality or gender expression," says Dean Malone, executive director with Revera Long Term Care at Arbutus Care Centre in Vancouver.

"Today, that is less of a fear for LGBTQ2+ seniors, particularly LGB seniors. What they do continue to fear is social isolation. Many of today's LGBTQ2+ seniors have lived very 'out' lives where they have been part of a strong community. To feel like they must give that up as seniors, feels like they are giving up a huge part of their lives. It can be a tremendous loss."

A new LGBTQ2+ seniors online resource at [www.bccare.ca/aging-with-pride](http://www.bccare.ca/aging-with-pride), compilation of personal stories of the lives of elder LGB and trans elders that showcase the need for better policies and education; and an LGBTQ2+ program launched by Island Health are components of the program.

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## ROOTS MUSIC

## PitchFork serves up tasty musical fare



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

From left, Heather Maloney and Gretchen Peters, who play on Aug. 15 and Aug. 19, respectively at Fulford Hall.

**Acclaimed  
performers on stage**

The coming week features two great female headliners at PitchFork Social at Fulford Hall.

Thursday night (Aug. 15) sees Heather Maloney take the stage along with the Yaletown String Quartet.

Maloney is a Massachusetts-based singer-songwriter who found music in the midst of three years spent at a meditation centre, where her influences were musician Joni Mitchell, poet Rainer Maria Rilke and filmmaker Ken Burns, along with silent reflection. The New York Times called her music "utterly gorgeous, visceral" and SPIN Magazine described her as "stunning, breathy, and starkly memorable."

Some PitchFork Social attendees would have seen Maloney as part of the Darlingside ensemble when they visited the island in the past.

"She talks to the crowd like she sings – intimately, conversationally, with an irrepressible, dry wit," wrote the New York Music Daily. "Lyrically, she likes metaphors and American history, no surprise considering that her previous material ranges from the center to the fringes of Americana."

Joining Maloney will be The Yaletown String Quartet, Canada's most innovative and original string ensemble.

Then on Monday, Aug. 19, Nashville's Gretchen Peters will perform at the hall. She is

described as one of Nashville's most beloved and respected artists.

"If Peters never delivers another tune as achingly beautiful as 'On A Bus to St. Cloud,'" People Magazine wrote, "she has already earned herself a spot among country's upper echelon of contemporary composers."

Inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in October 2014 by singer-songwriter Rodney Crowell, who called her "both a songwriter and a poet (who) sings as beautifully as she writes," and said her song The Matador "moved me so greatly, I cried from the soles of my feet."

Peters has accumulated accolades as a songwriter for artists as diverse as Etta James, Bonnie Raitt, The Neville Brothers, Patty Loveless, George Strait, Bryan Adams and Faith Hill.

Gretchen's latest album, Dancing with The Beast, puts female characters at the fore, from teenage girls to old women, and intentionally so. With the 2017 Women's March and #MeToo Movement as bookends to her writing time, Peters knew that a feminist perspective would be the critical core of the record. She admits, "You can trace the feminist DNA in my songwriting back to Independence Day and probably before. The thing that 2017 did is just put it front and centre."

Both concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.

A pre-show dinner and beverages are available from 6 p.m.

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# ISLAND LIFE

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

## HISTORY EXHIBIT

# Insulator collection shared



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Left: Some of the fascinating glass communications insulators collected by Salt Spring's Mark Lauckner. Right: Part of Lauckner's private museum display with insulators and historical information.

## Private collection largest in Canada

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's reputation for handmade arts and crafts is well known, satisfying visitors with a taste for the visual with its countless galleries, open studios and market booths.

People who love colour and the special qualities of glass will likely wish to see Mark Lauckner's wonderful display at The Glass Foundry, or perhaps try their hand at creating glasswork themselves during a workshop at his studio. Lauckner's property offers more than just art, however. A lesser-known fact is that he holds the largest collection of communications insulators in Canada — and he's happy to share it with members of the public.

A small one-room "insulator museum" and some outdoor racks provide space for the 3,000-plus insulators Lauckner has collected. Most are made from cast glass, although some are glazed ceramic. The insulators were made to protect telegraph and telephone wires and to isolate wooden poles from the voltage produced. The lines were frequently located along railway lines.

