

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR, NO. 10

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1982

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## Surplus means bigger cut in school district budget

The Gulf Islands School District is being penalized for having a surplus from 1981.

In line with budget restraint imposed by the ministry of education, the school trustees find themselves facing a cut of approximately \$285,000 instead of the earlier announced \$200,000.

The surplus from last year was close to \$45,000.

The trustees must now get on with the task of carving up the carefully prepared budget to find ways of meeting the restraint guidelines. The operating portion of the local budget will be the area sliced. Most of the money slated for spending in that section goes towards salaries and is protected by contracts with teachers and support staff.

Michael Hayes, president of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, is concerned that the cuts, when they come, will mean the loss of jobs for teachers.

### TEACHERS ASKED TO HELP

When discussions began on where to make the cuts, Hayes as representative for the teachers on the board, was asked if the teachers would help identify programs which could be affected.

"That's similar to asking the victim of a firing squad to load the guns," said Hayes.

He stressed that the teachers did not view the local board with hostility but that the ministry was the problem.

"The school board is the victim, not the enemy," said Hayes. "Clearly it's the provincial government and the ministry of education who are the enemy at this point."

He said, "I'd like to see more opposition from the board and the

community to the whole restraint program.

"When business is in a recession, how do you help these businesses if you withdraw money from the economy?" he asked.

The ministry of education is changing the rules while the game is on, said Hayes, and he questioned the morality of the restraint program.

The program has not spelled out

what effect restraint will have on basic taxes, he claimed. "Are Gulf Island taxpayers going to save any money?" he asked.

"The effect on this year's budget is bad enough," he said, "but wait till next year."

The restraint guidelines for 1982 call for a 12% ceiling on school board spending based on quarterly spending from 1981.

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## Ministry asked to investigate charges

Lady Minto Hospital board of management is demanding an investigation of charges of mismanagement of public funds.

Wes Edwards, board chairman, said the board will ask the ministry of health to look into claims made by Yvette Valcourt, Capital Regional District director for Salt Spring, that the hospital's mismanagement of sewage disposal has cost taxpayers \$112,586.20 over a two year period.

Initial contact with the ministry has brought a favourable response to the request and the hospital board will follow up with a letter to make it official.

Edwards said the figures quoted by Valcourt were incorrect and pointed out that had the hospital accepted the contract for laundry, it would have increased, not decreased, the hospital's net operating costs.

The allegations concerned public funds, said Edwards, and the board of management decided the only correct course of action was to have the ministry of health conduct an investigation to clear the hospital of claims of mismanagement.

The ministry will also be asked to review two letters which were received by directors of the CRD. A letter from Valcourt to North Saanich director Jim Cumming, dated February 8, 1982, and another from the Sewer Alternatives Committee, dated February 18, contained references to the hospital board of management pursuing "interests other than that of hospital care" in relation to sewage disposal problems.

Edwards concluded by saying the hospital's auditors and lawyers are also being kept informed of the situation.



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Burgoyne Valley resident enjoys spring weather

## Trust Council registers opposition to Land Use Act

# New procedures meet with bitter opposition

New planning procedures in the province of British Columbia will take the planning function away from the elected representatives and hand it over to a group of civil servants who will not be accountable to the public, charged Jim Tyhurst at the Islands Trust council meeting last weekend.

The outspoken Gabriola critic expressed scant regard for the new system of planning to be introduced at the next session of the legislature.

The council heard a report from Trust manager Tony Roberts and a summary from Derek De Biasio,

executive assistant to Bill Vander Zalm, municipal affairs minister.

The new Land Use Act has aroused consternation in many quarters, with its plans to withdraw the responsibility for regional planning from the communities and to vest it in the ministry. In addition, there is provision for overriding of local decisions by the minister in various areas.

Under the new act such incidents as the Spetifore land sale in the Fraser Valley will be eliminated. The local community will not be able to make plans which are not

supported by the government. Rezoning of a large holding was rejected by the community and challenged by the Cabinet. The community finally gained control. **UNLIKELY TO COME TO LIFE**

The Islands Trust came up last week with its regional plan for the Islands Trust area. It is unlikely to come to life, the council was told.

Under the new act, explained De Biasio, the regional co-ordinating committees will be drafting provisional planning statements.

The committee will consist of civil servants from Victoria.

"Does that mean our

community plans will have to be amended to conform with the new regional plan?" asked Gordon Wallace.

They will have to be changed, agreed the government spokesman.

What will happen to the currently completed regional plan prepared by the Trust, pursued Wallace.

It will be an informational document, replied De Biasio. It will have no legal standing.

"I've been with the Trust for eight years," replied the North Pender trustee. "We have spent a

hell of a lot of time trying to carry out the purposes of the Islands Trust Act. Will amendments have to be made to make the Islands Trust planning conform to the new act?"

Again, the answer was, "Yes." **FOUND SUPPORT**

When Ron Thompson observed that he didn't feel any gratitude towards the minister for what he appears to be doing to the Islands Trust Act, he was met with murmurs of support.

At the present time the Islands Trust council is preparing a

Turn to Page Two

# Provincial tax levy may be changed

The provincial tax levy, pegged at 10 mills for many years, is likely to be changed, the Islands Trust learned at the weekend.

There is a proposal to amend the levy and establish a differential according to regional differences, the Trust council was told.

In January the General Trust wrote to Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Vander Zalm and asked that the 10-mill levy and the school levy be reduced in token of the great increase in assessment this year.

The General Trust passed on a resolution to the minister suggesting that the province adjust its mill rates in respect of the basic school tax levy and the taxation act rural areas levy to ensure that the resultant taxes do not exceed the general increase in the cost of living.

The minister replied expressing surprise that the Trust would refer to the 10-mill levy. It scarcely covers the cost of police protection in the rural areas, he said.

The levy has not been increased since the early part of the century, said the minister's letter.

"It is really transferring financial resources from taxpayers living in municipalities to rural taxpayers," he noted.

### DOESN'T MEET COSTS

He also observed that the Islands Trust levy does not meet the costs of the Islands Trust. The minister expects no reduction in the 10-mill levy or the Islands Trust levy.

He omitted reference to the school tax burden.

The General Trust is awaiting a reply to a subsequent letter, again pressing for an assurance that

taxes will not increase in the same proportion as assessments.

Bud Kreissl found no argument over the 10-mill rate.

The government could offer a good argument that the services to the islands are not covered by the 10-mill levy in the past, he warned.

"It is the school levy which is killing us."

The islands are paying into the provincial coffers in respect of school taxes, he explained. Deputy assessor for the Outer Gulf Islands has declared that the system has broken down and that the discrepancies can't be reconciled, reported Bill Norton, of South Pender.

A physician would not take the temperature of a fevered patient and relate it to the norm, suggested the Denman Island trustee. Yet the assessors take the temperature of a

feverish market and relate it to everything else.

### ATTEMPT TO MAKE IT FAIR

Taxes mostly go up with inflated values, commented John Rich. Two years ago the assessed value was 14% of actual value and last year it was 11%. This year it is 10%. The change represents the government's attempt to make it fair, he told his colleagues.

But it didn't work.

"Inflation goes up 11%; the government cuts 9% and taxes go up 50%," he concluded.

The islands still give millions of dollars to the provincial government to spend on the mainland, he reminded the

council, in support of Kreissl's protest.

The council will press the minister to level out taxes despite the assessment increase. The Trust concern will also be passed on to the minister of finance and the minister of education.



## Trust objects to Land Use Act

### From Page One

regional plan, a plan which is virtually complete. It was prepared by the elected representatives from 13 islands, with the aid of Trust planning staff.

Upon completion, it would, under prevailing regulations, come before island residents at a public hearing, at which time all residents would be invited to express an opinion on the provisions of the plan. It would then require ministerial approval.

Under the new act, the plan is to be prepared by civil servants with no input from the community it purports to serve and there will be no public hearings.

Tyhurst was near to spluttering. "No public input and no public hearings," he protested.

The regional committee makes planning statements and brings it into the open, suggested the ministry man.

"The public can see where they stand!"

### APPEAL TO COMMITTEE

The main recourse open to the public concerned is to appeal to the Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC), explained De Biasio.

He also suggested that there is no difference and that planning is now undertaken by the staff of the Islands Trust and presented, in draft, to the elected members.

"Don't base your argument on that: a false assumption," interjected chairman John Rich.

De Biasio explained that the various government ministries which will be represented on the new regional co-ordinating committees will ensure that there is no clash with ministerial plans when the community undertakes a community plan.

"The minister already has powers to overrule local

governments," he explained. "This way, it's out in the open."

"To open up your system a little," retorted Rich, "you are closing ours up a lot."

One trustee expressed warm support for the new act. Saturna's Jim Money was the only trustee to vote against the council's criticism of the new act.

The chairman was sharply critical of the new procedures.

### NOT CONCERNED

The mid-level bureaucrats, the people who are going to administer planning, are not concerned with local problems, he charged.

"We are having this scene set up by unresponsive bureaucrats," he told the council meeting. "It stinks as far as the opportunity for decision making is concerned."

He looked back over islands history, when all decisions were made in government.

"In the islands in the 1960's mid-level bureaucrats made the decisions and today we see the effects. The 1980's are going back to the 1960's in the islands."

The new procedure is unnecessary, asserted Tyhurst. If local people want to know what plans the various government ministries have down the road, these plans should be brought out.

He also looked at the recourse open to the local community, appeal to ELUC.

"ELUC becomes the court of first resort and not last resort," he suggested. "It is absolutely bizarre!"

Derek De Biasio spoke out in support of his ministry's plan.

### LAI D OUT IN ACT

"Our process is laid out in the Land Use Act," he explained. "Senior civil servants will set it up and maybe Tony Roberts will be one of them."

Tony Roberts is the Trust manager.

"Why can't local authorities retain the official community plans?" asked a trustee.

They do, replied the minister's assistant.

"It is the regional plan to be changed. In future specific ministries will be cited as objecting to local plans."

The Trust was still far from convinced.

"The new act will institutionalize confusion and give civil servants the authority of law," said Jim Tyhurst.

"None of the people responsible for regional planning will be accountable to the public," protested Wallace. "And they will impose their will on plans prepared by those who are accountable."

The Trust council's bitter opposition to the new act will be taken to the minister.

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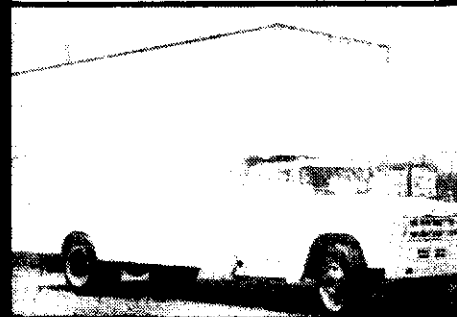
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by richards

Robert John Horton, a Londoner, gave his name to Horton Bay on Mayne Island. Horton was born in London in 1834 and when he was 17 he entered the British merchant navy. He was serving in the transport *Kent* during the Crimean War. Later he was in another transport, *Waterwitch*, in China at the time of the Indian Mutiny. Three years later, in 1860, he joined the Hudson's Bay Company as a seaman and was engaged aboard the *Princess Royal*. It was with this ship, under the command of Capt. Trivett, that he arrived on the west coast in 1861. He promptly transferred to coastal craft and served in the *Otter* as quartermaster and mate under the command of Captains Swanson, Mouat and Lewis. By 1865 he had been appointed to duties at Victoria wharf. He was, a few years later, in charge of the warehouse and eventually took charge of the entire fur department at Victoria. He retired in 1905. His name was given to the Mayne Island bay by Capt. Richards, *HMS Hecate*, in 1862. Horton frequently worked with the surveying officers.

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I'm still waiting for someone to tell me all about the "bundook", a Lee-Enfield .303 rifle during the First World War: I think.

\*\*\*

We have two cats. And one dog and numerous mice. The cats were installed into the household on the assumption that there would be an evident loss of mice as a result. Twice in the last week I have been woken up by the scratching of mice in the ceiling. Here I'm paying those cats a full week's pay. And that's the kind of service I get? Not on their life!

