

Driftwood

Gulf Islands

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Trustees seek power to buy land with taxes

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Islands Trust Council took the first step Saturday towards using taxes to purchase land for conservation by the Trust Fund Board (TFB).

Council members voted 14 to seven in favour of asking the provincial government to change legislation so property taxes could be used for land acquisition. Voting against the motion were Salt Spring trustee Bev Byron, Ian Ross of Gambier, Debbie Holmes of Galiano, Jon Eaton of Thetis, Eric O'Higgins of Lasqueti and Bill Sheffield of Saturna.

"This is a crossroads decision for this council," said Trust chairman David Essig.

The decision followed a long debate on the issue. Ross maintained taxes are already too high and felt the TFB is separate from the Islands Trust. Fellow island citizens should not be compelled to contribute to the purchase of property, he said.

"I don't think any government should pick the pockets of the public further."

Galiano's Holmes pointed out none of the land acquired on

Galiano has required local tax dollars. The bake sales and art auctions which raised funds on her island had a greater value than just purchasing the land, she said, they also brought the community together.

She would rather see money put into publicizing the work of the TFB in order to encourage public support of land acquisition.

TFB chairwoman Melinda Auerbach said the TFB wanted a decision on whether taxes could ever be considered as a source of funding for property acquisition. Any property purchase would have to be approved as part of the Trust budget, she said.

North Pender trustee George Ravenscroft said he had no problem with the motion, which increased options for land acquisition. But he wondered if the maintenance cost of acquiring land had been considered and also questioned whether Trust-acquired land could be sold by a future Trust council.

Salt Spring trustee David Borrowman divided the question into two: should the Trust acquire the power to use taxes for property

LAND PURCHASES 2



Lighting the darkness

Salt Spring Centre School teacher Mitchell Sherrin helps daughter Myra Dammel-Sherrin light a candle at the school's annual Advent ceremony. In the ceremony, children carry can-

dles along a bough-lined pathway to a central candle as others in the room sing. The ceremony is used a symbol of lighting the darkest time of the year.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Christmas ship sails to islands

When in the Gulf Islands, Santa Claus travels as islanders do — on the sea.

The 47th annual voyage of the Bellingham Christmas Ship sails this Saturday, with stops at Saturna, Pender, Mayne, Galiano and Salt Spring islands.

This year, Lions Clubs in the Bellingham area have taken on the Christmas Ship task, since the traditional sponsors, the Bellingham Jaycees, have disbanded.

The local Lions Club is also the new organizer for the event on Salt Spring, after island firefighters led the way for the past several years.

Santa's toy and candy-laden ship arrives first at the government dock on Saturna at 10 a.m., and completes its other stops throughout the day before arriving, if all goes well, at Ganges dock at around 6 p.m.

Santa and his helpers will proceed to the gymnasium at Salt Spring Island Middle School to give out gifts and candy to island children. He will then make visits to Greenwoods and Lady Minto Hospital.

Minister shrugs at ferry communities' plea

Protest action as drastic as shutting down the entire ferry system for a few hours could be advocated by B.C. Ferries advisory committee members following a meeting with the provincial minister responsible for B.C. Ferries, Dan Miller.

The 14 representatives from communities all over coastal B.C. asked Miller last Wednesday to reverse fare increases announced November 12.

"He just shrugged his shoulders," said Drew Thorburn of Salt Spring, who represented the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee. "The meeting itself was a total waste of time.

He listened and categorically refused to make any changes. We were absolutely stonewalled."

Thorburn said the fare increases don't make sense. "I can't think of any other business where, if your ridership is down and business is down, you go out and increase your prices."

Thorburn pointed out the impact of increased ferry fares on the province's tourism industry. Miller was also given a list of other provincial transportation services which are heavily subsidized by the province. (See related story.)

Before the meeting, Thorburn had expected the government would listen to the concerns of

advisory committee members, especially given the wave of protest following the fare increases. Thorburn and Neville Atkinson of Salt Spring, Patrick Brown of South Pender and John Money of Saturna represented the Gulf Islands committee.

Also at the meeting were B.C. Ferries chairman Curtis Eaton and new president Tom Ward.

Thorburn said Miller interrupted both Eaton and Ward when they attempted to speak to the delegation. "What I found most disturbing was that he shushed his chairman of the board up peremptorily," Thorburn said.

Miller also said the province

was spending \$46 million on the 25,000 people living in the Gulf Islands. "I don't know what he meant," Thorburn said.

The delegation asked the government to work with B.C. Ferries board of directors, senior management, staff and users to develop a business plan for the corporation. Thorburn recalled Ward saying B.C. Ferries has a business plan but he too was "shushed" by Miller.

Miller did say the government recognizes B.C. Ferries is part of the transportation system and that long-term government support

FERRIES 2

7-year-old's death saddens island

By SUSAN LUNDY
Driftwood Staff

A Salt Spring family and school community are mourning the sudden death of an island boy.

Seven-year-old Jesse Hughes died at Lady Minto Hospital early Saturday morning from a rare bowel condition.

"He was so special, so precious," said his grandmother Helen Wolfe on Tuesday. "We've been blessed to have had him for seven years."

School officials say Jesse was sent home from Fulford Elementary School, flushed and vomiting, last Wednesday.

According to family members, doctors were unable to diagnose Jesse's "extremely rare" condition in which his bowel twisted and started to bleed. He was taken to emergency at Lady Minto Hospital early Saturday morning where he died.

Jesse's devastated mother, Caren Larsson, said there has been an

"amazing outpouring of love" towards her from fellow members of the community.

"People from all over have been phoning."

Family members say Jesse loved Salt Spring and the people who live here. "He touched the lives of so many people in a very special way."

Described as a "peacemaker," and a "living example of compassion

JESSE 7

Islander named champion

Judo club members made their mark at a weekend tournament, returning home to Salt Spring with six medals.

Andrew Greig won gold at the event, becoming the western Canadian champion in the process.

Details, Page 15

Coast guard assists in search for bodies

Technology and cross-border cooperation saved three fishermen from the waters of Pylades Channel early December 2.

An automatic signal triggered when the Pacific Charmer trawler capsized at approximately 1 a.m. was picked up by satellite, downloaded to Trenton, Ontario, then relayed to the Vancouver Island rescue coordination centre.

A hovercraft picked up three survivors who were treated for hypothermia and taken to Ladysmith for transfer by ambulance to hospital in Nanaimo.

The Ganges Coast Guard assist-

ed in the search, which continued until the bodies of the remaining two crew members were found.

Ganges crew member Paul Reynolds transferred to the hovercraft to help treat the victims.

The accident occurred so quickly that the crew was unable to send a distress signal.

The automated satellite signal and quick response by rescue boats and aircraft saved lives, said Ganges officer-in-charge Dave Howell.

"Only a very few years ago, this would have meant tragedy for all five people aboard."

Weather

Wednesday: Mainly cloudy; chance of rain; windy. 40 per cent chance of precipitation. High 9.

Thursday: Mainly cloudy; chance of rain. 40 per cent chance of precipitation. Low 5, high 9.

Friday: Mainly cloudy; chance of rain. 40 per cent chance of precipitation. Low 6, high 10.

Saturday: Mainly cloudy; chance of rain. 60 per cent chance of precipitation. Low 6, high 11.

Normal temperatures for the week: low 2, high 7.



The Wildlife Centre

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New communications tower erected

In case of emergency, Salt Spring Islanders have a better chance now of communicating with each other.

A new communications tower was erected by the Salt Spring Emergency Program Tuesday at the provincial government building on

Lower Ganges Road. Spokesman Norm Slater said the tower and its antennas eliminate 75 per cent of the "pockets" that have long hampered communications for local emergency services personnel.

Those pockets are areas where

communications equipment is not effective due to the terrain.

The new antennas will allow the Emergency Program's government building headquarters to be used as a central command post in emergency situations.

FERRIES: Communities meet with minister

From Page 1

would be considered, Thorburn said. Miller also said he had received input from B.C. Ferries management, the board of directors and the advisory groups before recommending the fare increase to the provincial cabinet.

Since the advisory groups felt a fare increase was the last action which should be taken, Thorburn feels Miller didn't pay much attention to advisory group recommendations.

The government is taking arbitrary action, he said.

After the meeting, delegation members learned that Miller told media just before the start of Wednesday's meeting that he would listen but would not respond to the delegation's demands.

Ken Lee, another Salt Spring representative on the Gulf Islands committee, said the meeting with Miller has changed his perception on the ferry issue. "It takes one

meeting and the target has shifted from B.C. Ferries to the minister of ferries. There's the problem right now. It's time to mobilize a massive response from ferry users."

Thorburn expects all the volunteers now sitting on advisory committees for B.C. Ferries will be reconsidering their participation. "It's my feeling that a good many of the stakeholder groups are going to withdraw from the process."

The Gulf Islands advisory group meets this Friday.

LAND PURCHASES: Trust wants power

From Page 1

acquisition and then, if the Trust had that power, would it be used responsibly?

Borrowman supported the Trust gaining the same property acquisition power as the Capital Regional District (CRD), adding that he could tell Salt Spring residents how responsible trustees are with taxpayer dollars.

"We could fund the property acquisition line at zero this year, zero next year and zero the year after that," he said.

Byron predicted an island resident would want to know what piece of property is being purchased with tax dollars before any money is allocated. She said it would be wiser for the Trust to identify the piece of property and then determine how to contribute to the purchase.

O'Higgins, Sheffield and Bowen trustee Tracy Chambers all questioned the support for Trust area-wide taxes which go into property purchases which many islanders will never see.

Chambers said she could support an island levy to purchase land on her island "where I could at least see and throw a rock at it." For the

possibility to get that, she supported the motion.

Saturna trustee John Money confirmed that if the Trust acquired the ability to use taxes for property purchases, individual islands could hold referendums to buy a specific piece of property.

O'Higgins said there is some "mistrust of the Trust" among Lasqueti residents, who he felt would not support their tax dollars going to purchase land on other islands. He proposed an amendment to the motion which would give local Trust committees the power to levy taxes on their own islands for local property purchases. His amendment was rejected as too radical a change to the original motion.

"The people I represent have no interest in using property taxes to acquire land for the Trust Fund Board," Eaton said.

Denman trustee Louise Bell said purchase of land with taxes upholds the preserve and protect mandate of the Trust.

"It's a tool. It's an effective tool," Hornby trustee George Buyver said. "It could save the property owners a bundle down the road."

Borrowman stressed the Trust is a federation. Although 40 per cent

of the money to support such Trust actions as the court battle of MacMillan Bloedel forestry lands on Galiano came from Salt Spring, Borrowman said the other islands support 60 per cent of the cost of Salt Spring's Trust office.

"The big guys prop up the little guys and the little guys prop up the big guys."

Mayne trustee Richard Tamboline suggested the Trust also ask for a legislative amendment so it could acquire land through Section 941 of the Municipal Act, under which some developers must either dedicate land or pay cash into a land acquisition fund when gaining subdivision approval.

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Islanders Working & Living Together

2,700 angry ferry users sign petition; others join protest

A storm of protest is rocking the province over the second hike to B.C. Ferries' fares in less than a year.

On Monday, Salt Spring ferry workers Kerry Butler, Guy Rowell and Alan Layard delivered a petition with 2,700 signatures protesting reductions in Gulf Islands service to Premier Glen Clark's office.

Butler said ferry workers cannot join in protests but have heard some are planned. "There's rumours going around that there's going to be protests organized here."

On Tuesday, Salt Spring residents joined a host of ferry users from throughout the province in a mass protest at the provincial legislature. John Baxter heard about plans for the protest Sunday night and began calling Salt Spring groups, urging them to inform their members.

"Apparently bus loads of people are coming down from all over (Vancouver) Island," Baxter said Tuesday morning. "We did what we could to make people aware of it on the island."

Tuesday's protest was slated for 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the legislature in Victoria.

Sunshine Coast commuters were to demonstrate at the Horseshoe Bay terminal Tuesday between 5 and 6 p.m.

On Thursday, Bowen Island ferry users are being asked to pay their ferry fares in cash instead of using commuter tickets, to protest the loss of most of the commuter discount on tickets.

Organizers of that protest point out that ferry users pre-pay for their trips, thus subsidizing the corporation in advance and make it easier for staff since ticket agents do not have to make change for those using commuter tickets.

At Saturday's Trust Council meeting in Victoria, trustees asked to have their concern over fare increases and the "social and economic impact on communities in the Trust area" relayed to the premier.

They were also concerned that the fare increases had undermined confidence in the advisory committees which are working with B.C. Ferries. In a second motion, trustees called for a commitment to the advisory committee process by the provincial government, the B.C. Ferries' board of the directors, the B.C. Ferry and Marine Workers Union and the ferry corporation president.

Trust council members also called for an appropriate financial contribution from the province to the ferry corporation



FERRY FARE PROTEST: Close to 2,700 people signed petitions protesting recent ferry fare hikes. Here, from left, Kerry Butler, Guy Rowell and Alan Layard prepare to take the petitions to Victoria where a massive protest was scheduled for Tuesday.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

which recognizes the ferry service as an essential part of the province's transportation infrastructure.

B.C. Ferries and the government must also consider social, economic and environmental impacts when making decisions on fares and service levels, trustees agreed.

Ferry worker Butler found one bright spot Monday during a planning meeting to discuss the analysis of the various service options proposed by the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee.

At that meeting, Butler said it was admitted that there was no point in closing the Long Harbour terminal since the cost of rebuilding Fulford terminal, transferring employees elsewhere and still maintaining enough vessels to handle traffic wipe out any savings from closing Long Harbour.

Otherwise, he was not impressed with the overall analysis of the route options. "I went through it and I found a mistake on pretty well every page," he said.

The analysis will be discussed at Friday's Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee meeting in Sidney.

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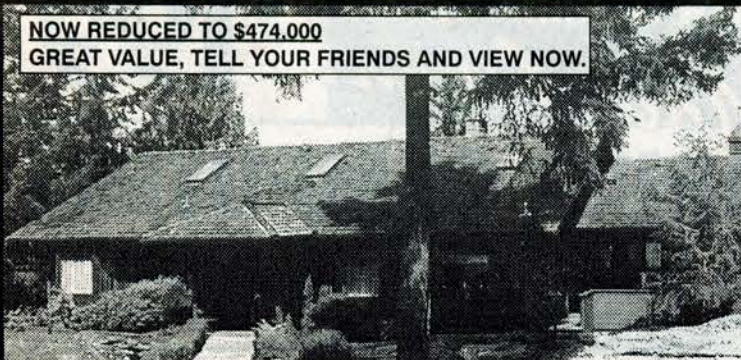
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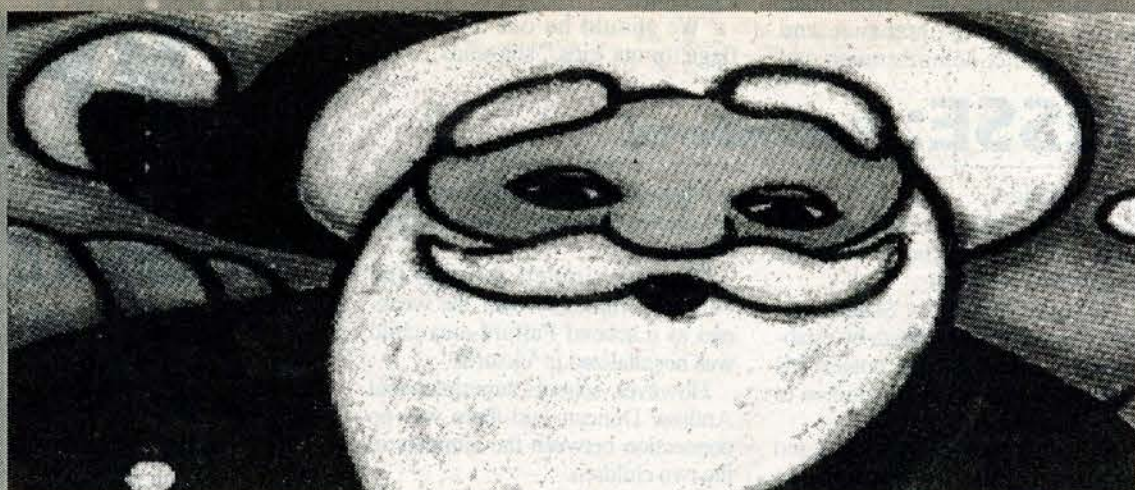
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School district could see \$1.5 million budget shortfall

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

A \$1.5 million budget shortfall faces the Gulf Islands School District for the current school year, trustees were told at their December 3 meeting.

Superintendent Andrew Duncan said the district has been able to juggle funds and take enough money out of the materials and maintenance budget so that no money has been borrowed so far to keep the schools open.

"It will come," he predicted. How the projected shortfall will affect the overall budget is still uncertain, although the \$850,000 deficit projected since last spring may climb to over \$1 million.

The \$1.5 million shortfall revealed last week arises from a "ballpark" estimate in which funding and expenditures were calculated school by school.

But Duncan said the figures are not precise.

"They are fuzzy. We used rounded figures." A more precise summary of the financial crisis will be prepared for a meeting with the Ministry of Education next month, he said.

Duncan said he was surprised to discover a dramatic difference between the amount received by the district for classroom education and the amount spent on basic education. School by school, each reported a significant shortfall in funding.

Of the money allocated to each school, the survey showed 97 per cent was spent on salaries and benefits and just under three per cent was spent on materials. Duncan said all of the schools are underfunded, given the requirements of the district's collective agreement with the Gulf Islands Teachers Association (GITA).

Money can be taken from other areas, such as maintenance and overall district administration and

district services, to cover some of the shortfall, secretary-treasurer Rod Scotvold clarified Monday. He is still fine-tuning figures to try to project the overall deficit by the end of the school year.

At Wednesday's board meeting, GITA president Larry Field objected to Duncan's report, which cited the cost of the collective agreement.

"We continue to target contracts as if that is the problem and that is the thing we need to change," he said.

He feels the problem is that the district does not receive enough funding from the Ministry of Education. He urged school trustees to join the teachers' efforts to lobby for more money.

Pender trustee Russ Searle said the contract is cited because it is a fixed cost which the district must cover. "That is a particular contractual box we find ourselves in."

Duncan reported the district also spends more than is allocated by the ministry for special education.

However, Field said that is true province-wide. "What the problem really is," he said, "is that the ministry is not providing for enough funding."

Trustee Jane Parlee said the district had to be careful not to jeopardize services for special needs children. She objected to a suggestion that costs could be cut by concentrating services for special needs children in one school.

"I will die before I will ever see that happen."

She suggested the district work with GITA, other school district staff, parents and students to present a united front to the Ministry of Education. If necessary, board members should echo the action of the Victoria area school boards by protesting funding cuts at the legislature.

"We should be out there with flags for our kids," she said.

Board vice-chairwoman Judith Boel said the district needs to know how much school tax is paid by the Gulf Islands into provincial coffers. She also advocated a public relations campaign and suggested the board create a public relations committee.

The Gulf Islands may pay a lot in taxes but has a small number of votes, Galiano trustee Bonnie MacGillivray observed.

"We could go forth and multiply," board chairwoman May McKenzie quipped.

Field said polls province-wide show the majority of B.C. residents support more spending on education. "Governments react to votes. They're very sensitive to people making a large noise."

Field said the district needs more than enough funds to bal-

ance the budget. A lot of programs have been lost and need to be restored. "I know the government is in a jam — but it is kind of a raising of public awareness on the importance of education."

Trustee Charles Hingston said the minimum requirements for a good education need to be established. He pointed out the B.C. School Trustees Association advocates enough funding to cover increased enrolment in schools, the cost of inflation and existing collective agreements.

"I walk around any school in the Gulf Islands," he said. "We have a pretty damn good education system."

He urged trustees to have their facts together and position clear before approaching the ministry.

Duncan said district administra-

tors have been working with education ministry staff for the past year to resolve the district's budget crunch. Such behind-the-scenes work can be more effective than publicly "storming the Bastille."

Hingston agreed the ministry is well aware of the budget problems in the Gulf Islands district.

Searle said the board needs to make a political stand. "In my opinion, this whole deficit is a political problem."

Trustees agreed to have a committee-of-the-whole discussion on the issue at their January meeting and to invite representatives from each of the partner groups, including staff, parents and students.

"We're in this boat together and this ship is sinking," MacGillivray said.

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JESSE: Remembered

From Page 1

and caring," Jesse loved to play buffalo balls and archery. He also enjoyed the outdoors.

Fulford Elementary School students marked Jesse's death by establishing a cairn Monday outside his classroom and creating tributes to the youngster.

"They've been making cards and pictures and writing down memories of him," said Fulford school principal Barb Aust. "He was a really unique little guy — he'd had lots of experience travelling that he shared with everyone. He was well-liked."

Four counsellors from the Community Services Society were on hand at the school Monday, available to talk with any students, parents or teachers who felt they needed one-on-one counselling. Aust said teachers in each class urged students to discuss their feelings and to share memories of Jesse.

A school assembly was held on Tuesday to remember the youngster.

Aust said that although teachers debated cancelling the school's Christmas performance of The Nutcracker on Thursday, they chose instead to dedicate it to Jesse. They

are also planning to hold a moment of silence for him at the performance.

Concern rippled through the Fulford community over the weekend as a second Fulford-area child was hospitalized in Victoria.

However, schools superintendent Andrew Duncan said there was no connection between the ailments of the two children.

The cause of Jesse's death was in no way contagious or infectious, he added.

Duncan praised the "cohesiveness" of the Fulford community and school which, he said, have their own built-in support mechanisms.

He noted that fellow teachers rallied around Patrick Lewis, who teaches Jesse's Grade 1-2 class, and the school attempted to keep as much routine and normalcy to Monday as possible.

"It was a quiet morning, just a sad day," he said.

A gathering in Jesse's memory has been planned for Beaver Point Hall this Saturday at 4 p.m.

In the meantime, school children continue to pay tribute to their lost friend. Wrote one child: "The thing I remember about Jesse was that he was always happy."

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Good cause
Salt Spring paramedics Daniel Kent and Lesley Train gather food and cash for the Salt Spring food bank outside of Thrifty Foods. Aiming to collect 1,000 food items this year, the paramedics note that the Salt Spring community is especially generous. Last year islanders donated some 900 food items. Island paramedics have been running the program for three years.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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Ferry subsidy supporters note funding given to other systems

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Subsidized transportation is flourishing in B.C. if not on B.C. ferries, according to figures gathered by those involved in B.C. Ferries advisory committees.

Six transportation systems were identified as having substantial provincial subsidies. They are the Vancouver regional transit system, which has \$237 million of its \$505 million operating/debt service costs covered by the province; the Victoria regional transit system which has \$14 million of its \$44 million direct costs picked up by Victoria; and transit for the rest of the province, which is supported by the province for \$19 million of its \$40 million in direct costs.

The \$14 million Handi-dart systems receive \$9 million in provincial funding and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways inland ferry system receives all of its \$17 million budget from the province.

"I think the most extraordinary one is the West Coast Express," notes Ken Lee, a Salt Spring representative on the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee.

A commuter train which runs from Mission through the Fraser Valley into Vancouver, the West Coast Express costs \$34 million to operate, of which \$29 million is picked up by Victoria, Lee noted.

He compared that to B.C. Ferries' provincial funding. On a budget of \$436 million, B.C. Ferries receives \$5 million from the province.

"You put those two (West Coast Express and B.C. Ferries) side by side," Lee suggested.

Given the level of subsidization offered to Lower Mainland commuters, islanders who want some form of subsidy for ferry service are not asking for much, he said.

"The case for a subsidy for transportation is well documented in B.C.," noted Saanich North and the Islands MLA Murray Coell.

He also cited the West Coast Express, which he said is "subsidized at \$24 a ride."

Transit is also heavily subsidized

by Victoria, he added.

Kathy Eccles, manager of communications for the West Coast Express, confirmed that the commuter service is subsidized by the province although her figures did not match those of ferry advisory committee members.

She said the commuter train has an operating cost of \$19.3 million and a ridership of 1.44 million. The subsidy is \$13.40 per rider, she said.

Fares vary, depending on discounts, the age of the rider and the distance travelled, but range from \$3 to \$7 per person, she said. There are discounts for seniors and students and the lowest fares, at \$3, are for inter-urban travel.

Commuters travelling from the three closest stops pay \$4, from the next three pay \$5, and for the maximum distance, a 75-minute trip from Mission to downtown Vancouver, the cost is \$7. But costs can be cut by purchasing a 28-day pass for \$210.

"The cost of moving people around is very high these days,"

Eccles said. "In reality, all forms of transportation in our province and all around the province are subsidized."

Eccles pointed out the goal of the West Coast Express is to get people out of automobiles, thus reducing emissions and accidents. As a result, the commuter alternative must be fast, affordable and comfortable. The West Coast Express makes five trips in the morning and five in the evening, she added.

It can carry 8,000 people per trip and is almost at full capacity with an average of 7,000 riders per trip in October, climbing to 7,800 during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation conference in Vancouver last month.

"We're going to be at capacity in a very short time," Eccles said.

She noted income projections for the service are lower than expected because it was initially assumed each seat would be sold more than once on the trip. However, 93 per cent of the West Coast Express users take the train all the way into downtown Vancouver.

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Flt #	Departs	From	To	Arrives	Freq.
801	7:40am	Airport	Ganges	8:05am	daily
802	8:10am	Ganges	Airport	8:40am	daily
803	12:15pm	Airport	Ganges	12:40pm	daily
804	12:45pm	Ganges	Airport	1:15pm	daily
805	3:00pm	Airport	Ganges	3:25pm	daily
806	3:30pm	Ganges	Airport	4:00pm	daily

GANGES to DOWNTOWN VANC. service*
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Flt #	Departs	From	To	Arrives
402	8:00am	Mon-Fri. Islands	Vanc.	8:30-9:00am
403	3:30pm	Mon-Fri. Vanc.	Islands	4:00-4:30pm
405	9:00am	Saturday Vanc.	Islands	9:30-10:00am
406	9:30am	Saturday Islands	Vanc.	10:30-11:00am
407	2:00pm	Sunday only Vanc.	Islands	2:30pm-3:00pm
408	2:30pm	Sunday only Islands	Vanc.	3:30-4:00pm

*May stop at: Maple Bay (Vanc. Isl.), Miners Bay (Mayne Isl.), Telegraph Hrbr (Thetis Isl.) Bedwell Hrbr (S. Pender Isl.), Lyall Hrbr (Saturna Isl.), Ganges (Salt Spring Isl.) One way fare to/from these islands is \$63 + GST one way

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*If you are this week's winner, you must contact Driftwood within 2 weeks from publication date to claim your flight.



Amnesty display set up

United Church minister Sharon Cooke helps Amnesty International volunteer David Massy set up an information display in Ganges United Church. A symbolic candle, some literature and a pledge form have been placed in several locations on Salt Spring to mark Human Rights Day today.

Photo by Tony Richards

CounterAttack checks cars for drunk drivers

Local RCMP have launched their Christmas CounterAttack program.

Road blocks were established at several island spots last weekend, and 124 vehicles were checked.

Police seized liquor from several vehicles, issued a ticket for open liquor in a vehicle and handed out four 24-hour driving prohibitions.

In other police news:

A motorcyclist travelling on Fulford-Ganges Road early Monday morning struck an icy section near Mereside Road and slid along the roadway.

The driver was taken to Lady Minto Hospital by a passing motorist. He was treated for a broken toe. The motorcycle sustained some \$150 in damage.

A 24-year-old island woman was given a 24-hour driving suspension after she lost control of her vehicle on Vesuvius Bay Road and struck a Highways sign.

The accident occurred at about 1 a.m. Sunday.

Police are requesting community information regarding ongoing damage to the Gulf Islands Secondary School playing field.

Sometime during the night of December 4, a vehicle drove onto the field, damaging the turf.

Anyone who sees a vehicle on

CRIME STOPPERS

If you have information about a crime, telephone

CRIME STOPPERS 1-800-222-8477

Your call is free, you don't have to give your name, and you may qualify for a reward.

FIRE CALLS

The sound of a smoke detector alerted a high school maintenance worker to a smoke-filled house on Kanaka Drive just before 1 p.m. Monday.

The fire department discovered the smoke was coming from stove ashes which had been placed in plastic buckets and left in the basement. There was no structural damage to the house but there was some smoke damage.

Firefighters also removed two dogs from the house.

Court requests pre-sentence report

A Salt Spring man will be sentenced in January after he pleaded guilty in Duncan Provincial Court to charges of assault, theft, mischief and failure to comply with a court order.

The charges against John Paul Ellacott, 27, stem from two separate incidents.

The first offence occurred June 15, when Ellacott was arrested for assaulting his common-law partner. He was released with an undertaking not to be in contact with the victim.

On November 4 police were again called to the victim's home where Ellacott had apparently committed a second assault. He was also charged with theft of cash from the home.

The mischief charge resulted from a damaged door handle, and the failure to comply charge stemmed from Ellacott's prohibited contact with the woman on

COURT DOCKET

November 4.

Prior to sentencing, the court ordered completion of a pre-sentence report. Sentencing is scheduled for January 13, 1998.

A Salt Spring man was sentenced to a four-month conditional jail term in Duncan Provincial Court on December 2 after pleading guilty to impaired driving.

The conditional jail term will allow Harold Pedersen to complete his sentence while living in the community. He must, however, adhere to strict conditions.

He was also placed on one year's probation and lost his driver's licence for 12 months.

Duncan Provincial Court has requested a pre-disposition report prior to sentencing of a Ganges youth who pleaded

guilty to three charges on November 27.

The youth, who cannot be identified under terms of the Young Offenders Act, pleaded guilty to theft, possession of a weapon and mischief.

The pre-disposition report is set for hearing on January 22, 1998.

The youth had yet to enter a plea on charges of failing to comply with a court order.

Robert C. Higgins has entered a plea of not guilty to charges of mischief and common assault.

A trial has been set for June 2, 1998.

Charges have been dropped against four island youths who were charged with possession of a narcotic.

S.S.I. GOLF CLUB

Pre-Christmas Sale

IN THE PRO-SHOP
All sales cash/final-no returns

ALL SUMMER CLOTHES	1/2 PRICE
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1 SET MEN'S WOODS IRONS (Reg. 599.00)	\$349⁰⁰

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PUBLIC Education
BECAUSE WE THINK THE WORLD OF OUR CHILDREN

YOUTH... "MISGUIDED" BY WHO?

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Early Intervention Today Deals With Tomorrow's Problems

Early intervention in childhood problems greatly increases chances of success. Unattended problems often become impossible to deal with in adolescents. High student drop out rates are a tragedy surpassed only by the tragedies that can follow. Crime! Violence! Drugs! Alcohol! Suicides! Unemployment! Street People! This is a waste of our most valuable asset - **Our Children!**

A Bad Situation Getting Worse

Elementary school counselling was one of the many valuable programs cut by the Gulf Islands School District as government funding for education shrunk. Our school board is now predicting a deficit next year of 1.5 million dollars, twice that of this year's budget calamity. Schools simply cannot address the real needs of students within the budget restraints placed on them by the province's present funding formulas.