Lauckner is also the author of *Canadian Railway Communications Insulators 1880-1920*, a comprehensive encyclopedia-sized tome with glossy colour photos that was published in 1995.

As he explained in promotion for the title (which is no longer available), "Railway telegraph lines were very much a part of the Canadian landscape. As these lines are being replaced with microwave and fibre optics, an important component of our railway history is being lost. Canadian railway communications insulators are now even more important as historical artifacts, making possible the vital communications that 100 years later we now take for granted."

The insulators come in rounded shapes resembling bells, mushroom caps and salt cellars, in a variety of sizes and a rainbow of colours. Because of the rapid technology advances through the period, they were produced at intense rates during a short window of time. Lauckner's collection goes back to when the very Canadian telegraph first went into commercial use in Toronto/Niagara in 1846.

"Some of those insulators were in very limited production so they're quite rare," he said.

As a glass artist, Lauckner is easily able to see what kind of moulds would have been required to make each piece, and he's also adept at dating them. He's less interested in the manufacturing details, though, than what each insulator was used for, and how.

"There's a lot of history here," he said.

With sun streaming into the museum room, the insulators are inherently beautiful — one could spend long spells just gazing upon them. But history buffs and people who just like to know what they're looking at will find no shortage of informa-

tion about the different companies and pieces in the collection. Lauckner has provided information cards, reproduced ads and newspaper articles, and other historic displays to bring the whole context together. He has a telegraph tap machine, which operators used to send messages in Morse, an old wall-mounted telephone box, and reproductions of historic telegraph messages that have a connection to his collection.

For example, a telegraph sent by the mayor of Vancouver in June 1886 asks Prime Minister John A. MacDonald for help after the city's epic fire. The Canadian railway was not yet completed, so the message had to be routed through the United States through the Great North Western Telegraph Company. Some of the insulators in Lauckner's collection actually came from this line, so the original message behind the reproduction would have passed through those objects. A group of stubby black glass insulators came from Manitoba, where a telegraph operator was killed trying to get the message out about the rebellion led by Louis Riel.

People who are interested in the exhibit can visit with permission when The Glass Foundry gallery is open, which is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through the summer months.

# Remember WHEN

## Five years ago

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District saw a narrow defeat by a 283 to 281 vote in a referendum to secure funding for the new St. Mary Lake water treatment plant. The district requested to borrow up to \$10.4 million for the upgrade — mandated by Island Health — which was turned down by voters in a referendum. Murray Fyfe said that NSSWD ratepayers would have to pay for whatever project was eventually acted upon.

## Ten years ago

The sinking of a derelict vessel at Centennial Wharf prompted officials from the Salt Spring Harbour Authority to consider imposing maintenance standards for vessels moored at the Ganges facility. Damage to the environment from the vessel was limited thanks to boaters who responded as soon as the 35-foot vessel began to sink. Ganges Coast Guard personnel arrived on scene 30 minutes after the *Sion*, an old fishing vessel, had started to sink. "We didn't actually see it because it was still under water," said Al Hoskins, local officer in charge. "The only things sticking out were the antennas." The ship was raised by the evening, and was condemned by a member of the Coast Guard's Victoria-based environmental response team.

## Twenty years ago

An unexplained fire tore through the Buddhist retreat on Mount Tuam, burning three cabins, including the residence of Ani Shenpen, a long-time resident nun of the centre. Firefighters were alerted just after 6 p.m. when a resident in Mill Bay spotted the fire. Seven people were meditating in the main building at the retreat, and were unaware of the blaze. "We couldn't even see or smell smoke," said Kay Karim, a staff cook at the site. Crews from the B.C. Forest Service attacked the fire from the air using a water bomber and a small spotter plane.

## Thirty years ago

Faced with adverse reactions from Galiano Island residents, MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. shelved its logging plans for the island for 1990 and 1991. "Due to comments from Galianoites who were not happy with our logging plans we have decided to pull back and it's been suggested we look at selective logging," said company spokesman Ralph Urban. Selective logging was not considered suitable for certain species and terrain. "It will be experimental," he said. "We'll track the economics and have professionals look at the growth and yield to see if the economics work."

