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TWENTY-SECOND YEAR, NO. 50

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1981

25¢ per copy

For 31st time

Santa sails in again!

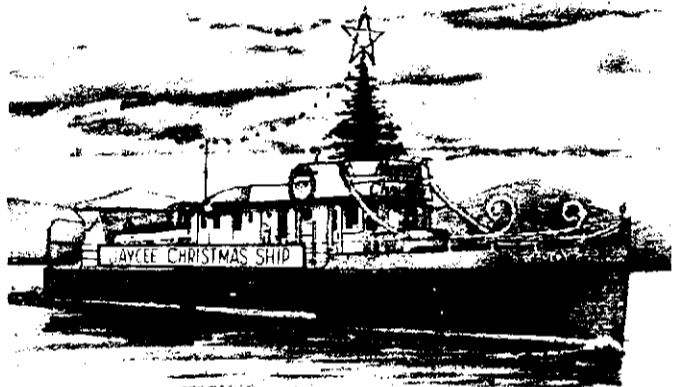
The Jaycees of Bellingham, Washington, brought Santa Claus to the Gulf Islands last weekend. It was the 31st annual trip made by the club and the 31st for Tripo Costello, who plays the leading role.

At Salt Spring more than 650 youngsters turned up to see Santa at the high school gym, and each was rewarded with a small gift and a bag of sweets.

The line-up of children, young and not so young,

snaked around the gymnasium of the Gulf Islands Secondary School and patience was the by-word of the evening.

The Jaycees, the accompanying press and the working passengers of the ship *Discovery* each chipped in to cover the nearly \$1,000 which the joyful voyage cost. The wayfarers help with money for the trip to ensure that gifts and treats are available for the children of the 13 ports of call in the San Juan and Gulf Islands.



The Christmas Ship, SES Discovery, at Galiano

Fire razes cabin at Galiano

Sirens called volunteer firemen from their beds at 5 am on Saturday morning at Galiano Island.

Alarm had been turned in by Linda Kenyon who, aroused by the barking of dogs in her boarding kennels, awoke to find her cabin, 100 yards from the camper in which she was sleeping, engulfed in flames.

The cabin would normally have been occupied by her son Daniel, who was staying on Mayne Island at the time.

The cause of the fire is a mystery as the cabin had been unoccupied all of the previous day and there was no stove in it.

The cabin was completely destroyed together with the contents which contained most of Kenyon's personal and household effects. There was no damage to the kennels and office which were some distance from the fire.

Commission says yes to pool in park

The Salt Spring Island Advisory Planning Commission added its voice in support of the proposed swimming pool last week.

The members of the commission were discussing an application from the Capital Regional District for the rezoning of a part of Mouat Park for siting of the proposed pool.

While the concept of a swimming pool was generally acceptable to each member of the planning commission, several expressed concern about the use of the park for the project.

Dr. David Lott, who abstained from voting on the proposal, said he was against the use of the park as a matter of principle.

SHOULD REMAIN PARKS

"Parks should remain parks and

not be built upon piece by piece," he said.

Yvette Valcourt, as CRD representative on the planning commission, noted that if the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission had to purchase land

the end cost for the pool would be even greater.

She said she supported the use of part of the park but wanted assurance that the rest remained as a park.

As a representative of the

Parks and Recreation Commission, Jim Ballantyne told the planners that Mouat Park is ideally suited to the siting of the pool.

He pointed out that the pool

Turn to Page Two

Island Trust to emulate Britain's National Trust

Minister of municipal affairs Bill Vander Zalm has told the Islands Trust that he is prepared to consider proclamation of sections of the Islands Trust Act which have never been invoked.

The general trustees, John Rich, Gordon Wallace and Mike Humphries, attended on the minister recently and subsequently reported to the Trust council meeting on the minister's reception of their recommendations.

The matter of close concern to trustees was the proclamation of that section of the act which would permit the Trust to hold land and to accept donations of land.

The council meeting gave detailed attention to the proposed Trust fund.

It was felt that the fund would add a "significant positive role" to the Islands Trust comparable in function, "if not in scope" to the

National Trust Fund established in Great Britain in 1907.

POSITIVE COMPONENT

It would enable the Trust to embark on what was termed "a most positive component of its mandate, to preserve and protect the area's unique amenities for all the residents of British Columbia."

The Trust would raise its funds from those directly concerned to minimize dependency on public funds and resources.

The Trust also agreed that the Trust fund would be restricted in its scope to the Islands Trust area. It was also felt that the social and economic demands in the islands are not likely to conflict with the general goals of the Islands Trust.

The fund would seek the retention in perpetuity of those areas deemed to be the most valuable for recreation, nature study, biological research and

aesthetic enjoyment.

ADMINISTRATION

Any properties accumulated by the Trust would be administered for the benefit of visitors.

The Trust envisages a Trust Fund Committee answerable to the minister through the general Trust. Two advisory committees would be named: the financial management advisory committee and the land management advisory committee. The Trust Fund Committee would include members from the Islands Trust, the ministry of municipal affairs and the public. The function of the committee would be policy recommendation and fund raising.

The advisory committee would be named by the Trust and the ministry. Function of both these committees would be to provide technical advice to the Trust Fund Committee.

Meeting to discuss ferry service

Transportation committees of the southern Gulf Islands are planning to meet with B.C. Ferry Corporation officials to discuss plans for ferry services affecting the islands.

Plans for enlarging the dock facilities at Mayne Island have led to the call for a meeting.

At the December 4 council meeting concern was particularly strong on the part of Saturna Island trustees. Saturna is at the end of the line, the Trust was told, and it is almost impossible for Saturna representatives to take part in a single-day meeting in Victoria. They have to stay overnight, the Trust learned.

The Trust meetings in Victoria represent a 28-hour trip for Saturna trustees, said Jim Money.

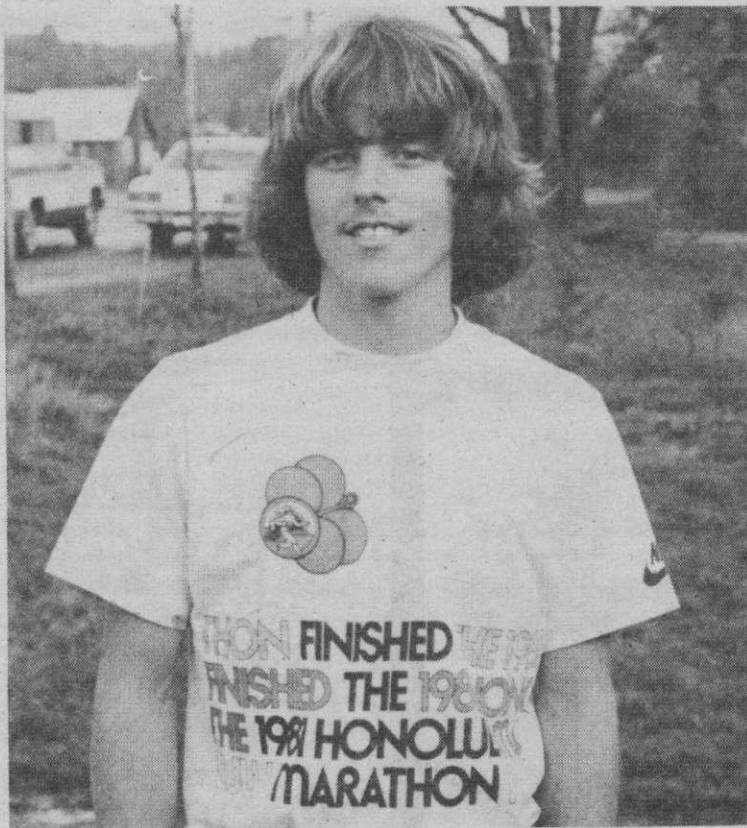
It is among the concerns to be brought to the attention of the ferry corporation.

Meeting follows the recent announcement that tenders have been let for a major new dock facility at Village Bay. Speculation has been rife that the ferry corporation is planning a shuttle service between the islands and Village Bay with a mainland service running between the Mayne Island port and Tsawwassen.

County and Trust are compatible

When the Islands Trust council recently gave a quick look at a county system for the islands, trustees agreed that the change would make little difference to the Trust administration.

The Islands Trust was set up to operate whether or not the component islands might become incorporated municipalities, it was explained.



Dan Utter

Local youth enters Honolulu Marathon

A Grade 11 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School was hobbling slightly on Monday after completing a 26-mile run the day before.

Dan Utter, 16, was back at school Monday after returning from Hawaii Sunday where he participated in the ninth annual Honolulu Marathon.

The Salt Spring Island youngster completed the run in 4 hrs., 31 mins. Despite the marathon's 6 am start, runners had to sweat in temperatures of about 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

Utter, whose interests also include soccer and basketball, practised for the marathon for three months, following a schedule published in the magazine, *Runner's World*.

Also in the marathon were his

father and brother, both of California. They both finished with better times than the local runner, but the latter pointed out that they have better weather in which to train.

It was Dan Utter's first marathon, but it might not be his last. He's considering entering the New York Marathon next spring.

Commission says yes

From Page One
would have to be drained for cleaning, with the 140,000 gallons of water needing a storm sewer for dispersal. Such a sewer is close to the park, he said.

CLOSE TO SCHOOL

Dr. Hugh Borsman, also of the Parks and Recreation Commission, said the pool located in Mouat Park would be close to the school, which would be the major user of the facility.