Our education system seeks to address the needs of the whole child, providing support for the child to reach his/her goals in intellectual, human, social, and career development. Our schools require trained teacher-counsellors in order to provide a range of preventative, developmental, remedial, and intervention programs and services.

We Are Concerned

Our teachers are speaking out against the underfunding of education. Your support means a lot to us - and to our students. Write or call elected officials who have the power to make a difference - school trustees, your MLA, or the Minister of Education, Paul Ramsey.

Children Are Not A Debt...They Are Our Most Valuable Asset

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association
Call 537-4990 for further information

New islanders demanding greater bylaw enforcement

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Islanders' traditional laid-back, live-and-let-live attitudes are being shifted by new arrivals — does that mean Trust policy on bylaw enforcement should also change?

Trustees were divided on that issue during an inconclusive debate at Thursday's Islands Trust Council meeting, with some in favour of enforcing bylaws and others pointing out that people have traditionally come to the islands to escape rules.

To illustrate the differences in island lifestyles, Bowen trustee Tracy Chambers noted she has received a call complaining about horses escaping off a quarter-acre lot and eating the roses in a neighbour's garden. The caller pointed out zoning does not allow horses on a quarter-acre lot.

Originally, many islanders wanted to be left alone and didn't care

what neighbours did as long as it was not too intrusive, Chambers said. But the demographics of the islands are changing and some of the more recent arrivals expect to see bylaws enforced.

Sandra Smith, who is the Trust's manager of local planning services, said the number of complaints are up 25 per cent as of December 1. The Trust is dealing with 120 complaints, of which 81 are open files, 17 are awaiting inspection, nine are in the midst of legal action and one has recently exceeded the 90-day limit for voluntary compliance.

The remaining 12 cases are either awaiting action or those involved are taking steps to voluntarily comply with the bylaw.

Smith reminded trustees that Trust policy is only to investigate and enforce bylaws in response to verbal or written complaints, to seek voluntary compliance first, to keep trustees clear of either sanc-

tioning or assessing complaints or investigations and to initiate legal action if no steps are taken to comply with the bylaw within 90 days.

Denman trustee Tom Babb remarked that some newcomers to the island expect to see the same level of bylaw enforcement as in the urban centres they left. These new islanders are not used to island lifestyles and should be advised that there are ways of resolving issues without appealing to local government.

Gabriola trustee Gail Lund said society is already over-regulated. She felt people should be educated to be tolerant. Given cutbacks in government services, she suggested the Trust change its policy to only take action on written complaints.

Saturna trustee Bill Sheffield remarked that some complaints are sparked by personal animosity. He suggested local Trust committees design their bylaws so that regula-

tions exist in those areas where people want regulation but do not exist where people do not want to be regulated.

Saturna trustee John Money recalled when each island had a justice of the peace to regulate bylaws. One justice would fine the person flouting the bylaw \$25 and then fine the person who reported the transgression \$25 for disturbing the peace, Money said.

Salt Spring trustee David Borrowman pointed out Trust bylaw enforcement officer Watson Smith is good at sorting out frivolous complaints and educating people. Voluntary compliance is achieved in 95 per cent of the cases, he said.

But once legal action is started, Borrowman said it can be hard to stop. He recalled one instance on Salt Spring where a group of neighbours worked out a resolution to a bylaw infraction and convinced the original complainant to

comply, but the Trust had already started legal action and it could not be stopped.

Because the Trust only acts on complaints instead of seeking out bylaw infractions, Borrowman said residents can determine the level of enforcement they want by deciding whether they wish to lay a complaint.

But he felt bylaws had to be enforced, if possible, once a complaint is made. "We have to keep faith with the public. We have to enforce or junk the relevant bylaw."

One problem is that some of Salt Spring's bylaws are so dated that more recent legal opinions have made the wording invalid.

Borrowman predicted the possible introduction of legal ticketing will spark debate on Salt Spring since some people will like the efficiency of tickets for bylaw infractions while others will resist further regulations.

Driftwood deadlines changed

Some advertising deadline changes will be in effect later this month to enable Driftwood staff to observe the Christmas holiday.

For the week of December 24, when the Christmas issue will be published, there are no deadline changes but the Driftwood office will close at 1 p.m. Wednesday, December 24, reopening at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 29.

There will be one deadline change for the week of December 31. Display advertising will close at 2 p.m. Tuesday, December 23.

The office will close at 3 p.m. Wednesday, December 31 and reopen at 8 a.m. Friday, January 2.

Art society directors can't vote

Island Arts Centre Society directors will have to count fewer votes at upcoming meetings.

Bylaw amendments originally reported as approved at the society's annual general meeting November 20 were actually not approved, president Bob Weeden said November 28.

Although 60 per cent of those present voted in favour of the changed bylaws, directors discovered the Societies Act requires a 75 per cent approval to change bylaws. The provincial Societies Act overrules the society's own constitution.

Therefore, the two society directors appointed by the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council and the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission will not be able to vote at board meetings.

Driftnet is the online version of the Driftwood!
Check it out at <http://www.gulfislands.net>



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<p>100 COTTON, SWISS FLANNEL</p> <p>Front Button Shirt plum, blue, Reg. 39.99</p> <p>29⁹⁹</p>	<p>6" SOFT TOE BOOT VAIL</p> <p>6" Soft toe boot, padded collar, Cambrella™ lined oil resistant rubber lug sole. Goodyear welt construction. Oil full grain leather. Black. Sizes: 7-11 including 1/2 sizes, plus 12-13.</p> <p>99⁹⁹</p> <p>REG. \$129.99</p> 
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O P I N I O N

Land purchase tax would be ill-advised

Should land conservation be a matter of conscience or coercion? That's the crux of the decision made by Islands Trust Council Saturday when members voted 14 to seven in favour of seeking changes to legislation which would allow the Trust to spend tax dollars on land acquisition for the Trust Fund Board.

The Trust Fund Board acquires property for conservation, to protect environmentally unique or sensitive areas. To date, land acquired by the board has been a mix of donations and local fundraising efforts. Whether people contributed to a conservation campaign was a matter of personal conscience.

At this point, the Trust does not have legislative authority to use taxes to preserve property. But if the province grants the Trust request, it will.

We hope the province says no. Not because conservation is not important, but because it is. It is too important to take from a community and assign to a bureaucracy, no matter how well-meaning.

Approval of the Trust request will give the Trust Fund Board the ability to go to Trust Council and lobby for money from the Trust's annual budget. Perhaps the lobbying will be successful. Perhaps it won't — at first. But we expect that eventually trustees will say yes, if only because they will have the power to give and in time will begin to feel too tight-fisted if they don't put some numbers on that Trust Fund Board-land purchase line in the budget. Or a piece of land will become available that is so significant and so important that trustees will be unable to resist leaping in to rescue it.

Trustees tend to have a soft spot for saving beautiful bits of the Gulf Islands and taxes are a quick means to that end. Contributing to conservation will be a matter of coercion, not conscience. Islanders will be forced to pay what shows up on their tax bills.

It may be more efficient to fill the coffers with tax dollars and dip into those money chests when the need arises. No art auctions, no bake sales, no flogging of raffle tickets ... just write and date the cheque and wait for next year's tax levy to refill the account.

But it is not better. As Galiano trustee Debbie Holmes so eloquently observed Saturday, the purchase and preservation of land through voluntary efforts does more than save a piece of property. It builds community.

It also builds a sense of local pride in the area being preserved and a greater awareness of the ecological richness of the islands. Every volunteer contribution to fundraising efforts means one more person who has decided, on his or her own, that conservation is important.

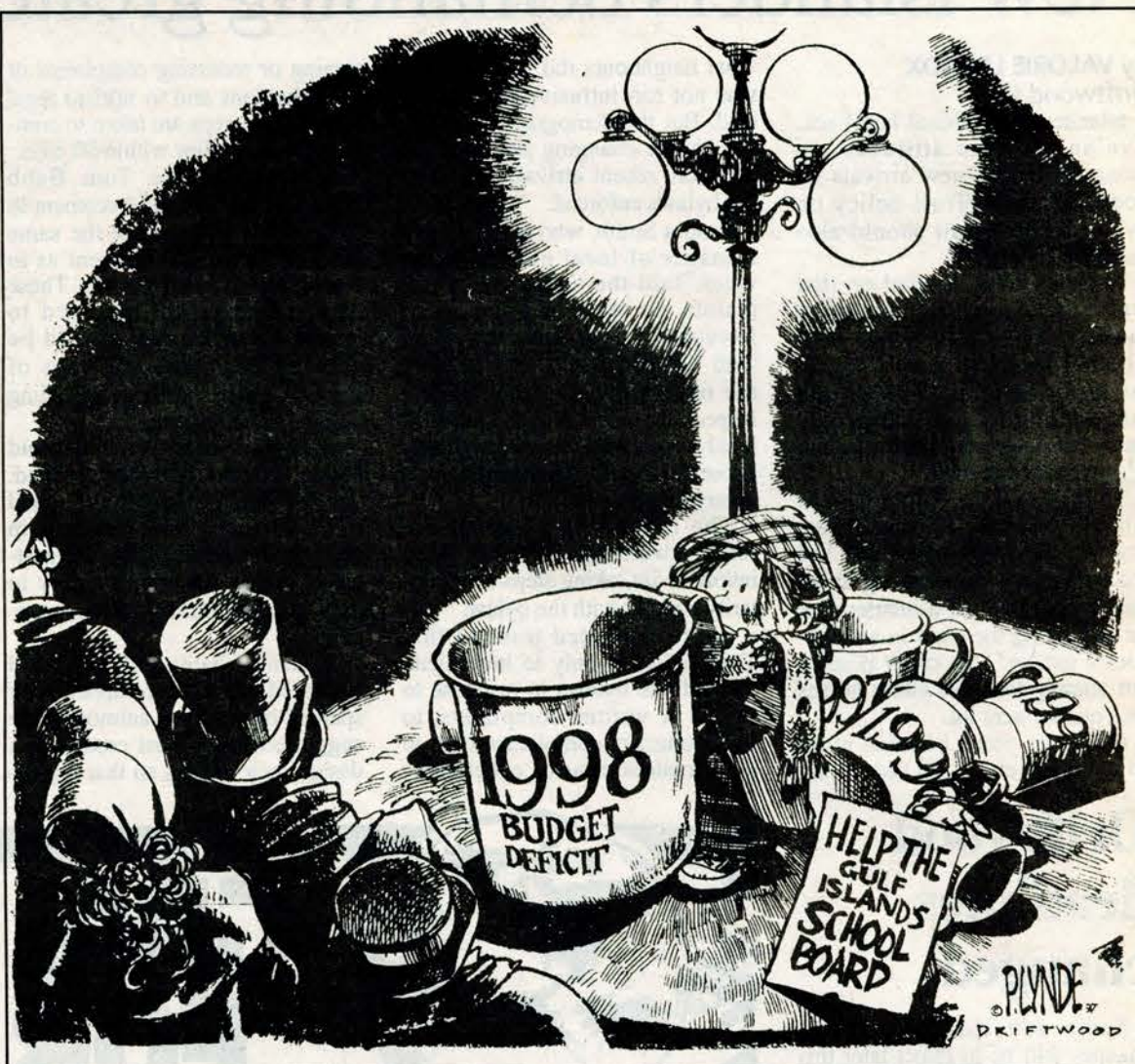
The money raised on Salt Spring towards the purchase of the Mill Farm did more than plump up the eventual court bid to buy the land: the campaign which collected those pledges also introduced many islanders to the beauty of a remote part of the island.

How many people now know about the nesting habits of herons because of the current campaign to purchase the McFadden Creek heronry on Salt Spring? Were those same dollars lifted from islanders' pockets through taxes, that educational advantage would be lost. People would lose the chance to make a choice and so voluntarily align themselves with conservation efforts. They would lose their piece of the eventual purchase — the feeling that they have contributed to something worthwhile which is larger than themselves.

The same community support which enabled the land to be preserved will also be its best protection in the future.

But once taxes are used to buy and preserve land, the process will become just another hated tax increase. Instead of building support, it will build resentment. Land preservation will become just another bureaucratic exercise done by "them" and not by "us."

So let us continue to hold our bake sales and art auctions and struggle to preserve parts of our islands. We've proved we can do it and found that as we raise money we also raise awareness, building stronger and more environmentally conscious communities.



Doubling ferry fares will destroy Gulf Islands as we know them

By BILL MONAHAN

It is obvious that the government we have in Victoria has never learned how to keep its spending in line with its income and the resulting deficits year after year are bringing us to the brink of bankruptcy.

When they couldn't get away with lying about the deficit they started hiding it by transferring it to various Crown corporations.

The latest recipient is B.C. Ferries. All 50 years of inefficient management plus outrageous hundreds of millions now being spent on high-speed catamarans is being downloaded onto the ferry corporation and the government is saying, "You figure out a way to pay it off. There will be no more money coming from Victoria."

No wonder B.C. Ferries is talking about doubling fares in the Gulf Islands in the next five years. The increases have already started.

In the November 19 issue of the Driftwood, it is reported that Dan Miller, the minister responsible for B.C. Ferries, is hinting there might be a subsidy but didn't want to call it that. I hope no one was naive enough to heave a sigh of relief and say, "We've won!" Does your memory go back far enough to remember when a politician kept his or her promise? This is nothing but a smoke screen to get us to back off and think there will be no more fare increases. If we do that we will wake up some morning to find that all of the increases are in place and once that happens you know they will never be rescinded.

If they actually do go all the way and increase fares by 100 per cent, I don't think many islanders are aware of the impact this will have on every one of us. The obvious one is the increase in cost when you want to go off-island for pleasure or to shop. But many islanders must commute daily to Vancouver Island. Doubling fares will make it financially impossible for many of them to do this and they will have to move to where the work is.

Some people will say, "I seldom go off-island so it doesn't matter that much to me." Not so. Take into



VIEW
POINT

consideration that just about everything you eat, drink, wear or otherwise consume, including gasoline, comes from off-island.

Two main sources of income on our island are new home construction and tourism. Our construction

industry, already suffering from the increasing cost of land and building materials, could become non-existent when the additional cost of materials goes into effect, thus destroying the livelihood of a considerable number of our citizens.

Tourism, another important segment of our economy, has contributed greatly to the livelihood of many islanders. Consider this: You are a tourist from below the border and you arrive at the Swartz Bay ticket booth and inquire about the price of a ticket to Salt Spring. With the full increase it will be double what it is now and four times what it used to be for a

one-way fare. If the tourist thinks the new return fare is the cost for a one-way ticket, they'd better put U-turn lanes at the ticket booths. And if he buys the ticket anyway and discovers that everything here is more expensive than on the Mainland, will he come back? Not very likely and neither will he recommend the islands to his friends. There goes the bulk of our tourist industry.

The islands of British Columbia are as much a part of the province as the Lower Mainland is, and as has been said, the ferry system is an extension of the highway system. A fair fee for ferry travel is acceptable but this latest grab will destroy the Gulf Islands as we know them.

We must fight these fare increases with everything we've got. We must make every member of the opposition and every facet of the media aware of our plight and not give up until the government backs down. Our future depends on it.

If you think that the impact of large fare increases is being greatly exaggerated, just sit back and relax, and see what happens.

The writer lives and works on Salt Spring Island.

**When they
couldn't get away
with lying...they
started hiding...**

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Gulf Islands
Driftwood



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SALT SPRING SAYS

Trustees say: What stands out from your first year on Trust Council?



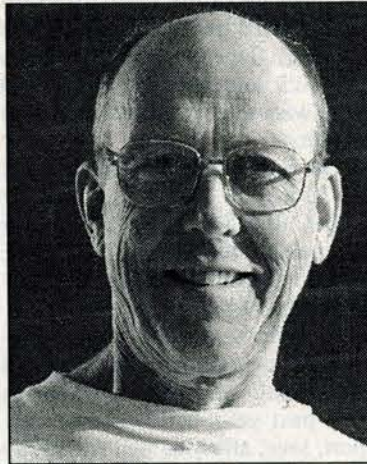
Tracy Chambers,
BOWEN ISLAND

Council-wide, the focus on the need to improve efficient local planning services to our communities.



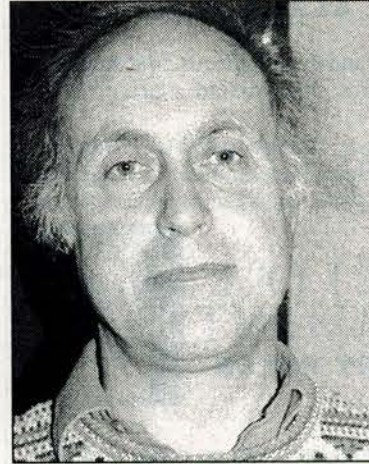
Bill Sheffeld,
SATURNA ISLAND

The focus on local planning issues, both because that's good for communities and the real basis of fulfilling the objectives of the Trust.



Eric O'Higgins,
LASQUETI ISLAND

There are two things: community forestry and marine protected areas, both of which are almost a consensus issue. The Trust should push those because everyone in the Trust area supports those.



Tony Law,
HORNBY ISLAND

I think I'm particularly excited about the forestry program, looking at all aspects of forestry — protection and allowing sustainable use.



Bev Byron,
SALT SPRING

Most clearly, I learned that issues that lead to a decision are complex and there is often a lot of give and take required to result in a final decision that the majority of the community can live with.

Letters to the Editor

Invert bumps

Re: Furness Road Residents Angered By Increased Noise and Traffic (Driftwood, December 3).

If speed bumps are not a viable option because they hamper snow clearing, why not consider "inverted speed bumps" like those commonly encountered on many island roads. They really work.

D. ENGLISH,
Salt Spring Island

Arrogant move

Bravo for your support for Salt Spring's library.

But a couple of points should be added. First, the per capita library grants are not government largesse. They have been paid to every public library association in the province for years out of general revenues — money taxed from you and me — strictly according to population. To make them discretionary is a high-handed grasp for a new level of power.

More important though, your editorial leaves the impression that capping the provincial per capita grant is part of a genuine "bid to ensure local governments are also supporting library services." In fact, it is a thinly disguised and carefully targeted attempt to coerce B.C.'s three volunteer libraries to follow Victoria's dictates on user fees and paid "professionalism" in providing services.

According to the Library Service Branch's (LSB's) own statistics, in 1996 there were 47 public library associations. Forty-three of them received municipal and/or regional district tax support that vastly exceeded their per capital grants, typically by factors of three, four or more. Not one was anywhere close to having its grant, "capped" for lack of tax support. Only the three volunteer libraries (Salt Spring, Pender and View Royal) plus the tiny one in the company town of Kemano funded by Alcan Corporation are affected by this policy. In an interview for an article in Quill & Quire magazine, the LSB's manager of policy and legislation said the LSB knew what the impact of the policy would be and that there was "some connection" to Salt

Spring's voluntary membership payments, which most library supporters thought was a dead issue.

So, is this a legitimate attempt to shore up sagging local tax support for libraries, or simply a pretext, an arrogant move to force three small community-run libraries into line? Judge for yourself.

TOM KOPPEL,
Richard Flack Road

Explain hike

As a subscriber I have only just awoken to the fact that your selling price has gone up a whopping 25 per cent.

I don't recall an advance explanation of that; in view of the fact that the last inflation index I saw was down over one per cent, how do you justify a 25 per cent increase?

Your readers and community, as well as this subscriber, eagerly await your public explanation.

ELSPETH THOMPSON,
Salt Spring

Go in peace

This is an open letter to Hubert Beyer, in response to his December 3 Driftwood column.

Of all people, you should be the one who is aware of the danger of following a leader's target of hate.

Hitler shouted: "Jews are our enemy" and we all know the horror that followed. Now Mr. Clark and you call Greenpeace "the enemy of B.C." It scares me.

I am not only an environmentalist, but also the mother of one of the captains working for Greenpeace. My son, who is in his 30s, is an intelligent and caring person. With a Bachelor's degree from SFU and a fluency in Dutch, English and Spanish, he communicates well with people all over the world. He expedites their message, it's a message of sustainable forest-industry, selective logging, fish habitat, eco-tourism for B.C., etc. And yes, he also hears of the suffering of our unemployed.

I am proud of this kid, who, for the past seven years, often risked his life. He and other environmentalists believe in their cause. He speaks for the trees, the animals and worries about the future of B.C., his

home. Sadly for me, he sees a bleak future of our planet: he does not want children.

I met your son last summer, campaigning for a job in politics. He lost and is back selling real estate. Does your son have any ideals or fears for the future of our planet?

I hope that with some personal information of one of the workers of Greenpeace, you will be more careful and not use the word "enemy." In World War II my father was killed by hate-mongers and I survived a concentration camp.

You speak for the NDP and I for my son and Greenpeace. Calling names and promoting hate is childish and dangerous. We must respect each other and listen to all parties involved, if we truly want to protect our common land. Only the future will tell who was right; we may not live that long to know. Go in peace, brother.

MARJOLYN VAN ZANTEN,
Salt Spring

Light candle

Just in the same way that Dutch children place lighted candles at Christmas time on the graves of Canadian soldiers, people all over the world will be marking Human Rights Day on December 10.

The candle itself is a little different. It is ringed by barbed wire to remember the many people in prison, or those who have "disappeared" as victims of human rights violations.

And here on Salt Spring we remember especially the people of East Timor who are suffering unspeakable ill-treatment at the hands of the Indonesian government. Thousands of East Timorese have died in the last few years and many are incarcerated at this moment in crowded dark prisons. Others are being held incommunicado in military detention centres, undergoing torture.

East Timor, however, is only one of the "dark corners" of the world. And this coming year, beginning on Human Rights Day, Amnesty International is asking all of us to shine a light to draw attention to human rights violations in countries whose name is almost a byword for repression and terror. Take a moment on Wednesday,

December 10 to light a candle, perhaps in church, or when you're with friends or alone in the evening, to remember all prisoners of conscience: people detained anywhere for their beliefs or because of their ethnic origin, sex, colour, language, national or social origin. Amnesty International makes only one provision — that such people have not used or advocated violence.

The doctrine which enshrines the rights of these victims is The Declaration Of Human Rights. It is indivisible. It protects all of us. We should be aware of it, understand it and speak out for the human rights of others. This is the campaign of Amnesty International in 1998.

You have a voice only if you use it. Make your voice heard. Join Amnesty International. (Simply phone 1-800-AMNESTY).

D. MASSY,
Old Scott Road

Real crisis

Crisis line, what crisis line?

Editor: please help me understand who permits a public, quasi publicly-funded crisis telephone line to be operated by the Gulf Islands Women's Resource Network, which in turn is allowed to advertise for and to train only women to carry out this service to the public.

Further, this group then has the "chutzpah" to complain that they are short of volunteer staff!

To the women and men who share common ground on these islands, this tilted set-up, which also supports to make "volunteers less likely to be arrogant and patronizing," defies logic.

No wonder virtually all men, as well as many women, will not call the crisis line. Now this is the crisis!

It behooves the people and organizations responsible to critically re-think their ethics and agendas and to quickly shift their policies of exclusion to those of inclusion. All islanders will applaud.

TOM VIKANDER,
Salt Spring Island

Civility

My thanks to Isabella S. Linsler for her Cauldron letter (December 3). Interesting people

talk about ideas.

People have different cards dealt them in life. Things happen in the process of living. Who would choose to live on the fringes of society? It goes beyond the simplistic "knowing right from wrong."

Consider the street kid, drug addict or prostitute with no strong support system, the child or wife abuser with overwhelming compulsive drive and anger, the homosexual, the immature person who makes wrong choices and falls short time after time, the fat person, the ugly person, the biker who finds enhanced self-esteem in belonging to the club and is sucked in to criminal activities. Consider Reena Verk.

A person is more than the sum of his or her perceived faults, even if they dominate the individual's character. Maybe if we could know just one more thing about that person our thinking would change.

Perhaps all of us need to figure out how to take responsibility for our behaviour and the impact it has on others. Conveying civility in our day-to-day living can be a start, especially as we approach the holidays.

RUTH VOLQUARDSEN,
Creekside Drive

Poor, not sick

Re: Hubert Beyer's December 3 column slugging Greenpeace.

Maintenance of wealth is of paramount importance today, right?

Now besides money and power, what is wealth? Clean air, good food, something to do, someplace to go, family and friends.

Go a bit further and we enter the realms of style, honour, refinement, co-ordination, diversity, strength, freedom. These qualities are all embodied in the wild state of nature. Let's protect that from ourselves until we can do something better.

Tree farms? Monoculture? Naw. How about a 600-year cycle of careful selective logging? It would be more work than money, of course, but I'd rather be poor in a beautiful world than rich in a sick one.

KEITH MacHATTIE,
Grantville Road

Housing crisis looming in B.C.

VICTORIA — In 1971, my wife and I bought our first home in Victoria, a three-bedroom bungalow that carried a price tag of \$26,000.

We got the place with \$300 down, thanks to W.A.C. Bennett, whose Social Credit government helped first-time home buyers by way of either a \$1,000 grant or a \$5,000 second mortgage at a very low interest rate.

With that kind of help, tens of thousands of young families were able to buy their own home, and it still puzzles me how the man who brought in such socially-advanced policies could go down to defeat in 1975.

Twenty-two years later, most young families have no hope in hell to buy a home. Some lucky ones might be able to squeeze into a condo, provided their parents help out and they have a job, which has become a rare commodity as well.

What happened? Plenty, and the Canadian Home Builders' Association is listing some of the reasons in a report titled Housing 2020: A Time for Action, which it recently released.

Not surprisingly, governments at every level stand out as the biggest culprits in the housing crisis. The association estimates that the price of a new \$200,000 home carries more than \$40,000 in direct and indirect government costs.

Municipal development costs alone have risen by 650 per cent in the last 10 years and total more than \$100 million a year in British Columbia.

At the provincial level, the association says, support for school site and parkland levies, contaminated land legislation and restrictive land use measures have pushed development costs to record highs.

And, the association points out, B.C. consumers pay a far greater share than other Canadians of the GST on new homes because of high land prices in this province.

Association vice-president Keith Sashaw says that British Columbia is facing an acute housing crisis. "We will need one million more households in the province by the year 2020."

But given the current rate of building, B.C. will be nowhere near that figure. Since 1994, new home starts have plunged by about 10,000 units a year.

The B.C. Home Builders' Association, which has more than 1,200 members throughout the province, makes 24 recommendations aimed at enhancing housing affordability — 12 for provincial action, six for municipal action, four for home builders and two for all B.C. citizens.

To British Columbians at large, the association says, "don't be selfish when new developments are planned for your community. Rigid not-in-my-backyard attitudes will reduce housing affordability and choice for your children and generations to come."

The association also advises British Columbians to hire professional builders and renovators.

The provincial government is urged to remove school site levies on residential development, curb overzealous application of contaminated land legislation, and revise the Agricultural Land Act.

"Under the Agricultural Land Reserve, many acres of productive farmland have been divided into passive, non-commercial 'hobby farms' that are, in reality, large rural housing lots," the association says in its report.

To the association's recommendations, I would like to add a couple of my own: One, release province-owned land for housing on a lease basis. Two, revisit the second-mortgage scheme so effectively used by Bennett Senior.

A home built on land owned by the province and leased to the purchaser for 99 years would come in with a far lower price tag. And by underwriting second mortgages and subsidizing the interest rates, the government could make sure that a lot of people who can't afford to purchase their own home now would be able to do so.

Needless to say, if the government took steps to increase housing starts, the province would reap substantial benefits, of which employment is not the least.

We haven't seen much in the way of innovative policies from this government. It's about time Premier Glen Clark came through with something besides rhetoric.

Beyer can be reached at: tel: (250) 920-9300; fax: (250) 385-6783; e-mail: hubert@coolcom.com

CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



More letters

Angels

Many Salt Spring residents may be unaware of the wonderful support offered by Salt Spring Home Support Services for those who are sick and perhaps dying and who wish to convalesce or pass on at home.

On Saturday, December 6, at 10:20 a.m. in our home on Sunset Drive, Ruth Moore Jolliffe, at age 90, passed quietly and peacefully, being held and supported by many members of her family.

She had been weakening gradually throughout much of 1997 and was mostly confined to bed during this past year. The level of support, love, affection and friendship shared with us and Ruth by the many home support workers has been one of the most notable features of her dying process.

We cannot thank Salt Spring Home Support Services enough for their genuine and compassionate help right to the very moment of her passing. Home support's efforts and attendance throughout allowed us to participate in her passing in a process so real for us that each of those present will remember the experience until we take our own dying breaths. It was also a great surprise when we,

Ruth's family, realized that home support services is as much in place to support the family as it is for the soul who is dying.

To the home support angels who cared for and loved our Grandma it is hard to find the words to express how comforted and supported Ruth and her family have felt throughout this very difficult time. Your daily presence in our home proved unquestionably superior to hospital care and we congratulate you for your

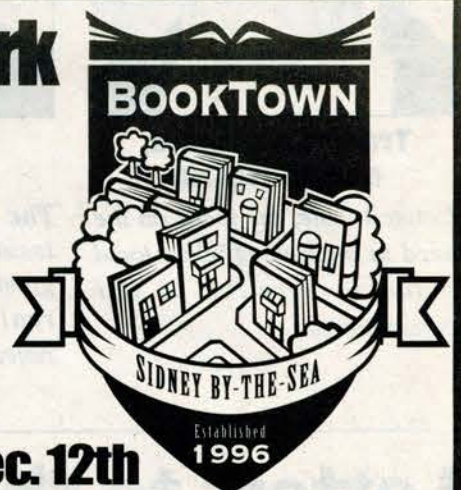
dedication and dynamic compassion.

One of our elderly family members, observing the process at Ruth's death commented, "This is how I want it to be."

We are so grateful. It also needs to be noted that ultimately this service has been legislated in place by our government and B.C. Medical Services. How truly fortunate we are.

THE JOLLIFFE FAMILY,
Sunset Drive

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Jail house rock

It may look like they're in jail but these youngsters, from left, Alias Hajek, Tim Hamilton, Dan Behrens and Mark McDougall are actually enjoying some play time in Centennial Park. Photo by Derrick Lundy



Archives closed for renovations

Renovations on the lower floor of the library building on McPhillips Avenue have forced the Salt Spring Archives to close temporarily.

Archivist Mary Davidson advises the archives will be closed until further notice. She anticipates the facility will reopen at some point in January.

Letters, calls protest ferry price increases

Political decisions are scuttling B.C. Ferries, creating a tidal wave of reaction among the Gulf Islands, says Saanich North and the Islands MLA Murray Coell.

"It's by far the largest issue I've had in the office in the last 16 months," he said. He summarized the problems as reductions in ferry service combined with fare increases and the corporation's debt.

Hundreds of letters and phone calls have come into his office over ferry issues. Since the most recent fare increase was announced November 14, he notes there have been protests by many coastal communities.

In response, he arranged a meeting at the end of November between representatives of various ferries advisory committees, Liberal leader Gordon Campbell, deputy finance critic Ida Chong and B.C. Ferries critic Doug Symons.

Coell said advisory committee members are frustrated. "I think they're feeling the government isn't listening to their input."

Coell said one prediction is for fare increases to occur every six months for the next 18 months. Yet he points out fares are now so high that people are reducing their travel.

"They're at the breaking point now. Usage is going down rather than up."