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And no kids! If we had we'd send them to Ottawa to play with the nation's kids there.

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Biggest problem facing areas of development is that those who invest in an environmentally damaging industry rarely stick around to suffer the effects. If those who despoil the countryside were required to live in the vicinity there might be a lot less projects go ahead in this or any other country.

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We came out of a conference room in the legislative buildings and entered the elevator. The gates closed with all the solemn deliberation you'd expect in a court of law or a House of Commons. "Even the elevator doors here close slowly," quipped Gordon Wallace.

\*\*\*

The assessment: tax whirl never stops. The taxes go up and you have to sell out because they have gone out of sight. But there's a slump and property isn't selling. So you reduce the price until someone can't refuse it and he buys it. But he buys for half what you wanted in the first place. And because he got it cheap, the assessed value falls and comes down to the point where you could have afforded to pay the taxes in the first place and then wouldn't have had to sell it.

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Betcha don't know Joe Clark's theme song this week. How's about, "The bells are ringing for me and my gal!"

# They've paid \$12,000 for licences

Figures are up in the campaign to license dogs on the Gulf Islands as Bill Leach, animal control officer for the Capital Regional District, reports an increase in the number of dogs licensed and the amount the owners have paid.

Dog owners have paid \$12,000 so far this year for licences and Leach said more licences have been

bought for animals, both male and female, which have been neutered. The amount for 1981 totalled \$10,000 and the licence fee has not been increased.

At least 60% of dog owners have so far bought the tags, said Leach, and he is optimistic that more will do so. The program of licensing dogs, now in its third year, has attracted more people each year.

The main concern of the dog licence program, said Leach, is to protect the sheep of the Gulf Islands. Since the program began, he said, he could see a greater effort on the part of dog owners to keep their pets contained.

Under the Livestock Protection Act, a sheep farmer can shoot any dog which bothers the flock. Dogs running in a pack can also be shot. A pack, according to the Act, is two or more dogs together.

But, said Leach, there is a more practical side of the licence program.

"People who license their dog can be certain that if it strays or gets injured, the dog will be returned," he said.

If an injured dog has no tag, officials have no choice but to have the animal destroyed.

## Assessor only doing his job, Rich reminds Trust

Don't shoot the messenger! When the Islands Trust council was considering assessments at the weekend, chairman John Rich reminded trustees that the assessor is only doing his job.

"Attacking the assessor is like shooting the messenger!"

He's not always right, commented Derek de Biasio, executive assistant to the minister of municipal affairs.

Rich was not critical of the assessor.

"Most people would not sell their property for the assessed value," he countered.

Di Baisio explained that the proposal to regionalize the tax levy is already contemplated.

The minister, Bill Vander Zalm, appealed his assessment and had it reduced, recalled his assistant.

"There is no sense in the arbitrary cutting of assessment when other guys are not going to the court of revision."

He also noted that the property owner may still file an appeal. If a property owner files a late appeal to the assessor it must be passed on to the court of revision as long as that court is still sitting. It is then left to the court to decide whether to consider the appeal.

Gordon Wallace welcomed the announcement of regionalized

levies.

Bare land is almost forced, economically, into subdivision, he remarked.

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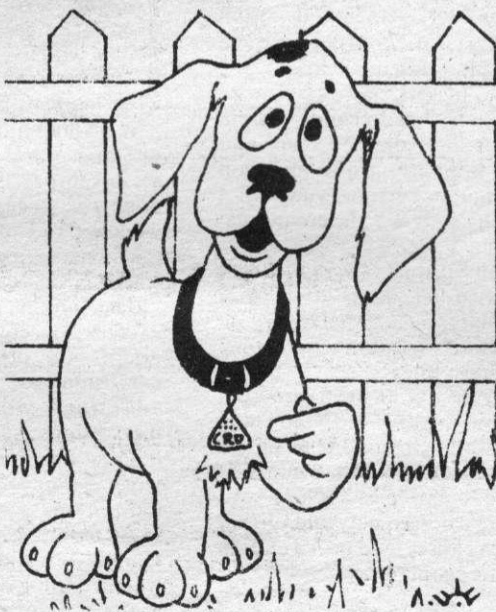
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## FINAL NOTICE to Gulf Islands Dog Owners: 1982 Dog Licenses must now be obtained.

Annual license fees are unchanged from last year:

SPAYED FEMALE OR NEUTERED MALE \$5.00



UNSPAYED FEMALE OR UN-NEUTERED MALE \$15.00

After March 31st a late fee penalty of \$5.00 is added.

To comply with the CRD Animal Control By-law No. 688, and for your dog's protection, licenses and dog tags are now obtainable from:

The General Store, Ganges  
Fernwood Store, Fernwood  
Foxglove Farm & Garden, Ganges  
Salt Spring Insurance, Ganges  
Pattersons Store, Fulford

Hope Bay Store, Pender  
Gold Star Cash & Carry, Pender  
Mayne Island Centre Store  
Saturna Post Office

Animal Control Officers:  
Howard Byron, Ganges  
Phil Roach, Pender  
Lynda Kenyon, Galiano  
Bruce Parsons, Mayne




Animal Control Officer, Capital Regional District

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1982

## What's the plan, Mr. Premier?

That the majority of assessments have risen astronomically is not due to a foolish assessor or a maniacal buyer nor, even, to the depredations of real estate companies. They have risen because assessments are based on market value and the market leaped last year.

The wide concern for assessment increases is not based on a refusal of owners to admit that their properties are worth the figure established by the assessor. The concern and probably most appeals are based on the fear of a punitive rise in taxes.

Premier Bill Bennett has several times drawn public attention to the public's plight. But he has hinted at much and promised so little.

It is time the premier told the people of the province whether it is his plan to impose a crippling increase in taxes on this province or whether the cost of owning a home will be much the same as it was last year.

The premier, surely, must know that there are thousands of British Columbians living in terror that they might lose their homes in face of spiralling assessments.

All people of this prosperous province are entitled to know whether they are to be allowed to live here or not. And only the final tax levy will decide that question.

Please, Mr. Premier, couldn't you take British Columbians off the hook and tell them which way the tax ball will bounce?

## Misdirected creativity

Many islanders may have felt relief this week to discover that the process of education continues in the Gulf Islands, and that another class will graduate from Gulf Islands Secondary School this year.

There were some residents, however, who felt otherwise.

One of the aims of the graduating class at the high school every year is to display their proficiency in the field of sign-writing. That they have acquired some knowledge in this art is made evident by the emblem of the grad class being displayed annually in conspicuous places on the island.

This week, "Grad '82" appeared on a building in Ganges. It was, presumably, the work of aspiring artists in Grade 12. But not long before these young calligraphers were engaged in their work some fellow members of their class were soliciting donations from the community to support a car rally.

If future graduates expect any kind of support from island residents, they would be wise to consider looking for an alternative medium upon which to leave the mark of their creativity.

## They deserve a grant

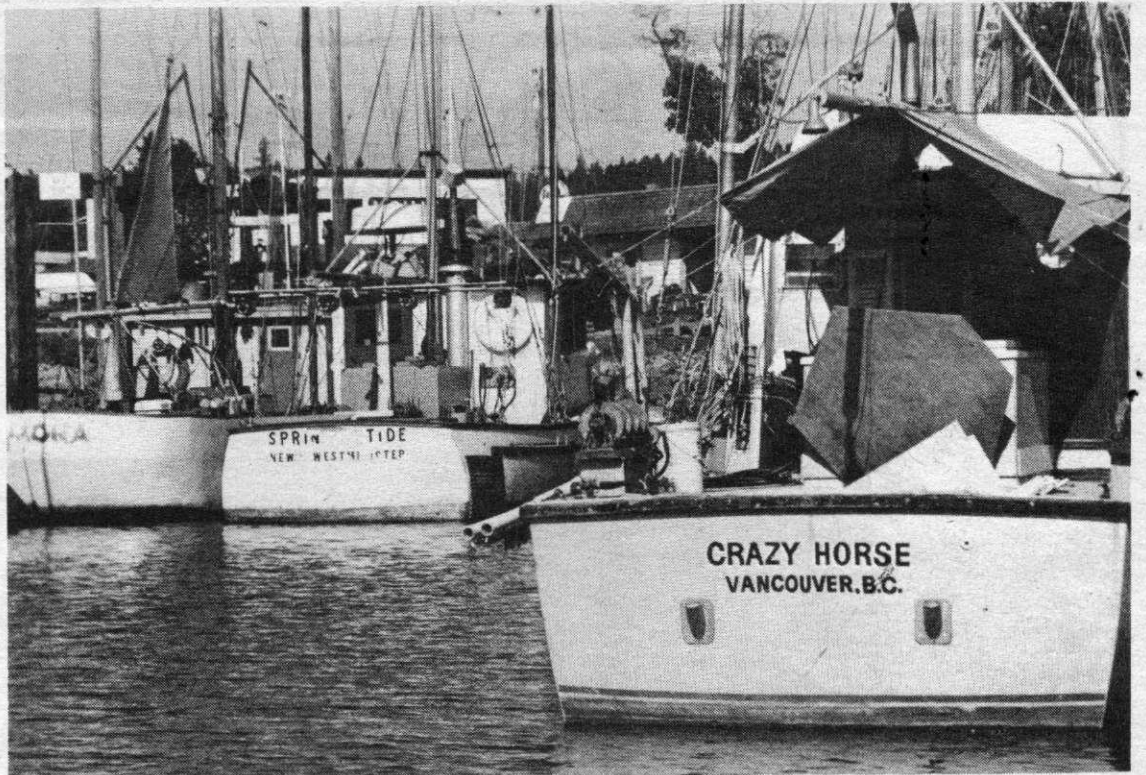
If anyone deserves a grant from the provincial lottery fund it is the people of Galiano Island.

A week ago last Saturday a record number of voters turned out and 65% of them expressed support for an activity centre.

But Galiano residents have done more than cast votes in favour of the proposal. They have already raised among themselves more than \$50,000 towards construction of the facility, estimated to cost \$250,000.

Another indication on voting day that the activity centre has strong support was the cheque in the amount of \$5,000 which accompanied one of the ballots.

What more proof could the provincial lotteries branch require to show that a grant towards this project is well deserved.



Fishboats in boat basin, Ganges Harbour



Bill Webster

## Nothing gained or solved

When words become weapons, participants in the passing fray are often stung by the slings and sorrows of outrageous importunity.

The Salt Spring Navel Gazing Society gazes hazily at some untold rapture, mumbling words of wisdom if only the deaf would listen. And Valkyries vie for the fallen, futilely because there seems to be no heaven for heaven.

Strident voices persist in hurling hurting words as a means of scoring debating points unmindful of the wounds inflicted upon the actual targets.

When headstrong people gather in a confined space and each is determined to maintain the right of personal view, what usually suffers is the communal psyche.

Salt Spring lies wounded and some don't seem to give a damn.

Sewer? We don't need one. We have one.

It runs like an open sore from the hill in front of the hospital down the street-edge to pass a retirement home for seniors. It wends a path past a school yard where children play and further down pauses fetid near a church where people pray.

### INTO HARBOUR

Our sewer creeps past homes and stores and dumps its noxious waters into the harbour which some claim will be polluted if treated waste is piped into it.

How does the current situation rate preference to gathering waste, treating it and then piping it, all 58,000 gallons, out to an area containing more than 500 million gallons of moving water?

A solution, some claim vaguely, is to utilize septic fields. Other than the fact that after 80 years or so of doing just

that, Ganges ground just won't take any more. Where can sufficient land be found?

The heralded solution for the hospital complex would require at least six more acres in addition to the two fields being used and effluent would still have to be trucked away.

### SOME CARE

And it's that same lack of land which belies the whispered hints of developers salivating in the wings. Check the assessment rolls and see who owns Ganges. People do. People who live there and work there and some of whom care what happens to the future.

If owning more than an acre of Ganges land qualifies one as a developer, what of the dogmatic voice who cries in the wilderness of lost wisdom who is also party to one of the larger tracts?

