

Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR, NO. 50

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1982

35¢ per copy



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Fire truck as good as a sleigh

Riding in a fire truck was as good as any sleigh-ride as far as young Karen Marcotte of Salt Spring Island was concerned. Karen rode on Santa's lap from the Christmas Ship *Discovery* to the Ganges

activity centre Saturday evening when the Bellingham Jaycees made their 32nd voyage to the Gulf Islands. Handling the reins of the motorized sleigh is fireman Chris

Gilbert. The famed gentleman from the North Pole made many appearances in the islands during the past week. More photos are published this week on Page 26.

New sewer committee

A petition is circulating in Ganges seeking support for a referendum on the sewer issue.

A group of Ganges residents became concerned when the latest figures on the cost of the sewer came out. They got together and formed the Ganges Proposed Sewer Area Ratepayers Committee.

The group, says Mike Hayes of

Swanson Road, is made up of residents who, for the most part, had not taken part in the debate before. Some members have been for the sewer while others have opposed it, he said.

All, said Hayes, are now concerned about costs.

The petition calls on the Capital

Regional District to offer full disclosure about costs, including taxes which residents will have to pay.

The petition also asks the CRD to hold a referendum on the issue. The group plans to present a brief to the November 15 meeting of the CRD board.

John Zacharias is new school board chairman

New chairman of the Gulf Islands School Board is John Zacharias, trustee from Pender Island. Charles Hingston of Salt Spring has been chosen as vice-chairman.

The two were selected at the regular meeting of the school board last Wednesday.

Zacharias begins his third term on the board as the representative for Pender Island while Hingston is in the second year of his first term.

The new chairman will be guided in his leadership by the philosophy of the board of the past few years. The board has endeavoured to create an open atmosphere with the participation of parent advisory groups (PAC) from each school in the district.

The trustees have also encouraged the participation of the two unions to which the teachers and staff belong. A representative of the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association sits at the board table and takes part in the discussions while a member of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) also attends meetings.

Zacharias said he will change only two aspects of board operations. He, as chairman, will direct questions to the chairmen of the specific committees for answers.

"They have been named as chairmen of the committees," said Zacharias, "and if I don't have confidence in them in their positions, I shouldn't have named them."

Another change he will seek is to have PAC or CUPE representatives submit specific questions to the secretary-treasurer at least 48 hours before meetings to allow for specific answers to be researched.

General questions which require only a general answer, he said, can be asked and answered at the school board meeting.

Zacharias spent 35 years in the education system in Saskatchewan.

He was a school principal for 32 of those years. He and his wife moved to Pender Island from Edam, Saskatchewan, in July of 1976.

His work in education includes experiences in schools of similar size as those of the Gulf Islands. He was the principal of the Cudworth, Saskatchewan, school for 11 years.

Quinitisa will run at Fulford

The *M.V. Quinitisa* is coming back to Fulford Harbour.

B.C. Ferries will be putting the *Bowen Queen*, which regularly carries traffic between Fulford and Swartz Bay, into dock for a refit. She will be out of service from January 4 to 31.

To compensate for the slower speed of the *Quinitisa*, the schedule for the Fulford-Swartz Bay run will be adjusted for January.

The department of highways ferry can hold more vehicles than the *Queen of the Islands* and the ferry corporation officials don't want to leave anyone behind.

A comparison of the two vessels shows that the *Quinitisa* carries 60 vehicles and seven crew, and does 10.5 knots while the *Queen of the Islands* holds 48 vehicles and 11 crew and does 16 knots.

Operation of the *Quinitisa* will save nearly \$70,000 each month on labour and fuel costs, the corporation says.

Proposed schedule has been given to the Islands Trust Transportation Committee for study.

The slightly amended schedule, if accepted, will be published next week.

District will get 2.2%

The Gulf Islands School Board has received notice that it will be able to spend more on education next year, but the increase amounts to only 2.2% above what was spent this year.

The ministry of education sent figures to the board which allow for a 1983 operating budget of \$5,285,197. The increase of \$113,758 over the budget of \$5,171,439 for 1982 was permitted because of increased enrolment and, in part, due to increased repayments for construction and renovations at the various schools.

The main section of the budget contains \$4,611,274 for 1983. That part for 1982 had 4,569,153. The money set out in the section covers salaries and expenses of administration, teaching and maintenance. It also contains money to pay for transportation of

students.

The difference in the amount allowed for the two years is \$42,121, an increase of 0.9%.

The other section of the budget which shows an increase for 1983 is the debt services account. The figure allowed by the ministry is \$533,280 compared with \$481,643 spent this year.