He traces the problem with B.C. Ferries back six years to a govern-

ment decision to transfer capital debt to the ferry corporation. At the same time, Coell said, political decisions were made to add even more capital debt by embarking on construction of catamaran ferries, super ferries and upgrading terminals.

Over the past six years, Coell said, the debt carried by B.C. Ferries has climbed to \$800 million from \$100 million.

The Liberals are calling for an open public inquiry into the ferry service, including a forensic audit into the financing, planning and debt of B.C. Ferries, Coell said. Work already done by the advisory committees should be part of the process, he added.

He also questions whether ferry users should be subsidizing the work given the west coast shipbuilding industry by B.C. Ferries contracts.

"In the past, the ship building industry wasn't supported by users of B.C. Ferries, it was supported by British Columbians as a whole."

Coell believes B.C. residents are proud of the ferry system and want to see it preserved. But the corporation needs to operate with a financially-sound business plan, free of "political meddling," he said.

He hopes B.C. residents will keep demanding change. "I think it is important for people to keep up the pressure. I think we've got their attention," he said.

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How only is only and who is onliest?

It must be right because it was on television! I missed the target so I don't know the commodity identified as "the onliest of all." What I did hear was the announcement that there was none as unique as the commodity being offered. If uniquely I had paid more attention!

Onliness is a condition that was destined to be put to the sword as soon as the television moguls heard of it.

Imagine the scene: a man sprawls across the chesterfield in obvious misery. "I'm alone," he moans. "I'm the only one here!"

TO BE FRANK
FRANK RICHARDS



"I'm even onlier," comes the voice of the announcer. Years ago I worked at the Sidney Review and heard my saddened boss forecast his employment should he find a re-incarnation. If he were to return to earth he would come back as an electronic news reporter, he told me.

Mis-spell one word and it's there in print forever, he groaned. The reporter on radio or television can spell it just how he likes because no eye is going to see the notes from which the announcement is made.

After all, which is the unique of the Gulf Islands?

The sun shines on!

When I got into the car on Thursday morning the outside temperature showed nine degrees, Centigrade. This was December, yet!

There were shoppers sheltering behind coloured glasses and others blinded by the brilliant, low-lying sun.

None had the gall to complain. Most of us enjoyed it much more than the more seasonable flurries of snow and fears of frost.

Oil for the wide, wide world

There are signs of a new prosperity for the former Soviet Union as the oil world moves in on Russian reserves. It's like pre-war days in Britain when one of the standard brands of gasoline was ROP or Russian Oil Products.

Those were the days when the Brits bought gas at any service station. The operator moved the switch on the pump to the brand called for by the driver. The station would carry a choice of about half a dozen varieties.

In addition to the Russian product I recall Shell and BP and National Benzole. Esso was a word which had not been coined at that time and the Anglo-American Oil Company offered an ancestor of Esso, I think, under the name of Pratt's. The original leaded, anti-knock fuel was Pratt's Ethyl.

Whether the war had any influence on the disappearance of the independent stations, I wouldn't know and I didn't ask. During the second war all brands were eliminated and the only gas available, in small quantities, was labelled "Pool."

I liked the independent stations better, but nobody asked me for my advice. Funny thing, that! They never do!

That one-story clock

When I was widowed a decade ago I was somewhat at a loose end. Like eating: quite suddenly I had to get my own meals. And there was nobody to dish out orders any more.

That's when I had a brainwave. I had always fancied a grandfather clock and I saw an advertisement in an American magazine for a Do-it-Myself clock. I paid the money, the advertiser shipped the parts and I assembled the unit to the delight of my neighbours and the astonishment of my family. That is a reasonable facsimile of the advertiser's assurances.

One delaying tactic was the time. Until the clock was built and ticking I had no way of knowing what the time was at any given moment of the day or night. Now, going on for eleven years later, I'm still not sure when to start. But things are cooking.

I have built myself a work-bench. I've even varnished the top in order that any valuable and delicate parts of the clock are safe from damaging dirt.

It's cold in my garage, down to 11 most mornings. Not Fahrenheit, of course. So, now I have a work-bench. And a clock: in pieces. No wife to tell me to get down to it ... more's the pity!

But I fear the worst. I see all the signs of a nagging sister-in-law ready and eager to pounce!

Just thankful that clock is a strictly one-story project!

Galiano, Mayne islands name health members

Island communities have begun selecting representatives for the Southern Gulf Islands Community Health Advisory Committee.

Irene Frith and Don Clark have been named Galiano Island representatives, while Hazel Hansen and Harold Coombes will represent Mayne Island.

Salt Spring's election will follow a community forum scheduled for January.

Until that election, Jean Taylor and Gordon English, who are members of the former Gulf Islands Community Health Council, are representing Salt Spring Island.

It is the job of island representatives to listen to concerns and issues which affect health care on their

islands and bring these concerns forward to the larger committee.

Southern Gulf Islands committee members will help Bob Myers, regional director of Community Health Centres, to develop priorities for action.

Concerns highlighted to date include the need to fund emergency services on Saturna Island, demand for a nurse coordinator on Galiano Island, funding problems for Mayne Island's emergency satellite program and a chronic shortage of ambulance attendants on Pender Island.

Community members who have any concerns they would like to bring to the health committee's attention should contact their island representatives.

Lady Minto writes wish list

On the wish list for Lady Minto's hospital foundation this season is \$90,000 worth of essential equipment.

In a campaign titled Future Challenge — The Millennium is Now, the foundation has mailed out a brochure to Gulf Islands residents which outlines equipment needs and provides a postage-paid envelope for donations.

Among the equipment needed is a new colonoscope, laparoscope, laparoscope holder, a dryer for anaesthetic equipment and a video printer for the operating room.

"In the past year we have performed over 150 colonoscopic and gastroscopic procedures. This diagnostic technology allows for early detection and treatment of cancer and other illnesses," states the foundation's brochure. "Upgrading of precision fibreoptic equipment is essential."

Lab microscopes need replacing, the nursing and pharmacy departments require upgraded computers and the acute care unit needs a whirlpool tub and lift.

All monies raised in the campaign are strictly for equipment purchase at Lady Minto Hospital.

Hospital administrator Karen Davies would be pleased to pro-

vide members of the public with more information about the equipment to be purchased. Anyone wanting a tax deductible receipt for the 1997 tax year should mail their donations promptly or bring them to the hospital.

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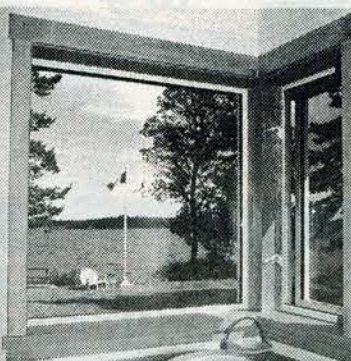
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FOR THE FISH: Kathy Reimer, left, and Nancy Wiggen sit at the mouth of a new Morningside Drive culvert which, with the eventual addition of a fish ladder, is expected to re-stock Stowell Lake with fish. Photo by Derrick Lundy

New culvert will aid fish run

A new culvert on Morningside Drive is the first step in a dream come true for nearby property owner Nancy Wiggen.

Wiggen, who has noticed a sharp decrease in the island's fish population over the years, says the culvert brings Stowell Creek closer to having its fish run restored.

A fish ladder leading to the new Morningside pipe will be installed before the project is complete.

According to project coordinator Kathy Reimer, Salt Spring Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society biologist, the original Morningside culvert had an eight-foot drop at the outfall and was completely impassable to fish.

"When all the work is completed," she said, "the watershed of Stowell Lake will be stocked with coho salmon."

This "pristine watershed has excellent potential for salmon," she added. Trout will also benefit.

The project was undertaken by the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and a salmon enhancement crew.

Wiggen, who grew up on Salt Spring and then left the island for 25 years before returning, recalls catching numerous fish throughout her childhood here.

"We used to catch coho grilse, dragging a hand-line and metal spoon behind a rowboat," she said.

When she moved back to the island in adulthood, she was "appalled at the lack of fish" here.

"So many streams were just no longer producing fish runs," she said.

"Our property, that we bought almost 23 years ago, borders (Stowell Creek) and we really wanted to see the fish going up that stream."

It's something that is really dear to my heart."

Wiggen has aided the salmon enhancement society by providing artwork — usually paintings of wildflowers that grow near streams — for society fundraising events. Artwork has proven one way she can contribute to improving salmon habitat.

"I've been interested in salmon enhancement ever since it began," she said. "It is the only way to go when you live in an environment where the fisheries and the general public have an apathetic attitude to one another, and the fish are the ones who lose."

Reimer says the new Morningside culvert project "has set a good example for other communities."

"There are hundreds of badly-placed culverts on roads along B.C.'s coast. Highways and Fisheries simply cannot afford to replace them all. But if the communities all chip in, funding becomes possible."

And for Wiggen, the project marks another boon for the future of fishing on Salt Spring.

Now living at Fernwood, Wiggen still owns a rowboat. "I'd just love to be able to go out and fish."

Highlands, Maliview up water and sewer prices

Repairs and replacements in the Highland water and Maliview sewer districts have resulted in increased fees.

A joint committee of the two groups approved a 1998 operating budget on November 27.

According to a press release, extra expenses last year, including repairs to service lines on Maliview, strained the districts' reserve funds.

A damaged fire hydrant on Ensilwood Road requires repair plus relocation in 1998 at a cost of approximately \$7,000. Several gauges in the pump house also need replacing, forcing a rise in operating costs.

Therefore, beginning in January, water costs will be \$18 per month or \$216 per year based on meter readings in 1997. The parcel tax will remain at \$326.

Sewer rates have also increased.

Repairs to a break in the lines on Maliview last year cost \$5,000 and resulted in a shortage of reserve funds. Additional expenses for 1998 will include the inspection and possible repair to the Walker Hook outfall. Therefore, user fees for 1998 will be \$240 with the parcel tax remaining at \$100.

Two new committee members, Dennis Scott and Gerry Price, have replaced Hall Theunisz and Deidre Nowicki. They will serve until the annual meeting in May 1998 when elections will be held.

Scott and Price join committee members John Richardson (chairman), Brian Hickson, David Howell, Ann Heeley-Ray and Capital Regional District director Kellie Booth.

Anderson has betrayed fishermen, says Lunn

Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Gary Lunn says British Columbian fishermen have been betrayed after fisheries minister David Anderson admitted he may cut Pacific salmon catch quotas by 40 to 50 per cent next year.

"When is the government going to stand up for Canadians and British Columbians and fight for us?" questioned Lunn in the House of Commons last week.

Anderson met with American fisheries officials in Washington, D.C. on December 3. He admitted the Canadian catch quotas may have to be cut if the Pacific salmon dispute is not resolved by the start of the next fishing season.

"The Americans are over-fishing and in response to this the minister states that he might have to cut the salmon quotas of his own people," said Lunn. "These are the words of failed leadership."

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West coast variations add regional flavour to seasonal traditions

It was once a great disappointment to me that I grew up in a place where there were no partridges in a pear tree.

When I heard the chorus of Joy to the World, the place where "heaven and nature sang" was somewhere between Bethlehem and the North Pole. European reindeer were magic flying creatures and our caribou were dull things that only migrated thousands of miles by foot. Canada was a seasonal wasteland where even our robins of the thrush family couldn't compete with the dainty Robin Redbreast, nestled in the holly and the ivy of jolly olde England.

It has taken a while, but I think I am over it. But now I am faced with a member of the next generation looking at me with grave disappointment that we don't have Rudolohs, poinsettias or partridges in a pear tree outside. So this is my attempt to right the balance and add a regional magic to this apparent seasonal backwater.

The first thing we did was put on our gumboots and go for an early morning walk in the rain at Mill Farm amongst the ancient trees where lowly beasts gather in a sacred place. We didn't have a comet burning overhead but the mist was rising off the sea below and there was a ruffed grouse in a fir tree.

A flock of crossbills were working their way amongst the cones and the pileated woodpeckers were doing a little drummer boy imitation. A flock of juncos was scavenging on the ground for any discarded seeds. We inspected a log and disturbed a nest of deer mice who leapt away in fright. We came back to Fulford Harbour and I began to feel like a King (well, Queen really) who was offering myrrh and frankincense to some little prince in his backyard.

Out in the bay we watched the goldeneye, wigeon, buffleheads and loons. Slipping in and out of the water was an otter family. Orcas were breaching out by the herring balls. You get the idea, there seemed to be a festive carol brewing.

As we wandered along the shoreline, we ducked under Douglas-fir trees laden with cones, arbutus trees heavy with scarlet berries, thickets full of white snowberries, blood-red Nootka rose hips, dark green salal and holly-like oregon grape.

Well, I said, we were living in the midst of a giant Christmas decoration.

Thus inspired we went home and have adapted a few of our Christmas

NOTES FROM WRANGELLIA

WITH BRIONY PENN



traditions. Adaption is the operative word because old traditions die hard. I still have a soft spot for turtle doves and some members of the family are quite attached to elves.

The first thing we did was resist the desire to go out and deck the halls with boughs of holly. We planted copious amounts of oregon grape as our regional substitute. Instead of sending overbred, hothouse poinsettias to aging aunts we created wonderful bouquets of salal, snowberries and Nootka rose, twined up in orange honeysuckle. The Douglas-fir Tannenbaum this year has white-footed deer mice made out of cones and garlands of arbutus berries hanging from it.

We are working on a manger scene of the estuary making things out of papier mache, glue and poster paint. The food chain of loons, fish, mudshrimp and algae provides a far easier model to discuss the concept of death and rebirth than bearded men flying up into the sky. It also avoids the problem of trying to make the camels stand up properly.

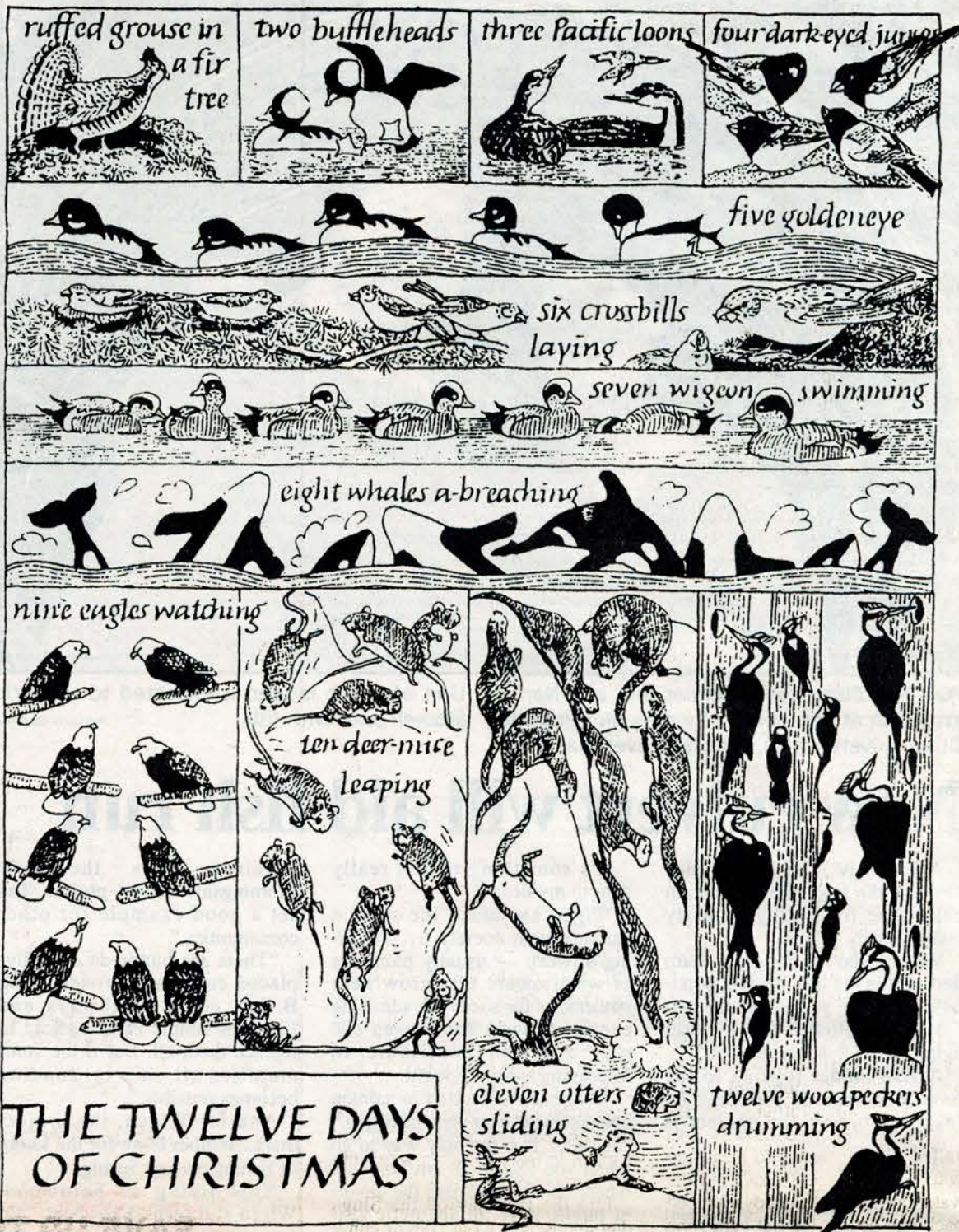
Cards and wrapping paper are a cinch now too. A block print of a rough-skinned newt with a bow or a junco on a snowberry, makes a stunningly original card.

Finally, we had fun rewriting some of the Christmas carols. Deck the Halls with Boughs of Oregon Grape and Rudolph the Red-nosed Caribou didn't really take off but it was funny to a six-year-old.

I thought The Drew Clarke that stole Christmas had some promise. We did a revision of the Holly and the Ivy and added some comments about broom, too. We tried some variations on Dashing Through the Salal for an alternate of Jingle Bells, but had the most success with The Twelve Days of Christmas.

This might even make it into a new family tradition, despite some male members not wishing to appear too politically correct. To make a long story short, the last verse goes:

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me, 12 woodpeckers drumming, 11 otters sliding, 10 deer mice leaping, nine eagles waiting, eight whales a breaching, seven widgeon swimming, six crossbills laying, five goldeneye, four dark-eyed juncos, three Pacific loons, two buffleheads and a ruffed grouse in a fir tree.



THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Fulford dock closure announced

Construction work will close the Fulford Harbour B.C. Ferries dock from January 14 to February 4 inclusive, eliminating the ferry service to and from Swartz Bay.

Water taxi service between Fulford and Swartz Bay will be offered during the closure at the same times as the scheduled ferry sailings. An alternate service for vehicle traffic to Swartz Bay will also be arranged. Details will be announced later this month.

District reconsiders Saturna portable

With Saturna Elementary School at risk of closing due to low enrolment, trustees agreed last Wednesday to reconsider sending a portable classroom to the school.

Trustees had agreed on October 30, 1996 to give one of the portable classrooms no longer needed at Fulford Elementary School to Saturna. The district was to contribute \$2,500 to the cost of moving the portable with the remainder financed by the Saturna community.

But with seven students enrolled at the school and only four or five pre-schoolers living on the island, superintendent Andrew Duncan noted there is little justification for additional space at the two-room school.

When the board first considered the request for the portable, Duncan said there were 20 students at the school.

Other possible uses for the portable include selling it or using it to store district resource centre materials.

On Saturna the portable was to be used for storage and as an indoor play area. Saturna trustee Susanne Middleditch said the Saturna Community Club was becoming involved in the project so the portable would be used as both a school and a community facility.

Salt Spring trustee Jane Parlee recommended the issue go to the board's operations committee for discussion, so the Saturna Parents Advisory Council would have a

chance to present its case again before the board made a decision at next month's meeting. Trustees agreed.

Trustees also received copies of a letter written by Duncan to Saturna parents and community members. Duncan explained that he would be meeting with Ministry of Education officials in January to review the situation at Saturna School.

The school falls below the eight-student minimum required by the ministry to continue operating.

Following that meeting and the expected clarification of the Ministry of Education position, Duncan said a public meeting will be held on Saturna to discuss the school's future.

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Season inspires Slugs

By JIM BLACK
Driftwood Contributor

The Salt Spring Slugs are a giving lot when it comes to Christmas time and this week they handed the Chemainus Sharks a 6-3 victory on a platter.

It should be noted, however, that this wasn't a cakewalk for the Sharks. The Slugs did come out flying in the first period and really had the Sharks hemmed in for a good portion of the period.

The boys got pumped when right off the opening faceoff Blaine Johnson cranked one off the goal-post from 75 feet out.

It looked as though the Sharks netminder might be having an off night. Unfortunately for the Slugs he settled down after that and played a very solid game. Back in the Slugs end of the rink, netminder Derek Topping started getting busy about halfway through the first period when the boys started running out of gas and the Sharks began applying pressure. Topping, who has gone into Twinkie rehab, was up for the challenge. Time and again he turned aside shots from the Sharks and, if they were all he had to contend with, we would have won the game handily, but when your own defencemen start passing the puck back to the Sharks you know it's going to be a long night.

The Sharks opened the scoring at the 10-minute mark following some sustained pressure, during which time the Slugs couldn't get the puck over their own blueline. Following the goal the team had a quick strategy session during which people pointed many fingers and called each other some rather colourful names. Cooler heads finally prevailed (in part thanks to Deadstop who popped some Prozac into the water bottles) and the boys jumped back into action, but not before we had to kill off a penalty.

It was at this point that the Slugs found out that they have a bona fide penalty killer on the team, Paul Reynolds. It was either that or else he was just showing off for his old man, Bernie Reynolds, who was back in the lineup for the first time in ages. At any rate, Paul Reynolds became a one-man wrecking crew while we were short-handed and almost scored a goal as well. After the penalty was over we asked the referee if we could play short-handed for the rest of the game, but as usual he just shook his head at us and said, "No."

This didn't deter the lads for very long, however. Once we realized there was life past our own blueline the boys really turned it up a notch. Once again it was Paul Reynolds

SLUG TRAIL

getting into the act, tying it up on a rebound from Paul Sinclair.

It looked like we had finally figured out the Sharks netminder and the tide was beginning to turn in our favour, when who should step onto the ice but none other than Still Life With a Hockey Stick himself, Deadstop. Once the smoke had cleared from this debacle the Sharks were once again in the lead.

Trailing 2-1 at the start of the second period, the Slugs knew they would have to really turn it on. But try as they might, the lads could not get one past the Sharks netminder.

The Sharks, on the other hand, notched their third goal of the game when Rod Challborn, taking a note out of Deadstop's playbook, screened Topping on a shot. Once they finished giving Challborn a good tongue-lashing, they settled down and kept plugging away. Not long after that Challborn redeemed himself by setting up a play that saw Todd McIntyre sneak in behind the Sharks defence and get a break-away. Mac rarely misses on these opportunities and this was no exception, going upstairs with the puck as the goalie was dropping to the ice.

We didn't have long to cheer, unfortunately, as the Sharks came right back and started blasting away at Topping. Topper was doing his best and if his defenceman had been able to make a clearing pass to anyone other than the Sharks defencemen, who knows what might have happened in the game. What did happen is that the Slugs went into the third period trailing 4-2.

Into the final period the Slugs dug themselves a big hole to climb out of when the Sharks added a quick goal to start off the period.

It wasn't until late in the period, when Dillon Chrimes picked off a pass from Paul Reynolds along the boards and managed to slide one under the netminder, that we once again lit up the red light. Despite the loss there were some good things to come out of this match. Bernie (Obi Wan Kanobi) Reynolds is back skating with the team, playing on the same line with his son and they look pretty good together out there, and who knows? Perhaps Bernie Reynolds' return from a knee injury might inspire Deadstop to try to shape up and at least look like a hockey player instead of Jabba the Hutt on skates.

It's doubtful, but anything can happen, it's nearly Christmas.

Judo champ: Greig

Salt Spring Judo Club members are among the best in western Canada, and they returned from the Canada West tournament on the weekend with six medals to prove it.

Seventeen-year-old Andrew Greig won a gold medal at the event, and earned the distinction of becoming the western Canadian champion, coach Shaun Adams said Monday.

Three silver medals were won by Salt Spring club members. Devon Cass and Yoni Marmorstein, both 8, and Sophia Haase won silver and became second in western Canada in their respective divisions.

Haase is a candidate for the B.C. team, having been recommended to represent B.C. at the national winter games.

Bronze medals were won by Calum Adams, 9, and Matt King, 15. Adams becomes second in B.C. and King third in western Canada.

Adams said good performances also came from Megan Leitch, Niko Laing, Cam Beals, Sol Ruben and

Gavin Hamilton. Graham Regan also participated in the tournament, but was forced to retire with a shoulder injury.

The tournament, the Canada West open junior championships, was held in Burnaby.

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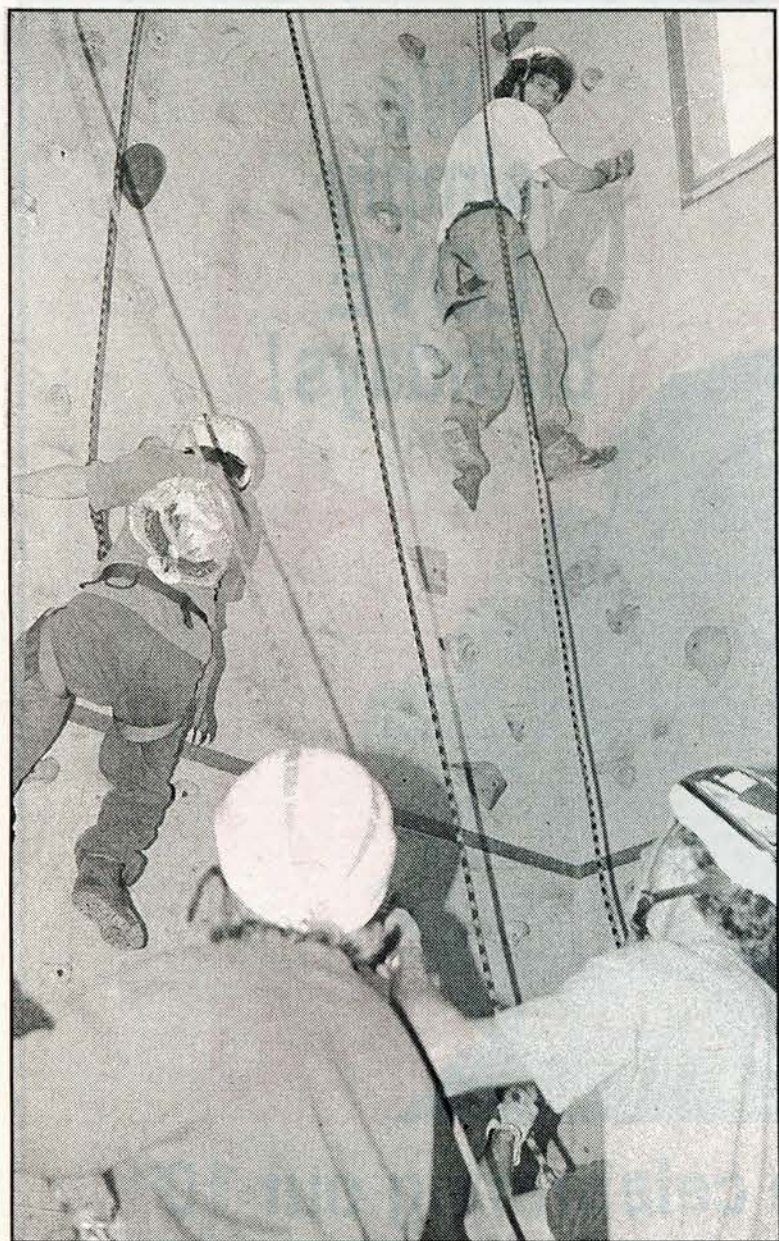
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SHOP SUNDAY
11-4



UP, UP AND AWAY: Climbers take to The Wall on Sunday in an effort to scale the height of Mount Everest as a fundraising event. Climbers collected some \$2,450 which will be directed to the local food bank and Community Services Society youth programs.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Everest conquered — climbers raise \$2,450

Little steps in one direction will eventually take people where they are going.

When many people took many steps in all directions at the Salt Spring Wall on Sunday, they managed to climb Mount Everest.

The food bank and youth programs on Salt Spring benefited from the steps and sweat of about 38 individuals who participated in a seven-hour climb-a-thon at the Wall.

Climbers went well past their goal of 29,028 feet, which is the height of Mount Everest. At the end of seven hours the Wall had been conquered 3,145 times, which at 25 feet per climb resulted in a total of 78,625 feet.

Jack Rosen was one of the organizers. He said, "It was an amazing show of energy and determination, as well as a keen enjoyment of climbing that got the first group of climbers up on the summit before 1 p.m."

A total of \$2,450 was raised for the food bank and Salt Spring Community Services Society youth programs. Tony Meek and Joah Chlopan collected the most amount of pledges — just under \$300 each.

At noon, with the group's energy skyrocketing, Amber Lockowitz initiated a minute of silence for the recovery of Bicycle Bob in Vancouver General Hospital.

Magical Geritol Gang ingredient gives soccer squad another win

By **MALCOLM LEGG**
Driftwood Contributor
Sea Otter Old Boys 1, Cowichan 0

At the beginning of the season there were a few so-called soccer pundits who felt the Old Boys' defence was too old and decrepit to possibly help this squad have a winning season.

Of course these experts fail to realize what the wonder drugs Advil, A-535 and Geritol, supplied by our sponsor Pharmasave, at very reasonable rates due to the quantities we buy, can have on this group of cagey veterans.

There has never been any argument that the defence really lives up to the name Geezers, as their average age is 42. There can be no doubt that they do not have speed — they move about as fast as the mail does through Canada Post.

As for skills, that is a dirty word for Old Boys defenders and is only reserved for midfielders. In fact that is what separates an Old Boy defender and midfielder — both are slow but midfielders can dribble.

So what is the magical ingredient that has seen this group of physical misfits, commonly called the Geritol Gang, achieve a nine-win, three-loss record, give up only 20 goals in 12 games and last weekend come up with a brilliant performance in defeating Cowichan 1-0?

Take a look at them, there are no superstars. Names like Jonathan Oldroyd, Matt Johnson, Bill Lea, Graham Tweddle, Cal Mackay, Steve Legg, Alvaro Sanchez, Mike Davis and this writer are not names tossed around in sports bars all over Salt Spring (unlike a certain swell-headed "Fabio" Bantel.)

In some senses they are the eighth wonder of the world as they defy logic week in and week out, but no matter how one tries to explain it they get the job done.

Last weekend was no different. With several of their corps missing, they were able to protect an early Chris Cottrell goal and make it hold up for their ninth victory of the season.

They were backed up by the brilliant goalkeeping of Siggie Karl, who looked like England's Gordon Banks (or should this writer say Sepp Maier of Germany fame — sorry Siggie!)

with his spectacular saves, and earned his first shut-out of the season.

The lads now have a well-deserved break for Christmas and will restart play again in late January after all our bumps and bruises have healed.

So to all our many fans, read-

ers, wives and families, sponsors — Pharmasave, Sea Otter Kayaking and Harbour House — and officials, we wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Geritol-free New Year, and remember: "The game is never over until all the donuts are eaten."

