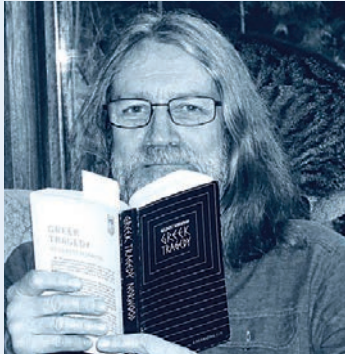


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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**TREAT TIME:** Gisele and Jerome Emekoba are happy to get their first handfuls of candy in celebration of Halloween. For more Halloween photos see page 17.

## MARINE TRAFFIC

# Anchorage issue hits parliament

Frustration prompts private member's bill

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Coastal residents concerned about the environmental impacts and nuisance caused by freighter anchorages have found an advocate in Cowichan-Malahat-Langford representative Alistair MacGregor.

The NDP Member of Parliament introduced a private member's bill last week that seeks to amend the Canada Shipping Act to prohibit the anchoring of freighter vessels in the southern Strait of Georgia. The area currently hosts 33 designated anchorage spots that are used by commercial vessels waiting to enter the Port of Vancouver. Increased usage and length of stay has produced considerable noise and light pollution for people who live close by the anchorages, while they and many other coastal residents are also alarmed at the

risk to sensitive ocean ecosystems.

Speaking to the Driftwood on Friday, MacGregor said he's aware some people may feel a legislative approach is extreme, but it's a way to bring the issue into focus when all previous attempts have failed to produce any regulatory change.

"I would say this private member's bill is the result of years of frustration in trying to deal with Transport Canada, Transport Minister Marc Garneau and the Port of Vancouver," MacGregor said. "We still haven't seen anything satisfactory coming out of that."

Opposition members are coming together to shift the inertia of those in power. Saanich-Gulf Islands' Green MP Elizabeth May has agreed to sign onto the bill as a seconder. During his recent election campaign, NDP MLA Murray Rankin said a pro-

vincial NDP government would back federal NDP leader Jagmeet Singh to advance the matter in Parliament.

MacGregor argues the Interim Anchorage Protocol the federal government established in 2018 in response to public outcry has been inadequate, and since its provisions are voluntary, they are often not followed at all. Recent years have instead seen an increase to the number of freighters, and the length of their stay at anchor.

"Community groups and First Nations have made repeated calls to Transport Canada to protect ancient clam beds, prawns, oysters and endangered species, such as the southern resident killer whales, from the environmental impact of the anchored shipping vessels," MacGregor said.

**ANCHORAGES** continued on 2

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## EDUCATION

# SD64 adds reconfiguration scenarios to list

Galiano remains opposed to mandatory Pender hub

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands school trustees received more information last Wednesday on possible school configuration scenarios and how they might impact the operating budget, which is currently projected to produce a \$1.1-million annual deficit unless something changes.

Senior staff presented some new cost modelling during the school board's committee-of-the-whole meeting on Oct. 28, following requests from trustees and community members at the September board meeting.

These included a slight variation on the previous scenario preferred by staff, which would close Salt Spring Middle School, make Salt Spring elementary schools for grades K to 7 and create a junior high program on Pender for all southern Gulf Islands students in grades 8 and 9. The variation would establish the new catchment area but allow some students on the outer islands to attend school on Salt Spring in grades 6 to 9 for special programs like French Immersion and the

Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts, or if they needed to access learning services.

Both of the above scenarios would additionally require finding \$250,000 of savings in school and \$160,000 in administration budgets, and consolidating two Salt Spring school bus routes.

District secretary-treasurer Jesse Guy explained a junior high program with no exceptions for outer islands students would allow the district to achieve a modest surplus of \$55,000 per year with the additional funding awarded by the Ministry of Education for students attending smaller, remote schools. The revised scenario with some students attending school on Salt Spring would potentially create a \$5,000 deficit.

"So we would have less revenue for unique geographical features, but it is still doable and there would be room on the water taxi," Guy said.

A completely new scenario in the modelling has outer islands students attending high school on Salt Spring starting in Grade 9 as they currently do, but has Salt Spring students start in Grade 8 with the middle school closed. That is projected to create a \$50,000 deficit, and would also require finding other savings — imagined in the modelling as cutting all funding for board-

ing students, charging school bus transportation fees and cutting itinerant staff that serve all the islands.

Creating a Pender hub with completely optional junior high and grad programs would likewise involve finding savings in multiple areas, while attendance is projected to be low, reducing the potential for program offerings at that school.

**"With increased critical mass, I would be excited about the benefits and the educational experience for our students in Grade 8 and Grade 9."**

ADRIAN PENDERGAST  
*Principal, Pender and Saturna island schools*

Guy suggested it's a question of balancing objectives, and whether having more choice is worth losing other things.

"By reducing the revenue you're actually reducing the programming that's available

to everyone in the district," Guy said, noting that includes Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Adrian Pendergast, who is principal of the Pender and Saturna schools, gave a convincing presentation on the Pender facility's potential as part of the information session. He noted there are separate wings for K to 7 grades and for junior-secondary high school classes. Improvements to equipment mean media arts will be possible at the school soon, and space is being renovated to improve the science lab. There is room for other renovations and repurposing if the fuller junior high program goes ahead.

Pendergast explained that many of the programs parents have specifically mentioned as potentially not being available at Pender are already taking place there. These include a travelling basketball team, drama and woodwork.

"We do have a great facility capable of growth. With increased critical mass, I would be excited about the benefits and the educational experience for our students in Grade 8 and Grade 9," Pendergast said.

Administrative staff have suggested the school could specialize in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) studies as an attractive feature. Pender has

excelled in this area recently: students took home the first-place prize in every age category at the Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair in 2019. The music program led by teacher Ben McConchie has also been recognized.

The Pender junior high cohort would average between 35 and 40 students if the mandatory outer islands catchment area was established. Staff said there could be up to five teachers for the different subjects, not just one or two teachers for everything, although those teachers wouldn't all have full-time hours.

Opposition to the idea of a mandatory junior high program on Pender has been especially high on Galiano Island. Caitlin Hertzcarick, who chairs the Galiano Parent Advisory Committee and is the District Parent Advisory Committee representative to the school board, observed the board said it would move forward on reconfiguration "with strong support."

"In terms of support, there's been strong opposition to these changes," Hertzcarick said.

DPAC has repeatedly asked the district to slow down the reconfiguration process.

The school board has identified its Nov. 18 meeting as the date when a reconfiguration motion might be considered.

## Area First Nations also impacted

### ANCHORAGES

continued from 1

MacGregor said he realizes the Port of Vancouver is important to the economy and that billions of dollars of commerce pass through there every day. However, the local economy is very dependent on tourism, which he says is not served by freighter presence.

"I think it's incredibly inefficient for those ships to be lying in wait at their anchors for six, seven, eight weeks," he added.

As to where ships will go if they can't anchor around the Gulf Islands and eastern Vancouver Island, MacGregor said the federal government and port authority could work on regulatory changes that would include better coordination on vessel scheduling, so ships don't arrive all at the same time. More anchorages could additionally be created in English Bay, as a less welcome approach.

Coordinates mapped out in the bill largely correspond to a proposed National Marine Conservation Area, plus added space to include the anchorages located off Gabriola Island.

As another key voice calling for change, the Islands Trust supports the amendment.

"MP MacGregor's private member's bill to prohibit the anchoring of freighters along the southern Strait of Georgia offers a long overdue solution to an issue that the Islands Trust Council has been advocating on for many years," Trust Council chair Peter Luckham said in a statement to the Driftwood. "Despite promises, and years of investigation through the Oceans Protection Plan, the federal government has not provided

recommendations or solutions to prevent sensitive coastal habitats being used as an industrial parking lot for the Port of Vancouver. The proposed bill would force industry to develop new practices that avoid endangering the coastal waters and shorelines of the Southern Gulf Islands."

First Nations whose territories are impacted say they were not consulted about the anchorages, nor did they give their consent when they were first established. Many of the nations in the area have already signed on to support MacGregor's bill. The Penelakut Tribe is also in the process of preparing legal action to force an end to the anchorages as a violation of their aboriginal rights, including a decline in seafood availability.

As Chief Joan Brown stated in a letter of support of the bill, "We are experiencing invasive species on our beaches and waterways which are a direct result of freighter parking. Dialogue with DFO [Fisheries and Oceans Canada] has confirmed that the pumping of ballast tanks, pumping of bilges, dragging of anchors, dumping of garbage and waste, and continuous noise from generators have combined to seriously threaten our livelihoods and traditional ways of life."

MacGregor is hoping that introducing the bill will draw more action on the issue, and he is looking for widespread community support to keep that action alive. His office will be launching paper and electronic petitions against the anchorages in the coming weeks, and he would also welcome people sending letters to Transport Minister Marc Garneau.

For more information, see <https://alistairmacgregor.ndp.ca>.

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CRD

## TRANSPORTATION

# North Ganges improvements near completion

Booth Canal to Baker path construction opened to tender

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A long-running project to improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in Ganges village is nearing completion after more than a decade in the making.

Reporting to the Salt Spring Transportation Commission on Thursday, local Capital Regional District engineering manager Allen Xu said the North Ganges Transportation Plan is due to wrap up soon. The final phase of the project has brought raised sidewalks, marked bike lanes and new crosswalks to a busy stretch of Lower Ganges and Rainbow roads.

"We are actually ahead of schedule. We were planning to get it done roughly by the end of November/early December — now we are substantially completed," Xu said.

The project is also likely to come in somewhat under budget, although final invoices have not yet been paid. Xu said there is a list of minor fixes that contractor Don Mann Excavating will need to address first, such as areas where line painting was done incorrectly. Grading on some drainage catch basins also needs to be improved.

"The contractor is urged to correct the deficiencies in a very timely manner. If those deficiencies are not corrected, they will be deducted from the final amount," Xu said.

Electoral area director Gary Holman reminded commissioners that bids for the construction contract had come in higher than expected, but CRD staff had been

able to negotiate around \$130,000 off the accepted bid for a total contract of \$1.696 million. Xu estimated there may be up to \$100,000 coming back, although it could also be more or less than that number.

"If we could come away with some of that contingency, that would be icing on the cake. But anything I've heard from a number of folks is they're really, really pleased to see it come to fruition," Holman said.

"It's a job well done. I've heard nothing but good remarks around it," commented commissioner Gary Lehman.

The commission's other major project for this year has also seen significant progress, with the base of a pathway from Central to Baker Road completed this summer. Xu said the parks and recreation crew who were building the pathway had to work on other assignments during most of September and October. They were just about to add the surface layer to complete that section of pathway.

A tendering process has been opened for the second phase of construction, which will extend the pathway all the way to Booth Canal Road in 2021.