The object of the asinine exercise of course is to cast doubts on others, to create confusion, to blow up sound and fury as disguise for motivations.

Can separate septic fields work in Ganges? Certainly, if it didn't rain.

A report gathered for the Islands Trust identifies surface water running off the highlands around Ganges as a prime problem. The water accumulates, particularly in winter, in the low-lying areas.

Those same low-lying areas were identified in the 60's as a source of septic field failures.

### STALLING ADDS TO TOTAL

The sewer will cost too much comes as an argument followed closely by the cry to abandon more than \$2 million to the herring. Everything carries a high price tag these days but the years of stalling have only added to the total for Ganges sewer.

Perhaps those who have studied the Municipal Act so assiduously should check the section which allows payment for a local service to be paid for not just by those directly affected but also by those who would benefit from the use of that service.

Even as the few attempt to sound like the many, the costs go up. Except of course for the price of pet solutions which miraculously survive inflation unscathed.

But inflation does strike some figures. At a recent meeting of the board of the Capital Regional District, the directors were informed at one point that 1,300 people oppose the construction of the sewer.

Just a short time later in the same meeting the number had grown to 1,500. Inflation is rampant in the land.

Last fall, I presented a view of the sewer in this space and languished under the kindly comments for a while. A lady came to *Driftwood* to tell me she disagreed with what I had to say. She also said I should exercise care with my statements because I had power.

If I have the power she claims, I would call for a reasoned attitude in this protracted conversation. I would call for less rhetoric and misrepresentation and a lot more of common listening to the other side from both sides.

When the last civic election sank into statistics, various residents of the graceful island stepped forward to request harmony.

What has developed lately resembles nothing more than a discordant cacophony of invective put forth as rational statements.

Nothing is gained. Nothing is solved.

And Ganges suffers.

# Letters to the Editor

## Hospital board entitled to apology

Sir,  
Through your columns I wish to protest, in the strongest possible terms, the statements made by Mrs. Y. Valcourt concerning the Board of Management of the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital. They were contained in a letter to Capital Regional Director, Jim Cumming, and circulated to all members of the CRD.

In writing of sewage disposal possibilities for the hospital Mrs. Valcourt criticized the Board for not accepting certain plans, and goes on to say:

"Their failure to do so, simply signifies their lack of concern for our hospital and their willingness to be used to justify the political ploy that was sure to benefit the self-interest of commerce rather than seriously attempt to resolve the problem of sewage disposal for our hospitals."

A further quote was reported by *Driftwood* a week ago and is repeated. This concerns a presumed saving from a proposal for alternate laundry facilities:

"Quite a price for the community to have to pay for the political game played by our Boards of Management in order to push the concept of the 'big sewer' and benefit a self-interest commercial group."

Until last summer, as Chief of Staff of the hospital, I attended all Board meetings for over three years and therefore am in an excellent position to assess the Board's performance. Its members represent a good cross-section of our community and includes very experienced business and professional people.

The members are concerned, diligent and conscientious and devote an incredible amount of time, unpaid of course, to hospital

business. The hospital also has a most efficient administrator, who is also an accountant. If any worthwhile savings were possible, he would quickly be aware of it.

But I am sure all your readers would agree that Mrs. Valcourt's charges imply a great deal more. To overlook deliberately a saving of \$112,586.20 over a two-year period implies some ulterior motive.

If the Board just missed a potential saving of any appreciable amount, let alone over \$300,000, then the implication is that the Board is incompetent and even stupid. (It will no doubt be explained elsewhere that the "saving" of \$112,568.20 was rejected because in fact it would have resulted not in a saving but increased costs). But the more serious charges implies that for some devious reason associated with assisting commercial interests, the Board deliberately sacrificed the best interests of the patients and hospital.

How could anyone otherwise interpret this but as dishonesty on the part of the Board. To those persons off-island to whom the letters and information were distributed, and who would not be aware of the integrity and reputation of the Board members, this could smack of bribery. What other motive could there be? This

## Restraint program condemned

Sir,  
The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association would like to go on public record as being opposed to the Public Sector Restraint Program introduced by the Provincial Government. In its current form, and as it is being applied to education, this program is in our opinion inequitable, ill-conceived, damaging to children and the quality of their instruction, ineffective as an economic measure, and illegal. The Bennett government has chosen to sacrifice the needs of the young to win a short-term political end.

We would also like to go on record as fully supporting the Board of School Trustees of this district and the budget they submitted to the Ministry on February 15. The Board has shown in the most concrete way possible that it has the interests of the students as its primary concern. The Trustees have budgeted positively to meet the diverse needs of the children in this district which by its geography and size is difficult to serve.

The GITA will support any action the Board of School Trustees might take to defend the 1982 School District budget prepared directly to address the needs of the Gulf Islands Schools, in accordance with legislation currently in place.

It is our earnest hope that no concerned parent, Trustee, teacher or taxpayer will tolerate this arbitrary assault on the most valuable resource of any community, its children.

**MICHAEL HAYES,**  
President,  
GITA,  
March 6, 1982.

is a serious charge and defames the characters of the members of the Board. I can think of no reason why the Board should not take legal action against Mrs. Valcourt.

Our Regional Director is an aggressive, persistent and hard working lady, who appears to be subordinating almost everything to her obsession with the Ganges sewer. Unfortunately she appears to feel that the only possible reason why anyone should oppose her is that they are either dishonest or stupid. The Board of the hospital is neither, and is entitled to an immediate and sincere apology.

**CHARLES H. BORSMAN,**  
M.D.,  
Ganges,  
March 8, 1982.

## Spray-can fanatics should own up

Sir,  
On behalf of the responsible grads of Gulf Islands Secondary School, I would just like to say that I can in no way condone or tolerate the actions of some of my contemporaries, with regards to the defacement of the school and other buildings in Ganges.

I am surprised and shocked at this vandalism of public property because I have found through my relationships with the graduates of '82 that we have shared a common respect for our island home and for the merchants and employees who have generously supported our grad activities so far this year.

As a class, we had been enjoying what we thought was a good reputation with the people of the island, but I cannot blame these people if they are disgusted and angry over the ugly graffiti that have spread throughout the downtown core.

I would like to express my sincere regrets to the people of Salt Spring, on behalf of the graduates that really care about preserving the beauty of the island.

## Concrete abutment dangerous

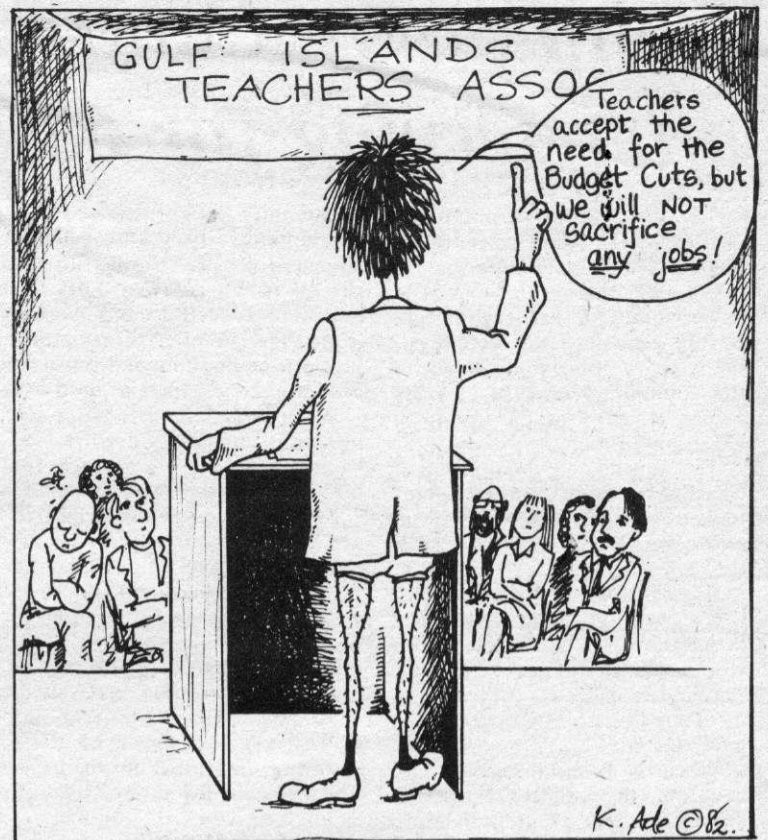
Sir,  
I have a letter of complaint to write.

There has recently been placed a concrete abutment in front of a stop sign on the Fulford-Ganges-Beaver Point Road corner. I think it should be removed.

I believe this sign is very dangerous for these reasons:

This stop sign was first erected about three months ago. It "survived" about four to five weeks — to the best of my recollection. Then it was knocked down several times over the next couple of months. Each time it was replaced by a new stop sign mounted on a different pedestal — one, slightly shorter than the original 6x6, another, a new steel pole, and another time with a flashing sign mounted beside it (after a while the lit sign disappeared — was that the sign I saw pictured in *Driftwood* on the roof of Central Hall?) Each time the stop sign disappeared.

It began to look like, from my point of view, that this "sign



I can only hope that the person or people responsible for these defacements will own up to their actions immediately and accept the consequences for this behaviour.

It is the only chance they have, not only to clear a guilty conscience and to come to terms with what they have actually done,

but also to save the reputation of the graduating class of 1982, who do not want to go down in island history as a group of careless spray-can fanatics.

**COLLEEN TOYNBEE,**  
R.R.1 Arbutus Rd.,  
Ganges,  
March 8, 1982.

## Men's voices, men's chit-chat fill pages of Driftwood

Sir,  
I would like to support those of your correspondents who have deplored the disappearance of Mrs. Williamson's column. To begin with, surely you owe it to your readers to explain why she is no longer with us and giving her wise and thoughtful views on the state of the world.

If she can no longer serve, then a woman's voice is essential. Most of your readership comes from women in the home. Most of them I am sure make the best of their isolation by joining in community projects, interest groups, and the

arts, but they have little time for serious reading.

The role of a woman columnist is to do research, provide information not generally available, point out the positive action men and women are taking to create a peaceful world for our children. Mrs. Williamson did all of these things.

Instead of expanding that area of your stewardship you are filling your pages with men's voices, men's chit chat, men's concern with sports.

If you would like to consider what a community paper should be, take a look at Victoria's *Monday*. And it's free!  
**DOROTHY LIVESAY,**  
R.R.1 Galiano,  
March 3, 1982.

## Figures incorrect

Sir,  
In reference to the article in the March 3rd issue of your paper re the increase in Tolls and Taxes of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, I must correct the impression left by you that the entire works of this District is comprised of about five miles of mainline and three storage tanks with a total capacity of 56,000 gallons.

This five miles is the new upgraded section increased in size from 30-year-old four-inch AC Transit to eight, 10 and 12-inch, top-quality PVC. The storage tanks consist of one new installation and two that replace old wood stave tanks. These new ones are all of steel construction.

The total works of this District consist of the upgraded works mentioned above plus another 42 miles of four and six-inch mainline with several smaller branch lines and additional steel storage tanks with a total capacity of 230,000 gallons.

This leaves a total of at least 47 miles of mainline, several smaller branch lines and seven steel storage tanks with a total capacity of 286,000 gallons.

**MIKE LARMOUR,**  
Superintendent,  
North Salt Spring Waterworks District,  
March 5, 1982.

knocking down" had become a "sport" (not a new one on Salt Spring by any means).

And so now there has been a new sign erected, with a large concrete abutment placed in front of it.

That will certainly stop any pranksters from breaking down the sign on purpose.

It will also stop any cars which accidentally smash into it. It is a difficult corner to negotiate.

The abutment is a killer. The sign alone banged up some cars and cost taxpayers some money in sign posts. The abutment could cause much more serious damage.

I sincerely believe that the money that was invested in this abutment would have been better spent towards an overhead stop sign.

I feel compelled to write this letter because the people that I talk to in the Fulford-Beaver Point area share my concern.

