

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

Serving the islands that make Beautiful British Columbia Beautiful

Sixteenth Year, No. 25 GANGES, British Columbia Wednesday, July 2, 1975 \$5.00 per year in Canada, 15¢ copy

## Out goes Sidney: In comes Manyberries



The RCMP boat is a familiar caller around the islands. To many islanders it represents help in an emergency. To others it means trouble. Other boats on the islands waters have looked to the police boat for help more often than they have hoped it wouldn't stop.

RCMP Sidney has long been a part of the islands scene.

But it will be gone from the islands in the near future. The big police launch has been replaced by a 40-footer of light construction, with greater manoeuvrability. Out goes the Sidney. In comes the Manyberries.

Here is a last look at the Sidney before she heads out for Victoria and disposal to a civilian purchaser.

## BOARD IS LEERY OF PROPOSAL

Proposal made before the Islands Trust, whereby development rights might be bartered in much the same way as property is today, is not looked on with favour by the Capital Regional Board.

Henry Schubart outlined a scheme for the Trust in which a property owner could retain his property intact and sell the rights to subdivide. The purchaser could then further subdivide another property otherwise restricted.

Regional Director George Heinekey told Driftwood last week that the board has already considered such a scheme and had not favoured it.

Mr. Heinekey feels that it would leave elderly property owners at the mercy of unscrupulous developers.

The board has decided that such a scheme would require very tight policing, he said.

produced his own fantasy about the military take-over of Salt Spring Island.

The couple also enjoyed one foray into commerce when they contributed to the operation of Vesuvius Bay Store while John and Chio Yamabe were taking a sabbatical.

### QUIET HOLIDAY

No incidents marred the Dominion Day holiday in the islands, according to RCMP. Islands were crowded with near record numbers of visitors.

## LOOKING FOR BRIGHT LIGHTS

Mr. and Mrs. Lanny Howard came to Salt Spring Island: and they went.

Last week the retired couple left to take up residence in Burnaby, near the city lights.

They have been prominent in island affairs during their several years on Salt Spring. In political circles, Mr. Howard has been active on the island and he has worked hard for Salt Spring Island Players. Not only has he played various roles in local drama productions, but he wrote and

## AWARD OF MEDAL FOR SERVICE

School Trustee Ann Foerster is no newcomer to public affairs. Elected to the board of school trustees of the Gulf Islands School District, she brought to the islands a considerable experience. The election was last November.

Mrs. Foerster was a member of the Saanich School Board before coming to the island. She is also a former member of the Central Saanich Advisory Planning Commission.

Two weeks ago the island trustee was absent from a special meeting of the board. She had a prior commitment.

It was the day chosen by Central Saanich to offer a small tribute to former members of the commission.

Mrs. Foerster has a small medal from Central Saanich. It is among her prized possessions. It is a souvenir of her

former contribution to the Saanich Peninsula community.

# Noise is still under fire

There's still too much noise in the Industrial Arts Rooms at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

It's too noisy to work and too noisy to teach, trustees of the school district were told last week.

Delegation from Gulf Islands Teachers' Association met the school board at the regular meeting on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Irene Wright introduced the delegation, which included Laurie Neish and Ian Thompson.

Trustees agreed that there was a noise problem, but assured the delegation that everything that could be done was being done.

The condition of the building is having a detrimental effect on their productivity, the board was told and the quality of students' performance is suffering from the shortcomings of the new building.

They demonstrated the noise by means of a tape recorded earlier in the day. "That's nothing new," commented Chairman Charles Baltzer, "We've heard all these comments before and we are working on it just as hard as we can work."

The board had addressed the complaints to the architects and were looking to the contractor to correct the short-

## CALL RCMP... CALL ZENITH 50,000

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New Zenith number is to be established as a nationwide emergency number.

## Bass caught In lake for First time

Bass are knocking in on trout territory.

Last week two enthusiastic fishermen took a 12-inch bass from Cusheon Lake. The lake is strictly trout territory and as far as the young fishermen know, bass has never been taken from that lake.

The fishermen were Dal Thirlwell and Douglas Elliott, bass day was Thursday, June 26

## FRENCH TO CONTINUE FOR YEAR

French program in Salt Spring Elementary School will be carried on as it is until next year.

Last week the Gulf Islands School Board assured Principal R. D. McWhirter that there was no intention of reducing the program.

Dr. E. R. Dixon's motion to continue the program was seconded by Ann Foerster.

She thought last year's program was excellent, she told her colleagues.

## Salt Spring Man is Shot

Flip Bedford was shot to death on Saturday in his home.

His son, Leo Fleming Bedford has been charged with non-capital murder. He appeared in Victoria Provincial Court on Wednesday and was remanded until Friday for psychiatric examination.

Death was not discovered until Monday when police were called to investigate his disappearance. Body was found in the basement of his home. Mrs. Bedford was in Seattle for the week end.

Eldon Fleming Bedford, known everywhere as "Flip" was the proprietor of Leisure Lanes Bowling Alleys. He was the friend of almost everyone who bowled, from Salt Spring Island and other islands.

In addition to his operation of the Leisure Lanes, the dead man was well-known as musician at the Royal Canadian Legion social events every Saturday evening.

He leaves his wife, Ruth, at home; two daughters, Mrs. S. (Linda) Hoar and Paula; three sons, Leo, James Daniel and Sandy.

Funeral services were scheduled for Thursday afternoon in the Gospel Chapel, Ganges, with Rev. David Low officiating.

## FAREWELL DINNER FOR ISLAND PRIEST SUNDAY EVENING

Farewell dinner for Rev. Fr. Frank Sutherland, OMI, will be held at the Ganges Catholic Church of Our Lady of Grace on Sunday evening.

Bishop of Victoria will take part in the evening's program.

speed of the fan. This has had some benefit.

Teachers also blame the nature of the underside of the roof for increasing the reflected sound.

Board agreed that the results of their pleas and complaints had been agonizingly slow.

Laurie Neish was bitter. He was the one who suffered the agony, he explained.

"I can only hope a hearing aid will be quicker," he quipped.

The complaints of the teachers were not confined to the noise, he went on. The staff

(Turn to Page Nine)

# Awards day at Saturna

Tuesday was Saturna School's annual awards day. All the children, the teachers, many parents and several interested members of the community were in attendance.

Taimi Hindmarch and Michael Hayes had worked with their classes to provide entertainment for the occasion. The afternoon started off with the premiere showing of the movie the senior class had made of their trek through the woods from Narvaez Bay to Lyall Harbour during Outdoor Learning Week.

This was visible evidence of

what the class had undertaken: shots of the children backpacking along the beach, tangling with dense undergrowth, and examining everything from delicate leaf patterns, to a small frisky tree frog. This film was followed by another student-made one, where the class had drawn on blank film, to create a lively animated movie, appropriately coupled with the music of "School is Out", which had been synchronized by the children to accompany it.

Songs by the intermediate and primary classes, with guitar accompaniment, were next on the agenda. Several children in the primary grades had chosen poems or paragraphs, also, to read to their rapt audience who were most impressed with the skill and poise of the youngsters. Shelley Crooks, Grade 5, read an excellent story she had written during the year, which was entitled "The Old Man."

Then came the serious business of the awards presentation. First of all, cash prizes for best attendance, donated by Money Brothers and Peter-

son, were presented to Elizabeth Scruggs and Leah Smith in the primary class, and to Heidi Neumann, of the senior room.