The commission had some discussion on whether using the parks crew to build roadside pathways was successful or not, since this was the first time the CRD had tried cross-assigning those staff members. Xu said that significant training and guidance from engineering staff had been required, and perhaps the Baker Road-Vesuvius Bay Road segment was too complex for their skill level and experience.

In addition, the crew didn't have the right equipment, and senior staff were required to act as contractors, which took away time from other work.

"I thought they did a very good job considering who

they are and what equipment they had," Lehman said. "I call the end result a 'Roman road' because I think it's going to be there for 2,000 years, the way the design was."

Responding to questions from Lehman and commissioner Peter Meyer as to whether the crew could build simpler pathways in the future, Xu said that would need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. More discussion is expected to take place at the commission's strategic planning session on Nov. 24.

Also at Thursday's meeting, the commission worked on amending guidelines for art-inspired design-built bus shelters. Those guidelines are now set for legal review. A process by which more unique shelters could be created on the island has been a matter of contention between the commission, community advocates and CRD staff for some years.

## COVID-19

## COVID vigilance needed as cases rise

Community advised to get flu vaccine

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Local and provincial health officials are urging residents of British Columbia to take more caution in their social interactions as COVID-19 cases continue to surge.

Deputy provincial health officer Dr. Réka Gustafson reported Monday there were 1,120 new cases of COVID-19 over the weekend, including a new daily record for new cases with 389 on Saturday.

B.C. reached its previous record number in daily cases on Oct. 24 with 317 new positive test results. The upswing over the past few weeks caused Henry to issue a new health order on Oct. 26 limiting social gatherings in private homes to no more than six guests in addition to household members.

Island Health, which reported 265 cases of COVID-19 in total and 13 active cases on Monday, has been extremely fortunate in having a low rate of infection so far.

"There is good work being done by the Vancouver Island Health Authority in making sure we have provisions in place to protect our care homes, and we don't have high numbers of circulating virus in the community," said Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer. "They've done an amazing job of protecting long-term care homes here on the

island."

Local officials say now is not the time to get complacent, even if the majority of B.C. cases are centred in the Lower Mainland.

"Although Vancouver Island has continued to maintain relatively low numbers of cases, we cannot rely on our physical separation from the rest of the province to maintain our current status. It is crucial that we maintain vigilance with our individual and collective actions," said Dr. David Butcher, chief of staff at Lady Minto Hospital.

"COVID has been devastating to residents of long-term care facilities where there have been outbreaks. We have been able to avoid any community or facility outbreaks on Salt Spring so far and we need to continue to do so."

Island physicians are asking that community members keep things safe by observing the following precautions: people should maintain bubbles of immediate family and a "safe six" of family and friends; apply physical distancing when in public or with people not in their bubble; wear a mask to reduce droplet spread and limit the potential to spread viral particles from infected individuals, who may not be visibly ill; and wash hands frequently.

Doctors also strongly recommend getting an influenza vaccine, which is now available on island, said Butcher.

"Flu vaccination remains an important means to protect individuals from illness and prevent community spread with the

potential for a 'twindemic.'"

Salt Spring's family doctors are working with public health and community partners to provide vaccinations at a community flu clinic taking place this weekend at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

"Individual physician offices have limited capacity to offer flu shots to individuals while maintaining COVID infection control practices so we have been encouraging our patients to attend the community flu clinic if at all possible. Local pharmacies are also providing flu vaccinations," Butcher said.

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## LIQUID WASTE

# Septage site policies questioned

CRD hears challenges  
faced by local hauler

BY GAIL SJUBERG

DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

Frustrating issues for Salt Spring's two septic-hauling companies were flushed out at a meeting of the island's liquid waste commission last Tuesday.

Cal Mills from All Out Septic Pumping was invited to speak directly to commission members and Capital Regional District staff when they met for the Salt Spring Island Liquid Waste Local Service Commission's annual general meeting at Lions Hall.

Mills had sent the commission a letter in response to changes made to the transfer facility at Burgoyne Bay in the past year. On Tuesday Mills said some things had improved in the last year through discussions with CRD staff but that reduced facility hours and being charged a \$100 fine for use of the site outside of those hours were still contentious. With the facility closed at 4 p.m., that meant he could not deal with emergency pump-outs or schedule ones after 2 p.m. without being fined. A number of his call-outs are for emergencies and occur or are discovered

by homeowners on weekends, he said. Mills noted that no CRD staff costs are incurred when haulers have to access the site after hours, so he questioned the rationale for the fine policy.

"Who are we trying to penalize?" he asked. "Are we trying to discourage me from working more? Or are we trying to discourage people from having emergencies? That's what I'm not quite understanding. If we put a fine on it, that discourages me from going after hours, but for what reason?"

He said that the CRD might be trying to accommodate the needs of two neighbours that bought properties next to the septic receiving site, but that the other 10,000 people on the island are affected by the \$100 fine policy.

CRD senior manager Karla Campbell confirmed that consideration for neighbours was one reason hours were reduced, adding that the CRD must use a right-of-way through neighbouring properties to access the site. Dan Robson, manager of Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands operations for the CRD, also said the CRD wanted to bring the Salt Spring facility into alignment with others in his operating group in terms of the hours.

"What I would say is that even though we say 4 p.m. [is closing time], they have been there longer without financial implication," said Robson.

Commission chair Mary Richardson suggested that the access hours issue could be explored further with CRD staff.

Mills also noted that neither he nor Gulf Islands Septic personnel were consulted about what would work or not work when the facility was upgraded in the past few years, which resulted in further problems.

Because so many island property owners don't pump out their septic tanks on a regular basis, the material tends to be thick and difficult to transfer from the truck through the new Burgoyne Bay site infrastructure, he explained.

"It would probably benefit you guys as well to try and understand and involve us a bit more," he said.

He recalled discussing the problems with an engineer involved with designing the new facility, who said, "Wow, I did not realize you guys hauled such thick loads."

"If that's not the most absurd thing I've ever heard," Mills said. "You've got a guy that spent a lot of money on a facility to accommodate two people and he didn't even know what we were hauling."

Richardson asked Mills about the impact of contaminants like baby wipes in a septic tank load. He said he has occasionally pumped a 600-gallon tank where half of that amount consisted of baby wipes.

"If you haven't pumped out your tank in 10 years and you've gone through three children, [the wipes] are all in there."

Richardson said that kind of situation called for increased promotion of "septic savviness."

The commission also approved the \$892,000 2021 operating budget for the liquid waste service and recommended approval of a \$2.385-million five-year capital plan to the Electoral Area Services Commission and CRD Board. That plan anticipates a referendum asking ratepayers to approve \$2 million in borrowing for a treatment and disposal system in 2022. At present the site is used only as a transfer facility, with waste taken to the SPL Wastewater Recovery Centre in Victoria. Before treatment can be considered, however, two old lagoons that have not been used since 1998 must be thoroughly investigated for environmental concerns and then closed.

Salt Spring property owners will see a slight increase in their parcel tax for liquid waste in 2021, rising to \$64.26 from \$62.91 in 2020. The tipping fee will also be raised to \$0.445 per imperial gallon from \$0.440, which will be reflected in the cost of having a septic tank pumped by one of the private companies.

Richardson was also the guest at last week's ASK Salt Spring session held at the greenhouse at Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply.



## NOTICE OF NOMINATION SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOUR TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for four trustees will be received between:

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During which period the nomination documents shall only be received during the office hours of Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Ganges Fire Hall or arrangements may be made to file nomination documents by phoning Anthony Kennedy, Returning Officer at (250) 537-8815.

Of four Trustee positions which will commence at the close of the 2020 Annual General meeting to be held on Monday December 14 2020: two positions are for a three year term ending at the close of the Annual General Meeting held in 2023; one position is for a two year term ending at the close of the Annual General Meeting held in 2022; and one position is for a one year term ending at the close of the Annual General Meeting held in 2021. The length of terms for those elected will be determined according to the number of votes received with the higher receiving the longer terms.

The Election will be held exclusively by mail-in ballot. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters or may be obtained from the office of the Ganges Fire Hall beginning on **Friday, 27 November, 2020**. Ballots will be received by mail or delivered in person addressed to the Returning Officer at the Ganges Fire Hall. Election results will be announced at the Annual General Meeting noted above.

Candidates shall be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District. Nomination forms may be obtained at the Ganges Fire Hall or from Anthony A. Kennedy, Returning Officer (250) 537-8815

Those persons eligible to vote at this election will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen
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3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to this election
4. Be an owner of land within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
5. One vote is also allowed for each board or corporation that owns land within the Fire Protection District. The Board or Corporation must designate one person in writing to act as an authorized agent to vote on its behalf.

If more than one person is registered on title as owner of land, then those owners may vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. Such persons must be listed on the register of eligible voters or present documents indicating their ownership. No persons may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Ganges, B.C.  
This 21st October 2020

Anthony A. Kennedy  
Returning Officer



## CRIME

# RCMP provide quarterly stats

Huge range of activities detailed

## SUBMITTED BY SSI RCMP

Responding to community interest, Salt Spring RCMP will attempt to provide call volume information at different times throughout the year. This specific news article will include a listing of some investigations and various complaints in the third quarter of 2020.

As of Oct. 1, Salt Spring RCMP have responded to over 2,200 calls this year, averaging eight to nine calls per day. Approximately 700 calls were received by Salt Spring RCMP during the July 1 to Sept. 30 third-quarter period. This number does not include traffic stops, licensed premises checks or park patrols. Some of the calls for this quarter are detailed below:

### July

- Salt Spring RCMP assisted Victoria Police Department with their search for a missing person.

- Salt Spring RCMP entered into an investigation involving multiple sexual assaults that occurred on Salt Spring Island this summer. With the help of Vancouver Island General Investigative Service, the suspects were subsequently arrested and charges pending.

- Local constables were requested to assist the local Coast Guard unit regarding an overturned dinghy in the Ganges Harbour and a missing male. The dinghy was secured and the male was later found uninjured.

- Responded to multiple interpersonal disputes during the month of July from various locations across Salt Spring.

- A cyclist vs. car incident was reported to police where the cyclist was thrown onto the hood of a passing vehicle. Police attended the scene; the cyclist was assessed at the hospital for injuries.

- Police responded to multiple reports of "shots fired" firearms calls throughout the island. After investigation, it was determined that fireworks and legal hunting actions represented the bulk of the complaints.

- A local business reported a theft of over \$4,000 worth of equipment. Police attended and a forensic-based investigation was conducted.

- Thefts of property, ranging from wallets to vehicles, were reported to police during this time.

- It was reported to police that two local residents were yelling at vehicles and pedestrians downtown, claiming tourists were stealing their cell phone airtime. Police attended and spoke with the males, mediating the situation.

- Police assisted Lady Minto Hospital staff with an aggressive male who was causing a disturbance; the male was subsequently arrested and lodged in cells for the night.

- RCMP attended the downtown Ganges area for a male yelling and screaming. The male was found by police and the situation mediated.

