



This weekend at the Farmer's Institute

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PATRICK'S DAY

SENIOR

PEER

COUNSELLING

WORKSHOP

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Weather rain, sun or snow, you will find Beach Dave and Jack out picking up garbage and litter around our town centre as part of their volunteer efforts to keep Ganges clean

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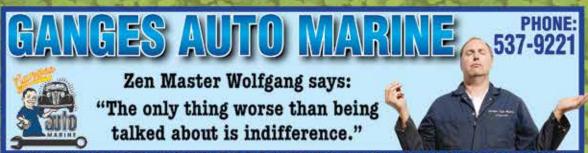
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THE ISLAND'S MARKETPLACE NEWS & EVENTS

Wonders of the Salish Sea

The Salish Sea is one of the largest inland seas in the world. Discover the wonders of this uniquely biodiverse, yet fragile, ecosystem with the guidance of scientists, naturalists, and environmentalists. The 4 week program is designed to foster a deep connection to the Salish Sea that, for many of us, is our home. Learners of all knowledge levels are welcome.

Marine Stewardship and Wonders of the Salish Sea are on Mondays, March 18 and 25, April 8 and 15, via Zoom from 7 to 9pm.

Prizes, quizzes, and field trips are back!! \$25. suggested for the series, donations welcome, subsidies available. Sessions are recorded in case you are unable to attend them live.

The Schedule for Wonders of the Salish Sea is as follows: March 18:

- 1. Why we love the Salish Sea– Jess Newley, Friends of the San Juans
- 2. The Urban Oceans Project How cities and stormwater influence Vancouver's coastal waters. Sadie Lye, Natasha Melo Buckiewicz, Dilan Sunthareswaran, UBC Pelagic Ecosystems Laboratory

March 25:

- 1. Qwuloolt estuary restoration project Melissa Gobin, Tulalip Tribes; Michelle Bahnick, Wetland Biologist
- 2. Unpaving paradise: Kus-kus-sum estuary restoration Cait-lin Pierzchalski, Project Watershed

April 8

- 1. Crabs & shrimps: Their unsung roles in Salish Sea ecosystems Gregory Jensen, University of Washington
- 2. Do insects live in the salt water of the Salish Sea? Anne Parkinson, Marine Stewardship, Transition Salt Spring
- 3. The weird and wonderful world of worms Sheila Byers, Nature Vancouver

April 15:

- 1. Why does the Salish Sea glow at night? Carrley Smith, Community Boating Center, Bellingham Bay, WA.
- 2. The 'Humpback comeback' in the Salish Sea Tasli Shaw, marine naturalist, artist.

Forever Forward

www.alcy.ca

Tom Varzeliotis

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Wanted for Arrest

Salt Spring RCMP are asking for the public's help to locate 27-year-old Tyler Jordan Pascal on an arrest warrant for a variety of charges.

Tyler Pascal is wanted for a variety of offences including; Impaired Driving Causing Bodily Harm, Dangerous Driving Causing Bodily Harm, Resist Arrest, Mischief Under \$5000, and two counts of Assaulting Police Officers.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Tyler Pascal is asked to contact the Salt Spring RCMP at 1-250-537-5555. Information can also be provided anonymously through Crime Stopper by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Artist in the Classroom

Are you passionate about teaching art? Do you have experience delivering workshops? Saltspring Arts is now accepting applications for our 2024/25 Artist in the Class (AiC) program.

The deadline to apply is May 31, 2024

Artists in the Classroom brings professional artists into local classrooms for creative workshops to engage students in rich, hands-on arts education. Salt Spring Arts oversees the scheduling and payment of workshops delivered by our annual catalogue of artists. Workshops range from instruction in clay, printmaking and painting through music, dance, creative writing, storytelling and improv theatre.

If you're interested in applying to be an Artist in the Class, visit our website for more details: www.saltspringarts.com/artist-in-the-class/aic-artists

Senior Peer Counselling Training

Senior Peer Counselling Training is an 8 Week Counselling Skills Development Intensive starting March 23, 2024

Many Salt Spring seniors live in relative isolation - a leading cause of depression and health decline. A regular visit from a caring and skilled support person makes a big difference.

Volunteers trained through Island Community Services' Senior Peer Counselling and Friendly Visitor Programs have provided hundreds of hours of support to seniors every year for more than 30 years.

Please join us if you would like to:

- develop excellent communication skills;
- gain understanding and practical skills dealing with challenges such as dementia, elder abuse, care-giver distress, the impact of trauma, and grief and loss;
 - learn how to support seniors going through difficult times;
 - become a certified member of Senior Peer Counselling of BC;
- and to contribute to the community by making a difference in someone's life.

Training will run for 8 Saturdays starting March 23 until May 11, 2024. Training is free with lunch and refreshments provided.

For information and to enroll please contactShellyse Szakacs-Seniors Program Coordinator. Email: sszakacs@ssics.ca or call 250.537.9971 ext 224

Anyone Can Travel to Mexico: It's Cheap and Easy!

By Sandi Poystila

Okay, not anyone, but most of us can travel to Mexico!

First you have to be committed to your quest for adventure. And second you must have a valid passport and be legal to travel there. Once you get past those two roadblocks you are on your way to a fun, relaxing holiday in beautiful sunny Mexico.

I just got back from Jalisco, Mexico and here are some tips for cheap travel: First, say no to pizza at Uptown or drinks at the Local and save your money to travel instead! Quit smoking and drinking and you will have so much money for travel!