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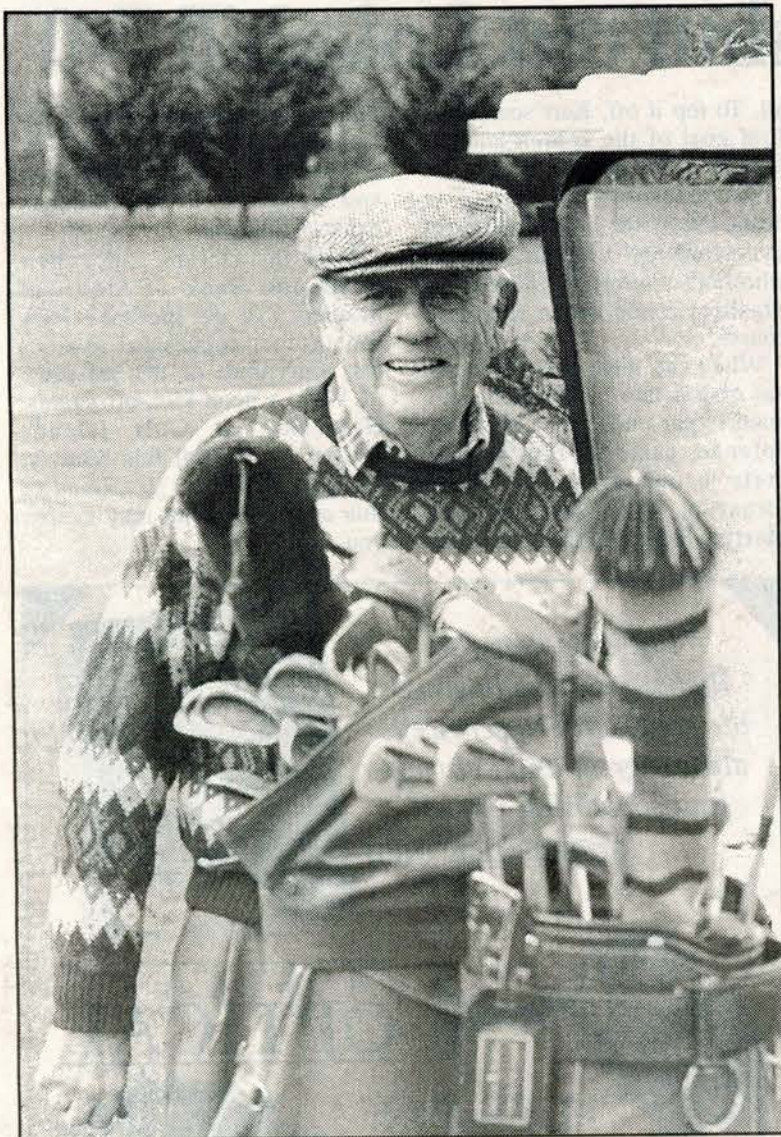
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On the greens

The Salt Spring Golf and Country Club greens were busy Sunday as islanders took in a little golf. Above, Barry Scotton, Mike Reynolds and John Paul watch Rob Huser tee off at the sec-

ond hole. At left is Eric Bracher who was on the course with Al Whorley. The two have been playing golf on various courses for 55 years.

Photos by Derrick Lundy

Top bowlers named

By RUTH HUME
Driftwood Contributor

Come on down and get your Boy Scouts Christmas tree from the Legion parking lot. Kings Lane is proud to be able to help the Boy Scouts this year by being the bank for purchasers.

Another important note is: Consider helping out with Special Olympics bowling in the New Year. There must be room in someone's schedule to spend one hour on Wednesday mornings or Monday afternoons. What a great resolution to make.

Wednesday Special Olympics: Sharon Way 157, Mahjor Bains 235, Gloria Dale 188, Becky Clair 146, Stuart Elliott 164, Terry Swing 168.

Monday Special Olympics: Terry Swing 165, Gloria Dale 146, Sharon Way 147, Stuart Elliott 161.

Circus league: Ron Cunningham 214, Tony Farr 200, Ken Strike 209.

Tuesday morning seniors: Edie Gear 223, Ken Robinson 214, Wally Brown 205, John Richardson 230, Madalene Jory 204, 235/628, Don Goodman 290/619.

Tuesday afternoon seniors:

HIGH ROLLERS

Dorothy Sloan 206, Deke Noonan 228, Jean Nicol 230, Gwen McClung 219, Doris Redquest 204, Vanda Winstone 216, Reg Winstone 254.

Tuesday business women's league: Audrey Denton 219, Debbie Cade 200.

Wednesday ladies: Deanna Marleau 212, Mary Walker 214, Margaret Baker 229.

Golf ladies: Maddy Cooper 229,608, Ruby Webster 205, Shirley Parsons 204, June Webb 229.

Looney tunes: Jamie Sayer 211, Shannon Strussi 221, Lance Leask 253, Doug Sykes 238, 216/618.

Friday afternoon seniors: Sherry Mehnert 228, Ken Robinson 200.

Children's leagues: Jesse Hume 114, Kailee Budd 76, Edward Ritson 78, 79, Nicholas Watkins 127, 175, Nolan Severight 84, Zander Ritson 119, David Piperno 93, 106, Justine Watkins 134, 96, Patrick Buitenwerf 104, 93.

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NEXT WEEK AT LINDA'S
For all those people we couldn't accommodate for our last East Indian dinner, here's your chance! Friday Dec. 19th. Multi-course dinner. 6:00 and 8:30. This is our last special dinner of the year. Reservations a must. Licensed.

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Slashers 'fire on all cylinders' to shut out Lakehill 7-0

By MALCOLM LEGG
Driftwood Contributor
Bank of Montreal Slashers 7,
Lakehill 0

The Salt Spring Slashers were in an owly mood last weekend, after losing their last league game, and the local girls took out their frustrations on a weak Lakehill team to the tune of 7-0.

Lakehill never knew what hit them as the Slashers offence came out firing on all cylinders and scored on their very first shot on goal, a Stephanie Collette blast which connected after a run

down right wing.

It was just a sign of things to come as the Slasher engine was getting ready to take off. The midfield of Launi Legg, Molly Lynesford, Corey Schwagly and Collette was doing the mucking in the ditches, clearing a path for the K-Twins to take off once again.

Yes, Kyla Dares and Kate McNair, renowned for instilling terror in opposition defences, were back together once again and they quickly gave Lakehill a clinic on how to score goals.

By the half McNair had scored once while Dares had a true hat-trick (three goals in a row) and the Slashers were ahead 5-0.

As the second half unfurled it looked like the Slasher machine would continue to roll over Lakehill. Once again McNair passed to Dares and the girls had six, but suddenly their engine stalled as Dares went down with a knee injury.

Fortunately, the Slashers had solid spare parts and Jenny Kerr stepped in up front and the Slasher engine hardly sputtered at

all. To top it off, Kerr scored her first goal of the season and the last one of the game.

The Slashers continued to press, led by the brilliant work of Lynesford and Legg in midfield who both masterfully steered the Slashers machine on the right course.

When the girls started to run out of gas late in the game, the team's rear end, also called the defence, came up big. Led by their usual array of Heidi Straarup, Robin Morris, Leah Martin, Ruth Singbeil, Hannah

Smith and Maia Vaillancourt, the Lakehill offence was rarely allowed past their rear bumper and in fact had to suck Slashers exhaust all game.

With the victory under their hood, the Bank of Montreal Slashers (yes, our sponsor is back for another successful season) can concentrate on the last game of 1997, a noon kick-off against Oak Bay at Gulf Islands Secondary School this Sunday. Bring ear plugs as the sound of this engine running may deafen you.



Swim team support

Deb Toole appears to be sending her thanks heavenward for a donation to the Salt Spring Stringrays swim team. In fact, she was expressing her gratitude to Bank of Montreal manager Cal Mackay for the \$1,100 contribution to support the team's winter program. The club's 80-odd members will travel to Ladysmith to keep up their swimming skills over the winter.

Photo by Tony Richards

Sting finds confidence to defeat Gordon Head

Hard work and a newly-found confidence took Salt Spring Sting to its first-ever win over previously undefeated Gordon Head.

According to team coach Graham Tweddle, Salt Spring's under-15 girls team members chased and hustled after every ball right from the opening whistle, forcing Gordon Head to retreat into its own end.

The breakthrough came after 10 minutes with Elyse Cleland running from defence and not stopping until the ball was in the net.

Tweddle said the girls played the next 80 minutes with the look of a professional team.

"This was truly a team performance, and all the girls should be proud of their achievements in league play this year," he said.

SOCCER SCORES

Following are scores in December 6 and 7 Salt Spring youth soccer travelling team action.

Boys	
U12 silver	.SS 3, Gorge 0
U12 bronze
.....	.SS 2, Gordon Head 2
U13	.SS 2, Lakehill 3
U13 (Sunday)
.....	.SS 2, Bays United 6
U16	.SS bye
Girls	
U12	.SS 5, Sooke 3
U15	.SS 1, Gordon Head 0

DECEMBER 13 & 14 SCHEDULE

Boys	
U12 silver
.....	.SS away to Prospect Lake
U12	.SS away to JDF
U13	.SS home to Gorge
U14	.SS home to Cordova Bay
U15	.SS home to Gorge
U16	.SS away to Gordon Head
U19	.SS home to TBA
Girls	
U12	.SS away to Peninsula
U14	.SS home to Oak Bay
U15	.SS home to Gorge
U17	.SS home to Oak Bay

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OFFICE: 537-2648
in the Lancer Building, Ganges

2 for 1 SALE
ENDS FRIDAY
DEC. 12

POWER OUTAGES

BC Hydro safety team wants to warn the public about two unusual hazards created during windstorms. Both cause unnecessary danger to the public and to Hydro line crews.

On several occasions when Hydro line crews have arrived at the scene of a downed power line, the fallen trees have already been cut up, probably for firewood, even though the downed line was still entangled in the branches.

People are taking a terrible risk. They have no way of knowing if the line is not energized. Just touching a branch that's in contact with a live power line can cause electrocution.

Anyone spotting a downed line should call Hydro or the police immediately.

The other hazard created is when portable generators are used during power outages. Power from the generator can feed back into the outside power lines endangering crews working on them.

To avoid this danger, Hydro advises that generators should be used only for essential purposes, and not connected to the electrical system.

If the generator must be used to power the entire building, the main electrical switch should be placed in the "off" position. This prevents feedback.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE BC HYDRO OFFICE AT: 537-9914

BC Hydro

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COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHAPEL
invites you to join us for:

- ☆ Regular Sunday Services (and Sunday School) in the Multi Purpose Room. at G.I.S.S. at 10:30am
- ☆ Children's Christmas Musical, Sunday, Dec. 21st at 6pm at Baptist Church, 520 Lower Ganges Rd.
- ☆ Christmas Eve Service, Wednesday, Dec. 24th at 7pm at Baptist Church, 520 Lower Ganges Rd.

For more information call: Pastor Chris Cormack at 537-2622
EVERYONE IS WELCOME SO PLEASE JOIN US 😊

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6 INCH POT

Poinsettia

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Anjou Pears

48¢

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This Friday, December 12 / 2pm in our Deli

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See the Llamas!!

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STORE CLOSING AT 6PM

this Saturday, Dec. 13 for staff Christmas party

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On behalf of the Salt Spring Island Community Services

CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM

Ambulance paramedics will be accepting donations of canned and dry foods outside Thrifty Foods in Ganges on the next 3 Saturdays

December 6, 13 & 20 10AM - 4PM

PLEASE HELP PARAMEDICS MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS BETTER FOR EVERYONE!



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BC TREE FRUIT EXTRA FANCY

Anjou Pears  **48¢**
1.06kg lb

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Red Anjou Pears 1.52kg **69¢** lb

RED, WASHINGTON FANCY

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BC

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It's Party Time!

CALIFORNIA Baby Carrots 2lb bag	1.99 ea	LITEHOUSE Veggie Dips 237ml pkg.	1.29 ea
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CALIFORNIA Pearl Onions 10oz pkg. (Red, White)	1.99 ea	CALIFORNIA Bunch Radishes	4/ 1.00
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7 am to 10 pm

COLWOOD
1860 Island Hwy.
8 am to 10 pm

JAMES BAY SQUARE
475 Simcoe Street
8 am to 10 pm

MARINER'S MALL
9810-7th Street, Sidney
7 am to 10 pm

PARKSVILLE
280 E. Island Hwy
7 am to 11 pm

NANAIMO
Harbour Park Mall
8 am to 10 pm

MILL BAY
2720 Mill Bay Road
8 am to 9 pm

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6th & England Avenue
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7 Days a Week
8 am to 8 pm



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Cast gearing up for Scrooge show

Ebenezer Scrooge first survived his now-famous Christmas adventure in the year 1843 as the leading character in a short novel called A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.

The novel has since been read by millions, viewed by millions in its various screen adaptations and witnessed by scores more in its many stage variations.

One of these stage presentations has found a home on Salt Spring and this year's annual Scrooge production is set to run December 19-21 at Mahon Hall.

Called Christmas With Scrooge since 1993, the production has its roots in the 1970s when longtime islanders Ray and Virginia Newman took the Dickens story, made a few modifications, added some songs and came up with a show called Christmas Madness.

A few more modifications led to the present version.

This year's edition features Vaughn Fulford as Ebenezer Scrooge, Patrick Cassidy and Margaret Jardine as the sturdy, but long-suffering Cratchits; Murray Shoolbraid and Andrea Rankin as the jovial Fezziwigs, and Reid Collins, Rachel Jacobson, Kevin Wilkie and Martin Thorn as visitors from the "other world" whose task is to change the direction of Ebenezer's life.

Sue Newman is directing the production.

The show is set for 7 p.m. each night, with a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee.

Tickets — \$7 for adults and \$3 for children (\$6 and \$2 on opening night) are available at et cetera. Patrons are also asked to bring a food donation for the local food bank.

'Tis the season

Bob Cratchit (Patrick Cassidy) and Tiny Tim (Patrice Bowler) share a moment together as cast members prepare for Salt Spring's annual Christmas With Scrooge presentation.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Carol books

Christmas carollers who need help with the lyrics can contact the Driftwood office for help.

Copies of the 16-page Holiday Song Book published two weeks ago are available free of charge.

Anyone wishing either single or multiple copies of the song book can pick them up at the Driftwood office in Upper Ganges Centre, 328 Lower Ganges Road.

SALT SPRING CENTRE SCHOOL'S
"Family Winter Festival"
355 BLACKBURN RD.
December 20th
10am - 4pm

We invite you for a fun and creative day. Try your hand at craft making, for children of all ages. Choose from wooden toy making, beeswax candles and decorated holders, block printing cards and gift wrap, creating angels, and much more.

Visit with friends and tap your toes with Salt Spring's homegrown music. Join the hayride and return for hot mulled cider or a home made lunch from the Centre's kitchen. Entry is a food donation for the Food Bank. Tickets for craft making and the hayride will carry a minimal charge. Phone 537-9130 for more information.

Educational broadcast here

Cable in the Classroom is now available through Salt Spring TV.

The special series of award-winning educational broadcasts will be presented each Wednesday at 1 p.m., with details in the Driftwood and on the Channel 12 cable notice-board. As well, a copy of the schedule and specific program details can be faxed to people's homes upon request. Call Salt Spring TV at 537-1335.

The December 10 program

features the stories of six World War II fighter pilots.

Cable in the Classroom programming can be viewed by students in school on cable TV or a copy of the broadcast tape can be borrowed by teachers for presentation at a more convenient time.

Salt Spring TV hopes that programming generated on Salt Spring that might be of interest to students, or even generated by students, will be scheduled to air along with Cable in the Classroom.

DEC. 12-16 24 HOUR INFO LINE 537-4656

<p>FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA MATT DAMON DANNY DEVITO CLAIRE DANES</p> <p>2hrs 15 min Violence & coarse lang.</p> <p>THE RAINMAKER</p>	<p>DUSTIN HOFFMAN JOHN TRAVOLTA</p> <p>1hr 45 min Violence & coarse lang.</p> <p>MAD CITY</p>
<p>Fri. Sat. 7pm / Sunday 7:30pm / Tues 9:15pm</p>	<p>Fri. Sat. 9:30pm / Mon. 7:30pm / Tues 7pm</p>

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Nightly at 7 p.m.

Reservations required
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Annual
CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT
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Fernwood choir meets concert challenge

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff

To do a task well and be rewarded by it, a few sacrifices must be made.

That's one of the things more than 40 Fernwood Elementary School children may be learning as they exchange play time and other activities to participate in Tuned Air's presentation of The Christmas Concert, which opens tonight (Wednesday).

This fall, 40 of the 63 children in the senior (grades 3 to 5) choir have been practising through two lunch hours per week, in addition to their regular Thursday session with volunteer director and school teacher Mary Rockliffe. As of November 25, even more rehearsal time was added.

The children are performing some pieces as a youth choir and two with Tuned Air, plus 15 are acting out the story of the nativity, and five have speaking parts.

"We've been putting a lot of hard work into it," says Grade 5 student Sara Mackay, who is one of five children opening the "one-room schoolhouse pageant" by reciting a true

memory from a Salt Spring pioneer.

Anna Hosie, also in Grade 5 and with a speaking role, says she knows the product of all the hard work will be worth it.

Parents also play a large part in the combined artistic effort. Whether they are gathering up articles for a child's costume — everything about the concert is from Salt Spring of the 1920s or '30s — or being one of the official parent helpers "in charge" of a student group, it couldn't be done without parents' support.

"It's a huge commitment for parents to make," notes Rockliffe.

Karen Hosie is one parent helper who has "signed her life away" for the event since November 25.

Children Anna and Molly Hosie also won't be attending their other out-of-school activities during the concert week, but Karen Hosie knew they probably wouldn't have another chance like this for several years, and felt the sacrifices are well worth making.

The Fernwood choir began as an extra-curricular program

more than six years ago under teacher Rockliffe. They were a small group without an accompanist and Rockliffe recalls being surprised by what a difference pianist and assistant director Shirley Bunyan made when she joined the group two years later.

Anna Hosie, now in Grade 5, remembers the year everyone wanted to sing a piece from Disney's Lion King movie; Rockliffe remembers not knowing the song they were so excited about.

Choir numbers have steadily grown — there is now 110 in grades 1 through 5 — the pieces they tackle have increased in difficulty, and they received glowing praise from adjudicators at the Cowichan Music Festival the past two years. This spring at the festival they received an award as best elementary school choir.

Karen Hosie said Fernwood's kindergarten students look forward to being in Grade 1 so they can join the choir.

Fernwood children have taken on a huge challenge in the Tuned Air show.

"It boggled my mind when

(Tuned Air director Bruce Ruddell) read out what the whole presentation was going to be from start to finish," says Karen Hosie.

The children seem to have captured the spirit of singing for fun while doing it extremely well.

"For something like this, the kids are striving towards excellence and taking pride in what they are doing," says Rockliffe.

Although the choir met great success at the 1997 Cowichan festival and aims for high standards, Rockliffe stresses the many values students receive from being in a performing choir.

There's the whole experience of working together as a team; being poised in front of an audience; creativity; stage presence; and voice projection. Besides the skills they are learning for now and in the future, she says, in The Christmas Concert the children have a wonderful gift to offer the community.

Tuned Air's The Christmas Concert, a pageant from a one-room schoolhouse, runs December 10 through 13 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Activity Centre.



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SIMS band presents festive, musical event

All manner of music is waiting to be heard at the Salt Spring Island Middle School band's festive season celebration.

The December 18 Christmas concert begins at 7 p.m. at the middle school gymnasium. It features the beginning concert band, jazz band and jazz combo, with special guest Barrington Perry on piano.

Admission is by donation to the food bank.

金島

Golden Island

CHINESE RESTAURANT-LICENSED

LUNCH.....Tues.-Fri. 11:30-2

DINNER.....Tues.-Thurs. 5-10
Fri.-Sat. 5-11; Sun. 5-9

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS
\$5.75

Closed Mondays

Upper Ganges Centre, Ganges 537-2535

"A Year to Celebrate"
AT THE
Seacourt Restaurant

Chef Larry Lee is teaming up with wine consultant Steve Coopman to present the first in a series of five course wine dinners.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MENU
1997

HORS D'OEUVRES
served with Vernay Brut Premium French Sparkling Wine

SOUP CELESTINE
chicken broth with julienne vegetables, garnished with julienne crepes served with Vernay Brut Premium French Sparkling wine

TEA-SMOKED DUCK CONFIT
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FRESH FRUIT ICE CASSATA

CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF ROULADE
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FRUIT AND NUT BRIE
baked brie encrusted with toasted ground brazil nuts served with pineapple-apricot coulis served with Quinta Do Crasto Vintage 1985 Port

MIDNIGHT
toast to 1998 with Domaine Mumms Cuvee Napa Brut Prestige

Seating is limited

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MONDAY DEC. 29
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SUNDAY DINNER

JAZZ 7PM

Ray & Gary Quartet
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Musical Craft Faire!

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THE BARLEY BROS.

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 20th
3pm - 10ish

Local Bands!
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ALL DAY CONTINUOUS MUSIC!



Pantomime

Participants in a Core Inn fundraising theatrical event — a pantomime called Cinderella and the Three Bears written by islander Murray Shoolbraid — gear up for the January show. Shown here are, from left, Jill Tarswell, Clifford Knox, Diana Morris, Carel Souchereau, Simon Henson and Leslie Corry.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Two schools perform Nutcracker

It's going to be a Nutcracker season.

Two island schools are performing musical renditions of The Nutcracker this Christmas, and both performances will take place at Fulford Hall.

"It was totally unknown that we were doing the same play until we both tried to book the hall," said Angela Thomas, secretary at Fulford Elementary School.

Salt Spring Centre School administrator Mitch Howard said that although several versions of The Nutcracker exist, there is only one youth version. But each school's presentation is bound to differ, he added.

"They won't be the same," said Thomas at Fulford school. "The parents and teachers have done a lot of work on the script to accommodate our children."

The Fulford production has been dedicated to the memory of Jesse Hughes, a student who died last weekend. All 140 Fulford students, ranging from Kindergarten to Grade 5, will participate in the production set to run December 11 at Fulford Hall.

The public is welcome to the dress rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. and the evening performance at 7 p.m. Admission is by donation to the food bank.

The Centre school's Nutcracker will also involve the entire school body — about 65 Kindergarten to Grade 9 students. The show is on December 17.

According to Howard, the Centre school has been hit with a double production whammy this year. The school also planned to perform the Wizard of Oz next spring — until it discovered that Fernwood Elementary School has identical plans.

Centre school is now considering other production possibilities.

Other island schools are also singing and dancing into the Christmas spirit with performances and family craft sessions.

On December 16, students at Salt Spring Elementary (SSE) School will present individual class performances under the theme Christmas in Our Town.

"It's about a group of kids who are out collecting stuff for the food bank and come in contact with different cultures and how they celebrate in December," said Kevin Vine, SSE principal.

The school's intermediate and primary choirs will also perform at the event. The entire school will also perform songs in the area between Mouat's Hardware and the Salty Shop next Wednesday.

Choirs will be a big part of Fernwood Elementary School's Christmas season, with the primary group singing at a December 16 pageant and the seniors (grades 3-

5) participating in Tuned Air's production of The Christmas Concert on December 10-13.

"It's quite an honour to be included," said Fernwood school principal Bruce Stewart, adding that 42 of the 60 senior-aged children opted to join in the Tuned Air production.

Primary students at Fernwood will join the primary choir in presenting classroom productions at the school's December 16 pageant.

Older students will be inviting parents into their classrooms the following day to produce Christmas crafts.

The 28 families represented by students at Phoenix School are staging a Winter Celebration at Beaver Point Hall on December 11.

Because not all families at the school celebrate Christmas, said Rineke Cunliffe, Phoenix has chosen to honour winter instead. This will include a family potluck dinner, followed by family presentations and a talent night.

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WHAT'S ON

Music

- **Salt Spring Roasting Co.** — Every Wednesday evening is Blue Grass Music Night from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- **Moby's Marine Pub** — Wednesday Night Live hosted by Charles Wilton, 9 p.m., December 10.
- **Harbour House Wheelhouse Pub** — Blues night with special guest Monte Nordstrom, Thursday, December 11.
- **Harbour House Lounge** — Rock with Mr. Morocco on Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13.
- **Alfresco Restaurant** — Barrington Perry plays piano every Saturday evening starting at 6:30 p.m.
- **Moby's Marine Pub** — Sunday Dinner Jazz with the Ray and Gary Quartet, with Rob Mackenzie, on December 14, 7 p.m.
- **Salt Spring Roasting Co.** — Sunday Brunch Music Menu from noon to 3 p.m. December 14: Jazz Pie.
- **Salt Spring Roasting Co.** — Every Tuesday evening is the Celtic Music Circle from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- **The Christmas Concert** — Presented by Tuned Air, directed by Bruce Ruddell... "a pageant from a one room schoolhouse," with the Fernwood Elementary School Senior Choir. December 10, 11, 12 and 13, 7 p.m., Salt Spring Island Activity Centre. Adults \$15, students \$6. Tickets at Mouat's ticket office, Sharon's, Murray's Brewplace, Stuff & Nonsense and at the door.

Cinema

- **The Rainmaker** — The Grisham

novel has been cleverly adapted by Francis Ford Coppola. Inspired casting and a taut screenplay enhance this David-and-Goliath style courtroom drama. Stars Matt Damon, Danny Devito and Claire Dane. Playing Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13, at 7 p.m.; Sunday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 16 at 9:15 p.m. 2 hours, 15 minutes. Rated 14A, violence and coarse language. Cinema Central.

• **Mad City** — Director Costa Gavras' stinging indictment of the TV news business. John Travolta, starring as a laid-off worker, decides to take hostages to get his message across and is manipulated by an opportunistic reporter played by Dustin Hoffman. Playing Friday and Saturday, December 12 and 13, at 9:30 p.m.; Monday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 16 at 7 p.m. 1 hour, 45 minutes. Rated PG, violence and coarse language. Cinema Central.

• **Bean** — Rowan Atkinson's endearingly outrageous British bumbler will score big laughs from his fans in this convulsively funny comedy in which the cheerfully malicious Mr. Bean is mistaken for an art scholar during a visit to L.A. Playing Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m. (one show only). 1 hour, 30 minutes. Rated PG. Cinema Central.

Family

- **Pre-School Storytime** — Mary Hawkins Library, every Monday at 10 a.m. The more the merrier!
- **Storytime at West of the Moon** — Every Tuesday morning. Ages 2 to 3, 9:30 to 10 a.m.; ages 3 to 5, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Join us!

Galleries

- **Makin' Babies Porcelain Doll Studio** — Open house on Sunday, December 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., 319 Price Road. Everyone welcome!
- **Jill Louise Campbell Fine Art** — Christmas open house on Tuesday, December 16, 5 to 7 p.m. Refreshments and entertainment.

Community TV

- **Wednesday, December 10** — 1 p.m., Cable in the Classroom: premiere broadcast. *Fighter Pilots* — meet six WWII fighter pilots, hear their tales! 7:30 p.m., Isle of Views — the new season's debut program airs again
- **Sunday, December 14** — 6 p.m., Isle of Views 7:45 p.m., Satsang with Gangaji

Grab Bag

- **Christmas Craft Fair** — The eighth annual Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair at Mahon Hall on Friday, December 12, 12 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, December 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Fundraising Auction** — The Core Inn Youth Project is holding a fundraising auction on Saturday, December 13. Viewing starts at 5 p.m. with spaghetti dinner (\$3.00) and live acoustic music. Auction with Dave Phillips begins at 7 p.m. 134 McPhillips Avenue.
- **Santa's Pancake Breakfast** — This annual breakfast will be on Sunday, December 14, 9 a.m., at Fulford Hall. \$3 admission.

Goods, services auction benefits Core Inn

Last-minute Christmas shoppers have a chance to make their gifts really count at the Core Inn Youth Project goods and services auction this Saturday.

Auction-goers are advised to come to the Core Inn hungry, in order to take advantage of a \$3 spaghetti dinner being served from 5 p.m. They should also be ready for entertainment, with the infamous Barley Brothers on tap to perform some lively acoustic music through the dinner hour.

The live auction begins at 7 p.m., with auctioneer Dave Phillips in charge of proceedings. Youths will be assisting Phillips and acting as runners for the event.

Some of the numerous items

available for bidding include artworks by renowned island artists Ute Hagen, Diana Dean, Wendy Rosier, Carol Evans, Carol Haigh and Rosamund Dupuy. There is jewellery from craftspeople such as Terry Warbey, a Barnyard Grafix office stationery package ideal for small businesspeople, special dinner vouchers and kayaking, sailing and trail ride packages, for starters.

A silent auction for smaller items is also going on at the same time.

A chance to win door prizes is available to those making a donation at the door, however, no admission is being charged.

Anyone wishing to donate goods or services can call the Core Inn at 537-9932.

Funds are needed to complete the sprinkler system which will allow the opening of the building's second and third floors and more activities to take place at the youth centre on McPhillips Avenue.

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TOP 10 VIDEOS

1. Men in Black	6. Speed 2: Cruise Control
2. George of the Jungle	7. Fifth Element
3. Face Off	8. Grosse Pointe Blank
4. Austin Powers	9. Romy & Michele's H.R.
5. Break Down	10. Chasing Amy

(Dash (-) indicates last week's position)

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Cold Buffet 10PM Champagne at midnight

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The Christmas Concert
 Directed by Bruce Ruddell
 "... a Pageant from a one room schoolhouse"

with the **Fernwood Elementary School Senior Choir** costumes **Sheri Israels set design Don Zacharias**

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December 10, 11, 12 & 13, 1997
 7 pm Salt Spring Island Activity Centre / Adults \$15 Students \$6
 Tickets at Mouat's Ticket office, Sharon's, Murray's Brewplace, Stuff & Nonsense, and at the door.
 Photo by Barbara Woodley

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 Regular hours 11am - 12:30am



Rousing tune

Singer Mary Anne Barcellona and Nelly Gilman-Schwagly lead the singing as 132 seniors gathered at Meaden Hall Sunday night to enjoy the annual Lions Club Christmas dinner. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Creativity comes home for last fair

The old-fashioned sights and sounds of an island Christmas, with no pocket-draining ferry fares, is promised by this weekend's Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair at Mahon Hall.

Browsers will find many of the creations featured at off-island fairs, notes organizer April Curtis. She finds going to off-island craft fairs reminiscent of strolling through downtown Ganges. Familiar faces are everywhere.

"A third of the vendors are from here," she notes.

She also points out that comments overheard at off-island fairs frequently single out Salt Spring vendors for the quality of their work.

This weekend all that creativity comes home for the last fair of the season on Salt Spring. Islanders who have delayed their Christmas shopping due to the mail strike or other reasons will have an opportunity to see some of the work artisans have been selling off-island for the past six weeks.

"They come home for this one," Curtis said.

In keeping with the home-grown flavour of the fair, she and a horde of helpers try to recreate the image of an old-fashioned Christmas in Mahon Hall, transforming the heritage structure with a giant tree, boughs and lights.

Also traditional is the spontaneous carol sing among vendors and visitors which seems to burst out of the neighbourly feeling of the fair.