- Police responded to multiple complaints of impaired drivers throughout Salt Spring; warnings, violation tickets and impaired driving charges were laid.

- Due to a domestic violence threat involving firearms, RCMP arrested the male suspect, placed him on conditions not to be on Salt Spring Island and recommended charges to Crown and a firearms prohibition.

- Police responded to three separate incidents of a male exposing his genitalia



Salt Spring RCMP detachment.

DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

in public. The identity of the male was determined and charges recommended.

- Multiple complaints involving missing persons and mental health concerns were received by Salt Spring RCMP throughout the month.

### August

- Multiple Quarantine Act complaints were received by SSI RCMP of people not acting in accordance with provincial and federal law. These complaints ranged from people not quarantining for the required 14 days to travelling from the U.S.; no charges were laid but formal direction was given to people not complying with the law.

- Three acts of slashed vehicle tires on varied dates at varied locations were received by police; one arrest was made thus far.

- Multiple calls were made to police of 30-40 campers setting up a large campsite at Musgrave Landing. An initial campsite was created by some campers, and then a large group attended for the New Moon celebration in late August. By early-mid September, the campers still had not left the area. Police direction was given again and everyone eventually left the area.

- A CRD bylaw officer was assaulted in Centennial Park; the suspect was arrested and charged.

- Police responded to a local hotel for guests who refused to leave their room after staying the previous night; the guests departed upon learning of police involvement.

- Various complaints were received, including sexual assault, multiple illegal cannabis grow-operations, harassment, and others.

- Multiple complaints were received by SSI RCMP of public drinking, loud noise and disturbances in Centennial Park; police repeatedly attended Centennial Park to address the ongoing issues. Other complaints included sleeping in the park or people sleeping in front of various commercial buildings or stealing electricity.

- Multiple incidents of mischief (vandalism) were reported to police, resulting from thrown rocks through business windows, thrown rocks through a camper window, etc. An arrest was made and charges recommended to Crown for the rocks that were thrown through the local restaurant windows.

- Numerous property complaints, including lost/found wallets and various personal items were received throughout the month.

- Multiple complaints were received throughout the month of different suicidal persons needing immediate assessment and response; police attended and assessed or apprehended persons for assessment as necessary.

- A theft from a residential property was reported to police; the stolen property was valued at over \$10,000. The investigation is continuing.

- Multiple traffic complaints were received, including speeding, failing to obey a stop sign, driving without insurance, abandoned vehicles, and people living in vehicles throughout the island.

### September

- A report of a stolen vehicle was received by police; it was learned that the keys had been left in the ignition and the vehicle taken by an unknown person. The vehicle was recovered.

- Two SSI RCMP officers were assaulted by individuals and their dog during an attempted warrant execution. Both parties were eventually arrested and additional charges recommended.

- Complaints of individuals juggling fire in Centennial Park were received by police.

- Police responded to multiple reports of car/motorcycle/bicycle/scooter collisions throughout the island.

- Upon request from the Ministry of Child and Family Development, police assisted with follow-up on various child welfare complaints.

- Additional complaints were received by police regarding campers at Musgrave Landing violating environmental laws concerning public urination and defecation.

- Police continued to investigate the incidents that occurred at Island Savings Credit Union (urine dumping) and Beachside (feces smearing).

- Police attended an uttering threats complaint where a person threatened to shoot someone who had asked for loud music to be turned down.

- Multiple bylaw complaints were received by Salt Spring RCMP concerning the ongoing issues in Centennial Park.

- Police responded to multiple vehicle vs. deer collisions throughout the island. These collisions often resulted in vehicle damage and an animal fatality.

In the 92 days of the third quarter: 10 reports of sexual assault were made to police on Salt Spring Island, 22 assaults were reported, 25 check well-being requests were made to police, and 32 mental health-related complaints were received.

In addition to the 700+ reports made to police during the 2020 third quarter, SSI RCMP also conducted 315 foot patrols through Centennial Park and other parks on Salt Spring Island, and conducted 96 licenced premises (bar) checks.

The Christmas season and winter driving conditions will soon be upon us. SSI RCMP personnel encourage residents to ensure their vehicles are in good working order and that headlights, brake lights and tail lights are all operational. The charge for a non-operating headlight is \$109; it's \$167 for failing to obey a stop sign, and an immediate roadside prohibition can result in thousands of dollars in fines and mandatory courses, impound fees and a driving prohibition.

Please drive smart and stay safe.

## Here's My Card



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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@driftwoodgimedi.com



# OPINION



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

**2019 BCYCN Awards**  
Gold - Best Arts & Culture Writing (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best Environmental Writing (Gail Sjuberg)  
Silver - Best Multimedia Feature (Marc Kitteringham)  
Silver - Community Service | New Journalist of the Year (Marc Kitteringham)



## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Resurging relevance

Remembrance Day is just around the corner, with the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War being commemorated this year.

As the number of veterans who served in that conflict continues to dwindle, some people might question what or who is being remembered. Yet the message of honouring sacrifices made by individuals who did so in order to prevent tyrants from ruling the world and upending democracy is as vital today as it ever was.

Clearly, democracy is under threat in many places where it has been established around the world. That is most alarmingly the case in the United States, where the sitting president has stated he may not transfer power peacefully if he does not get the result he wants in this week's election, and where he appears to have significant support for that position.

### THE ISSUE: Remembrance Day 2020

### WE SAY: A way to celebrate democracy

Judging by the crowds of people who continue to come out to the ceremony in Ganges, bringing their children and grandchildren, Remembrance Day is still extremely relevant to many. Things will be different this year, with no parade and physical distancing in effect at Centennial Park. But the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, which is responsible for Remembrance Day activities, has done its best to keep the tradition vibrant while respecting rules in order to keep attendees safe.

Salt Spring's branch of the Legion is also an extremely active organization that has adapted well to the challenges of COVID-19, re-opening under provincial guidelines to provide social opportunities and continuing to raise funds that support so many other non-profit groups in the community.

Islanders can ensure the local Legion branch is there in perpetuity by taking out a membership, patronizing the Legion as a guest, otherwise donating to the cause or volunteering for specific projects.

Poppy sales are also underway, and wreaths can be purchased for the Remembrance Day ceremony, although they will be pre-placed at the cenotaph this year.

Today, more than ever, we must stand together in defence of institutions and ideals that are once again under threat.

## THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

I KNOW HOW HE FEELS



PARKER

## Pandemic denials anger

BY LISA SIGURGEIRSON  
MAXX

You're walking into the Tuesday Farmers' Market to get fresh vegetables grown on this sweet little island you live on, and you slow your pace to see what the pamphlets are about that are on this table where the mask-offering table used to stand.

The man behind the table says pleasantly, "Take as many pamphlets as you want."

You smile behind your mask (though eyes smile, too, which is nice), and you try to focus on what this table is all about. There are no masks being offered here at the entrance to this market today.

Then the man behind the table says, "We really want people to know that there is no pandemic."

Your blood instantly boils. You lean slightly closer towards him, with your mask on, of course, you look him in the eye and you say, "Don't even."

He says something else, which you do not register because your blood is boiling and your ire is up.

You interrupt his rant and lean somewhat closer (you are still 1.5 to two metres away from him) and you say, loudly, forcefully, through

### VIEWPOINT

your mask, "I am immunocompromised. Don't. Even. Start."

You walk away. Your heart is racing.

A woman who has overseen this scene offers you a quiet "Thank you." She talks with you awhile. Your heart calms. Your breathing slows. You thank her. She was the touchstone of sanity you needed in that moment.

You carry on and purchase your organic vegetables, grown on this sweet little island you call home. As you leave the market, the man and a couple of his buddies are there, packing up their "information" pamphlets. You decide to say something as you walk by, carrying heavy baskets full of squash and potatoes and other root vegetables, back to your vehicle.

You say, "I have a request of any of you who do not believe there is a pandemic. I ask that you go and volunteer in an ICU ward where they are dealing with COVID patients. Then come back and tell us about it."

He blurts out a comeback immediately, without even a pause for thought. "They aren't COVID patients," he says. "There's no COVID

patients. There's no way of isolating the virus to know what it actually is that people are sick with."

If you had more energy, or more interest in engaging further, you would have said, "Oh? and how many years did you study epidemiology?"

But you don't. So you carry on the last few metres to your car. You are tired. And your baskets are heavy.

He carries on talking as you carry on walking away.

"Just try to have an open mind," he calls after you. "That's all we ask," he says. "You'll be happier!"

That one gets you. "Oh I am very happy!" you call out over your shoulder as you carry on walking.

There is so much more that you would like to say. If it would make a difference. But it won't. So you don't.

And, as bizarre as it seems to your brain, he, you see, wants to make a difference in the way you are thinking. Imagine, you thinking there is a pandemic! How silly of you.

So you load the beautiful, local produce into your waiting vehicle, and you drive yourself to your sweet little island home. Yeah, you think to yourself with an unbelieving shake of your head, so that happened.

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Would you support  
school transportation  
fees?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Have you been  
duped by online  
misinformation?

25 70  
YES NO

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



# OPINION { QUOTE OF THE WEEK: }

**"Are we trying to discourage me from working more? Or are we trying to discourage people from having emergencies?"**

CAL MILLS, ALL OUT SEPTIC PUMPING, RE CRD RULES

## SALT SPRING SAYS

**WE ASKED:** *Why is Remembrance Day an important tradition to continue?*

**AMÉDÉE CHAPPUS SIKICH**



My one grandfather fought in Dieppe and survived and my other grandfather marched to school with the soldiers. I teach my kids so they remember their great-grandfathers.

**LANCE LEASK**



My dad fought in the Second World War, and I think about him every day.

**JENNIFER SHAW**



It's good for everyone to think about the people that were there without understanding what would be thrown at them, especially in the two world wars.

**NEALE SMITH**



It's an important tradition to hold because a lot of people fought for our freedoms.

**LISA COLES**



It is important for me to teach my kids that people sacrificed their lives for the freedoms we have today — and I'm proud now they show up to the ceremonies on their own.

## LETTERS to the editor

### Use and celebrate pathways

Island Pathways and the CRD have been working hard over the years to create community pathways to get all pedestrians off the roads and onto safe off-road pathways, especially around Ganges.

One of our biggest motivators has been our Salt Spring students. That includes our high-school students walking on Rainbow Road every day into Ganges for lunch and to and from school off the Scholarship and Graduate water taxis from other islands, all the schools' P.E. classes that run a circuit that includes Atkins and Rainbow roads, and all the elementary classes that are doing so much healthy out-

side walking these days. We want everyone to be safe.

As we are sure everyone is aware, there is now a brilliant new sidewalk on Rainbow and Lower Ganges roads that we have been waiting for, well, for longer than most of our students have been alive. The completion of this section of the Ganges Village Pathway Network marks the actual completion of the original network that was envisioned by this community and that has been embedded in our official community plan for a long time. It is completed. This is something to celebrate!