## Forty years ago

The B.C. Ferry Corporation vessel *Queen of Alberni* was grounded in Active Pass as it was making its first run of the day from Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay. It struck Collinson Reef in the pass just after 7 a.m. The accident was initially expected to cost somewhere in the region of \$1 million. The ferry was pulled off the reef with the help of seven tugs 14 hours after she ran aground. Ninety-three passengers and 21 crew members were evacuated. Passengers slid down an inflatable rubber chute draped over the side of the vessel and were picked up by smaller boats and transferred to the *Queen of Tsawwassen*. No injuries were reported by people on board, although a race horse was killed in the incident. During the rescue operation, the tide dropped and the ship listed 30 degrees to port, causing cars to pile into each other.

## Fifty years ago

Three incidents of uncontrolled fires occurred on Salt Spring, the first being an unattended beach fire on Scott Point, which was started and left abandoned to burn unchecked. The fire was extinguished by the owner of a nearby property. A second fire was lit by a resident who burned a pile of refuse near a stump. She checked that the fire was burning "properly" and left to do some shopping. When she returned home, the adjacent bush was blazing. A third occurred when several children were playing with matches. Their parents took the matches away, but shortly afterwards a grass fire was spotted near their home.

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# what's on this week



<div>Wed. Aug. 14</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Tea à Tempo: Marianne Grittani and Friends. Salt Spring singer-songwriter and friends at All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m.</div> <div>Terry Warbey. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Mother Goose. The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program is a free drop-in for parents, caregivers and young children from birth to six years old to focus on the pleasure and power of sharing rhymes, songs and stories. Salt Spring Public Library. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. Open Wednesdays through Sundays at the Farmers' Institute grounds, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. through July and August.</div> <div>Southern Resident Killer Whale Public Consultation Meeting. Federal government officials hold session to discuss actions to help protect the SRKW population. Lions Hall. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m.</div> <div>Music Bingo. Wednesdays with Taylor at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</div>	<div>Thu. Aug. 15</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Julia Beattie. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>PitchFork Social: Heather Maloney With the Yaletown String Quartet. Massachusetts-based singer-songwriter Heather Maloney performs, along with the Yaletown String Quartet. Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. Food available from 6 p.m.</div> <div>Open Mic at Moby's. Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Summer Reading Club. A drop-in program for ages five to 12, with crafts, games and fun! SS Public Library. 11 a.m.</div> <div></div> <div>Book Launch: Flying Colours. Celebration for an anthology of poems and stories by writers in Salt Spring Community Services' Yellow Submarine program. Yellow Submarine room. 12:30 to 2 p.m.</div> <div>Xwaaqw'um/ Burgoyne Bay Wetland Restoration Project Info Session. The public is invited to learn about this exciting project at a public information session at the entrance of Xwaaqw'um/ Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park. 6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Fri. Aug. 16</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Area 33: Staged Reading and Audience Talkback. Play development workshop at ArtSpring ends with a public staged reading and audience talkback. Featuring local actors Jeffrey Renn, Deb Toole and Metta Rose. 6:30 p.m.</div> <div>Wannabeatles! Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>Karaoke at The Legion. All welcome. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Kelley Johnson Concert. Award-winning Seattle jazz vocalist par excellence Kelley Johnson performs with an all-star trio in a Vocalismo! Series concert. All Saints By-the-Sea. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Cities. Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</div> <div>2nd Annual Sweet Summer Yoga Retreat. At Stowel Lake Farm from Aug. 16 to Aug. 19.</div> <div>Satsang with Desthein. Inviting inquiry into the nature of the self. SSI Wellness Centre. 7:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Sat. Aug. 17</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</div> <div>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.