#### inside:



Beekeeper tips for overwintering hives



Octogony art show



Terry Fox supporters take solo path

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# Drittwood

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PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020

> 60th year Issue 40

**READY TO RIDE:** From left: Island Pathways bike commmittee members Robin Jenkinson and Carolynn Hopp, Salt Spring Fire Rescue Ltn. Mitchell Sherrin and Island Pathways' Bob MacKie give out information about GoByBike week events from outside the Ganges Fire Hall on Monday morning. See MacKie's Viewpoint article on page 4 for more information about an Oct. 3 rally for the Salish Sea Trail.

#### **FUNDRAISER**

### Beddis land campaign underway

Water preservation society steps up

BY GAIL SJUBERG

DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

An urgent campaign to purchase property owned by one of Salt Spring's early environmentalists before his death in 2016 is underway.

A group of neighbours to property located between Beddis and Sky Valley roads owned by Mike Larmour's estate have been working behind the scenes for about a year on the purchase of two 20-acre lots. The Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society has recently agreed to be the title holder and issue charitable tax receipts for all donations of \$20 or more.

SSIWPS president Maxine Leichter said her group was pleased to step up and take on that crucial role.

"It's just a fabulous opportunity to acquire a beautiful property to help us protect the Cusheon Lake watershed," she said, adding, "We fear if we don't buy it it will be logged like the other parcel [on Beddis Road], which would be bad for the watershed."

Having the SSIWPS own the lands is especially poignant because Larmour was one of the people who spearheaded the society's creation in 1982.

"It's so fitting to be buying the property that

Mike owned because he was a founder of the society and a big supporter," said Leichter.

Rodney Polden, a neighbour who is actively involved in the land purchase effort, said Larmour had hoped to protect the wetland areas on his property through a covenant or some other means but did not have the opportunity to do so prior to his death.

"It is a remarkable property," said Polden. "It contains so many ecosystems . . . and microbiomes. There are some species on this property I have never seen anywhere else on Salt Spring.'

While the property has some "magnificent" trees, the biodiversity supported by all of the land's values is what makes it so significant, he

With two adjacent properties owned by Polden and his neighbour both protected by an Islands Trust Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program covenant, if the Larmour lots are purchased it will result in a substantial contiguous area of land protection.

"The larger and more protected the areas are the better," said Polden, as it gives vulnerable species more room to move thrive and nest

Gathering of pledges for the Larmour lands campaign is going well, said Polden, but more funds are needed to complete an imminent purchase of the first lot, known as Lot H, as well as the second "Lot F" parcel, which also contains some agricultural land. The estimated total required for both lots is between \$1.2 and \$1.5 million.

The SSIWPS has set up a dedicated email address — ssiwps2020appeal@gmail.com to take etransfers and handle inquiries about donating and the property purchase. Polden is also available to answer any questions people may have. He can be reached at penrod@ saltspring.com or 250-537-5082.

Cheques can also be mailed to the SSIWPS at Ganges PO Box 555, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K

Funds will be returned to donors if the lot purchases do not occur.

The neighbours and SSIWPS have appreciated support provided by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy and the Islands Trust Conservancy to date, although neither organization currently has the capacity to accept a land ownership role. The SSIWPS has experience in holding and managing lands as the longtime owner of 272 acres of watershed lands in Channel Ridge.



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#### **FIRE DISTRICT**

### Ratepayers call for fire board transparency

Election date set

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The departure of former chair Ron Lindstrom, trustee Jo Mac-Donald and chief administrative officer Laurie Taylor from the Salt Spring Fire Protection District over the past month inspired an increase in public attendance at the board's Sept. 21 business meeting, where several ratepayers called for more transparency and better attention to governance procedures.

Surprise news that Lindstrom and MacDonald had left and that former CAO Laurie Taylor would serve the final two months of her contract on paid leave did not sit well with those who have long questioned the board's practices, or with some who have more recently become involved.

One participant at the town hall session, who was identified as having a family connection to Lindstrom and also as being a district ratepayer, requested the board undertake an external review to make sure trustee roles are understood properly.

"I'm asking for a review of the board to ensure we have a board that has the proper governance structure, that's not involving itself inappropriately with operations but that is clearly providing strategic directions to firefighters," said Erin Price. "I'd like to see a level of reflection around the number of resignations and the broad scale, the broad spread of resignations. That to me is a red flag. As a taxpayer, that tells me there is serious dysfunction going on at the board level."

Julia Lucich, a frequent critic of

the fire board in the past, noted the board did not appear to have followed procedures around public notification for the special meetings that were called to deal with the resignations and the aftermath.

Past trustee Mark Lucich said part of the problem is the form of governance, and suggested now might be the time to investigate whether another body could take over responsibility. He also found problems with the board's current campaign to build a new fire hall, which he said is unfolding in much the same way as past failed projects.

"I think what you're seeing in resignations is the frustration that happens and it seems to be fairly periodic it's not an unusual thing to happen in this board."

MARK LUCICH Former fire board trustee

"As far as building a new fire hall in the district, I think you need to consider the governance issue as part of potentially the problem, and the solution could be taking a look at what could happen if the CRD [Capital Regional District] takes over the fire district," Mark Lucich said. "They have the ability to get



Salt Spring Fire Protection District trustee Howard Holzapfel, left, and board chair Per Svendsen at the Sept. 21 trustees' meeting at Lions Hall.

grants and other forms of funding that this form of government can't get."

Lucich added he felt trustees are asked to spend an unreasonable amount of time and don't usually have the expertise required to do things like plan a new fire hall.

"I think what you're seeing in resignations is the frustration that happens and it seems to be fairly periodic — it's not an unusual thing to happen in this board, there's a lot of stresses that go on," Lucich said.

Per Svendsen, who has agreed to stand as interim board chair until the district can elect a full board, said the return of past CAO Andrew Peat will bring some stability until the district can find a suitable candidate to replace him.

"We've all been under a lot of stress — myself, trustees, fire department employees — due to the COVID circumstances," Svendsen said. "The world is slightly changed from what we knew six months ago, and along with that we've coped with a few issues . . . so we ask that you bear with us. We're a dedicated group of trustees, we are professionals and we're talented, and we each have our own areas of expertise. We've had some hiccups in the road, and now we're moving forward."

#### **Election planned**

The fire protection district will have an election in December to fill two trustee positions that would normally have expired last April along with the two seats that recently became vacant through resignations. The board voted to hold the election by mail-in ballot, with all ballots to be received at the Ganges Fire Hall by 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11. Results are to be announced at the Dec. 14 board meeting.

Seats up for grabs are ones currently held by Rollie Cook and Mary Lynn Hetherington that will expire in 2023, as well as one expiring in 2021 and one in 2022.

The call for nominations is expected to start around the second week of October. Trustees must be ratepayers in the fire protection district.

A date has not been set for the annual general meeting. Provincial COVID regulations for improvement districts have permitted AGMS to be decoupled from elections this year.

#### Fire truck tendered

The board voted to approve a bid by Fort Garry Trucks in Winnipeg to build a new vehicle to replace Engine 2. The company entered the lowest bid out of five offers received at \$405,695.

The amount needed to purchase the new engine is available in the district's Capital Works Renewal Reserve Fund and will be budgeted in 2021. The board further voted to explore whether to require a bonded bid in exchange for a larger cash downpayment.

Trustee Howard Holzapfel voted against the motion to proceed since he said he'd told the fire chief to focus on finding a used truck and he didn't think enough effort had been put into

Assistant Chief Jamie Holmes explained the department put the tender request out through BC Bids with information stating the department would entertain bids for new, used and demonstration models. The five bids received were all for new trucks.

### **Advertising Deadlines Change**

Please note that the **Gulf Islands Driftwood office** will be **closed** on Monday, Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving and will reopen 8:30am - 4pm on Tuesday, Oct. 13.



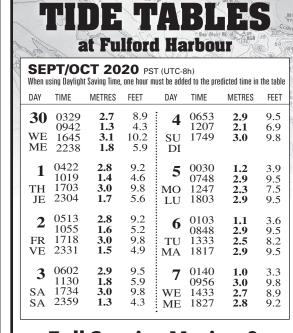
Deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Oct. 14 edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising deadline:

Classified Display Deadline: Wednesday, October 7, 12 noon

**Classified Word Deadline:** Wednesday, October 7, 12 noon





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#### **PLASTIC WRAP**

Plastic wrap has been used in recent decades to cover or wrap food, especially leftovers, but before that we had many alternate means to keep food fresh. Today there are many alternatives and the use of plastic wrap can readily be eliminated.