There is also a new section of the GVPN from Portlock Park almost to Baker Road and the rest of this section of path, all the way to Booth Canal Road, should be completed in the first few months of the new year. This will be

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)

even more to celebrate.

We want pedestrians and mobility scooters off the road and we want cyclists in their own cycle lanes. It brings a smile to our faces every time we see these pathways being used and islanders safely enjoying a walk. Maybe when COVID is more under control we will have one big celebration for all our successes and the whole community will be invited.

We hope to see you on the pathways.

**JEAN GELWICKS,**  
ISLAND PATHWAYS

### Park not just for loiterers

In response to Jo Ann Gainor's "Park people have nowhere to go" letter in last week's paper, parks are for everyone, not just transients,

and why wouldn't you want to eat ice cream in a local park that just got upgrades with new benches, a new kids' playground and washrooms that we residents and businesses paid for in our community? Many of those partying all day are not homeless.

But, though 20 to 30 loiterers spend their whole days there drinking, fighting, with off-leash dogs — which aren't allowed, by the way, according to CRD bylaws — there is less access for islanders.

Perhaps Salt Spring Island Community Services could access funding and grants to provide a safe space on their grounds, where some can access the range of free services.

**H. MEARS,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

## Dancing with panache a challenge for some folks

That's it then. Summer's gone for another year. Not that it was much to write home about.

Plague. Fires. Smoke. Donald Trump. More Donald Trump. More plague. Donald Trump with the plague. An election in the lunatic asylum that used to be the United States and a very Canadian election in B.C. of nice people voting for mostly nice people with the genteel decorum of a church barbecue.

The long lazy days of summer became long crazy days stretched to breaking point by the misery of COVID, but we coped, didn't we? We kept our distances while those of us with IQs above that of a house brick mostly wore our masks. We soldiered on, heads high, upper lips stiffened, backbones rigid.

It could have been worse, we told ourselves. We could have been living in Trump's America or Boris Johnson's Britain, but here on our tiny sanctuary we were safe and sound in Bonnie Henry's B.C. We were calm and kind (can't say I was, if I'm honest. I'm more inclined to panic and malice, but we're none of us perfect.)

One of the unhappiest moments for me in this whole wretched business so far has been watching a young mom in Country Grocer, fully masked and with her new baby strapped to her chest. She was approached by other women, all masked, who did what women are inclined to do when confronted by a new baby. They cooed and clucked and presumably smiled at the tot — who would have seen nothing beyond their masks. The poor little mite had been robbed of the expressions of joy and happy faces it was ordinarily entitled to and watching this heartbreaking little scenario unfold left me ineffably sad.

But as depressing as it was, these are the times we live in and the baby was at least a little safer from the droplets of doom.



**Paul McElroy**  
+ ANOTHER  
**THING**

So here we are, fall already and marching inexorably to winter, which is as good an excuse as any to revert to my usual quantum of dourness.

To make matters worse I was brought face to face with my own mortality just last week, so pass me my walking frame and reserve me a slot at the crematorium. I bought a pair of trainers — with Velcro straps. Velcro for crying out loud! And I bought them because they were "comfy." Comfy!

This is the man who once wore Cuban-heeled boots that were so agonizingly uncomfortable I wept with every step and was reduced to a shuffling wreck with bleeding heels and toes when there was no one around to watch me swagger.

I've worn trousers so tight it's a miracle I ever sired three sons and don't sing contralto. Now I favour track pants with a crotch to the knees and I own (and actually wear) a cardigan. (And if you ever hear me call it a "cardie" you have my permission to shoot me!) It's only a matter of time now before I hitch my trousers up to my armpits, held up by a belt AND suspenders.

Furthermore, I've started tut-tutting at TV shows that are a bit edgy and letting go deep sighs of contentment when I sit down with a "nice cup of tea."

But I have a plan to remedy all that and to put some youth back into my step. I've taken up — one, two, kick — line dancing — one, two, side step

— because I thought it looked easy — two, three, collapse weeping to the ground. I mean, come on! How hard can shuffling across the dance floor with your hands in your pockets be? It's not as if you even have to touch a lady of the opposite sex, which can be pretty damned mortifying if you have the coordination of an inflatable car-yard dummy.

I've always wanted to dance. I am a frustrated Fred Astaire, only held back by a clinical and psychological inability to sashay. Inside I am Rudolph Nureyev, leaping and pirouetting across the stage in indecently tight tights. Outside I am as lithesome as a rock.

It's a lucky thing I didn't go the whole nine yards — one, two, shuffle, shuffle — and splash out on a Stetson, western boots, string tie and a belt buckle the size of a dinner plate because I am slowly coming to terms with the fact that I am as likely to line dance with panache as I am to pole vault. And cowboy boots don't come with Velcro straps.

The only part I've mastered so far is a pathetic "Yee hah!" and only then in the privacy of my own bathroom. In fact, I'm not even certain the line dancing cognoscenti would be seen dead shouting "Yee hah!" but it has a certain Wild West je ne sais quoi about it, like "Hoots mon" is to Scottish reels.

But I think I will persevere. I've paid for eight lessons and, who knows, at the end of them I may have even mastered a graceless shuffle.

Yee hah!

\*In case you're wondering why this column is so sanguine about yesterday's momentous result down south it's because deadlines dictate that this had to be written several days ahead of the election.

So as you read it I'm either on the roof of my house waving an American flag or I am under the bed, screaming.





**TABLE TALK:** Salt Spring Island Middle School students check out new picnic tables made by members of the Rotary Club with material support from Windsor Plywood and Mouat's Home Hardware. SIMS administrators wanted picnic tables for outdoor use to mitigate the possible spread of COVID-19, and school parent Zoe Sikora approached Rotary for help. Rotary Club member Doug Herbert headed up construction of the tables with expert help from John Cade and a third Rotarian, Kev Ross. Tables were delivered to SIMS on Oct. 26.

# This week's COVID-19 report by the numbers . . . .

**BY CURT FIRESTONE AND STAN DERELIAN**  
The Island Health region includes the Gulf Islands and this week the news is good. We started the past week on Oct. 23 with 15 active COVID and ended the week on Oct. 30 with eight active cases. No deaths during the week. While our total cases since the start of the pandemic increased by six to 256; with the decrease in active cases and no deaths, we are

contributing to flattening of the curve. Masks, two-metre social separation and limitations on social gathering sizes do work.  
The chart at right reflects the percentage of population and the percentage of active cases by the five B.C. provincial health authority geographic areas.  
Fraser Health, the area south of the Fraser River to the U.S. border and east of Vancouver

from Burnaby to Hope, appears to be the hot spot for COVID in British Columbia.  
This reflects our intent to flatten the curve by wearing masks, especially when indoors with other people who are not part of our bubble, and always remembering to maintain two-metre separation. Good work, islanders, let's keep it going.

HEALTH AUTHORITY	% OF TOTAL POPULATION	% OF ACTIVE CASES
Fraser Health.....	38.5%	74.72%
Vancouver Coastal Health.....	25.0%	20.08%
Interior Health.....	14.9%	03.61%
Northern Health.....	06.0%	01.26%
Island Health .....	15.6%	00.34%

## MORE LETTERS


### Thanks for Judy

I read with sadness and good memories the obituary for Judy Burch in the Oct. 28 edition of the Driftwood.  
I would like to add another of Judy's significant contributions to the community. Her dedication to our C.U.P.E. union while working as a special needs educational assistant was second to none. Judy was a mentor for me as an EA and she was also in charge of the lay-off and recall committee. That meant long hours spent on the phone (before the internet) with worried members facing difficult situations and choices, and more endless hours in meetings with members and management.  
I would like to thank Judy for her mentorship and dedication to making hundreds of children's lives better because she helped them through their difficulties.  
**MARIE BEAUDOIN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Unexercised votes a danger

I think Trump will lose the U.S. presidential election.  
But if you think the sun will rise on a healing America, dream on. American individualism, and it's heroic alter-ego, exceptionalism, have turned out to be "fake news". . . cinematic Holly-Anna-ism.  
We Canadian Polly-Annas (and I count myself a reforming sucker too) have been too hoodwinked by Hollywood's all-American altruism, Disney's painfully stereotyped heroes, the music industry's empty anti-establishment for so long we forget it's mostly adverb-branding, self-satisfying crapola. Multi-syllabic verbosity aside, we bought in! We bought in big. And it is a lie. "Ne'er has Canada looked so good," you might think. Well, perhaps. But rise from your peaceful sleep on Nov. 4 and eschew that \$5 coffee for a plain old pot.  
Then ask yourself: could it have happened here in B.C.? In Canada?!

Well, if you think not perhaps you missed the Oct. 26 CBC News headline "BC election turnout sinks to all-time low," pointing out that barely half of eligible voters bothered (and yes, they included "vote-by-mail packages"). Tap your spoon as you list all the excuses for not voting. There are reasons. However, you know as well as anyone that the road to hell is paved with unexercised votes, two-dimensional super heroes and pumpkin-spiced lattes.  
**ROD LAMIRAND,**  
SCOTT POINT DRIVE



**Islands Trust**

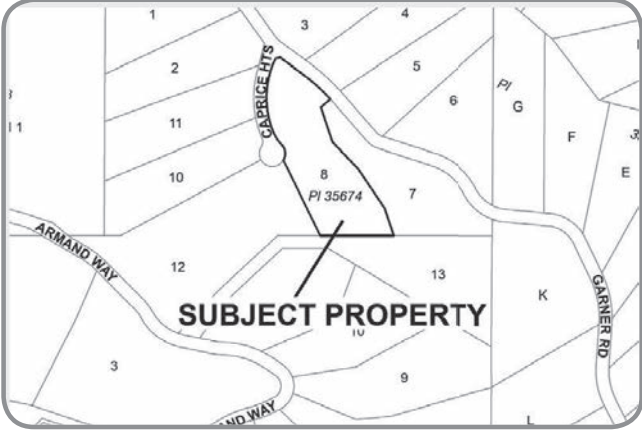
**Subject Property Address: 133 Caprice Heights, SSI**  
**Parcel Identifier Number: 000-010-103**  
**Application: SS-TUP-2019.7**

**TEMPORARY USE PERMIT NOTIFICATION**  
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a resolution to issue a Temporary Use Permit for the subject property.

The purpose of this Temporary Use Permit is to allow the following use:

- Sawmill operation for a maximum of three hours in any one week period (Monday to Sunday, between the hours of 10:00am to 6:00pm).



**SUBJECT PROPERTY**

**Have Your Say**

**When:**  
Tuesday,  
November 10, 2020  
9:30 a.m.

**Where:**  
Electronic Meeting  
To Join: [www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ssiltcmeeting](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/ssiltcmeeting)  
(click date for instructions)

**Who should attend?**  
Anyone affected by the application.

**Enquiries?**  
Geordie Gordon  
Planner 2  
250-537-9144

Written submissions are welcome and can be emailed to: [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca) or, mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by Monday, November 9, 2020.  
Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

**How do I get more information?**  
A copy of the staff report and proposed permit will be available online after Friday, October 30, 2020 on the Current Application webpage:  
[www.islandstrust.bc.ca/SSlapplications](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/SSlapplications)  
or, 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.