The account provides for repayments of debentures, bank term loans and such with principal and interest. The money had been needed to pay for construction such as the new addition to the Galiano School and the renovations to the Mayne School.

The two sections of the budget containing money for non-operating expenses and non-shareable capital expenses, have not been allowed to be increased over the combined \$120,643 allotted in the 1982 budget.

15,000 used tourist bureau

Only doubtful signature was John Smith from Timbuktu

Almost 15,000 people came through the Salt Spring Island tourist bureau in Ganges last year. The volunteers who kept the

bureau functioning collected signatures from visitors from every province in Canada except Prince Edward Island as well as 34 states in

the United States.

In 1981, the bureau was visited by 6,690 people on vacation.

Marjorie Cuttell, co-ordinator of the volunteers, gave the information to a dinner meeting of the volunteers last Thursday. Guest of honour was provincial Tourism Minister Claude Richmond.

The visitors came to Salt Spring from all over the world, noted Cuttell. The only signature which was doubted was Mr. and Mrs. John Smith of Timbuktu.

Richmond said the visit was his first to Salt Spring but he felt at home.

He comes from Kamloops, he told the volunteers. "It's the same as here, but totally different."

The dual tax on guest rooms was a target for his ministry, he said. He favoured a straight tax to be split between general revenue and his ministry for tourism efforts, he said.

Calling B.C. Ferries the finest system in the world, he promised to oppose any efforts to have it closed down. The recent strike showed the value of the service to the province, he said, and when it was shut down this year the province and the tourist industry lost a great deal of money.

He urged the Salt Spring tourist industry to prepare for Expo 86. There will be 15 million visitors during the five months the world fair is open, he said.

To the volunteers, he offered congratulations and noted that the Salt Spring bureau was an example for the rest of the province. It did not use any government money to function, he said.

"This is unique in the province," he told the volunteers, "and I think it's wonderful."

The Salt Spring tourist bureau was a better product because of the volunteers. "They are here because they want to be."



Tourism Minister Claude Richmond, left, presented a photo of the Fulford Valley taken from the top of Mount Maxwell to the volunteers of the Salt Spring tourist bureau. Marg Cuttell, chairman of the volunteers, and Fred Bruynse, of Cedar Beach Resort and president of the resort owners' association, accepted the gift at a dinner at Kanaka Place last Thursday.

Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

Signing cheques is set out by Gulf Islands trustees

Various signatures are required for different documents issued by the Gulf Islands School Board.

The chairman of the school board and the secretary-treasurer must put their names to official documents. Such items include the minutes of meetings, contracts and legal papers such as bylaws and debenture issues.

On cheques up to \$3,000, signatures must be obtained from the secretary-treasurer and the payroll clerk or the accounts payable clerk.

When the amount is more than the \$3,000 figure, the cheques must bear signatures of the board chairman and the secretary-treasurer. The vice-chairman or the chairman of the finance committee can sign a cheque if the board chairman is not available.

LIMITATIONS

Certain cheques over \$3,000 can be signed by the secretary-treasurer and the payroll clerk or the accounts payable clerk. Such cheques would be payable for such items as payroll deductions issued to Revenue Canada or to cover unemployment insurance payments.

Other amounts which would go to governments also can be signed by the three school board employees. Hydro bills, telephone bills and such can be paid by cheques signed by the three as well.

Nan's would like to wish a Merry Christmas to all its patrons and many thanks for your support throughout the year.

On Saturday, Dec. 18 we are having A Beggar's Banquet

Choice of soup or salad, Roast Prime Rib au jus, steamed broccoli, buttered carrots, roast potato, fresh fruit & pie a la mode.

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Island student is selected

Robert Calkins, son of Mrs. B.J. Calkins of Ganges, a Grade 8 student at Shawnigan Lake School, has been selected to compete in a national academic contest sponsored by Arizona State University.

In order to search for outstanding academic talent, the university has invited especially well qualified academic students from Grades 7 and 8 through North America to join in a very demanding competition.

Potential entrants first have to take tests in both verbal and mathematical skills which are normally administered to senior high school students who are preparing for entrance to universities in the United States.

For a much younger boy to be able to score well on such difficult tests is a significant achievement and the island boy's marks are reported to have placed him very high.

He has, therefore, been chosen to compete in the national competition which will be written in January. Calkins, whose elder brother is also

a student at Shawnigan, won an open scholarship to the School in the annual entrance examination held last April.

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Ralph is retiring —
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To Be

Frank

by richards



He survived hurricane

It was while Fred and Iola Brookbanks were in Hawaii that news of Hurricane Iwa came to Salt Spring Island. Her friends at Lady Minto Hospital promptly renamed it Hurricane Iola. But Fred wasn't going to be beaten. When he arrived home he was wearing a t-shirt, marked "I survived Hurricane ~~Iwa~~ Iola".