What you can do:

Instead, to seal bowls or wrap pieces of fruit or vegetables, use beeswax-coated cloth wraps. These include brand name products, which are available in stores or online (high quality wraps are available from Saltspring Island Beeswax wraps) or homemade beeswax-coated cloths. Reusable silicone stretch lids are also a good alternative. However, one could simply place leftovers in reusable glass, metal, or ceramic containers that come with lids or place plates on top. This works fine if the leftover is expected to be used in the next few days.



Paul Zolob Salt Spring Office INDEPENDENTLY OWNER

ROYAL LEPAGE

### NEWS BRIEFS

### Burn ban lifted

The ban on backyard burning was lifted on Salt Spring on Friday with the appropriate permit.

Although recent rainfall has reduced the wildfire risk in the region, Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue asks islanders to "conduct open burning responsibly to reduce the likelihood of starting a wildfire."

Machine piles are not permitted at this time.

For more information, people can contact Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue at 250-537-2531 or visit www.saltspring-fire.com.

Campfire or backyard burning permits are acquired by completing the fire-permit application on the SSIFR website

## Freighters petition launched

The organization called Protect the Islands Sea has launched an online petition asking the federal government to eliminate freighter anchorages in the Gulf Islands and instead put an efficient scheduling system for ship arrivals in place.

Any citizen or resident can sign the confidential form, which will be forwarded to the House of Commons.

PTIS says this year has brought new challenges to an ongoin problem: "What had once been portrayed as 'overflow' in extreme situations, is now becoming more and more the new norm of how the port simply uses anchorages in the Gulf Islands for normal operations as if the Gulf Islands were an industrial port zone."

The petition can be found at petitions.ourcommons. ca and is open until Nov. 14. Concerned residents are also invited to send complaints about noise and light disturbance to the port of Vancouver. See www.ptis.info for more information.

### FOR THERECORD

A photo of a rescue horse sponsored by Rosemary Barton and published in the Fun Fair supplement last week was incorrectly identified. The horse's name is Rolex.

#### **FUNDRAISERS**

### **Community supports Lantz family**

Tree-faller killed in tragic accident

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Islanders are mourning another community loss following the untimely death of Daniel Lantz last week.

Lantz, who would have turned 40 in February, was reported to have died suddenly on Sept. 21. Emergency services including Salt Spring Fire Rescue were called to private north-end property on Monday afternoon. Friends have confirmed that Lantz died in an accident doing tree-falling work that day. The BC Coroner's Service is investigating to determine the cause of death and any contributing factors.

Lantz leaves behind his wife Aki, eight-year-old daughter Sora and six-year-old son Tida. Kristine Poetker, whose children go to the same school, has opened a GoFundMe campaign to help support the family.

"They're a very close family. They stayed close to home a lot and were really supportive and loving and spent a lot of time together. They're a really heart-



SCREENSHOT OF GOFUNDME PAG

A photo of Daniel Lantz with his wife Aki and children Sora, left, and Tida, that is part of a GoFundMe camapign to raise funds for the family following Lantz's death on Sept. 21.

centred family with a lot of love for each other and their community," Poetker said.

Poetker said Lantz had lots of friends and loved to play music. He played drums and jammed weekly with a group of close friends. She added the whole family loves nature and trees and are very connected with the outdoors.

"Daniel was always a shining light, always smiling. He loved to

celebrate life every day," Poetker said.

Aki is originally from Japan and her family is all located there, but she is receiving support from Daniel's mother Linda, who lives on Vancouver Island and is staying with the family on Salt Spring for now. Daniel's brother Raymond has also come to B.C. and is making daily visits. The island's strong Japanese community is lending their sup-

port as well.

As Poetker explained, Lantz was the primary earner for the family through his work as an arborist and a tree-faller. His wife was primarily responsible for caring for the children and the home, so the loss will have an ongoing financial impact, as well as being emotionally devastating.

Islander Bryan Young also knows the family and has asked friends to please contribute to the fund if they can.

"Daniel was such a lovely soul," Young said. "There is a word in Japanese — 'genki' — that doesn't have an apt translation. It means 'peppy,' 'full of bright spirit,' or 'positive' and that was Daniel. He was also the husband to our land when we first bought it, bringing our old fruit trees back to life beautifully."

A celebration of life for Lantz was held outside the family's home on Sunday.

Donations can be made at gofundme.com under the campaign name Daniel Lantz - Family Relief Fund.

The camapign had raised close to \$46,000 as of Monday.

#### **BC ELECTION**

### Major party candidates named in islands riding

Olsen to face off against Stephen Roberts and Zeb King

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The race for the legislative seat in Saanich North and the Islands firmed up Monday morning with the announcement of the NDP candidate coming soon after the BC Liberals' pick was made public over the weekend.

Green party incumbent Adam Olsen is seeking a second term in office. He will face competition from Zeb King for the NDP and BC Liberal supporter Stephen Roberts.

Olsen was first elected Member of the Legislative Assembly for Saanich North and the Islands in 2017. He has been interim leader of the BC Green Party twice, first from 2013 to 2015 and again from January to September 2020.

Olsen is a member of Tsartlip First Nation and was raised in WSÁNEC territory on the Saanich Peninsula. Press material explains his interest in communications led him to sports broadcasting, community and media relations. He spent a decade in business before focussing on serving his community as an elected official.

Olsen was elected twice as a councillor of the District of Central Saanich prior to his role in

provincial politics. He served in that position from 2008 to 2012

NDP candidate King also has a background that includes municipal politics on the Saanich Peninsula. A graduate of the University of Victoria, with a master's degree in Public Administration, King has served on the Central Saanich Council since 2002. Campaign material states that in his five terms, King has involved residents in the process of collaboratively finding solutions, whether about the shortage of doctors in the region, housing, public transit or environmental concerns. He is a longtime resident of Brentwood Bay.

Salt Spring resident Stephen Roberts will once again be the BC Liberal candidate in the riding, having stepped up twice before in that capacity, so far without winning the seat.

Roberts was born in Sidney and lives on Salt Spring with his partner. His campaign information says his career in finance took him to various places overseas and included chief operating officer roles in two major international banks. Since returning home to B.C., Roberts reports being very active in the community. He is particularly interested in health care, and is currently chair of the Vancouver Hospice Society as well as past chair of both the Salt Spring Hospice and the Lady Minto Hospital FounIn recent years Roberts also has served as secretary on the Mary Winspear Centre board, and as chair of the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee's Advisory Planning Commission.

Election day is Saturday, Oct. 24. Advance voting days will be

held from Thursday, Oct.15 to Wednesday, Oct. 21.

All voters can also request to vote by mail-in ballot. Contact Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683 for information or go to elections.bc.ca to make a direct request.



#### SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE – 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Board of Trustees would like your input on the 2021 budget. An open house will be held:

Sunday, October 4, 2020 2:00 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Farmer's Institute, 351 Rainbow Road.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions, we must limit the number of people in attendance, so we ask that you pre-register by email at <a href="mailto:admin@saltspringfire.com">admin@saltspringfire.com</a> or by phone at 250-537-2531. Deadline for registration is noon, Thursday, October 1, 2020. To comply with COVID 19 restrictions the wearing of face masks will be mandatory, and attendees will be asked to provide their contact information and sign in at the door.

The Open House will also be offered by zoom and the link will be posted on the SSIFPD website (<a href="www.saltspringfire.com">www.saltspringfire.com</a>) the week of Monday, September 28, 2020. People who are attending by zoom are encouraged to submit their questions via email to <a href="admin@saltspringfire.com">admin@saltspringfire.com</a> so the questions can be read and answered during the open house. The deadline for submitting questions is noon, Thursday, October 1, 2020.

A copy of the proposed budget will be posted on the website on Thursday, September 23, 2020.

Should you have any questions please contact the SSIFPD office at 250-537-2531.



2019 CCNA Awards Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

2019 BCYCNA Awards

Gold - Best Arts & Culture Writing (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best Environmental Writing (Gall Sjuberg) Silver - Best Multimedia Feature (Marc Kitteringham) Silver - Community Service | New Journalist of the Year (Marc Kitteringham



Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Amber Ogilvie

aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Gail Sjuberg MANAGING EDITOR

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Lorraine Sullivan

production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



JOHANNA WALKNER ACCOUNT CO-ORDINATOR

jwalkner@driftwoodgimedia.com



Elizabeth Nolan

enolan@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Dennis Parker

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



D. W. Salty HISTORY REPORTER

dwsalty@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

### Slow burn

ecent resignations at the Salt Spring Fire Protection District have a troubling whiff of smoke.