Book prizes donated by the Florence Nightingale Chapter, IODE, Victoria, were then assembled. All of the children in the primary class were given prizes, to credit their individual accomplishments, such as progress in arithmetic, neatness of handwriting, familiarity with the alphabet.

A special prize was awarded to Anya Neumann, Grade 1, for outstanding achievement in reading.

Book prizes were also awarded to several of the intermediate students.

Sandra Crooks, Grade 6, was rewarded for her dependability and good citizenship. Stephen Lawson, Grade 7, was judged by his fellow classmates to have written the best essay evaluating the school year, and received a book for this accomplishment.

Her story "The Old Man", which Shelley had read, had been assessed as the finest piece of creative writing produced in the intermediate class, and Shelley, the only student in Grade 5, was given a book to signify this achievement.

The last event was the awarding of the Saturna Cup to the student in the intermediate grades most personifying the characteristics of scholarship, sportsmanship and leadership.

The cup was donated by the Women's Club of Saturna, and its president, Mrs. Louise Money, was on hand to present it. She surprised Laurie Cunningham, last year's recipient of the cup, by asking her to present it to this year's winner, Heidi Neumann. A Grade 7 student, Heidi was warmly applauded as the outstanding pupil in every respect in the senior room, and further recognized with a book award.

Tea and refreshments prepared by the parents followed the awards ceremony, and brought the surprises and excitement of the afternoon to a close. Mrs. Shirley Money, Mrs. Lorene Scruggs and Mrs. Betty Carpentier looked after the tea and coffee arrangements.

ment of the afternoon to a close. Mrs. Shirley Money, Mrs. Lorene Scruggs and Mrs. Betty Carpentier looked after the tea and coffee arrangements.



Q. How can I make a good job of cleaning linoleum floors?

A. When scrubbing it, try adding a little paraffin to the water. This will take out all the dirt and grease, and also add a nice gloss to the linoleum. If you rub the paraffin well into the linoleum, it will retain its color and wear twice as long.

Q. How can I achieve a common color in a number of mateless stockings?

A. Boil them slowly for about fifteen minutes in enough water to cover the stockings. Allow to cool in the pan, rinse and hang to dry.

Q. How can I loosen a rusted nut or bolt?

A. You can often do this easily by applying a cloth soaked in any carbonated beverage.

Q. How can I remove pet hairs most easily from upholstery?

A. By wiping with a damp chamois.

Q. How can I, when driving a nail through plastic, avoid splitting the plastic?

A. Heat the point of the nail over a flame.

Q. How can I cut down on the necessity of scrubbing my fireplace so often?

A. Throw salt on the logs occasionally. This will reduce the soot considerably.

Q. How can I make a good silverware cleaner?

A. One excellent agent for cleaning silverware is common lump starch. Rub it on with a damp cloth, allow to remain a few minutes, then rub dry with a cheesecloth.

Q. How can I quickly clear up the steam that accumulates in the bathroom after a hot shower?

A. Turn the cold water on full force.

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**to be frank**

By Richards

Leo McNeil has quit football lately. The veteran athlete explains he has a charley horse and is walking around very slowly. It's giving him time to bring out his old jokes and bring them up to date, he reports.

...  
Inflation has struck. Leo McNeil notes that a remark in Driftwood last week referred to getting in his "two bits worth". That used to be "two cents worth" he recalled. It must be inflation.

Twice I got hit by a hit-and-run. Once they clipped the fender off my car and now they hit the windows in the office. Looked like someone had sprayed them with gravel from spinning tires on Wednesday morning. They did.

Wayne Cooper has taken up bees. He is so warm about his bees that every time I swat one I can see Wayne looking at me from the bee's face. He hasn't stung me yet.

Ed Gould was on Salt Spring Island and Wallace Island this week. The black-bearded

writer stopped in at my office to explain that he has just finished his book on logging, which is now going to press. It will be published by Hancock House. His earlier satire on the islands is being re-issued by Hancock. He is already engaged in a third book with a Calgary odour. Ed lived and wrote for many months on Salt Spring Island and on Pender Island. He has also been a reporter for various Vancouver Island weekly and daily newspapers.

I lost a flashlight. Then Wendy Palmer remarked they had found one. So that put my flashlight in its place. In the meantime Dick Toyneeb rang to get his back. It seems that logic took a back seat. He would, logically, have waited to ask for his flashlight back until I had mine. Damned thoughtless of him, really!

**To negotiate with owner of airstrip**

Fulford airstrip was under discussion last week by trustees of Gulf Islands School Board. The flight path passes over the school site on Isabella Point Road, trustees learned.

Gordon Cuemore, owner of the airstrip, has offered the board an exchange of property, explained Chairman Charles Baltzer at last week's school board meeting.

He was authorized to continue to negotiate a satisfactory exchange.

Ann Foerster was fearful that the airstrip might become commercial.

"It can't," replied Dr. E.R. Dixon, "It is zoned agricultural."

"It might get bigger," persisted Mrs. Foerster.

"There's room there to set a Wimpy down," retorted Chairman Baltzer.

Baltzer was hailing back to his wartime career as a member of the crew of a Wellington bomber. The British built Wellington, twin-engined, fabric-covered strong arm of the air force was affectionately known as a Wimpy in token of the cartoon character, J. Wellington Wimpy.

**MARK 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE**

BY LILLIAN HORSDAL

Even the sun came out to add to the gaiety of one of the loveliest receptions ever held on Salt Spring.

It was the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Patterson of Fulford Harbour. The party was held at Beaver Point, where guests could wander about outside as well as in the beautifully decorated hall.

Approximately 125 relatives and friends assembled to congratulate the well known, loved and respected couple. A sumptuous tea was served by members of the family and friends. People had come from far and near. The couple happily exchanged bits of news and chit chat as they reminisced. "Do you remember ..." was followed by peals of laughter as one memory jogged another.

In this era of continual change it may come as a surprise that these two Diamond Wedding principals would

choose each other again if they had their lives to live over.

"It doesn't seem nearly as long as 60 years," they both agreed.

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**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.64 (GULF ISLANDS) COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES**

All interested community groups are advised that firm reservations for the use of Mahon Hall and school facilities other than the Activity Centre will not be confirmed until late summer. Application forms should be submitted to the School Board Office for events scheduled for Fall and Winter in order that an equitable sharing of available facilities can be accomplished.

The Elementary Activity Centre will continue to be scheduled by the Joint Committee who will be advertising for applications later in the Summer.

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1 X 6	" " "	" "	15
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Wednesday, July 2, 1975

**NATIONAL NIGHTMARES**

Canadian hackles from coast to coast will rise at the mention of capital punishment. There are few matters of national import which arouse more heat than the debate on death as a punishment for crime. This is not illogical, because the views held by most of us on the death penalty are based on emotion rather than information.

It has been frequently asserted that capital punishment has no effect on crime and therefore can never be justified as a deterrent. Few of those who make their assertion can offer proof of their claim.

The opposite end of the debate, if it can be so described, assure us that with the implementation of capital punishment the age of violence will disappear and we shall hear no more of murder and crimes of violence. Again, it is usually speculation and not supported by firm evidence.

Across the line, in the United States, feeling is so high against crimes of violence that the nation is prepared to do anything, short of outlawing lethal weapons, to combat the crime rate.