A voiceless Smith

Bryan Smith came back from New Zealand with fond memories, warm blood and laryngitis. So he whispered his way around Salt Spring. Until he saw a specialist. "What are you whispering for?" asked the authority on laryngitis. He had been told not to wear out his voice explained Smith. Gargle and talk, he was told. It worked. In a matter of days he was talking like a 50-year old.

She could laugh

When a young lady was driving on Salt Spring Island her car revolted and blew a radiator hose. For two days the car stood on the grass verge while she arranged its repair. When she recovered the car the gas tank flap was open and the cap was gone. Thieves had found the car before her. But the owner laughed delightedly. The gauge was showing empty and she was on her way to the garage when it failed. She was eager to go halves on any gas the vandals succeeded in siphoning.

She couldn't laugh

Another report of theft came from Victoria. An Island resident picked up a pair of boots which had been repaired. She put them in the car and went to buy some bread at an adjacent store. When she came back with the bread, the boots were gone. Theft has long been a popular means of acquiring goods and the present hard times won't ease it up. The answer is so easy: Lock it up or lose it! There's no third alternative.

Insurance is down

When prices fall, it's newsworthy. This month we had a notification that insurance premiums for protection against fire will be reduced by an impressive discount. And it is not one business that is so favoured. The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District was informed of a similar reduction this week.

But wages were also low

I was looking over a 25-year-old newspaper that I helped produce. I wasn't impressed by the quality of the writing so much as the quality of the pricing. In 1958, just under a quarter-century ago, cranberries for Christmas were offered at 35¢ a pound. Japanese oranges, sold by the "bundle" were \$2.89. A pound of mixed nuts was 45¢ and a pound of back bacon was 85¢. If you wanted to wander, a six-day trip through by boat up the River Rhine was offered for \$12 a day, including meals. A bedroom suite was priced at \$149.50 and up. A hostess chair went for \$14.50 and a three-piece suite was \$200. The price of a '52 Packard convertible was \$1,095 and travel was not quite what it is today. Vancouver to London, in a Britannia, by CPA was \$661.60. And all these prices are fantastic. But what is not so clearly written in old newspapers is that it was as hard to find 33 cents for a pound of picnic ham then as it is to dig up the current price for the same thing. Prices and wages were just beginning the long uphill climb that we have lived with.

Donated labour, grant build new foundations for Mahon Hall

Receipt of the \$5,000 grant from the provincial lottery fund has enabled the Mahon Hall restoration committee to complete the renewal of the foundations on the north side of the building. It's the last major item on the projected program of the committee, says chairman Hugh Cummings.

The foundation work, which involved excavating around the perimeter of the north side of the building, removing the old, rotted support timbers, jacking up the rear section of the building and pouring concrete to replace the original foundations, was done at cost as a contribution to the restoration program by Webster Construction of Fulford. The job included the installation of a new concrete entranceway to the kitchen.

In reviewing the restoration program to date Cummings noted that the lottery fund contribution brought the total of the donations to the fund to \$34,900. He expressed the gratitude of the committee for the widespread support it has received from groups and individuals within the community.

"Not only the financial support," he said, "but also the many hours of time and expertise that have gone into the various projects on a volunteer basis."

Cummings said that the program has included installation on a new roof; reconstruction of the south entrance and addition of a loading ramp; reconstruction of stairs at two other entrances; foundation work on the north side of the building; replacement of the electrical fuse panel with an increase in the number of available circuits; replacement of the plumbing fixtures in the north bathroom, as well as a hot water tank and new sink and counter in the kitchen; a new sink in the board room; installation of electrical heating units in the north rooms of the hall; installation of emergency lighting and panic hardware on the main hall entrances.

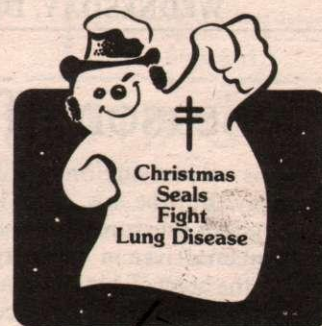
In addition, some much-needed storage space has been constructed in the board room and the kitchen and a good start has been made by the Lions Club members in painting the exterior of the building.

Cummings said total expendi-

tures to date have amounted to approximately \$31,300 with some minor projects still left to be completed. These include installation of a new floor covering in the board room, painting of the interior of the hall and the restoration of some of the windows.

"We are also going to have to look at trying to improve the efficiency of the heating system and the ventilation of the hall," he said.

"We are going to carry on until next spring so that we can do some landscaping and consider any other projects that could be undertaken if there are funds still available."