The wildfire that is burning within the district's board of trustees sometimes appears to get snuffed by new elections and a renewed commitment to smooth oversight of a critical community resource. In reality, the fire continues to smoulder just below the surface only to reignite again and again. Even with committed people involved, flare-ups seem inevitable.

The recent resignations of trustees Ron Lindstrom and Jo MacDonald are particularly alarming. Lindstrom suggests the board may be turning back on the progress it made toward becoming more functional and more accountable by adopting the "one employee corporate model" last year. There are allegations some trustees want to get involved in the minutiae of the fire department's daily operations — a sure recipe for disaster.

The one employee model places an important

#### THE ISSUE:

Fire board dysfunction

#### WE SAY:

Stick to the manual: let CAOs do their job mediator between the governing body and the fire department employees. That person is hired for their financial and administrative expertise and must be allowed to do their job without interference. As former and now interim district CAO Andrew Peat explained to the board last year, that

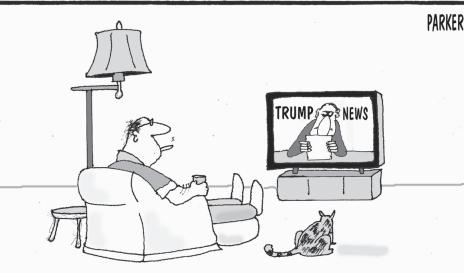
doesn't mean the board loses their ability to hold that employee to account, nor their governance functions.

"There is nothing in this policy that takes away the board's responsibility for oversight. There is nothing in this policy that says the board is not responsible for setting the strategy and direction of the district," Peat said in February 2019.

During that same meeting, then-chair Per Svendsen pointed to the B.C. Improvement District Trustees Handbook, which states trustees are not to be involved in administration or operations but to provide leadership and oversight. Svendsen wisely observed that a previous board had "imploded" after it dove into direct operations. It's heartening to know he is once again in the chair's seat. Hopefully his measured approach will prevail.

With a proposed budget of \$4 million for 2021, the fire district's volunteer trustees have huge responsibility. That is enough work without trying to take over a job someone has been hired to do. The board needs to respect the boundaries the province has laid out as best practice and the board itself voted to adopt.

It's time to put the fire out.



THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM MAY CONTAIN NUDITY, SEX, VIOLENCE, FOUL LANGUAGE AND FAKE NEWS. MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR ALL VIEWERS

### Salish Sea Trail rally set

BY DARLENE GAGE

The Salish Sea Trail Network is a loop trail winding through Sidney and up through the Cowichan Valley, and could be a perfect destination for cyclists, "if" they could safely cross Salt Spring to make the loop complete. But we all know what a challenge it is to ride safely on this island.

The Salish Sea Trail Network could be a big part of the solution for residents and visitors alike — and now is the time to make this call for support heard loud and clear. Join our Rally for the Salish Sea Trail on Saturday, Oct. 3 at 12 noon in the United Church Meadow.

The Salish Sea Trail Network is an idea hatched almost 15 years ago, and amazingly, it is 90 per cent complete. Connecting the safe, mostly off-road Lochside, Galloping Goose, Cowichan Valley Regional Trail and the E&N Railroad, this cycling, walking and active transportation network connects some of the most populated — and stunning — parts of coastal B.C.

The missing link is the Vesuvius to Fulford ferry terminals on Salt Spring, where we know the issues with narrow roadways.

#### **VIEW**POINT

crossings and fast-moving traffic on often unpainted roads makes bicycling a dangerous choice for all but the most courageous and athletic.

Salt Spring is also long overdue for an update to our primary road network, as it has been over 20 years since the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has made major investments to road safety in the Fulford-Ganges to Vesuvius spine road.

At current rates of funding, it will be another 20 before we have a connected network making cycling safe for residents and tourists alike. Cycling is sadly a dream many gave up after moving here, or a lost memory from those who grew up here but won't send their own kids out on our roads today.

That's why finishing the Salish Sea Trail — as a legacy program of the postpandemic "Green Recovery" stimulus funding makes so much sense.

When completed, this trail network will bring major economic and health benefits to all B.C. citizens, attracting the right kind lack of shoulders, blind of low-impact ecotour-

ism we need to not only stimulate the economy, but keep our aging population healthy, while supporting the transition to the low-carbon future we all know we need. Completing and marketing the trail network now will create immediate jobs in planning, engineering, construction and communications, and bring countless economic spin-off benefits to not only Salt Spring but the 14 First Nations and dozens of other rural and suburban communities it would connect across the entire region.

During a time when we face interconnected crises in health, climate and inequality — not to mention more local concerns like parking, pedestrian safety in Ganges and road degradation getting more people onto bikes and e-bikes will help build the better world we need now.

To help push for funding on this project, show your active support by coming to Saturday's Rally for the Salish Sea Trail. Or kick off the rally by joining the social bike ride starting at 11 a.m. at Portlock Park. Bring your signs and your voices to call for safe cycling on Salt Spring

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Is your vote in the **B.C.** election already decided?

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:** 

Do you think **Centennial Park** enforcement efforts have made a difference?

31 159

NO

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

# OPINON { QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

### "As a taxpayer, that tells me there is serious dysfunction going on at the board level."

ERIN PRICE ON FIRE DISTRICT RESIGNATIONS

### SALT SPRING **SAYS**

WE ASKED: What was the biggest success in your garden this year?

#### **DELAINE FAULKNER**



I had only a couple of tomato plants and some basil in the greenhouse this summer. However, I intend to grow some greens in the greenhouse this winter.

#### **MOE WENDT**



For me, it was my blue grain corn. Nearly 100 ears for making tortillas, tamales, pozole and more. Food for the cold months.



#### **JUDY NURSE**

This year the winners were garlic, yellow bush beans, and cucumbers grown in a pot.

#### PAUL ALEXANDER



Probably tomatoes for me. I'm glad I started early. I did a second crop three weeks later and they just started to ripen fruit.

#### IDA MARIE THREADKELL



My biggest garden success was Sungold cherry tomatoes. Somebody must have snuck in and planted about a million of them and then they planted about a million dandelions in my ditch.

#### **LETTERS** to the editor

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

#### Stop antisocial behaviour

I used to be proud of my community here on Salt Spring, but now I'm just mad.

The community I used to love is one where people looked after each other, where folks smiled and said hi to you on the street, where our students got involved with social, environmental and justice issues, where everyone joined the Pride parade, where we were proud we had the highest number of electric cars in the land and we bought land to stop it from being clear cut. It was a community that seemed to accept

differences, helped those in need, and volunteered their time and energy to improve this wonderful place. Now it seems it's gone to hell.

We have yahoos putting excrement on door handles, urine in ATMs and in our parks and on the playgrounds. There are windows being broken and electric car-charging stations vandalized.

We have racist, homophobic and sexualized slogans written on T-shirts in schools where children are afraid to walk the halls. A report of grad traditions gone sideways. What the heck does that mean? I expected to read outraged letters in last week's Driftwood about the "Bad Behaviour Mars School Return" article of Sept. 16, but there was not a men-

tion! Not one word of condemnation. What's happening to us?

I'm mad and, although I hesitate, I have to speak out. We need to stop and reassess our community. This is not the Salt Spring I love, or the Canada I know. Dr. Bonnie Henry has had death threats, an anti-racist rally in Alberta was stormed by the yellow vests, Sons of Odin and other far-right groups. Is that where we're headed? Do folks blame COVID? Are we so mad that we can't go to the bars or restaurants, have big parties, see our friends and watch hockey games that it's OK to act out in such despicable ways? Not in my mind. We need to stop this antisocial behaviour now. Speak out people, it's not OK! Let's get back to the Salt Spring way.

SUSAN PAYNTER,
SALT SPRING

### Machines and numbers

Congratulations on keeping the Driftwood vibrant in these difficult times.

I have a question about something in the Sept. 23 "Late-night Vandalism Suspect Sought" story in last week's paper. In the phrase "ATM machines," what does the M in ATM stand for?

Similar popular expressions: "PIN number," "SIN number."

JOHN SPRAGUE, SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 6

### Autumn hails internal and external transitions

There's no question about it; fall has arrived here on Salt Spring.

The signs are all around us. The heavy dew and morning mist give way to teeming rain storms. In the distance, the blare of the ferry foghorn punctuates the drip-drip-drip of the raindrops splashing down on the driveway puddles.

Yes, there can be no question that the air is thick with the smell of autumn. There's no more fooling ourselves that this storm will blow over and we will soon again be slopping sun block all over our exposed hides while soaking up the rays on Beddis Beach.