Book your flight early. Research when and where you want to go to find the cheapest travel dates. Select and book your flights on a Black Friday or other sale date before November. You can get return flights for about \$500-\$700 if you keep your eyes on the prize and check flights frequently. Be flexible on your dates and check other airports close by. Keep in mind how many and how long the stopovers are. Time is money so less stops is better!

Join social media groups that share info on your destination like, Vallarta Accommodations or Cancun Live Music or Airbnb Mexico. Travel during a local festival and enjoy the free festivities.

Once you have your flight booked, start searching for your accommodations. Get away from oceanviews to save more money. Limit your requirements like pools and hot tubs, to find more afford-

able places. You can find \$30-\$50/ night places if you look hard. It can be cheaper to rent a suite and share with other travelers. Rent with a kitchenette and buy fresh local, affordable food. You don't need to go out to eat every day. Sit down restaurants with atmosphere and ambiance are great and beautiful, but you pay for that. If you want great food, you can find it in any local street food or restaurant off the tourist track. Just look to where the locals go and you will find affordable and delicious food.

Budget for your trip in three sections: One third goes to transportation, planes, ferries, busses and taxis. Book and pay for your flight ahead. Save another third for your accommodations. Book and pay for your accommodations after your flight is covered. Rent and share a house for a month or get an affordable hostel and volunteer or search for a small modest affordable suite. Pay for your travel and accommodations long before your flight so you have time to save for your food, drinks, entertainment and any gifts you might buy. Save your spending money to have 2 months in advance of your trip.

If you have some self control and don't over do it, you can enjoy a restful enjoyable holiday without breaking the bank... Once you get into the habit of saving this way, you will be able to travel every year. Limit smoking, drinking and eating over-taxed Canadian products and save for a warm and fun holiday in friendly Mexico. You won't regret it! I never have. Pics on Page 12

Counter Current By Riley Donovan

Woke Book Censors Strike Again!

By Riley Donovan

"Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing." – To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird will no longer be on the recommend reading list in Surrey schools. But rest assured, says Surrey school district communications director Ritinder Matthew: "We are not banning books".

To Kill a Mockingbird was not the only book on the chopping block. Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck, The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian by Sherman Alexie, and In the Heat of the Night by John Ball will also be removed. Teachers will now need special permission from the principal to teach these titles in class.

You see, an "equity scan" – a concept which I am sure has a very solid foundation in the scientific method - found that these books contained "harmful stereotypes" and are "no longer up-to-date".

The equity scanners found that Atticus Finch, the Alabama lawyer in To Kill a Mockingbird who defends a black man falsely accused of rape, is a "white saviour trope". Of Mice and Men stands accused of containing "ableist language" – which, well, is perhaps not that surprising given that Steinbeck's book is about society's unfair treatment of a mentally disabled man: gentle giant Lennie Small.

These four insightful works – three of which are recognized literary classics - will be replaced by four books which are "explained through the lens of the marginalized person".

One is The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas, a young adult novel published in 2017, centred on the incessantly discussed theme of

white racism and containing no fewer than 89 F-bombs. Another is Bitter by Akwaeke Emezi, a young adult novel published in 2022 about a young black girl's experience with social justice protests. To be frank, students could easily get this kind of content by opening TikTok.

Ritinder Matthew explained that this list "will resonate with our students and better captures the current social landscape of the world today". Canadian bureaucrats have a habit of speaking in vague terminology and social justice lingo. Allow me to translate: "Because a majority of Surrey's residents now have an immigrant background, we will mainly assign contemporary books written by non-white authors (but only if said authors are woke)."

How about the many immigrants to Canada who want to assimilate, and would be glad for their kids to read the Western Canon at school?

As wokeism becomes more and more hated by the masses, far left ideologues are becoming increasingly unhinged. Recently, all 20,000 Toronto schoolteachers received an official guidebook offering them pearls of critical race theory wisdom, including this gem: "Education is a colonial structure that centres whiteness and Eurocentricity and therefore it must be actively decolonized."

Canadians are realizing that the woke ideology in control of nearly all Canadian institutions has the validity of Scientology, the self-assuredness of a UFO cult, and the fanaticism of Joseph McCarthy. Let's laugh it out of the room.

Riley Donovan is a local journalist and columnist. You can find more of his work on Dominion Review (dominionreview.ca), and follow him on Twitter @valdombre.

THE ISLAND'S MARKETPLACE

CATCH OF THE DAY!

BY TOM VARZELIOTIS

The DisOrder of Canada Fiasco, etc

By Tom Varzeliotis

Recently the Governor General of Canada, (GG), dished us the annual crop of Order of Canada medals to some ten dozen Canadian "heroes", who went past the expected to do the impossible. So did the Lieutenant Governors, (LGs), who branch-planted the GG Honour Emporium to Provinces.

The professed purpose of "Order-izing" ("Ordain" would not do) Canadians is no different from that of the Monarch who knights and "Dame-nizes" people, like Vera Lynn and Shirley Bassey; and "Sir-ializes" the likes of Winston Churchill and Paul McCartney. We were left to make do with the Chamber of Commerce awards, the school valedictorian, and the Fall Fair ribbons. But our heroism outran these and the GG created the Order of Canada and its Provincial offshots.

The other reason for awards is profit. Dangling medals in front of our eyes makes us salivate and do heroic things to earn one. The young emulate the heroism of the previously Order-ized, thus making the system roll in the wind like tumbleweed, spreading wide the seeds of Heroism.

Both objectives are worth pursuing. We owe thanks to those who do things for us and we owe role models to the young. But we need move gingerly lest we we breach Inclusivity and produce suspicions of dreaded Exlusivity.