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**Province of
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**Ministry of Transportation and Highways
Saanich Highways District**

Notice of intention to close Church Bay Road in Section 18, Saturna Island, Cowichan District.

Notice is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Ministry of Transportation and Highways to close Church Bay Road of Plan 24256, Section 18, Saturna Island, Cowichan District (which provides public access to Plumper Sound Beach) in exchange for a public beach access to Church Cove.

Plans showing the proposed exchange are available to the public at the Saanich District Office, 103-4475 Viewmont Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

Submissions in writing regarding this road closure will be received by the District Highways Manager, Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Suite 103-4475 Viewmont Avenue, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 5K8 up to 2:00 p.m., January 14, 1983.

G. W. Harper,
District Highways Manager. 48-4

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TONY RICHARDS, EDITOR

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1982

Season of celebration

There is no pressure on any driver to abstain from drinking over the holiday. But the law, from legislator to police officer, is putting every possible pressure on the drinker to abstain from driving.

A drunken driver in bed may well be a sorry sight, but a driving drunk in the seat of his car may prove a sorrier.

This is the season when police officers take time out to halt traffic and check drivers. It is the season when drivers should check themselves. Spot checks are likely to be made everywhere and the islands will not be left out.

It is unfortunate that these activities have to be imposed on the travelling public, but they are very necessary. The hazard of driving under the influence of alcohol is too grave and threatens too many innocent people. It cannot be ignored.

If you are driving home from a party during the holiday, make sure you can, or don't! If you are with an individual who is obviously high on booze, don't let him get behind the wheel.

A well-oiled car is a delight. A well-oiled driver is the beginning of the end.

Don't let him get away

The unfortunate Canadian citizen who errs frequently has a choice when it comes to making amends. He may travel back to the scene of his evil-doing or he may plead the high cost of flying and have the case heard in his own home town.

That's the law.

The system works like a charm. Indeed, some wicked drivers and perpetrators of petty foolishness have looked askance at the bringing home of a charge in the warm expectation that a little island court might be more receptive to an outsider's contrition.

But when an island court learns of the evils of shooting deer in the hours of darkness its better instincts rally and the spark of indignation is fired. When the dangers to lives of others is emphasized island indignation bursts its bonds. And the evildoer is punished in accord with the gravity of his crime.

The other side of the coin sees the hearing transferred to a city court. The court knows what a deer is: everybody knows that. The rest of the story affects some unimaginably rural area with mountains and forests. And the offence has lost some of its significance.

Perhaps contraventions of the game laws might be required to be heard right there, at the scene of the crime, where people are fearful of guns going off at the bottom of the garden in the middle of the night.

Happy Birthday!

It is the birthday, this year, of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. For a half-century the corporation has sent the Canadian voice to air the Canadian aspirations over the radio waves of the nation. And Canada and the world have listened.

Now that we can all stand behind the corporation and share its satisfaction in many areas, we can also offer a resolution for the future.

What this nation needs in electronic communications is a straight, objective, factual news service. Canadians are entitled to hope for unbiased, unopinionated, uncoloured news reports either by radio or television, or both. Canadians pay the shot: and paying the CBC piper should enjoy calling the CBC tune.

The CBC is a natural target for critics. It is government. Nevertheless, CBC has achieved a very impressive record in its lifetime and many, perhaps most Canadians have followed the national service with respect.

But that respect cannot be retained until we have a news service that tells us what happened without political overtones, personal opinions or rancour.



Bill Webster

Liquid sunshine soaks island debate

The humbug season is upon us and while the rest of Canada suffers the weight of winter, the Gulf Islands languish in liquid sunshine.

Life, as the man was fond of saying, moves in mysterious ways. Me and the car were attempting a world record for the number of stalls in one intersection when Louis Bolivar-Finchley showed up.

"Need a push?" he asked.

When Louis offers facetious comments such as that, I tend to ignore him, if I can.

He climbed into the passenger seat of the car when for the seventh time it stalled just as it almost got through the intersection. Don't get me wrong, it's a good car and once it gets going, it runs smoothly. It just has a thing about stalling in intersections.

Louis, sitting there quietly, explained that he had just returned from a trip to the mainland. He had gone, he said, to find out where Suitcase had gone.

Suitcase was on the hot trail of the lost western Liberal and wouldn't be back to Salt Spring for several more months.

The Liberal, Louis said Suitcase said, was somewhere near the stomping grounds of the sasquatch and folks there weren't sure which was which. Both creatures apparently leave the same footprints. And both prints go in circles.

A quiet Louis causes me

concern. I asked what troubled him and he suggested we talk about it over lunch. We retired to the North Salt Spring Ferry Turn-around and asked the attendant to bring us a peanut butter and baloney sandwich.