**TIDE TABLES**  
at Fulford Harbour

**NOVEMBER 2020** PST (UTC-8h)  
When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
<b>4</b>	0022	<b>0.7</b>	2.3	<b>8</b>	0323	<b>0.9</b>	3.0
WE	0851	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	SU	1209	<b>3.4</b>	11.2
ME	1358	<b>2.8</b>	9.2	DI			
	1656	<b>2.9</b>	9.5				
<b>5</b>	0058	<b>0.7</b>	2.3	<b>9</b>	0427	<b>1.1</b>	3.6
TH	0943	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	MO	1248	<b>3.4</b>	11.2
JE				LU	1949	<b>2.2</b>	7.2
					2240	<b>2.3</b>	7.5
<b>6</b>	0140	<b>0.7</b>	2.3	<b>10</b>	0534	<b>1.2</b>	3.9
FR	1035	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	TU	1321	<b>3.4</b>	11.2
VE				MA	2004	<b>1.9</b>	6.2
<b>7</b>	0228	<b>0.8</b>	2.6	<b>11</b>	0047	<b>2.4</b>	7.9
SA	1124	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	WE	0639	<b>1.4</b>	4.6
SA				ME	1350	<b>3.3</b>	10.8
					2029	<b>1.6</b>	5.2

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COMMEMORATING THE 11TH HOUR  
OF THE 11TH DAY OF THE 11TH MONTH

# REMEMBRANCE DAY



Over the years, the Driftwood has published wartime photos submitted by community members. Some of those appear here as a Remembrance Day collage. Clockwise from top left: Major Marc Holmes, Canadian Army, Artillery, 1958; Ron Milton in Egypt, 1944 - also served in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Austria; Corporal Mary (Molly) Coyne, early 1940s; Robert Burbidge, 1943, who served on the HMCS Uganda and HMS Belfast as a gunner; Gavin C. Mouat in World War I; RCAF flight school class in Chatham, N.B.; Jean Milligan (McIntosh), who was part of the Ladies Land Army, in Glasgow, WWII.





## MESSAGE FROM RCL BRANCH PRESIDENT

# Remembrance Day plans changed for 2020

Ceremony continues in safe manner but no parade or public open house to be held

BY TOM WOODS

RCL BRANCH 92 PRESIDENT

Remembrance Day is the most significant date on Canada's calendar. Canadian communities throughout the country and around the world meet in sundry venues to pay homage to those who have served in war and peace at home and abroad, in and out of uniform, to observe a moment of silence, to mark the sacrifice of

so many who gave their tomorrows for our todays, to reflect, and remember. For this is the spirit of Remembrance Day.

The Royal Canadian Legion has the mandate to conduct Remembrance Day events — each branch in its own community and in its own fashion.

It is most unfortunate that in 2020, the 75th anniversary year of the end of WWII, that COVID-19 will severely curtail how we will conduct events this year. This will be challenging but not impossible.

The Legion's philosophy is that it should not be creating an environment in which the COVID-19 virus might be spread



TOM WOODS

and that health authority regulations are inviolable. Yet, there must and shall be appropriate recognition of the day. This is manifesting in several ways:

- The poppy campaign began on Oct. 30. Donations to the poppy fund are also made through wreath acquisitions by individuals and groups.

- A customary lunch for veterans was held on Nov. 3 at the Legion.

- The community breakfast at the Legion on Nov. 11 has been scratched.

- There will not be a parade, although pipes and drums will be heard in Ganges.

- The Legion will conduct a traditional ceremony inside a cordon around the Cenotaph. Regrettably, access to that area must be limited to 50 people with vacancies primarily for veterans who should wear medals and (if available) relevant headdress. Others who choose to attend in the area of Centennial Park will be obliged to stay outside the cordon, to wear a mask, and adhere to social distancing practices.

- The ceremony will be live streamed on the Legion's Facebook page.

- To include veterans and immediate family, viewing at the Legion starts at 10:15.

diated family, viewing at the Legion starts at 10:15.

- The Open House at the Legion has been cancelled.

Veterans and their accompanying immediate family who are not able to attend the ceremony at Centennial Park will be afforded restricted access to the Legion from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. so as to view the live streaming and enjoy a celebratory libation. Like folk who do attend at Centennial Park will be given exclusive entry in the same timeframe.

All these activities will receive wide publicity in print and social media and on the Branch #92 website: [saltspringlegionbr92.com](http://saltspringlegionbr92.com) Lest We Forget.

## ISLAND STORIES

## Islander among Canadians who made a difference in World War 1

### WWI experience recounted

SUBMITTED BY M ALCOLM BOND

Jesse Bond of Salt Spring Island volunteered to serve in the Canadian army just after he turned 21 years old on April 5, 1915.

Twenty-one was the legal age to start military service. He enlisted in the 48th battalion in Victoria and arrived in England to encamp on the Salisbury Plain.

His 48th battalion of four companies was

split. The 1 and 2 company were sent to replace the casualties of the 1st Division. The 1st Division had faced the first major gas attack at Ypres and losses were horrific. Losses were so large that they motivated the composition of John McCrae's poem In Flanders Fields.

Jesse was in the 3rd Company and was sent to another unit, 3rd Division, to fight a battle at Mont St. Eloise. His company section of 30 plus men was destroyed as a result of

the largest artillery attack of the war to that date. Jesse and one other were the only men in his section to survive.

Jesse went on to serve at Vimy Ridge, Paschendaele, the Battles of Canal du Nord, Amiens and so on. He was lucky and had no serious physical injuries but he could hear the bombs in his sleep for more than eight years after the war ended.

A renowned historian, John Keegan, paid a supreme compliment to Canada's soldiers. In

his history of WW1 he noted that the major power that determined the war was the British Empire. His comment suggested that at the end of day, Britain did not defeat Germany. She simply outlasted her.

The difference was the half million sailors of the Royal Navy and the five million men of the armies of the British Empire led by those magnificent soldiers from the lands of sun and snow, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

*Thank you.*

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, remember to honour our veterans who have served and continue serving our great nation.

*Lest we forget.*

*Lest we forget.*



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## VETERANS REMEMBERED

# Terry Byron World War II experience shared

Island man always attended Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ganges

*Terry Byron, who passed away on Sept. 6, 2020 at the age of 98, was one of the last surviving Salt Spring residents who had served in World War II.*

*In recognition of a lifelong resident of Salt Spring Island and his service to our country, we have taken excerpts from a previous interview with a Driftwood staff writer to celebrate Byron.*

Terry Byron's famous moustache and salute were trademarks of the man who was always happy to share tales of an era that deserves to never be forgotten.

Byron told the Driftwood he learned to stand at attention while serving as a reservist during the 1930s on Salt Spring.

His platoon gathered at Mahon Hall twice a week to conduct rifle drills and salute training. He doesn't for a minute pretend the kids in his platoon were drawn to the reserves exclusively by any higher calling or sense of duty. Those things were important, but other factors were at play.

"There was nothing else to do, and we met at Mahon Hall because that was the only building that was there at the time," he said with a laugh during an interview at his north end home overlooking Trincomali Channel and Galiano Island.

Byron's honesty underlies a good-natured, call-it-like-he-sees-it charm. Besides, the young reserves always had a chance for a donut and coffee, paid for by the local Ladies Auxiliary.

"That was a big deal," he added.

As fighting in Europe intensified, the young Salt Spring reservists were shipped to Esquimalt, where they joined platoons filled with wide-eyed teenagers from neighbouring communities like Sidney, Duncan, Sooke and Victoria. Under the leadership of Salt Spring's own Col. Des Crofton, former owner of the Harbour House Hotel in Ganges, the young men formed a promising battalion. It was, Byron recalled, Crofton's down-to-earth Salt Spring roots that earned him respect among the troops.

"He was a good man and well liked," he said.

The battalion was dispatched to a staging facility just outside Halifax, a world away from the bright, crisp fall



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

From left, World War II vets Terry Byron, Andrew Gibson and Dick Illingworth at the 2011 Remembrance Day ceremony on Salt Spring. Byron died in September, while Gibson died in 2015 and Illingworth in 2014.

afternoon outside Byron's dining room window.

"The barracks had no windows and no doors. We needed to break through the ice just to clean up," he said.

Like his older brother Ken, who died in 2014, Byron thrived under the hardship and regimented training schedule. He soon began to instruct others on the making of a proper salute, and at age 19 he was leading his own platoon on the battlefields of Northern Europe.

"I was the youngest guy, and I was a leader," he said. "When you're a leader, you can't be a coward and go behind. You've got to be out front."

Byron still walks with the memory of those distant days. On the night of Oct. 13, 1944, he had just finished leading his platoon across the Leopold Canal in Belgium. When he rose to determine if all was clear, he spotted a German grenade headed his way.

Byron received shrapnel wounds to his left leg. He laughingly recalls getting relegated to an infirmary for French-speaking soldiers due to overcrowding in the hospital.

The guys talked day and night as he recovered on his own, unable to understand a word. Byron suspects his French roommates were puzzled about why he was always so quiet.

"I eventually told the doctors I felt

fine and got out of there," he laughed. "It's about the worst thing that happened to me."

It wasn't really, of course. Byron doesn't jump into stories from the battlefield on a whim.

"It was no fun," he said.

Time never stands still on the front. Staying in an exposed position rarely

ends well. Some soldiers who weren't killed or physically injured sustained severe psychological scars. Byron recalls one fellow — "a big guy, a six footer" — who, one day, crawled into a bomb crater and refused to come out no matter how hard Byron coaxed and cursed.

"In World War One they called it shell shock. In the Second World War we called it bomb happy," he said, alluding to what is commonly referred to today as post-traumatic stress disorder. "It doesn't matter how big you are, it matters how you feel inside."

Byron said his platoon had no choice but to do what they always did. They shoved a rifle in the ground and topped it with a battle-scarred, army green helmet, pointing out of the crater just high enough to see in the event a stretcher-bearing medic crew was to pass nearby.

"There's no time to bugger around," he said. "You've got to watch your own skin and the other guys with you."

It's an attitude forged by the hard-working logging and farming lifestyles of Byron and his fellow Mahon Hall reservists, hardened through training and battlefield exposure. It's the kind of do-or-die attitude that most young Canadians today only know as a tired cliché.

Seventy years after the war's end, Byron stood with the memory of his fellow soldiers. His salute was firm, just as he learned it and the same way he taught it to countless other young soldiers who stood on guard for Canada.