**ROBERT J.P. ANDREW,**  
Fulford Harbour,  
March 7, 1982.

## Correspondence gives different impression

Sir,  
During half a lifetime in Western Canada, my wife and I have been impressed with the great kindness of nearly all the friends we have known. Nowhere has this been more evident than on Salt Spring Island.

Any stranger reading your correspondence columns in the past year would hardly have received that impression. We were very happy, therefore, to read David Skinner's letter in your February 17th issue.

Friendly arguments let us have by all means, but bitterness has no place in this community of neighbourly kindness.  
**AUBREY L. YOUNG,**  
R.R.2 Ganges,  
March 4, 1982.

# Community Centre needs help after serving for 68 years

The Salt Spring Community Centre sits in aging splendor on Ganges Hill mutely suffering the ravages of time.

The building has served Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands for many years. It began its service to the community in 1914 as Lady Minto Hospital at the urging of Dr. Lionel Beech.

The Sunshine Guild, a group of Salt Spring women, raised money to help start the six-bed hospital and continued to help finance it through the years.

At one point, financial troubles threatened to overwhelm the hospital and the nurses offered to work for nothing.

Islanders paid \$6 per year for membership, children under 12 paid 10 cents.

When the hospital moved to its new site, the building became a dormitory for Outer Islands students at the local high school.

Today it is home to the Salt Spring Community Society.

**REPAIRS NEEDED**  
Age is catching up to the old structure and repairs are necessary. The time to fix the building is now and money is needed because the building itself is needed.

Various programs of the

Community Society find space in the building — programs such as a co-operative pre-school run by parents of 3- and 4-year-olds. The community social workers fan out from there to offer information, support, counselling and self-help programs to islanders in need.

Women's Place dispenses information and support for women and provides space for discussions and viewing films.

Special services for children deals with referrals from the ministry of human resources and provides guidance and support on a one-to-one basis for children in distress and their families.

The centre serves people such as teenagers in trouble, as well as children in pre-school and day care. It provides haven for those enduring emotional problems as well as space for those who seek creative activities.

**THERE TO HELP**  
When members of the community need help, members of the Community Society are there to help. But the building sags and now it needs help.

The society is currently conducting a raffle to raise funds for renovations.

When the building was young, the community rallied to its needs.

Now the society is asking the community to rally round once again.

Tickets for the raffle cost \$2 each or three can be had for \$5.

First prize will allow a couple to have dinner and spend the night at Hastings House.

Second prize consists of a night and Sunday brunch at Booth Bay Resort.

Third prize is a \$75 gift certificate from Carolees in Ganges.

## Day of Prayer observed at Pender

The World Day of Prayer was held this year in the United Community Church, at Pender Island Sunday, with about 60 men and women present. Mrs. Judy Neil was in charge of the service.

Joseph Billycald played the organ and Mrs. Neil's music group from the school provided special music on their recorders and chimes.

## Definitions sought

What is a mobile home? What is a trailer? Is a camper a recreational vehicle?

These are some of the definitions the Islands Trust wants before going ahead with a bylaw to embrace temporary accommodation in the islands.

At the weekend it was indicated that the Trust will take a closer look at such vehicles when the attorney-general's ministry has offered a legal definition of the terms to be employed.

## Open Learning Institute advisor to visit islands

The search for knowledge continues and for many people the Open Learning Institute offers them the chance to study at home.

The concept of the OLI fits a system of education to individual needs for those who cannot, for one reason or another, attend organized classes.

After the individual has registered and paid the fee for a particular home study program a course package containing textbooks, manuals and supplies arrives.

A tutor is assigned to each student to help overcome any problems which may arise.

In addition, a regional advisor is available to counsel those who seek information on a set of courses leading to a specific goal.

The student is expected to take a minimum of 10 hours of home study each week and at the end of the course a final examination is required.

The home study courses are also supplemented by television programs on the Knowledge Network.

Regional advisor for the Gulf Islands, Joan Richardt, will be on Salt Spring Island March 15 to answer questions and offer advice. She will be visiting the Continuing

Education office in Mouat's Mall. On March 22, Richardt will be on Pender Island at the school-community centre.

OLI offers a variety of courses from upgrading high school skills to credit courses leading to a university degree. The subjects range from those necessary for secondary school completion to those leading to a B.A. in various sciences.

THE ISLAND'S OWN...

Terry Dow  
537-2589

Hardy Jorgensen  
478-5203

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## LIONS TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

A few people were too late for the directory, or have changed their numbers or address. We will be publishing an Addendum in *Driftwood* on March 31st. If you want to be added or changed write to LIONS DIRECTORY, BOX 165, GANGES before MARCH 24th.

10-2

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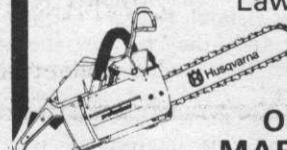
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## Ganges Auto-Marine

Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-5509



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

### Drivers take instruction

Ambulance driver training occupies Salt Spring volunteers last week. Deborah Nishikawana, Bud Innes, Bill Hawkins and

Erling Jorgensen watch as Gordon Ruckle backs up the ambulance. Gaynelle Wallbank was on hand as community instructor for the Gulf

Islands to help the crew familiarize themselves with driving the ambulance.

### Referendum proposed on nuclear weapons

Islands Trust has called for a referendum in November on nuclear armament.

On Saturday afternoon the entry into international affairs was proposed by Christa Weiss of Galiano Island.

North Cowichan has opened the way for municipal governments to become involved in such national matters, the Trust council was told, and now is the time to see it happen.

The Trust is not empowered to hold elections.

The Trust will present the regional districts in the Trust area with the resolution that the referendum be presented asking voters: "Do you support the goal of nuclear disarmament and mandate to your federal government the necessary steps that would lead to this goal?"

Original form of the resolution referred to "general disarmament". Neither Jim Tyhurst nor Bud Kreissl would accept the broader proposal.

Looking for Gulf Island property? Driftwood's real estate section lists it all!

### Zenith number for mortgage information

The British Columbia ministry of lands, parks and housing recently increased the amount of the B.C. second mortgage program and has had to install a new telephone line to cope with inquiries.

The ministry now has a Zenith number to deal with calls from around the province. Information on the new structure of the second mortgage can be had by phoning the operator and asking for Zenith 2554.

The second mortgage is part of the home purchase assistance program aimed at helping people, particularly younger ones, to purchase their first home.

The amount of the second mortgage available to qualified buyers has been doubled to \$10,000 and the interest rate

pegged at 15%. The program has sparked interest, said Housing Minister Jim Chabot.

"The new service will enable all residents to readily obtain information on these new changes, or to follow up on their applications at no cost," he said.

The Zenith number is available immediately, he noted, because of the importance of time when a real estate purchase is being negotiated.

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750 ml tins — Reg. 2.49 ea.

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Big 32 oz. btls. — Reg. 2.69 ea.

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**Pineapple Juice** **1.09** EA.

48 oz. tins — Reg. 1.49 ea.

TOWN HOUSE

**Green Beans** NOW **2/99¢**

French Style - 14 oz. tins — Reg. 75¢ ea.

MALKINS

**Strawberry Jam** **2.69** EA.

750 ml tins — Reg. 3.39 ea.

CRISCO

**Oil** NOW **1.69** EA.

750 ml btls. — Reg. 1.99 ea.

BETTER BUY

**Pork & Beans** NOW **2/99¢**

14 oz. tins — Reg. 75¢ ea.

HUNTS

**Tomato Sauce** NOW **59¢**

14 oz. tins — Reg. 89¢ ea.

HEINZ

**Red Kidney Beans** **59¢** EA.

14 oz. tins — Reg. 89¢ ea.

HUSKY

**Dog Food** NOW **59¢** EA.

26 oz. tins — Reg. 85¢ ea.

**PRODUCE** Mar. 11 - 13

CELLO

**Cauliflower** **99¢** EA.

RED DELICIOUS

**Apples** 3 lb. cello bags **1.29** EA.

**MEATS** Mar. 11 - 13

**Baron of Beef** **2.69** LB.

Boneless Top or Bottom Round **5.93** KG

**Pork Butt Steak** **1.39** LB.

**3.06** KG

**Rib Steak** **3.29** LB.

**7.25** KG

CAMPFIRE

**Side Bacon** 500 gm. pkg. **1.79** EA.

DEVON

**Cooked Ham** 175 gm. pkgs. **1.19** EA.

Gulf Island  
**Trading Co.**

# New business offers opportunity to see first-run movies

A family enjoying a first-run movie is not worried about the cost of the evening's entertainment because the movie has come to them instead of the family having to go to the movie.

A recently formed company, Home Video, rents tapes and discs containing movies for playback through a television set. Brian Delisle, company owner, said he will soon have a variety of movies available on both tape and disc. Currently the titles for home viewing include *Star Trek* and *Heaven Can Wait* among many others.

Delisle has made a deal with a video tape distributor in Victoria for a new supply of titles each week and continues as well to build the library of movies held by his company.

The disc reproduction looks similar to a long-playing record and slides into the machine which is hooked to the television set. "It's so easy, a child could play it," said Delisle.

The tapes are just as easy, being similar to cassette tapes, and are dropped into a slot in the playback machine.

Salt Spring Home Video rents both tapes and discs as well as the playback machines. The cost of rentals is lower in many cases than similar companies in Victoria, said Delisle.

Currently, two machines for the disc are available for rental. For tapes, one machine is in circulation with another soon to be purchased.

The fare available consists mostly of family movies but restricted movies are also available but in a limited supply.

Delisle notes that home video movies are rising in popularity across the continent. The luxury of viewing a film at home, once the privilege of the well-to-do, has become, through companies such as Salt Spring Home Video, readily accessible to almost everyone.

"It's a way to have an evening's entertainment which costs less than having to go out to Victoria."

# Death of long-time Galiano Island resident

BY MARY HARDING

Patrick Harold Wilson died suddenly at Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria on March 2. He was 53 years of age.

Born in Ladner, he spent much of his early childhood with his grandparents, the John Cook family, on Galiano. His mother Rose was born on Galiano so it was natural for Pat to come back to the island and marry an island lady, to make his home here and raise his family.

Pat Wilson was a good fisherman, having begun at an early age with his father, working hard to get his own boat and gear.

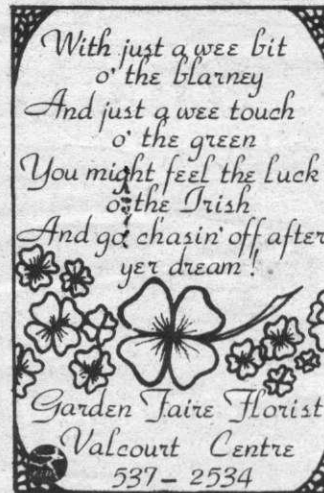
His quiet way belied his ability. More than once he brought home the top price for catching the most fish at Prince Rupert during the season.

Pat was predeceased by one brother, Andrew John Wilson.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Isabelle; four sons, Roderick, Robert, Ronald and Richard; three daughters, Janice and Gina, and Mrs. D. (Eva) Basarab; and three grandchildren, all of Galiano. He also leaves three brothers, Lloyd, Fredrick and Rocky Wilson; two sisters, Debbie and Pauline; two uncles, Jack and Nick Cook; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at St. Margaret's Church on Monday with Dr. G. Morrison officiating. Pallbearers were Mike McCrystal, John Dart, Dale Cook, Ed. Lee, Marvin Wilson and Lloyd Wilson, Jr. Interment was in the Georgeson Plot at Galiano Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Goodman Funeral Home, Ganges, and Hayward, Thompson and Irving, Victoria.



# China weekend planned

BY VIRGINIA NEWMAN  
Director, Continuing Education

March 20 and 21 are the dates for a mini-immersion course in Chinese art and geography.

Helen Griffin will show and tell, demonstrate and teach her skill in Chinese painting. Born in B.C. she attended art classes at three, passed all examinations of the British Royal Drawing Society at 12, was doing portraits and abstracts at 23, graduated from UBC in 1968 with an MA in Chinese Studies.