Parks, he said, are for recreation and a pool would attract people to Mouat Park.

Nick Gilbert, chairman of the planning commission, agreed that the park is not being utilized to its full extent and also noted the attraction of a pool would bring people into the park.

The planners voted approval of the use of part of the eastern portion of the park for the pool, subject to suitable design of the building meeting approval of the advisory design panel.

The vote contradicts a resolution of the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee of November 17, 1981. The Trust Committee had discussed the status of Mouat Park at that time in anticipation of the rezoning application.

CONTRARY TO PLAN

They resolved "...that the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee does not favour the use of Mouat Park for a swimming pool complex and that it would appear to be contrary to the community plan."

Mouat Park is mentioned twice in the community plan, once as part of a green space around the village of Ganges and a second time noting "Mouat Park...should be reviewed with a view to making

it more useable as a place for quiet relaxation adjoining the core and leading to the waterfront."

The planners were reminded of the action of the Trust Committee in a background paper from staff planner Deane Strongitharm.

MANY MORE HURDLES

Glenn Woodley, chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, told the planners that the pool project faces many more hurdles before it becomes a reality.

"I don't think the commission

can put a swimming pool on Salt Spring Island," he said. "It has to be the people who create it."

The reference was to the referendum to be held in early February, 1982, which will allow the voters of Salt Spring to voice their pleasure on the project.

Yvette Valcourt said, "I think they (the Parks and Recreation Commission) deserve support."

"If we put too many sticks in the spokes of the wheel, the people of the island won't even have a chance to decide."

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To Be

Frank



by richards

Of course there was enough gas, said Women's Lib. The tank was half full. After all, the needle was only just over the red mark!

Be an escapist! Figure it this way: we've had almost no snow so far this year and it's nearly Christmas. Whatever the winter may bring now, it'll be spring in another eight weeks!

We had several loads of kittens lately. As fast as we decide to have the mummy fixed she starts on a new batch. We offered them as pets, watchcats and even as part of a pie, but one has been left with us. She's too old for us and she's too old for mama cat. The interesting part is when mummy figures kitty is looking for milk. They spit and hiss at each other. And their conversation is so easy to read. The kitten says, "I'm hungry!" And the reply comes quick as a flash, "You're not kitten!"

Would I accompany her to a baroque concert, she asked. But I was too baroque to buy a ticket.

A student recently swallowed 30¢ as the result of a slap on the back. Report was made to the school board in Ganges last week. What of it? Swallowing money is nothing new in education. The minister of education can swallow millions of islands dollars without even a slap on the wrist.

She wanted a tripod and I brought it to the office. My tripod was made in the days when hardwoods were used in preference to light metals. The tripod consists of wooden legs with aluminum inserts for adjustment. I've had it for 30 years. In the 50's a retiring phytopathologist from the Saanich Experimental Farm was leaving for a holiday in his native Wales. He was taking his camera, the pride of his life, but he didn't need a tripod and he lent it to me in case I might find it useful. Walter Jones never came back. He found his native South Wales and the excitement was his undoing. He died there. That's how I got my tripod. But I was thinking more of Walter than of camera equipment. He was short in stature and strong in his Welsh accent. He was a pure scientist. Without good mathematics, physics and chemistry no science was viable in his book. There were no shortcuts and he had nothing but contempt for the man who might presume to a knowledge of plant pathology with a sound grounding in the sciences. Walter was one of the first of the Hippies or the last of the remittance men. His folks were not of the social standing to be able to afford remittances and he would have scorned the withdrawal from affairs that characterized the early hippies. But he lived in a cabin that could have equally housed chickens. It maybe did at one time. Low ceilings, bouncing floors, damp wood and dust were the chief features of the Jones' place. If he had visitors he would get worried about how they might react to his primitive living conditions. Otherwise he didn't care. There would be boxes of books and papers in one corner and some odd possession in another. The kitchen was a mother-in-law's nightmare. It was, of course, famous. Everybody knew Walter's place. My sister-in-law worked with him for a year or so and was quickly infected with the esteem and affection that the quite prickly old bachelor managed to infuse into those around him. I knew him for a decade and I never heard a resentful word against him. He was wholly and thoroughly genuine. I'm glad I have that tripod. It makes sure that I'll always remember Walter with that same affection that lived as long as he did.

I have flown many thousands of miles. I've flown across the province and across the country and across the continent and across the Atlantic and across the Pacific. And I still don't like flying. The air force introduced me to flying and I wasn't impressed. As a thorough-going coward I remember the crashes during the war. And as a lover of comfort I don't enjoy the prolonged discomfort of long-distance sitting. I have the physique that calls for a first-class seat and the bank account that insists on tourist. But when I saw a report that Canadian Pacific were selling off the last of the DC 8's, I remembered the days when the DC 8 was new and I was merely middle-aged. Now they're old and so am I. But the part that left me staggered was the report that the last Rolls Royce conway engined DC 8's had flown more than 68,000 hours with 23,997 landings. That's a landing every 2 1/2 hours. An earlier machine already sold had reached 45 million miles in 20 years, with 74,500 hours and 27,950 landings. And I remembered the hundred or so landings I have experienced with bated breath and white knuckles. I reckon if I had stayed with that DC 8, even I would have got used to the sensation.

School District

Strick Aust to serve further term as chairman of board

Strickland Aust, of Salt Spring Island, was re-elected chairman of the Gulf Islands School Board on Tuesday afternoon last week.

Two trustees were nominated. Aust and vice-chairman Jeannine Dodds, of Mayne Island. Aust was returned by the balloting.

The chairman had shown an excellent lack of bias in considering the needs of the board during the past year, said John Zacharias in his nomination.

the elected representatives.

John Zacharias was elected vice-chairman.

Following the election, Aust and Zacharias took their seats at the head of the board table.

The Outer Islands are a ward system, he explained. They are geographically divided into separate political entities.

In addition, Strick Aust had been diligent in gaining the opinions of his fellow trustees and he had shifted the decision-making function of the board back on to

MODERNIZE
with
PROPANE
537-2233

Singing sailors

to serenade

Here we sail a'carolling will be sung by members of the Salt Spring Island Sailing Club December 18.

Sailors of the club, approximately 50 strong in up to 10 boats, sail and power variety, will set out from the club at 8 pm to serenade residents around Ganges Harbour and Long Harbour.

The singing boatmen will rendezvous with the Queen of Sidney off Nose Point to escort the ferry into berth at Long Harbour.

The procession will fill the air with carols for passengers and crew of the big boat with the time expected to be around 10 pm.

Roddick resigns

Vern Roddick, the Pender Island representative on the Greenwoods and Lady Minto Hospital boards, has resigned due to pressure of time and work as the Outer Islands Capital Regional Board director.

Until June 1981, when Roddick's term of office was to expire, the Penders will be represented by Emile LeBlanc on the hospital board and by Mrs. E. Harrison on the Greenwoods board.

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PLEASE NOTE: Office to be closed for Christmas holidays, Dec. 18 at 2 pm, & Dec. 25, 28, 31 and Jan. 1 all day.

Preferred areas of practice include:
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1981

It's not all a national problem

There is nothing new about spendthrift government.

From the times of the ancients until the present day governments have enjoyed a direct access to private funds and have dissipated them with the profligacy and the delight that spells punitive taxation for the provider of those funds.

There is nothing new about Canadians condemning their governments. Every Canadian, whether he looks out on an angry Atlantic Ocean, the eastern industrial lakes, the central plains and their sea of wheat, the western mountains or the blue Pacific Ocean, is angry over government spending. And many are angry now because the government checks on spending are aimed at a target they didn't want to lose. They condemn spending and they deplore saving.

While some anger is directed towards the Ottawa government, with its long indebtedness, some also goes to the provincial administrations with their various mysterious systems of accountancy.

Each critic knows the tale. The man who pays the piper calls the tune, went the old proverb. But it is no longer current. The man who calls the tune is the last to pay the bills. The man who pays the piper dances to another's tune. And this applies nationally and provincially.

Not only does the imbalance apply at two senior government levels, but there are few even reasonably informed observers who don't entertain a high level of indignation at being left with the bills for a profligacy they neither share nor endorse.

But none of these wise Canadians should content himself with a double take. There is more in life than a federal and a provincial administration.

Besides these senior governments are the municipalities, the regions, the school boards and the improvement districts.

Most employ small-name pipers and dance to a quiet tune. But it is a catchy tune and more and more catch on. The small-government tune provides for small projects. And each project is added to the next until the unfortunate taxpayer is as hard-hit by small projects, all equally urgent, as he is by the major projects of senior governments.

The demand for economies, for saving, for cutting back must be addressed with equal emphasis to all these levels.

The taxpayer must make it clear to the region and to the school district and to the local project that money is scarce and getting scarcer. That he cannot find the money to construct the essential projects that came so easily a decade ago.

With school costs soaring as a result of increases in salaries, the school boards must keep other expenditures down.

With incomes falling from lack of employment regions must be more cautious in their plans. With uncertainty nearer than it has loomed in 30 years, local improvement districts must say "No!" to any further projects.

It is easy to condemn Ottawa. It is pleasant to condemn Victoria. Those governments must get the message and cut back on their spiralling expenditures. None of us likes it when they do. But do it, they must. And the same message must be heard and heeded by every other agency with access to tax monies.