The punch of an Order is in the citation. This must be succinct and the elation it results in must be enviable. It must also permeate the cultures of our multiculturialism, lest it "hurt" someone. With these in mind, I habitually peruse the lists of laureates blown our way. Of course the deeds the GG honours are a weathervane of the course our "leaders" take us on. I have been doing that for a long time and I am perplexed by the trends I detect, many being for the worse. Sad to say, reading Order-ization lists reminds me of an attestation super-Judge Beverley McLachlin relates in her book "truth be told" (Title De- Capitalization original):

"In my first year on the Supreme Court of BC, an elderly judge took the trouble to offer me a few tips on how to succeed. One of them related to judgment writing. 'Fudge it up' my mentor advised. 'The Court of Appeal wouldn't be able to overturn you because they wouldn't be able figure out what you said.'"

I will now sample the GG's rationale for admitting Heroes to the order:

- * "For her contributions to the advancement and recognition of rug hooking as an art form"
- * For his enduring dedication and leadership in the Ukrainian Canadian community and beyond.

- * For his groundbreaking contributions to the field of construction engineering and management.
- * For his commitment to the documentation, preservation and celebration of Black Canadian history, particularly the Underground Railroad in southwestern Ontario.
- * For her commitment to the documentation, preservation and celebration of Black Canadian history, particularly the Underground Railroad in southwestern Ontario.
- * For his long-time ecological stewardship, notably of the Oshawa Second Marsh, and for his contributions to ornithology as a citizen scientist.
- * For advancing Canada's automotive and technology industries on an international scale as a leading policy expert in national trade and industry competition."

Need I say more?

Another fundamental "fudging" of these lists is the omission of the professional calling of the "heroes". I have found half a dozen "Lawyers" on lists but no Physician, Astronomer, or Engineer. I guess the GG sees our bikes, homes, trains, bridges, seaways, aeroplanes, computers, the Canadarm, the Zipper, being second class to birdwatching, if per chance "ornithology as a citizen scientist" means that.

Faced with such "fudged" deeds rewarded for "excellence", I sought guidance from the GG Office as to where I can find a list of Order-ized heroes c/w with the honoured field of endeavour and a succinct description of the outstanding deeds that earned each the honour. Well, to communicate with the GG one must use a "form", like it or not. But the worse was yet to come, as at the bottom of that form the GG informs:

"Due to the volume of correspondence we receive, we cannot guarantee that every email will receive a response. We appreciate your understanding."

Pity, the GG did not master what it would take to order her office to publish those of the citizen's emails the GG wouldn't answer! I understood! The honourable thing for me to do is to bring this to you.

As I exit I will reiterate my appreciation for the people who run soup kitchens and food banks. They ameliorate the pain, they labour to mend the social fabric torn by inept or sinister politicians and this is immensely good. But we should proclaim that we have Real Orders of Canada awaiting to be claimed by people who will lead us to eradicate the need for soup kitchens, tent cities, and food banks. I suggest we make those be our Heroes, our Role Models to morph Canada into the Role Model for the nations of the World.



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A FOREST

BY NOWICK GRAY

Third Chakra Therapy

By Nowick Gray

Notice: In honour of Canada's new Bill C-63, in which all speech not preapproved by the Ministry of Truth & Safety is deemed "hate speech" and will result in life imprisonment, confiscation of all assets, seizure of family members into the protection of the State, and daily device reminders of the benefits of Medical Assistance in Dying, I hereby disavow any political or anti-political sentiments in the following text, whether contextual, intercontextual or imagined by any loyal citizen of the State, Party, or its Leader. In short, it is intended for State-approved Chakranauts

The third chakra (out of seven energy centers along the spine) suggests the will to power. Purveyor of desire, drama, story. Advocate of agency, and freedom. Have you considered hitting pause, to see what happens?

The so-called empowered individual is only one part in the social matrix—a dynamic playground, an institutional minefield. Initiative doesn't take place in a vacuum. It invokes the dualism of individual/collective.

In this ego-realm, of identity vis-à-vis others, the possibility presents itself: Just say no. Whatever it is, I am not that. Or in the more workaday words of Melville's Bartleby the Scrivener, "I prefer not."

This kind of personal sovereignty presents a nice conundrum: the desire for no-desire.

The flip side, once there resting awhile, is saying, "Why not?" We can choose to walk on stage again without obsessing over costume and status, achievement and recognition, wealth and power. The soul can gracefully bow to matters more mundane health and household, money and sex—and attend to whatever business is needed.

In the four higher chakras, we nurture and cultivate heartfelt relationships; express our intuitions in creative speech and actions; reflect with deep insight and inner guidance; and open ourselves to the greater wisdom informing our consciousness.

All of these aspects of our being are energized by the openness of the third chakra, and in turn, the openness of the sixth, to insight and clear seeing, and seventh, pure witness.

The third chakra, as the default stomping grounds of the ego, is the obvious place to remove the cataract in our vision to reveal and empower the witness self: what Emerson called the "transparent eyeball," or what we can rebrand as the "transparent I."

Freeing intention invites reflection, opportunity, evolution.

First, fulfill the requirements of the first and second chakrassecuring health and home—through the exercise of the third chakra, will power. Easily said, not so easily done; it can be a full-time job.

If by concerted effort your most basic needs are satisfied, and reliable maintenance is achieved, take the opportunity to rest—to empty the third chakra of personal will and desire, and see what else arises. You may now see your way clear to activity in the other chakras. And you may choose to do it by what coaches preach: Trying harder, with the continued exercise of will.

But when it comes to fulfilling the higher chakras, in the realm of (4) relationship and (5) creative expression, the issues cannot be forced by will alone. The redirected ego can help matters by tilling the ground of those fields. Here the sixth chakra, insight, comes into play, to supply the necessary discernment, the "wisdom to know the difference" between effort and flow.