While I munched, Louis began to explain his quietness.

"What is the most pressing issue on the island, right now?" he asked.

I, between bites of sandwich, said, "Mugphumpp..."

"Don't talk with your mouth full," Louis admonished me.

So we sat and enjoyed our sandwiches while I dredged my vast knowledge of island happenings to determine just what the most pressing issue was.

The answers which came to mind flew thick and fast. The sewer? The Islands Trust? The school budget?

"None of those," was Louis' smug reply.

He began to explain the most pressing issue on the island, as he saw it. When autumn slides towards winter, the liquid sunshine soaks the island. Some people were concerned about the high cost to residents next spring when the government attempts to dry the island out.

Tourists, Louis noted, won't come to a wet island and the government had a plan to get rid of the excess liquid sunshine. But the cost was too high, said some people who opposed almost anything the government tried.

They were concerned, these people, about taxes going out of sight. They were concerned about where the government wanted to put the excess liquid sunshine.

And so they complained.

Actually, said Louis, the controversy wasn't new. It had been going on for years. Way back when, the government wanted to dry the island out for tourist season but people complained then that the liquid sunshine was a problem which each resident should take care of.

The government persisted. The opposition became adamant. No dumping the excess in the sea. No dumping the excess on the land. No dumping the excess anywhere.

They felt that if the island did dry out during the summer months, the dread developers would descend upon Paradise West and neon-sign the place to Disneyland.

And so the autumn rains soaked the island and it never did dry out. And so the debate about dry summers continued.

When visitors come to the province for Expo 86, they will have to have someplace warm and dry to stay, said the government. The island isn't that far from the fair site and the business will be good for the B.C. Carboat Company.

And the dries and the wets continue their debate while the island soaks in liquid sunshine.

Letters to the Editor

It's delay that makes it cost

Sir,
Being a newcomer, an outsider, perhaps I don't have the right to speak about the following.

I came to Salt Spring in May with my wife and son thinking Salt Spring was a beautiful and relaxed and sanitary place in which to live.

I was handed at my home just the other day, a notice from the Sewer Alternative Committee a notice of

high sewer taxes on home owners and businesses. Since I'm in the process of purchasing a home, I think I have the right to speak out, and it just may be a look from an outsider to show a little bit of the truth.

Everybody, all over the world, is having sewage disposal problems. Ganges is not unique. Kamloops, where I came from, dumps millions of gallons of effluent into the Thompson River each year. Kamloops Lake has become a septic field for the pulp mill. All this waste travels the 250 mile pipeline of rivers to end up in the ocean, with no treatment plant.

Perhaps Ganges ocean pipeline, after treating the sewage, is not the best but I assure you it's a lot better than a lot of other communities and

it sure would be a lot better than what we have now.

One does not need to be a geologist or expert to realize all of Ganges is a pile of crushed rock, and I have yet to see any gravel, other than what is barged in. With heavy rains, nearly all the sewage ends up in the bay, untreated. If you don't believe me, come for a dive.

People - your bay is polluted beyond belief, with a powder toilet paper bottom!

I shouldn't complain! I haul out boats, scrape, clean them and make a lot of money painting them, but this area is ridiculous.

When I hear of pipe barges being set afire, and dogs being shot this makes me sick.

When I see the group who has held back the construction of the sewer causing the costs to rocket, send me a letter bragging about it, it makes me sick.

When the S.A.C. says the school and hospital should look after themselves this makes me sicker, as all taxpayers will pay for this in the end.

As for commercial development, sure Tom might be able to build a lot of Condominiums, but great!

Fixed income people all over, are selling their homes, renting condos and having a great life with money to travel, no lawns to cut - a great life, and why can't the older, retired people have the same opportunity in Ganges?

There seem to be a lot of older, long-time residents I have talked to, beautiful people, who would like that way of life rather than sell their homes and move off island.

Some mention of the fears that Ganges will expand, Shazam! If the sewer goes in. Smarten up, look around you at the economy or go back to sleep!

If the S.A.C. had spent their time and effort getting more money for this project instead of holding it back, all taxpayers would be laughing all the way to the bank.

There are many other septic tank seepage problems on the island, not to mention St. Mary's Lake, but let's get the big one solved!

I may be wrong but let's all meet with the Sewer Alternatives Committee this coming Sunday at 2 o'clock at my shop.

I'll get a bunch of sterile glasses from the hospital and I dare any one from the Committee to have a drink of water from the creek that travels down through Ganges and ends up at my shop.

ROSS McILVENNA,
Ganges.
December 7, 1982

P.S. My son being two still uses his diapers once in a while. But believe me, Committee, I have looked and looked and I can't find any alternative but to use my toilet.