It is an exchange without a beginning and without an end. The countries where law and order is maintained by the rope and the rifle and the knife and the chair and the capsule still use these methods with alarming regularity. Those countries where the death penalty is not used, such as Canada, appear to have as much trouble as elsewhere. There is no clear evidence to suggest they have more.

There is only one thing that stands out. The Canadian government, however sympathetic it may be with the expression of concern shown by prison officials across the nation, cannot be intimidated. When prison officers demand the return of the death penalty, they are clutching at a straw. They are convinced that a return of the death penalty will cure the social disease. They are satisfied that the threat of death will deter criminals from murder.

Most of us, who waver on the subject, look with sympathy on the elimination of those who murder police and prison officers. But not to the extent of being stampeded into action.

It is unfortunate that so serious a subject must be settled in the popular mind with so little information and so much feeling.

**ARS GRATIA ARTIS**

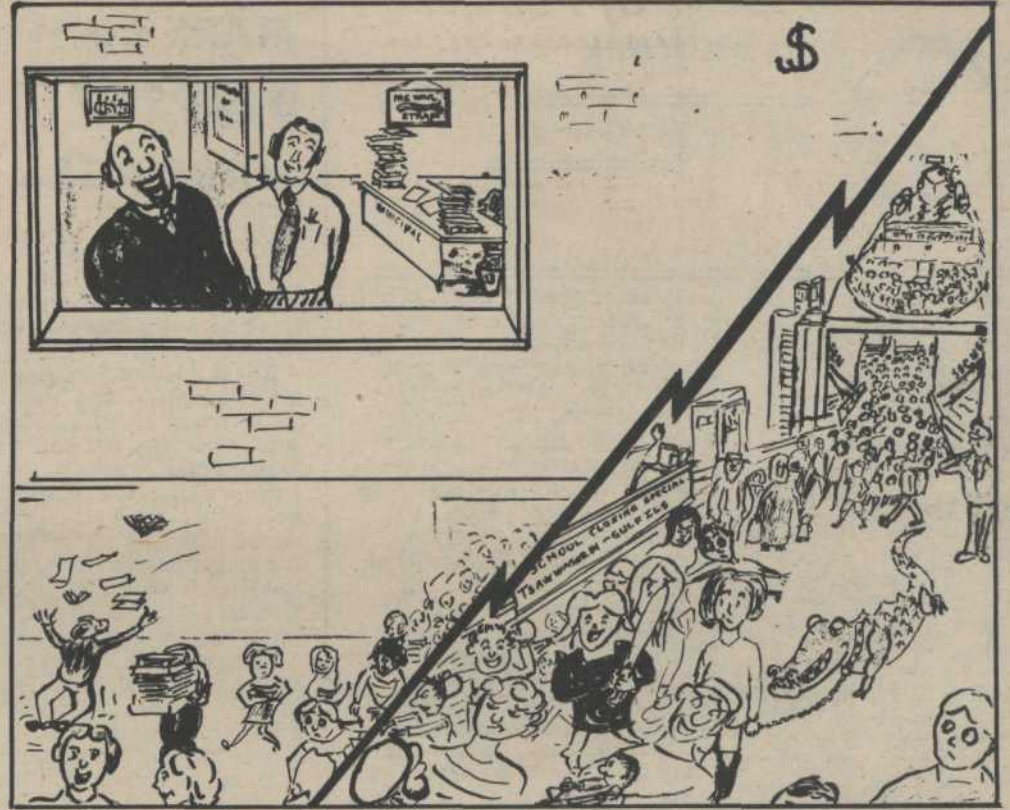
Art for art's sake is the thinking behind the annual presentation of paintings and crafts for display in Mahon Hall.

The standard of exhibit is invariably high and the volume is very impressive for so sparsely populated a community.

Some artists are yet young. The average age must be impressively high.

Mahon Hall, during the summer, reflects the creativity of islanders from all the islands. And the vast majority of work is done for the enjoyment of the artist and the pleasure of the viewer.

Artcraft 75 is a tribute to the islands which sponsor it.



*"I don't care if I don't see another one before September!"*

**Letters to the Editor**

**SUBDIVISION**

Sir,  
 After reading the story of the Subdivision By-law Meeting in your last issue, I feel about as misunderstood as that young steer that got entered with the Dairy Heifers on May Day.

I must have done a lousy job of explaining my concern regarding the proposed restrictive covenant on land that has been fully developed under the Community Plan, so perhaps you will allow me one more chance, if anyone out there is still listening.

B. C. Land Registry Offices have never accepted covenants restricting further 'Subdivision' of land. The method used in this Province to prevent further build-up in an area has always been to restrict what may be built on a parcel, and/or the manner in which a parcel may, or may not be used. There are many excellent reasons for this approach, which I will mention later on.

As I understand it, one of the objects of the Subdivision By-law is to use a restrictive covenant to prevent further development of parcels as they reach their maximum usage allowed by the Community Plan.

The Regional District quite properly advised that such restrictive covenants be imposed in the time-proven B. C. manner with the wording restricting further building and use, which same covenant has for many years effectively prevented the slicing up of properties such as Vancouver's 'British Properties' and Oak Bay's 'Uplands'. It is also used in several restricted developments on this Island. Such covenants have proven quite satisfactory in B. C. for around a century in preventing build-up in excess of that originally planned within a given area.

I have a very high regard for Mr. Schubart's intelligence and ability, however, without detracting from a number of other quite valid points he made, both he and others put forward at that Tuesday meeting their conviction that the Community Plan can only be completely enforced by altering the laws of the Province to permit Restrictive Covenants to be placed on further 'Subdivisions' of land which has reached its full density under the Community Plan. Mr. Schubart further emphasized this belief in his article printed in last week's 'Driftwood' in spite of the proven record of the normal covenant prop-

osed in the By-law. This little debate may seem to most of our people, unversed in land dealings, to be only a question of semantics, but there is one whale of a difference, and it is this difference which I have tried, so far without success, to explain.

It seems to me that these very dedicated critics are perhaps lacking in a complete understanding of our B. C. Land law and its historical precedents, and are narrowly defining the word 'Subdivision' to mean simply making little ones out of big ones.

This is a most erroneous concept.

'Subdivision' means, also the joining together of one or more parcels of land; by extension it can also mean a simply alteration of boundaries between two or more lots, where no additional parcels are created.

In effect, once such a covenant against 'Subdivision' is registered against a parcel, it would be most difficult, or impossible to alter existing boundaries to correct for topographical reasons, to acquire an additional few feet on a parcel so a building could conform to set-back laws, to take in a well-site, or extend a drain-field through a beneficial exchange with a neighbour, or any number of common-sense needs, all of which are shown on a Surveyor's Map as a 'Plan of Subdivision'.

An iron-clad restriction of this nature presumes that every lot and lot boundary has been perfectly laid out, now and forever. There are no such animals.

There are a great many other possible necessary and desirable Community needs that may be blocked, or made needlessly expensive, by a covenant restricting 'Subdivision' - water storage and pumping lots for water systems

acquisitions of parts of parcels for schools and hospitals - the restriction is simply too extreme to affix to any land.

The argument put forward at an earlier meeting, that some unscrupulous party will go ahead and create a large number of little lots out of one large parcel, after that large parcel has been restricted to one dwelling or duplex by the proposed by-law, is invalid.