Now comes the harmonic of the third-chakra clearing. When the sixth chakra mind is emptied like the third chakra's agenda, it too can turn its attention higher. Except there is no more to be done or to be known, only letting go.

There is power in the emptiness of desire.

There is wisdom in having no mind in the way of knowing.

Then miracles happen. The maintenance state shifts into fertility, synchronicity, magic. The other chakras are activated, charged with the breath of fresh life force pouring in.

Health issues dissolve, and vitality enters. Opportunities and openings abound. Remarkable encounters resonate; hearts melt and break open; beauty blossoms.

Exhaling the will chakra (3) has charged all the other centers with higher potential to manifest, on their inbreath.

Exhaling the mind chakra (6) creates space for listening to the earth, and the body; for speaking from the heart.

The witness (7) gathers and releases all, outbreath, inbreath, and everything in between.

Disclaimer: The above is not health advice, or investment advice, or any other kind of advice or opinion. It consists solely of words, in no way intended to portray facts or non-facts, or to have relevance or influence on the emotions or opinions of any loyal citizen of the State. Stay home, stay safe, and say Om.

Nowick Gray is a local copy editor and writer, whose work also appears at NowickGray.com and http://nowick.substack. com. On the island you can find his books at the Saturday Market, Salt Spring Books, and the Salt Spring Public Library.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

What do you get when you cross a four-leaf closer with poison ivy?

A rash of good luck on St. Patricks Day.

What sits outside all year long and is Irish?

Paddy O'furniture





The truth does not fear investigation

Check out Riley Donovan's publication, Dominion Review (dominionreview.ca)

> Contact me at: rileydonovan1 @hotmail.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

35



Email your event details to: info@islandsmarketplace.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Salt Spring Home & Garden Show Pre-show social at the Farmer's Institute from 5 to 7pm

Neighborhood Story Time for babies through 7 year olds and caregivers, at the library at 11am.

Meat Draw at the Legion, 5-7pm 120 Blain Road. Karaoke afterwards with great food available.

Seniors coffee time at 10am at the SS Seniors Centre.

ASK Saltspring with host Gayle Baker in the lobby of the Salt Spring Island Middle School from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM to learn about and discuss our community's current issues. With Local Community Commissioners, Gary Holman and Brian Webster

DJ Boomtown at Moby's Pub 9pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Meat Draw at the Legion from 5 to 7pm with Rough and Tumble live music afterwards.

SS Historial Society presents John Lutz: Ranfurley Island? UVIC professor and author is guest speaker at the Public library room at 2pm.

Salt Spring Home and Garden Show with over 40 vendors on site, activities for the whole family, speakers and demos at the Farmer's Institute from 9am to 4pm.

Scrabble Fundraiser at the Harbour House Hotel from 6 to 9pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Blues Jam at the Legion from 3 to 6pm Everyone welcome.

Tango Lessons with Por El Amor Al Tango at the Artspring Gallery from 10 to 11:30am

Let's Grow Local Food Security! at The Root (189 Beddis Rd) 2 - 4 PM. Drop ins!

Salt Spring Home and Garden Show with over 40 vendors on site, activities for the whole family, food, speakers and demos at the Farmer's Institute from 9am to 4pm.

Roller blading at the Fulford Hall 2:30pm to 4:00pm 6 years and up. Everyone welcome.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

Yoga for the People. All Saints lower hall 110 Park Dr. 4:30 PM Low barrier yoga classes. By donation.

Vetta Chamber Music: Music for the End of Time, \$25. 2:30pm at ArtSpring. 250-537-2102

Pickleball at the SIMS gymnasium at 12:45. All levels welcome.

Dance Temple at Beaver Point Hall from 7-9pm.

Dart Night at the Legion 6pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

Teen Lounge at the Library at 4pm Folk Jam with Open mic at the Legion at 6pm

Cedar Roots Learning Open House at Beaver Point Hall at 12:30 see story on page 9 for more details.

Trivia Night at Moby's 7:30pm test your intelligence on variety of subjects. Top two teams win a prize.

Transitions Salt Spring AGM at the TSS space at SIMS from 6pm with dinner at 5pm

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 13

Qigong classes at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga at 9:30 am. Learn the Seasons form with Joy Cameron. Register at earthearts.ca or call 250-538-8422.

Swing Dancing with Harry Burton at the Legion at 6pm

Parents, Join us for an Easter Feast of Fun at the Core Inn. Meet hosts Nikky and Martin, exciting activities, and even challenge your teen to a game of pool. Explore current & future programs and 4:45-6:45 at 134 McPhillips Ave. (250) 537-9932 or contact npeers@ssics.ca

The Library Bridge Group welcomes new participants with a basic knowledge of the game. Drop-in on 12:45pm-4:15pm every week in the Library Program Room. email: programs@saltspringlibrary.com

THURS, MARCH 14

Mother Goose Parent-Child Program is for parents and babies to 6 years 10am to 11:30am at the Library, Call 250-537-9176.

THURS, MARCH 14

GISS Improv at the Legion - 7-9pm - Help send the team to Ottawa for the national tournament Improv Games - by donation - what's in the box raffle - special guests

Meat draw from 5 to 7pm at the SSI Legion, 7pm.