Even folks who don't need to shop are welcome to come by and see what their friends and neighbours create. For those who still need to find a gift or three, Curtis said the fair offers bargains for treasure hunters since products are coming directly from the craftspeople.

Pottery, original art, jewellery, gift baskets, baking, candles, Christmas decorations, stocking stuffers, dried flowers, preserves, sinuous forest boxes, woodwork, planters, dolls, soaps and lotions, games, cozy cotton bedding, musical instruments, designer clothing, hats, t-shirts, stained glass, wind chimes, kitchen accents, masks, music

and more will all be available.

Although many of the craftspeople are from the island, Curtis said some are coming from off-island for the sale.

The show is open from noon until 8 p.m. Friday, offering an opportunity for those attending the Tuned Air concert to drop by before the show at 7 p.m. Friday evening.

Or they can come Saturday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. or on Sunday from 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Curtis notes sales help more than islanders. Some of the fair's income helps support Off Centre Stage workshops and productions, including the purchase of theatrical equipment which is used by performing groups throughout the island.

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People and Community

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SALE #2 - Saturday December 13
CENTRAL HALL 10am - 3pm

Core Inn Youth Project
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at
THE CORE INN
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Viewing starts at 5:00pm with spaghetti dinner (\$3.00) and live acoustic music

AUCTION WITH DAVE PHILLIPS BEGINS AT 7:00PM

FEATURING: Art work by Rosamund Dupuy, Ute Hagen, Diana Dean, Carol Haigh, Carol Evans, Wendy Rosier; jewellery by Terry Warby; services by Raven Net, Island Escapades, Salt Spring Guided Rides, Barnyard Grafix; plus many many more goods and services offered in support of our island youth!

Door prizes for those making a donation at the door!

COR MEUM DABO - I WILL GIVE MY HEART
Please come out

BELLY TALK

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Driftwood Staff

Big bellies abound but the weekly meeting is not about weight-watching or aerobics.

And the pregnant women who sit in the casual comfort of Family Place couches Monday nights, sharing hot drinks and snacks, have more in common than maternity wear and sore ankles. They share similar fears and joys, and they stand together on the threshold of a new life experience.

Belly Talk, now in its second year, gives pregnant women and their partners a chance to share the stages of pregnancy in a supportive and non-judgmental environment.

Many pregnant women live with the same concerns and fears, explains Julia Atkins, who facilitates the group with Kelly Hayes and Erin Rafferty. At Belly Talk, they discover "they are not the only ones who think they're going to have babies with club feet."

Hayes, a doula who offers professional labour support, is also an apprenticing midwife and the mother of three children. She says many pregnant women fear labour. They also express concerns about the number of women transferred off-island during labour to the Cowichan Hospital in Duncan.

To help women cope with fears surrounding labour, Hayes says, the group often performs "labour run-throughs" with role playing that offers different coping options.

The women also develop birth plans, creating Plan A — their vision of a perfect birth experience — and then Plan B in case something alters the original plan.

"There are so many "ifs" in labour," says Hayes. "This way they deal with it prior to the experience as opposed to dealing with it in labour."

Facilitator and student midwife Rafferty says this aspect of Belly Talk helps "bring birth under control."

With limited surgical resources at Lady Minto Hospital, any perceived risk in a pregnancy or during labour usually results in an off-island transfer, Rafferty adds. It helps women be prepared by developing birth plans and surrounding themselves with a support network.

"There is so much focus on the average labour," Hayes says. "But not many are going to have the average labour — it will be their own birth experience."

The philosophy behind the doula profession which extends to the Belly Talk group, says Hayes, embraces the concept that "no woman should be without support in labour."

And Atkins says the group helps "arm" women with supportive people.

"There is a big difference between a sympathetic nurse and someone standing there saying 'you're doing it!' It's a whole different orientation."



includes moms and their under two-year-old tots who also meet once a week.

Friendships, support, empowerment and information are the big pluses of Belly Talk, says Atkins.

"Women learn what the issues are; they share their hopes, fears, dreams. And they learn they are one of a subset of very special people."

GUT FEELING: Belly Talk facilitators Erin Rafferty, left, and Kelly Hayes, right, offer more than comforting hands on the pregnant belly of Anne Linders. The two offer information and support to numerous pregnant women and their partners who gather at the weekly Belly Talk support group. Soon after this photo was taken, Linders and her partner, Lo Camps, gave birth to a son named Mark.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Belly Talk helps inject a positive, empowering feeling that pregnancy and birth are states in which there is not something wrong — like an illness — but something very right and natural.

"It's about filling them with good feelings," says Atkins, who has watched women gain power as the meetings and pregnancies progress. They begin to see pregnancy as a "life experience they can manage on their own."

Many of the women who attend Belly Talk have home births with island midwives attending. Some of these "graduates" come back to the group and share their birth stories.

"Hearing those experiences has been very good for the other women," Atkins says.

Over 20 island women participated in Belly Talk during its first year. Although the group is open to both men and women, mostly women attended during the first 12 months, Atkins says.

More men are joining their partners this year, according to Hayes: some men come every week right through until birth, others attend sporadically or on scheduled "formal" evenings.

"It varies from group to group," Hayes says.

Second and third-time moms also attend the group, often bringing concerns about sibling rivalry and coping capabilities of older children.

The group is free and any pregnant woman is welcome to drop by Family Place on Monday nights, beginning at 7:30.

Although the group meets once a week, long-lasting friendships are forged and facilitators offer support at any hour of the week.

"We're always available for them — if they come out of a doctor's appointment and don't feel right, they can call us," Hayes says. "It's much more than just a Monday night group."

Belly Talk friendships can be maintained at Rughuggers, another Family Place-based support group. Facilitated by island midwife Maggie Ramsey, Rughuggers

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Early fruit tree pruning benefits trees and busy pruners

When it comes to creating healthy fruit trees, Raj Kreisler believes in advance planning.

Knowing his phone and those of other Salt Spring fruit tree pruners will be frantically ringing throughout February, Kreisler thought he could quell the panic by putting the word out earlier this year.

Trees can be pruned before they go dormant for the season, but are usually tackled from the beginning of November through March. For some reason, however, most people leave the task until the last minute.

"I get so many people calling in February because people think February is the time to prune their trees," says Kreisler, who has 21 years of pruning experience.

In fact, he says, trees can be pruned any time from after the fruit is off until bud break in spring.

And if people want to use lime sulphur and dormant oil spray to control fungal diseases such as bacterial scab, Kreisler needs lots of time to find a dry 24-hour period.

For pruning, earlier is better, especially for older trees.

"Early pruning is really important to discourage water shoots," says Kreisler. For what he calls "renovations," cutting in July, August or September "is the #1 way to discourage the total amount of water shoots."

If a tree is cut just before spring, he explains, the hormonal response is to "grow it back,"

which spawns a mini-forest of suckers on the tree.

By removing wood containing tent caterpillar egg masses, pruning can reduce the number of leaf-munching critters roaming around in spring.

Pruning also helps with disease prevention, especially if it is done properly to allow air circulation through the tree branches, but it is still no guarantee that pests or diseases won't damage trees.

When a tree doesn't produce well, "everyone loves to blame the pruner," he jokes, but Kreisler says the biggest factor determining a tree's fruit production is the weather at pollination time. Pruning practices can make production better or worse, but without bee-enticing sunshine when trees blossom, trees will not produce much fruit.

For young fruit trees, the aim in pruning is to look to the long-term, creating the best possible shape for the tree's appearance, health and fruit production.

Or there's this simple rule of thumb: "Stand back and look at your tree. If it looks good it's going to do well ... Aesthetics and fruit production go hand in hand."

Kreisler may be best known for selling herbs and perennials in the market, which he has done for the past 13 years. His wife Bonnie Kreisler now handles most of the growing at their Salt Spring Nursery company, while he concentrates on pruning and landscape gardening.



THE SOONER THE BETTER: Raj Kreisler of Salt Spring Nursery reminds people they can prune their fruit trees throughout the winter months, rather than waiting until February or March.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

Winter Pruning

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BRIDGE TRICKS

Irene Hawksworth and Fred Struve finished in first place on November 25 in Gulf Islands Bridge Club play.

Following the winners were Derek Arnold and Jim Bradford, Conhor Hunt and Ian Thomas, Wim and Ima Krayenhoff.

Joan Conlan and Blanche

Poborsa took top honours on December 2. Hunt and Thomas were second, the Krayenhoffs third, with Shirley Love and Isabelle Richardson in fourth spot.

Players should remember to come at 6:15 p.m. on December 16 and bring a mug for coffee and enjoy a little socializing before the game. This will be the last time we play before Christmas.

Games start again on December 30.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Sharon Glover Coordinator 537-4607

DECEMBER '97

Wanted: Senior Peer Counsellors!

If you are a senior (...you are if you think you are) with a natural orientation to listening to people and get pleasure from supporting and encouraging others, you may be interested in becoming a Senior Peer Counsellor. Call Sharon to find out more about the free training course and time commitment required.

Individual support is available free to seniors

who are experiencing difficulties emotionally or socially. Trained lay seniors visit at home to listen and support. Do you, or a friend or relative, need this kind of caring? If so, please call 537-4607

NO BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC IN DECEMBER

- next clinic Monday 26 January

PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

- next meeting Tuesday 16 December / 1:00-3:00pm
Lions Club, 103 Bonnet Avenue

THE 'POWER SURGERS'

(a.k.a. Menopause Support Group)

- is now meeting every 2 weeks / all welcome at next meeting!
- for more information, call Sharon at 537-4607



TAKE NOTE

OF THESE DATES

- DEC. 10: Child safety & first aid, Family Place, 1-3pm.
- DEC. 10: SS Health Assoc. meeting, Lady Minto meeting rm 4-5:30pm, all welcome!
- DEC. 10, 11, 12, 13: Tuned Air production "The Christmas Concert", SS Activity Centre, 7pm.
- DEC. 13: Home-based business faire, Lions Club House, 10-3pm.
- DEC. 17: SS Seniors' Christmas Party, Meaden Hall, 2pm.
- DEC. 19, 20, 21: "Christmas with Scrooge" Mahon Hall, 7pm Fri. Sat. Sun/matinee 2pm Sun.
- EVERY WEDNESDAY**
 - Seniors & Alzheimers support group, Seniors for Seniors bldg. 11am
 - Archery Shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm.
 - Stamp Collectors all ages, Seniors For Seniors, 10am.
 - Cancer Support Group, Croftonbrook 10am-12 noon (every 3rd Wed.)
 - Core-Inn Committee Meetings, Core-Inn on McPhillips, 4:30-6pm.
 - Special Olympics Bowling, Bowling Alley, 10am-11am.
 - O.A.P.O. Loonie tea & video, Lower Central Hall, 1:30 (except 2nd Wed.)
 - Therapeutic Touch Practitioners group, Seniors for Seniors, 7pm (every 1st Wed.)
 - Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
 - Sports & arts & crafts day, Core Inn Youth Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
 - SSI Painters' Guild meetings, Hart Bradley Hall, 9:30-noon
- EVERY THURSDAY**
 - Parkinsons Support Gr., Croftonbrook, 2pm (second Thurs. of the mo.)
 - Luncheon, Seniors for Seniors, 12 noon.
 - Chess Club, Seniors for Seniors Bldg., 7pm.
 - Reading Club for 7-12 year olds, Library, 1:30-2:30, July 10-Aug. 14.
 - Tony's Pizzeria, Core Inn, DJ and great pizza, 7-11pm.
 - Scottish Country Dancers, Anglican Church Hall, 6pm.
 - SSI Weavers' Guild, Baptist Church, 10:30-1:00
- EVERY FRIDAY**
 - Fulford OAP #170, bingo 2:00pm.
 - Games afternoon, Seniors for Seniors, 1:30pm, Mah Jongg 12:30pm.
- Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
- Friday Feast, Core Inn Youth Centre, 6:30-8:30pm.
- A Course in Miracles, study group, 552 Rainbow Rd. #A, 10-11:30.
- EVERY SATURDAY**
 - Book Sale, downstairs at library, 10am-12:30pm.
- EVERY MONDAY**
 - Free blood pressure clinic, Seniors for Seniors 10-12noon (last Mon. ea. mo.)
 - Adult 22 rifle shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7-9pm.
 - Taoist Tai Chi, for Seniors, Lower Central Hall, 10am.
 - OAPO #32 carpet bowling, Lower Central Hall, 1:30pm.
 - Reader's Theatre, Croftonbrook Hall, 10am
 - Spanish conversation group, Seniors for Seniors, 10am-noon (not last Monday of the mo.)
 - SS Weavers & Spinner, @ Farmers' Ins. to use the library, 10:30am (every 2nd Thurs.)
 - SSI Buddhist meditation group, 135 McPhillips Ave., 7:30pm.
 - Bandemonium, Meaden Hall, the Legion, 7-9pm.
 - Hand gun, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm
 - Carpet bowling, OAP Fulford hall, 2pm.
 - Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
 - Autumn session, Reader's Theatre, Croftonbrook Hall, 10-12.
 - Children's storytime, Mary Hawkins Library, 10am.
 - Drawing class, library, 1:15-3:15.
 - Health & nutrition for families, Family Place 9:30-12pm (3rd Mon. ea mo.)
- EVERY TUESDAY**
 - Duplicate Bridge, Meaden Hall at the Legion, 7pm.
 - Seniors choir practices, Seniors for Seniors, 10:30am.
 - Target Archery, Fulford Hall, 4:30-6. Archery lessons 3:30-4:30.
 - Adult small bore, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7-9pm
 - Planned Parenthood Clinic, SS Health Unit behind Lady Minto Hosp. 4:30-6:30pm.
 - French conversation, Croftonbrook, 10:15am - 11:45am.

To have your no charge event listed here free, just drop it off to the Driftwood office by noon Friday!



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Comprehensive coverage of Salt Spring Slugs action every week in the Sports and Recreation pages of the Gulf Islands Driftwood.



CUTE AS CAN BE: Small and plump chestnut-backed chickadees, common throughout the Gulf Islands, offer 'personality plus.'

Photo by Jonathan Grant

Chestnut-backed chickadees welcomed at 'open house'

By LINDA CANNON
Driftwood Contributor

Keeping your bird feeders full of seed could be compared to having an open house party at Christmas — you're never sure who will drop by.

And, just like the human visitors that show up, some guests are more appealing than others.

For example, the sunflower seeds and peanuts we put out to attract nuthatches and chickadees also lure the local raccoon community. Not that raccoons aren't appealing. In fact, it's hard not to chuckle when those furry bandits are caught red-handed and they freeze, hand to mouth, in their best "Who, me?" pose.

Farmers and fruit and vegetable gardeners don't always find raccoons funny, however, and knowing it's

best not to feed wild animals, I try to shoo them away.

A more welcome visitor is the chestnut-backed chickadee. Curious, friendly and bright, they flit by our feeders to snatch a sunflower seed and say a quick hello. These are little birds with personality plus.

Chestnut-backed chickadees are easy to recognize; they're as cute as can be, small and plump with dusky brown caps, black bibs, and white cheeks. Their back, sides and rump are a rich chestnut brown, which gives them their name.

Chestnut-backed chickadees are perfectly comfortable in the wet forests of the Pacific and are common throughout the Gulf Islands and Lower Mainland. Don't confuse them with the black-capped chick-

adees that are found much more widely across North America. They're a different species, and black-capped chickadees are not found on the Gulf Islands.

The local chestnut-backed chickadees are definitely fun to have around. They swing upside down from the end of our peanut feeder like circus acrobats and then bounce from branch to branch like feathered rubber balls.

Sociable and charming, chickadees are great guests. They don't yak too much the way the crows do, they don't wolf down all the peanuts the way the jays do, and they don't spill their snacks all over the place the way the juncos and the towhees do.

In short, they can come to my party anytime.

Mayse combines love and war in new novel

Former Saturna resident Susan Mayse launched her newest novel, *Awen*, at Tanner's Books in Sidney on Saturday.

Published by Eastern Washington University Press, this novel is notable for its painstaking attention to historical detail.

Awen combines love, war, suspense and adventure in 18th-century Wales during a time of struggle between the Welsh kingdom of Powys and the English kingdom of Mercia. The story is ordered by the ancient poetry cycle *Canu*.

Mayse researched this novel on the Internet in part while living on Saturna. While a resident of the island she also helped set up a writers group and offered writing workshops. Mayse, her husband Stephen Hume and daughter Heledd were active community members and well-liked by their neighbours.

One of Mayse's best known works is *Ginger: The Life and Death of Ginger Goodwin*. She was awarded the Arthur Ellis Award of the Crime Writers of Canada and the Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-

SATURNA NOTES

WITH GAIL TRAFFORD



Fiction for this biography.

Mayse has also published *Merlin's Web*, a novel, and *The Big One: An Earthquake Survival Guide*. Her dramas and documentaries have appeared on the CBC and the stage. Throughout her career she has worked as a writer, journalist, editor, teacher and consultant.

Saturday's book launching was a great success. Mayse was kept busy autographing books for a steady line of customers. Most of her comments will require a translation from ancient Welsh.

Rosemary Beland set the ambiance for the afternoon with the graceful music of the hammered dulcimer.

At the end of the day, all the books in stock had been sold. Store proprietor Clive Tanner noted this was the first time that had happened during a book launching. Those who missed this event will soon have a chance to get a copy of *Awen* when the new order arrives.

Mayse can be reached on the Internet at tidewater@illahie.com.

Record crowd

Saturday night Fiddlers GF filled the hall for what was described as the best concert of the Saturna Arts and Concerts Society's history.

A record crowd of close to 80 tapped their toes in delight as the young fiddlers played. They presented a varied selection from many eras of music.

One spectator described the show as similar to the renowned performance of *Riverdance*. Many guests took home one of the group's CDs as a reminder of a most enjoyable evening.

The next concert in this series will be presented by Viviza, a salon ensemble on Saturday, February 28.

Tickets are still available for the two remaining concerts in the series. Call Nancy Angermeyer at 539-3217 for more details.

Christmas events

Saturna students are not going to let "the Grinch" steal Christmas.

Come out on Friday night at 7 p.m. to see how they will save the day. Admission to the school Christmas Concert is a donation of a non-perishable food item for the local Christmas

hampers. Refreshments will follow the performance.

• Santa will come sailing in on December 13 at 10 a.m. when the Christmas Ship arrives at the government wharf.

• Sunday, December 14, St. Christopher's Church will host a Sunday school party and an advent service before the community Candlelight Dinner.

• On Monday evening the Community Club will meet to discuss local business. All week Santa's helpers will be very busy, so make sure to mark these events on your calendar well in advance.

RECYCLING DEPOT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: the depot is always closed Sundays and Mondays. As well, it will be closed: Dec. 24th, 25th, 26th & 27th. We will be closed Jan. 1st also. The depot staff wish you all happy and safe holidays.

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Upcoming lecture focus is on Ayurvedic healing

Ayurveda, the traditional healing system of India, will be the topic of an upcoming lecture at Salt Spring Centre.

Sidney resident Stephen Cox, who runs a private practice in Ayurvedic medicine, will give the lecture on December 16 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

According to Salt Spring Centre spokeswoman Diane Kent, Ayurveda is the oldest recorded system of healing. It has recently been popularized by the best-selling books of Deepak Chopra.

Ayurveda distinguishes itself from other healing systems by its focus on health rather than disease. Merely combatting disease or eradicating symp-

oms is not considered complete treatment. Finding and treating the root cause of disease naturally is essential until the individual regains health, happiness and vitality.

Cox spent three years studying Ayurveda in Canada, the United States and India. He practises traditional Ayurveda using herbs, minerals and diagnostic techniques.

His lecture will describe how the physical treatments of the Panch Karma fit into the system. One of these treatments, Swedan, is offered at Salt Spring Centre.

Admission to the lecture is by donation.

Have WE got YOUR Number?

The Lions Club will soon begin work on the 1998-99 SSI Directory

Personal Listings:

If you are not in last year's Directory but want to be in the next one....If your phone is not listed in your name but you want to be listed....if you live on Salt Spring and don't have a telephone but want to be listed so people will know where you are...complete and mail the pre-paid, pre-addressed "New or Change of Information" card found in the Directory.

Business Listings:

a) If you are in the current Directory, do nothing - you will automatically receive an information package early in January (If you've moved, call and tell us your new address!);

b) If you are not in the current Directory, but wish to advertise in the next edition, call us at 653-2000 and tell our answering machine your name, address, telephone number and that you would like an "Advertiser Information package". You will receive your package early in January.

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ISLANDER OF THE WEEK



Eleven-year-old Garner Lea was born at Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring. Attending Grade Six at Salt Spring Middle School, Garner enjoys soccer, basketball and the Stingray Swim Team. He wants to be a computer engineer when he grows up. If he could live anywhere in the world, Garner would take up residency in Italy.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Cheese ball recipe offered with a 'tail'

By TERRA TEPPER
Driftwood Contributor

In the spirit of the season, I'd like to share a Christmas "tail" with you.

Many years ago my husband and I attended a company Christmas party, and observed a very low coffee table loaded with hors d'oeuvres. The centerpiece was a large, imported wheel of Brie.

We also observed the presence of a big old English sheepdog in the room. Caught up in conversation, we didn't notice the departure of the dog and the Brie until we looked out the sliding glass door into the garden and saw the Brie between the dog's paws.

Brie is my favourite cheese and this was a big loss. The hostess passed it all off with a laugh and took us into another room to admire the host's latest paintings. When we returned, the rest of the hors d'oeuvres were under the coffee table, having been swept onto the floor by the dog's tail. The only one to enjoy hors d'oeuvres that day was the dog.

But you will enjoy this cheese

WHAT'S COOKING

ball which I have made on many occasions, always remembering to keep it off a low coffee table.

TWO-CHEESE BALL

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 container McLaren's Imperial cheddar in the red box
8 drops Tabasco sauce
1 tsp. finely chopped garlic
Chopped walnuts or pecans

Cream all except the nuts together very well and add 1 Tbs. very finely chopped onion and 1 tiny jar of pimiento, finely chopped as well. Form into a ball, roll in chopped nuts and chill. Serve with assorted crackers.

Happy holidays to all.

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Tough job but someone has to taste all these wines

The town of Whistler is spectacular on its own, but combine it with a blockbuster three-day food and wine event and it leaves you speechless. Well, almost.

Cornucopia began November 7 with an afternoon trade tasting in the MacDonald Ballroom of the Chateau Whistler.

Approximately 50 wineries from B.C., Oregon, Washington and California presented their wares to people in the wine business and to those who might be helpful in selling their wines. The private reserves and award-winning wines predominate here because, presumably, the people present know something about what they're tasting.

The "Crush" is the "gala" event of the festival — 600 tickets sold at \$50 each. It's in the same ballroom with even more wine and a lot more food. There is a "cook-off" with about 15 chefs given 45 minutes to create a dish from the ingredients arranged along one wall of the room.

Wine is still the major focus and we all are taking copious notes in our programs on the various wineries and wines. I'm most impressed by Duck Pond wineries from Oregon, and with Iron Horse from Sonoma, and with Mumm Cuvee Napa, but I certainly don't get a chance to try everything. I try, though, believe me I try.

Saturday is an information day starting for me at 10 a.m. with Pinot Noirs of the West Coast. It's tough blind-tasting nine pinots at this time of the day, but someone has to do it. The win-

ners here are Quail's Gate Family Reserve 1995, Duck Pond Special Reserve 1994 and Iron Horse 1996.

The winemakers on the discussion panel talk about the difficulty of growing Pinot Noir grapes, prompting the question, "If Pinot is so difficult to make why do you guys grow it?"

Andy Agudelo of Iron Horse Vineyards responds, "Because when you make it really well, it's awesome."

It's a dramatic demonstration of how much influence the vintner has over the style of wine.

At noon there is a seminar entitled A Day in the Life of a Winemaker, another nine wines to taste and more revelations about wine making. The highlight of this session is tasting three very different Pinot Blancs all from the same vineyard and in the same year.

It's a dramatic demonstration of how much influence the vintner has over the style of wine. If you get a chance try Hester Creek's Estate, which has no oak; Reserve, little oak; and Signature, oak aged — all Pinot Blancs and all lovely wines in their own styles.

The feast we choose for the Winemakers Dinner is at Quattro Restaurant and features the wines from J. Lohr Winery. I notice that

THE GRAPE VINE

BY STEVE COOPMAN



the first course of cioppino, Livorno-style — a flavourful combination of fish and shellfish in a lightly herbed broth — goes better with the Bay Mist Riesling '96 than the suggested Riverstone Chardonnay '95.

The best wine of the evening is the Cypress Merlot '95. It com-

plements perfectly the roasted duck breast on shaved fennel as well as the main course of rack of lamb in a mustard and fresh herb crust and grilled de-boned

Cornish game hen.

Wine of the month

Take note of Walnut Crest Merlot 1997 from Chile and grab some bottles while you can. I wanted to tell you about this wine last month but for a while it was unavailable.

This is an excellent wine, supple, smooth and flavourful, with ripe berry on the attack and good earth, chocolate and coffee in the development and with a pleasing finish. It's a superb buy at \$9.45. Buy a case and drink now and over the next two years.

By the way, I apologize for mistakenly identifying, in last month's column, that Columbia Crest Merlot came from California. It is, of course, from Washington, an area that is getting increasing attention for the quality of its merlot. This wine was the favourite of the night at a tasting/art exhibition at Thunderbird Gallery this fall.

Cheers!

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Penny Quinlan, B.Ed. (Uvic), D.P.E. (Scotland), a fine Grade 4 teacher and a multi-talented athlete, believes that in school work (as in adult life) an 'I can' attitude is important.

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The faith state is 'vital to life'

According to a traditional, dichotomous way of thinking, faith is reserved for belief in God.

Others identify themselves as agnostics (undecided/it matters little) or atheists (there is no God). This bifurcated way of thinking that separates believer from nonbeliever needs to be rethought. What I am proposing here is that the "faith state," whether as belief in God or not, is vital to life itself. Full stop.

Of course, for theists, faith means, above all, belief in God and the practice of a code of conduct that follows from that belief. For nontheistic humanists, transformation of oneself and the world must be achieved by humanity itself, without help from any imagined transcendent power. But even for agnostics or atheists, I maintain that the faith state still carries significant benefits.

How so? My argument here follows from a novel and insightful definition of faith elaborated by Paul Tillich in his book *Dynamics of Faith* (1957). Having faith, Tillich says, is "the state of being ultimately concerned."

Faith is whatever "can claim ultimacy for a human life or the life of a social group." Some theologians have qualified Tillich's definition of faith as being too impersonal. How, for example, do you pray to or connect with an ultimate concern?

Yet Tillich's definition is valid in the sense that it connects faith to psychology, something that all human beings share, whatever their belief system, and to the experiment of real living. His definition takes the argument about faith and God out of the framework of logical analysis, of proof and counter-proof (the head) and puts it squarely into the existential arena, into real life (where I live). The faith state according to this definition is not something that you and I can argue about, to be proven or to disprove. It is something that, inevitably, we live.

Put differently, faith as the ultimate concern is our driving motivation, whatever takes on an absolute character for us, whatever becomes our main preoccupation. It represents the values by which we orient our life. In this sense, there is no one who does not possess faith of a kind, no one without a god, no soul without something to worship.

Now the substance of faith differs widely, of course, and the object of this faith matters much. But it is important at the first levels to identify the process at work. For some, being in the faith state may mean pre-eminently the search for success, fame, love, power or money. For others, it may be acquiring an academic degree

PILGRIM'S NOTES

WITH JACK McLEAN



or a profession, having children or a successful family life. But Tillich's key word is "ultimate." This points, not primarily to temporal things which preoccupy us sporadically at different moments in our lives, but to those lasting values that will still matter when we close our eyes for the last time.

Nature, according to the expression, abhors a vacuum. So too does spiritual life — and "spiritual" here refers to all human beings with spirit; that is, all of us. Where ultimate or anxious concern is lacking, we shall long to fill the void with something else. It may be anything, even one that seriously undermines our well-being or benefits us little in the end. If our spiritual life is not filled with something noble or a worthy goal, some transcendent force, some life philosophy, with the true and/or the beautiful, then despair, meaninglessness and hopelessness will begin to saturate our vision.

We shall start to drift aimlessly, become jaded, sceptical or embittered, living for the thrill of the moment. Saddest of all, we may never discover who we really are. That is the strangest irony — to live a lifetime with yourself and not know who you really are. That is to be truly lonely.

Trust and courage are particularly important virtues of living in the faith state. Briefly, it is the practice of informed trust, the inverse of "blind faith," that brings things as yet unattained from the realm of the invisible into the visible world. Trust means believing that what has not yet come to pass will assuredly do so. Faith as trust is what the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews called "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (11:1).

Now who of us will undertake an important project without first believing that it will happen? The faith state is also coupled with courage, with the ability to risk, to venture into creative enterprises and to think imaginatively. The "knight of faith" must boldly dare to win the prize.

But in the final analysis who among us really wants to be counted as an unbeliever? Who is really proud to affirm unbelief? Power comes from affirmation, not from denial. Whatever we affirm as being the ultimate thing in our life, there is our God.

McLean can be reached for comment or discussion by phone (537-5135), by fax (537-9808) or e-mail: jmclean@salt-spring.com



Sweet treat
Choices worker Jesse Schramm appears beside an amazing gingerbread and candy creation. The gingerbread village, made by Mike Kavanagh, is part of a Choices raffle. Creation of the cake involved some \$70-\$80 worth of candy and close to eight pounds of icing sugar. The raffle, which also features other gift items, is set to take place on December 23. Photo by Derrick Lundy

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Steaks 3.92kg		FLEETWOOD UKRAINIAN, KOLBASSA OR HAM Sausage 300g	3.68 ea	FRESH WHOLE FRYING Chicken 2 per bag 2.60kg	1.18 lb
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		1.08kg	10lb bag	1.30kg	pink 56's
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GENERAL FOODS International Coffees	3.29 tin	KELLOGG'S Rice Krispies 700g	3.69	KRAFT Peanut Butter 1kg	3.99
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Fernwood raises \$629

Fernwood Elementary School students proved to be proficient fundraisers for the 1997 UNICEF Hallowe'en campaign.

Students collected \$629.54, which Thrifty Foods agreed to match, bringing total donations to \$1,259.08.

The task of sorting, counting and rolling coins was done by Joyce Weir's Grade 1 students, along with their "big buddies" in Grade 4 classes taught by Pat Gordon and Susan Lee.

Deadline: 2 p.m. Monday

Driftwood Classifieds

RATES

Regular Classifieds

20 words or less
\$8.50
Additional words
25¢ each

3 for 2

Run your ad for 2 weeks and get a third week FREE!
Private party, merchandise ads only.
Sorry, no refunds, no changes.

Discount Thursday:

20% off Regular Classifieds placed in person on Thursday (cash or direct debit only, please)

Too late to classify

20 words or less
\$10.50
Additional words
35¢ each
May only be placed between 2 p.m. Monday and noon Tuesday preceding publication

Display Classifieds

\$10.75 per column inch (minimum size one inch)
Border: Add \$2
Frequency discounts available

Network Classifieds

Your ad runs in 100 community newspapers in B.C. and Yukon
25 words or less
\$290

DEADLINE

2 p.m. Monday

PAYMENT

- We can accept payment by cash, direct debit, Mastercard or Visa.
- Classifieds are prepaid unless you have an advertising account.