**More letters —
Page Six**

Three caring letters

Sir,
What a joy to have three really caring letters in last week's paper, one on animals, one caring for others (eyesight) and one of gratitude to Ferry Authority. I do enjoy Mr. Gardner's letters, he uses such good common sense, also Geoff Howland's are well worth reading, but Geoff, you're a little bit tough on half salaries for teachers.

I wouldn't go that far, we have to remember we are living in a different age from last depression. It's not easy at times, things seem to have become out of hand, so to speak.

Anyhow, I do hope and pray we will not get nasty about the sewer business, when all is said, the Hospital and Greenwoods do indeed need some type of disposal apart from what they have today, for the odour around there is not healthy and the cost of daily emptying all this time would have paid pretty much of a sewer system.

Let's be fair and keep happy on our beautiful island.

BESSIE DANE,
Fullford Harbour.
December 2, 1982.

Only one clinic next year

Sir,
The Canadian Red Cross Blood Clinics program for 1983 has been received. There will be only one blood clinic held on Salt Spring Island during 1983. This will be held at the Legion Hall on Monday, May 30.

It is hoped that the registered blood donors of our community who planned to donate their blood at our usual January clinic, now cancelled, will donate at Red Cross House, 1046 Fort St., Victoria or at any other clinic in January and be ready to donate again at our May 30th clinic at the Legion Hall.

PETER BINGHAM,
Chairman,
Blood Clinic Committee,
December 3, 1982.

A vote of confidence

Sir,
Although being a native Salt Spring Islander may be a disadvantage when judging current events on Salt Spring, I do believe it gives one a certain perspective when comparing "then" to "now".

I was glad to see how soundly Islanders supported local producers on the Farmers' Market referendum. Being a producer, we at Bonacres Farm appreciate this vote of confidence.

We feel that it is only fair that we Islanders who pay taxes on our farms should receive preferential treatment over the mobile sellers who only take money off the Island. Further, the local merchants, who pay taxes for services on the Island, should not be disadvantaged by those who do not.

On another issue one wonders what the result of the nuclear disarmament vote would have been if the question asked was, "Do you favour unilateral nuclear disarmament?" I believe that the question as presented to the voters was about the same as asking, "Are you in favour of loving your mother?" Of course we all favour nuclear disarmament.

The question of unilateral disarmament is totally different.

One has only to look at the Soviet leadership and their age. They are all survivors and in many cases supporters of the Stalinist purges of the 1930's. Many have the blood of tens of millions of countrymen on their hands. They have been a party to mass murder before. They have witnessed the only limited nuclear war and successful nuclear war that this planet has seen, successful in the sense that the loss of several hundred thousand Japanese civilians was preferable to the million or so Allied and Japanese soldiers to be killed in the prevented conflict that would have been necessary to conquer Japan in 1945.

They, the Russian leaders, are quite capable of reasoning a limited nuclear group of weapons in Europe to counter the Russian threat of limited nuclear war on Europe would be to invite the Russians to start the holocaust.

Unilateral? No! We must forever seek to obtain nuclear disarmament but not at the chance of yielding our souls to these men with tens of millions of their countrymen's blood on their hands.

MALCOLM BOND,
Box 3308,
Langley, B.C.
December, 1982.

Licence offers protection

Sir,
1983 Dog Licences will soon be available at numerous vendors. The Capital Regional District Animal Control Bylaw states clearly that licensing of all dogs is mandatory. Stiff penalties may be imposed on owners for failure to so licence their dogs.

Statistics indicate that only about 50% of dogs in this area are licenced.

As human population increases so does pet population, especially in semi-rural areas. Studies conducted in the U.S.A. suggest that, by 1984, the birth rate of cats and dogs will exceed that of humans! However, the life expectancy of pets is very short. In our consumer-oriented society pets are expendable.

It is difficult to understand why dog owners will pay hundreds of dollars a year on pet food, veterinary care, etc., but will neglect to licence their often valuable dogs for about \$10-\$15 per annum. Such neglect often results in tragedy for

both owners and unlicensed dogs.

Animal Control Officers are constantly called upon to pick up injured dogs. When such animals do not carry any licence identity, euthanasia is the only practical end! Many grief stricken owners have been informed that their dog has been "put to sleep" for lack of a \$5 identity tag.

Dog stealing, especially of valuable animals, is common. The thief expecting a reward for returning the dog to its legal owner, or selling it. Dogs bearing licence tags are rarely stolen.

Owners who value their dogs can buy practical protection for a modest licence fee.