Squash - Public drop-ins at 645 -8:15 pm. Athletic clothes and non-marking shoes, we supply the rest! Behind the Golf Course. saltspringsquash@gmail.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Boomtown DJ at Moby's Pub 9pm. Meat Draw at the Legion, 5-7pm 120 Blain Road. Karaoke at 7:30pm

Teen Games Night at the Library for ages 13 to 19 at the library program room, 7pm

A Celebration of Irish Music for St. Patrick's Day (with the Slieves!) at Mahon Hall, 114 Rainbow Rd. 7:30pm tickets at: clannamorna.ca

Take It Slow Yoga at SIMS Classroom 1, 9am to 10am with Sarah Hyams. Low impact class.PARC.

ASK Saltspring with host Gayle Baker in the lobby of the Salt Spring Island Middle School from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM to learn about and discuss current issues. MLA Adam Olsen

Seniors coffee time at 10am at the SS Seniors Centre across from Country Grocer.

The Cavalcade of Stars: A Complete 60's Music Experience at 7:30pm at ArtSpring A live multi-media celebration featuring the music of six of the world's greatest musical groups — lovingly performed by BackBeat, Canada's most authentic musical tribute to the 60s.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Meat Draw at the Legion at 5pm followed by live music.

Caravan of Desire: Burlesque show at 7:30pm - 19+ Salt Spring born-and-raised Chai Tease brings her Victoria burlesque company to town! Glittering and shimmering fun! Two pieces of ID required at the door

SUNDAY, MARCH 47

It's Your Lucky Day!

Dad and Me Pancake Breakfast at Family Place. 120 Park Drive 8:30 - 10:30am Join other dads and kids for breakfast and fun.

Jazz Jam at the Legion from 3 to 6pm Everyone welcome.

Roller blading at the Fulford Hall 2:30pm to 4:00pm 6 years and up. Everyone welcome.

Central Community Hall AGM at 1pm in the mail hall at 901 North End road.

Spanish Conversation Group at the Library at 2pm. Join us to habla espanol!

MONDAY, MARCH 18

Yoga for the People. All Saints lower hall 110 Park Dr. 5:00 PM Low barrier yoga. By donation.

Dance Temple at Beaver Point Hall from 7-9pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

Trivia Night at Moby's 7pm, Great group fun, all welcome 19+

Fulford Hall Floor Hockey Everyone welcome to play - bring your good attitude, any kind of gloves, eye protection, and a stick 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20

Qigong classes at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga at 9:30 am. with Joy Cameron. Register at earthearts.ca or call 250-538-8422.

The Library Bridge Group welcomes new participants with basic knowledge of the game. 12:45pm-4:15pm - Library Program Room. programs@saltspringlibrary.com

THURSDAY, MAR. 21

Open Mic and Jam at the SSI Legion, 7pm Come early to sign up.

Dance Temple at Beaver Point Hall from 7-9pm.

Craig's Karaoke at Mobys 8pm

Community Accupuncture at the wellness centre, 11am to 3pm.

Squash - Free public drop-ins at 645 -815 pm, Behind Golf Course. saltspringsquash@gmail.com

Bach on the Rock's Mozart and Brahms

Bach on the Rock presents a pairing of Mozart and Brahms for this year's Spring concert. The Sinfonia Concertante in Eb, K 297b for Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon is a wonderful showcase for the four wind soloists with delightful interplay between them and the orchestra. Interestingly, although the work is generally attributed to Mozart, the original score is lost and there is much scholarly debate over whether he was in fact the composer. Regardless of the true answer to this question, the musical writing is glorious and original and great fun for our soloists!

Featuring Delane Peters - Oboe, Phil Haig - Clarinet, Margaret Fisher - Horn, and Tracie Whitelaw - Bassoon

Perhaps inspired by his own frustrated love for Clara Schumann, Brahms wrote the Liebeslieder waltzes in 1869 for voices and piano four hands. The original collection includes 18 songs, of which he later orchestrated 9 for chamber orchestra – the version which we present here. Each song is relatively brief, and they carry the listener through a wide range of moods and feelings

The Schicksalslied or Song of Destiny, by contrast, was composed from the first as a setting for choir and orchestra of Friederich Holderlin's poem. He was visiting his good friend Albert Dietrich in Wilhelmshaven and came across Hyperions Schicksalslied in his friend's library. He was so impressed with it that he sketched a setting of it while the rest of his friends were enjoying the seaside town, then cut his visit short and went home to get back to his work. The resulting work is one of Brahms' great choral pieces, sometimes referred to as the 'Little Requiem' for the similarities in its writing to that of Ein deutsches Requiem.

Tickets for both March 16 and 17th shows are available in advance online at https://www.bachontherock.com/mozart-brahms, or at the door with payment by cash, cheque, or card.

Dragonfly Life Drawing Group Open Reception March 22

Meeting weekly since 2021 at the Dragonfly artist supply store, the Dragonfly Life Drawing group features a wide range of talented professionals: painters, sculptors, fabric artists, illustrators, woodworkers, metalworkers, and interdisciplinary artists all sharing a passion for drawing the human body from life. The artists: Mike Deas, Bryn Finer, Georgia Henn, Martin Herbert, Jane MacKenzie, April Mackey, Patrick McCallum, Mel Williamson, Sal Wiltshire, Zoe Zafiris.

The artistic tradition of drawing the live figure has deep roots dating from the 5th century BCE, its foundation in the European academies of the late Renaissance and early Baroque era's classical art instruction. Sadly now generally absent from Contemporary art instruction, for many purists life drawing remains an integral element in an artist's mastery of drawing, painting, and most importantly: seeing.

Join us at the Dragonfly Life Drawing Group Open Reception on Friday March 22, 5-7pm

The exhibition will feature studies and sketches created during the live model sessions, in addition to figure-inspired finished works executed in a variety of mediums by the artists.

Film Festival Favourites!

