

PHILANTHROPY

Paramedic on 'Cops' ride

Silent auction needs donations

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring paramedic Lisa Mitchell will be representing our island's first responders in the 2025 Cops for Cancer Tour de Rock ride — and even as training for the 1,250-kilometre, two-week bike ride is in full swing, Mitchell is reaching out for community help.

Tour de Rock starts Sept. 20 in Port Alice, Mitchell said, but the race to raise funds is already underway. In addition to appeals for direct donations, Mitchell is organizing an all-islanders silent auction for Thursday, July 24, and is hopeful supporters will reach out with items for the event.

"I think I'm the first-ever emergency responder from Salt Spring to volunteer for a Tour," said Mitchell. "I feel like this amazing island will want to aid and support this massive endeavour — help me get to that start line, and across that finish line!"

Mitchell is a ceramic artist and lifelong athlete who sells at the Saturday Market and competes in triathlons, all while serving with BC Ambulance from Station 103 on Park Drive.

The Tour de Rock is Vancouver Island's Cops for Cancer Tour, one of four in B.C. that raise funding

for pediatric cancer research and Camp Goodtimes — a medically supervised recreation experience for children and teens with cancer and their families, located in Maple Ridge.

After stopping in communities all down Vancouver Island, Tour de Rock ends at a finish line celebration in Victoria on Saturday, Oct. 4. Mitchell said throughout the challenging trip, each rider is paired with an honorary member — usually a child who has battled or is currently battling cancer, and who will keep them motivated during those long days in the saddle.

"This is really such a unique and magnificent fundraiser that touches so many lives," said Mitchell. "I am so stoked to be a part of this epic undertaking this year."

Mitchell said businesses with something to donate for the auction should contact her at lisa.mitchell@bcehs.ca or drop it off at the ambulance station. And, she added, the donated item could be "anything and everything."

"Whatever quality items you think might work in a silent auction," said Mitchell. "Gift certificates, actual gifts — there is nothing too small or too big, and 100 per cent will go toward the fundraiser."

To learn more about Mitchell's team, visit support.cancer.ca/site/TR?fr_id=30364.

AWESOME OVERVIEW



PHOTO COURTESY TANGO CHARLIE

Progress on the new Ganges fire hall at 455 Lower Ganges Road is seen from the air in a photo taken by Terry Curell of Tango Charlie Aerial Imaging on the morning of Tuesday, June 24. Salt Spring Fire Board officials say the project remains on track to be completed within its \$13.7-million budget. Project updates are available on the saltspringfire.com website in the New Fire Hall section.

ISLAND HISTORY

More than 200 attend 'Dominion Day' dance in 1960

Items from the July 7, 1960 issue of the Driftwood newspaper

65 years ago

• The most successful Dominion Day Dance in many years was held July 1, in Mahon Hall at Ganges, under the auspices of Salt Spring Island Branch #92, Canadian Legion.

Over 200 attended the traditional event, which included a number

ALOOKBACK

of American and Canadian visitors who had brought pleasure craft into Ganges Harbour over the holiday weekend. Prior to the dance, a private party for members of the Legion and its Ladies Auxiliary and guests was held at the Legion Hall.

Foyer's Trio played for the dance, and Mahon Hall was colourfully decorated with signal flags and lights. The Ladies Auxiliary to the Legion arranged the supper.

In spite of threatening weather, the Saturna Lamb Barbecue fed

1,100 people on July 1, a slight reduction from last year's crowd. The number of boats anchored in the bay was less than last year, but still the sight of the 200 to 300 boats of all descriptions was a beautiful thing to see, as was the women's nail-driving contest, the tug-of-war and the pig-diapering contest.

• A B.C. government cabinet meeting will be held on Salt Spring Island on July 14, the first time in history that a cabinet meeting has been held in the Gulf Islands.

Premier W.A.C. Bennett and the cabinet ministers will arrive at Fulford at 1:45 p.m., thereafter they

will be met by Mr. Des Crofton, president of the Chamber of Commerce and his committee. A cavalcade of cars will be there to escort the visiting dignitaries to Harbour House, where the cabinet meeting will be held.

The chamber has expressed the wish that a big turnout of people be at the Fulford dock to welcome the premier and his cabinet. Anyone desiring to join the cavalcade may do so, but please phone Chuck Horel at Ganges-52, as it is necessary to know approximately the number that will participate.

• Editorial: "With billows of dust from passing cars to choke

a person, Ganges should have some 'sorry for the inconvenience' signs so we can fool the tourists into believing this situation is only temporary. On second thought, it is; come the rainy season, we will have puddles to wade through, and dirty water splashed on unwary pedestrians."

• The Salt Spring Island Fire Department has been advised that they have been accepted as associate members by the National Fire Protection Association, a nonprofit organization devoted to the safeguarding of lives and protection of buildings and homes from uncontrolled fire.

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