In 1969 she studied at the Palace Museum in Taipei, specializing in the Yuang Dynasty and in ink painting. Solo shows followed: in Vancouver in 1971 and 1975, and at the National Museum of History - Taipei - in 1974 and 1977. Traditional materials are her media: Chinese ink stick, ink stone, paper and brushes. Subjects include coastal areas in British Columbia.

She will show her work Saturday, Mar. 20 in the industrial wing of the secondary school from 1 to 4 pm. Fee is \$4. Tea and cookies will be served.

Saturday evening dinner will be at the Golden Island Restaurant. Reservations will be required.

On Sunday from noon to 3 pm she will conduct a workshop. Participants should bring brush

and paper; Helen will supply ink.

Fee is \$4.

Richard Liu will present colour films of China at 3:30 on Sunday afternoon. One film is on Tibet; one on Suzhou, Victoria's sister city in China (the only copy of the film available in Canada); and one on the Summer Palace in Beijing. Liu is an instructor at Camosun College and has presented several tours to China in recent years. Fee is \$3.

Registration for the China Weekend is through the Continuing Education Department of School District 64 in Mouat's Mall, Mondays through Thursdays, 10 to 4 pm.



Helen Griffin

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produced by the Instituto Cinematografico del Salvador Revolucionario

**TWO SHOWINGS:**

**Sunday, March 14**  
Beaver Point Hall  
5:00 pm - POTLUCK DINNER with Bill Horne, Amnesty International's Central America special action co-ordinator for Canada  
7:00 - FILM

**Monday, March 15 - 7:30 pm**  
Salt Spring Elementary Library

WARNING: THIS FILM WILL NOT BE SUITABLE VIEWING FOR CHILDREN.  
\$2 donation towards film rental



# Rita Dods: she enjoys people and life in general

BY BILL WEBSTER

Different dates often hold a special significance for different people but for Rita Dods the month of October rates important.

Various Octobers through the years have piled up memories for her. She gave birth to her two daughters. She began three business ventures and she also bought a house, all in the 10th month of different years.

"It's not been planned," she says with eyes twinkling, "but things just seemed to happen that way. Nice things, really."

Many Salt Springers know this charmer either from her fish and chip shop, the lunch bar at the golf club or as the happy owner of Rita's Inn. She has a good word for almost everyone and almost everyone has a good word for her.

She was born in Rosetown, Saskatchewan, and raised in a family of eight girls. Rita came to Salt Spring in 1955 with her husband.

She didn't like the island then. She wasn't too happy with the isolation and recalls thinking, "If the world needs an enema, this had to be the place."

### STEMMED FROM ATTITUDE

It wasn't long before she realized the problem stemmed from her attitude and she set out to change it.

The Dods were living on Cusheon Lake Road and Rita depended upon others to get into town for shopping. Rather than wait to be driven, she decided to learn to drive.

The car sat in the driveway and Rita climbed in.

"If this thing backs up when I want to go ahead," she told herself, "it's in the wrong gear."

The first self-taught lesson ended with the car broadside to Cusheon Lake Road. The second effort almost ended in a deep ditch when the car stalled and she couldn't get it started.

After mastering the automobile, Rita made regular trips to Ganges to meet people, smile and say hello. She gradually became known.

The recognition came in handy when her marriage failed and she had to cope with caring for and feeding her small brood. Her streak of independence helped. At various times she did what she had to to turn a buck and set her hand to house cleaning, door-to-door selling, catering for parties as well as selling bread at roadside at Central.

### MEANT HARD WORK

She knew the struggle to keep what was left of her family together meant hard work. "And that's what I did," she recalls, "just to make ends meet."



Rita Dods

But making ends meet wasn't enough and by 1969, Rita decided that scuffling bucks was leading nowhere so she made a deal to take over the fish and chip shop.

The place was a hang-out for island youth and Rita was warned she might have trouble, but nothing but good came of the venture. She enjoyed the company of the young people and has watched them grow to the point of having families of their own now.

A memento of the fish and chip years hangs on the wall of Rita's Inn. It's in the shape of a frying pan and labelled, "Order of the Golden Frying Pan". It was "Awarded to R. Dods from her brood".

### NEVER HAD TO CALL POLICE

"All the time I was there," she says with just a hint of nostalgia in her eyes, "I never once had to call the police. Although it was close once or twice."

When she had the chance to take over what was then the Ship's Inn, she hesitated even though friends urged her on. She was at that time managing the lunch bar in the golf club and a decision was needed.

She made the deal.

People are important to Rita Dods and not just as customers.

"I think it's important to know something about people," she says, "not to the point of being nosy but to help understand them better."

She watches her customers closely and knows their moods. If something bothers them and she can help, she does.

### BECAME CURIOUS

Recently, a family which ate at the restaurant regularly appeared on several occasions looking bedraggled and wet. Rita was curious and checked up on them.

To her surprise and shock, they were living outdoors using a large cedar tree for shelter. Rita took the family to her home and arranged for a local minister to find a place for them to stay.

Rita may have a big heart but she's no soft touch.

A young man applied for a job. He had no place to stay. Rita gave him a job in the kitchen and offered a room upstairs in the Inn.

The young man began to take advantage of the situation and missed work on an increasingly frequent basis. Rita talked with him and they decided he should leave.

### WAS IN TROUBLE

The next time she heard from him was a long-distance phone call. He was in trouble and if Rita gave him his job and room back he could get out of it.

What trouble, asked Rita. Nothing big, said the young man. What trouble, asked Rita. Armed robbery, said the young man.

Goodbye, said Rita.

Laughter and jokes have become a way of life at Rita's Inn and the regular patrons enjoy the atmosphere. Rita in her turn enjoys the people and life in general.

"I've had some not nice things happen to me," she says, "but I've also had lots of nice things happen to me."

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# Heirloom seeds for northwest climate

Well, Helen beat me to it. A little over a week ago she mentioned the "Abundant Life Seed Foundation" in one of her articles.

I am going to mention them too, and I hope that I shall not be accused of plagiarism, for I fully intended to write about this. Further, I am not so sure that everyone reads the *Times-Colonist*, but I am sure that everyone reads *Driftwood*.

The foundation, a non-profit organization located in Port Townsend, Washington (P.O. Box 772, Zip Code 98368), takes what I can describe only as a holistic approach to gardening: "knowing that we are the master gardener's own seed."

They approach the earth and its seed with reverence, love and joy. All their seeds are untreated and open-pollinated. They are dedicated to the saving and propagation of heirloom seeds suitable for our northwest climate.

## A MAJOR CONCERN

Winter-hardy vegetables are one of their major concerns as well and to this end they list a variety of local, English and European seeds.

## Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS  
Foxglove Nursery Consultant

Some examples: Oregon Giant pole bean, a northwest favourite; Buckskin bush bean; Early Purple sprouting broccoli, overwinters well; January King cabbage, very hardy English savoy; Red Elephant carrot, very large and flavourful; Vates collards, very hardy; Dorinny Canadian corn, fast maturing, two to four ears on short stalks; Early Russian cucumber, very early, from Canada; Siberian kale, very hardy and vigorous; Thousand-Headed kale, very old forage type — very hardy; All Year Round lettuce, the hardest lettuce; King pepper, Japanese outstanding in their trials; Sweetmeat squash, super flavour, excellent storage, a northwest favourite; Stupice tomato, Czechoslovakian — very early, very prolific — small to

medium fruit of excellent flavour. These are only a few samples of the many familiar and not so familiar vegetables listed.

## LIST OF 130

The list of herbs is extensive and runs to about 130 entries with items like Ambrosia, Horehound, Motherwort and Woad. Many flowers and wildflowers are listed as well and so is an extensive list of publications ranging from the practical to the spiritual. Catalogues are \$1 (US) and well worth it. I have a good feeling about these folks and what they are doing. A few people have tried Abundant Life seeds and are well pleased, especially with the purple sprouting broccoli which kept some friends of ours in broccoli almost all winter.

Around about the middle of March we traditionally have a few warm dry days when the soil dries up sufficiently for digging or tilling.

The way traditional things are rapidly becoming untraditional leaves us hoping that this will occur. In any case be prepared and raise a few beds as soon as the opportunity arises, and plant something.

In addition to peas, radishes, broad beans and leeks, we can plant onions, spinach, chard, parsnips and early potatoes. We can also set out lettuce and the cabbage family plants. Potatoes need not be planted in raised beds. This would be too tricky.

## SUCCESSION SCHEME

There is a neat succession scheme for cabbages and potatoes. Cabbages are heavy feeders and are the best choice for heavily manured areas in your garden.

Potatoes do not like fresh manure and therefore are an excellent choice for following a cabbage crop the next year. They will thrive in the organically enriched soil from the previous year's manuring.

This will also rotate your cabbage crop into another area, avoiding many of the cabbage family's problems such as clubroot

## Bernard Moore speaker at Garden Club meeting

BY OPTOMIST

A well attended meeting of the Salt Spring Garden Club, the first of the year, saw members entertained by the B.C. Gardener, Bernard Moore.

He explained the correct way to plant seeds, and answered many

questions in his own inimitable way.

The pruning workshop also was well attended under Fred Maybee's instruction. Many members will be kept busy with tree and rose pruning in between the showers.

At the next meeting, March 17 at 8 pm in St. George's Hall, Mrs. Eva Temmel will speak on how to have vegetable gardening around the year, a timely subject to enable gardeners to beat the high cost of vegetables by growing fresh and tasty crops in their own plot.

Eva will also give her recipe for delicious vegetable soup, which was enjoyed by members who visited her garden last November.

The March 22 workshop will feature dahlia culture by Bill Hooper at his home on Beddis Road at 10 am. This is a must for all dahlia lovers.

For anyone desiring unusual plants and shrubs the University Garden Friends will hold a plant sale May 2 at 10 am to 3 pm at the University of Victoria's old gym. Proceeds will go towards development of the university gardens.

## Gun control worry unfounded

The prospect of gun control has worried a number of Gulf Islands residents but, says NDP leader Ed Broadbent, the worry is unfounded.

The proposal for gun control legislation had been suggested by MP Warren Allmand but Bill C-451 has not been printed for circulation in the House of Commons, Broadbent said in a letter to Dennis Andrews of Salt Spring.

Andrews had written to Broadbent for clarification on the issue.

Without the publication within the House, the bill could not be dealt with "if at all during this session of Parliament," said Broadbent.

"In fact, as a private member's bill it has almost no chance of becoming law," the federal leader concluded.

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## Telethon contributions a record

After the stage lights had dimmed and the television cameras were turned off, the Variety Club Telethon had gathered contributions and pledges for \$2,285,061.

The amount represents more than has been collected in any previous marathon TV show.

Rick Peters, 1982 Telethon chairman, enthusiastic about the results, said, "The Variety Club is deeply grateful for the support the people of B.C. gave us. Together we are going to give our special children the fighting chance they deserve."

The money will be used to establish an Electro-Limb Bank as well as a start on construction of a research centre at the Vancouver Children's Hospital.

Highlight of the 22-hour program came when Agnes Watts, a West Vancouver senior citizen, gave \$250,000 for use in landscaping the new hospital for children in Vancouver as well as creation of a playground.

Plans, said Peters, are being prepared for next year's show.

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## THE LIFE OF WASHINGTON GRIMMER—Part III

# The 1890's were difficult years

BY PAT VERRIOUR

This is the last of three articles on the life of the Pender Island pioneer Washington Grimmer who first landed on Pender Island 100 years ago this month. The two previous articles told the story of Washington Grimmer's life in Australia and his early days on Pender.

This series has been largely based on the pioneer's own memoirs written in the last years of his life.

The writer of the articles is currently preparing a history of the southern Gulf Islands and would appreciate any assistance in the form of interviews, diaries, memoirs and photographs relating to the history of the islands.

With the building of the government wharf at Port Washington in 1890, Washington Grimmer was now officially recognized as Pender Island's first postmaster, a position he was to hold for three years. For performing these duties, Washington received \$50 a year and an extra \$50 for rowing out to the big side-wheel steamers, the *Princess Louise* and *Yosemite*, whose captains complained of having to tie up at the tiny Port Washington wharf.