No measure is so urgent that it ranks above the national economy. No elected board is so authoritarian that it may spend money we don't possess.

All local elected bodies must get the message before it is too late. There will be lots of time in the future. Right now is the time to catch up with past expenditures before launching out on new ones.



Bill Webster

Maybe next year

Santa Claus came to the Gulf Islands last weekend, with a vengeance. Saturday, at least three versions popped up at various locations on Salt Spring.

Your faithful reporter, as usual, sped from Santa to Santa to Santa, camera dangling, in anticipation of stirring events for the chronicling.

Early morning lured one to the Fulford Hall where the folk who run it were offering breakfast with the good elf.

The Fulford Santa paused in his greeting to present his good side to the camera and he emerged on film with spry, pleasant humour despite the curious children tugging on his beard.

Interesting shots from several angles were duly recorded on film and the reporter had to scurry off to the next assignment.

A SHOT OR TWO LEFT

The roll of film being used had almost reached an end with but a shot or two left.

The sun shone brightly on the top of Mount Bruce and the snow on the peak glistened. A perfect shot with which to end the roll of film.

The Fulford-Ganges Road proved to be an interesting test of coping with black ice, but when one must be where one must be, such obstacles are overcome.

Back at the office, breathless but full of vim if not vigour, the next assignment was prepared for.

Dan Evanishen, bless his popcorn popper, was treating kiddies as a token of appreciation for movie-time attendance. He supplied freebies for the small-fry, popcorn, soda pop and two motion pictures.

SEARCHED FOR THE SHOT

With loaded camera, the reporter prowled the hall at Central searching for the shot

to express the excitement of a room loaded with children. Snap, snap, great shot of kids jumping, sitting, standing and just looking at the camera.

Stand at the door, Dan. A shot of you greeting the children would be great. Snap, snap, thanks Dan.

Rush again. Off the old Plymouth wheezed with only a quick congrats to Dan for his appropriate present for the kids.

Next stop the Rod and Gun Club. Phil Valcourt and his fellow Rotarians supplied thrills to club members' children.

Here comes Santa, jingle, jingle, snap snap.

"Ho, ho, ho, here's a present for Sherry."

She's a cute kid, a charmer, and sitting on Santa's knee presents the picture of the day. Snap, snap.

BACK TO THE OFFICE

Time moves to deadline and the reporter rushes back to the office. Like clock-work the team swings into operation. Frank, *Driftwood's* labourer, processes the film.

"I think something is wrong here," he said.

Count them, folks, ten shots, ten memorable moments frozen forever on film, each with only part of the frame exposed.

A check of the camera revealed the reason. To work with a flash, one must be sure the settings are correct. Flash with the camera used by the reporter requires a setting of 125. It's even marked in red to minimize mistakes.

Remember the scenic shot of Mount Bruce? Long distance, bright sun, glistening snow? That shot had needed a setting of 1,000. The reporter had not reset to the red mark.

BEST TO COME

Don't go away, the best is yet to come.

As the early evening moved towards darkness, the

Christmas Ship from Bellingham, Washington, sparkled its way up Ganges Harbour. At the wharf, the excitement of the children began to peak.

The old fire truck was on hand to transport Santa and his pirate helpers to the secondary school.

Faithful reporter stands amid the crowd. Snap, snap, snap.

At the gymnasium, the air is electric as children get an opportunity to sit on his knee. And receive a present.

The shots are magnificent, snap, snap.

One toddler sits in awe of the white beard, rosy cheeks and strange voice. "Ho, ho, ho." She begins to cry. Father takes her in his arms. She sobs. Father attempts to move away. She says no. She stares, eyes wide and teary, at Santa.

In her eyes is reflected the fascination of childhood for Santa Claus. Excitement, apprehension, fear, joy.

GREAT STUFF

This is great stuff, says the reporter to himself, and startles a lady standing next to him.

Meanwhile, back at the wharf, Christmas music fills the air as crew members crank up the stereo. The coloured lights decorating the rigging attract the eye. The moon, large, round and appealing, hangs over the hills.

The reporter performs quick calculations and sets the camera to capture the rigging lights topped by the moon. Snap, snap.

Christmas season offers ample photo opportunities in the continuing attempts to capture the essence of the mood. People are happy. Children are happy.

The season, to be sure, is very photogenic.

Next year, the faithful reporter is going to make sure there is a film in his camera.

Letters to the Editor

Island lucky to have volunteer library

Sir,
The other evening I saw on the TV news a group of librarians picketing their place of work, a scene which startled me because the idea that librarians, who are engaged in a public service they are supposed to love, would desert their posts, was disheartening. Then I learned that the strike, which is the first one by librarians I ever heard of, began as long ago as September 15, when the union closed 11 of the Vancouver Island Regional Library branches, and when 132 support staff went on strike on October 14, the remaining 20 were also shut. This was a greater calamity than if the schools were closed by a teachers' strike, because libraries cater to far more people than the schools of any given community.

How lucky we are on Salt Spring Island to have a volunteer library, and how smart the directors were in rejecting an invitation to join the regional system. We can be justly proud of our library, created by local people almost entirely with their money; even the new building was partly built with volunteer labour. There are about 50 women volunteers who give several hours a week to the library. They are courteous, friendly, helpful, and do not watch the clock to see if it's time for a coffee break or lunch. None of them, so far as I know, has a degree in library science, and they don't need it.

For its size our library is well stocked, especially in books about

Canada, in general fiction and biography. A small grant from the province enables it to buy some of the new books that are worthwhile.

Our library is a bright and cheerful place and contains some of the world's greatest literary and intellectual treasures which are yours to read for the price of a library card, \$2 for two years. When you are weary of the stuff offered on TV, sick of newspapers and magazines and their depressing contents, you can pick up a good book in the library and

SPEC appeals for help

Sir,
I'd like to use this letter to clear up a few items that we at SPEC Nanaimo have come across in the past year.

First, we are a non-profit organization. No one gets paid, and all our money goes to meet operating costs. Our volunteers put, in total, about 120 hours per week towards the society and in community work.

Second, we answer calls from the community and all over the island on environmental issues. We regard SPEC as a steward of both the social and geographical environment. This means we must voice concerns to preserve the integrity of the environment for all future inhabitants. Unfortunately this also means we make enemies of those exploiters and developers

sitting by your fireplace at night, transport yourself to a different world than the horrendous one we are living in, a cup of tea or coffee at your elbow, perhaps a cigarette in your hand. This is euphoria, thanks to the library in our community. And it is comforting to know there will be no strikes, no picketing or other union shenanigans which might close it down.

ANTHONY NETBOY,
Ganges,
December 9, 1981.

and industries who are only interested in short-term returns and high profits. Our goal is a sustainable future with prosperity for all.

Third, we are successfully accomplishing our goal. Finances are becoming a problem, however, possibly because we are successful. Despite sound and detailed proposals for assistance we have been consistently turned down. Citizen support is then essential if we're to continue.

Fourth, SPEC is not *our* group, it is *yours*. We have a monthly TV program, radio announcements, newspaper articles, newsletters, participation in government enquiries, a coffeehouse and a good number of other activities. *You* and *our* community will benefit.

Finally, our appeal. Please help us. Report polluters, voice your concerns and get involved. During this season especially we ask that you support our efforts by taking out a membership, or by donating some time or money.

We can have jobs, a clean environment and a strong economy but we all need to work for it together. The choice is yours.

Best wishes and a Merry Christmas.

LAURIE GOURLAY
for SPEC, Nanaimo,
Box 132, Nanaimo.
December 3, 1981.

The real significance

Sir,
Gifts that truly commemorate the Christ, whose earthly coming we celebrate on Christmas Day, are not just gifts of things but also of kindness and healing.

Jesus of Nazareth, our loved Saviour and Way-shower, healed people's sufferings through the power of God, and he illustrated brotherly kindness as no one else has ever done. Christmas is truly celebrated when we put these two great gifts into practice with fervor and skill. We should be able to say at each Christmas season, I am more compassionate than I was last year; I am more intimately acquainted than ever before with the art of Christian healing.

In this sense, Christian Science requires the celebration of Christmas throughout the year. It demands consistent demonstration of both kindness and physical healing through God's power. It preaches Christian love as a

necessity of earthly existence, and at the same time teaches the healing Science of God's care for man. Our love for each other and God's love for us all are essential points of Christian Science; in fact, they are inseparable from each other. Christmas is a time for sharpening our knowledge of this fact and broadening our ways and means of demonstrating it.

The life of Christ Jesus fully illustrated both these elements. He healed every disease men sought him for; but he also was so unfailingly kind that little children came readily to him and a blind beggar by the wayside called out to him without fear. This can be the pattern — as it is the real significance — of our Christmas.

Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes of Christmas as combining kindness and healing: "The basis of Christmas is love loving its enemies, returning good for evil, love that 'suffereth long, and is kind.' The true spirit of Christmas elevates medicine to Mind; it casts out evils, heals the sick, raises the dormant faculties, appeals to all conditions, and supplies every need of man."

The warmth of love that sees others in their true Godlike nature should permeate our thoughts and characterize our deeds at Christmastime — and always. Then we will truly be commemorating the Christ as the Master exemplified it, and we can expect fulfilment of the promise made by his faithful follower, St. Paul, when he said, "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

**CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS
OF GANGES.**
December, 1981.

Driver thanked

Sir,
We would like to thank the driver of the blue pickup truck that stopped and helped us get out of our pickup, after being run off the road by another pickup on Cranberry Road last Friday, Dec. 11.