## REMEMBRANCE DAY

Wednesday, November 11th 2020

Salt Spring Island joins Canadian communities worldwide to pay homage to those who have served, to observe a moment of silence, to mark the sacrifice of so many who gave their tomorrows for our todays, to reflect and remember ...

LEST WE FORGET

Remembrance Day will be different this year. A cordon will be erected around the Cenotaph inside which a maximum of 50 people — primarily Veterans and a companion, will be allowed with access through a single point of entry controlled by Legion members. The general public who choose to attend may do so outside the cordon. Please wear a mask and keep social distancing of two metres. The Ceremony will start at 10:40am and will be streamed live on the Legion Facebook page.

In keeping with Legion policy and health authority protocols the Legion regrettably will not host a customary Open House after the ceremony but will limit attendance at the Legion to 50 - Veterans and a member of their immediate family, from 10am - 2pm for viewing the live streaming and refreshments.



We Will Remember Them.



"Please join the Hedgers on this day of remembrance of those who offered their services and lives for the preservation of freedom for Canada and countries of distant lands. The positive act of honouring these individuals surely is in living, defending and promoting the freedoms of our land, speech, religion and travel.

Freedom is a right, not a privilege."

Seen left to right are Lawrence McFadden, Antony Hedger, Millard Cantrill & William McFadden.

Laurie Hedger (baby!), Agnes Hedger and Alan Hedger.

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# REMEMBRANCE DAY PAST

Since there will be no Nov. 11 parade on Salt Spring this year and the ceremony will be more difficult to enjoy due to COVID-19 and physical distancing requirements, we have included some Driftwood photos of past Remembrance Day parades and ceremonies in Ganges.



Three generations lay a wreath at the cenotaph in 2001: From left, Loretta and Anna Rithaler and Rita Dods.



Parade in Ganges on a rainy Nov. 11 in 1999.



Sergeant at Arms Frank Worsley, with Jack Fraser on the road behind him, and other veterans in the 2004 Nov. 11 ceremony.



*Our deepest thanks to our veterans. Let us not take for granted the things that most deserve our gratitude.*

Elizabeth M.P.  
**May**

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Above and at right: Two scenes from the 2003 Remembrance Day parade.



Nils Christensen in 2001, with young Scouts and other community members in the background.



Remembrance Day service from 1988 in a Centennial Park that looks much different from today's version.



Evelyn Lee with a wreath in 2004. Lee is another islander from a longtime Salt Spring family who died in 2020. She was 101.

Remembering  
Jesse Bond  
and his service  
with fellow Canadians  
in WW1

Malcolm & Stephanie Bond

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PHOTO COURTESY THE LATE KEN BYRON, SR.

Members of the 13th platoon, D company, Canadian Scottish (Princess Mary's) Regiment, with whom Salt Spring brothers Ken and Terry Byron and other island men served in World War II. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of the war.

## WORLD WAR II

# 75th anniversary of war's end commemorated

### Canadians' anecdotes wanted

From the [www.veterans.gc.ca](http://www.veterans.gc.ca) website:

After almost six long years of fighting, the Second World War finally came to an end on Aug. 1945, when Japanese forces surrendered in Asia and the Pacific.

Victory over Japan (VJ) Day was declared and large crowds gathered in Canada and around the world to celebrate the coming

of peace and remember the tremendous sacrifices that had been made.

While the bulk of Canada's military efforts in the Second World War were focused in Europe, our country also committed forces to the struggle against Japan in Asia and the Pacific. In fact, more than 10,000 Canadians served in that theatre of war.

Stories of Canadians who served not only in World War II but in other conflicts are collected on Veterans Affairs Canada's

Faces of Freedom website, which lets viewers explore the stories of Canadians who served and sacrificed in South East Asia and the Pacific during the Second World War and other conflicts. See [www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/people-and-stories/faces-of-freedom](http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/people-and-stories/faces-of-freedom) for the stories and photos in the collection.

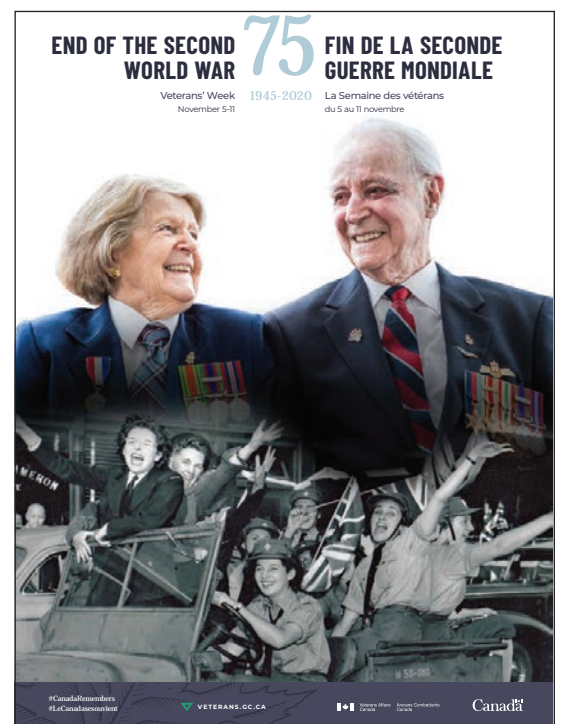
"Heroes Remember" video interviews can also be found on the Remembrance section of the Veterans Affairs Canada site.

People are invited to use social media platforms to share personal anecdotes in text, photo or video related to the end of the Second World War using hashtags #CanadaRemembers and #VJDay75 or #EndofSWW.

"Tell us who, how, and why you remember," the site instructs. "Make sure to tag us—we might even share your story."

### The story behind the 2020 Veteran's Week poster

This special commemorative poster features married veterans Flying Officer Howard McNamara (Retired) and Corporal Anne McNamara (Retired) who both served with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Howard McNamara was a pilot who saw action in North Africa and during the Italian Campaign, flying the famous Spitfire fighter plane. Anne McNamara (then Anne Goode) was a performer who took part in military entertainment shows in North America and Europe, helping keep morale high. At the bottom of the poster, Vicky (Goodyear) Luscombe is at the wheel of a Jeep full of happy Canadian service members in Vancouver as they celebrate the end of the conflict in August 1945.



Special poster created for Veterans Week 2020 by Veterans Affairs Canada.



*Throughout our history,  
it has been through  
the efforts and sacrifices  
of those who have served our  
country that we are  
privileged to live in a free  
and peaceful nation.*



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who served in wars past  
will be remembered for their valour.**

*We thank the men and women who serve our country  
and make our dreams possible.*

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## LITERARY EVENTS

# Library hosts filmmaker and poet on Zoom

Online readings  
 scheduled Nov. 4, 5

The Salt Spring Island Public Library will be hosting two online events with talented creators this week, starting with a book reading by author, screenwriter and film director Anne Wheeler tonight (Wednesday, Nov. 4).

During the Zoom session beginning at 7 p.m., Wheeler will read from her recently published book *Taken By The Muse: On The Path To Becoming A Filmmaker*. In the book, Wheeler — a one-time Salt Spring resident who now lives in White Rock — tells of her serendipitous journey in the 1970s, when she broke with tradition and found her own way to becoming a filmmaker and raconteur.

Wheeler graduated from the



PHOTO COURTESY ANNE WHEELER  
 Filmmaker and writer Anne Wheeler.

University of Alberta with a math degree and then worked as a computer programmer before she started to travel through Europe, Asia and Africa.

In this creative non-fiction collection, she circles back to five important life lessons that helped shape her future path as an artist.

Library press material notes

the book follows Wheeler as she “travels south of Mombasa after calling off her wedding; attempts to gain acceptance in a male-dominated film collective; travels to India to visit friends who are devoted to a radical master; and ultimately discovers her sense of purpose and passion close to home, sharing stories that would otherwise be lost about ordinary people living extraordinary lives.”

Wheeler is an Officer of the Order of Canada, has been nominated for multiple Genie awards for directing and has won Genie and Leo awards for television movie directing.

Next up on the library's calendar on Thursday, Nov. 5, is a Poetry Open Mic with featured poet M.C. Warrior.

Published by Mother Tongue Publishing, M.C. Warrior's book *Disappearing Minglewood Blues*:

Poems is a collection of new poetry and poems only previously found in magazines, anthologies and in the chapbook *Quitting Time*, published by McLeod Books in 1978. This is his first book of poetry.

The selections range from poetry about working on the coast — commercial fishing, logging, environmental campaigning — to the political meaning of work, and wry and deft observations on topics ranging from Buddhism to Ovid in the afterlife.

A poet, former logger and fisherman, and lifelong trade unionist, Warrior was a founding member of the Vancouver Industrial Writers' Union.

He is also author of *Building the Power: A History of the Labourers' Union in British Columbia*. He lives on the Gulf Islands.

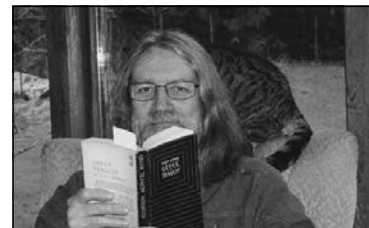


PHOTO COURTESY MOTHER TONGUE PUBLISHING  
 M.C. Warrior, poet and labour activist.

Financial assistance for this event was provided by the Canada Council for the Arts through the Writers' Union of Canada.

Participants can join the session at 6:45 p.m. to sign up to read for the open mic (one poem per reader) or join at 7 p.m. to listen to the readings.

Zoom meeting connection info for both the Wheeler and Warrior events are available in the Driftwood's What's On calendar below.

# what's on this week



Wed. Nov. 4

### ACTIVITIES

**Death Café.**  
 A Death Café is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes. Free. COVID safety protocols in place. Pre-registration required at [tickets@artspring.ca](mailto:tickets@artspring.ca) as limited seating. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### VIA ZOOM

**Anne Wheeler Book Launch.**  
 Anne reads from her recently published book called *Taken By The Muse: On The Path To Becoming A Filmmaker*. 7 p.m. Join the zoom meeting at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87676948903> Meeting ID: 876 7694 8903

Thur. Nov. 5

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Open Mic & Jam.**  
 At the Legion. 7 p.m.



### ACTIVITIES

**Cedar Lane Water Service Commission AGM.**  
 Annual general meeting at Lions Hall. 9 a.m. Attendees must wear a mask and follow established COVID plans.

**Cedars of Tuam Water Service Commission AGM.**  
 Annual general meeting at Lions Hall. 1 p.m. Attendees must wear a mask and follow established COVID plans.

Thur. Nov. 5

### VIA ZOOM

**Poetry Open Mic.**  
 With guest poet M.C. Warrior. Join at 6:45 to sign up to read for the open mic. One poem per reader. Join at 7 p.m. to listen to the readings. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81715197953> Online Meeting ID: 817 1519 7953

Fri. Nov. 6

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Dinner & Music with the K-Tones.** Harbour House Hotel. Dinner at 6 p.m. Music from 7 to 9 p.m. Book through the Harbour House.