One whistle from the ship's captain indicated that he required Washington to row out to the steamer while two whistles signified that the ship would dock at the wharf. Often Washington had to flag down the ship and row out with a load of hog-tied, live lambs or sheep, with the sea wash over the boat.

One stormy day he transported a newly married couple from Port Washington to the mail steamer *R.P. Ritcher*. As the ship bore down on the rowboat midstream between Pender and Prevost, the bride screamed, "I hope she won't come any closer."

Battling the rough waves to get as close as he could to the ship, Washington testily replied, "I don't see how you can get aboard unless she does come up close not unless you fly aboard." According to Washington, the young woman returned to Victoria and never visited Pender again.

### Difficult, testing years

The 1890's were difficult and testing years for the Grimms with a young family to raise. In addition to his postmaster's duties and his struggles to establish a thriving farm, Washington bid for any government contract he felt he could handle in order to supplement his tiny farm income.

In the year 1891, for example, he acted as the government census taker, rowing out to every island, apart from Salt Spring, in only seven days. For this he received \$70 and declared himself "an honourable fool" for working so hard.

In the same year Washington and his brother-in-law, James Auchterlonie, constructed a sleigh road from Hope Bay to the Port Washington wharf with a \$50 government grant and he built his new home in Port Washington in only one month with the assistance of a carpenter from New Westminster.

A small office was attached to the new house where Washington conducted his post office business. Finally, in the fall of 1891, a second son, Percy, was born to the Grimms.

Meanwhile the work on the farm was long and arduous with few financial rewards. With little help Washington cleared and worked his land at a phenomenal rate, growing food for his family as well as tending a flock of 200 ewes with lambs.

A visitor to Pender in 1891, who rented

the valley farm for a shooting party, joked that he had seen Washington Grimmer erect a rail fence around a half-acre of land, plough up the land, harrow it, mark it into rows and plant it with mangold seeds all on the same day.

With the price of fattened sheep only \$3 a head in New Westminster, of which he had to pay 40¢ freight to Vancouver, Washington realized that he would have to part with some of his land. One of the first parcels to be sold was 308 acres at Clam Bay where he had cleared and grassed over 20 acres. This land was sold to Andrew Davidson for \$2,500 and after the commission had been paid Washington received only \$7 an acre.

Other land sold included 150 acres at Otter Bay which was bought by a retired Japanese sea captain who gave his name to Hayashi Cove in Otter Bay. Washington had a great affection for the old man whose loggers cleared part of the land in Grimmer Valley.

At one stage Washington became so desperate about his financial problems that he even contemplated selling the valley for \$9,000 but the farm was saved when the buyer assumed that the purchase price also included 160 acres around Port Washington. Washington was always on his guard against land speculators ready to take advantage of struggling pioneer farmers who had devoted their lives to opening up and clearing the land.

In this case the prospective buyer had been introduced to Washington Grimmer by the lighthouse keeper at Prevost, whose wife was a good friend of Elizabeth Grimmer's. On occasion Mrs. Grimmer would row herself across the channel to Prevost and stay for a week with her friends the Richardsons. During her absence Washington went outside each night at nine and waved a lantern to let his wife know that all was well with the family.

### Loyalties ran deep

The regular steamer service to Pender brought new settlers to the island, some of whom bought land from Washington Grimmer. These were the days when political and religious loyalties ran deep and the increased population inevitably embraced many differing shades of opinion.

Politics and religion were hotly debated at the wharf while men waited for the incoming mailsteamers and Washington's own Conservative politics were opposed by Liberals such as Albert Menzies, who originally worked for Washington Grimmer, and Alexander Hamilton.

Washington soon found himself in the middle of political storms concerning the location of the island school, the post office and the wharf. Although he had donated an acre of land and \$50 for the construction of Pender Island's first school and community hall close to the old gravel pit on the Port Washington Road in 1894, the population living near Hope Bay and Browning Harbour lobbied hard to relocate the school to what they felt was a more central position on the island.

With the change of political climate in both Ottawa and British Columbia towards the end of the century, the lobbyists were finally successful and a new school was constructed near Hope Bay in 1902.

About the same time, the post office was re-located at Hope Bay and a brief but bitter price war ensued between the C.P. Navigation Company and the company operating the *Iroquois* steamship, which called at Hope Bay. The C.P.N.C. soon withdrew their service from Port Washington which was then without a regular steamship service until the *Iroquois* sank off, Sidney in



Family photograph, taken in 1929, (a year before Washington Grimmer's death) shows from left to right: centre, Mr. and Mrs. Washington Grimmer; standing: Mr. and Mrs. N. Grimmer, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Clague, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Hamilton, Mr. and

Mrs. Percy Grimmer; seated, left to right: Beth Clague, Evaleen Hamilton, Joan Grimmer, Eric Grimmer, Robert Hamilton, Norah Clague, Gordon Hamilton, Donald Grimmer, Mary Grimmer. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Helen Grimmer).

1911.

Disillusioned by these events which he felt affected both his livelihood and the education of his children, Washington made plans to move his family to Victoria so that his children could receive their education there.

In 1901, now 50 years old, Washington bought a four-acre parcel at the Willows in Victoria for \$900—\$100 down and the balance to be paid off at six percent per annum. There he built a six-room house which he called Mundoo, where his wife and children lived for the next three years.

### Continued farming

The house at Port Washington and 160 acres were sold to Spencer Percival who had recently arrived on the island from Manitoba. While his family was living in Victoria Washington stayed with the Percivals and continued to farm on Pender. When his family eventually returned from Victoria, Washington devoted his energies to the development of the 300 acres in Grimmer Valley.

Now that his family was growing up his sons were able to assist him on the farm and after two quite profitable years he decided to diversify the farm.

Washington travelled extensively to buy stock and at one auction in Langley, where he bought a shorthorn bull, heifers, ewes and a horse, he was left without any means to transport his purchases back to Pender. Washington later recalled that he felt the locals were telling him, "We will teach you to come up to our valley sales and stop us getting our accustomed bargains."

Eventually, when it was dark, he was able to hire three boys from a neighbouring farmhouse to help him drive the animals to Fort Langley where they could be loaded on the early morning steamer from New Westminster. His first herd of dairy cows, which he started in 1906, brought him up to \$245 a month and later his two sons Neptune and Percy established a successful prize-winning dairy operation of pedigree Jerseys in the valley.

As in the past, Washington's energies were not devoted exclusively to the farm and in addition to building a new house close to the beach where he had first landed on Pender in 1882, he agreed to undertake a number of farm lecture tours for the Farmers' Institute throughout the province.

Although the Grimms now enjoyed more prosperous times on the island they still had to face many problems living in such an isolated community. When

Washington and his son Neptune were working a team of horses drawing a wagon in 1906, the horses bolted, knocking Washington over so that he was crushed by the wagon wheel.

### 14-hour journey

Suffering from three broken ribs and other internal injuries, Washington was taken by launch to Sidney and from there by horse and buggy to the waiting ambulance which eventually delivered him to the Royal Jubilee Hospital at 6 am, some 14 hours after the accident. This was an improvement on his previous serious accident in 1886 when the calf of his leg was torn off, as the journey to hospital then took over 30 hours.

On Neptune Grimmer's return from two years' study at the Ontario Agricultural College, Washington Grimmer handed over the running of his farming operation to his sons Neptune and Percy and retired from farming on his 60th birthday in 1911. He and his wife now devoted themselves to the running of their summer resort named Buckland Park where they entertained up to 50 paying guests a year for a dollar a day.

In 1912 Washington's mother died after two years in hospital, his father having pre-deceased her several years beforehand. Washington called his mother "a Londoner with true grit" and a year later he and his wife and daughter Olive paid a visit to his native London. This was the first time that Washington had returned to his birthplace since leaving with his parents for Australia at the age of 18 months.

During the remaining years of his life Washington Grimmer continued to take an active interest in the farm. By the 1920's the Grimms had moved into a smaller house by the beach called Lisson Grove. It was here that he filled notebook after notebook with his memories of pioneering life on two continents.

Finally, on October 8, 1929, he recorded some glimpses of a journey down the Murray River when he was a young man in Australia and then wrote, "This must be my last." A year later in November, 1930, Washington Grimmer died at the age of 79.

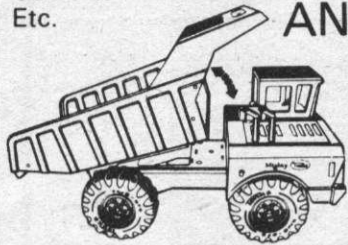
In spite of all the struggles and hardships he endured making a living on the islands, Washington Grimmer echoed the thoughts of many others when he wrote, "For my part I enjoy the privacy of an island home with books, music and a few choice friends. Who can tell of the pleasures that can be got out of life on these lovely and balmy islands of the Gulf of Georgia?"

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## To speak at Ganges

He has preached at gospel meetings around the world in countries such as Japan, the Philippines, India and Mexico.

His name is David Cook and he is coming to Salt Spring Island. The meetings are set for March 11 and 12 at 7:30 pm each day at the Community Gospel Church on Drake Road.

Cook graduated from the International Bible College in San Antonio, Texas, in 1969 and has followed his ministry to more than 20 countries as well as in Canada and the United States.

## Visitor from Saskatchewan

When a newspaper publisher is on holiday he often makes a point of stopping at the office of the community newspaper in the towns he visits.

Such was the case last week when Irwin and Barbara Lee McIntosh were visiting Salt Spring Island. Publishers of the North Battleford, Sask., *News-Optimist*, they were touring the B.C. coast following a recent meeting in Victoria.

The meeting was that of the lieutenant-governors of Canada's provinces. McIntosh is lieutenant-governor of Saskatchewan.

## Local student named to honour roll

A Salt Spring Island student was among those named to the honour roll in the 1981 fall quarter at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash.

Tarri Horel was one of 709 students named to the honour roll. There were 10,291 students enrolled in the university during the quarter.

A student must complete at least 14 graded credit hours during a quarter and be in the top 10% of his class to be named to the honour roll.

# Assessor is guest at meeting

BY ELEANOR HARRISON

Seventy people attended the meeting in the school-community centre at Pender Island Saturday when Bill Craven of the B.C. Assessment Authority told how assessments are arrived at and answered questions from the audience.

A petition was circulated last week demanding a review of the whole assessment system, objecting to unfair proportion of tax based on inflated real estate prices and demanding a roll-back on the mill rate to compensate for high assessments.

Craven said the assessment act was brought into being in 1974 and it was decided that within three years assessments would be brought up to the market value of the property.

The actual work of assessing the property is done in October of each year and the Assessment Authority tries to look ahead to project the right values.

"In the fall of 1980 real estate values were relatively stable," said Craven, "but then started to increase rapidly, so when the property owner received his assessment notice in January, he could have realized that it was slightly low." The Assessment Authority did not have time to

adjust for the increases.

### MARKET TOOK OFF

The following year the market took off and continued to rise. Sometimes in some areas adjustments have to be made because of overall market changes but this is not true of the Gulf Islands.

"If your assessment is up so is the value of your property," said Craven.

Two factors taken into consideration when assessing a property, said Craven, were depreciated replacement cost plus the cost of the land and the sales of similar properties in the same area.

Mrs. Florence Davidson of Roesland Resort said their rates would have to be doubled in order to pay the tax bill because of the large increase in their assessment. But because their rates are published in December they are unable to raise them this year.

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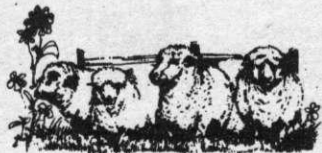
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# Insurance Corporation is ready for fraudulent claims

Some people invent elaborate schemes to put one over on an insurance company but the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia is ready for them.

If a claim doesn't sound right, ICBC investigators check it out. The corporation investigates about 700 suspicious claims each year and at least half are found to be fraudulent.

On occasion the case involves exaggeration such as the person who broke a leg in a car accident. He claimed he had been crippled for life.

Investigators filmed him carrying lumber and hammering a deck to build a new boat. He settled for a reduced claim.