In the first instance, it presupposes the connivance of the Approving Officer, the Highways Department, the Health Officer, the Regional District, and the Island Trust, in breaking the Community Plan.

In the second instance, it presupposes that this rip-off artist can persuade a group of buyers to pay money to come in and camp, squat, or otherwise reside on parcels where they are prohibited by the presently proposed restrictive covenant from doing such things.

If this Godfather can manage all this, he is not going to scruple at bringing all those buyers in to camp, squat, and reside on a parcel with a covenant against Subdivision laid on it. Then he wouldn't even have to pay for a survey.

If our main aim is to make the Community Plan so onerous and inflexible that it will end up being junked, then by all means we should proceed to have the law altered and restrict 'Subdivision' by covenant - but first we should check our fence lines, our drain fields, our water wells, our driveways, our set-back and the few score other little details which cause 'Subdivision' Plans to be drawn.

C. R. Horel,  
 R. R. 2, Ganges,  
 June 28, 1975.

X-KALAY

Sir,  
 X-Kalay will be rebuilding We are presently proceeding to plan and build a future (Turn to Page Five)

**Church Services**

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 1975

<b>ANGLICAN</b>			
St. George's	Ganges	Family Eucharist	9:30 am
St. Mark's	Central	Holy Eucharist	11:15 am
St. Mary Magdalene	Mayne	Mattins	11:30 am
<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC</b>			
St. Paul's	Fulford	Holy Mass	9:00 am
Our Lady of Grace	Ganges	" "	11:00 am
<b>UNITED</b>			
Rev. V. McEachern,	537-5817, Box 330, Ganges.	Worship Service	10:30 am
<b>COMMUNITY GOSPEL</b>			
Pastor Low,	537-2622, Ganges	Sunday Sch. for all ages	10:30
Box 61, Ganges		Evening Service	7:30 pm
		Thurs. Bible Study	7:30 pm

## SATURNA SCENE by Papajohn

Well, the sad news is first this week. Our favorite pad-

WHEREVER YOU DRIVE ...  
WHATEVER THE NEED  
WE HAVE THE UNIT INDEED

Large or small  
We have them all!  
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re, Rev. John Dangerfield, while pruning his giant rose bush had the step ladder swerve or twist and in the fall he broke two ribs, plus a lot of scratches and bruises.

After being patched up at Rest Haven, he was home and attended the Lions Do at ye Hall which he should not have done. But the Dangerfields had, as guests from California, the Rev. Jack Lax and his wife Dorothy and our Rev. wanted to show his old friends from California what a wonderful Lions Club we have here. There was no service

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## Letters

(From Page Four)

facility. By fall we plan to have the existing area cleared levelled and filled.

On behalf of the X-Kalay Foundation we would also like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks for those persons giving their assistance to us in a time of need, and for the people who have offered

on this Sunday and we guess this is what is called a Sabbathical. At any rate, the rest will help!

The Lions Lyre:

This was Installation night and we had Past District Governor Tom Portlock from up north on Ganges as Installing officer. Behind every successful man is a helpful wife and Frances must be the reason for Tom's easy and efficient manner in installing our new officers. President, Tom Davidson; secretary Frank Copeland, who not being present, had Johnny Bentum as proxy; treasurer is Andy Seimans; first vice president, Neville Bouch; second vice-president, Bill Lawson; Tail Twister, Steve Maskow; Lion Tamer, Al Kerr proxied by Em Coombs. New directors were, or are, Les Crosby and John Silvester, with incumbents Bob Hindmarch and Don Davidson. Last, but far from least, our genius of getting things done, John MacDonald was installed as past president.

Guests were Rev. Jack and Dorothy Lax from California; Carmen and Gerald Oglivv from Victoria, Bernice and Barry Crooks, Lexie and Ed Mogg, Sylvia and Don Hogg, Dick Fraser and Don Barnett. The Generalissimo of ye kitchen were Myrt Maskow, Lori Bouch, Granmarie McMahon and Laura Coombs. Our past master of dignified laudatory commendation, Walter Bavis, in his own elegant manner, thanked the ladies for their gourmet efforts in such a way that I would be foolhardy to try and add to Walter's praise. Laura Coombs was thanked for the efficient way she had organized the Lions' wives into preparing the gourmet dinners we have had. Of course, the ladies of Saturna are without compare, so luscious Laura had had a lot of gourmet help. Presentations were made to Gene and Jean Marshall, of Stewart, B.C., and to Trudy and Johnny Bentum who are leaving our fair isle for the IOF Haven in Orlando, Florida. This island and ye Lions Club will sure miss this couple of real islanders.

Clarice Warlow is home and she would have liked to stay in our Lady Minto Hospital. Clarice is only one of many

(Turn to Page Eleven)

their services and support.

Presently X-Kalay is in need of financing and any donations will go directly towards the rebuilding of the Salt Spring Facility. A tax-deductible receipt will be issued.

All donations, letters and inquiries will be taken at the X-Kalay Foundation, 1423 Grant St., Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2X9.

Richard Zakowich,  
Public Relations, House Mgr  
X-Kalay Foundation Society  
Vancouver, B.C.,  
June 30, 1975.

GOOD WATER

Sir,

I must disagree with Mr. Howland's letter in last week's Driftwood. He certainly is misinformed if he believes Duck Creek provides continuous run-off for St. Mary Lake. This year Duck Creek ceased to flow in early June, and will probably not start again until late October. For two years we have kept readings on the Creek for the government and there was always a five-month period when there was no outflow from the lake. Thus the lake has no natural "flushing action" for five months, and instead is a stagnant body of water.

I think we should be concerned about our future water supply from St. Mary's Lake. I have seen what can happen if proper care is not taken. I lived by a beautiful stream in Burnaby, in two years of bulldozing and development in the surrounding area that beautiful stream was nothing but green slime in the summer and continuous flash floods in the winter. To claim that development on surrounding hills will not affect our natural waters is ridiculous. Developments do pollute streams and lakes.

Until we have provided services for our present citizens, many of whom are not yet on the water lines, we should not consider servicing new developments.

We must make a serious evaluation of what our lakes and streams can carry without pollution. Other areas did not have the examples that we have. Their natural waters are ruined but we have an op-

portunity to save ours. Let us make every attempt to retain the rural beauty of this area and not destroy it through thoughtless development.

Barbara Hughes,  
R. R. 1, Ganges,  
June 29, 1975.

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Valcourt Centre

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BY FRANK RICHARDS

# Who put the taxes up?

Whole story of und...  
ing taxes is simple. I  
can't figure it out, as  
there'll be two of you.

History of your tax assess-  
ment is in many parts. Some  
levies date back a long time  
and some are quite recent.

So the taxes are up. Why?  
Local taxes, or those taxes  
which would be levied by a  
municipality if there were one

in the islands, are used to pay  
for administration of the area.  
Costs of police, road mainten-  
ance and park attendants  
come out of these taxes. They  
are paid into the general reve-  
nue of the province.

owners at a referendum. Major-  
ity of islanders have asked  
for it. If you have any ques-  
tion on the manner of spending  
of your \$9.25, see the Salt

the house assessed at \$7,000  
is paying taxes of \$41.11.  
The fire district on each is-  
land has its own tax level.  
Construction of a fire hall,

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The local taxes are pegged  
at 10 mills in unorganized ter-  
ritory and have been set at  
that level for decades.