Fri. Nov. 6

### ACTIVITIES

**ASK Salt Spring.** This week's topic is Roads 101 - As our dark, wet season approaches, what do you need to know about Salt Spring's roads? Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply greenhouse building. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tue. Nov. 10

### VIA ZOOM

**Salt Spring Local Trust Committee.** Public meeting held via Zoom beginning at 9:30 a.m. See Salt Spring page on the islandstrust.bc.ca website for the link.

**Sacred Chants and Words of the Spirit from a Variety of Spiritual Traditions.** Star of the Sea event, with Usha Haywood, Elaina Hyde and Adam Huber. Free event on Zoom, 7 to 8:30 p.m. — register at [starofthesea@seass@gmail.com](mailto:starofthesea@seass@gmail.com).

Tue. Nov. 10

### VIA ZOOM

**Zoom Spanish Conversation Group.** This free event is a chance to chat with other Spanish speakers or learners in a fun and relaxed atmosphere on Zoom every Tuesday. All levels of Spanish are welcome — from beginners to native speakers. Email [info@saltspringlibrary.com](mailto:info@saltspringlibrary.com) for Zoom meeting link.

Wed. Nov. 11

### ACTIVITIES

**Remembrance Day.** Ceremony in Centennial Park begins at 10:40 a.m. COVID-19 protocols in place. Events will also be livestreamed on the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92's Facebook page. See page 10 article and page 11 ad for more details.



## Salt Spring Poems in Calligraphy

Exhibit at SS Library Program Room  
**Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
 until Nov. 30

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## THE FRITZ CINEMA

• Percy shows from Friday, Nov. 6 to Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. with an additional 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Nov. 8. Rated G. Running time is 1 hour 40 minutes.

For more movie info, visit *The Fritz* at [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca)



## EXHIBITIONS

• Salt Spring Island Potters Guild holds its 5th annual Fall Harvest Show & Sale at Salt Spring Gallery on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Wednesday, Nov. 11.

• The 20th anniversary show of **Photosynthesis** is a new virtual presentation online at [www.photosynth.ca/gallery/](http://www.photosynth.ca/gallery/) featuring an image from 31 participating photographers.

## EXHIBITIONS

• Salt Spring Poems in Calligraphy runs in the Salt Spring library's Program Room through November.

• Avril Kirby shows photographs at **Gallery 8** and via YouTube at <https://youtu.be/uDNwWYSAk9w>.

• Serendipity Studio welcomes visitors at 112 Robinson Rd. daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the winter months or phone 250-537-4535 for an appointment time.



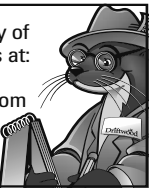


# ISLAND LIFE

stay safe

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

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



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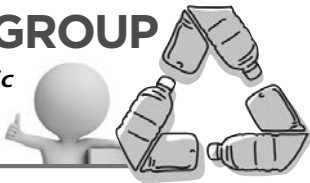


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### PLASTIC WRAP

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 Salt Spring 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.

## PHILANTHROPY

# COVID charity support continues



PHOTOS COURTESY SSI FOUNDATION

Salt Spring Island Co-op Preschool children, from left, Bonnie Dawe and Isabela Siemsen wash their hands in the new outdoor sink provided by the Salt Spring Island Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness and Relief Fund.

## Funds still available for qualified charities

### SUBMITTED BY SSI FOUNDATION

Seven months ago, the Salt Spring Island Foundation launched its COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness and Relief Fund, focusing on community health-care preparedness, assistance for vulnerable people in our community, such as seniors, and other pressing community needs resulting from the pandemic.

As it becomes apparent that British Columbia is now facing a second COVID-19 wave, the foundation is continuing to evaluate local needs, work cooperatively with diverse community groups and support Salt Spring charities as islanders face a challenging winter ahead.

Approximately \$240,000 has been raised for the emergency fund to date, with \$160,000 from the fund already distributed to Salt Spring Island community organizations. Grants to 21 charities have assisted in delivering programs and maintaining capacity in the face of decreased revenue and increased costs due to the loss of volunteers.

Foundation board chair Brian Lawson is grateful for the community support and cooperation that made the foundation's rapid response possible.

"In the beginning we all rallied to tackle the immediate threats of COVID-19, providing PPE for health-care workers and food and shelter for vulnerable people. But we also need to coordinate efforts to tackle some key long-term issues exacerbated by the pandemic, such as local food security, homelessness and mental health."

From the launch of the fund in March, community partnerships have been a key factor in delivering rapid and effective results. Country Grocer and the Upper Ganges Liquor Store donated \$50,000 in food cards, while Island Savings, the Capital Regional District, the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation

and the Victoria Foundation also provided invaluable support.

The foundation partnered with the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation to fund the local production of face shields, reusable gowns and hand sanitizer for health-care workers. A group of creative and hard-working islanders manufactured the PPE, while the project was coordinated by the Salt Spring Chapter, Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice and the Salt Spring Community Health Society. Foundation grants have also assisted several other charities with precautionary measures against COVID-19, including a grant to Meadowbrook Seniors Residence for protective equipment and additional dining tables to facilitate social distancing during meals.

**"Our island is highly dependent on its charities and not-for-profit organizations and our community will suffer if they are weakened."**

BRIAN LAWSON,  
*Chair, SSI Foundation*

In addition to efforts protecting against the transmission of COVID-19, funding has also been made available to support mental health programs. Increased isolation and stress have taken a toll on the well-being of many islanders, particularly those who already suffer from mental health issues. A grant to the Salt Spring Community Health Society funded the Mental Health First Aid Program, which trained community residents in skills to respond to personal and community-wide mental health situations.

The provision of additional emergency housing also gained renewed urgency in 2020. The foundation's emergency fund supported Community Services in expanding services at the In From the Cold Shelter by providing day-time access to basic needs for the homeless, including laundry, showers, emergency food, access to internet and phone, and connections to Housing First caseworkers and staff support. IWAV has also received foundation grants to assist the organization to continue supporting women and children affected by violence, poverty and abuse.

Food security has also been a significant component of the foundation's COVID-19 response. The COVID-19 Agricultural Response and Recovery Plan, which encourages islanders to support local farmers, and the Community Services' Harvest program have received grants. The Harvest program's market coupon project aims to increase island food production and local consumption, while helping farmers and consumers in need. In addition, The Root, Farmland Trust's new food storage and processing facility, received a \$23,000 grant.

Lawson says the foundation expects to build on what has already been accomplished as it continues to serve local charities.

"Our island is highly dependent on its charities and not-for-profit organizations, and our community will suffer if they are weakened. We will continue to work together to understand their priorities, avoid duplication of efforts and ensure that projects can be delivered in relatively short order. We also don't want to overlook less visible community needs in combatting COVID-19."

For a full list of COVID-19 Emergency Fund grants or to donate to the fund, visit [ssifoundation.ca](http://ssifoundation.ca). Charities wishing to apply for a grant should contact foundation operations director Shannon Cowan at [shannon@ssifoundation.ca](mailto:shannon@ssifoundation.ca).

Capital Regional District



## Notice of Annual General Meeting

### Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 2339 (Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee Bylaw) residents and property owners within the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Service Areas are invited to virtually attend the Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 9:30 am**. For more information about this water service, visit: [www.crd.bc.ca/magickle-ws](http://www.crd.bc.ca/magickle-ws).

**At this time, due to physical space limitations, members of the public are not able to attend in-person to observe meetings but are welcome to call in and listen to meeting proceedings. Call-in details will be provided in the meeting. Agenda is posted to the CRD website 72 hours prior to the meeting.**

Presentation and delegation requests can be made online at [www.crd.bc.ca/about/board-committees/addressing-the-board](http://www.crd.bc.ca/about/board-committees/addressing-the-board). A printable form is also available. **Requests must be received no later than 4:30 pm, two calendar days prior to the meeting.**

Inquires may be directed to: [tduthie@crd.bc.ca](mailto:tduthie@crd.bc.ca) or 250.474.9606





A family approaches one of the seven Spooky Walk booths set up in the United Church Meadow on Saturday afternoon. The Spooky Walk was a collaboration of the Salt Spring Public Library and Salt Spring Literacy, giving kids a chance to get Halloween treats in a safe, socially distanced manner. An estimated 500 children participated.



Lady Minto Thrift Store volunteer Donna Smith gets ready for a spooky Friday.



A pumpkin man with tree trunk trousers greets visitors to North End Road.



Salt Spring Public Library volunteers, from left, Ian Franey, Anna Ford and Catherine Eberle make sure Halloween Week is fun for all during their Tuesday shift.



Charlie, left, and Carter have their photo taken with Tan the T-rex when getting treats at Fernwood Road Cafe.





Islanders Working Against Violence

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

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[www.iwav.org](http://www.iwav.org)



## Cotton Park Rezoning

Bylaw 177 and 178

### Have Your Say

**Monday, November 30, 2020 1 p.m.**

**Zoom Meeting**  
Phone (Toll Free): Canada: 833 958 1164  
US/International: <https://islandstrust.zoom.us/j/61553709299>  
Webinar ID Code: <https://islandstrust.zoom.us/j/61553709299>

**Who should attend?**  
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaws.

**Enquires?**  
Narissa Chadwick, Island Planner:  
250-405-5189  
[nchadwick@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:nchadwick@islandstrust.bc.ca)

### PUBLIC HEARING

MAYNE ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

What is the bylaw about?  
The purpose of the bylaws are to redesignate and rezone Cotton Park from a residential designation/zone to a park designation/zone.

The Cotton Park property was donated to the Capital Regional District (CRD) by previous owners. The CRD, in cooperation with the Mayne Island Park and Recreation Commission, is managing the property as a park and will continue to do so.

The rezoning will involve a change to both the OCP designation (Bylaw 177) and the zoning in the Land Use Bylaw (Bylaw 178).

How do I get more information?  
A copy of the electronic public hearing binder and details on connecting to Zoom is available online:  
[www.islandstrust.bc.ca/mayne/ltrc-newspage/](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/mayne/ltrc-newspage/)

A copy of the bylaws and other information is available at the Islands Trust Victoria office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, November 13 to November 27, 2020, or online:  
<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/mayne/application-documents>

Written submissions?  
Send by 4:30 p.m., November 27, 2020 to:  
Islands Trust, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8, or  
Email: [vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:vicphsub@islandstrust.bc.ca)

*Note: All submissions received become part of the public record*



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Kitten season is almost upon us. If you are interested in adopting a kitten or becoming a foster parent please contact the shelter and speak with a staff member.

BCSPCA  
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS

Contact the BCSPCA at  
250-537-2123



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PHOTO BY SARA CASSIDY

**PASTORAL:** Dog walkers gather to chat under a maple tree in Duck Creek Park on Friday afternoon. Photographer Sara Cassidy said the scene reminded her of 17th-century pastoral paintings of shepherds.