In our confused and shocked state I'm sure we neglected to do so.

Thanks again.
**CHARLIE AND JOAN
BUCKLEY,**
Box 217,
Ganges.
December, 1981.

A modern Christmas carol

Sir,
The silly season is with us again. The time when we all go crackers dashing off Christmas cards to people who just might be sending one to us and swapping useless gifts. The TV salesmen are blasting off their mouthy gabble and blackmailing parents by showing expensive children's gifts.

The better part of course is that nowadays we do not have to pay for these gifts. We sign little pieces of paper, show cards or give numbers and whisper "charge it". Lovely, though there has to be a reckoning sometime but who cares?

Soon it will be impossible to hear anything on the radio except songs about King Wenceslas or that idiot Drummer Boy. I worry about that poor page Good struggling through the snow laden with flesh and wine and pine logs and wish that the drummer boy would jazz it up a bit. Red-nosed Rudolph is more cheerful but someday Santa Claus will cop out driving with the red light in front!

Tiring of these old carols, I have dashed off one of my own as follows. The borrowed tune I think will be obvious and I feel that the modern concept is quite appealing....

The Happy Squanderer

I love to go squandering with credit cards galore,
So easy to say "charge it" and to owe a little more.

Toroloo, torolay I will pay
But not until some other distant day.

Torolay, some other distant day.

There's lots and lots of goodies that the "ad" folk say I need,
Though sane folk say that buying them is just a form of greed.

Toroloo etc.

The banks just love to lend me dough and it's the safest bet

That I will go their rotten way and deeper into debt.
Toroloo etc.

The lending houses just delight to lead me by the nose
Until I'm in above my head for then they can foreclose.
Toroloo etc.

Modern thinking seems to say that it's a sin to save.

The proper way's to borrow and go owing to the grave.
Toroloo etc.

So drink a toast this Christmas to those who have it best.

The vampires who are getting rich collecting interest.
Toroloo etc.

R.J. WESTON,
Ganges,
December, 1981.

Bring back children's page

Sir,
Where has the children's page gone? We hope you have not dropped it.

Last year it proved to be a real stimulus to school-aged children. They were eager to write and draw pictures in the hope of seeing their work in print. If they did not get their submissions published, they were still pleased to read those that were.

If it is a matter of space, I suggest there are some recent features which could well be shortened or printed less often to make room — such items as sports news (slugs?) and Webster on page four to start with.

The children's page, as well as helping youngsters, also widens interest in your paper. Please bring it back.

J.G. HALL,
Box 1039,
Ganges.
December 10, 1981.

*More letters
Page Six*



Tony Richards

MONDAY MORNING is not everyone's favourite time of the week, but I don't mind it too much. Except when I arrive at work to find garbage strewn all over the parking lot.

To top it off, it wasn't garbage belonging to anyone I know.

Whoever it was recently had a dinner of prepared macaroni and cheese, Carnation frozen french fries and popsicles for dessert. And I presume that while he ate, he perused some literature published by the International Woodworkers of America.

So thanks for your garbage, friend. If you would care to give me a call I'll give you directions to the dump.

MY WIFE AND I felt quite smug the other day when that thin blanket of snow covered the island.

On our way up the hill on Mobrae Avenue we passed about half a dozen cars parked at the bottom of the incline, forced to park there by the slippery road.

We've often wondered during the past few months whether a four-wheel-drive car was worth it.

Now we know it is.

I'M WILLING TO BET that 95% of the Rubik's Cubes sold in Ganges in the past couple of weeks no longer hold their original shape.

After acquiring one my first thought was what a great little Christmas gift. After diligently working at it for two hours I decided that making a gift of the cube could not be regarded as a friendly gesture.

But perhaps a Rubik's Cube and a sledge hammer would be a good combination gift.

IT'S A GOOD THING the sign carried a phony message.

When we placed a notice on the shores of Driftwood Lake Monday it was run over by a car within an hour.

The sign read: "Danger, Diver Below."

The lake, not shown as yet on any map I've seen, is located between the *Driftwood* office parking lot and Rainbow Road.

We would have had a photograph of the sign if reporter Bill Webster hadn't been conducting a photographic experiment.

The experiment, needless to say, was unsuccessful.

He did make the discovery, however, that our cameras don't function well without film.

More Letters to the Editor

Operation Eyesight Universal provides best deal anywhere

Sir,
When Canadians are very much aware of poverty and suffering in Third World countries, it is timely to mention Operation Eyesight Universal. O.E.U. is a totally Canadian project, initiated by Mr. Art. Jenkyns and other Calgarians in 1963 to provide funds for the surgical treatment of blindness in Sompeta, India, where the Canadian surgeon, Dr. Ben Gullison, had first set up a clinic in 1933. Since then, 150,000 impoverished blind people have received sight and although Dr. Gullison is now retired, living in Vancouver (and like President Art Jenkyns, has received the Order of Canada), the work of O.E.U. forges ahead in 15 Third World countries.

To inflation-ridden Canadians, the cost of bringing sight to the blind, compared to the immeasurable benefits, is very small. \$25 provides for surgery, hospital care for one week and spectacles. Overhead costs of O.E.U. are less than 10% of the total budget — i.e. more than 90 cents out of every dollar raised are spent on curing blindness.

Funds raised are matched by the Federal Government through the Canadian International Development Agency. The Alberta and the

British Columbia Provincial Governments provide annual financial support to O.E.U.

To those who wonder about the real value of foreign aid by Canada, O.E.U. provides the best deal anywhere. The costs are low, the benefits enormous when blind citizens in poor countries can receive sight and then become independent, productive and helpful to others in their own country.

O.E.U.'s annual campaign for funds is now on. Donations are Income Tax deductible and can be sent to: P.O. Box 565, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2P3. Donors will receive a card with the name and age of the person whose sight was restored.

To the friend who has everything, at Christmas time why not give the precious gift of sight to someone in the Third World? That friend will receive a card with the name of the person who now has vision. Could there be any better way of re-awakening the spirit of Christmas?

Vision for \$25! Who said you cannot beat inflation?

Canadians began O.E.U. and I am sure Canadians across the country will respond to this totally Canadian endeavour, of which we can all be proud. In advance, I thank all of them for their generosity and their humanitarian concern.

G. SCOTT WALLACE, M.D.,
O.E.U. Campaign Committee,
Victoria, B.C.
November 12, 1981.

They've had fun preparing for play

Sir,
The Fan Fare Children's Theatre is putting on a play on December 20 at Mahon Hall.

It's called, *The Moon is Made of Green Cheese*.

We've had lots of fun acting and singing and I hope other children will come and see us.

MICAELE MADDISON,
Ganges Hill School,
Box 1039,
Ganges.
December 11, 1981.

School board to build

School extensions to be built on Galiano and Mayne will be by board management.

Under this program the school board undertakes the construction. The board has followed this policy for a number of years.



Sailing Club executive

The Salt Spring Island Sailing Club chose its executive for 1982 recently.

Charles Sutcliffe was elected as commodore which means Doug Thomas assumes the position of immediate past-commodore.

David Stone, vice-commodore, and Peter McMillan, rear

commodore, will be on the new executive.

Fleet captains will be, sail, Rick Paton; and power, Les Orr.

Jim Ballantyne will fulfil the duties of staff captain.

The 1982 secretary will be Kerry Butler while Robert MacAllister will function as treasurer.

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Speaker talks of Italy

When the Salt Spring Island Lions Club went to the Golf Club for their Christmas party Pam MacDougald went there too. She took part to thank the Lions for having sent her to Italy on a student exchange program. She spoke of her holiday in Italy and the encounter with a totally

different style of living. The traveller recalled the loneliness of the first days, when she was without communication with anyone, and the growing warmth of finding an interpreter and growing into the pattern of life. She is seen speaking to the service club after dinner.

Thetis Island man racks up series of driving charges

June 13 was a day Clayton Spooner would just as soon forget. The 23-year-old Thetis Island resident was driving his motorcycle on Salt Spring when the police stopped him.

The officer was curious as to why Spooner was driving 81 km/hr in a 50 km/hr zone on the wrong side of the road on a motorcycle without licence plates.

To compound matters Spooner could not produce a driver's licence because he gave the police a wrong name.

Judge D.K. McAdam listened to Spooner's explanation that he feared being arrested for non-payment of an outstanding fine which, he assured the court, had been subsequently paid.

Spooner, a ceramic tile setter who is temporarily unemployed, was fined \$250 for wilful obstruction of a police officer, and \$50 each for failing to produce a valid driver's licence, driving a vehicle with no licence plates, speeding as well as driving on the wrong side of the road.

Drinking drivers are target of traffic enforcement program

Once again the message repeats: "If you drink, don't drive."

A province-wide traffic enforcement program is in effect until January 4, 1982, and is aimed squarely at drinking drivers as well as careless drivers.

Sergeant Mitch Hanks of Ganges detachment of the RCMP said emphasis on safe driving on Salt Spring Island will be to keep the drunks off the road.

"I urge drivers to think twice before getting behind the wheel of a car," said Hanks, "particularly if they have had a few drinks. They should consider other means of getting home such as having a friend or non-drinker drive them. They could even phone a taxi."