If you have any complaint,  
enquiry or protest regarding  
this aspect of your tax bill,  
go see Hugh Curtis, MLA for  
Saanich and the Islands. This  
is squarely in his department.

Top levy goes to schools.  
Fractionally less than 31  
mills, the school tax levy is  
the largest single item and  
constitutes more than half the  
tax bill.

Responsibility is divided.  
Tax level for school is impos-  
ed by the Gulf Islands School  
District. The school trustees  
decide how much money is  
needed to operate the schools  
and then asks for a tax levy to  
meet that figure. The provin-  
cial government gets in on the  
picture before the bill comes  
to the tax payer. The depart-  
ment of education examines  
the school district budget and  
the levy cannot be made un-  
til the department has given  
its consent.

The tax goes to salaries,  
wages, maintenance and con-  
struction of schools. It helps  
to heat the schools and drive  
the buses.

If you figure the tax is too  
high, see your school trustee  
or the school board office at  
Ganges. If you figure your  
school trustee is to blame for  
the tax level, contest his seat  
at the next school board elec-  
tion. Trustees are elected ev-  
ery two years and although the  
majority of trustees are wom-  
en, men are eligible for of-  
fice.

On Salt Spring Island there  
is a recreation levy amounting  
to 1.321 mills. The owner of  
the home with a \$7,000 assess-  
ment value is paying \$9.25  
for all forms of recreation on  
the island.

The levy has been twice au-  
thorized by island property

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## AND WHO DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU WANT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT IT?

Spring Island Recreation Com-  
mission, which meets in Gan-  
ges once every month. If you  
are on the Outer Islands and  
you want to see a recreation  
levy, get in touch with Jim  
Campbell, your director on the  
Capital Regional Board, or  
Hugh Curtis. They can both  
give you a run down on how  
to get this little item on your  
tax bill.

Fire departments levy a tax  
in accordance with what they  
spend. This may sound very  
obvious, but no tax levy is  
made to meet costs that don't  
exist.

Third biggest item on the  
Salt Spring Island tax bill is  
fire protection. Those Salt  
Spring Islanders who are in  
the fire protection district...  
the southern tip of the island  
is not included... are paying  
5,873 mills. The owner of

purchase of a fire truck and  
other equipment imposes a  
burden on the taxes. In addi-  
tion, the ordinary operating  
costs are there whether the  
equipment is fully paid for or  
not.

On Salt Spring Island,  
where the department employs  
full-time staff, the rate is  
higher than on those islands  
where the department is en-  
tirely voluntary.

The fire district on any isl-  
and is a public organization.  
Trustees are elected at public  
meetings and any qualified is-  
lander may seek election.

If any taxpayer has a com-  
plaint about his fire protection  
levy he should address himself  
to the trustees. On the other  
hand, if any taxpayer has a  
beef and is among those who  
(Turn To Page Eleven)

## UP BY BIG JUMP NOTHING STANDS STILL AS

No appraisal of tax notices  
would be complete without  
looking back.

Costs are going up.  
In 1973 the tax levy for ed-  
ucation in Gulf Islands School  
District was 22.38 mills. Trust-  
ees of the district were very  
proud of the fact that the rate  
was among the lowest in the  
province.

In that same year, only two  
years ago, local levy was peg-  
ged at 10 mills, as it is today.  
On Salt Spring Island, the fire  
protection services cost 3,935  
mills, or \$3.93 per thousand  
dollars of assessment.

Capital Region was less than  
two mills and recreation and  
hospital construction each  
stood at slightly more than a  
half-mill.  
In 1974 assessments were in-  
creased sharply and the school  
tax fell to 21.1 mills, or  
\$21.11 per thousand dollars of

assessed value.  
Salt Spring fire protection  
was up to 4,021 mills and Re-  
gional District levy went up  
half-a-mill to 2.32 mills.

The jump from last year's  
low of 21.1 mills for school  
purposes and this year's figure  
of almost 31 mills was largely  
due to the provincial govern-  
ment adopted policy of col-  
lecting school taxes from the  
so-called wealthy districts and  
allocating them to the poor  
districts.

Islanders are paying for  
their own school costs, with  
minimal assistance from the

	Local	Schools	Fire	Reg
1973	10	22.38	3,935	1
1974	10	21.1	4,021	2
1975	10	30.98	5,873	4

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101	VANCOUVER 0930	GULF ISLANDS 0955	VICTORIA 1040
102	VICTORIA 1100	GULF ISLANDS 1125	VANCOUVER 1210
103	VANCOUVER 1230	GULF ISLANDS 1305	VICTORIA 1340
104	VICTORIA 1430	GULF ISLANDS 1505	VANCOUVER 1540
105	VANCOUVER 1600	GULF ISLANDS 1625	VICTORIA 1710
106	VICTORIA 1730	GULF ISLANDS 1805	VANCOUVER 1840
107	VANCOUVER 1900	GULF ISLANDS 1925	VICTORIA 2010

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# WHOSE HAND IS IN YOUR POCKET?

Whose hand is in your pocket?

When it comes around to tax notice time, there are a host of hands reaching in for your pocket book.

The provincial government wants to pay for road maintenance, police and other services, the Gulf Islands School District wants to pay its teachers and staff; there is a recreation bill levied against Salt Spring Islanders for the Recreation Commission. This has nothing to do with the Lions Recreation Complex. Firemen have a hand in your pocket, although the size of the fist varies from island to island.

The Capital Regional District has three hands in your pocket. One reaches for enough money to pay wages in the region; another is grasping for health services and a third reaches not only for hospital capital costs, but for the cost of assessment services. In other words, it is costing islanders part of a two-mill levy to pay the assessor to impose the taxes.

Capital Regional District Information Officer Jack Fry has prepared a Poor Man's Guide to the Property Tax Maze.

You live in an electoral area (unorganized territory) and you can't understand why your property taxes went so high this year. You can't figure, for that matter, how they are calculated. This might be of some interest to you.

Go through the drawers looking for your last year's tax notice and, if you can find it, compare it with this year's notice. You will soon get an idea of which administrations are asking for the biggest increases.

You may find, as I did, that the largest single increase is in the cost of public schools. The mill rate in the Gulf Islands School District jumped from 21.1 in 1974 to 30.98 in 1975.

The regional district which I work for is only a minor contributor to the total mill rate. It runs about 18 per cent on Salt Spring Island and less than that in the other islands which have less intensive involvement in recreation.

The provincial government used to include public health service costs in its levy, but since these services were turned over to the Capital Regional District in April, 1974, community health services costs are now included in the Capital Regional District levy.

Likewise, this year's tax notice shows Municipal Assessment Authority costs added onto the Capital Regional District Hospital levy, whereas assessment costs in electoral areas used to be paid out of the provincial levy.

Now, if you want to know how to figure these things out for yourself, let's take a look at your 1975 tax notice. A "mill" merely means one-one thousandth, and this is important to remember.

You will find the assessed value of your home and property on the left-hand side of the notice, under "Taxation Act - net taxable value." Let's suppose that figure on your tax notice is a nice round one, like 7,000. That means you are going to be taxed on the amount of \$7,000.