## LGBTQ2SIA+

## Pride photo contest launched

## Submissions invited

DAISSI [Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island] was unable to hold its Pride festival this year due to COVID-19, but the community nonetheless found ways to celebrate.

People found "Pride inside" during September by flying Pride flags, wearing rainbow face masks, and being visible as an LGBTQ2SIA+ community even in a time when the ability to gather together is limited. Now DAISSI is inviting islanders to contribute a lasting memory to the experience.

"To capture some of our beautiful, vibrant diversity, we're inviting you to take part in our Pride Inside Photo Contest," the organization announced. "We welcome depictions of all kinds of queer themes if there's something you feel inspired to submit."

Community members are invited to send up to five submissions per household/bubble/person to daissi.pride.inside@gmail.com by Nov. 30. Selected entries will be posted to DAISSI social media pages with attribution, and may be used in future years to represent the LGBTQ2SIA+ community on Salt Spring. Prizes will be awarded for the best overall entries and other categories.

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer

www.sunstarastronomy.com 1-800-836-0648 sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

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

The U.S. Election results are the big news now. Mercury and Venus in Libra reveal a swing of the pendulum, a reversal of some kind. This will come as a shock to many and the wave of it will reverberate and fester especially strongly this week. A spike on the graph of communications, banter, and debate on the airwaves is to be expected. Many will experience disbelief and inability to accept the results due to a hard square from Mercury to Saturn. Mars in Aries reveals rage and, potentially, violent reactions.

Division may even occur within households and between couples as Venus moves towards an opposition with Mars. Uranus in Taurus suggests that many will experience a stubborn refusal to accept the results. This is likely to manifest as cries of injustice exacerbated by Neptune in Pisces at the apex of the Lunar Nodes. Dramatic, revolutionary themes are clearly indicated all in the context of Scorpio time is a clear indication that the impact will be nothing short of transformational.

## Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

We live in 'interesting' times and you are interested. A yearning to push ahead is there, yet is subject to inertia due to Mars still retrograde. Yet, you do yearn to engage and be engaged. You want to exchange views and discuss matters, fairly and squarely. This means you want to feel supported to make clear decisions. This includes clearing and removing whatever you deem to be in the way.

## Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Life is all about relationships and the emphasis is especially strong of late. Circumstances continue to demand more of you than you may be willing and perhaps even able to give. This is leading you to think critically and to conduct a deeper analysis to decipher fact from fantasy. You know that change is inevitable and coming fast now and you are determined to engage it with revolutionary charge.

## Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

You are in the final stages of a deep process of change that has literally been underway for years. By your destiny, you were meant to enter this cauldron that is designed to usher you to a whole new mode of being. By now, important changes have occurred on relationship fronts with themes of both death and rebirth that cannot be undone. Positively, you have reason to feel happy, all the while.

## Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

Clearing, cleaning, and beautifying your home is a central theme now. This could as much refer to much-needed communications as literal aesthetic inspirations. Creating a space that supports innovation is featured. Changes in your public and professional life, meanwhile, indicate an assertive impulse yet which is woven with emotional complexity, indecision, and uncertainty, for now.

## Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

You are happy to huddle in your den as much as possible these days. Yet, you are also keen to keep communications alive and yearn for rich exchanges. A strong push for freedom implies strategy and creative thinking. Yet, it is not time yet to fully launch due to social unrest and uncertainty. This will shift soon so you are wise to prepare as you can.

## Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

Generating ideas and plans to strengthen your overall foundation continues. While financial considerations are featured, the emphasis is also upon cultivating more harmony and satisfaction on both personal and professional relationship fronts. Consequently, the workload has been steadily increasing and you are challenged to adapt to the new level of demand.

## Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Sometimes it is more about the money than others, like now perhaps. You are eager to express your views and want to be fair and just for the sake of harmony. Dealing with opposition could prove contentious, leaving you cold. You may be contending with subconscious fears about the future and the more your ego is involved, the larger the reaction. Use the opportunity to measure.

## Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

As willing as you are to make sincere efforts to forge ahead, you may be experiencing the slope getting progressively steeper. You are probably wise to slow down and accept the need to adjust your expectations. Many thoughts are running through the back of your mind and you may feel challenged to be kind and patient with yourself, but that is the best course of action.

## Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

A time-out cycle continues. Yet, you are also in something of a sporting mood. Much of it may find expression in exchanges of opinions and debate. Keeping an open mind may prove to be more challenging than usual but is also ideal. This may include coming to the realization that you do not see reality so much as it is as you are... conditioned to. Relax, this is true for everyone.

## Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Digging deep to access your core strengths may seem necessary these days. Your challenge includes keeping the peace. This may require access and acquisition of new tools and techniques. Circumstances are pushing you to reconsider some of your priorities yet you want to remain realistic all the while. Fortunately, realism is either your forte or your main goal. So, your strategy should be clear.

## Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

If you have been waiting for your moment to get the attention you feel you have earned and deserved, your time has arrived. It will get even stronger after the next New Moon mid-month, yet at least this is a good time to prepare. This includes building your confidence levels and self-esteem. Positive self-talk and inner dialogue is a good idea but you may need extra support. Accept it, if offered.

## Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

Your mood remains philosophical. This includes an inner process of cultivating ever deeper levels of critical thinking. In turn, exercising your creative ability to think out of the box is a key to your success and the other key is your willingness and ability to be flexible. Be careful of black and white reasoning and recognize the truth is a process and is usually to be found somewhere in the grey zone.

## Advertising Deadline Change



Please note that the Gulf Islands Driftwood office will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 11 and will re-open 9am - 4pm on Thursday, Nov. 12.

Advertising deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood Wednesday Nov. 11th edition will be as follows:

Display Advertising Deadline:  
Wednesday, November 4, 12 noon

Classified Display Deadline:  
Wednesday, November 4, 12 noon

Classified Word Deadline:  
Wednesday, November 4, 12 noon



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By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

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Class. display deadline: **Wednesday 4pm**  
Word ad deadline: **Wednesday 4pm**  
Too Late To Classify: **Monday 1pm**

**WHAT IT COSTS: 3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS:**

\$14.00 - additional lines \$1.00 ea

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**Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Obituaries****Coming Events****Coming Events****Business Opportunities**

## Mary Margaret Lauzon

Mary Margaret Lauzon, a 30 year Salt Springer, Raging Granny and good friend, passed away peacefully at Greenwoods on October 21, 2020 at age 94.

Special thanks are expressed to the following: Dr. D. Kalf for providing thoughtful attention and excellent medical care; Greenwoods staff for going the extra mile to meet Mary's needs; S. and B. Logan for years of neighbourly security checks; H. and W. Hoffmann for frequent visits and many other kindnesses.

Mary will be interred with her parents in Mount Hope Cemetery, Toronto. By request there will not be a memorial service but Mary's spirited generosity will be remembered.



## Lillian "Ling" Weston

Passed on October 29, 2020 at the age of 86. She passed peacefully in her home that she cherished, amongst her family. Ling was the mother of 3, and grandmother to 3. She was an educator, artist, folk dancer, world traveller, lover of nature, pets, animals, music, family and friends. She was truly east meets west and was playfully coined (by her 2nd son) "the original Chinese hippie". Ling was uniquely original in spirit and mind, which will be dearly missed.

A graveside service is planned on Salt Spring Island, time and date to be published in the Driftwood next week.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks you to consider a donation to the Salt Spring Island Conservancy in the memory of Ling Weston.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday Nov. 14, 2020 at 1pm at Ganges Community Cemetery.



## NOTICE

### Special General Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

Tuesday, November 17, 9:00 am via Zoom

The purpose of the meeting is to appoint an accountant as required by the Association's Bylaws

Library members are invited to attend. See library website for Zoom login information:  
<https://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop/>

## SALTSPRING FLU CLINIC INFORMATION

Book your appointment online at  
[islandhealth.ca/flu](http://islandhealth.ca/flu)

November 6, 7 & 8, 2020

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Gulf Islands Secondary, 232 Rainbow Road

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### FOODSAFE Level 2.

Monday November 16 AND Tuesday November 17. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. \$165. Lion's Hall 103 Bonnet Avenue.

### Please call Sheri to register. 250-537-1883

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Beautiful memories  
silently kept  
Of one that we loved  
and will never forget

## LAWRENCE WILLIAM CROSS

November 16, 1940 – July 25, 2020



Long time Salt Spring Island resident Larry Cross died peacefully at Lady Minto hospital after dealing with cancer. Larry was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and moved to British Columbia in his late teens. Later in his twenties he worked as a radio news reporter at CJVI in Victoria, BC. He was an alderman, and an active member in Lions Club.

He loved to fly small aircraft in his younger years. He was well known for his radio announcer voice.

He moved with his family to Courtenay, BC where he operated a Radio Shack store. He then moved to Richmond, BC. A lifelong entrepreneur, Larry started several small businesses.

Within a year of his arrival on Salt Spring, he started a pest control company that is still owned and operated by his long time best friend Karen Cross whom started the business with him in 1990.

Pest control was very important to Larry. He served as president of both the Structural Pest Management Association of BC and the National Canadian Pest Management Association. During his semi-retirement, Larry created and ran a well known pest control website.

Larry enjoyed life in the outdoors and on his sprawling property he had many projects on the go. Larry was often on the water with his canine first mate, sailing, cruising, crabbing and exploring. He was a wonderful cook and enjoyed meals with good friends filled with wonderful conversation. In his retirement years he enjoyed traveling to such places as Australia, and many states including Florida to see his extended family.

Larry is survived by his three sons, Darryl, Gary, and Rob, and his dear friend Karen.

He was loved and respected in the community and known for his service to others. Larry was aware of and appreciated all the love and friendship in his life.

A public memorial, where we can share our stories and memories of Larry, will be held when gathering indoors becomes possible.

**In Memoriam**

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**Pet Services**

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is seeking furry adventurers from Salt Spring Island to join our group hikes on Mondays Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Fridays. We also offer private walks, home visits and sitting, pet taxi services, and pet portraits. Visit us at [www.fortheloveofdogz.com](http://www.fortheloveofdogz.com) or call 250-538-8555.

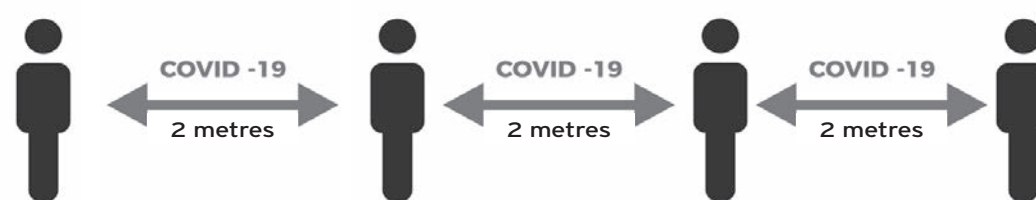
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## STAY SAFE ... PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING



## SEE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE ON PAGE 19



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