By Steve Martindale

The Salt Spring Film Festival, which ran from March 1 to 3 at Gulf Islands Secondary School, is pleased to announce their 2024 Audience Choice Awards, as determined by ballots completed by those who saw any of the 48 documentaries in this year's program.

Congratulations to Dianne Whelan of Sechelt, whose film 500 DAYS IN THE WILD (co-presented by Salt Spring Arts) about her remarkable six-year trek across the Trans Canada Trail, has received the Audience Choice Award for Most Popular Feature Film. Kathryn Ferguson's bio-pic about Sinéad O'Connor, NOTHING COMPARES, has received the Audience Choice Award for Most Popular International Feature Film.

Honourable Mentions in the feature film category are Phillip & April Vannini's globe-trotting IN THE NAME OF WILD, in which their adventurous family of three visited UNESCO World Heritage sites in 10 countries; and this year's Opening Gala film, Banchi Hanuse's AITAMAAKO'TAMISSKAPI NATOSI: BEFORE THE SUN, a profile of unstoppable Indian Relay racer Logan Red Crow.

Congratulations to Phillip & April Vannini of Gabriola Island, who had two films in this year's Festival, and whose film OUR TEACHER, featuring Coast Salish canoe carver Beau Wagner and the children of Gabriola Elementary School, has received the Audience Choice Award for Most Popular Mid-Length Film.

Honourable Mentions in the mid-length film category are Jérémy Mathieu's SALMON SECRETS, featuring Dan Lewis & Bonny Glambeck of Clayoquot Action and their campaign against fish farms; and Renée Sampson (SX_EDTELISIYE) & Tye Swallow's ĆELÁNENS TTE TETÁĆES (W_SÁNEĆ Homelands of the Southern Gulf Islands), which was filmed and edited by Salt Spring filmmaker Alex Harris and which featured the SENĆOTEN language revival efforts of W_SÁNEĆ Elders such as Belinda Claxton (SELILIYE), who was in attendance to present the film.

Congratulations to Mary Anne Paré & Kenta Kikuchi of Pender Island, whose film SEARCHING FOR SŁEW_ÁŁ NONET* (peace of mind at last*), in which Salish Sea residents explore what Reconciliation means to them, has received the Audience Choice Award for Most Popular Short Film. Josh Izenberg & Brett Marty's film ECO-HACK!, about Arizona conservation biologist Tim Shield's innovative efforts to prevent ravens from decimating the desert tortoise population, has received the Audience Choice Award for Most Popular International Short Film.

Honourable Mentions in the short film category are MADE-LEINE, Raquel Sancinetti's partially animated ode to intergenerational friendship; and David Underwood (PENÁĆ)'s delightful

animated W_SÁNEĆ origin story as told by the Elders, SX-_IÁM,E TTE TETÁĆES (The Story of the Islands).

The Salt Spring Film Festival Audience Choice Awards are based on hundreds of ballots completed over the course of the weekend, as well as attendance figures for the various films. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to everyone who voted!



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Answers on Page 11

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Across

1- Ski lift; 5- Change; 10- Wineglass part; 14-Rajah's wife; 15- Soccer scores; 16- Partythrower; 17- "Artaxerxes" composer; 18- Fess up; 19- uproar; 20- Distinction; 22- Black cattle breed; 23- Isolated; 24- Freelancer's encl.; 26- Reason for a raise; 29- Confute; 33-Low-budget prefix; 34- Eating implements; 35- Used to be; 36- Sleep like ___; 37- Ways; 38- Dissolve; 39- Dorm overseers, for short; 40- Composer Copland; 41- Actress Taylor; 42- Tries; 44- Flavor; 45- Capone's nemesis; 46- Black cat, maybe; 48- Lager holder; 51-Icing; 55- Panama and bowler; 56- Key 58- Robert of "The Sopranos"; 59- Aussie gemstone; 60- Regions; 61- City near Phoenix; 62- Facilitate; 63- Goodnight girl of song; 64- Breaks bread;

Down

1- Ensnare; 2- Roseanne, once; 3- Singer Murray; 4- White wine; 5- Once more; 6- Ski cottage; 7- Domesticated; 8- lvy Leaguer; 9-

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Queue after Q; 10- Black eye; 11- Chinese secret society; 12- Son of Isaac; 13- Range: Abbr.; 21- Dorothy's dog; 22- Snakes; 24- Femme fatale; 25- Inquires; 26- Funny Anne; 27- Brilliance; 28- Fowl pole; 29- Bygone birds; 30- 1936 Olympics star; 31- Hired parker; 32- Cosmetician Lauder; 34- Armed strongholds; 37- Charts; 38- In the ____; interim; 40- Closing word; 41- AAA suggestions; 43- Isolate; 46- Church instrument; 47-Bullwinkle, for one; 48- Sneaker or loafer; 49- Spanish appetizer; 50- Greek letters; 51- At liberty; 52- Intestinal sections; 53- Treehouse used by birds; 54- Mardi ___; 56- China's Chou En-___; 57- Sheet music abbr.;



The Joy of a Good Book!

By Ms. Frizzle

Do you sometimes feel like you'd like to have more time to read? And by that, I mean not just mindlessly scrolling through the news on your phone! Many people today feel like smartphones and computers have robbed us of time we used to have to just cuddle up and read a good book. And parents today feel pressure to get their children reading too. When kids see their parents reading, they are more likely to pick up a book themselves. So how do we get to a place where books take priority over technology, for both us and our children?

There is a lot of evidence to show that kids need exposure to books. This means seeing adults reading, but it's more than that. It also means that kids must have someone to read



to them regularly. The good news is that it doesn't have to be only certain kinds of books. Almost anything counts, as long as it's not on a device. It's simple really; if your child sees you reading and you read to your kids every day, chances are that your child will grow up to be a reader!