The rate shown to the right of that is a bit deceptive, because it is shown as a percentage rather than as a mill rate. But, if it is 1.000 per cent on your tax notice, as it was on mine, and your assessment was \$7,000, you would multiply \$7,000 by .01 (which is 10 mills), and you learn that the provincial government wants \$70 from you this year.

To figure out your school taxes, multiply \$7,000 (still assuming that is the assessed value of your property) by 0.0398 and you will find you are paying \$278.60 for school purposes.

A fire department levy of 5.873 mills (on Salt Spring Island) would be the same \$7,000 multiplied by .005873, which would come to \$41.111.

You can do the same with each of the services shown on your tax notice, and by running through the same process on the separate items of last year's tax notice, you will be able to figure out pretty well where you stand tax-wise.

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## TAXES LEAP

province and then they pay nearly half as much again to help the areas with low assessment rolls and big school enrolments.

Local school trustees have no say in this aspect of school tax levies.

Following table shows the three-year pattern in taxes on Salt Spring Island. Provincial levies, regional district imposts and education taxes are the same throughout the islands. Fire protection and recreation are not the same in this table as on other islands.

If the tax bill is still not

Yr.	Recreation	Health	Hosp.	Mill Rate
73	0.652	n/a	0.680	39.47
74	0.707	n/a	0.636	39.783
75	1.321	1.487	2.128	54.394

comprehensible, the district assessor is now located in the new Valcourt Business Centre, opposite the Court House at Ganges. His office will explain the areas of the tax notice which cannot be understood.

Tax bills are payable at the Court House in Ganges. The assessor's office has been moved, but the money goes to the Court House and not to the assessor.

The increase in school taxes is 9.88 mills or 46.8% over 1974.

Local services are up by

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4.243 mills, which is a still bigger jump in terms of percentages, at 55.2%.

Total mill rate is up this year by 36.4%.

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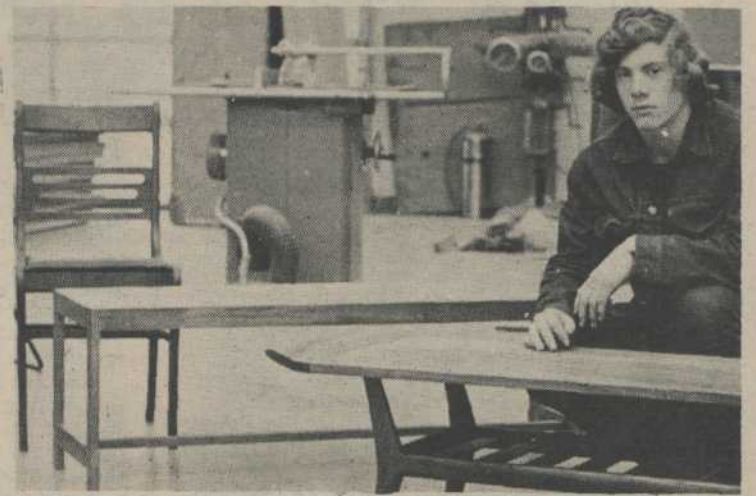
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### COFFEE TABLE TAKES TOP PRIZE

Top prize for woodwork on the Gulf Islands was taken by John McKenzie last week. On Thursday, June 26, the Salt Spring Island adjudicator, Chris Secor, on behalf of the B. C. Forest Industry Hoo Hoo Club, visited the Gulf Islands Secondary School woodwork

shops to judge the design, construction and finish of several projects submitted in this competition. John McKenzie is a grade 9 student at the school. He was awarded the first prize for his coffee table. Jay Bourdin, also a grade 9 student, was a very close runner-up.



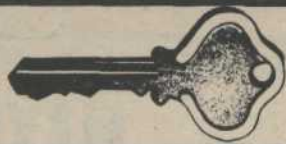
This competition is held annually for all schools within the mid-Vancouver Island area, with awards being made to each participating school. John is seen with his prize-winning entry in the picture.

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### GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE NOTES

BY PAT DOHERTY

Irene Hawksworth carried off the roses and the Rose Bowl last week, with Lil Rayner winning the first flight, and Ada Woodley coming in first in the consolation flight. Irene won with a net 84. Congratulations!

In Thursday competition, the nine-hole event was won by Anne Sober, with Connie Hardy and Hill Johnson winning the par points event. The Spring Eclectic is over, and winners Connie Hardy and Marge Frattinger are getting warmed up for coming Summer Eclectic.

Between 30 and 40 lady members are now participating in the Thursday competitions now that the good weather has arrived.

In junior play last week Kevin Noble won the putting competition with 14 putts, Jill Johnson came in second.

In the mixed number 1 event, Joy Tuckey and Malcolm Robertson easily turned aside the challenge of Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Huton. In the men's number 1 the holders Al Whorley and Jim Jeffrey were shunted off the throne by Hugh Ross and Bruce Hardy.

There was a disappointing turnout for the Jensen Cup on Sunday, with only four competitors showing up. The event was won by John Glascock, with Bumps Irwin as runner-up. This is a nine-hole event reserved for gentlemen over 70, perhaps the male members are getting as reticent as the ladies about giving their true age.

The golf club has hired two members to look after the pro shop in the evenings, the reason for this action in the summer time is all too obvious. However if you are a member, and come out to play in the evenings, it is advisable to carry your membership card with you, as you may be asked to produce same.

### ALCOHOL AND THREE CASES IN COURT

There were three cases heard in Ganges Provincial Court on Wednesday, dealing with young people and alcohol.

James Frederick Akerman, pleaded guilty to an impaired driving charge. The sentence was a \$300 fine and a three-month license suspension. He was apprehended on June 14, when his car went off the road. The damage to the car amounted to \$1,000, court was told. There were no injuries.

Glen Blomly, Ganges, received a \$30 fine in respect of a charge of illegal possession of alcohol.

David John Moulton was charged with impaired driving, but at his request, was remanded to a court hearing on July 16, without plea.

All appeared before provincial judge, D. K. McAdam.

### RED HOWARD DIES IN HOSPITAL

Resident of Mayne Island for many years, Earl A. Howard ("Red") died in Lady Minto Hospital on Monday, June 23, at the age of 74.

He was a veteran of the

Second World War.

Left to mourn are his son, Leslie Earl Howard; two daughters, Mrs. Kathy Orr, Mrs. Shirley de Wolfe; two sons-in-law, Terry Orr and Lloyd deWolfe and one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Velma Howard; eight grandchildren; a sister, Pat Haven and a nephew, Bill Haven.

Funeral services were observed in St. George's Anglican Church on Thursday, June 26 and cremation followed.

Goodman's Funeral Home was in charge.

**MODERNISE  
 WITH  
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### TEACHERS PAY TRIBUTE

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association were happy to honour the retirement of two members of Islands School staff on Thursday, June 26, at a wine and cheese party.

Retiring from the teaching staff, T. E. Harcus was presented with a set of draughting pens and a silver tankard.

Charlie Archer, who has retired as head of the maintenance department for the school district, was presented with a fishing reel.

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**NOISY SHOPS**

( From Page One )

are unhappy with the lack of adequate storage space and with the temperatures of the shops.

In addition, said Mr. Neish, the noise from the carpentry shop exerts an ill effect on the occupants of the metal-shop, the draughting room and the Home Economics rooms.

Materials and students' projects are left lying around for lack of storage space. There is space for lockers, continued Neish, but no lockers have been supplied. These shortcomings have already been studied by the board.