Sandy Pearson, vice-president in charge of ICBC claims said, "Although the majority of body shop operators are honest, occasionally we experience falsified claims from some who attempt to charge us for work not done."

ICBC has its own special investigation unit and employs private investigators and consultants to guard against frauds.

### CONDUCT SPOT CHECKS

For body shops, the units conduct spot checks with claimants to confirm that repair work was actually carried out on the vehicle.

Hit-and-run claims also are a source of suspicious claims. Each month in Vancouver, more than 800 motorists file hit-and-run claims.

"According to our estimates," said Don Sandberg of ICBC's special investigation unit, "about half of all hit-and-runs are witnessed but people don't bother to call the police with information."

The corporation encourages people to report licence numbers, vehicle descriptions and such facts as time and place when they see an obvious hit-and-run.

Even though filing a claim for hit-and-run does not affect someone's safe driving discount, some are tempted to concoct a fraudulent scheme to make it look like they were the victims.

The corporation has many stories of drivers who were involved in an accident who thought it easier to abandon the vehicle and claim it was stolen rather than report the facts.

### CLAIMED IT WAS STOLEN

One story concerns a man who reported that he left his vehicle at a beer parlour because he was too drunk to drive. He claimed that someone had stolen it from the parking lot.

When the vehicle was found, it was in a ditch on a direct route between the beer parlour and the claimant's house.

On occasion, both parties claim to be victims of hit-and-run. In such cases, experts reconstruct the accident from the reports or both

parties and measure angles of impact to determine who is at fault.

Sandberg concluded, "It's worth remembering that every time a hit-and-run crime is committed, someone is running off with your money. Don't let him get away with it."

## Trustees meet with parents

Members of the Gulf Islands School Board reiterated their stand on expansion at Fernwood School when they met with about 50 parents of Fernwood students last week.

Additional classroom space at Fernwood had been planned but delays in building the new school at Fulford have forced the board to postpone adding to the north end school.

To relieve the overcrowding the Grade 7 class at Fernwood was moved to Salt Spring Elementary last September.

Board chairman Strick Aust pointed out that the only alternative to busing the Grade 7's to Ganges was to go to split classes.

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# Tide of economic disaster

BY JIM MANLY, MP

Last week British Columbians received more bad news concerning our forest industry. MacMillan-Bloedel announced a new series of salary cuts and layoffs, some of them permanent. Other forest companies are following the leader, so that wood and pulp workers throughout the province face a very uncertain future.

Adding to the uncertainty is the growing hue and cry in the United States against Canadian lumber sales. Now two of the largest American forest companies, Louisiana-Pacific and International Paper, have joined the agitation for restriction on Canadian lumber sales.

The problem of course does not lie with Canadian lumber but with President Reagan's restrictive monetary policies. In the 1970's, housing starts in the United States averaged about 1.7 million per year. This year, experts predict between 900,000 and 1.1 million starts. One analyst fears that full recovery in the housing market might not come until 1984 or even 1985.

Cutbacks in hospital and school construction have a further depressing effect on American lumber sales. Instead of demanding that President Reagan change his policies and begin a housing program, these companies wrongly think that their problem can be solved by restricting Canadian lumber sales. In the House we have asked the Canadian government to protect our interests at the U.S. hearings on the subject.

**OTHERS SUFFERING**

Other parts of the Canadian economy, such as the auto industry or the appliance manufacturing industry, are suffering from equally disastrous conditions.

In the face of all this bad news our government has taken a wait and see attitude. Finance Minister MacEachen has indicated that if conditions get really bad he might take some action. In the meantime, estimates for spending in the coming fiscal year, April 1, 1982 till March 31, 1983, show a drop in the money we will spend on job creation. Last year's estimates listed \$318 million for job creation while this year the figure is down to \$216 million. Unemployment is up; costs are up; but the estimated money for job creation programs is down.

As Canadians watch a listless government drifting on a tide of economic disaster, they wonder if anyone cares. They want to see policies and programs to deal with basic problems such as unemployment, housing and interest rates.

Ed Broadbent has suggested some new and positive policies that could go a long way towards getting our people back to work.

**MUST ELIMINATE DEFICIT**

First the government must act to eliminate the \$21 billion trade deficit in manufactured goods. So long as we have this deficit, Canada cannot stimulate growth without creating even more problems. Foreign-based companies see Canada only as a source of raw materials and as a market for their goods.

We must end this by insisting that these companies enter into production agreements to ensure that production in Canada will equal sales to Canada. In key sectors such as the auto industry we must insist on sourcing of parts and components from Canadian producers. The government must be prepared to use both incentives and disincentives to ensure that companies go along with this policy.

Secondly, the government should begin a new housing construction program. If it taxed the chartered banks at their 1971 level it would have additional revenue of \$700 million. We could invest part of this money in social housing with 50,000 new housing starts and thereby create 93,000 jobs, not only in construction but also in forestry and manufacturing.

**POTENTIAL FOR JOB CREATION**

Thirdly, the government should adopt an interest rate policy that would help Canadian farmers, fishermen and small business people. The small business sector has great potential for job creation. Nothing would help more than setting the bank rate at one percentage point above inflation.

Fourthly, the government should boost the spending power of ordinary Canadians through a tax cut. A greater ability to purchase goods and services will stimulate our economy and lead directly to job creation.

Fifthly, in the Canadian economy exports are vital. While we need to restructure and change

direction, we cannot ignore export markets, but we should put an end to the fire sale approach that robs our children of future resources. A balanced program would see a greater degree of processing before resources left the country. And we should insist that a portion of our exports go in Canadian-built vessels, registered in Canada and crewed with Canadians.

These are only the first steps that Canadians must take if we want to regain control of our own economy. We have the resources, and we have the skills. We need a government that is prepared to give leadership.

## Yacht Club sees slides of Virgin Islands

The Pender Island Yacht Club meeting on February 22 featured Mr. and Mrs. Peter Campbell's slides of their trip last Christmas in the Virgin Islands.

The Campbells flew to St. Thomas and with friends chartered a 41-ft. sailboat and enjoyed a cruise throughout the waters of the U.S. and British Virgin Islands.

Elizabeth Campbell reported, "The winds were wonderful, and the weather perfect, but except for the weather our coast is the next best place for sailing."

## New books

**Fiction**

*The Avenue of the Dead* by Evelyn Anthony, *Wake in Darkness* by Donald McQuinn, *The Exchange* by Theodore Wilden, *The Dean's December* by Saul Bellow, *The Runaway Heiress* by Stella March, *The Quiver of Arrows* by Jeffrey Archer, *Murder on Martha's Vineyard* by Kelley Roos, *The Rumanian Circle* by Lionel Black.

**Non-Fiction**

*But This is Our War* by Grace Craig, *Seven Stones — a Portrait of Arthur Erickson* by Edith Iglauer, *A Silkworker's Handbook* by Cheryl Kolander, *The Tranquility and the Turbulence — W.J. Phillips* by Roger Boulet, *The Eagle's Gift* by Carlos Castaneda, *Paintings from the Wild — George McLean* by David Lank, *Cornwall and the Tumbling Sea* by Nigel Tangye, *Operation White Lion* by Chris McBride, *The Dry Garden* by Beth Chatto.


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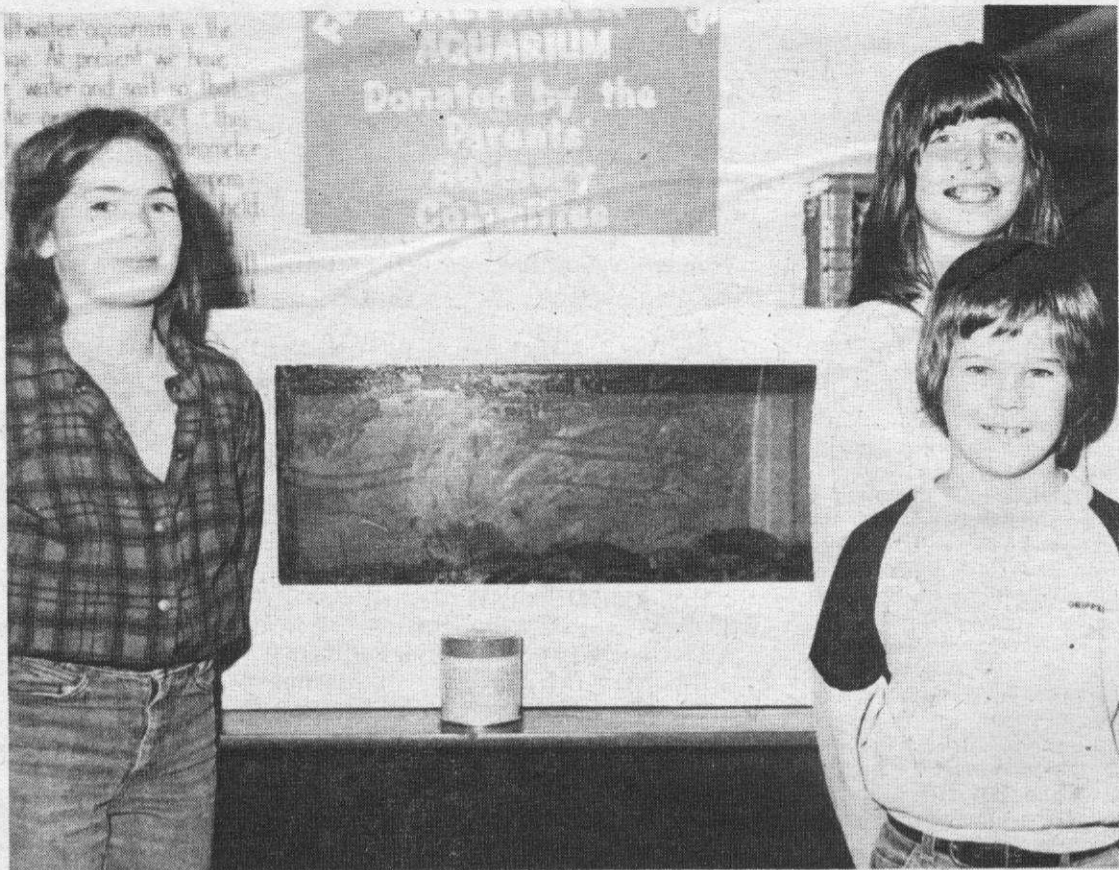
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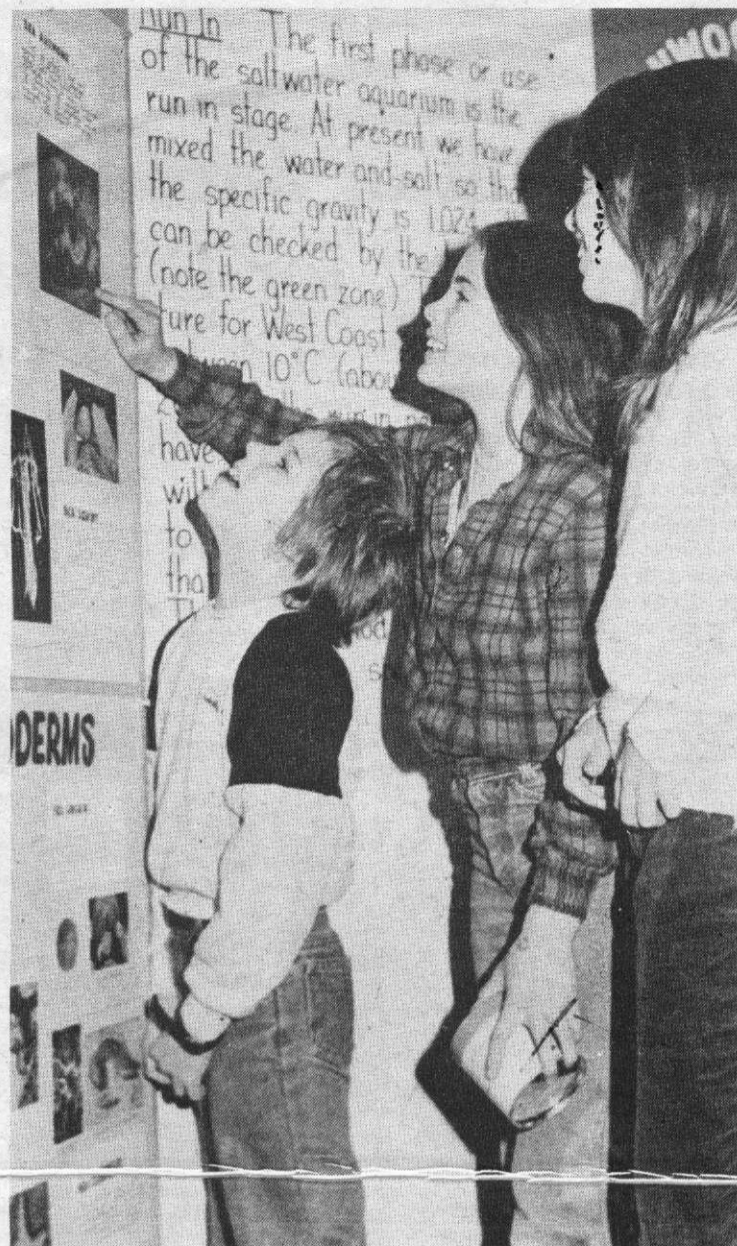
Driftwood photos by Alice Richards

### Marine life studied

The Fernwood Parents Advisory Group recently donated a saltwater aquarium to Fernwood School which will allow students to learn more about sea life. The children will make field trips to the

beach to collect shellfish, plants and other species of marine life common to this area and study them in their classrooms. Above, from left, Christine Carlson, Tracy Scotton and Mark Anderson stand

in front of the aquarium. At right, they are reading from an accompanying display of photos and information collected and arranged by Tom Wright's Grade 4-5 class.