Local dog owners are urged to licence their animals in 1983. Besides pet protection it is the law! **WILLIAM LEACH,**
Animal Control Division,
Capital Regional District.
December, 1982.

Elections show case to be made for second-choice vote

Sir,
I am a curious type: and when the results of the recent School Board elections were published, I found myself puzzled by the fact the (A) Ron McQuiggan was elected (ergo the voters were impressed by his campaign in favour of intelligent financial management) and yet (B) the incumbents Baltzer and Beitel were re-elected by the same voters.

If one applies the "What if?" principle - mathematicians might call it operational research - one finds the following:

1,938 people voted. Baltzer got 934 votes. So 1,004 people were against him. He should not have got in! Similarly, Beitel got 925 votes. 1,013 people voted against him. He should not have been elected either! There is surely a lesson here. The voters, and especially the candidates, should get their act together.

As for Ron McQuiggan? Try the same sort of arithmetic, and you find that (in a simple contest for one seat, but with three candidates) 983 people would have preferred a candidate other than McQuiggan! Yet he was elected - and with only 886 votes!

I have nothing against Ron McQuiggan - in fact I voted for him myself - but there is certainly a lesson here for the candidates Baines and Cherney. If they had only kept it to a simple contest with two candidates!

There is a case to be made for the Single Transferable Vote (or "state your second choice") type of election. Without it - we have Trudeau, when 60% of the country is against him.

COLIN NICHOLSON,
Box 1087,
Ganges.
December 12, 1982.

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More Letters to the Editor

Earlier letter misunderstood

Sir,
My letter dated November 10, was read by Secretary Mary Harding, of The Galiano Club. I ask, "What is a Secretary?" because if my encyclopedia should be correct - it reads, a person who deals with correspondence, keeps records, for committees, etc. Should the Secretary be of this status, she could hardly have misunderstood my earlier letter to the Editor.

Not being a total stranger to the Island, I can assure I have learned much about the Galiano Island Landmark itself, and the background and history of many of its residents.

Please let us set things right, I have absolutely no right, or do I claim to want any information from your books.

My Dump Issue explains how costs could be established on taxes, retaining small monies for the Treasurer's pot. Not a word did I say re the dumps condition, but you refreshed the air and My congratulations on its recent cleanliness.

Let's face it, there are the workers on executive boards, you yourself sound energetic, but at times one can easily separate the grain from the chaff and the word "prestige"

slowly filters through.

Your phrase "distinguished few" comes up regularly, with due respect, compromise and share the accolades with the other Islanders who also respect and protect the Parks.

I did notice the tired old hall has had an inside face-lift, and it is remarkable. Please notice my letter was dated November 10. My thanks to the paint donor. But can it be conceived the amount of time lost, and the overall deterioration of the hall's construction.

There is much to be done and inside paint may be the beginning, even man heals from the inside first. Also it is interesting to note the Galiano Club is going to make available to the public, the Rental costs. Last-minute decisions don't always coincide with the Rental Boards.

My suggestion is to read without haste or anger the Letters of interest. Interpretation is a very big word and can be misleading.

Was it really a nasty letter? As the old saying goes, "If the shoe fits one wears it".

MRS. MARIE GASKIN,
2980 East 54th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
December, 1982.

He likes to see animals in wild but likes to hunt too

Sir,
On December 8 you aired Mr. Polden's views on hunting. I love, more than anyone, to see animals in the wild, deer, racoons and eagles and especially the stately buck displaying a handsome set of horns, as a bamboo-legged fawn still covered in spots. I spend many a day in the summer, hiking the hills of Salt Spring, hoping to get a glimpse of these creatures in their contentment.

However, come September, with the eagerness of a hunting dog using his skills to seek out his prey, I am off into the woods. I feel this is a better alternative to killing a six-pack while watching a ball game on T.V.

Only a vegetarian can be unhypocritical about condemning hunting. Does a steer being led up the ramp into a slaughterhouse with the air full of the scent of blood feel any less fear than a buck trying to

elude a hunter?
I am not trying to appear self-righteous. There are many hunters that have their own code of ethics that supersedes the regulation manual. Such as the hunter that laid down his gun while he delicately untangled a deer caught in a fence and watched it bound to freedom, or those hunters, and there are many, that do not hunt does or fawns during the nine days a year that is legal to do so.

Unfortunately the wilderness is being pushed further and further back, and someday, I suppose, unless there is no longer an increase in population there will be no deer at all on Salt Spring Island, as there are no longer moose grazing on Manhattan Island. But that is not the result of hunting, that is the result of progress.

TONY PHIPPS,
Ganges.
December 9, 1982.

Ensure equality and restore original structure

Sir,
The election of Island Trustees is now behind us, but some questions relative to upper structure of the Trust are worthy of some reflection.