The shortened days and subsequent reduced hours of sunlight signal to the surrounding vegetation that the time is right to shut down and lock up for the year. The predominant green hue of spring and summer darkens to shades of rusty red and brown. Thickets of wild blackberries drop their atrophied fruit to the ground while, in the garden, unpicked bean pods turn to mould on their shrivelled vines. The cucurbitaceae leaves die back to reveal the multi-coloured and shaped squash, gourds and pumpkin treasures that have lain hidden throughout the growing season (or perhaps, disappointingly, they only expose a multitude of dry flowers that had never become pollinated).

There are even more signs. Flocks of birds pack their belongings and begin their winged journeys to sunnier climes where seeds, berries and insects still abound. Pathways along trails through the bush are suddenly blockaded with the filmy threads of fine gossamer strung between branches by opportunist spiders preparing their own fall harvests. In the orchard, the ground is littered with rotting plums being feasted on by hordes of barely conscious wasps who, in their drunken stupor, are not cognizant of the brutal reality that this is their last hurrah.

Even you, yourself, find the necessity of stepping to the rhythm of the changing season. There is a chill in the air and you adapt by discarding your flip-flops in favour of more sensible footwear. You are annoyed because you can't quite remember where you ditched that Cowichan sweater way back in the springtime, and now it's buried



Shilo Zylbergold NOBODY ASKED ME **BUT** 

beneath one of the many piles of clothing lying in various strategic places in the house.

You remind yourself that you had better stop procrastinating and get that pile of firewood under cover. The stack of winter tires outside the pump-house glare at you to make sure you feel guilty enough to take your vehicle in to the shop before you end up sliding off the road into a ditch come November.

This seasonal tale repeats itself year after year. This fall, however, is different than the ones that have gone before. In this, the year of the COVID pandemic, we have no fall fair. No zucchini races, no cotton candy, no muffin madness. No local musical favourites playing on a bandstand to friends and neighbours seated on hay bales while dripping hot butter down their chins from Bon Acres Farm corn on the cob. No poultry blue ribbons, no cheesy rides that nevertheless still take our little ones to heaven and back, no Ruckle Farm sheepdogs herding bewildered livestock, who look guizzically at each other in wonderment as to why they are there, into ad hoc pens to the delight of cheering fairgoers.

Another annual "end of summer" tradition and celebration that has fallen victim to the COVID pandemic has been Salt Spring's very own Pride Parade. Gone is the colourful promenade down main street, the sparkling costumed drag queens in platform boots, the rainbows in all sizes signifying community inclusion, the various groups and organizations marching under hand-decorated banners, the laughing and cheering children with their painted faces, and the parade lead float teeming with boisterous bodies and raucous music thundering from its loudspeakers.

Nature, however, teaches us to adapt to change. The same transition we are witnessing outside of us is also going on within. I especially feel the fall season when I look in the mirror. Who is this old person looking back at me? When did all this happen? Wasn't it just summer?

Every part of me reflects decay. Wrinkles crease my face as my jowls droop and pull down under the command of gravity. As the hair thins and whitens at the top of my head, it thickens and grows bushy inside my nose and both ears.

I suck my gut in and push back my shoulders in a futile effort to reclaim the bounce of youth in my step. However, just like the air slowly leaking out of the pinhole in a balloon, my body inevitably reverts to the slouching, hunched-over figure it has now become

Just like the changing season takes control of the vegetation outside, I feel my genetic blueprint is preparing me for my own dormancy. Or worse. My glow of youth and the gleam of vivacity are no longer necessary nor even remotely relevant to the greater plan for the universe. My "best before date" is now somewhere in the distant past. I suppose I might be somewhat useful as a source of elder wisdom that I could hand down by way of oral tradition, but even my grandchildren have stopped laughing at my "knock knock" jokes.

Nobody asked me, but as the days grow shorter and the sun makes briefer and briefer appearances in this little corner of the globe, we can't help but turn up our collars in preparation for the grey days ahead. Just like the surrounding flora and fauna on the ground and in the air, we feel ourselves forced to fall into step to the seasonal changing of the guard. However, as we hunker down in preparation of making it through the oncoming darkest night, we are buoyed by the hope that the spring dawn lies just over the distant horizon. And by the hope that the sun will once again stir all living things into a renewal and celebration.

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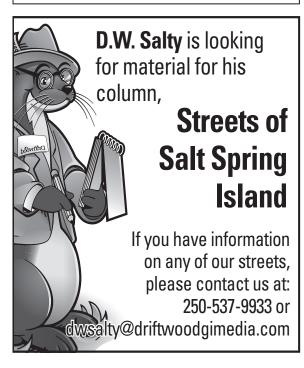
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### **SARS-CoV-2** virus shares story

The following was submitted by Jackie Somers, a retired microbiologist living on Salt Spring.

Hey there, it's me, SARS-CoV-2. You must have heard about me, I'm world-

You've heard from the doctors and the scientists and the politicians and now it's about time I told you my story myself. I'm a tiny little thing, just a few genes packaged in a membrane with a few proteins stuck in it — and totally unable to do a darned thing unless I can get into your lungs and hijack your cells down there.

It all started at the end of 2019 when I was happily living in my wild animal host. But one day it coughed me up I landed in a strange pair of lungs I had never seen before. It was scary. What was this new animal? Would I be able live in it? I knew I had to get into a cell or I would literally just die. I was in luck! My spike protein managed to get me in. Even better, I found I could copy my genes and make lots of new little virus babies which got

#### **INDEPTH**

coughed up and out of there in no

My babies found themselves in a place where there were crowds and crowds of these new animals. So they did not have to go far through the air between them and get into their lungs. And each one of those animals could breathe out and cough up lots of my grandbabies and pass them along to more and more animals, and we were away to the races!

It gets better. These animals, or humans as you call yourselves, are a restless lot. You love to travel around and go to new places — you even fly through the air packed into crowded metal cylinders and go all over the world. So pretty soon I had spread to every corner of the globe.

By this time lots of people were getting sick and even dying, but your clever doctors and scientists were starting to figure me out. For a while there I

was afraid I would die out, because if everyone listened to them and followed their advice, I would have a tough time finding new pairs of lungs within breathing distance.

But I'm pretty smart. I make it so that not everyone I invade gets very sick, and some of you don't even know you have me lurking down there, quietly multiplying and leaving your bodies for new ones. And another lucky break for me . . . some of you are getting fed up with having me around, and ignoring me or hoping I will just go away on my own. Well, that's not the way the world works, folks. I'll be around as long as you keep getting together and breathing on each other.

Of course there may come a day when your clever scientists find medicines and vaccines that will stop me in my tracks. As long as you follow their advice, that is.

Meantime, I'll just keep on going until I run out of people willing to let me in. That could take a long, long time — but that's up to you.

#### Poultry thanks

I would like to say thank you to the Driftwood for sponsoring the recent poultry show with your generous donation.

I was fortunate enough to win Champion and Reserve Large Fowl Cock and Pullet.

Again, many thanks. Much appreciated.

TED BAKER,

#### On the right track

This past summer was unlike any other, and getting outside was one of the few things that kept me sane. Fall has now arrived, but the memory of line-ups to get a spot in our local parks has not yet faded. As candidates and platforms get announced for next month's election, I hope that parks and nature will be on the agenda.

It has been a tough few months, but I believe there is reason for hope. The B.C. government announced a bump in funding that will help BC Parks staff get to work on broken down trails and neglected campgrounds. But a small funding bump isn't enough. To keep our parks open safely, we must commit to adequate funding for the long haul.

BC Parks has been underfunded for decades. They need a significant, long-term increase so that people like us, who have found solace in parks, can continue to get outside in years to come.

B.C.'s parks offer something for everyone. Healthy parks support people's well-being, offer adventure and protect important ecosystems. I'm hopeful that we are on the right track. When we reinvest in B.C.'s parks, we build resilient communities across the province.

JAN JANG,

#### Dangerous arguments

Oh lord, another mask denier whining about being made to cover her mouth ("Humanity Impacted With Loss of Warm Interactions," Sept. 23 Driftwood).

Most of her arguments are laughable when not downright dangerous, but all are infinitely depressing coming from someone described as a teacher.

The facts are irrefutable. If we are ever to get through this lague, then covering our mouths is a vital weapon in the anti-COVID arsenal and I for one would be very wary of letting Kim Hunter within two metres or six feet of my grandchildren. Never mind what Dr. Anthony Fauci, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Dr. Theresa Tam and the World Health Organization have to say about them, Ms. Hunter has done her research and masks are rubbish.