British Columbia's attorney-general Allan Williams, in kicking off the program for the holiday season, said, "Accidents occur even in the best traffic conditions, but irresponsible, discourteous and drunken drivers escalate the number of senseless tragedies."

Williams listed enforcement of seat belt rules as well as mechanical safety of equipment as another focus of the Counter-Attack program.

"Speeders, tailgaters, lane changers and people who drive without regard for winter road conditions pose hazards for other road users and will be tagged," he said.

Hanks noted that police have the authority to suspend the driver's licence of those whom they consider to be a danger on the road.

"We're concerned about the

innocent victim of an accident," said Hanks. "But our checks are mostly for the protection of the drinking driver. The icy roads on this island can be very dangerous."

Williams summed up the concern. "It takes only a few

seconds of careless behaviour on the road to wipe out all the joy of the festive season.

"Don't let it happen to you, and don't make it happen for someone else."

Wharves study

What's the future of federal government wharves up and down the coast?

The federal government has been asking the same question and it is determined to get the answer.

Island Trust was told recently that the government has engaged Reid-Growth, consulting engineers, to undertake a survey of port facilities. Working with Reid-Growth is Novacorp Consulting Ltd.

Study is investigating the port facilities on the west coast. The consultants are to make recommendations as to whether various wharves should be maintained or scrapped.

The investigators are taking the closest look at wharves which can accommodate freight and passengers, under ministry of transport jurisdiction. Some small

craft harbour facilities may also be included.

Most islands have a federal government wharf, and many are little used since B.C. Ferry wharves handle most of the traffic.

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HAVE YOU GOT YOUR XMAS MIXES

GALIANO NEWS

Parker Island subdivision application withdrawn

BY BASIL AND KATHLYN BENDER

Galiano Island Trust Committee held a meeting in the South Community Hall on Friday afternoon with about 50 members of the public present.

Before the committee was an application to change the zoning of Parker Island from forest to residential to permit subdivision into 34 10-acre lots. There would be provision for public use by means of a dock, picnic facilities, washroom and store.

The principal of Reid Properties, new owner of Parker Island, withdrew the application on finding that neither the Advisory Planning Commission nor the Galiano Trust Committee were in favour of the proposal.

A request had been made for access to Parker Island through South Wind Drive. In an attempt to preserve this attractive single-track lane winding between huge and ancient firs and cedars and residents petitioned the Trust to designate South Wind Drive as a "heritage road". The Trust Committee directed its staff to investigate if and how this might be done.

COMMERCIAL ZONING SOUGHT

The application to rezone to commercial part of a lot on Montague Road for the purpose of operating a family restaurant developed into a wide-ranging discussion of the concept of "home occupation". A majority of those present were opposed to the application to rezone but in favour of the restaurant being operated as a home occupation.

The committee's legal adviser had stated that this was possible under the existing bylaw providing less than 50% of the building was used for this purpose. The group supporting this position felt that to allow commercial zoning in this area would lead to undesirable further commercial development. Those in favour of rezoning contended that the Trust Committee, and indirectly the residents of Galiano, would have more control over a project if rezoning was required and a development permit negotiated.

Plans for a "new" Whaler Bay Yacht Club were outlined as a warning of what might happen if unrestricted home occupation development were to be allowed. The issue was resolved by the Trust Committee acquiescing in the development of the Montague restaurant as a home occupation.

It was discovered that a considerable number of people present were engaged in a home occupation: potters, weavers, writers, artists and many more. The definition of home occupation inherited by the Trust from Capital Regional District bylaw 103 is, in general, not specific enough



Industrial First Aid Students are from Galiano and Mayne Islands

although by strict application might exclude many of the existing home occupations now operating on Galiano.

REFERRED TO COMMISSION

Trustee Thompson attempted to tighten the relevant paragraph of the zoning bylaw by adding his own list of exclusions. Gordon Wallace moved to refer the matter to the Trust staff for comment and suggestions. Chairman John Rich, taking cognizance of objections from the audience, moved to refer the matter to the Galiano Advisory Planning Commission so that the public's views may be ascertained before the issue is worked on by the Trust committee and its staff.

A status report on the Galiano Lodge development permit was given. A more detailed landscape plan has been submitted which includes perimeter screening by means of trees and shrubbery acceptable to immediate neighbours.

Two towers have been removed from the design as they would have exceeded the height limitation of the bylaw. The recent budget has generated hectic activity in site preparation at the Lodge.

Following the meeting trustees enjoyed a birthday cake prepared for new trustee Christa Weiss.

Craft Market

It was a coincidence not without irony that the day following the Trust meeting a home occupation demonstration took place in the same Community Hall.

From 11 am until 5 pm there was a steady stream of visitors to the Christmas Craft Market. Core of the exhibition was the produce of the Twelve Weavers, an off-shoot of the Weavers Guild with more emphasis on creativity.

For variety there was the stained glass work of Paul Hawbolt and the pottery of his brother, Richard; Renaldo Norden and Christa Weiss contributed prints. Bob and

Sue Gilson children's furniture and alphabet cushions and Francine Renaud cerographies. There was a table of children's art and crafts.

That cooking might also be considered an art as well as a home occupation was proved by the quiche, pizza and other delicacies prepared and served by Helen and Huguette.

Industrial First Aid

Volunteer ambulance attendants from Galiano and Mayne Islands have just completed a five-weekend industrial first aid course for the Workers' Compensation Board certificate.

Instructor was Mrs. Bea Lane from Pender Island. For many of the participants this was the second course in consecutive years as Emergency Health Service policy makes sure that volunteers keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date.

Linda Simpson noted that although the course was easier second time round, students had to work just as hard because there was much additional material they were able to absorb. Also taking the course for the second time were Jill Penny, Rosemary Partington, Ken Hardy and Roy Treloar.

First-time students were Margrit Albrecht and Aileen Nolan. Aileen is a doctor's wife and an occupational therapist but found the practical side of the

course new and demanding. She was enthusiastic about the value of the course to anyone who is able to take it whether a prospective E.M.A. or not.

From Mayne came Sandy Forest, Anita De Boer, Harry Burr and Jeff Ballantyne. Jeff appealed for more people from Mayne to take the course so that there will be more ambulance attendants available on that island.

It takes dedication to give up five consecutive weekends and all of the students and Mrs. Lane are to be highly commended for the time and effort they have devoted to community service.

Coming Events

This Saturday the W.A. to the Fire Department will hold their monthly Book Sale in the fire hall between 2 and 4 pm. At the same time the Thrift Shop will be open on Burrill Road and shoppers will find a Christmas display and much fresh material, the contents of 16 boxes recently arrived from the

Turn to Page Nine



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To all our readers we wish

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

*and a prosperous and peaceful New Year
 from all of us at*

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Galiano project on half cash basis says Ripley

How good is Galiano Island credit?

When Jim Ripley asked his fellow trustees to go ahead with the preparation of drawings for the school-community project last week, they went along with him.

The community share in the cost is \$14,000. And the Galiano community has already raised \$18,000 in pledges.

The board agreed to accept the cheque for \$7,000 with another to follow.

The \$7,000 is only a small part of the project. Galiano will have to put in \$85,000 to build a facility to serve the school needs and the wants of the island community.

Galiano Lions Club has pledged

\$5,000.

He wanted the board to believe in the people, urged Ripley.

"We do!" replied chairman Strick Aust.

Ripley explained that 100 answers were received to questionnaires and that 60 attended last week's meeting on Galiano and there was no dissenting voice.

The call for an immediate start is to avoid the delay which could occur later if the plans aren't drawn, trustees were told.

Secretary-treasurer Wilf Peck cautioned the board that the government might not be prepared to go along with the proposal.

Storm closes meeting

Gulf Islands School Board laid the emphasis on the islands last week when a motion to close off the meeting at 4 pm was accepted.

Making the motion, Jeannine Dodds, of Mayne, explained that there was a gale warning in effect and the Outer Islands trustees had come by water taxi.

"We don't want to get swamped," explained John Zacharias of Pender.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Hospital board chairman

Esquimalt Mayor Ken Hill was named chairman of the Capital Regional Hospital Board at the inaugural meeting last week.

Elected by acclamation, he took his new chair and promptly adjourned the meeting.

Only special business is considered at the inaugural meetings.

Trust recommendations on provincial taxation

Last meeting of the Islands Trust council heard a report on the provincial government's replies to recommendations on taxation.

There has been information, the Trust general council was told earlier this month, that the province is proposing to vary assessment as between one school district and another.

Rates, at present, are standard throughout the province.

The Trust committee on taxation also proposed that the rate of taxation on wildland be reduced as an enticement to hold it in that category.

The minister of finance referred the proposal to the surveyor of taxes.

assessment authority that the zoning aspect is taken into account by assessors, although they rely, primarily, on sales.

In announcing the 1982 assessment rates, the Cabinet recently revealed that wildland will be reduced from 11% to 10% of actual value, trustees learned.

Forestry rises from 30% to 40% and tree farms go up from 60% to 80%.

Farms remain unchanged at 10%.

The wildland rate of 10% only applies where the land is not used for forestry.

Land assessors, the committee had proposed, should take into consideration reduced development potential as a result of zoning and other measures.