Preschoolers will also be much better prepared for school if they are read to regularly. Children develop language skills by hearing a large variety of different words. Even before they can talk, children are learning new words every day. Words found in books are often not part of everyday speech, as they represent more complex and novel ideas. Listening to books helps expand vocabulary and sets kids up for reading themselves one day.

Along with new vocabulary, learning happens too, when adults read to children. Topics that may never come up in day-to-day conversation will appear in books. This leads to discussions of a wide variety of random facts, from the adventures of favourite storybook characters to learning about penguins in Antarctica. It's fascinating to watch a child grow and develop through reading. You get a front row seat as you watch your child discover the joys of learning about new things. And what is more wonderful than seeing a child's eyes light up as they listen to you read?

The experience of time spent with books and important adults can make a world of difference to a child. Salt Spring Literacy has a program called "1,000 by 5". In other words, 1,000 books by the time your child reaches the age of 5 years. Think of all the words contained in 1,000 books! Given that it works out to less than a book a day, it isn't even that difficult a task. It will likely inspire you to read more too, so everybody wins. You have no doubt heard the adage, "If you can read this, thank a teacher." But teachers are not the only ones who have the privilege of teaching your children to read. You get to do it, too. So go grab a book for you or the nearest child and get reading!

Cedar Roots Learning Community Open House

You may have known us as Heartwood or SSI Home Learners and now we have a new name that encompasses all of what we offer - Cedar Roots Learning community https://cedarrootslearning.ca

Based in a beautiful and natural South End location surrounded by endless opportunities for outdoor learning and nature connection, we offer a rich and diverse program for Home Learning Families on Salt Spring Island.

We are offering programs for ages 5 though 9 years old. The program offers a supportive blend of teacher-led mornings with a BC certified teacher (partially funded through Ministry of Education)--from Heartwood Learning Community. For the afternoons we offer a wonderful and seasonal array of programming. In the afternoon program local artisans and mentors bring their skills and gifts to share with the kids. Discovery based learning and Nature Connection are the pillars for the programming for the 5-9 aged grouping.

School year starts September 10, 2024, and the days of the week we are scheduling are for Monday and Tuesday.

Join our open house at Beaver Point Hall on March 12 at 3:30 to meet our team.

For more information email: cedarrootslearning@gmail.com



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SUDOKU ANSWAP

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Answer to Crossword

BUILDING MATERIALS

Beauitiful petrified log, weights 90 lbs. \$300. 250-221-9777

CLOTHING

Woman's Red wool jacket with black faux fur collar, size large. \$40. Full length Shimmery periwinkle blue grad dress with spaghetti straps, open back and matching shouler wrap. \$100 text for photos. 250-537-7217.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Narcotics Anonymous - 250-383-3553 or 1-866-664-3511.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Are you having problems with Alcohol? Call 250-221-1559.

The Sexual Assault Response Program (SARP). Local (250) 931-7712 or 1-833-946-1706.

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The Visitor Centre's WINTER hours of operations are Monday to Saturday from 11:00AM - 2:00PM, and closed on Sundays. We are always looking for volunteers for this rewarding service.

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THE ISLAND'S MARKETPLACE LOCAL REVIEW

The \$10 Million Beaver Scandal



This is the saga of how interfering with Nature has just cost taxpayers of BC \$10 million, and has caused a 17 year, false narrative, that low St. Mary Lake water levels are due to manmade climate change.

The truth, as I pointed out in my article in 2016 (see https:// islandstrust.wordpress.com/2016/05/08/water-water-everywhere/) is the levels have been lower due to manmade ignorance and interference with Nature. Those same interferences also resulted in a number of cyanobacteria/algal bloom outbreaks in the lake over the years. Background: Prior to 2006 St. Mary Lake levels averaged about 40.8 metres above sea level. After 2006 those levels dropped to 40.6 metres.

Why? Well, because, in 2006 two events occurred. The first was the removal of the beaver dam on Duck Creek, and the second was the installation of the existing weir, which artificially reduced the maximum level of the lake by up to 0.4 metres. Now, 0.2 to 0.4 metres doesn't sound like a lot until you do the math and calculate the change in volume of the lake in the middle of Summer – about 80 million gallons less. With the removal of the Nature built dam, the already shallow lake, became...wait for it... shallower, and, warmer. Next, a manmade machine (an aerator) was added to increase the temperature of the lake even further, by blowing warm, Summer air, to the bottom of the lake, increasing the temperature by up to 7 degrees Celsius. No one at NSSWD considered that would be a consequence. I questioned NSSWD about this in early 2013 after looking at NSSWD lake temperature data. When I made a detailed request for further data from NSSWD, based on my concerns of what the aerators were doing to the lake, I received a rather terse one sentence response from Director Bob Watson (retired engineer) - "We have qualified experts looking at all aspects of this." In other words quit playing investigative reporter.

Around the same time, a report in the Driftwood contained what is now, in retrospect, a rather hilariously, ironic statement from Dr. Ken Ashley, the fellow who designed the aerators. At a Water Council sponsored event, Dr. Ashley is quoted as saying, "There's a lot of manmade solutions. If I had a dollar for every snake-oil salesman who called me up, I'd be retired by now.... There's a lot of people who want to sell (the treating of symptoms) and they sort of prey on your incomplete knowledge to convince you that something will work and it won't."

All of which obviously makes one wonder whether Dr. Ashley is now retired.