PLACING AN AD

- In person at our office at 328 Lower Ganges Road, Ganges
- By telephone, 250-537-9933, or fax, 250-537-2613
- By email to driftwood@gulfislands.com
- By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3.

CATEGORIES

- Announcements
- Employment
- Business Services
- Merchandise
- Real Estate
- Rentals

POLICIES

Please check your ad after the first insertion. Should an error appear in an advertisement, Driftwood Publishing Ltd. is only liable for the amount paid for the space occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion.

Announcements

5 BIRTHS

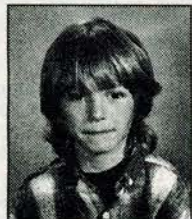
COBANLI-OLIVER-Janey and Chris are pleased to announce the birth of Leyla Rose, 8 lbs., 12 oz. in Vancouver on November 20, 1997. A sister for Sara.

BUCKLEY, JIM, Bronwen and big brother Colin, are very happy to bring home Andrew James. Born December 4, weighing 7 lb. 9 oz. Our thanks to Dr. Catherine Stubbs, the V.G.H. staff, and Dr. Holly Slakov for their support.

6 DEATHS

JOLLIFFE, RUTH Bull Moore. Peacefully, on December 6, 1997, at her home on Salt Spring Island, BC, Ruth Bull Moore Jolliffe, in her 91st year, survived by her husband Edward since 1935, four children: Naomi, John (Solinus), Nancy and Thomas (all present when she passed away), eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. For many years she was active in the CCF and NDP (as a resident of Toronto, Rockwood and Ottawa) and she was proud of her role in assisting C.B.C. founders in 1934 and 1935. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Salt Spring Home Support Services.

SAYER - JESSIE, aged 96, passed away peacefully on November 28, 1997 at Greenwoods Care Facility. She was predeceased by her husband Linden, daughter Donald and brothers Jim and Al. Survived by sons Linden (Karen) and Jim (Marina), sister Lil, brother Dough (Muriel) and sisters-in-law Vi and Pearl. She'll also be sadly missed by her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jessie raised her family in New Westminster then retired to Salt Spring in 1964. She enjoyed 20 years on the island where she was active in the IODE and wrote a column for the Driftwood for several years. In 1984 she returned to New Westminster to be near her family but spent her final year in the loving environment of Greenwoods. Their constant kindness is very much appreciated. No service will be held by request.



Jesse Muellner - Hughes
May 6, 1990 - Dec. 6, 1997.

Beloved son of Caren Larsson passed away suddenly at Lady Minto Hospital. His family wish to extend an invitation to the community to gather at Beaver Point Hall Saturday, December 13, at 4pm. Potluck to follow. Anyone wishing to make a donation can do so at Island Savings Credit Union to the Jesse Hughes Memorial Fund #1196625.

8 CARDS OF THANKS

THANK YOU: Chico, Will and everyone who helped during the fire, for your supportive phone calls, etc. George and Pauline.

PHOENIX SCHOOL says thanks a lot to Greg Coles for hosting a great natural history field trip on his property.

THE JOLLIFFE Family thanks the Salt Spring Home Support Service "For your compassionate and truly magnificent attendance and care during the year-long passing of Ruth Moore Jolliffe at home. Without you it would have been very difficult. With you, it has been an experience we will long remember with gratitude. Thank you."

11 COMING EVENTS

PLANNING AN event? Check the Community Calendar for a schedule of community events and avoid double-booking. Located at the Driftwood Office, 328 Lower Ganges Rd.

CAROLE MATTHEWS Psychic taking appointments month of December, 537-2031. Join Carole on the Messenger Files radio show, AM 900, Saturday, 7 - 9 p.m. Call 1-888-594-8255.

MAKIN' BABIES porcelain doll studio invites you to an open house on Sunday, December 14, 1997, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., 319 Price Road. Everyone welcome! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Lynn & Eduard.

SALTSPRING MINOR Baseball Association annual meeting and election of officers. Wednesday, December 17, 7 p.m., Portlock Park. Everyone welcome. 537-5872.

GIFT CERTIFICATES for water-colour classes. Any amount. New beginner and intermediate classes starting January. Val Konig, 537-9531.

THE NUTCRACKER, a musical performed by Fulford School! Dress rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Thursday, December 11. Public invited. Performance December 11, 7 p.m., Fulford Hall. Admission by donation to the Food Bank.

BIRD COUNT. Salt Spring Island Christmas Bird Count Sunday, December 14. For more details telephone Nancy Braithwaite, 537-9335.

WIN 1998 MACK (\$165,850). 3,000 Tickets printed, \$100 each. Licence #R134031. Call 1-888-539-0575 or 1-403-538-4030. Visa/MC or send cheque collect via Greyhound to Grande Prairie SPCA.

Everlasting Summer

Last 5 days in '97
20% off everything!

Glazed pots, Bhuddas, bird baths, statues, stoneware, dried flowers, wreaths, arrangements, baskets, candles, cinnamon brooms, Circle of Friends. Sample Herbal Pantry's Rose & Lavender cake this weekend. Open 10-5 daily
194 McLennan 653-9418

Ten Incredible Product Lines Together for the

Home-Based Business Faire

Free Product Draws Refreshments
No Admission Charge

WHEN? Saturday, Dec. 13, 10am - 3pm.

WHERE? Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Clubhouse)

103 Bonnet Avenue, at the corner of Bonnet and Drake Rd.



The Salt Spring Island OCP bylaw has now received First Reading. Public Hearings regarding the OCP are planned for February, 1998. Copies of the Plan can be picked up at the Islands Trust Office in Grace Point Square, or read at the public library

11 COMING EVENTS

Restaurant House Piccolo's Menu Gourmand

Gratinated South-American Langoustine Provençale

Herb Roasted Supreme Of Chicken With Cognac-Green Peppercorn Cream Sauce

Zucotto Toscana: Italian Style Gateau With Moist Chocolate, Almond & Hazelnut Filling

\$29 / person Incl. Tax

The Full Dinner Menu Also Available
Open Six Nights A Week Closed Tuesdays

Restaurant House Piccolo 537-1844 108 Hereford Avenue

JULIETTE'S HAIR STUDIO

296 Wilkie Way - 537-9542

10-30% off all in stock items Dec. 10 - 13

AVEDA Aromatherapy pure plant & flower essence products for skin & hair.

AVEDA natural make-up

-Joico hair products
-Matrix Biologie hair products
-Icon men's products

GREAT GIFTS & SUPER STOCKING STUFFERS.

Heart of Salt Spring Island A community and economic development co-operative

Membership blitz continues Tues. to Sat. 10am - 3pm Between Love My Kitchen and the Fat Rascal

Our goal is to provide service for community investment, funding circles to aid with business and employment, networking of skills and services tracked with our local currency's and work towards equity based co-op housing and much more.

How about sponsoring a membership as a special gift, solstice, Christmas, New Year's?

Info 537-8008, 537-5737

47th Voyage of the

Christmas Ship

arriving this Saturday Dec. 13, ~ 6pm at Mouat's Dock

Reception with Santa and clowns to follow at Saltspring Island Middle School Gymnasium.

A joint project of the Bellingham & Salt Spring Lions Clubs.

11 COMING EVENTS



The Eighth Annual

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

December 12, 13, 14

Fri. 12 - 8 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

at MAHON HALL

THIS WEEKEND!

Over 45 Vendors! Enjoy the sights and sounds of an Island Style Christmas

Presented by Off Centre Stage

TWO DAY SALE

wearEverywear clothing

Top Brand Names
New Stock Arrivals!
Shirts, Sweaters, Leggings,
Yukon fleece and more...

XS to XXL
'Everywear' for the entire family!

Sale #1

Friday, Dec. 12 10-3
All Saints by-the-Sea

Sale #2

Saturday, Dec. 13 10-3
Central Hall
Visa & M/C accepted

Heather 537-9717
Linda 537-4094

Tuned Air presents

The Christmas Concert

directed by Bruce Ruddell
"... a pageant from a one room school-house"

sponsored by Mouat's Trading Company with the Fernwood Elementary School Choir

Dec. 10, 11, 12 & 13th 7pm at the Activity Centre

Adults \$15
Students \$6

Tickets at Sharon's, Mouat's Ticket Office, Murray's Brewplace and Stuff & Nonsense



T'ai Chi

T'ai Chi Classes BEGINNERS & ON-GOING Thurs. 9:30-10:30 am.

at Central Hall Thurs. 7-8pm SS Elem. School Orca Room

1ST CLASS FREE For more info, call Tao at 537-4487

11 COMING EVENTS

MELISSA SEARCY

BIG FRUIT & TILES

See you at the

LAST MINUTE SALE

Mahon Hall

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

AYURVEDA

The Traditional Healing System of India

Introductory talk with Stephen Cox, M.A.

of Water's Edge Herb Co., Sidney, B.C.

Tues., Dec. 16 at 7:30pm

at the SALT SPRING CENTRE

355 Blackburn Rd.

By donation

10% off Gift Certificates

for Massage Therapy, Hawaiian Temple Bodywork, Yoga Classes, Reiki.

Great gift idea for the Holidays!

Stewart Katz, R.M.T. Doris Neufeld, R.M.T. Carol Lamb, Reiki practitioner

Transformational Healing Arts Centre

#201 Lancer Building 537-9362

Offer valid until Dec. 20/97

St. Paul's Roman Catholic and Burgoyne United Churches'

CELEBRATION OF RECONSECRATION AND THANKSGIVING

Saturday, Dec. 13th

1:00 pm

Reconsecration: Burgoyne United Church

Reconsecration: St. Paul's Catholic Church

1:30 pm

Fulford Hall: Joint ecumenical singing, prayers and thanksgiving to all who supported repairs after the fires.

2:00 pm Refreshments

Everyone is invited to this historical event

Christmas Present idea from Parks & Recreation!

Punch Cards or books of 10 for any of our fitness classes, \$40 each.

- Pump Primers
- Step 'n' Strength
- Prime Time
- Cardio Plus
- Step 'n' Tone
- Saturday Step
- Total Body Conditioning

ALL CLASSES START THE FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY.

Call the PARC Office at 537-4448 for more information.

011 COMING EVENTS

**Getting Started in Genealogy
Your Family Roots**

3 courses start late January, 8 sessions each, Mon. or Thurs. eves. or Thurs. afternoons (max. 10 participants) \$150.

Or try the introductory seminar at Lions Centre, 9:30-3:30, Saturday, 17 Jan. only \$30.

Great Gift!!

for information and registration:

Wilfred H. Allan
Genealogical Services
537-8854 fax: 537-8983
godot@saltspring.com

**Transition House
~ News ~**

PLEASE HELP!

The house may close. To date \$1560 has come in from donors.

Without this generous response December 5 would have seen a balance of \$700.00 for the Transition House.

We the Gulf Islands Women's Resource Network have

- Opened Transitions Thrift Store to raise money for the house
- Continue to interact with the ministry of women's equality about funding
- Applied to CRD for assistance for after hour crisis line training costs
- Have applied to CMHC and Vancouver Real Estate Board for renovation grants

We need bridge financing. We need your help!

Donations can be made to:
Gulf Island Women's Resource Network (GIWRN)
Box 376, Ganges BC,
SSI V8K 2W1

Thank you, from Kerry Chalmers, Chair of Gulf Island Women's Resource Network

Let's insure a safe haven for women & Children over the Christmas Season.

Christmas with SCROOGE

By Virginia & Ray Newman (with apologies to Mr. Dickens)

**IT'S A PLAY!
IT'S A MUSICAL!
IT'S A PARTY!**

Fri. Dec. 19 ~ 7pm
Sat. Dec. 20 ~ 7pm
Sun. Dec. 21 ~ 2pm & 7pm

MAHON HALL

Tickets at et cetera \$3 kids under 12, \$7 adults

**OPENING NIGHT
SPECIAL: \$1 OFF ALL TICKETS**

Please bring a donation of a toy or food item for the Community Centre.

14 COMMUNITY SERVICES

CRISIS LINE for Salt Spring - toll-free 1-888-324-3299.

DRESSINGS FREE to cancer patients by the Order of the Eastern Star. Contact Dee Roberts, 653-4655.

FAMILIES OF Schizophrenics meet in homes for mutual support. Call 537-9237 or 537-5264.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS - Are you having a problem controlling your eating? If you're interested in helping yourself, we're interested in helping you. Info. call 537-5607.

14 COMMUNITY SERVICES

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS - Meetings 8 p.m. Thursday, in back of et cetera building, off Rainbow Road.

SALT SPRING ISLAND FOUNDATION "CATCH THE ISLAND SPIRIT"

Donations of cash, property or life insurance now or through your estate will help enrich the lives of Salt Spring Islanders for generations to come. "In Memoriam" gifts will be acknowledged with a card. Include names and addresses of recipient, next of kin and donor for tax receipt. Scholarships, land for parks, and relief of hardship are but a few directions in which your foundation serves the community. Please mail donations and requests for information to The Salt Spring Island Foundation, #2 - 110 Purvis Lane, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2S5 or call Bob Rush at 537-2501.

23 IN MEMORIAM



The Canadian Cancer Society appreciates your generous support. Please send name of deceased, name/address of next of kin and name/address of donor for tax receipt (VISA/MC accepted) to: Canadian Cancer Society 207 - 225 Canada Ave, Duncan, B.C. V9L 1T6 or 1-800-663-2524



Hayward's Funeral Service

320 Upper Ganges Rd.
Serving the Gulf Islands
Since 1867

Marge & Scotty Dickson
Don Goodman (Goody)
Licensed Funeral Directors

We honour all Memorial Society Contracts

**24 hr. service
537-1022**

26 LEGALS

PUBLICATION REQUEST

RE: CHANGE OF NAME
NOTICE is hereby given that an application will be made to the Director of Vital Statistics for a change of name, pursuant to the provisions of the "Name Act" by me: **GEOFFREY JOHN CHARLES DAVIDSON**, 112 Alders Ave., Ganges, B.C. V8K 2K5, to change my name from **PARKER**, Geoffrey John Charles, to **DAVIDSON**, Geoffrey John Charles. Dated this 3rd day of December, 1997. Signed by G. Davidson.

29 LOST AND FOUND

FOUND: TURQUOISE back pack, containing baby items, etc. Owner may claim at the Driftwood office.

LOST, TUESDAY, December 2, sun and moon watch in Ganges. Please call 537-1893.

FOUND, EYEGLASSES in green case, at Beddis & Fulford Ganges Roads. December 4. 4 pm. Lens not broken. Can be claimed at the Driftwood office.

FOUND ON Long Harbour, a fluffy grey & white male cat wearing a pale grey collar. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

Reduce Reuse Recycle

30 MARRIAGES

NANCY CAMERON, daughter of Mrs. Anna Cameron and the late Roy Cameron, and Paul Mowbray, son of Dr. and Mrs. John Mowbray of Salt Spring Island, were married November 30, 1997. The ceremony took place in the Mowbray's home with Elizabeth Andersen officiating. Christina Ross and Tom Graham acted as attendants. Very special guests were Nancy's children: Kate, Jana, Ryan and her grandson Solomon. Friend Peter Allan took the photographs. Following the ceremony, Jane Becklake and Shilo Zylbergold hosted a reception, with the help of many friends, at their home on Goodall Road.

34 NOTICES/PERSONAL

WIDOWER, 65 years old, would like to meet a lady for companionship. Interested in fishing & farming. Reply to Department "L", c/o Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC. V8K 2V3.

GALLERY CLASS paintings/drawings from your favorite photograph. 537-1975.

LISA SIGURGEIRSON (A.K.A. Maxx) would like her friends to know they are welcome to visit her in Room 209 at The Gorge Hospital, 63 Gorge Road, Victoria, daily from 2 - 8 p.m. Lisa would also enjoy mail, phone messages, 653-4885 or Email, landsend@bc.sympatico.ca - Thank you and Holiday greetings from Lisa & her family.

Farewell

A personal venture in Munich, Germany is taking us away. So we want to bid our many dearest friends and acquaintances a warm heartfelt farewell - and apologize for not being able to reach you personally. Salt Spring has been a wonderful and spiritual home for us. Being part of this community will be a memorable chapter in our lives. Salt Spring is the Center of the Universe. Have a great Christmas and healthy New Year everyone! Hugs, handshakes and lots of love. Susi, Axel, Jessica and Melissa. P.S. We'll be back - time will tell!

35 NOTICES/COMMERCIAL

FOOD BANK donations are being accepted at the Driftwood.

THE S.P.C.A. CHRISTMAS Appeal Envelopes have been delivered to all homes accepting unaddressed mail. If you didn't get one and would like to contribute, envelopes are available at KIS. S.P.C.A. calendars are also available.

Barb's Buns

Barb's fruity nutty boozy cakes are available for the Holiday Season.

Mon - Sat 6am - 5:30pm
537-4491

"Creekside on McPhillips"

SYLVAN FORESTRY

Forester, Logger & Arborist
Terry Gordon
537-0017

- private forestland stewardship
- environmental harvesting
- danger trees (B&B's, driveways & residences)
- prune for sunlight & view
- wind hazards
- wild life trees
- gary oak, arbutus, maple
- fruit trees
- hedges
- land restoration
- unstable slopes & erosion

35 NOTICES/COMMERCIAL

waterfront gallery
Excellence in Island Crafts

CHRISTMAS is upon us

Are you still searching for that perfect gift?



We won't let you leave empty-handed

next to the Post Office
open Mon-Sat from 10 to 5
Sun from 12 to 5
537-4525

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Holidays approach
Do you need help?
• At parties
• Cleaning the house
• In the yard
Call when you need us.
537-8800

MOBY'S CHRISTMAS HOURS

- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve
Closed at 5pm
- DEC. 25** Christmas Day Closed
- DEC. 26** Boxing Day Closed
- DEC. 31** New Year's Eve
Dinner 5 - 11pm
Dancing 9pm - 2am
- JAN. 1/97** New Year's Day
Brunch 11am - 3pm
- JAN. 1/97** New Year's Day
11am - midnight



Jill Louise Campbell
fine art

OPEN DAILY
the gallery has a price range for everyone...art cards made into special gift packs and 8 by 10 prints from \$17.50.

The gallery staff will assist you with framing on the spot.

Save 60% on select blemished frames

Everyone is welcomed to the gallery where *Art Touches the Soul!* on the Baordwalk - Harbour Building call 537-1589

Driftwood Classifieds
537-9933

40 PERSONALS

MATCHMAKER'S IS local, fun, low-priced and has all ages. Meet someone special. wkm@knet.kootenay.net Toll-free 1-888-368-3373.

DANNY IS about as personal as they come! Renew acquaintance with this former islander at "et cetera" this Friday, 2 p.m.

PSYCHIC SECRETS! Unlock your potential. Honest, accurate answers by Canada's most gifted Psychics. Live & Personal. 1-900-451-3778, 24hrs. 18+ \$2.99 per min. I.C.C.

CANADA'S BEST Meeting Place for singles talk openly to other adults for romance and more. Meet someone in the next 5 minutes. 011-592-588-758 L.D. only. 18+ call us.

CANADA'S MOST Gifted Psychics have answers to your problems or questions about health, love, relationships, money, lucky numbers. \$2.99/minute. 18+. 24 hours. 1-900-451-4336.

1998 FORECAST! WHAT is in store for you in 1998? Love? Money? Call today for your 1998 reading 1-900-451-7865, 24hrs, 18+, \$3.99/min.

42 TRAVEL



RIVERDANCE SAT. FEB. 14/98
Day trip including ferry, bus transfers and Orchestra Level tickets, \$139 per person.
GREAT GIFT IDEA!
Call us first at **THE TRAVEL SHOP 537-9911**
M-F 9am-4:30 • Sat 9am-2

UNIGLOBE Travel
156 Fulford Ganges Rd. (in Creekhous)
537-5523

Employment

50 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GOVERNMENT FUNDS. Government assistance programs information available. For your new or existing business. Take advantage of the government grants and loans. Call 1-800-505-8866.

CHRISTIAN BUSINESS: up to 81% profit for you or your ministry. No inventory. Home based servicing Christian Market. Complete training and support. Select territories 1-800-663-7326.

INTERNET EXPLOSION! \$186 Billion by 2000. Revolutionary system. Seize it! Apply now for the world's fastest growing Internet Franchise. Investment required. 1-888-678-7588.

THE FUTURE has arrived in Canada! Surf the Internet from your TV! Join this prosperous business. This is your chance to be Financially Free!! 1-800-988-7600 or 1-360-992-0868 collect.

ABSOLUTELY #1: LEADERS only need apply. For information and to set up an interview call: 1-(800)-995-0796, Extension 2117.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY - I made 1100 \$\$\$ my first week in New Canadian home-based nutrition business. Opening U.S. '98. Call Brian 24hrs. for free info 1-888-943-3277.

WCB ACCREDITED/CSA Standard. Occupational Scuba Courses: New legislation took effect 01/01/97 which requires trade certification for commercial scuba. We offer: Working Diver's Upgrade & Basic Occupational Scuba. For more information call us Toll-free: 1-888-356-2288. Nordlys Diving Ltd.

CHOOSE YOUR Career/start your own business. Earn an international diploma. A.I.N.S. offers over 100 home study programs. Alternative health, counselling, self-improvement, nutrition, new age, business, sports, Beauty, writing. Free Prospectus 1-888-516-1212 (z). http://www.tains.com. We have a career for you!

*** REDUCE *
* REUSE *
* RECYCLE ***

55 HELP WANTED

LOSE WEIGHT fast and safely. Make a head start on New Year's. Call Geoff, 537-1456 or 1-801-323-1703.

EXPERIENCED LEGAL secretary required in the New Year. Reply in writing with resume to Dept. M, c/o The Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, V8K 2V3.

LABOURER & CARPENTER'S helper required for residential construction project. 537-1796.

CALAWAY PARK is western Canada's largest outdoor amusement park located 10km west of Calgary on the Trans Canada Highway. We currently have opportunities available for a full-time electrician and full-time millwright/mechanic. Applicants must be self-motivated and have broad and diverse knowledge in their field. They will be able to tackle a variety of complex and challenging projects effectively and efficiently and possess strong inter-personal and communication skills required for a team environment. We offer competitive wages and an attractive benefits package. If you are interested in either position, please fax your resume in confidence to: Garry Jacobson, Maintenance Manager, Calaway Park, Fax 1-403-242-3885 or drop it off at Calaway Park Monday through Friday 8:30a.m.-5p.m. Close date is December 19, 1997.

BUSINESS IS Booming in northern Alberta. Technicians at Fairview Ford Sales Ltd can't keep up and need help. Looking for two automotive Ford experienced technicians. Excellent wages and benefit package. Call Brian at 1-800-238-8838 or fax resume to: 1-403-835-3401.

PAINT DEPARTMENT Manager required for progressive Home Hardware Building Center. Experience an asset. Must excel in customer service. Responsible for merchandising and selling Benjamin Moore and Beauty Tone Paints. Excellent benefit package, profit sharing, great young community. Send resume to: Wayne Krick 1-403-542-6073. E-mail: WKRICK@telusplant.net. 1-403-542-4044.

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL Exchange- Ages 18-30 with agricultural experience to live/work with family in Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Japan. Costs/details 1-800-263-1827. Calgary, Alberta.

SENIOR ESTIMATOR for industrial equipment manufacturer. Machine shop background and experience in conventional/CNC equipment required. Excellent opportunity. Fax resumes to: U-MAN International (604)683-7583.

AUTOCAD DRAFTER required by Northern B.C. company. F/T position available for responsible/organized person with technical program diploma. Please fax DB Drafting & Design (250)774-7843.

AUTOMOTIVE CONTROLLER. Required: CMA/CA for Planned Growth and Expansion. If you are a leader, team player, "Hands On Worker" with strong computer skills and can implement a business plan. We offer strong management team, great staff and an unmatched record of national and provincial business awards. Located 60 min. from Vancouver. Affordable area. Resume to: Merton Pontiac, Buick, GMC Ltd., Attn: Harry Merton, 45930 Airport Rd. Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 1A2. E-Mail merton@uniserve.com. Fax: (604)795-2723.

THE GOLDEN Star has an immediate opening for a reporter-photographer. Responsible for hard/soft news, features, arts/entertainment and sports. Fax resume to: (250)344-7344.

SSI Employment Services 537-4662

Are you unemployed? We have a variety of programs available to help you find work and achieve financial independence. No charge for this service. Call 537-4662 to receive help with your job search. Located in the Lancer Building at #204 - 321 Lower Ganges Rd.

WANTED ADS REALLY WORK FOR YOU!
Try our special offer:
"Buy 2 ads, get one free"
Private party merchandise ads only Visa/MC/Cash
537-9933

60 WORK WANTED

ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS, finish carpentry. Need help building your new home? Call Steve 537-5345. 35 years building on Salt Spring.

WORLD FAMOUS on Salt Spring for exceptional renovations. Call Peter Blackmore for advice and estimates to improve your home. 537-4382.

I NEED work! You need your house cleaned for Christmas! Heather has 10 years experience. Call me at 537-4738.

THE JOB Line. Yard maintenance, painting, house cleaning. Reliable, quick and economical. \$8/hour. Call Brad White at 537-9525.

WOOD SPLITTING, eaves, landscaping, gardening, clean-up, interior painting, etc. \$10 - 12 per hour. Message Superfast Services. 537-9422 Monday - Friday, 9 - 5.

THE HANDYMAN Service. Mature and knowledgeable in all aspects of home maintenance, repairs and renos. Phone 537-1810.

TRUSTWORTHY, RELIABLE lady with much experience and references will clean and treat your home as my own. Please call 537-5636.

Business Services

100 ACCOUNTANTS

John T. McMullan
Public Accountant
150-1 Fulford Ganges Rd.
537-1550

105 ARCHITECTS

Jonathan Yardley
Architect
Providing full architectural services. Initial consultation free
1121 Beaver Point Road
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
V8K 1X2
Ph: 653-4931 Fax: 653-9931
Cel: 537-7631

106 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNERS

LET'S GET STARTED!
Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.

CALL HELSET DESIGN
537-1037
ask for Jim

110 AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS

AIR MILES are here!
PAYLESS
We value the island!
COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS
Unleaded Fuels • Diesel Tires • Batteries • Accessories
537-4554 or 537-9300
Monday-Saturday 8 am-7 pm
Sunday 9 am-6 pm
Corner of Rainbow Rd. and Jackson Ave.

PROMPT, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

DON IRWIN COLLISION LTD.
• Certified Body Men
• Expert Body & Frame Work
• Custom Painting
• Glass Work
• ICBC Claims
• Rust Check Service
537-2513
115 Desmond Cresc., Ganges

118 CARPENTERS

QUALITY, PROFESSIONAL Carpentry for a reasonable price. Remodelling or additions, upgrades for better resales. Phone Paul 537-4966.

125 CHILD CARE

TREE FROG Day Care has openings for 6 months to Kindergarten. Qualified staff, with part time or drop in available. Call Janice at 653-4998.

131 CLEANING SERVICES

GULF ISLAND WINDOW CLEANERS JANITOR SERVICE
* Carpets Steam Cleaned *
* We also offer CARPET GUARD TREATMENT *
537-9841

134 CONCRETE

GULF COAST MATERIALS
Serving the Gulf Islands
Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Penders
* READY MIX
* WASHED GRAVEL
* REINFORCED STEEL
* BAGGED CEMENT
* SEPTIC TANKS
* SCAFFOLDING RENTAL
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Rainbow Road

137 CONTRACTORS

Villadsen Construction (1980) Ltd.
"QUALITY HOMES OF DISTINCTION"
231 Saltspring Way,
Salt Spring Is., B.C. V8K 2G6
Serving Salt Spring for 32 years
Telephone
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• CUSTOM HOMES
• RENOVATIONS
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Over 25 years on S.S.I.
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UNICORN CONSTRUCTION

Remodel, Repair, Renovate... most of all, Reliable!
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Residential & Commercial
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143 DRAPERIES

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FREE ESTIMATES AND INSTALLATION
Vertical • Roller • Venetian
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146 DRYWALL

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Serving the Gulf Islands since 1974
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
• Drywalling with machines
• Insulating & vapour barrier
• Texture ceilings & walls
• Vinyl board & steel studding
• Priming of wallboard
FREE ESTIMATES on renovations and new work
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cel: 537-7046
Brian Little

148 ELECTRICAL

ACCENT ELECTRIC LTD.
ANDRE 537-2156
COMMITMENT IS THE PRICELESS INGREDIENT!

151 EYEGLASSES

Gulf Islands Optical
Tuesday-Friday 10:00-5:00
Closed Saturdays
323 Lower Ganges Road (Lancer Building)
RICHARD WEATHERALL (Optician)
537-2648 Office
537-5294 Residence

152 FIREWOOD

WOOD: CUT, split and delivered to your specifications. Get ready for winter now! Please call Walter. 653-4877.

KONIG & SON FIREWOOD
Serving Salt Spring 15 years
Competitive & Reliable
FIREWOOD LOGS WANTED (will compensate owner)
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160 HEALTH & FITNESS

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163 INSURANCE

Salt Spring Insurance Agencies (1972) Ltd.
Motor Vehicle Office
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All Classes Of Insurance
OFFICE HOURS:
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Monday - Friday
537-5527
Fax 537-9700
115 Fulford-Ganges Rd., Ste 1104
Salt Spring Island. V8K 2T9

165 LAWYERS

MAJOR ICBC Injury Claims. We take the fear out of ICBC. Joel A. Wener, Trial Lawyer for 28 years. Call free 1-800-665-1138. Contingency fees. Simon, Wener & Adler.

174 MOVING & STORAGE

SALT SPRING MINI STORAGE
SAFE, CONVENIENT & ECONOMICAL
RATES FROM \$49/MONTH
Features:
• Electronic access
• Security monitoring
• Climate controlled
• One level loading
• 8 affordable sizes
LEGALLY ZONED AND INSURED
SAFER THAN ANY OLD BARN!
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176 MUSIC LESSONS

PIANO LESSONS. Special Christmas package, kids or adults. Improvise, compose, have fun! Qualified, creative teacher, Fulford, January 1. Leave message at 1-250-598-6772 (Victoria), or 653-9550.

183 PAINTING

TOM VOLQUARDSEN
537-5188
P.O. Box 385
Ganges Post Office
SSI, BC V8K 2W1
Wall papering & painting

Painting Professionally Performed
Phone Paul (John) 537-2732

195 PLUMBING

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING and PROPANE FITTING NEEDS CALL...
"Lee the Plumber"
* 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE *
Tel. 537-1068
New and old construction

WHAT IS A NETWORK CLASSIFIED?
A Network Classified is an ordinary classified ad that appears in all 106 member newspapers of the B.C. and Yukon Community Newspaper Association. If you want to reach over 3,000,000 readers for only \$290. (up to 25 words), call GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD 537-9933 FAX 250-537-2613

196 PRINTERS

Barnyard Grafix
FOR PRINTING IMAGESETTING AND DESIGN
Where Imagination runs Wild
T: 537-1897

203 RENTALS

PARTYTIME RENTALS - We rent dishes, glassware, cutlery, linen, tables, chairs, assorted party supplies. 537-4241/days, 537-4577 (evenings.)