The Trust is assured by the

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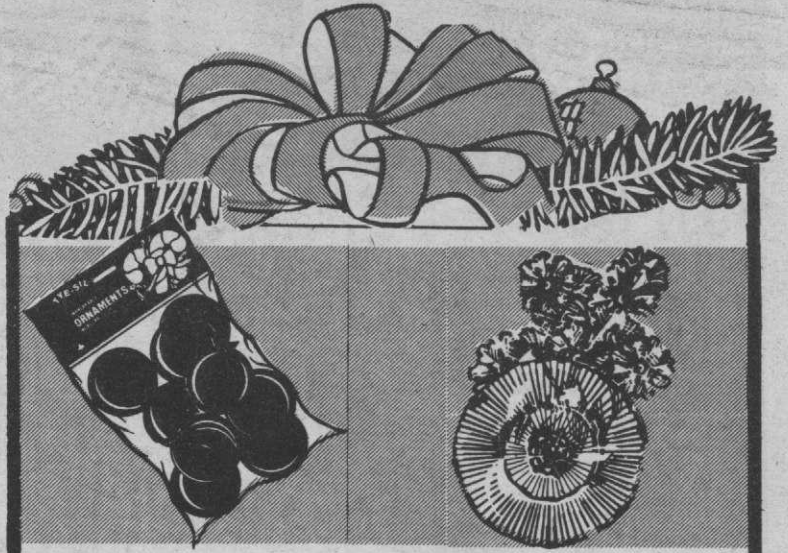
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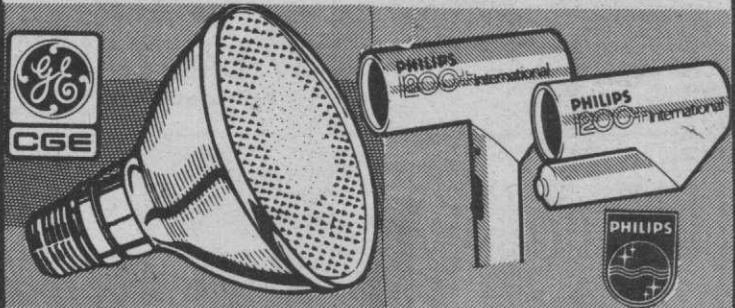
Eleanor Harrison - Pender Islands
Priscilla Janszen - Saturna Island
Basil & Kathlyn Benger - Galiano Island



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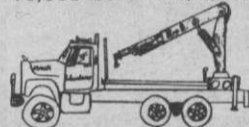
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CHRISTMAS AND SANTA are for the enjoyment of children and these youngsters gathered, parents in tow, to have breakfast with the season symbol last Saturday. The Fulford Community Hall Association held the meal and more than 150 people showed up. Santa (Harry Portingale) charmed the young people, such as Morgan Donnelly, right photo, who each received a candy cane and a tangerine as well as a bright red ribbon stating, "I had breakfast with Santa Clause at Fulford Hall, December 12, 1981."

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Saturna Scene

Story of Island plans outlined at meeting

BY PRISCILLA JANSZEN

The senior citizens' Christmas party was attended by 35 or more people and brought them much pleasure and enjoyment. Tracy Pillsbury did much of the organizing of willing-to-help folks. And as usual, the refreshments were superb.

Irene and Bill Lawson are grandparents again. Joy Ruck Lawson and Dayle Lawson have a new son in Port Hardy. Ann Bavis minded the store while Bill and Irene were with their family.

Young Andrew Houstens-Money is in Victoria General with severe burns. Carol and Terry Siemens are taking turns being with him continually; as loved, supported children (all people) always heal faster! Andrew is coming along very well.

The children have been practising for the Christmas concert every morning this week. What a treat we islanders are in for! The performances are not just cute, some are hilarious, some entertaining and all are very competently (and uniquely) performed.

The children take in stride "Louder! Can't hear you from the back! Face the audience! Quickly, quickly, you aren't on stage any more!" and crack everybody up (confederates and teachers) with their own deviation from the plots. Do come and be jolly well entertained and well provided for.

Kathleen Sheffield will be back from New Mexico soon. She couldn't miss the Christmas concert but couldn't risk being drawn into the preparations!

On December 20 Saint Christopher's Church will have a Christmas service at 2:15 pm. All are welcome.

Sunday's Open House, held by Jo-Ann House and Karen Muntean, went very well. Many islanders came by to visit and see how the fabrics are printed and view the yardage and garments that can be purchased. Karen and Jo-Ann work in silk and cotton. These are materials that dye well and the garments hang beautifully.

The Woman's Club greatly appreciated the island's response to the craft sale. The Dresden plate quilt was won by Mr. Macorquodale. Mrs. Macorquodale, Evelyn, who worked many hours on it, will be so pleased!

New Land Use Act will require all areas of the province to introduce a community plan. The Gulf Islands have all adopted such a plan. Most were first written under the administration of the Capital Regional District, and subsequently brought up to date under the surveillance of the Islands Trust.

First of the islands to adopt a community plan were South Pender and Galiano, with plans dated January, 1974. South Pender adopted its zoning bylaw in October, 1980 and subdivision bylaw in December, 1977. Galiano zoning bylaw came into force in November, 1978 and the subdivision bylaw was introduced at the same time.

Salt Spring Island introduced its community plan in March, 1974. It

was amended by the Ganges community plan in the Islands Trust era.

In March, 1979 the zoning bylaw and the subdivision bylaw were adopted.

Saturna decided its community plan in July, 1976, with a zoning bylaw in June, 1972 and subdivision bylaw in December, 1977.

North Pender came in in September, 1976, with its community plan and followed up with zoning and subdivision bylaws in December, 1978.

Mayne Island brought in its community plan in June, 1978. Mayne's zoning bylaw had been put into effect in June, 1972 and subdivision bylaw in May, 1981.

List was furnished at the recent Islands Trust council meeting.

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Slugs find supremacy unattainable in boondocks

BY FERDINAND FALSEHOOD

How do you explain to fans and critics alike that three losses in three games at the Gold River tournament was a victory of sorts?

Easy you lie, exaggerate, make excuses and whine the rest is simple. Once you've set the ground rules it all comes together.

Actually we did head off to this winter wonderland with high hopes. Although missing a few of our regulars we had, at great expense, been able to pick up a couple of ringers well worth the price (two Big Maes, side of fries and a half sack).

In keeping with past traditions Communion was held at several shrines en route, and homage was paid to the big two - Labatt's and Molson's. Arriving in Gold River the Slugs were quietly confident that this would be their year, and that they would return with the \$500 first prize symbolic of hockey supremacy here in the Bavarian boondocks.

QUIET NIGHT

Well rested after a quiet night of inner reflection, the Slugs took to the ice against the Vernon Lake Lowlifes, led by ex-Colorado Rockies defenseman Angus "Moose" MacLean.

After one period some of the Slugs instinctively realized that things might not be quite as easy as anticipated as the Lowlifes led 5-0. Adding to our concern was the fact that it was quite apparent that the referee, an old acquaintance of Pat Gaines, remembered us from last year.



The Slug trail

Up until that time we had no idea that there was a three-minute penalty for impersonating a hockey team, or a six-minute penalty for falling down when body-checked.

Oh well, out we roared in the second and third periods, so with three minutes to go we had a 6-5 lead and a man advantage. No sweat.

FORGOT ABOUT RODENT

Unfortunately, we had forgotten about our friend Ronald Rodent, the referee. Scant seconds later Sinclair was thrown out for having an untied shoelace, his third like penalty of the game which is an unpardonable sin in Gold River. Final score, 7-6 Lowlifes.

Under the complex scoring system used for the tournament though, things weren't so bad. We had lost the game, but we had "won" two periods, hence we had taken two of four possible points. On to game 2.

ALMOST A REPLAY

Unfortunately, game 2 against the Gold River Gynecologists (we called them that too) was almost a replay of the first. After one period the Slugs were down 4-0 and Reginald Rodent, Ron's brother, was having a field day.

Again we went to the well and again we came up short 4-3 final, but once more we had won two periods and had taken two out of a possible four points.

While all the Slugs were planning on an early night in readiness of their last game, somehow many were waylaid by the sight and sounds of downtown Gold River. One aspiring sixsome did much toward paying off the national debt by spending \$150 and six hours eating Chinese food.

Rolling them out on the ice the next morning was no easy chore. Then too, of course, there was the second annual Courtenay Clown Impromptu Weenie Roast and Pot Luck - nothing more will be said about this sordid little affair at risk of life and limb.

PLAYERS DEFECT

So there we were Sunday with a chance to take some, if not all, of the marbles. For the first time all weekend, we took an early lead, being ahead 2-1 after the first period. What happened the rest of the game is open to speculation, although the Slugs were hurt by the sudden defection of several players back across the street to the Chinese restaurant.

The rest struggled manfully on but it was too little, too late. Despite the 7-4 loss we still

accumulated five points for the tournament, our best finish yet, enough for us to take fifth place overall.

Normally this would be the end of the story, but when you get dumped on, you really get dumped on.

MISSED BOAT

The Slugs had the misfortune of being in the Gold River area at the time of the year's worst snowfall, which led to all of the Slugs missing the last boat back to Salt Spring. It filled one with real pride to see young Watson trying to cross the narrows doing the breast stroke, and for Moger to once again try walking on water (to no

avail).

So \$45 and several hours later several of the Slugs landed at Vesuvius aboard an oversized rowboat appropriately named the S.S. Titanic. Certainly a most interesting way to complete a most unusual weekend.