If I understand her thesis it is that because she feels she can't wear a mask, the rest of us should quarantine ourselves so she can swan around the island uncovered. That's like Typhoid Mary expecting the rest of New York to steer clear while she gets on with her cooking and cleaning. I'm happy that she was able to spend a mask-free break on Wallace Island and returned with a more carefree spirit. Let's hope she didn't also return with a COVID-19 contagion.

Her desperate conceit of comparing hijabs with protective

face masks is as ignorant as it is offensive. The hijab is a simple head covering; the niqab is a full-face cover and is indeed disturbing to many Western women and men, but certainly not

because it might afford a bank robber some protection!

And I actually laughed out loud when I read the account of her delicate chum in Vancouver having the vapours when confronted with a thermometer. Plenty of ammo when it comes to eventually refusing a vaccine, too, I guess.

Ms. Hunter concludes that she be allowed to get on with the rest of her life and with "being human." I, for one, have always considered having regard for the rest of humanity as being human. And finally, she bizarrely warns that artificial intelligence, a worse fate than the coronavirus, is lurking in the

Personally, I'd be happier just to see some actual intelligence. PAUL MCELROY,

#### Old Boys feel loss

Old Boys were about to start a new season when sad news eclipsed all thoughts with the passing of Rita Tweddle, the team's most loyal home supporter. Rita will be missed for her constant presence in her usual position at the GISS field where she has presided over the games involving members of her family for the GISS Scorpions and the Salt Spring women's teams as well as the Old Boys in their various incarnations over the years.

No matter the weather Rita would arrive suitably prepared: blankets, umbrellas, sunglasses and most importantly a liberal supply of sweeties to distribute to players and fans alike. My favourite being Werther's Original Chewy Toffees — few could last the whole 90 minutes of a game. Players and fans would pay their respects throughout the game and afterwards would break from their tea cooler libations to chat with Rita before her departure. Not shy of pointing out where the Old Boys tactics failed, she was also most generous in her support for the team. Having supported Middelsborough Reds she remarked that the Old Boys could delight and frustrate within minutes of each other in a game. A trait that lasts to this day!

It was at the May long weekend tournament, however, that Rita was in her element. Sitting at the entrance of the beer garden marquee dispensing the tickets to all and sundry with a welcoming smile as she took their money and decided if they deserved a bonus of a free ticket. It is during these three-day weekends that I learned about Rita and her background and her subsequent moves from Yorkshire — Teeside to be exact to Canada and eventually Salt Spring.

She was always ready to allow me the opportunity to leave our joint post at the table to savour the delights of a morning roll and chips (French fries from the Walde catering franchise.) When asked "Was there anything I or we could get for her?" The answer was always an emphatic "no!" but on my return my huge portion of chips was attacked ferociously by Rita.

She will be sadly missed by all - her coffee friends who met every week as well as the footballing fraternity on the Island. Our condolences to Nina and Graham and the family.

FRASER HOPE,

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### Complex show meets keen need

Octogony's eight contributing artists at Mahon Hall

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The return of the Octogony group show to Mahon Hall after two years is an extremely welcome one.

After many months of pandemic isolation and possibly even obsession, the opportunity to ponder something else is deeply appreciated. The eight artists involved are clearly the right ones to continue the community's re-opening momentum, providing works that offer the dual pleasures of visual interest and intellectual engagement.

The late artist Michael Robb came up with the idea for the first Octogony show in 2018, and although he is sadly missing from this event, a good sampling of his artworks are present. Viewers will see old friends like sculptures Benedictus and Ponticus in the main gallery. A retrospective of some of Robb's paintings, sculptures and blown glasswork can be found in the smaller side gallery.

Photographer Jen Holmes has an impressive series of 12 black-and-white works using her own body as the jumping-off point for exploring "matters of the psyche, as well as themes of conflict, tension and sensuality." Each untitled piece consists of a large main image depicting some part of the artist — usually her face or upper body — with a row of three smaller images beneath.

Holmes' collections pose endlessly interesting questions about her artistic choices and what they might say to an audience. In one piece, she looks wide-eyed at the camera in a closely framed but blurred shot that is overlaid with a pattern of dark ovals. The photos below contrast the dreamy internal mood with crisply delineated scenes that are striking for their loneliness: an overhead shot of a squared railing and stairwell; a trio of stacked white chairs against a deep black backdrop; and two birds seen in flight below a high beamed roof.

In another example, the main photo shows just the artist's mid section, dressed in panties and wrapped in plastic film. The row of images below are landscapes, with a stretch of curving road, a fringe of reeds dissecting disappearing water and sky and an abstracted view suggesting forest.

Holmes' way of associating images feels less like a statement or an equation but more like the way our minds flit from idea to idea, producing an accumulated emotion or mood. The arrangement of the series as one horizontal line is also fascinating: the larger top images of the artist can read as stills from one long film strip — but again, the connections between each image are tenuous and emotive rather than linear.

Patrick McCallum also brings a cinematic quality to his epic figurative work, Mary Kept Swinging Through the Afterglow. In charcoal over swirls of textured white paint on board, the multilayered work has the look of collage with pop art references such as ad text fragments and comic art. Near-photorealist images of a single female model in various expressions from fierce to contemplative allow the viewer to imagine this "Mary" in greater depth, while layers of imagery suggest our complex histories and social environment.

Chintan Bolliger's abstract paintings evoke geological epochs, microscopic biology and hymns for the collective subconscious. Her organic shapes are interrupted in several pieces by a very modern, technological motif. Sequences of horizontal bars layer over the imagined landscape or else reveal windows of colour in static white in the diptych What Do We Know? Grids of white grey lines in the foreground give an industrial or dystopic edge to evocative vistas in Evolutionary Algorithm and Coming Undone in 2020.

Susan Benson juxtaposes the realism of fine drawing with abstract colour fields in two series. In LumberJacks 1 she creates a pattern of historic tree fallers posed as if for the camera among a cascade of fallen logs in one panel, with the shadowy drawing done



Octogony art show at Mahon hall, with sculptures by the show's late founder Michael Robb seen in the foreground.

over cedar-coloured background. The facing panel is a mottled red evoking the cheerful warmth firelight but also perhaps the conflagration of the future.

Wooden House 1 puts a beautifully rendered ornate Victorian house in the mainframe, a little bit ghostly as the building rises from an unseen yard in cool grey tones. The other panel's warm mossy tones supply the missing greenery.

Patricia Balsor's moulded paper sculptures have a slightly eery effect, with close similitude to living humans but on a smaller scale. Some have an explicitly mythological theme, like the antler-capped male bust in Cerunnos, the Horned One. Displayed right next to that is Her Fragrant Boddice, a humorous piece that employs copper wire coils for the woman's hair and actual vintage lace around her open garment.

Michael Wall uses his camera to express an emotional connection to another late island artist, Lari Robson, and the ceramic works he left behind. A series of photos

plays with focus, colour saturation and exposure to capture simple but well-made vessels in a nuanced way. In some ways the series recalls Wall's earlier work documenting a set of decaying persimmons in homage to the 13th-century Chan monk Mu Ch'i: a spiritual nature is revealed through digital tools.

Also in the show is a nice collection of Ron Crawford's Dangerous Goods series, where sculpted plaster and acrylic works on board are complicated by patterns of embedded nails and the shadows they cast. A collection of six pieces shown together highlights the differences created by small shifts, whether in palette, the inclusion of incised grooves or the shapes of small mounds emerging from the surface like creatures in the foreshore.

Octogony is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily to Oct. 4. A schedule will be posted at the hall about when different artists will be sitting so people can return to specifically speak to an artist about his or her



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#### **EXHIBITS**

### Calligraphy and poetry collaboration on tap

Nature themes highlighted in October at the library

Salt Spring calligraphers and local poets have teamed up to create an exhibit at the library's program room through October.

Salt Spring Poems in Calligraphy is a celebration for environmental awareness and the appreciation of nature that came about when the library's exhibit coordinator Maureen Milburn approached Salt Spring Calligraphy Group member Delaine Faulkner last fall about mounting a group show with some island poets. The event was to be a fundraiser for the Salt Spring Public Library's 60th anniversary celebrations.

According to press material,

the poets each submitted suitable works for the exhibit and, together with the calligraphers, selected poems based on the themes of environmental awareness and the appreciation of nature. Excerpts from individual poems, or poems in their entirety, are beautifully rendered by the calligraphers and prepared for display in the library's program room.

The calligraphy artwork will be for sale and all proceeds will be donated to the library.

Participating poets are Lorraine Gane, Diana Hayes, Peter Levitt, Rowan Percy and Murray Reiss. The calligraphers are Faulkner, Solveig Brickenden, Judy Nurse and Ida Marie Threadkell.

The exhibit can be seen in the program room on Mondays through Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.