</div> <div>StoryTime in the Park. Salt Spring Public Library hosts weekly event for ages three to seven in the Gazebo in Centennial Park for a peaceful break from the bustle of the Saturday Market. 11 to 11:45 a.m.</div> <div>Salt Spring Youth Film Festival. Festival starts with opening night party, open mic, filmmaker chat and visual treats. Beaver Point Hall. 6:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Sun. Aug. 18</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Salt Spring Youth Film Festival. Youth film festival screening at Beaver Point Hall, with Salt Spring Library stop motion films at 5 p.m. and official selection films at 7. Awards presented at 9 p.m.</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Pool &amp; Snooker. Free pool and snooker every Sunday at the Legion from 12 to 7 p.m.</div>	<div>Tue. Aug. 20</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Open Mic with Richard Cross. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Tuesday Farmers Market. Food-obnly market every Tuesday in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m</div> <div></div> <div>An Evening of Sacred Poetry. Facilitated by Lolla Devindisch, participants share a favourite poem with the group and take time to listen, reflect and consider their impact and meaning for personal journeys in the search for spiritual insight. On the third Tuesday of the month at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice, (St. Mary's Church) 7 to 8:30 p.m.</div> <div>Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Wed. Aug. 21</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Tea a Tempo presents K-Tones Duo. Recital featuring Kate Leahy on piano and flutist Tone Prosk. All Saints. 2:10 p.m.</div> <div>Vaughn Fulford. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Planning for Climate Action Community Art Making Day. First steps in organizing an art-making day (Sept. 2) for the Global Climate Strike and rally at Centennial Park (on Sept. 21). Peace Park. 3 p.m.</div> <div>Mother Goose. See last Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Music Bingo. See last Wednesday listing.</div>
<div>Thu. Aug. 15</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Open Mic &amp; Jam. Every Thursday at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.</div>		<div>Sat. Aug. 17</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Synergy. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>Damasco Soul System. Live music at Moby's. 9 p.m.</div>	<div>Sun. Aug. 18</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Alan Moberg. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>Simone &amp; Mike Lamers. Jazz and R&amp;B duo. Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Birds of Prey. A Family Adventures in Nature program put on by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy at the Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Dissect an owl pellet, make a raptor journal and take an observation walk. 1 to 4 p.m.</div>	<div>Mon. Aug. 19</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Harry Warner. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>PitchFork Social: Gretchen Peters. Nashville singer-songwriter Gretchen Peters performs at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.</div> <div>Simone &amp; Mike Lamers. Jazz and R&amp;B duo. Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Darts. Free darts played at the Legion every Monday from 6 to 9 p.m.</div> <div></div> <div>Kate Leahy and Tone Prosk are the K-Tones, performing at Tea a Tempo at All Saints on Wednesday, Aug. 21.</div>	<div>Tue. Aug. 20</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Open Mic with Richard Cross. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Tuesday Farmers Market. Food-obnly market every Tuesday in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m</div> <div></div> <div>An Evening of Sacred Poetry. Facilitated by Lolla Devindisch, participants share a favourite poem with the group and take time to listen, reflect and consider their impact and meaning for personal journeys in the search for spiritual insight. On the third Tuesday of the month at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice, (St. Mary's Church) 7 to 8:30 p.m.</div> <div>Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.</div>	<div>Wed. Aug. 21</div> <div>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</div> <div>Tea a Tempo presents K-Tones Duo. Recital featuring Kate Leahy on piano and flutist Tone Prosk. All Saints. 2:10 p.m.</div> <div>Vaughn Fulford. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</div> <div>ACTIVITIES</div> <div>Planning for Climate Action Community Art Making Day. First steps in organizing an art-making day (Sept. 2) for the Global Climate Strike and rally at Centennial Park (on Sept. 21). Peace Park. 3 p.m.</div> <div>Mother Goose. See last Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday listing.</div> <div>Music Bingo. See last Wednesday listing.</div>