And now the Slugs get to rest on their laurels until after Christmas when they take to the ice in the Oak Bay Rec Tourney. Watch next week for the annual Slug Christmas greetings and first-term report cards.

And for those who can't wait Merry Christmas the Slugs will be back....

Community Society can arrange company for Christmas

The Salt Spring Community Society is expecting the calls to start coming in now, as islanders begin making preparations for Christmas.

A caller might ask if the society knows of anyone who lives alone and would like to share dinner. A senior citizen might ask for a family to adopt for the day or a family might want substitute grandparents to fill the gap of parents miles away.

Anyone who wants company is invited to call the Community Centre.

Christmas at the Community Centre also includes a party for senior citizens. Year after year, says a society spokesman, it is volunteers who ask if there is going to be such a Christmas party. Then

they willingly go to work and make it happen.

Help for the party also comes from local merchants, service clubs and from private donations.

Meanwhile, the Women's Place, downstairs at the centre, is

planning a party for December 16 and a showing of films on December 30.

Women of all ages are welcome and rides and babysitting can usually be arranged.

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KICK-OFF

Soccer teams battle biting winds, frozen fields

BY MALCOLM LEGG

Slowly and surely our schedule is winding down for the Christmas break but our teams battled on last week even through snow.

The colder weather has created many new problems for our teams with frozen fields, biting winds and players suffering from colds and sickness. Some of these problems were reflected in the scores on the scoreboard.

A healthy Fury team defeated an undermanned Sockers team 1-0 at the senior intra-island level and the five-man Kickers were bombed by the Sounders 5-0.

For the Demons their shortages were so bad they could not even field a team and lost by default. On Saturday there was a similar problem for the Wranglers who only had eight players and cancelled their game.

On Sunday the weather threw its worst at two crippled teams, the United and Sockeyes. For the United it proved to be a long day as they started the game with centre-back Bruce Caspar and Ken Anderson both injured, midfielder Kevin Cline sick, centre-back Alan Webb playing sick and

Dan Utter in Hawaii. To make a bad situation worse the field was iced over making footing almost impossible.

Instead of getting better things went downhill for the boys as some bad breaks found the team trailing on the scoreboard and early in the second half the squad was reduced to 10 with one player thrown out.

The outcome of the match was disappointing but the team gave it their best shot and once all return to form they can make their run for the B.C. Cup.

For the Sockeyes a similar fate awaited them as they started the game with only nine players but battled to a 1-1 tie at the half. During the opening half snow started to fall and by half-time it was coming down quite heavy.

The Sockeyes opened strongly in the second half and soon were up 2-1 and looked to be in command. Mother nature had other ideas as the wind and snow both picked up and they gusted into the Salt Spring players' faces.

The under-manned Sockeyes started to wilt against the weather

and Duncan came back to steal a late win.

With this week's games it appears our schedule will close for the winter as weather and field conditions are both bad and coaches, players and fans are all looking forward to the rest until January.

The January schedule looks as follows at present:

Off-island teams: January 16/17: league games continue; January 30/31: Sun Cup for United and Kicks (others continue league play); February 20/21: District Cup starts.

Intra-island teams: January 19: Cup play starts at both levels; March 13/14: Intra-island Tournament.

Next week I will wrap up our fall schedule with standings and a look at the prospects for our teams in the New Year.

In early January I will preview our spring program in detail.

Scoreboard

Div. 1A: Salt Spring United 1 (A. Webb), Duncan 5
Div. 4B: Salt Spring Strikers 0, Juan de Fuca 3
Div. 6C2: Salt Spring Sting 1 (A. Aust), Bays United 1
Women's: Salt Spring Sockeyes 2 (S. Spence, B. Legg), Duncan 4

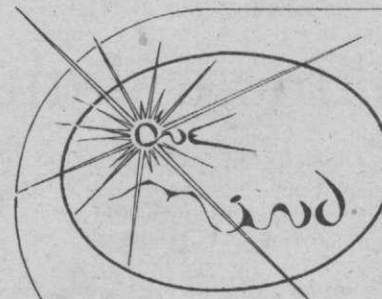
INTRA-ISLAND

Senior:

Fury 1 (P. Hatch), Sockers 0
Sounders 5 (B. Berry -3, J. Scott, C. Galbraith), Kickers 0
Dodgers 11 (D. Kirkpatrick - 8, R. Shoolbraid, M. Shoolbraid, D. Robertson), Stingers 0

Junior:

Machine 5 (Scorers unavailable), Eagles 0
Panthers 1 (Scorers unavailable), Demons 0



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Basketball tournament

The first annual Scorpions Classic Basketball Tournament will begin at 7 pm on Friday night, December 18, at the high school.

The Scorpions will play Southgate from Campbell River in the 8:30 game. Action will resume with four games on Saturday the 19th of December at 9 am until 5:30 in the afternoon.

Schedule for the tournament is as follows:

Friday night: 7:00, Stellies Stingers vs Highland Raiders; 8:30, Gulf Island Scorpions vs Southgate Gators.

Saturday night: 9:00, three on three contests; 10:00, Stellies Stingers vs Southgate Gators; 11:30, Gulf Island Scorpions vs Highland Raiders; 2:30, Highland Raiders vs Southgate Gators; 4:00, Stellies Stingers vs Gulf Island Scorpions; 5:30, awards.

Scorpions place third

The basketball season opener played between the Salt Spring Slugs hockey team and the Gulf Islands Scorpions did more for the latter than has been indicated, one of the Scorpions said this week.

Since that game the secondary school basketball team has placed third at the Hope Fall Classic Basketball Tournament where players Kevin Kline and Glenn Sollitt received all-star awards.

The team has chalked up wins over Stellies and Claremont of Victoria recently.

Last Friday the Scorpions travelled up Vancouver Island to play in the Highland Raiders Basketball Tournament at Comox.

The Scorpions ran into a quarter of cold shooting and tough defence in Friday's game against the Raiders, coming out on the losing side of a 68-51 score.

Saturday proved to be a better day for the local team.

Playing against Vanier from Courtenay, a much larger school, the boys were ahead by one at the half but allowed 18 apoints to be scored against them in the third quarter.

Glenn Sollitt and Allan Sinclair balanced out the Scorpions' scoring. Final score was 55-49 for Vanier.

The Ballenas Whalers from Parksville suffered a white-washing at the hands of the Scorpions Saturday evening, the island team winning 70-38.

Glenn Sollitt and Allan Sinclair scored in the double figures while Ken Marr and Larry Spence popped in seven and eight points each.

On Monday, Dec. 21 islanders are invited to drop by the high school in Ganges to see the number 5 team in the province, the Mission Roadrunners, play the Scorpions.

On the following night grad games will be played with a kick-off for the girls at 7 pm and for the boys at 8:30.

Bridge Winners

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners December 7 were:

North-South: first, Dr. and Mrs. Hyslop; second, Gordon and Norman Best; third, Thelma and Jock Craig.

East-West: first, Roma Sturdy and Lois Popkin-Clurman; second, Madeline and Joe Frantz; third, Edith Owens and Margaret McDonald.

On Monday evening:

North-South: first, Audrey Allan and Helen Shandro; second, Marian Ashmore and Fred Struve; third, Mary K. Thomas and Bunny Jordan.

East-West: first, Anne and Norm McConnell; second, Bud Keech and Gordon Parsons; third, Mary and Murray Poyntz.

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DOWN THE GUTTER

Bowlers clean up at Chemainus

BY KEN COLLINS

Ten people journeyed over from Chemainus to bowl in a 10-game bowl-a-thon. Also taking part was the same number from Salt Spring.

The Chemainus people came out on the short end of the stick because Denis Corcoran did to them what he had done on their own lanes a month ago, he took first place in the scratch event, followed in second place by Carol Kaye. In the handicap event Salt Spring once more cleaned up with Brandie Iverson first and Terrance J. Jenkins second.

Here are the better scores for the week ending December 5. Carol Corcoran, 709; Terry Jenkins, 747; Erling Jorgenson, 764 (309); Steve Marleau, 720; and this writer with 763. We also had a 314 single from Ruby McConnel.

This week's better scores came from Terry Jenkins, 750-811; Leo Toutant, 744; Julie Collins, 813 (320); Denis Corcoran, 779; Frank Keoppel, 701; Carol Kaye, 743; and this writer with 856.

Bowlers of the week for the fifth were Carol Corcoran and Erling Jorgenson and in the Golden-

Agers Lydia Purser and Jim Gison both with 648's.

For the week ending the 12th it was the father and daughter pair of myself and my daughter Julie. In the Golden-Agers they were Dorothy Graham with 603 and Gene Graham with 674.

This is the time of the year when most people do their best bowling, the reason being that Terry will be giving away vouchers for turkeys.

Tip of the week

Always shoot for every pin as if your life depended on it. Too many games are lost by one and two pins.

No change from New Land Act

The effect of the new Land Use Act announced by the minister of municipal affairs will not be felt heavily in the islands. The islands already have community plans and extensive experience in land use regulation.

When the assistant deputy minister for municipal affairs,

John Taylor, addressed the Islands Trust council recently, he assured trustees that there will be few great changes. The essential purpose of the new act, the Trust was told, is to require all communities to adopt such plans as are in effect among the islands.

Family tournament January 2, 3

From the Youth Bowling Council

The end of this half of our youth bowling season is near and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who support our efforts with the kids.