There has been an excellent fibreglassing program, but there is no provision for such work without a finishing room, pointed out Laurie Neish.

Mr. Neish referred to a matter discussed earlier that afternoon by trustees. They had considered a balancing agency for the heating system under fire.

**DEATH OF REV. ETHEL SHOWERS**

Former Victoria minister, Rev. Ethel Kate Showers died in Lady Minto Hospital last week. She was in her 89th year.

Mrs. Showers had been a resident of Salt Spring Island for many years. She was formerly a Pastor of the Mission of Alexis in Victoria.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Winnifred

Wood, Ganges; a grandson, L. Sampson, Duncan; a granddaughter, Mrs. Janet Waterfall, Ocean Falls, B. C. and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday, June 27 in St. George's Anglican Church with Col. Rev. J. N. Bracher officiating. Arrangements were by Goodman Funeral Home.

"It's not a case of balancing a system," he charged, "it's a case of building one."

Having listed various shortcomings of the new structure, Mr. Neish emphasized that the chief and most prominent complaint was the constant background noise of the dust extracting system.

He recalled that the originally planned system had proved too expensive for the taxpayers' approval and it had been pared down to meet the public approval needed at that time.



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SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64 (GULF ISLANDS)  
**TERMINATION OF CONTRACT**  
Notice is hereby given that the contract between Crusader Construction Ltd. and the Board of School Trustees, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) for the construction of additions to the Mayne Island Elementary School is terminated as of June 30th, 1975.



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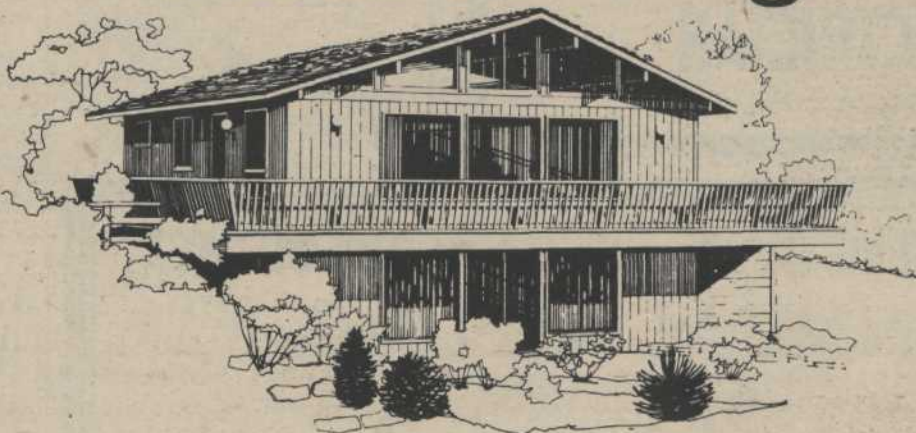
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A GARDEN FAIRE

# THEY'LL GO WHEN LIGHTS COME

BY BRENDA ANDERSON

Ever been led down the garden path? Take a stroll through the "Garden Faire". This delightful little organic shop has many things to catch your eye and your fancy.

Its original owners, when it was located on McPhillips Ave sold only plants. Dennis and Gloria O'Hara acquired the shop last November. Since then its location has changed to Moutat's Mall, and the contents have expanded.

As you browse, take notice that many of the handcrafts are island-made. The heady fragrance of flourishing plants and organic soaps, shampoos, and incense, is refreshing. Stop for a moment to glance through informative books, or sort through their collection of records. Like tea? Take your pick from a selection of seeds, and try growing your own.

The O'Hara's have cultivated their knowledge of horticulture along with the plants. It all started with week-end jaunts from their former residence in West Vancouver. It has branched out to a home in Fulford Harbour and a thriving business here. Like so many others on Salt Spring they were seeking to escape the hectic city life. What better way to start, but to expand on a hobby that gives such pleasure? Where to from here?  
"Well," said Gloria, with

a laugh, "When Ganges gets traffic lights, it may be time for us to move on."

At the present time, however, they would like to expand the facilities, but space is a problem. As new ideas come into focus, they have been shifting some of their stock to be displayed in the corridors of the Mall. And additions are always popping up - the latest being an aquarium "to keep the plants company". Their flourishing wards reflect the O'Hara's concern.

If you're in the vicinity, take a few moments for a delightful detour; but you may linger longer than anticipated. And odds are, you'll be spending more time in your garden - indoor or out - tending to some of the "Garden Faire's" wares. Great exercise for your green thumb!

## Info/Health

Dear Doctor Young: I saw my doctor recently about a bowel problem. He examined me and ordered some blood tests and an x-ray of the large bowel. He now wants to do a "sigmoid" exam. My friends tell me that this is a terrible ordeal, and very uncomfortable. Do you feel that this examination is necessary, and what is involved?

It would appear that your doctor is practising good medicine. Often a diagnosis can be made by what you are able to tell the doctor, along with findings made during a physical examination.

Frequently blood tests and x-rays are needed to help track down the problem. In addition direct visualization of an area may give useful information, and various "scopes" have been devised. Among these is the sigmoidoscope, used to examine the lower bowel.

Many patients (and a few doctors) are uncomfortable discussing the lower bowel, with the result that problems here may be glossed over. Patients who would not hesitate to have instruments inserted into their noses or throats often resist the equally necessary examination of the rectum, sometimes to their peril.

The lower bowel is frequently diseased, and the sigmoidoscope allows the doctor to see this area very well.

You need have no fear of the examination. Your dignity may suffer, but only momentarily. While you are in a knee-chest position, with your bottom sticking up under a drape, the rectal area will be lubricated, and probably examined with a finger and a short anoscope. Following this the sigmoidoscope will be gently inserted. You will be asked to report any discomfort as this may mean that the scope is slightly out of position and it will be altered. If your doctor sees suspicious areas -- growths, ulcers, cancers -- he may take a sample or biopsy, also painless.

Many patients are tense because they feel they may have an "accident" during the procedure. This is impossible as the rectum cannot function with the tube in place.

My advice is that you have the examination. It is simple, safe, and effective in diagnosing early disease. While not pleasant, it is less distressing than having a tooth filled.

Address questions to Dr. R. Young, care of this newspaper

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**SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**

TO BE HELD AT THE  
**Legion Hall**  
**Tuesday, July 22, 1975**  
AT **8.00pm**

Agenda to include:  
Reading of Auditor's Financial Report  
Fire Chief's Report  
Election of trustees  
New business etc.

TAXPAYERS NOTE -  
This is your fire district, help to support the Volunteer Firemen by attending this meeting

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
E. Moore,  
Secretary

### A TRIBUTE

## RED IS WELL-REMEMBERED

BY MARY BACKLUND

One of the pioneer residents of Mayne Island passed away in Lady Minto Hospital on Monday, June 23.

Earl Alfred G. ("Red") Howard was 74 years of age, and had been ill for quite some time.

He was born at Chemainus, on Vancouver Island, and came at a very early age to Mayne Island, where he lived with his grandfather, John Tinkley, near the north entrance to Active Pass. Here he received his schooling, and learned how to paddle down the Pass at any time, with the greatest of ease. He soon built his own canoe, and spent many hours fishing around these waters.

He began training to be a boxer, but decided to give it up for the better life of a fisherman and logger. He acquired quite a name for himself as a scrapper, but always tried to keep out of any altercations.