THE FRITZ CINEMA

- Yesterday — Final 2 shows on Wed.-Thurs., Aug. 14-15. 7 p.m. Rated PG. 117 minutes.
- Once Upon a Time in Hollywood — Fri., Aug. 16 to Thurs., Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. NO Sunday matinee. Rated 14A. 165 minutes.

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

EXHIBITIONS

- Salt Spring Gallery celebrates 10 years with its TENacity exhibit of ceramics, jewelry, painting, textile, glass and much more, which opens Friday, Aug. 16 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Laura Keil, Luke Hart-Weller, Barbra Edwards: Clay, Wood, Pigment shows at KiZmit Galeria/Cafe for the month of August. Thursdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Today, Aug. 14, is the last day to see Dorothy Tinman's exhibit of new oil paintings and encaustic paintings called Over the Rainbow at Salt Spring Gallery.

EXHIBITIONS

- Impressions 4 - Printmakers Show runs at the Salt Spring Public Library through August.
- Nicola Wheston shows a selection of paintings in her studio gallery at #5-315 Upper Ganges Rd. (Merchant Mews) until Sept. 5. Open by appointment or from 12 until 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. 250-538-7071.
- The Island Textile Artists group presents Reflections Through Fibre and Stitch in the ArtSpring lobby through Aug. 30.
- Josephine Fletcher shows Landscapes and Colour Spaces as the latest Showcase Gallery exhibition at Artcraft at Mahon Hall until Aug. 21.
- Deon Venter shows new and selected paintings from his Avatar series at the Venter Gallery.
- Sophie Burke shows This is How I Know You, a photographic installation about immigration, and the story of her Guatemalan grandmother. At The Point Gallery, South Ridge Drive. PLUS Margaret Day presents The Last Hurrah at the gallery as well. Thursdays through Mondays, 1 to 5 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- Artcraft, the summer-long sale of work by more than 100 Gulf Islands artisans, runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

StoryWalk

Self-led program where families follow the story along a path. From the library through Mouat Park. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 16th and the third Friday of every month.

THRIFTY FOODS

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## BEEKEEPING

# Haitian beekeeper learns from Salt Spring trip

Hives for Haiti group aims to empower community through women

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The dream of self-sufficiency is one step closer for Salt Spring Island-based NGO Hives for Haiti, as a Haitian beekeeper and partner in the organization visiting Salt Spring learns advanced beekeeping techniques, business and communication skills to bring back home.

Maxence Perpignand has been living with Salt Spring beekeeper David MacDonald since July 24. Perpignand has learned advanced beekeep-

ing skills like queen rearing, which he will bring back to Haiti at the end of the month. Perpignand will then teach other Haitian beekeepers the skills with the goal of building beekeeping as a national industry in the Caribbean nation.

"What I'm learning right now is going to be extremely valuable when I go back to Haiti," Perpignand said. "Our goal is to turn beekeeping into a great tool for community development . . . The honey, that is important, but there are other products that come from bees that we can use. We want to turn that into a national industry. Bees, pollen, royal jelly, propolis, we want that to happen."

Perpignand started working with Hives for Haiti three years ago after learning about the group while working with another NGO. He has visited Salt Spring before, when he stayed with MacDonald and learned more basic techniques. After his visit, Perpignand will bring home skills like PowerPoint, which will help with presentations and lessons for other beekeepers, and Excel, to assist with bookkeeping and the business side of things.

"I've got all of my training PowerPoints from years of beekeeper training. It's an intense amount of work putting those together," MacDonald said. "What Max is going to be doing is taking those PowerPoints and translating them all into Creole. All of our instructors will have those and they can use them."

MacDonald started Hives for Haiti in 2012 after he and Brian Coombs travelled to the country to give assistance after the 2010 earthquake. MacDonald's experience in beekeeping gave him the idea to promote the practice as a way to build local resilience in the country. Since then, MacDonald has been running the entire operation from Canada, but he would like to change that.

"Eventually, instead of people in Canada and the U.S. contacting me . . . we really eventually want it to be so that Max would be the one to make that connection with them



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

From left, Hives for Haiti beekeepers David MacDonald and Maxence Perpignand inspect a hive on MacDonald's Salt Spring property.

and communicate with them," MacDonald said.

"I think we are on the way towards independence," Perpignand added. "David has been working really hard to help us understand the whole of it, not only keeping bees, but also knowing how to deal with people, to do administration so when he's not there with us, we can move on by ourselves."

**"When you empower women, you empower the whole community."**

MAXENCE PERPIGNAND  
*Hives for Haiti beekeeper*

Hives for Haiti has been focused on building skills with local people in Haiti. They have been particu-

larly interested in empowering local women. Perpignand explained that women are the backbone of Haitian society, and that with skills and wherewithal to work for themselves, the women will in turn empower the whole community.

"Haiti is an agricultural society, and in the past . . . men went to work in the fields and women would take the products to the market to sell. Now that our agricultural system is down, it's mostly donations that keep the country going. There is nothing for women to do. Many of them stay at home with nothing to eat, nothing to do . . . so in our program we are trying to change that," Perpignand said.

"If they start keeping bees, selling honey, processing wax and doing any other things that have to do with bees, it will not only help them but help the children. In fact, it's going to impact the whole community. When you empower women, you empower the whole community," he added.