At the same meeting Professor John Sprague railed against septic fields surrounding the lake as being a prime contributor to phosphorus...another notion which has recently been dispelled. (see – July 15, 2015 Driftwood Sewer Phosphorus)

Meanwhile, longtime lakeside property owner, Ed Davis, was poo-pooed for suggesting the removal of the beaver dam reduced the flushing action in the lake.

And finally, Denis Russell, P. Eng., and then Chair of the NS-SWD, is quoted as saying, "I hate to think of what the lake would be like without the aerators."

Eight months later, on August 14, 2013, the aerators were permanently shut down. Chair Russell's worst fear had evidently come to pass.

Two years later, in 2015, NSSWD finally admitted the aerators were the likely cause of the blooms (see NSSWD Aerator announcement), BUT, to date, there has been no discussion of their effect on lake temperature...or, how much the whole debacle has cost ratepayers.

Again, given the available knowledge (lake depth, ambient summer air temperature, climes, etc.) it should have been predictable there would be a potential algal bloom on the lake due to the effect of the aerator. It is well established science that even a 1 degree increase in temperature can lead to cyanobacteria outbreaks. (Here's just one study on the issue – effects-tem-nutrient-microcystis-cyanobacteria-blooms-HA2009) And, since 2006 there have been innumerable media reports about how St. Mary Lake is suffering from manmade climate change. Nonsense...its been suffering from manmade ignorance of Nature. And finally, there is the matter of the \$40 million lawsuit by Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. for NSSWD reneging on the agreement to provide it with water for the 400 proposed homes, due to the 2015 water moratorium which was at least partially, if not totally, the result of lowering the lake level in 2006. So, now we have the Province handing over \$10 million of taxpayer dollars to NSSWD to effectively replace a beaver dam. Much of that money will go to compensate lakefront property owners for flooding their properties. I have said for years, they should just put the beavers back in the lake, let them build their dam over top of the weir, and, when properties flood back to pre-2006 levels, consider it a Natural success. Cost? Transportation of 2 beavers. You don't even have to provide them with accommodation or meals. And, it is a well known fact that if someone wants to sue a beaver for flooding their property, beavers NEVER pay any attention to subpoenas to appear in Court.

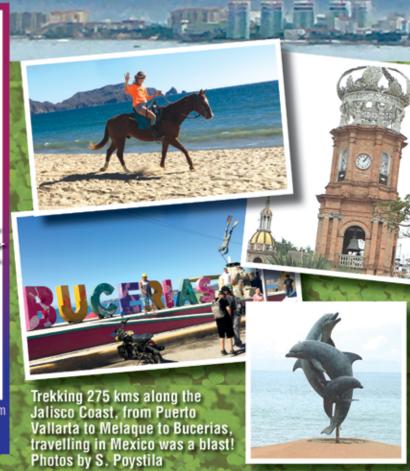
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HOROSCOPE

March 8 to March 22, 2024

Created by your Astrologer Michael Thiessen!

Aries - March 21 - April 20

Both Locations Closed Sundays & Holidays

You may want to take a serious look at your goals and objectives. You can make some money if you get involved in a conservative financial prospect that is presented to you. Children may be demanding, and entertainment could cost a lot more than you can really afford. Uncertainties regarding your love life will surface if you have neglected your mate.

Taurus - April 21 - May 20

Get involved in a competitive sport that will bring the challenges you thrive on. Someone close to you may need help. You will also encounter individuals who can help you further your goals. Get involved in worthwhile endeavors and meet new friends.

Gemini - May 21 - June 21

Things may not be as they sound. Opportunities to make advancements through good business sense are evident. You might have some problems balancing your books. Don't lend or borrow.

Cancer - June 22 - July 22

If you've been really busy, try to schedule some time to spend with loved ones. Property purchases should be on your mind. Travel if it's needed to start the ball rolling. You can make changes to your home that will be pleasing to all concerned.

Leo - July 23 - August 22

You will be best suited to doing things around the house or inviting friends over for a visit. Sit back and observe, regardless of how hard that might be. Get busy trying to make more money. Make any decisions you have to in order to avoid feeling unsettled.

Virgo - August 23 - September 22

Put your energy into home renovations. You may want to take another look at the investment you are about to make. Take care of your personal needs. You will have the getup and go to con tribute a great deal to groups of interest.

<u>Libra - September 23 - October 22</u>

Take a different approach; make an offer they just can't refuse. If you can't get away, make plans to do something special with friends or relatives. You can't make things better if you don't know what to fix. You will have a problem sorting out your true feelings when it comes to your relationship.

Scorpio - October 23 - November 21

You can complete any projects efficiently, especially if you put the effort in yourself. Mingle with those who have similar interests, and you should be able to start something. Don't lament to a friend about any grievance regarding your mate, or it may be hard to rectify your relationship. Electrical problems may be an issue.

Sagittarius - November 22 - December 20

You are best to move quickly and to get in good with the boss. Look into family outings or projects. You should follow through on educational endeavors you have wanted to pursue for some time. Raise your self esteem and your confidence if you want to get back into the mainstream again.

Capricorn - December 21 - January 19

Groups you belong to will not only enjoy your company, but they will also share your interests. Do your own research and be prepared. New methods and innovative technology will make your job far easier than you anticipated. Try not to get involved in other people's problems.

<u> Aquarius - January 20 - February 18</u>

You can make new friends if you get involved in group activities. Loss or theft may occur if you are careless with your belongings. You are best to do your research before taking on such a venture.

You may be tempted to spend too much on entertainment or luxury items.

Pisces - February 19 - March 20

Favors will be offered readily. Listen to the advice given by those with experience. Communication will be your best bet. You will have the discipline and fortitude to accomplish what you want this week.