When Pearl Harbour was bombed, he decided to join the Forces, and in the early 1940's, away he went with the

Canadian Forestry Corps. At the end of World War II he returned to Mayne Island, where he worked in the woods, and fished for the big fish.

Always a kindly man, he loved children most of all; he always had a smile and was able to make people around him laugh. His marriage to a beautiful member of one of the pioneer families at Salt Spring ended in friendship; they just agreed to disagree, which is a wonderful thing.

Mr. Howard leaves his sorrowing family, son, Leslie Earl and daughter-in-law, Velma, two daughters, Shirley, and son-in-law Lloyd De Wolfe, Kathy, and son-in-law Terry Orr. There are eight grandchildren. One sister, Pat Haven, and nephew, Bill Haven.

Funeral services were held at St. George's Church, Ganges, on Thursday, June 26, at 2 pm. Pallbearers were Victor Sampson and Eddie Ryan, of Salt Spring; Jackie Hawthorne, Galiano; Jake Derksen, Sidney and Wilbur Smith and Rick Lasalle, of Victoria. Cremation followed the services.

Memorial service will be held at Mayne Island on July 13.

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### SATURNA SCENE by Papajohn

(From Page Five)

of us who, though most people hate hospitals, always kinda hate leaving Lady Minto. On behalf of Clarice, and all of us who have been in Lady Minto, Thanks! (That's at least four bits, Harold!)

Our fair recycling ladies have put out a letter over the signature of Community Club Prexy Jack Vincent and Secret

#### HOW MUCH?

(From Page Six)

have never attended a fire district meeting in his life, then he is barking up a very unfamiliar tree and would do well to keep quiet until the next annual meeting and make a point of attending to express his views.

The levy of 1.487 mill for community health services is among those little items which have been quietly passed by the provincial government to the local taxpayer. In past years this was paid for out of provincial revenues. It was included in the 10 mills for administration. When the regional districts were given the responsibility for these services, the bill was also passed on, just as it always has been in organized territory. It meets the salaries of public health nurses and school checks and public health offices. Health inspection services in connexion with building permits are supposed to meet their own costs. Hostile to paying that 1.487 mills? See Regional Directors George Heinekey on Salt Spring Island or Jim Campbell on the Outer Islands. It's their problem.

Last item on the tax bill is the Capital Regional Hospital District and the Municipal Assessment Authority.

The hospital bill meets the costs of building new hospitals in the Capital Regional Hospital District. Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital is included.

If you feel sore towards the local hospital and its capital costs, call the administrator and let him have it with both barrels. That's what he's there for! And if that doesn't relieve the burn, attend the next annual hospital board meeting. You might find it lonely, but that's a good place to tell them. If you can't wait, call your regional director. Hospitals are his problem just like anything else in the region.

The assessment levy could be a bone of contention, but it shouldn't be, logically. In the past this cost has been borne by the government out general revenues, or the 10-mill pegged levy. Since assessments have been taken away from local administrations or government department, the cost is now distributed through the province. In this area, municipalities have always passed the cost of assessment on to the ratepayer. What's new?

ary Mike Hayes outlining what we should all do to make this wonderful job work. They have really cleaned up the Garbage Disposal Area; it is no longer a dump and if every one follows the instructions to this letter it will be a great help. Let's not have a dump, anymore!

On Saturday, July 5, the B.C. Historical Association, Victoria Branch will be taking a ferry cruise of the Gulf Islands and will stop over from the noon ferry till the 4 p.m. They will have lunch in our Community Hall. All the islands are contributing food and so our Victoria friends will be well and truly fed. There will be a short meeting with a speaker from each island, on each island's aspects. Names of speakers are secret so no one can get scared beforehand. Uncle Art Ralph has just spent a week with his daughter Margaret Denholm at Cobble Hill, Victoria. So our oldest Lion missed the dinner and someone else had to move the meeting adjourn.

Visiting Taimi and Bob Hindmarch who are spoiling him is one of their grandchildren, Phillip Hoover, of Victoria. And, boy oh boy, can they spoil 'em. Granmarie and I are trying to emulate the Hindmarch's as we have grandsons John, Todd and Scott here for the barbecue. Of course, their mum and dad brought them over.

About the Debbie and Archie Sanderson wedding, as the pictures did not turn up everything else is postponed until next week.

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# PUBLIC NOTICE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION

(Public Inquiries Act, R.S.B.C. 1960, Chapter 315)

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the British Columbia Public Inquiries Act that His Honour The Lieutenant-Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint as Commissioners the following persons, namely

- Mr. Robert McMath, Richmond, Chairman
- Mr. Ross G. Marks, 100 Mile House, Vice Chairman
- Dr. Robert M. Clark, Vancouver
- Dr. Mason Gaffney, Victoria
- Dr. Stanley W. Hamilton, Vancouver
- Mrs. Alice MacKenzie, Vancouver
- Mr. Bruno Meyer, Prince George
- Mr. Syd Thompson, Vancouver

The Commissioners shall inquire into the revenue sources of local and regional governments and boards in relation to their responsibilities. In so doing the Commissioners shall give particular consideration to the property tax in organized and unorganized territory. They shall inquire into the following and any other related topics they deem advisable:

- Property tax legislation in British Columbia and elsewhere in North America.
- Comparison of the level of property taxation in British Columbia with the level of such taxation in other provinces.
- The distribution of the property tax load among categories of property in urban and rural municipalities, and in unorganized territory.
- The distribution of the property tax load in relation to income and wealth.
- The distribution of the benefits of local and regional expenditures among income groups and among other categories of taxpayers.
- Consequences of assessing and taxing property at actual value.
- Property tax exemptions.
- Property taxes and/or grants in lieu of taxes for Crown corporations, the Government of Canada, and the Government of British Columbia.
- Site value taxation.
- Taxation of machinery.
- The municipal business tax.
- Administration of property tax assessment and collection.
- Appeals procedures and the possible role of an ombudsman.
- Alternative sources of locally levied municipal revenues, including user charges for services to property.

The Commissioners shall make recommendations, including proposals for legislative changes to improve the equity and efficiency of real property taxation. They are to report their findings and recommendations to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council in accordance with the Act.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that PUBLIC HEARINGS by the Commission of Inquiry on Property Assessment and Taxation will be held at central locations throughout the Province, at times and dates to be announced. These Public Hearings will commence in the fall and will continue through the winter months, as necessary, to receive briefs. An inaugural meeting is to be held

10:00 a.m. Friday, July 4, 1975  
Holiday Inn, Connaught Room  
711 West Broadway Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

The purpose of this meeting will be to outline plans for future sittings and rules of procedure.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that those intending to make submissions to the Commission at its fall and winter Public Hearings are required to:

- (a) Write immediately to inform the Executive Secretary at the address below and inform him of such intention and thereafter
- (b) Prepare a BRIEF to be forwarded to the Executive Secretary prior to their appearance before the Commission.

The Executive Secretary will contact the parties concerned and certain other selected organizations to arrange for their appearance at a suitable time and place.

Further notices with respect to public meetings of the Commission to hear submissions will be issued in due course.

On behalf of the Commission:  
Brig. Gen. E. D. Danby (Retired),  
Executive Secretary,  
Commission of Inquiry on Property Assessment and Taxation,  
P.O. Box 46302, Postal Station "G",  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4G6

June 26, 1975



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