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

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

The Cazimi New Moon in Leo has culminated to full. The Aquarius Full Moon is reflecting back all the Leo energy that continues to thump and beat. Venus has been in hot and steady pursuit of an exact conjunction with Mars for weeks now. Unusually slippery and evasive, Venus will not catch up to her celestial lover until August 24th when both are in Virgo. Leo is sexier than Virgo, in the astrological scheme of things. Yet many will agree that the chase is at least half the fun. Whether she will be too tired and he too busy for love when they finally connect remains to be seen. Currently, Venus is conjunct the Sun, which occurs about every 10 months and in a different sign each time. This is generally a harmonious and charming influence and the Leo influence will produce to a more passionate and playful mood than pretty much any other sign. How will you receive this sweet mix?

**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)** The Leo heat continues to warm your buns. Mercury is now there as of August 11th is adding to the inspiration to draw you out to play. While it was in Cancer, you may have felt a bit reticent for full exposure. Well, all such shy evasion has been replaced by a flagrant impulse that beckons you to come out of your shell and reveal your riches.

**Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)** Leo love is all huddling and cuddling close to home in your universe. Bringing it home has and continues to be the chorus in this song. What it implies is for you to decide. Love from above would certainly match the sentiment. Inspirations and flowers in whatever form you have woven into your destiny to activate creative engagement, it is the message.

**Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)** Leo is especially close to your heart. Mercury has been described as the Moon of the Sun and that is just one of the ways. The other is the mother that nurtures your soul from the perspective of your solar chart. The solution to the riddle requires astrology science to answer so just go with the flow because you are a star in this show, by any other name.

**Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)** The Aquarian Moon is reflecting a deep story for you. It is pushing to purge the past and embrace the eternal now. Reinvention is one word while investment is another. Together these reveal a complex process yet which shines its light on original design. Make way and make room and clear the clutter to allow the Leo pulse to be embraced.

**Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)** The party of planets in your sign should feel especially exciting for you. They can hardly go unnoticed and this will be true of the attention you are getting. The Full Moon in Aquarius is directing the spotlight to gatherings where friends and family engage. Bigger shifts in your public and professional world are featured but this special scene is important too.

**Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)** Cave, den, studio, lab, bed . . . , whichever fits your style these days is where you will want to be. Some cycles are for outward reach while others summon us to nip out of sight and behind the scenes. This is not to say you will be idle; just the opposite, actually. An active and dynamic theme of focus is indicated and could be described as magnificent.

**Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)** Fun in the sun continues as your current summons. Can you do that? You can wear a hat. However, you choose to make your way to the R & R zone, do it because it promises to be a real treat. The yellow hue of the Moon is waxing bright in its full splendor too and is calling out to you. At times like this it is practically your duty to party.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)** That's four planets now in your career house, let alone the auspicious New Moon there a couple of weeks ago. One way or another, destiny is prompting synchronicities. Do you have something to say or show and want some attention? If so, come out from behind the curtain and you may be surprised to see that all the seats are taken and your fans await you.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)** You may find yourself laughing, loudly even, for no apparent reason, of late. Some may think you have lost it but that makes you even laugh louder. A crazy little thing, whatever you want to call it. . . . has snuck-up and is tickling you where it works. All you can do is chuckle, giggle and snort and it is so infectious that the world is laughing with you.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)** Well, someone might as well be in the deep end. The question is: how in deep are you? There are indications that big changes are underway. These are shaking your world but that could be a good thing too. Yet, it is hardly shallow and cannot be described as lite weight. Hopefully, it is real and strong the way you want it because it is plucking your heart strings.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)** As is always true for you when it comes to the sun's sign, everything gets reversed. You see Leo is your opposite, as complimentary as that may be. While some may say you are poles apart the fact is just like Yin and Yang the one is invariably in the other. And now with the Moon shining brightly and true, the expression is one of wonder, as that is what others are feeling regarding you.

**Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)** When work is play and play is work it may be said that the golden mean has been realized. Hardly an idle time, under the Full Moon that shines a light on your mystical soul, all you can do is to respond to the silvery hues. The lunar rhythms and solar beats are pushing you up on both feet and making you dance and whistle while you work.




Where is this spot on Salt Spring? Send your answer to [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or watch for the photo to appear on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood](https://facebook.com/gulfislandsdriftwood).

Last Week's Answer: Jane Foxgord was the first person to identify the fairy window in the tree by West of the Moon.