## Price tag too high: plan scrapped

The proposal for a community swimming pool on Salt Spring Island has been scrapped because of lack of funding.

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission had been put in a bind earlier this year when the provincial government

dropped grants for recreational facilities. The commission had been seeking a grant to cover at least one-third of the costs.

Plans for the pool were put on hold until other sources of funding could be explored.

The commission had been

planning the pool based on the results of a survey which "appeared to show that a significant number of residents and taxpayers were interested in a swimming pool only, and were willing to pay for it," the commission told *Driftwood*.

When a joint agreement for construction costs with the Gulf Islands School Board did not pan out, the commission looked at the costs carefully, including the possibility that the school board would be paying rental.

"A careful study was made of probable operating expenses, and even if the school board paid a substantial amount for pool rental, the cost of operating the pool seemed very high for a small community," said a spokesman for the commission.

Even though the plans for the pool had been altered to reduce the cost of construction, the commission felt that without government funding the price tag was too high and subsequently cancelled the plans.

## Tenants not affected

No tenants now living in subsidized units will be affected by the phase-out of rent subsidies, assured Lands, Parks and Housing Minister Jim Chabot last week.

Tenants now living in subsidized units will continue to receive the same rent subsidies which are based on a percent of their income.

Senior citizens living in projects

sponsored by non-profit societies will continue to receive similar rent subsidies based on their income, and agreements with those societies are not affected.

The only housing units to be affected by the phase-out of rent subsidies will be those vacated from projects built under the federal-provincial assisted rental program. In any event current tenants now living in those projects will not be affected. So far eight units out of a total of 850 have been rented on the private market.

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The Vancouver Island O.L.I. advisor, Joan Richardt, will be visiting the Gulf Islands during mid-March to provide information and answer questions about Open Learning.

Feel free to drop in during the times given or call ahead to make an appointment. You can call our Victoria office during the day (station to station, collect) at 385-1424 for an appointment and more information.

**SALT SPRING ISLAND — MONDAY, MARCH 15**  
 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Continuing Education Office (in Mout's Mall, across from the Thrift Shop)

**PENDER ISLAND — MONDAY, MARCH 22**  
 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, School Community Centre (on Canal Road - follow signs from Otter Bay to South Pender)

**KICK-OFF**

# Two out of three teams still in running for District Cup

**BY MALCOLM LEGG**

It is amazing what a little good weather can do for our schedule. Some sun and warmer weather has allowed us to fulfil our busy schedule of games.

In District Cup play two of our four teams going into weekend play are still in the running. The Sting continued their search for the silver with an impressive 5-0

win over Sooke, led by Andrew Aust's fine hat-trick.

Tim Owen-Evans went one better with a four-goal outburst leading the Wranglers to a 5-1 win over Gorge.

Our two senior teams fell prey to strong defensive teams. The United dropped a 2-0 decision to Gordon Head while the Kicks fell 3-0 to Prospect Lake. Both Salt Spring squads gave strong

performances but victories were not written in their cards for this weekend.

The intra-island continued their cup play with a barrage of games. At the senior level the Sounders took a strangle-hold on top spot with two solid wins, 6-2 over the Dodgers, and 6-0 over the Kickers.

Justin and Corbin Scott were the big goal-getters with four and five goals respectively.

The Dodgers stayed close with a victory over the Fury 2-0. The Sockers and Kickers both slipped a little as they both lost a game and split a game against each other. Joey Moger with two for the Kickers and Jill Hickman and Susan Box of the Sockers forced the game into the shoot-out giving Kirsten Luker her moment of glory as she notched the winner for the Kickers. It was her first of the season.

The Stingers moved up as they lost 3-0 to Fury but rebounded with a 1-0 decision over the Sockers.

In the junior level it is apparent that the Demons are the team to beat after defeating the Eagles 5-0 and the Machine 3-0. They have a high-powered offence led by Matt Kerrigan and Jeffrey Neilson and a solid defence.

In other games the Machine nipped the Panthers 1-0 and the Panthers whipped the Eagles 5-1 behind Yani Horsdal's five-goal outburst.

In other news this week our association was pleased to open their concession stand at Portlock Park this weekend. With four games at home this weekend the stand had a good run on pop, coffee and chocolate bars.

Thanks must go to Becky Legg for getting the stand set up and through co-operation with the Kanaka Place, the Coca-Cola Company and Dicksons Coffee and Tea we were able to open our doors. The stand will be open most weekends for home games and all tournaments.

## Second round for Sting in District Cup play

**BY STRICK AUST**

**Salt Spring 5  
Sooke 0**

Last Saturday's District Cup round found 16 Division 6 teams competing to narrow the field to eight.

The Salt Spring Sting was more than a match for their opponents from Sooke, totally controlling all but the first 10 minutes of the game.

Their instructions for Saturday's game were to control the play by doing what they do best, move the ball quickly and use their wings. For the first 10 minutes of the game, they were too tight, too tense, and Sooke was able to intercept their plays and break them up.

But as they relaxed and got into the game, they spread out, and as they did so, the pattern of the game began to change.

With five minutes left in the half,

the Sting converted their first goal. The score was the first of three in a row by Andrew Aust, who is coming on strong at just the right time of the season.

The hard work of moving the ball up was done by Rob Wanless. He fed the ball up to Izak Ondre who quickly crossed the ball into the centre, allowing Andrew to receive it in the open. Before the Sooke defence could react, the shot was away and in the back of the net.

Ten minutes into the second half, Andrew scored again, this time on a pass pushed through to him by sweeper Charlie Hume.

Two minutes later, Andrew completed his hat-trick on a ball pushed through to him by Drayson Akhurst.

Goal four was the result of some excellent team play by right half-back Izak Ondre and right wing Chad Little.

Izak worked the ball up to Chad and this time, instead of crossing the ball, Chad put a beautiful shot in on goal, over the keeper's outstretched hands, and into the top corner of the net.

With five minutes left in the game, Charlie Hume put his second of the season in, the result of some very determined play. He brought the ball up the wing and moved past two defenders to take his initial shot from 15 yards out.

The shot was way too hard for the goalie to handle and before either he or a defender could react, Charlie pounced on the rebound, pushing it low into the corner of the net.

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### This Week in Recreation

**FREE FAMILY SWIM:** Sidney pool, Sundays 6:30-8 pm.

**LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TRYOUTS** - Boys ages 10-12 as of July 31. Sunday, March 14 at 3 pm, Ganges.

**SOCCER:**

**Div. 1A: Exhibition** - S.S. United vs S.S. Men, Sun. Mar. 14, 12:00 noon, Portlock Park.

**Div. 2A: Tournament** - Juan de Fuca. Sat. Mar. 13 & Sun. Mar. 14, Victoria.

**Div. 5C2: S.S. Wranglers vs Prospect Lake or Bays.** Sat. Mar. 13, 1:00 pm, Portlock Park.

**Div. 6C2: S.S. Sting vs Gorge or Peninsula,** Sat. Mar. 13, 11:00 am, Victoria.

**Women's: S.S. Sockeyes vs Nanaimo,** Sun., Mar. 14, 11:00 am, Nanaimo.

**Intra-Island:** Games continue Tues. & Thurs., 3:30 pm.

**INTRA-ISLAND TOURNEY:** March 20 & 21, Portlock Park. Concession open.

**SSIYSA TOURNAMENT:** April 10, & 11, Portlock Park. Concession Open.

**SSIYSA BANQUET** - April 23, 6:00 pm, Gulf Islands Secondary School.

## Scoreboard

**Div. 1A:** Salt Spring United 0; Gordon Head 2  
**Div. 2A:** Salt Spring Kicks 1 (M. Wenzel); Prospect Lake 3  
**Div. 5C:** Salt Spring Wranglers 5 (T. Owens-Evans - 4, T. Logan); Gorge 1  
**Div. 6C2:** Salt Spring Sting 5 (A. Aust - 3, C. Little, C. Hume); Sooke 0  
**Womens:** Salt Spring Sockeyes 1 (Default win); Cordova Bay 0  
**INTRA-ISLAND**  
**Senior:**  
**Sockers 2 (J. Hickman, S. Box); Kickers 3 (OT) (J. Moger - 2, K. Luker)**  
**Sounders 6 (C. Scott - 2, B. Berry - 2, B. Bompas, J. Scott); Dodgers 2 (D. Kirkpatrick - 2)**  
**Fury 3 (P. Hatch, N. Burger - 2); Stingers 0**  
**Stingers 1 (J. Brubaker); Sockers 0**  
**Kickers 0; Sounders 6 (J. Scott - 3, C. Scott - 3)**  
**Fury 0; Dodgers 2**  
**Junior:**  
**Eagles 0; Demons 5 (J. Neilson - 2, M. Kerrigan - 2, J. Williams)**  
**Machine 1 (A. McCarthy); Panthers 0**  
**Demons 3 (M. Kerrigan - 3); Machine 0**  
**Panthers 5 (Y. Horsdal - 5); Eagles 1 (W. Connor)**

## Cup eludes United

**BY MALCOLM LEGG**

**Salt Spring United 0  
Gordon Head 2**

The dream of every player and every team in a soccer season is to reach the cup final in their division.

Whether it is the prestigious Sun Cup or the more local District Cup does not matter as achieving the final gives recognition to both teams and players.

The United saw their dream disappear last Sunday against a very stubborn Gordon Head squad. But the boys were not far from achieving their goal.

United started in the 1B division but after two games it was obvious the team was too strong for their opponents and they were promoted to the A level.

Then came the Sun Cup and their first dream was squashed by a late goal giving Lakehill an undeserved 2-1 victory.

Dream number two started last weekend with a fine 6-1 thrashing over Juan de Fuca. Unfortunately, it was the team's last hurrah as they came up flat against Gordon Head.

**DEFENCE WAS AWFUL**  
 For the first time in a long time United's defence was simply awful. They made mistakes that were very uncharacteristic and cost them the two early goals for Gordon Head. United's mid-field worked hard

but lacked the constructive play of previous weeks as their passing went awry and they rarely got into attack.

United's offence, having found their scoring feet last weekend, put the wrong shoes on this weekend as they could not get a break or bounce.

What could cause the sudden change? It had to be nerves as the boys were over-hyped before the game and looked very jittery in the early going.

But credit must be given to the lads as they never gave up. They played better in the second half and with one goal they could have gained the confidence needed to get them on track.

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