From left, calligraphers Solveig Brickenden, Judy Nurse, Ida Marie Threadkell and Delaine Faulkner participating in the Salt Spring Poems in Calligraphy show at the library in October.

Scan this barcode with your smartphone to

Sept. 30

**ACTIVITIES** 

**Salt Spring Historical** Society: Meet the Ruckles. Brenda Guiled will unveil six new interpretive signs and give a summary of the Friends of Ruckle Park project. 2 p.m.

#### VIA ZOOM

Zoom Teen Book Club. A bi-weekly meeting of youths aged between 13 and 19. Email ahughes@ saltspringlibrary.com for the Zoom link.



Thur.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Open Mic & Jam.

At the Legion. 7 p.m.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Live music TBA. At the Legion. 7 p.m.

Valdy.

In concert at ArtSpring. 7:30

#### **ACTIVITIES**

Weekend StoryWalk.

This week's story is Trees. A self-guided activity through Mouat Park. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Monday.

**ASK Salt Spring.** 

This week's guest is Adam Olsen, United Church meadow (or Portlock Park pavilion if it's raining). 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Any question, anytime: ask@asksaltspring. com; All ASK Salt Spring reports: asksaltspring.com

Salt Spring Museum. See Thursday listing.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Live music TBA. At the Legion. 7 p.m.

Valdy.

See Friday's listing.

#### ACTIVITIES

Saturday Market in the

Vendors set up in socially distanced fashion in Centennial Park, as well as in the adjacent Ganges Alley parking lot/waterfront area. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rally for the Salish Sea

United Church Meadow at 12 noon. Or start at Portlock Park at 11 a.m. for a social bike ride to the rally site.

Salt Spring Museum. See Thursday listing.

Weekend StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

VIA ZOOM

The Well of Lament; The Waters of Wisdom - A SoulCollage Workshop.

Participants will use guided imagery journey, collage and listening to each other to lift up losses, give them voice and shine the light on the path forward by making SoulCollage cards. Facilitated by Rev. Gyllian Davies. 1 to 4 p.m. Register at staroftheseassi@gmail.com.

**Lorna Crozier Poetry** Reading.

Sponsored by the SS Public Library. 7 p.m. Join the zoom meeting at https://us02web. zoom.us/j/84871029878 -Meeting ID: 848 7102 9878

Salt Spring Island Půblič Library

Sun.

Oct. 4

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Valdy. ArtSpring. 2:30 p.m. Oct. 4

ACTIVITIES

**SSI Fire Protection District Budget Open House.** Face-masked COVID-style presentation and Q&A at the Farmers' Institute. 2 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 limitations, those attending should preregister by Thursday, Oct. 1, either by email, admin@ saltspringfire.com, or by calling 250-537-2531. ALSO OFFERED VIA ZOOM with the link posted at www.saltspringfire.com.

Weekend StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Mon.

Oct. 5

ACTIVITIES

Weekend StoryWalk. See Friday listing.

Tue.

Oct. 6

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Farmers' Market. Produce and food-products market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m. Social distancing and COVID-19 protocols in place.

VIA ZOOM

**Salt Spring Local Trust** Committee Meeting. Get Zoom link from the Salt Spring page of the Islands

Trust website. 9:30 a.m.

#### Octogony

Exhibit of work by 8 artists Friday, Sept. 25 - Sunday, Oct. 4

> **Mahon Hall** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

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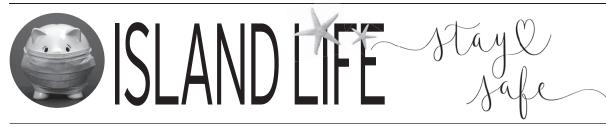
#### THE FRITZ CINEMA

- Black Panther runs Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m., plus a 3 p.m. Sunday matinee on Oct. 4. Rated PG. Running time is 120 minutes.
- Casablanca with Humphrey Bogart runs at 7 p.m. from Sunday, Oct. 4 through Tuesday, Oct. 6. Rated G. Running time is 110 minutes.
- For more movie info, visit The Fritz website at www.thefritz.ca



#### **EXHIBITIONS**

- Octogony, an exhibit of work by the late Michael Robb, plus Ronald T. Crawford, Susan Benson, Chintan Bolliger, Patrick McCallum, Patricia Balsor, Michael Wall and Jen Holmes runs at Mahon Hall daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sunday, Oct. 4.
- Salt Spring Poems in Calligraphy a celebration for environmental awareness and the appreciation of nature runs in the Salt Spring Public Library's Program Room Monday to Saturday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. from Oct. 2 to 30.
- The 20th anniversary show of **Photosynthesis** is a new virtual presentation online at www.photosynth.ca/gallery/ featuring an image from 31 participating photographers.
- Trash Prints, an online show of original prints by the SSI Painters Guild printmakers group, is now live at www. ssipaintersguild.ca/trash-prints/ Trash as a medium or
- Avril Kirby shows photographs at Gallery 8 and via YouTube at https://youtu.be/uDNwWYSAk9w.
- Judy Weeden and Mel Williamson present new works in their Oil + Clay show at Steffich Fine Art.
- Metal & Stone, a show of new works by Peter McFarland and Ronald Crawford, runs at Steffich Fine **Art** through September.
- Sheri Standen is exhibiting her first solo watercolour show at Fernwood Road Cafe (open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed Wednesdays) for the months of September/October.



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

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







A BARREL OF FUN: Greenwoods employees Erica Innes, left, and Ana Villa pick a winning ticket from the garden bench draw barrel last Tuesday while Greenwoods Foundation board member Bob McWhirter looks on. Board members with the bench made by island artisan Luke Hart-Weller are, from left, Wayne Roberts, Innes, Dorrie Ferster, April Wright, Kim Carlson, Kim Ballantyne, Villa and McWhirter. Despite not being able to raffle tickets at the Salt Spring Fall this year, more than \$8,000 was raised from the event, with sales done online and through in-person selling at various locations on the island. Doreen Cooke was the lucky winner of the garden bench.

#### **WORKSHOP**

### Card-making workshop on tap

Star of the Sea hosts SoulCollage Zoom event

Islanders are invited to dive into the rich imagery of the soul with an online workshop set for this Saturday, Oct. 3.

"Listen to the heart's song that has no words, only colour, shapes, texture, images, the language of dreams," states press material from Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice about The Well of Lament; The Waters of Wisdom -A SoulCollage Workshop. "COVID has put an imprint on our lives. We are changed people. Losses abound as we try to live safely. In this SoulCollage workshop we'll use a guided imagery journey, collage and listening to each other to lift up our losses, give them voice, and shine the light on the path forward."

Quiet music and gentle drumming is also part of the experi-

The session runs from 1 to 4 p.m.

In order to prepare for the class, people should collect magazines, calendars and greeting cards with images they enjoy or are piqued by. Scissors, glue and a roller of some kind (brayer, rolling pin, wine bottle), and matte board backing cut to 5"x 8" are also needed.

SoulCollage is described as "a method of self-discovery through the creation and intuitive analysis of a deck of collaged cards. Cards are made by tearing or clipping images often from magazines — and then combining them, perhaps against a new background image, into a collage."

No artistic experience is necessary to make SoulCollage

The free event takes place on Zoom and will be facilitated by Rev. Gyllian Davies.

Registration must be done through staroftheseassi@ gmail.com. Confirmation of registration will include the Zoom link. For those unfamiliar with Zoom, a brief explanation will be provided.

#### **POETRY**

### Award-winning poet gives Zoom reading

Lorna Crozier on Saturday night

The Salt Spring Public Library will host a virtual reading with acclaimed poet Lorna Crozier on Saturday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.

An Officer of the Order of Canada, Lorna Crozier has been acknowledged for her contributions to Canadian literature, and her books have received numerous national awards, including the Governor-General's Award for Poetry.

A professor emerita at the University of Victoria, she has performed for Queen Elizabeth II and has read her poetry, which has been translated into several languages, on every continent except Antarctica. In 2018, Crozier received the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement

On Saturday she will read from The House the Spirit Builds which explores human-crafted and natural landscapes from a variety of angles. The impressions and expression vary, but all are informed by sense of place and aim to take understanding to a more visceral plane.

People can join the Zoom meeting at https://us02web.zoom. us/j/84871029878 with a Meeting ID of 848 7102 9878.

Anyone who needs assistance setting up Zoom at home can call or email the library and its personnel will do their best to get them set



PHOTO COURTESY LORNA CROZIER

Poet Lorna Crozier.

up so they can enjoy literary events offered via Zoom.