SALT SPRING

**Star**

of the **WEEK**

**Diana Hayes**




PHOTO BY RAMONA LAM

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation is losing an important team member this month with the retirement of executive administrator Diana Hayes. Diana has worked at Lady Minto Hospital in administration since 1983 and with the foundation since its inception in 1992. As the editor of Minto Messenger, she has kept the community apprised of hospital happenings for several years. She is also a wonderful writer, poet and photographer.

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**Obituaries****Ruth Marie Burstabler**

April 6, 1936 – July 26, 2019

It is with great sadness that we report that Ruth passed away peacefully on July 26.

Ruth had no children, but will be sadly missed by her 9 nieces and nephews and many friends.

Ruth was a nurse by profession and spent most of her career involved in nursing education, both in Canada and also abroad with the World Health Organization. Throughout her life she was passionate about the welfare of animals and the education of women.

It was her request that no memorial be held. Should you wish to make a donation in her memory, please do so to the BCSPCA or the charity of your choice.

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# SPORTS + RECREATION

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

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## CYCLING

# BMX event promotes fun local riding scene

Local jam encourages younger riders

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

BMX riders from all over southwestern B.C. made the trek to Salt Spring for the first annual Salt Spring Island Shin Dig Jam on Saturday at Kanaka Skate Park.

Organizer Malachi Savage got the idea for the event from similar jams that were held at the skate park years ago.

"There used to be a lot of jams at the skate park, but I was too young to be a part of it," he said. "I realized the last one was in like 2012. People haven't really been taking initiative to do it anymore."

Savage reached out to the BMX communities on Vancouver Island and the mainland to promote the jam, which began at 10 a.m.

Riders took turns on different lines in the park. Savage brought music and snacks to the event.



PHOTOS BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Above: Event organizer Malachi Savage does a tabletop over the spine at the Kanaka Skate Park during the first annual Salt Spring Island Shin Dig Jam on Saturday. Upper right: Silas Dylan Flynn whips over the hip transfer at the park. Lower right: Darcy Ross MacLean transfers over the spine in the bowl.



Though the rain slowed down the riding, the park was able to dry out and people stayed well into the afternoon.

"I just did it because it's a nice fun thing to do and it gets kids outside," Savage said.

Jams like this are open to riders of all skill levels. They are fun, relaxed events where riders just come out and hang out at the skate park with like-minded people. Participants ranged in age from 11 to adult. Savage sees the event as a way to promote the scene

on the island, and to get the younger generation more interested in riding.

"It's something I wanted to do as a kid, so it's nice to let other people experience it," he said. "There's a lot of up and coming kids from the middle and elementary schools. I can see that they're going to get good at biking, so if I can offer something that'll help I might as well do it."

Salt Spring is home to a small community of dedicated riders, and Savage hopes that the annual event will continue to build Salt Spring as a BMX destination.

"Me and my buddies, there are about five of us, we ride almost every day," he added. "For the first one, I think we got a good turnout. I think it will start to grow over the years," he said.



**We are publishing the official guide to the winners on September 25.** Harvest Time magazine will be a celebration of the fair with lots of photos, prize-winning recipes and, of course,

a showcase of the winners in all categories. **To advertise in Harvest Time please call your account executive today at 250-537-9933.**

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## GOLF

# Marshall wins historic Schwengers Cup

Parsons Cup play also underway

BY MARCIA HOGAN

DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

August has brought hot weather and low scores to the Salt Spring Golf Club.

Men's club captain Kerry Marshall hoisted the Schwengers Cup after carding his lowest round of golf, for a 64 in the net tournament. Eric Scott was second with a 65, followed by Don Hodgins with 68. The Schwengers Cup is the oldest trophy in the club, dating back to 1932.

In 1972, Ray, Gordon and Doug Par-



PHOTO COURTESY SSGC

Kerry Marshall hoists the Schwengers Cup after winning the men's tournament.

sons presented the Parsons Cup in honour of their father, Ted. The event is a single knock-out match play net tour-

namment for men aged 55 years and older. Semi-finalists Randy Cunningham and Mike Winter will compete for the top spot.

The golf club major fundraiser of the year is the North South Tournament and Auction. This year it tees off at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 24. Pride is at stake and funds are the objective in this battle for geographic golf domination. All Salt Spring golfers, members, guests, visitors and beginners are invited to join in the fun. The format is a team scramble, so experience is not necessary. The live auction follows the golf game, with drinks and dinner available at Penny's Pantry.