RAINBOW RENTALS LTD.
HOURS:
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Holidays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays
Equipment Rental Sales & Service
537-2877
FAX 537-5504
364 Lower Ganges Rd. (next to GVM)

213 SEWING

ALTERATIONS & REPAIRS. Reline, Resew, Revamp, Refit, Remake. Attention to detail & personal concerns. Margie Korrison, Vesuvius Bay, 537-2707.

231 TREE SERVICE

Wayne Langley
Gulf Island Tree Services
• Dangerous trees •
• Sectional removal
• Views, limbing & Topping
• Forest landscaping for fire safety and beauty.
537-1728

239 UPHOLSTERY

Blue Velvet Upholstering
325 Rainbow Rd.
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CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY

ISLANDER DRAPERY & UPHOLSTERY
Call for an appointment
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241 VACUUM SYSTEMS

VACUUMS
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• Commercial & Residential Vacuums
• Bags & Belts
Friendly Service from people you trust
SALT SPRING Linen & Dry Cleaners
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FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN THE DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS
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Merchandise

300 ANTIQUES

BEAUTIFUL, ANTIQUE single mahogany sleigh beds, two sets. Fully equipped, ready for Bed and Breakfast. Sold as a set, \$2000. Nancy 537-9510.

302 APPLIANCES

HEAVY DUTY commercial upright Frigidaire freezer, power defrost and freeze. 10.7 cu. ft., 3 years old. \$900 new, asking \$400 obo. 537-2060.

QUALITY APPLIANCES available at Sandpiper Supply, located in the Home Design Centre, 320 Upper Ganges Road. Kitchen Aid, Whirlpool, Hotpoint, G.E., Maytag, Dacor, Sub Zero and more! Free delivery to your home. Call Dave or Mary-Anne at 537-5035.

304 AUTOMOTIVE

4 - 215/75R 15 GOOD YEAR all season steel belted radials. Approximately 70% tread left. \$75. 538-0070.

305 BOATS & MARINE

14' ALUMINUM LAKE boat, \$250 obo or trade. 537-2590.

310 BUILDING SUPPLIES

ATTENTION - WATER Systems. For Sale. - PVC only 20 ft. lengths of 4 inch PVC 160 p.s.i. potable approved pipe. Located on Galiano. For further info. Phone 539-2444.

SKIL Cordless Screwdriver
3.6v \$33.98
A GREAT GIFT IDEA!
OPEN Mon.-Fri. 7am - 5:30pm Sat. 8am-5:30pm
166 Rainbow Rd.
537-5564
Fax 537-1207
Windsor Plywood

315 CARS & TRUCKS

MERCEDES 280E 1977, AUTO, p.s., p.b., air conditioning, sunroof, 110,000, service records. Very good condition. \$6500. 537-4855.

NEED A reliable 4 wheel drive car this winter and don't want to spend big bucks? 1981 Eagle in very good condition. \$2400, 537-0886.

1981 BUICK SKYLARK, V6, auto, good tires, good running condition, \$875. Phone 653-9220.

1992 NISSAN PATHFINDER XE-V6 4 wheel drive. Comes with excellent snow tires. 653-4230.

1975 MGB, DARK green, new brakes and starter. Runs well! \$3,200. 653-4464.

1982 VOLVO 240 SERIES. \$1200 obo. Runs, but needs work. 537-0853.

1989 JEEP CHEROKEE Limited, loaded, leather. 537-2182.

CHEVY PICK-UP 1976, 3/4 ton, 350, auto. Very solid work truck. Works just fine. Asking \$1500 obo. Must sell. 537-5057.

MUST SELL. 1979 Corvette 350 automatic, new leather interior, glass T-tops, new Good Year Eagles. Immaculate condition. \$9500. 538-0070.

1983 VW WESTFALIA, automatic, excellent condition, auxiliary heaters, air cooled, great stereo, serviced regularly, \$7500. 537-0029.

92 ISUZU SPACE Cab, good shape, \$9,500. obo. Phone 537-1599.

85 TOYOTA 2 DOOR hatchback. Automatic, 98,000 kilometers. Runs great, with good rubber. \$1,800. Phone 537-9413 evenings.

1990 FORD VAN 6 cyl. auto Cargo Van, Great work truck \$6,500. Racks optional. 1986 Dodge Van V8 auto, Cargo Van, good work truck. \$3,500. Racks optional. 537-1068.

1984 FORD E-150 ECONOLINE Van. Good working condition. New shock absorbers, radiator, front brake pads. \$2200 obo. 537-1414.

315 CARS & TRUCKS

NEW & USED* Car/Truck Financing. No turn downs! Good credit, bad credit, no credit, even bankrupt. No one walks away, everyone drives away! Minimum \$1,500. down. Laura 1-888-514-1293.

SACRIFICE - FLEET Order Cancelled. G.M. and Dodge 4X4Ext-cabs and Quad Cabs, gas or diesel. Plus 2 only G.M. one ton diesel 4X4 Cab-chassis on Duals. (604)464-3941 Marty Kozak (604)525-0408.

SUMMER FLEET SELL-OFF

Heritage Rentals 537-4225 Days

- 1983 Cavalier 4dr. sedan, 4 cyl. automatic, good transportation...\$1150.
- 1985 Ford Tempo 4dr sedan, 4 cyl. automatic, air conditioning, power windows.....\$1650.
- 1985 Mercury Marquis 4dr sedan, automatic.....\$1750.
- 1987 Aries Wagon, automatic, new brakes.....\$1750.
- 1989 Ford Tempo 4 dr sedan, air conditioning, automatic...\$3250.
- 1986 Chrysler Fifth Ave., loaded.....\$2050.
- 1988 Mercury Sable 4dr. sedan, loaded.....\$4350.
- 1986 Olds 88 4 dr sedan, luxury.....\$1750.
- 1994 Ford Aerostar XLT, 7 pass. van, extended, dual, air conditioning.....\$14,250.
- 1994 Pontiac Sunrunner 4x4, auto, am/fm radio.....\$13,250.
- 1988 Dodge Cargo Van, 1 ton, heavy duty.....\$2750.

CALL ALEC EVENINGS 537-2581

315/171

330 FOOD PRODUCTS



AVALON EGG NOG IS HERE!
Dairy Free
YULE NOG
also available
by So Nice

AT THE

MOBILE MARKET

Plenty of parking at the rear.
Monday - Saturday 9-6
Creekside on McPhillips
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335 FURNITURE

DREXEL 5-PIECE bedroom suite, \$750. Oak computer desk, \$50. 5-drawer bureau, \$75. White wicker chair & table, \$50. 653-9518.

TWIN BEDS (mattress, boxspring and metal frame). Good condition. Two available. \$45 each. 537-9125.

BOOKCASES, CHINA and glass cabinets, metal file cabinets, plus antique wood rocking chair. 537-4117.

SINGLE MATTRESS, firm, slip-covered foam, very high quality, almost new. Was \$240, sell for \$125. 537-5130.

REDECORATING. MATCHING sofa & love seat. Pastel green/pink/beige with burgundy highlights. Chintz design. Excellent condition. \$900. 537-4763.

SOLID, LARGE OFFICE computer desk, left and right swing file cabinets, \$150. White Ikea kitchen table, \$25. 537-5277.

LOVELY 2 YEAR old (three or four seater) Couch - Cloth patterns of blues, tans and creams. \$375. Phone Carolyn 537-2682.

The Pine Factory

Vancouver Island's largest selection of quality pine furniture. Bedrooms, dining rooms, TV centres, bookcases, bunkbeds, futons, computer desks, and much more.

5201 Trans Canada Highway
1km South of Duncan
1-888-301-0051 (toll free)

335/08

340 GARAGE SALES

LIONS GARAGE Sale, 103 Bonnet Ave. Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday. 10 am - 12 noon. Come & browse, we just may have it. New merchandise arriving daily. Good, clean merchandise wanted. Call 537-2000 for pick-up or info.

GARAGE SALE Saturday & Sunday, December 13 & 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 295 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Giftware, books, household items, clothing, small appliances. No early birds.

MOVING SALE Saturday, December 13 - indoors. Antique furniture, dehydrator, electrical appliances, books, quality stuff. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 250 Booth Canal Rd.

GARAGE SALE: Complete shop - hand and machine tools from table saw to pro vac system. Also, 20 cu. ft. freezer, weedeater, and 4-drawer legal size file cabinet. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 263 Mountain View Drive off Sunset.

GARAGE SALE - 124 Humphreys Hill. 10:00 - 1:00 Grade 6, Fundraiser. December 13. No early birds please. Parking on Humphreys Hill.

SALT SPRING Island Lions Club weekly Garage Sale will be closed from December 13 and will re-open January 16. We will still be accepting donations. We would like to thank all who supported us over the last 6 months. See you in January. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13. 8 am - 2 pm. 124 Lawnhill Drive.

INDOOR GARAGE Sale. Stocking Stuffers galore. Beds, Pool Table, Desk & Chair, Outboard Motors, Stair Climber. Something for everyone. Saturday & Sunday, December 13 & 14. 10 am - 4 pm. 206 Roland Road. 653-2085.

MOVING SALE: 215 Margolin Dr. off North End, 9:30 - 1:00 p.m., Saturday, December 13, inside. Miscellaneous and poultry items. No early birds!

343 HEALTH SUPPLIES

ALLERGIES? ASTHMA? Healthguard Sleep Care System now available. Breathe and sleep better with the revolutionary protective mattress and pillow covers. Doctor approved. Call Andrea for information, brochure. Gift certificates available. 537-0860. Portion of proceeds go to the Lung Association.

350 MISC. FOR SALE

SNOWBOARD, used for two seasons, new \$800, asking \$375. 653-2322.

ADDRESS LABELS, rubber stamps, made to order - et cetera on Hereford. 537-5115.

STORAGE TANKS - Polyethylene water storage, septic. Whitewater Mechanical Sewage Treatment System for difficult areas. Gulf Islands Septic. 653-4013.

WE BUY & sell new & used chainsaws. Dealer for Jonsered, Sweden's oldest #1 saw company. Ross the Boss Equipt., 537-9908.

ROSS THE Boss Equipt. is again having a 20% off sale on Oregon chainsaw chain. Installation and saw cleaning free. 537-9908.

16" SILVER SUPREME western saddle, as new, \$1000. Two blankets, 80", suit quarter horse, excellent condition, \$90 each. 537-2341.

CHRISTMAS BIKE? GT BMX Dyno stunt bike, front and back pegs, \$200. Also, freezer, 21 cubic feet, older, \$125. 537-4888.

BUCKWHEAT HULL pillows, free delivery. People pillows and pet pillows. Call Ingrid, 537-2068.

CHRISTMAS TREES are ready. Choose and cut your own, 9 till 4, Friday thru Wednesday. 181 Beaver Point Road, 653-4250.

DELI DISPLAY cooler. Good looking and good running condition. 6 feet long. \$300. 537-2329.

HITACHI MICROWAVE. New king bed frame. Barbecue. Double boxspring and mattress. Smith Corona typewriter, Spellwrite II. Two Apollo 10-speeds. 653-9396.

CUSTOM HAND Knitting. Fishermen's Gansey sweaters knit with 5 ply Guernsey yarn; fair-isle, etc. Made by experienced knitter. 537-9554.

LEATHER WING-BACK chair & ottoman, \$400. 2 1940's Art Deco chairs, \$200. each. Washer & Dryer, \$75. for pair. Washer needs repair. 537-4944.

BUON CAFFE' model 330 espresso cappuccino maker, \$150. Ladies marquis coral leather jacket, new, \$100. 537-1150.

THE SALE on now until December 13th at the Salt Spring Home Design Centre, 320 Upper Ganges Road (at Robinson) 537-2111. See Display Ad in this paper.

VANS LEMMING snowboarding boots, size 8, excellent condition, over \$200 new, selling for \$150. Lots of features. Call evenings, 537-1353.

PERFECT PARROTS! We hand raise incredibly tame, gentle, quiet, adorable parrots, now ready for adoption. \$800. each. Barter considered. 537-0838.

POOL TABLE (4'x8'), pool and snooker balls, lots of cues, \$450. 537-1948.

FOR SALE. Child car seat. Faxphone. 537-4724.

JUST IN time for Christmas. Furnished dollhouse, \$50. 5 mph programmable treadmill, \$250. Handmade 12-drawer dresser, \$150. Banker's table, laminate top, 1 middle drawer, \$75. Exercise bike, \$75. Phone 537-2620.

WANTED: REASONABLE toys for toddler - blocks, trains, toy horses, etc. - by single mom for Christmas gifts. 537-0853.

LARGE WOODSTOVE, CSA approved, older, oblong, works well. Includes electric fan and 6" stove pipe. \$115. 537-1509, leave message.

PATIO SET, \$500. Card table, \$15. Vacuum, \$55. Cement bird bath, \$50. 537-9916.

DANNY'S NEW book - and himself to sign it! Come to "et cetera" on Hereford this Friday at 2 p.m.

WILSON PIANO, mint condition, \$2,900. Lazy Boy Recliner, \$499. Scroll Saw with accessories, \$400. Exercise Bike, \$100. 537-1391.

350 MISC. FOR SALE

12' x 16' CABIN. PLUMBED, wired and drywalled. Kitchen sink, shower, toilet, laundry tub, cabinets, shake roof, cedar siding. \$7000 obo. Moved to your location. 653-9739, leave message.

ROLLERBLADES FOR Christmas - Bauer, size 5, as new with "Rollerblade" knee and wrist pads, \$275 new, \$125 special. 653-4855.

THE GREAT Ganges Junk Co. has many unique and wonderful Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers - brass, china, wood-carvings, flatware, jewellery. Plus dressers, tables, chairs, mirrors and much more. 120B Hereford Avenue. 537-4507.

GREAT CHRISTMAS presents! Gift Certificates available for 1998 at 1997 prices. Fishing Charters on "Something Fishy", Kayak, Bike, Scooter and Boat Rentals. 537-9100.

TWEED COUCH and matching arm chair, earthy colours, lots of wood, \$300 for the pair or best offer. RCA 20" T.V., built in console, a steel for \$200. 537-5508

TWIN SIZE Bed. \$50. 537-5268.

KENMORE SERGER, books, video & thread, \$300. Cowichan Sweater, zipper front, worn twice, \$50. Men's Cowboy Boots, \$50. Ladies Kilt, size 16, \$25. 17 balls Buffalo Wool, \$2. a ball. Men's Bowling Shoes, size 8-9, \$15. Step Master, \$150. Couch & Chair, \$150. Roller Blades, \$20. Ice Skates, \$10 & \$20. 537-5486 or 537-9815.

DREAMING OF A warm Christmas? Give an attractive, island crafted, natural heat pack. Soothes arthritis, stressed muscles, winter chills. 25% of proceeds to Salt Spring SPCA. Call Leisure Thyme, 537-5198.

BUCKWHEAT PILLOWS are here, plus great Christmas Gift ideas - Something to make life a little more comfortable. See our store display at Salt Spring Medical Supply. 537-1990

WHIRLPOOL BATHTUB. Brand new, 5 foot, white Lucite, deep tub, jet hycet, unused and ready to install. Below wholesale. \$795. 653-9932.

MAYTAG WASHER, Admiral dryer, \$600/pair. Two twin mattresses, like new. Kitchen dinette suite. Queen size box spring & mattress. Too many renovation items to list. 537-1957.

QUALITY TOYS at bargain price, 3-way Fisher Price; pool, ping pong & shuffleboard table. \$100. Playmobile farm, with horses, riders etc. \$50. Playmobile Island, Castle & Pirate ship with many accessories, \$150 (Island alone, new \$135.) Also, Pasta Maker with attachments, \$50. Phone 537-5719.

WEIDER MULTI-GYM, Super Circuit Master, \$500. Yamaha Clarinet, like new, \$300. 537-2314.

WHY SETTLE for Vin Ordinaire when you can order award winning Summerhill Estate Winery's 100% natural wines and Pyramid aged Champagnes with no sulfites added! Find out why we are the talk of N. America. 1-800-667-3538.

PERSONALIZED PHOTO Calendars featuring your own pictures. The Perfect Christmas gift for family and relatives. Call Linmark Publishing @ 1-800-663-1811 for brochure and order form.

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Ken Ackerman
537-4533

350 MISC. FOR SALE

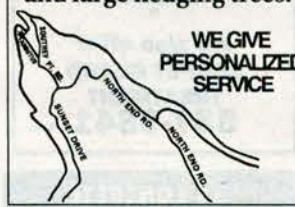
FRASER'S THIMBLE FARMS

175 ARBUTUS 537-5788
7 days a week
10 am - 4:30 pm

FRESH CUT AND LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES NOW IN!

SAVE 50% off
FLOWERING BULBS
It's not too late to plant bulbs!

Now's the time to plant fruit trees, roses, nut trees and large hedging trees.



WE GIVE PERSONALIZED SERVICE

The North End Fitness **Fit Kit**

One Month Membership
Unlimited Tanning
Unlimited Use of Sensory Tank
Body Composition Analysis
The Best Fit Kit Ever Offered!

\$59.95!



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See the new and used camera selection at

APPLE PHOTO

105 Hereford Ave.
Mon.-Sat. 9:30-5:30
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Small & Large Projects
☆☆☆☆
All refuse conscientiously removed

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We also sell steel

BARK MULCH • SALVAGE STEEL & LUMBER
FIREWOOD • CEDAR FENCE POSTS & RAILS • TOP SOIL

18" SATELLITES

Sales and Installation

STAR CHOICE
ExpressVu
dish
dish NETWORK CANADIAN

Systems from \$399.00!
Free Site Survey
TRUE NORTH SATELLITES
537-9189

355 MOTORCYCLES

1986 HONDA 110 "TRAIL" bike. Good condition. \$900. 537-2703.

WOLFMAN MOTORCYCLE jacket, gortex with zip-in fleece lining, large. \$200, almost new! 537-2703.

1993 KX 80. Like new, \$1500. obo. Call 537-2604 after 6 pm or leave message.

360 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

PIANO FOR sale, \$500. 537-9624.

370 PETS/LIVESTOCK

BUY WHOLESALE tropical fish - 225 varieties. Also, reptiles, amphibians and dry goods. Creatures Great and Small. 250-382-3329

HAY FOR Sale. Good quality, Camp Narnia. 653-4364.

HEREFORD CATTLE for sale. Registered, high quality. Camp Narnia. 653-4364.

GERMAN SHORT-HAIRED Pointers, CKC registered. Champion line hunting dogs. Ready to go Dec. 20. Inquire at 537-5963.

FRIENDLY, AFFECTIONATE neutered, 2 1/2 year old Siberian Husky to give to loving home. 1-604-594-0058. Ralph or Wendy. Please leave message.

GOOD LOCAL grass hay for sale, \$3 per bale. 537-2282.

FREE TO Good home: fluffy, white, frisky, one-year-old neutered male pussycat. Friendly, gentlemanly, good-natured, loveable and very bright. Driving our two 13 year-old cats crazy. Best in home with other young cats or no cats. 653-9417.

S.P.C.A. HAS cats in our shed who desperately need homes. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

S.P.C.A. HAS a very special kitten/teenage girl looking for a new home. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

S.P.C.A. HAS 2 puppies left. Lab/Border Collie/Blue Heeler mix. Approx. 6 weeks old. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

Bow Wow & Co.

OPEN SATURDAYS TILL XMAS

New puppy? Teething toys, squeakies, ceramic dog bowls, gourmet biscuits, fancy collars & lots more.

\$5 TOENAIL TUESDAYS
Call Andrea 537-4676
Upper Ganges Centre

375 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

TRIANGLE R.V. CENTRE offers excellent highway exposure for your consignment vehicle. Also parts, service, propane, sanitation and 24 hour car and R.V. wash. Vancouver Island's only complete R.V. centre. Triangle Homes Ltd., Sidney. Your first R.V. centre off the ferry. 656-1122. DL 5916.

1978 BENDIX 29 MOTORHOME. Generator, microwave, air condition, oven, central vacuum, awning, fridge, bath, etc. Good condition, 55,000 miles. \$13,000 obo, or trade W.H.Y. Evenings 537-2590, cellular 537-7046.

CAMPER FOR import pick-up, 4 hydraulic jacks, sink, stove, ice box, sleeps 4, clean N/S with side mirrors. \$1,200. obo. Phone 537-4959, leave message please.

379 FREE/RECYCLABLES

SALT SPRING Island Recycle Depot is located at 349 Rainbow Rd. We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. This service is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. Please call the recycle depot at 537-1200, or community services at 537-9971 for information on materials accepted for recycling.

THIS COLUMN is designed for free recyclable items only (no animals). There is no charge to place items in this column. Ads must be submitted in person at the Driftwood office (328 Lower Ganges Road) by normal deadline (Monday 2 pm.).

ELECTRIC COOK stove. Everything works, oven needs hinges. You pick up. Yellow. 653-2057.

320 CLOTHING

DEJA VU
Consignment & Costume Shop

Mouat's Mall
Tues. - Sat. 10:30-4:30
537-8806

322 COMPUTERS

TRIBAL DRUM Computers - store your community computer store featuring a full selection of computers, printers, software, plus service and repairs. Next to Driftwood. 537-0099.

IMAGEN IS your local source for computers, cellular, satellite dishes and Internet access at discount prices. 537-1950.

DX4/100 16 MB RAM. Sound blaster, modem, VGA monitor, speakers, keyboard & Windows 3.1. Works great, plenty fast. \$650. Epson 2 colour flat bed scanner. \$700. new, asking \$300. 537-1211.

A GREAT Christmas Gift Idea. Basic Computer training 1 hour \$25.00, 10 hours \$200.00 Your place or ours, Robert 537-2888.

327 EQUIPMENT

KUBOTA BACKHOE for three point hitch tractor. Good condition. \$2,200 obo or trade? Evenings 537-2590, cellular 537-7046.

329 FARM ITEMS

WREATHS & CHRISTMAS TREES

SELECT & CUT YOUR OWN from Hansen's Tree Farm

at Fulford-Ganges and Burgoyne Bay Road. Douglas Fir & Grand Fir (Balsam)

December 13 & 14, 20 & 21
Follow signs or call
537-5155

ADVERTISING DOESN'T COST - IT PAYS!
Call Jeff or Damaris 537-9933

379 FREE/RECYCLABLES

TOILET (AMERICAN Standard), dryer (Westinghouse, needs some work), sink with brown counter. Phone before pick-up, 537-1002.

WOOD, FLOOR console stereo, needs electronic work. 537-2419.

SPEED QUEEN Washer. Washer works well but drain pipe leaks. Could use it for parts. 537-1841.



A LIONS PROJECT

RECYCLE YOUR OLD GLASSES

Your old prescription lenses can be a gift of sight Boxes located at:

- Pharmasave
- Bank of Montreal
- Bank of Commerce
- Island Savings Credit Union
- Gulf Islands Optical

Recycling Depot Holiday Schedule

Please note: the depot is always closed Sundays and Mondays. As well, it will be closed: December 24, 25, 26 and 27. We will be closed Jan. 1 also. The depot staff wish you all happy and safe holidays.

385 WANTED

WE BUY furniture, everyday or antique, plus a wide assortment of items. Call us. The Great Ganges Junk Co., 537-4507.

YOUR DONATIONS needed! Useful furniture, kitchen ware, household items, carving and carpentry tools, etc. Please leave message for Saval at 537-1204 (Grandma's House).

OLDER VEHICLE wanted, exchange with Handyman Services! Personal help or professional massage. Equal value to \$2000. Leave message for Saval, 537-1204.

GOLF CLUBS. Left-handed or right-handed for kids starter sets. Call evenings, 537-2620.

WANTED: WHITE, small 26" stove. 537-2453.

WANTED: GOOD, used man's bicycle, large frame. Also guitar pick up. 653-9294.

BACK COUNTRY, skiing/ hiking equipment. Avalanche transceivers, shovels, probes, snowshoes, ski-skis. 537-2314.

Real Estate

410 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

3.5+ SUNNY ACRES with small home on N.E. corner of Long Harbour & Upper Ganges Roads, 800 metres north of Ganges. \$357,500. 537-5976.

61 SMALL AND Large Acreages, beside the Thompson River, West of Kamloops. Financing available. Phone: (604)606-7900, Fax: (604)606-7901. sales@niho.com. Internet: www.niho.com

450 MOBILE HOMES

MANUFACTURED HOMES. Delivered and set on your site. Low maintenance and affordably priced. 14' wide from \$46,900. Doubles from \$59,900. 537-5779 or Fred at 1-800-826-3888.

QUALITY MANUFACTURED Homes Ltd. Ask about our used single and double wides. "We Serve - We Deliver". 1-800-667-1533, DL#6813.

ADVERTISING DOESN'T COST - IT PAYS!
Call Jeff or Damaris
537-9933

Rentals

500 APT./SUITES FOR RENT

SELF-CONTAINED unit available Dec. 16. \$390/month, hydro and water included. Carport, quiet neighbourhood. Suits single. 537-2693.

2 BEDROOM BASEMENT suite, ground level entry, hydro and cable included. \$575/month. References required. 537-2975.

2 BEDROOM SUITE, ground floor in nice house. Available now or Jan. 1. Includes laundry room with W/D. \$450/month plus utilities. Please call 1-604-876-7473.

FULFORD-GANGES Road. Large 2 bedroom apartment (lower level duplex). Wood or electric heat, laundry hook-up, rural setting. Not suitable for children. N/S, no pets. \$600/month plus utilities. Phone 653-4104. Available Dec. 15.

SPACIOUS ONE bedroom suite, waterfront, large sundeck, laundry, close to Fulford ferry. \$470 + utilities. Non-smoker. 653-9351.

2 BEDROOM SUITE. Bright, sunny, deck, lawn, parking, spacious. Available immediately. Christmas Special @ \$600. Call 537-5363.

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT, downtown, long term, washer & dryer, parking, mail delivery, clean & bright, quiet, cat ok, N/S. Immediately. \$550 plus utilities. 537-0017.

510 COMMERCIAL SPACE

PRIME DOWNTOWN Office space for rent with large private deck over looking Ganges Harbour. To view call 537-5669.

RETAIL SPACE for rent at Fulford Harbour Marina. Large 1800 sq. ft. oceanfront space with deck. Could be two units. 660 sq. ft. space with ocean view. Call Wed. - Sun., 9 - 5 at 653-4467.

PRIME RETAIL store available subject to purchase of leasehold improvements and equipment. To view please call John at 537-1550 or 537-1633.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE space for rent/lease (up and/or down), terms negotiable, plus utilities. Available immediately. Call 537-0017 or agent 537-5553.

OFFICE SPACE

AT UPPER GANGES CENTRE

- Second Level (has chairlift)
- Air Conditioned
- Low Rates

Call Ron
537-5521

515 HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

FOR RENT weekly, \$500 from December 22 - January 3. Extremely funky, Cusheon Lake view home. Suitable for couple or small family, very quiet, N.S. 537-5086.

520 HOUSES FOR RENT

SPACIOUS 1 BEDROOM ocean view home with gourmet kitchen, private, near Fulford Harbour and suitable for 1 or 2 quiet adults. \$750/ month. 653-4386.

LARGE 3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 baths, ocean view, Duplex. W & D, on Malview. Long term. \$750. 537-4413.

TWO BEDROOM RENTAL: Duplex, 5 appliances, N/P, references. Telephone 537-4909, immediate occupancy.

PRIVATE WATERFRONT, fully furnished, linens, dishes, clean home, wharf, magnificent view. Available January 1. 250-479-4769.

1 BEDROOM A-FRAME cabin for rent Jan. 1/98. \$525 per month, water included. 537-5515, ask for Myles at Windermere Salt Spring Realty.

HOME FOR rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home. All appliances and partly furnished. W/D, N/S. No house pets. Water free. Reasonably priced to careful renters. Phone 653-4263.

520 HOUSES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom cabin in quiet location. \$625/month including water. N/S, N/P. Call Elaine, 537-5092.

ONE AND 1/2 BEDROOM, downtown, \$550 plus water. Great for home occupation. Norman at 537-5515. Windermere Salt Spring Realty.

SEA VIEW, 1 bedroom cottage, washer/dryer. \$500/month, includes cable and garbage pick-up. 537-4559.

2 BEDROOM DUPLEX with big back yard and a space for a vegetable garden, available January 1, 1998, \$700 plus utilities, long term. Phone 537-4998 days and 537-2837 nights.

AVAILABLE JANUARY 1. Three bedroom, 2 bath, home, 1400 sq. ft., lots of storage, energy efficient wood stove, centrally located. \$900. 537-2620.

BEAUTIFUL, SUNNY, 3 bedroom home situated on 33 acre farm. Available starting January or February. \$850/ month, 537-5930.

FOR RENT: December 15, long term, 2 bedroom Vesuvius home. Fireplace, washer, dryer. \$450 per month plus utilities. 537-9100.

3 BEDROOM VESUVIUS, sea view available January 1 or 15. No dogs! N/S. Garage, airtight, 5 appl., references needed. \$900 + utilities. Dick 537-5553/537-2236 eves.

2 BEDROOM AVAILABLE immediately. Close to hospital, clean, fenced yard, all appliances, N/S, N/P. References needed. \$800 includes hydro & water. 537-2590.

3 BEDROOM OCEANVIEW duplex, clean, modern. 1 1/2 bathrooms, sun deck, \$700. + utilities. 653-4500. Children welcome, no dogs please.

TO JUNE 30/98 for responsible persons, oceanfront, elec & fireplace. Smaller 3 bedroom, large deck, covered patio, double garage. N/S & N/P please. \$750. + utilities. 653-4500.

JANUARY 1/98 - CLOSE to town, 3 bedroom, harbour views, elec & wood heat. \$700. + utilities. 653-4500.

OCEANVIEW, VERY clean & modern, 2 bedroom upper duplex (owner retains bottom when in town). Large sundeck, mud room, elec heat & fireplace. No dogs please. \$650. + utilities. 653-4500.

COMFY, BRIGHT, 1 bedroom & loft for quiet adults. 3 appliances. No dogs please. \$625. + utilities. 653-4500.

READY SHORTLY. 3 Brand new uniquely designed, 2 bedroom (or 1 bedroom + den) cottages, featuring in-floor heating, skylights, F/S & DW - plumbed for W/D, for mature adults requiring comfort & quiet. \$675 & \$700, plus utilities. Call 653-4500 for viewing.

2 BEDROOM GUEST house. \$625 includes hydro. Long term, walk to town. Pat. 537-1263. Workshop for rent.

SMALL, VERY pleasant, one bedroom house near Ganges. Five appliances. Wood plus electric heat. Acreage and privacy. \$600 plus utilities. Long term preferred. Reply to Department N, c/o Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3.

2 BEDROOM MOBILE, covered deck, yard, in Cedarview Park. \$385 per month. Available January 1. 537-5929, leave message or 537-0612, evenings.

AVAILABLE NOW! Small, basic cabin. Will rent to non-smoker, suit single person. \$450/ month incl. hydro. Cat OK, Walker Hook Road. 537-1968.

1 BEDROOM CABIN on 3 acres, close to town, \$500/ month including water, hydro extra. N/S, N/P, long term. Available now. 537-2314.