Call 250-537-9933

gulfislandsdriftwood.com inquiries@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

#### **BEEKEEPING**

### Fall is time to winterize hives



PHOTO COURTESY RACHEL HALLIWELL

Beekeepers check out a frame as part of an autumn apiary inspection to prepare bees for the winter.

### Autumn chores will ensure bees are warm and healthy

#### BY RACHEL HALLIWELL

SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

The cooler evenings and yellow leaves are wonderful indicators that fall is just around the corner. It is also a reminder that we should start thinking about winterizing our beehives — preparing our colonies for the long rainy months to come. Although what does this entail?

There are few key points to ensure you cover prior to winter. First, is your hive disease free? During your hive inspections, you should be looking at the coloration and texture of the larva. Is the larva plump and pearly white or is it sticky, slumped to the edge of the cell and yellow in colouring?

If you find the larva in your colonies to be of the latter, there may be brood disease. In which case, contacting your local apiary inspector should be a priority. In addition, you will want to ensure your varroa mite count is at an alltime low. This means doing a sugar shake test to see how many mites are crawling within your colony and treating appropriately if they exceed

a certain threshold.

Secondly, does you hive have enough food stores? Depending on which region your hives are located, you may have had a poor nectar flow and therefore less than ideal amounts of honey stored in the colony for winter. Now is the time to take a peak at how many frames of honey does your colony have stored currently. If the hive is feeling light perhaps consider supplement feeding with sugar syrup. This way the colony can continue to store nectar (which they transfer into honey) instead of consuming their winter stores now and going into winter empty and starving.

Third, how much of their home are they occupying? Making sure the colony is housed in the appropriate sized home is quite important. If there is too much space, the honeybees have to expend lots of energy keeping the unused home warm. By reducing their home to an appropriate size it will make it easier for the bees to maintain a stable internal temperature.

Now, you don't necessarily have to be a beekeeper to have a hand in preparing the pollinators for winter. As a gardener, now is the time to take stock of what is blooming. The late summer and fall flowers are important food sources for all pollinators, not just the honeybees.

As food becomes scarce in the drier August month, some pollinators struggle to accumulate enough food stores for winter. Taking stock of what is in bloom and setting a reminder to plant these flowers come next summer, is a great way to help our local pollinators.

For winterization questions or winter beekeeping equipment, contact Rachel at info@homegrownbee.ca

### **Currently, the Salt Spring Island shelter is closed to walk-in business.**

Staff is responding to voice mails/e-mail daily and are able to set up appointments if you need to come in to the shelter.

Even though COVID has restricted our in-branch volunteer opportunities, the Salt Spring BCSPCA is in need of volunteers for jobs outside of the shelter. We are currently in need of foster homes for kittens and adult cats as well as help with our new TNR program.

If interested, please visit https://spca.bc.ca/ways-to-help/volunteer/

To see available animals for adoptions, please visit spca.bc.ca/adopt



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Program for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence 250-538-5569

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# Remember

#### Five years ago

Many of the voter information cards mailed by Elections Canada to Mayne Island residents with details about an Oct. 19 federal election had errors, including some that directed voters to polling stations on other Gulf Islands. Hundreds of voters in B.C., the Yukon and Saskatchewan also reported having received cards with faulty information.

#### Ten years ago

The provincial government named Salt Spring Island among 32 official solar communities. The distinction came with \$5,000 in funds to develop solar hot water programs and other solar initiatives in an effort to promote clean energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote a sustainable energy future. The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee had submitted the successful application to an RFP process.

#### Twenty years ago

Salt Spring voters approved a tax increase to complete ownership of recreational lands on Rainbow Road, with nearly 64 per cent of referendum participants voting in favour. Voters had rejected a proposal the previous year to sell off some of the Parks and Recreation Commission's other parkland parcels in order to pay off the mortgage.

#### Thirty years ago

There was a concerted effort by conservation groups and local government to have Crown land and private lands protected as parks on Salt Spring. The Crown Land Use Coalition was seeking park status for 276 hectares adjacent to Satellite Channel, and 16 hectares on Mount Bruce. The Islands Trust was asking Crown land officials to protect the Channel Islets and the Isabella Islets as ecological reserves, and CLUC and the Salt Spring Foundation had requested 88 hectares of Crown land on Mount Erskine be turned over to the community to go along with a purchase campaign. PARC meanwhile sought 285 hectares covering three parcels on Mount Sullivan, Mount Bruce and the Ford Lake valley.

#### Forty years ago

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee was informed by the Ministry of Highways that all future subdivisions would require a five per cent allocation of parkland, as indicated by provincial legislation.

#### Fifty years ago

Salt Spring's Ernest Haigh and his family were enjoying the summer holidays in Whangerei, New Zealand, after sailing their trimaran over 22,530 kilometers (14,000 miles) in 13 months. News of their port of call came through Gus Nitsch of Ganges, who remained in constant touch with the Haighs on short-wave radio.

#### Sixty years ago

Capt. George A. Maude, senior captain of the Gulf Islands Ferry Company, was honoured with a dockside presentation in Ganges celebrating his 30th anniversary as skipper of local ferries. Officials presented Maude with a cheque for his upcoming vacation and suggested a busman's holiday on a cruise ship might be just the thing.

Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

Hopefully, you were able to get in

some last licks of summer. You will

feel the shift this week to a more

sober and serious attitude. Posi-

tively, you will feel charged and

determined to make some impor-

Outer realties and circumstances

you assess how you can best se-

cure your position and that of your

A creative work focus continues.

Yet, it will shift from an emphasis

on your home or living environ-

ment to your relationships. Money

and finances will factor-in. As well,

the emphasis will take a definite

turn toward larger social realties,

truth, philosophy and matters of

ethics too. Private conversations

will also prove more satisfying and

you will prefer facts over theories.

with a more conservative mood.

express for the sake of preserving

With so much drama in the world

and on the airwaves, it may feel

extra difficult to maintain your

reason that it is much more im-

increasingly eager for new infor-

mation. While open to alternative

perspectives, you may notice your

opinions to be quite fixed. Consider

that healthy skepticism is about

A steady stream of new thoughts,

ideas and insights are activating

you mind. In turn, your imagina-

tion may be working overtime and

you are wise to keep it in-check

regarding conclusive attitudes.

increasingly determined to direct

vour focus towards practical re-

sults. Investment and profession-

alism describe the focus of your

You are focused on establishing

a whole new sense of balance in

your life. This includes strength-

ening your foundation. In turn,

this includes cleaning corners and

clearing the clutter, whether liter-

ally, regarding unfinished busi-

ness or to loosen the grip of fixed

perceptions. All the while, you are

focused to accomplish goals and

projects before starting new ones.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

strategy.

avoiding absolutes.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

your energy.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

family.

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Rita Tweddle

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**Obituaries** 

**Obituaries** 

**Obituaries** 

**Obituaries** 

In Memoriam

#### Dawn Tarrabain October 4th 1970 - August 28th 2020

Our beautiful Dawn passed away peacefully on Aug 28 2020 after her 3+ year battle with ALS, or Lou Gehrings disease.

Survived by loving husband William Todd Tamboline, sons Nicholas Tarrabain and Jacob Tamboline, sisters Trish Marshall, Lorri Trautman, brothers James (passed), Dwavne Tarrabain, nephews Raen Jordan (Dwayne), Keegan Trautman (Lorri), niece Keira Trautman (Lorri), Stepsiblings

Grant and Tina Tamboline and niece Abigail Tambolinen, Mushum and Kokum John and Alice Tourangeau.

Mother Velma Tarrabain passed in 2016. Dawn was born in Edmonton Alberta and moved to B.C. 20 years ago. Dawn worked as a front end supervisor cashier at Country Grocer, best known for keeping calm when it was busy, her quick wit, her genuine caring and loving for everyone, and most of all, for her most beautiful, radiant, contagious smile. Dawn kept this smile through out her fight with this horrible, unforgiving disease, never

complaining and so brave. Family always came first with Dawn, always thinking of others before herself. We all loved her so much and she will be sorely missed. Although Dawn's time with us was too short, we are embracing and cherishing the time we did have with her. It may have been too short, but we love you infinity baby.

We would like to thank Dr. Reznick and all the Lady Minto staff for taking such great care of Dawn, keeping her calm, comfortable and most importantly loved. We can't thank you enough. And to our own staff that helped take care of her at her home, Linda, Darlene, Meghan, Bonnie and Colleen. You all did an amazing job, we were so lucky to find you all. We love you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts, you're all very special people and you meant a lot to Dawn.

Dawns family will be having a private memorial to spread Dawns ashes and celebrate her life at her favourite place, and where she wanted to be married, Vesuvius beach.