Most of the bowlers are showing improvement in their games and a few still bowl for enjoyment but they are generally all enjoying their respective leagues.

Family two some Tournament is scheduled for January 2 and 3 and we would like to see all the youth bowlers and their parent(s) join forces for this tournament. Be sure to sign up for either day at a time suitable to you.

The schedule sheet is at the bowling centre and the more people who sign up now will save us a lot of phoning. For those who will be away for the holidays, please set up a time and day with Terry and roll their games before January 11.

High scorers Saturday, Dec. 12 were:

Jets: Cheryl David, 81; Jennifer Neilson, 72.

Pee Wees: Anna Maddison, 94; Tracy Cunningham, 84; Candice Miller, 81; Jeffrey Neilson, 142; Brett Marshall, 135; Clinton Helfrich, 98.

Bantams: Lisa Jorgensen, 234; Laura Little, 223; Jodie Harrison,

203; Chris Dafoe, 165; Mark David, 151; Adam Baines, 147.

Juniors: David Cates, 194; David Jacquest, 168; Eddie Ruckle, 144; Shannon Taylor, 212; Mary Sinclair, 179; Danica West, 175.

Seniors (Wednesday, Dec. 9): Carol Cunningham, her first 200; Paula Hughes, 196; Tracey Pring, 190; Robert Messam, 265; Steve Marleau, 239; Paul Trenholm, 226.

We wish you all the very best of the holiday season.

Genocide feared by Baha'is

Millions of people around the world gathered to commemorate Human Right Day last Thursday, among them the Baha'i community on Salt Spring Island.

Not everyone living in Iran today is as fortunate as those living in Canada, says a Baha'i spokesman. Any religion that predates Islam is provided with religious freedom, but such is not the case with religions that developed after, such as the Baha'i faith.

"The estimated 500,000 Baha'is in Iran face persecution, discrimination and even death for their faith," said a spokesman.

A revival of the old Islamic code of the desert, which is in its final stages of approval in Iran, could lead to full-scale genocide, she said.

"To kill an infidel, a person who is not a member of a recognized religion, will not be punishable by law."

The Baha'i faith originated in Iran.

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The truth about Santa Claus lies in his beard

Commission supports bicycle committee

A committee of two, Barbara Toynbee and Lassic Dodds, have been busy lately gathering support for the creation of safety lanes on Salt Spring highways.

The pair have written to the minister of tourism, Pat Jordan. They have sent letters to officials at the department of highways as well as local MP Hugh Curtis. They have collected signatures of islanders who support their project.

The Salt Spring Island Advisory Planning Commission will do what it can to support the efforts of bicycle safety on the island.

The commission decided last week to write parallel letters for dispatch to those contacted by Toynbee and Dodds.

Yvette Valcourt said that tourists are urged to bring their bicycles to Salt Spring but "no," she said, "we don't have safety on this island."

Safety lanes would not add width to the road rights-of-way, said Nick Gilbert, commission chairman. But the lanes would go a long way towards safety for tourists and islanders alike, he added.

Regional Board

New look for new board as new directors arrive

The Capital Regional Board has taken on a new look. The electoral area elections made sweeping changes in the western sector and a number of former members lost their council seats in the member municipalities.

At the inaugural meeting on Wednesday last week the board consisted of nine veterans and nine newcomers.

Serving with Sidney's mayor, chairman Norma Sealey, are veteran Yvette Valcourt, of Salt Spring Island and newcomer Vernon Roddick, of South Pender, for the Outer Islands. Three newcomers from Victoria are Mayor Peter Pollen, Robin Blencoe and John Cooper; Saanich sent veteran Mayor Mel Couvelier and Geoff Vantreight with newcomer Pat Crofton. The latter has been serving for the past year as an alternate director for Saanich and is only a newcomer by designation.

From Oak Bay is Mayor Doug Watts, also a veteran. The two Hills, Ken, mayor of Esquimalt and Dave, mayor of Central Saanich are both experienced, while North Saanich Alderman James Cumming has been around.

In the case of directors from the municipal components, they are all aldermen unless they are serving as mayor of that municipality.

From the western sector are veteran Don Rittaler, from Sooke; Ernest Beland, of View Royal; Rick Kasper, Langford; David Krauel, Colwood; and Shirley Wilde, of Metchosin.

Gulf Islands Driftwood
We cover the islands.

The truth about Santa Claus is that it doesn't really matter which way his beard points. When St. Nicholas arrived at the Salt Spring Island Lions Club party on Thursday evening last week, the womenfolk were leery. They wanted to know what was with

Santa. Diane Hele lifted his beard to make a quick check and Louise Fuoco found the answer. But when it was Sue Ramsey's turn to greet Santa Claus, she didn't stop to examine his beard. He certainly received a warm welcome Thursday.

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Holiday Office Hours

Our general offices will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, December 24

Friday, December 25

Friday, January 1

Emergency and maintenance crews will remain on duty throughout the holiday period.



Season's greetings



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GANGES

Grow peaches, apricots by improving climate

Of all the tree fruit, the peach and apricot are the most tender in our climate. Peaches and apricots really like a good winter chill and lots of summer heat, the kind that makes one drowsy.

In this regard our winters are too mild and our summers too cool. But, nevertheless, a lot of people are growing peaches and apricots on the islands. We just have to improve somewhat on our climate.

First of all, to minimize our wet winter effect on the tree (this and all which follows goes both for the peach and the apricot) we need really well drained soil, about three to four feet deep.

The tree should be sheltered somewhat from our rains. This way, it will get the cold without the wet. Right? So, under the eaves of a house, garage or shed, against a south-facing wall, is the only worthwhile situation.

WILL PROVIDE HEAT

The south wall situation will improve significantly upon our summers: with any luck it will provide that drowsy heat peaches like so much.

So there it is, we have taken some of the wetness away and rounded up a bit more heat.

Next requirement is rich soil. Peaches make a lot of growth and need ample nourishment to sustain this. Regular fertilizing is absolutely necessary.

A couple of pounds of bonemeal per tree at planting time is a good source of phosphorus for many years. Phosphorus is essential for blooming and fruiting and also helps in root development. Good stuff.

Well rotted chicken manure early in spring when buds begin to swell will help a great deal. Another application in early summer will keep everything growing right along, or use either a balanced or high nitrogen fertilizer such as 20-10-10.

Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS

Foxglove Nursery Consultant

FOR HARDINESS

In late summer or early fall apply wood ashes or potash for winter hardiness. All this is based on the premise that bonemeal has been supplied at planting time. If not, apply half a pound of bonemeal per tree per year. Spread under the tree to the dripline and rake into soil or cover otherwise, as exposed bonemeal will develop mold.

As soon as the weather begins to dry up in summer, provide two or three one-gallon tin cans, buried in the ground, with a few small drip holes in the bottom. Keep these filled with water to provide a constant supply of water to the tree.

Peaches make a lot of growth, which means a lot of pruning as well. Since fruit is borne on new wood, old growth needs to be cut off. Remove two of every three branches of last year's growth, or cut back all branches by one-third, or use a combination of these.

LEAF CURL

Now then, the next thing we need to take care of is peach leaf curl. We have minimized the problem by placing the tree under eaves. However, if this is not possible we have two ways of dealing with the leaf curl. One is organic, the other is not.

When buds begin to swell apply half a pound of garden lime per mature tree. Scatter on ground from trunk to drip line. Also scatter shredded grapefruit peel over the same area. If some leaves emerge and curl, pick these off and burn them. New leaves should be

just fine.

Or, for our second method, spray the tree thoroughly and carefully with lime-sulphur and dormant oil, once in December and again in January. Choose a period of a few dry days, so the spray is not washed off immediately.

HEAVY CROP SHOULD FOLLOW

With any luck at all there should then follow a heavy crop of fruit. Often trees carry too much fruit making thinning necessary. Thin when fruit is about one inch in diameter to six inches between fruit.

Good peach varieties for our areas are "Early Red Haven" and "Red Haven", "Pacific Gold", "Rochester", "Vedette" and "Veteran". The latter two set fruit under adverse conditions.

Among the apricots suitable for our islands are "Ticton", "Moorpark", "Wenatchee" and "Blenheim".

This looks a lot more complicated than it is. Anyway, it

is no excuse for not growing your own and enjoying peaches and cream, fresh and canned, for years to come at the cost of a tree, a bit of lime, a barrel of chicken manure and a bit of pleasant pruning.

Counting cards can be left at store

Participants in the annual Christmas Bird Count at Salt Spring Island can leave their counting cards at a Ganges store.

There will be a deposit box in the Camera Store at Mouat's Mall between Tuesday and Saturday and cards can be left there from 10:30 until 4:30.

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club is asking counters to return the cards as soon as possible.

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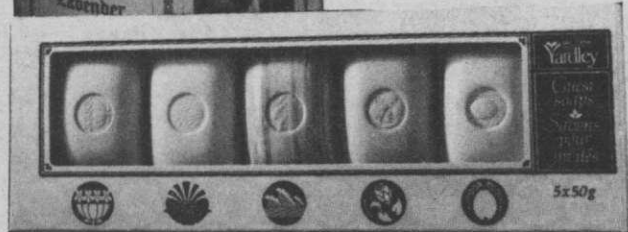
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Make your reservations now.

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8 PM - ?
Entertainment -
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