SMALL CABIN for rent. Kitchen, bathroom, living/sleeping area, ocean view. Available Jan. 1. \$400/month. Call Gayle, 537-1432.

WHAT IS A NETWORK CLASSIFIED?

A Network Classified is an ordinary classified ad that appears in all 106 member newspapers of the B.C. and Yukon Community Newspaper Association. If you want to reach over 3,000,000 readers for only \$290. (up to 25 words), call

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD
537-9933
FAX 250-537-2613

520 HOUSES FOR RENT

Island Explorer Property Management Limited
537-4722
1-800-800-9492



- 2br. N/S, N/P, Walker Hook, \$675/mo.
- 2br. Suite, close to town.
- 2br. 5 acres, view, Sunset Drive, \$650.
- 3br.+ office, luxury home, \$1500.
- 3br. suite, close to town, \$650.

525 RENTALS MISC.

VICTORIA HOTEL prices too high? Why not stay with us in our hospitable Fairfield character home for a very reasonable sum. 250-361-3102.

530 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

THE BEST room in large, lovely house not far from town. \$400/month. Call Jenny or Jim at 537-2272.

535 SITUATIONS WANTED

QUIET, RESPONSIBLE island couple seeking housesitting situation. Small rent, deposit if required. Available immediately until April 1. Local references. 537-5057.

540 WANTED/RENTALS

RESPONSIBLE CAREER woman, non-smoker, looking for long term rental April until? Preferably waterfront. References available. Call 537-2031.

DEATHS

WARNER: ALBERT Michael, born 1923 in Saskatchewan, died Friday December 5, 1997 at Ganges. Survived by wife Iris and sons: Allen (Erin) and grandchildren Sally and Lorne; and Marc, of Ganges. Also sister Betty (Frank) Harrington of West Vancouver, and nieces and nephews. Al served during the Second World War in the Canadian and British navies and the Canadian Fleet Air Arm between 1941 - 1947. Having obtained his aircraft engineer's licence, he began a long career in aviation that spanned 50 years. Much of it was in the Yukon, and across Canada, most recently with Air North, Whitehorse, where he was chief inspector of maintenance. Al was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 92, Ganges. Cremation. No memorials or flowers, by request.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

PLEASE NOTE: Too Late to Classify ads are accepted only after 2:00pm Monday and before 12:00pm Tuesday at the rate of \$10.50 for 20 words or less and 35 cents for each additional word. They are accepted on a first come first served basis and are printed only if space permits. The Driftwood cannot be responsible for errors or omissions as these ads may not be proof read because of time constraint.

TUNED AIR presents "The Christmas Concert" featuring the Fernwood School Choir. Sponsored by Mouat's Trading Company. December 10, 11, 12 & 13.

FOOD BANK donations are being accepted at the Driftwood.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT idea from Parks & Recreation! Punch cards or books of 10 for any of our fitness classes, \$40 each: Pump Primers, Step N Strength, Prime Time, Cardio Plus, Step N Tone, Saturday Step, Total Body Conditioning. All classes start the first week in January. Call the P.A.R.C. office at 537-4448 for more information.

ANYONE HAVE friends or family in Quebec City who might like to exchange houses for 2 weeks mid February? Call Jocelyn. 537-9171.

HOME-BASED BUSINESS Faire. Christmas shopping, etc. Saturday, December 13, 10 - 3. Lions Club House.

NEW YEAR'S Eve at the Wheel House Pub, featuring "Grapes of Wrath" Limited tickets available at the front desk. Harbour House Hotel.

COMPUTER - MAC Classic II with software, Imagewriter II printer, carrying case and dust covers. Great for students and like new. \$550. obo. 537-5056.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

SUZANNE AMBERS would like to thank all of her clients for their patronage by offering her facial deep pore cleanse and head, neck and shoulder massage, with aromatic hot towels. This treatment takes about 45 minutes, and is \$30.00. Christmas gift certificates available. Rituals Esthetique. 537-0753.

GIVE A GREAT Blue Heron to the bird lover on your Christmas list, Heron Foster Parent packages available at Precious Treasures, Grace Point Square or call 537-5000. Proceeds toward McFadden Creek Heronry.

CROSSROADS CLOTHING Sale! 40% off Bali dresses, 20% off all sweaters, 20% off all Cornell clothes. Today until Saturday. (beside the Library).

LOOKING FOR Rabbit hutch to buy, large enough for 2 bunnies. Phone 653-4755.

FLOCK OF Sheep in need of home. Lambs due in February. Mayne Island. 250-539-3065.

IT'S NOT too late for Christmas at Gulf Island Picture Framing. We will be open until December 24 for your shopping convenience. Last minute work? No problem, or maybe try a gift certificate. 116 Langley Rd. in Vesuvius Bay, 537-2369.

FOR SALE: metal bunk bed; single top, double bottom, \$150. Small upholstered chaise lounge, \$175. Bamboo chair with foot stool, \$40. 537-1607.

COME IN and listen to Jeff Lederman, Salt Spring Wildlife rehabilitator, reading from his new book "Cries of the Wild". Sunday, December 14, 2 pm at Island Books Plus, 104 McPhillips Ave. 537-2812.

ROBERT BATEMAN Prints beautifully framed sold out limited editions. Make a wonderful Christmas gift for year around enjoyment & appreciation. 537-5694.

MORE CHRISTMAS present ideas from Parks & Recreation. Gift certificates for winter programs: spinning, sewing, quilting, embroidery, crochet, knitting, cooking, basketry, photo albums, gardening, woodworking, and more in next week's paper. Call the P.A.R.C. office at 537-4448 for more info.

PRIVATE, BEAUTIFUL, 3 bedroom home with fabulous ocean views on large acreage. Available now. Long term lease, \$950/month. Call 537-4621, leave message.

FOR SALE: 1984 VW Vanagon, 8 passenger, folding rear seat, foamy, perfect body, recent transmission/engine work. \$4,900. Salt Spring viewing. 250-382-8575.

FOR RENT: small cabin with loft, close to town \$450 plus utilities. 537-1607.

FOR SALE: Ephemere electric guitar. Heavy mahogany style and Pevey 40W amplifier. \$350 for both. 653-4366 after 6 pm.

THIS SUNDAY, December 14. It's time for the annual Santa's Pancake Breakfast at Fulford Hill. 9 am as usual, \$3.

SANTA SHIP arriving this Saturday, December 13, 6 p.m., Mouat's Dock. Reception with Santa and Clowns at S.I.M.S. Gymnasium. A joint project of Bellingham and Salt Spring Lions Clubs.

FOR RENT House, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms plus den. Close to town. \$750. a month plus utilities. 537-1607.

HEART MEMBERSHIP Drive continues Tuesday to Saturday 10 - 3 across from Petro-Can. Info 537-8008 or 537-5737. Check Coming Events.

SPRINGER SPANIEL, female, 2 years old. Arrived on Salt Spring from Prince George hoping to find a home. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

GARAGE SALE: Sunday, December 14, 10 - 2. #1-104 Horel Rd. (Trailer Park). Bring money.

RECENT WORK by Normand DesRosiers maybe seen at Barb's Buns Bakery until December 23, 1997.

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Little Red School House raffle. Prizes were generously donated by the crafts people at Beaver Point Hall Craft Fair, Michael Aronoff, Dana, Helga, Rumi, Elaine Potter, Crossroads, and The Fulford Inn. Special thanks to Lotus Ruckle.

FOUND AT end of Long Harbour, a fluffy grey & white cat, not wearing any collar. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

1989 GMC TRUCK - 5 speed, 4 x 4, \$5000. 538-0050.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

JUDITH & JULIE of Skin Sensations would like to offer you and yours a special Christmas treat. A half day spa which includes: spa manicure, spa pedicure, a deep cleansing facial and your choice of Bodywork plus a light lunch, all for the incredibly low price of \$99.95. Book early, offer ends December 24, 1997. Gift certificates are available. Drop in and see us - we have lots of great gift ideas! Skin Sensations, Monday - Wednesday, 10:30 - 5, Thursday & Friday, noon - 7, Saturdays, 10:30 - 4 p.m. earlier or later by appointment. 537-8807, 2102 Grace Point Square.

SPECIAL - "WEIGHT Watchers" assorted glass candies?? Only \$1.25 ea. "A great gift idea" from Just Imagine Home & Patio Store (next to Tides Inn).

WORK WANTED. Cheerful, reliable hard-working woman available for house cleaning, interior painting, garden work. What have you. Phone Joan, 537-9278.

BOTTLE DRIVE for SSI Daycare. Please save your holiday returnable cans and bottles and bring them to SSI Daycare, across from GVM. Our children say "Thank You!"

FOUND LADIES watch, Monday, December 8, owner may claim at Mobile Market.

JUST IN time for Christmas. 3 plastic kayaks for sale. Easy payment plan. \$850.00 each. 537-9100.

HOUSEMATE WANTED: Artistic, spacious home, Mt. Maxwell area. \$350 monthly includes utilities. 538-0050.

NOW \$500. MONTH including hydro. One bedroom ground level suite, North End, suits single or quiet couple. References, long lease. 537-2638.

WANTED: VACUUM cleaner in good working condition. 537-9957.

STUFFED WITH nonsense for you stocking stuffers. Still open 7 days a week. 10 - 5. Stuff & Nonsense in Fulford Harbour. 653-4620. Visa, M/C, Direct Debit.

FOR SALE. 30 inch Moffat Electric Stove, works well, almond, self cleaning with clock. \$225.00. 537-5050.

3 YEAR OLD, pure bred chocolate lab, female, spayed, needs loving home. Gentle, energetic. Free to the right adopter. 653-4601.

WANTED: 22" MAXIMUM width, propane or electric stove with oven for small trailer. 653-4601.

WANTED: LEGO, Nintendo, Gameboy, Brio. 537-4138.

FOR SALE. New Italian Espresso/Cappuccino machine. Was \$135. sell \$ 75. GE & Sanyo answering machines - \$50. & \$25. Electric Calculator using tape. \$15. X-Country Skis. 537-1902.

FOR RENT: 28' self contained trailer on acreage. Wood/electric heat. Sorry, no smokers or pets. References. Suits 1 person. \$300 plus utilities. 537-5720.

WANTED: ARBUTUS branches, all sizes. 537-8342 or 537-0710.

FOR RENT. TWO BEDROOMS, six appliances, hydro/cable, carport. Malview. \$775. a month. 537-5771.

GARAGE SALE. Saturday, December 13 only, 10 am - 4 pm. 681 Rainbow Road. Something for everyone! Yamaha B3K Organ, mint condition. \$300. 537-4474.

91 FIREFLY, LADY driven, in great condition, asking \$3,500. obo. Must see. Call Valerie at 537-4906.

EDMONTON BOUND for Christmas? 4 dining room chairs need transport! Will pay for their trip. 537-8888.

FOUND AT Walker Hook, grey fluffy cat, with light grey collar. S.P.C.A. 537-2123.

WASHER & DRYER for sale. \$150. the pair. They work! Get your clothes clean and dry. 537-4339.

DID YOU Know... "Cinderella" and Ugly Step-sisters, Nausea and Pneumonia will be coming to the Activity Centre, January 8th & 9th evenings and January 10th & 11th, Matinees. A hilarious pantomime for the entire family, watch for it!

FULFORD HARBOUR. Four great shops and lots of parking courtesy of BC Ferries!

DID YOU know... Cinderella's pursuit of love is thwarted by Lord Snide Malevolence and the devious three snitches, Sniff, Snaff and Snuff? See her rescued at the Activity Centre, January 8th, 9th evenings and 10th & 11th matinees. A must see!

CLOSING SUNDAY - Everlasting Summer. All items 20% off. Open daily 10 - 5. 653-9418.

Municipal Affairs nixes Islands Trust proposal

Use of resolutions-without-meeting should not be extended by local Trust committees to the Trust executive committee, Municipal Affairs Minister Michael Farnworth has indicated in a letter to the Trust.

"I cannot agree with you that resolutions-without-meeting are a transparent decision-making process," Farnworth wrote. "True, the decision once made is transparent but the process of making it is not. I would be reluctant to make it more difficult for the public to participate in that process."

Farnworth acknowledged that allowing the Trust executive to pass resolutions without having a meeting would be more efficient but said he had to balance that efficiency with the need for public participation.

"As you are aware, objections to this kind of process have been made in the past by citizens in the Islands Trust area and your request raises more public policy concerns," he stated.

Trustees received the letter without comment at Saturday's Trust Council meeting in Victoria.

But Trust members had more luck with Farnworth on other ideas discussed at a meeting November 18. The Islands Trust could have a pilot project offering tax breaks for preservation of natural areas by the end of this century, Trust chairman David Essig predicted after council members received a report on the meeting.

Farnworth indicated support for the concept and ministry staff have been assigned to work with the Trust to determine requirements for such a project.

Other issues discussed at the meeting included simplifying the

transfer of Crown land to the Trust Fund Board; a phased-in shift to local subdivision approvals for the Trust area; a provincial grant to research the impact of municipalities forming within the Trust, particularly on Salt Spring or Bowen Islands; and consideration of Trust needs during a joint Municipal Affairs-Union of B.C. Municipalities review of the Municipal Act.

Amendments to the Islands Trust Act being requested by Trust Council include removing the requirement for ministerial approval before trustees can

engage in land transactions; giving local Trust committees the ability to require regional districts to withhold building permits for 30 days; allowing the Trust to give grants-in-aid; giving the Trust the power to enforce its development permits and easing the transfer of regional district and/or Crown lands to the Trust Fund Board.

Trust Council members also want the Trust Act amended to support tax incentives to protect natural areas and to allow for sustainable forestry and/or community forestry on Trust islands.

Exemption nearly complete for Bullock Lake project

The paperwork to put Salt Spring Island Village Resort into compliance with the exemption requested by the company from the B.C. Securities Commission is almost finished, commission communications manager Barbara Barry said Tuesday.

"As I understand it, that process is almost complete. He's met the terms of the exemption and worked hard to do it," she said of the resort's developer, Brian Hauff.

Since the units being sold by the resort are going into a rental

pool and could be considered an investment, the project came under the jurisdiction of the securities commission until the exemption was completed. Barry noted Hauff voluntarily halted sales of the resort units until the requirements for the exemption were met.

Because sales were halted, Hauff lost access to his financing and also had to stop most construction on the 123-unit resort.

The process has taken almost three months. "The exemptions are sometimes complex and it

takes a while to get it right," Barry said.

Hauff said his lawyers had to file the information twice and then add further information.

Barry stressed that the exemption process is not an endorsement by the securities commission. It is up to every investor to practise diligence and ensure each investment is the right one for each individual's circumstances, Barry said.

Hauff expected to resume construction on the project next week.

High-tech Trust: meeting looks at new staff intranet

Islands Trust representatives are dipping more than their toes into technology with a proposal for a Trust intranet, a report on the web page and information on computerized mapping all trotted out at last week's quarterly Trust Council meeting in Victoria.

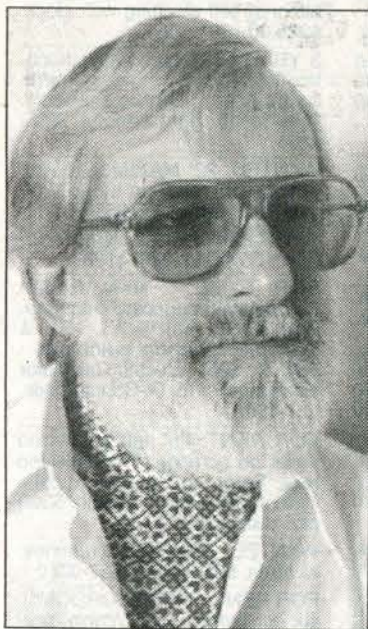
On Thursday morning, trustees saw a demonstration of the Trust's geographic information system (GIS) database, which now includes an inventory of sensitive ecosystems.

The system will eventually allow trustees or planners on a specific island to look at a development or subdivision proposal and then check the database to determine if there are environmentally sensitive areas in the vicinity. The database will also include photographs.

Individualized databases are being developed for each island and will be accessible via the Internet.

The Islands Trust web site on the World Wide Web was visited 19,406 times by 690 different users between August 19 and November 18. Staff are now finalizing a password-protected intranet for staff and trustees which will allow them to obtain files over an Internet connection.

Evanishen to sign books in Ganges



Evanishen

Former Salt Spring Islander and published author Dan Evanishen returns to the island for a visit this week.

The founder of Salt Spring Cinema (now Cinema Central) will be signing his two latest books on Friday from 2-4 p.m. at cetera Book & Stationery.

The books are Boris Threeson, one of a series of books of Ukrainian folk tales, and Vuiko Yurko, Second-Hand Stories, one

of another series of books containing original short stories about Ukrainian immigrants in Canada. Both books are in English.

Evanishen has been gathering stories from and about Ukrainian pioneers ever since he left Salt Spring in 1991. His goal is to preserve those stories before the storytellers die.

Evanishen now lives in Summerland.

Driftnet is the online version of the Driftwood!

Check it out at

<http://www.gulfislands.net>

save on home decor items • lamps • prints • pottery • hand forged wrought iron • hand forged wrought iron

The Sale

Starts
Monday, Dec. 1
and continues til'
Saturday, Dec. 13

Salt Spring
Home Design Centre
320 Upper Ganges Rd.
(at Robinson) 537-2111

Other unique items • lamps • prints

FOXGLOVE
FARMING & GARDENING

Our Christmas flowers & plants have arrived!

FOXGLOVE FARM & GARDEN SUPPLY
Corner Atkins & Lower Ganges Rd.
Open Mon. - Sat. 9-5:30 537-5531

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BC Parks

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (BC Parks) invites proposals for the purpose of operating and maintaining recreation facilities, subject to the conditions provided in the Proposal Package, within the following Provincial Parks:

Prior Centennial Provincial Park
Beaumont Provincial Marine Park
South Otter Bay Protected Area

Proposal Information: potential proponents are advised that:

- B.C. Parks may reject any or all tenders submitted.
- There will not be a public opening for proposals submitted.
- A bid security in an amount and form specified in the Proposal Package will be required.
- BC Parks is not responsible for costs incurred related to travel and the preparation of the proposal.
- Proposal Packages will be available at the office indicated below from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (local time), Monday to Friday from December 11, 1997 to December 30, 1997 inclusive.
- A mandatory site meeting will be conducted by a Ministry Representative at 9:30 am, January 8, 1998 starting at Prior Centennial Provincial Park followed with site visits to Beaumont Marine Provincial Park (transportation supplied from Browning Harbour) and South Otter Bay Protected Area. To be eligible to attend, a Proposal package must be purchased prior to the site meeting. Only those registered at the site meeting may submit a Proposal.

The deadline for submitting sealed Proposals to the below mentioned office is 4:30 pm (local time), January 26, 1998.

Each Proposal Package may be purchased for \$53.50 (GST included) non-refundable fee or viewed free of charge at the office indicated below. The fee must be in the form of cash, certified cheque, money order or bank draft payable to the Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations. To obtain more information about this opportunity and receive copies of the Proposal Package contact:

BC Parks
South Vancouver Island District
2930 Trans Canada Highway,
Victoria, B.C. V9E 1K3
Phone: (250) 391-2300

BRITISH COLUMBIA
Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks

Galiano historian researches lighthouse keeper's past

Andrew Loveridge is president of the Gulf Islands Historical Federation and a particularly good program organizer.

For the November meeting, held in Saint Margaret's Church Hall at a time when residents from all the Outer Islands could be present, he gave a report on his trip to Britain earlier this fall, paying particular attention to his week's stay in the Shetland Islands researching Georgeson family roots.

Henry (Scottie) Georgeson was first lighthouse keeper at Georgina Point on Mayne Island, the facility recently automated by the Department of Transport. Loveridge made his way to the Shetlands by air from Aberdeen, his Scottish pilot a Shetland man, Georgeson by name. Once there he took a bus to the fishing village of Walls, the centre nearest Georgeson's home of youth.

The Shetlands were settled by Vikings, perhaps fishermen looking for a home base closer to the prime fishing grounds of the day. A second generation George, son of the settler, took the name Georgeson. Henry was born in 1835, one of at least 10 children

— there were nine in the 1850 census. James Georgeson, a brother and first light keeper on Saturna, was born in 1851. Their father George was born in 1803.

Henry (Scottie) left home at about 14, travelling to the Pacific Coast, drawn there by the California gold rush, then later to the Fraser. He worked in the hospitality business at Barkerville for a time, later returning to the coast to pre-empt land on Galiano overlooking Active Pass and what is now known as Georgeson Bay. Several years after this he was appointed keeper of the newly-opened light station on Mayne Island, a position he held for 36 years. He retired at 83.

Loveridge's slides of Walls and its surrounding pastures and inlets were of much interest to all, but particularly to the five members of the Georgeson family present — Helen Neale, Joan Carolan, Georgie Georgeson, his granddaughter Jeannine and Margaret Grimmer from Pender.

GALIANO NOTES WITH ALISTAIR ROSS



The green fields, the sheep and the number and variety of fishing craft seen in the Shetlands appealed to our traveller as did the many inlets. The Nordic word for inlet, "vag" in the Shetlands, became "voe," declared Loveridge. The name Walls is an English corruption of the plural of "voe."

Garden club

A potluck luncheon was held in the North Galiano Community Hall to end the 1997 season of Galiano Garden Club meetings. Close to 40 attended.

A special presentation was made to member Aini Haksi who, after 17 years as show bench judge and resource person, decided to retire. Haksi was also the club's first president. Tickets to a show in Vancouver's Ford Theatre were presented to Haksi and her husband Arne on

behalf of the membership by another ex-president, Emily Switzer.

Another original member, Alistair Ross, then gave his memories of that first year and Aini Haksi's part in it. His talk was a look back in time — at the community hall as it was in 1980 before restoration began, the fledgling fire department and at the creation of the garden club. They grew into being together.

Awards for show bench offerings earned over the past year were then presented and went to members Margaret Edgar (aggregate winner), Joan Carolan (floral art), Don Gain (vegetables), Bev Yeomans (herbs), George Stephen (cut flowers) and Ross (potted plants).

Show bench judges for 1998 will be: vegetable, fruit and herbs — Jane Edwards; flowers and floral arrangements — Edgar.

A committee of nine will manage club affairs next season rather than officers elected to specific positions as has been done in the past. The nine are Carolan, Switzer, Gain, Edwards, Sol Alhstrum

Belhouse, Carolan, Gloria Clothier, Andree Connell, and Bev and Ed Yeomans.

Coming events

On Saturday, December 13, the Santa Ship comes to Montague Harbour at approximately 3:30 p.m.

• Sunday, December 14 at the North Hall, 2:30 p.m., there will be an inter-denominational Christmas carol service. All are welcome.

PARTY ANIMAL?

Check out the **WHAT'S ON** calendar of events in the Arts & Entertainment section of the Driftwood.

Charity drive at Slegg collects items for babies

A separate "food bank" promotion for baby food and supplies has been initiated on Salt Spring thanks to the tuned-in ears of two islanders.

Bill Ray, who works at Slegg Lumber on Salt Spring, and Loretta Rithaler, wife of Slegg manager Mark Rithaler, both heard about Basic for Babies while listening to Vancouver's 93.7 JR FM radio station.

They decided to get more information about it so an equivalent Salt Spring food drive could be established.

So now Slegg Lumber at 804 Fulford-Ganges Road is the drop-off point for donations of baby food, diapers, pablum, powdered milk or formula, or cash to buy baby food and supplies. All goods collected will be given to the Salt Spring Food Bank.

Basics for Babies is a registered trademark and the exclusive charity of New Country 93.7 CJJR FM and 600 AM The Bridge radio stations.

The program was selected winner of the 1997 Canadian Association of Broadcasters gold ribbon award for best community services promotion.

Salt Spring's IODE branch has largest B.C. membership

A Salt Spring service group now has the largest branch in the province.

With 46 members, the Ganges chapter of the IODE has the largest in B.C.

According to member Jean Williams, "This is in part due to Regent Pearl Newstead, and membership coordinator Louise Foulis, who has won the provincial yearly award twice for introducing the most new members."

Seven new members have joined this year.

"I haven't been a member for long," says Williams, "But I'm very impressed with the enthusiasm of these women."

The large group is good news for islanders, who have an "enthusiastic group of ladies all working for the betterment and enrichment of Salt Spring," Williams adds.

A significant portion of funds raised by the IODE are used for island scholarships, equipment for Lady Minto Hospital and other needy programs.

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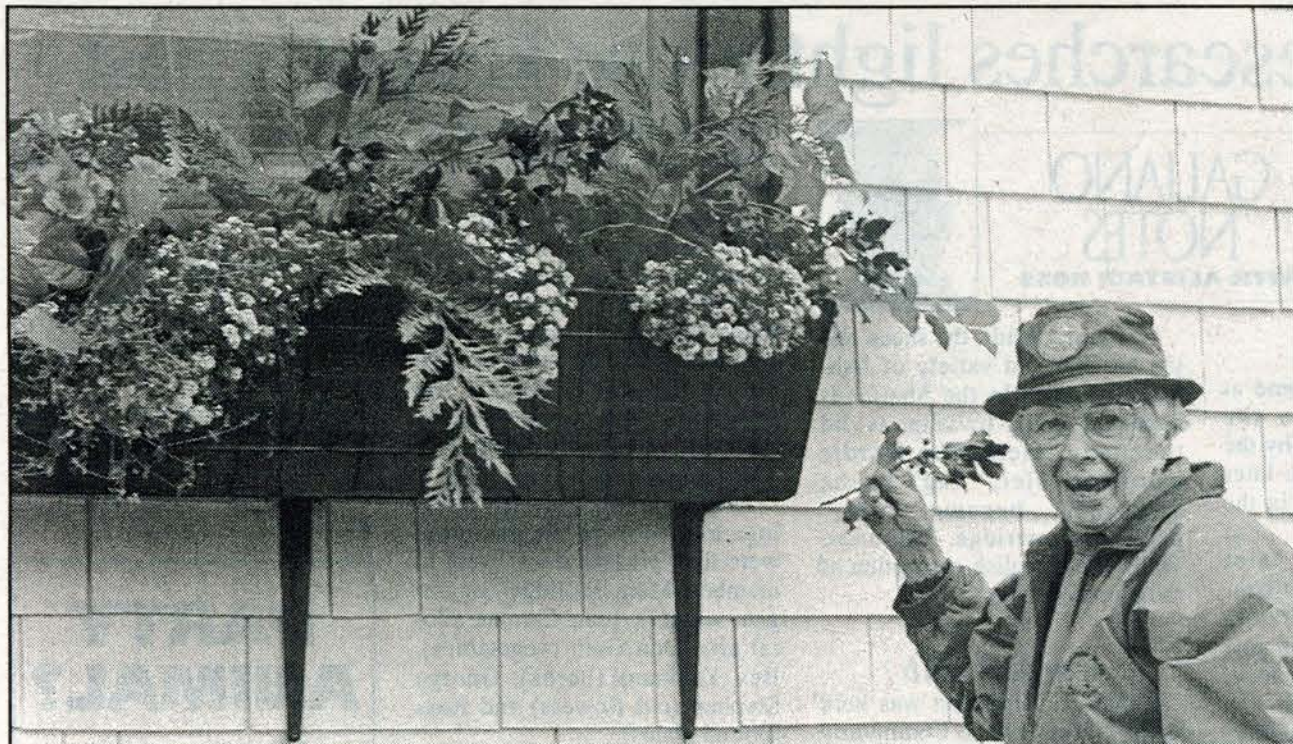
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Caught in the act

Thelma Carey adds a seasonal touch to planter boxes outside the United Church on Hereford Avenue in Ganges. Buildings all over Salt Spring are dressing up with colour and lights for Christmas.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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Lions Club raised \$500 in 'slave trade'

Thirty-five years ago

Slavery turned out to be profitable for the Salt Spring Lions which auctioned off 27 of its members as slaves, raising more than \$500. Each of the purchased Lions Club members, who went for prices ranging from \$5 to \$30.40, were pledged to work for a day for their "master." The evening included a musical number about their pending servitude, performed by the chained and costumed slaves. Bill Trelford was auctioneer and "pretty lady pirates" Mrs. Lorne Earle and Mrs. Ken Aquilon were put in charge of coaxing the slaves onto the block for the sale. At the end of the auction, the "slaves" tossed off their chains and captured the auctioneer, selling him for \$30.40.

Four-year-old Stevie Jarman learned something about matches after starting a fire in the upstairs bedroom of the family home. His howls of surprise brought his mother and the fire department was called. The bedroom and all the children's clothing were destroyed in the blaze. There was also smoke and water damage to the rest of Dr. and Mrs. E.A. Jarman's home.

Thirty years ago

A baby narrowly escaped being born in the storm-tossed waters between Galiano and Salt Spring but the mother was able to reach Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital an hour before the boy was born. A fishboat brought Lloyd and Betty Baines from Galiano to Salt Spring after Betty Baines went into labour prematurely.

DOWN THE YEARS

Twenty-five years ago

Voters on Pender and Salt Spring were being asked to cast their ballots. Pender voters were choosing a school trustee between incumbent Bertha Matthews and Elizabeth Vasilev. Salt Spring voters were giving their opinions on two referenda. One was on spending \$50,000 on a community room and stage as part of an activity centre at Salt Spring Elementary. The second was a bylaw seeking one-half of one mill in taxes for recreation programs.

Twenty years ago

Fourteen people walked away from a crash on Saturna Island when a Air West twin-engine otter came down in a grove of trees. The plane exploded shortly after the crash.

Tenders had been called to install electrical service to the Montague Harbour ferry terminal. The harbour was Galiano Island's port for the Mayne Queen.

Fifteen years ago

Newly inaugurated Salt Spring Island Trust Committee members Nick Gilbert and Beverly Unger agreed to write the CRD protesting the installation of a sewer system in Ganges and calling for a discussion in March on the philosophy of sewer installations on the Gulf Islands. They also agreed to ask the CRD to hold a referendum on the issue.

Three people were rescued by

the Bowen Queen after their flat-bottomed Boston whaler overturned near Isabella Point on Salt Spring Island. They sat on the overturned boat for at least 30 minutes before they were spotted by the Bowen Queen crew. The two men and one woman were brought aboard within eight minutes, given blankets to help them warm up and treated by a doctor who was on the ferry. They were then taken by ambulance to hospital.

Ten years ago

Ferry service between Crofton and Vesuvius was to resume December 11 after three months of work to rebuild the Crofton dock, which was destroyed by a July 24 arsonist's fire.

Ganges RCMP were investigating almost a dozen cases of break-and-enter, theft and vandalism which had occurred during the week. Thefts had occurred from five vehicles, two businesses, one residence and from the high school and the school district bus compound.

Five years ago

A \$10,000, two-month mediation effort to resolve issues over the Saturday market in Centennial Park ended with no resolution. Some of those participating in the process advocated not regulating the weekly market while others wanted to see the market managed and permits given to vendors.

Saanich North and the Islands MLA Clive Tanner apologized to constituents who may have been offended by a character reference he had written for a Sidney busi-

nessman charged with sexual assault. The letter only referred to the defendant's business activities but raised the ire of many because Tanner had written it on legislative letterhead. He had been suspended from the Liberal caucus over the incident.

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