Salt Spring Hospice

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#### TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Although you are taking new leads and strides, you also feel inclined to lay low and this will feel especially true for a while starting this week. Dealings with others, especially men, may be extra taxing tant decisions and power moves. of late. Although you do feel confident deep down, you have and are triggering your response as continue to contend with a barrage of low-lying fears. Altogether, you may feel the need to retreat, rest and heal.

#### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

While you are not the only one seeking retreat, you are among the first. However, you are not willing to simply drift and dream. Rather, you will be keenly focused to investigate, learn and get answers. You are determined to think for yourself and will not gladly suffer interference from others. As eager as you are to find hard facts, you will likely be contending with conflicting views.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) The Sun in Libra is usually an en-Truth and justice for all are cornerjoyable and playful cycle for you. However, with Venus entering stones of your principles. Realizing Virgo, the emphasis will be shared them in reality, however, is much harder to achieve and is your justification for feeling cynical. You tend Gathering knowledge by way of research especially, but also via to feel a sense of obligation to be of conversations, will prove satisfyservice to others by sharing your ining. You are probably wise to listerpretations and understanding of ten, receive and reflect more than things. Success in doing so includes

#### appreciating that your truths are, in fact, interpretations. Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

You naturally yearn to be seen, recognized, acknowledged, heard and heeded too. You are a warrior at poise and balance. Yet, it is for this heart and you may notice that you are quite in touch with this aspect portant, as well. You will become of yourself these days. At worst, you have a 'take no prisoners' attitude. Positively, you are able to see things more clearly than usual and vou want to. Mercury in Scorpio presents opportunities to integrate

#### new perspectives. Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Among your gifts is the unique ability to be both a creative, critical thinker and yet to remain detached. You instinctively advocate perspectives that support securing the rights, freedoms and liberties Intellectuality aside, you will be of people as individuals. Your focus of late is to exercise this innate talent for critical thinking even more than usual. Soon, you will feel compelled to share your views.

#### Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

You are undergoing a process of change. Positively, it is supporting you to feel more humble and appreciative of the significant people in your life. Seeing a bigger picture and seeing through popular interpretations for the sake feels important. Doing so however, could prove increasingly complex for a while, starting this week. Avoid drawing conclusions and be kind

#### **Coming Events**

#### Salt Spring Literacy Society **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Thursday, October 22 3:00 p.m.

Meeting held by Zoom; info@saltspringliteracy.org for a link to join the meeting. ALL WELCOME!

**Computer Services** 

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#### **GARAGE SALE**

Don your mask & come to 2275 North End Road this Saturday, 8:30-4 and Sunday 10-2.

Books, beads, collectibles. Some things used, some new.

Little bit of everything.

No haggling, please.

#### Rita celebrated her 90th birthday on September 2nd and passed away on September 23rd. She was a Yorkshire lass who immigrated to Canada with her husband nearly 50 years ago, bringing her famous mushy peas recipe with her. Her two sons also immigrated to Canada

and gave her four grandchildren to love and cherish. In recent years she also had the chance to love and cherish two great

granddaughters. A much travelled woman with

penchant for shoes and purses, she enjoyed company and outings well into her elder years. Her coffee ladies were a great source of support after losing her husband and continued to be a great source of friendship and entertainment afterwards, as well.

Many thanks to Doctor Rustad and all the health care supporters that allowed us to care for her in our home. She will be missed by all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to one of her favourite charities:

Hope for Wildlife https://www.hopeforwildlife.net/

Knowledge Network https://www.knowledge.ca/donate/single

For those who love, time is not. Missing you today and always.

#### KENNETH MACKENZIE

After a short 3 week stay at Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island B.C., Ken passed peacefully on Sept. 18, 2020. Born September 30, 1932 in Montreal, Quebec to parents John and Elizabeth Mackenzie, Ken was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, energetically

engaged in life. Ken worked tirelessly supporting his family as a CN Railwayman (Montreal, 1952-1986). Ken demonstrated unwavering devotion to his wife of 63 years, the late Peggy Mackenzie

and Victoria and Godfather to Dale Blenkhorn. Predeceased by his siblings: Jack (Pat), Ronny (Claire), David (Barbra).

(Ramsay), and his three sons: Doug, Keith (June),

Donald (Luis), was the loving grandfather of Chanelle

Ken was a founding member of Maplewood Presbyterian Church, Chateauguay Quebec, soccer coach, Past President CN Pensioners Association, Kelowna. He enjoyed gardening, playing golf, bowling, ballroom dancing, and most of all, telling stories. His last three years, as a widower, Ken lived mostly independently, supported by family and his kind supportive carer Kelly, he still had many good adventures and somehow even more stories to share.

Sadly, there can be no service or public celebration

of his life at this time. The family will gather, remember

and give thanks over Thanksgiving weekend on Salt Spring Island, B.C., his final home. 210 Q1L



# SPORTS + RECREATION

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

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

**TENNIS** 

### Youth tennis program lands top coach

Piers Zdan at Centre Court

Salt Spring Tennis has a new Centre Court indoor tennis coaching staff member.

Coaches Marjorie Blackwood and Peter Schelling say they are thrilled with the arrival of Piers Zdan, a highly certified Tennis Canada Coach 2 who has specialized in developing junior players in both Victoria and North Vancouver.

"My goal is to expand the community of junior and adult tennis players through a values-based system — respect, health, enjoyment," said Blackwood, who is a former Canadian champion tennis player. "We are so lucky to have a coach of Pier's expertise and energy to take community tennis on Salt Spring to the next level."

Blackwood said Zdan's first initiative will help kids improve their skills in fun and engaging learn-to-play programs with scaled-back racquets, balls and courts for each age range and level of young play-



PIERS ZDAN

offer a development stream for more ambitious young players who wish to compete in local leagues and tournaments on or off island.

er. Zdan will also

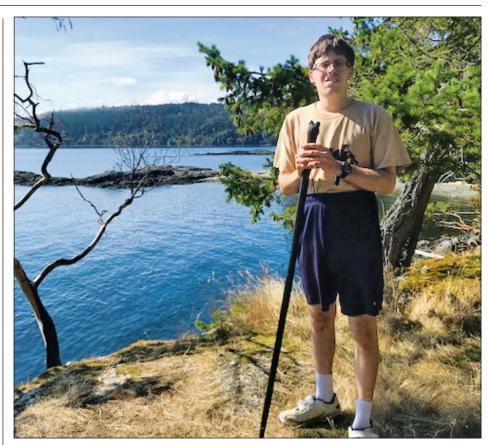
"The addition of regular Friday match play will be a huge bonus for our local kids,"

said Blackwood.

Junior programs are available for ages six to 16.

"Tennis is one of the best and safest sports to play and learn during this pandemic, with COVID protocols in place at Centre Court," added Blackwood.

For information about the program and space availability, people can contact Zdan at piers.zdan@hotmail.com.



ON THE TRAIL FOR TERRY: Noel Back participates in the Terry Fox One Day, Your Way event on Sept. 20 by hiking on the Tsawout reserve trail. Back raised \$335 of Salt Spring's \$4,310 total reported as of last week. The event marking the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's run was held differently due to COVID-19 restrictions, with individuals and their "bubbles" walking, running or cycling and raising money for the Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research at the same time.

### Navigating a better tomorrow.

As we safely return to travelling within BC, we're continuing to work towards a better tomorrow. At BC Ferries, we've listened to the needs of our customers and are launching a new mobile-friendly website to make travelling the Coast a better experience for everyone.

Our new website will make planning, booking and paying for your trip easier, so you can connect with the people and places that matter to you most. This is one of the ways we're evolving to make your next journey smoother, and to keep our customers and communities safe. We look forward to sharing the Coast with you again and hope to see you soon.

#### Introducing a new website to make planning, booking and paying easier.



#### Info at a glance.

See daily schedules for all routes. travel conditions at major terminals, and everything else you need to plan your journey.



#### Easy travel for BC seniors.

If you are a senior, you can now book your senior fare online for Tsawwassen -Southern Gulf Island routes as part of a vehicle or passenger booking



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Our new trip planner helps you find sailings and calculate your fare. Passenger only bookings are now also available for those travelling between Tsawwassen – Southern Gulf Islands.

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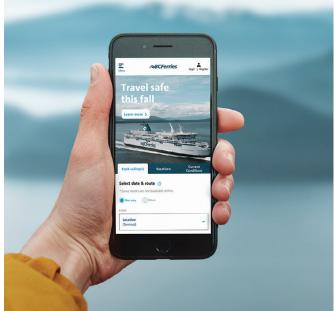
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