At the all-candidates meeting on Bowen Island, Mr. Rich stated that he would not be running for the position of chairman this term. That was not surprising, as we understand he is now attending university with the object of becoming a lawyer, a worthy ambition, but dependent on a very demanding course of study not likely to tolerate many time-consuming outside interests.

Having stated his stand relative to Trust Chairmanship would he be

any better advised to run as a general trustee? That position too carries such responsibility that, if seriously and conscientiously carried out, demands frequent trips to Victoria and periodic trips to each of the 13 islands represented in the Trust assembly. In fact, one may well ask: how he can find time with his studies to serve adequately the people of Bowen Island who elected him as an island trustee?

In the lower position of an island trustee only and not as a general trustee would he defend the position taken by our other trustee on behalf of the electors of Bowen Island on such matters as complete public disclosure in all cases including that

of giving official status to the Regional Plan which then threatens the supremacy of the Official Community Plan?

In that case, could we expect to have two trustees working together for Bowen rather than in opposition—opposition which seems to revolve around the question of which has greater claim on a trustee's support—the electors or the elected body, the people or government. Which is being served?

The Islands Trust was initially headed by three appointees selected by the ministry. That system kept the Trust remote from any possibility of bias, patronage or conflict of interest and all trustees were on an equal footing being primarily concerned with their individual islands and jointly considering the whole assembly.

I believe the conflicts and power struggles we have today are a direct result of the change which created the present structure of the Trust.

I suggest we should appeal to the Minister to restore the original structure and ensure equality for all islands and all trustees.

A.H. ELLIOTT,
Bowen Island, B.C.
November 24, 1982.

Thank you, all!

Sir,
On behalf of the residents of Pioneer Village, Greenwoods and the patients and staff at the Lady Minto Hospital I would like to pass on their sincere thanks for holly received by them from Molly and Bob Akerman, Mardie and Roger Banks, Barbara and Dick Toynbee and Gwen Ruckle.

JOHN C. LEES,
Ganges.
December 12, 1982.

A word of thanks from Community Society Craft Faire

Sir,
On behalf of the Salt Spring Island Community Society, I would like to thank the many folks who gave of their time in the creation of another very successful Christmas Craft Faire.

The craftspeople who took part in the Faire manifested again the creative and individualistic spirit of the Gulf Islands.

A very special thanks to Michael Aronoff, Bruce Pearson and Terry Warbey on string instruments with Jack Pinder and Corky in the rhythm section. The toe-tappin', down-home with occasional Celtic sound provided the perfect musical atmosphere for the Faire.

And what would a Craft Faire and Party be without the many

Islanders and off-islanders who came to shop, to enjoy and to add to the spirit for the occasion? Thank you!

The profit the Community Society made from the Faire will go towards further improvements to the Community Centre, the home of many services provided to the residents of Salt Spring Island.

The members of the Community Society would like to extend their very best wishes to the people of the Gulf Islands and beyond during this holiday season.

ELIZABETH WARD,
Co-ordinator,
Christmas Craft Faire.
Ganges.
December 9, 1982.

Alternative plan for Ganges

Sir,
The name "Ganges" is world famous as a holy river where the devout freely bathe and bury their dead out of respect for the Powers-that-be.

Our Ganges is becoming famous as the harbour where the unholy powers-to-be disrespectfully refuse to bury an extravagant project designed to deaden our harbour with bathwater.

The real powers-that-be obviously have an alternative plan for Ganges.

KATHLEEN HUEBUER CLARK
R.R. 1 Fulford Harbour.
December 11, 1982.

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Mrs. and Mr. Small celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

It is 50 years since Benjamin G. Small walked down the aisle with Virginia Mary Beatrice Small in an Alberta church, setting out to enjoy a half-century together.

The couple was married in the parish of St. Anne's, in Calgary, on December 17, 1932. Neither was from Calgary. Neither came from Alberta. Benjamin Small was a "stubble-jumper" from Mather, in Manitoba and his new wife hailed from Midland, Ont.

For seven years they remained in Calgary while he was working for Dominion Bridge. Then came the war and went the soldier. For seven years Small served in the army, as paymaster.

Most of those years were spent overseas.

When the world settled down, the soldier returned and his family moved with him to Edmonton, back with Dominion Bridge.

KOREAN WAR

Peace was short-lived. In 1951 the Korean War was waged and the former paymaster was invited to return to his special military duties in Korea.

Small, whose tall, thin figure suggests anything but diminutive, was happy to enlist, but he felt that his employers were entitled to expect him to stick around. He explained to the military that he was unable to serve in courtesy to the company. He was now too old to qualify for a military pension. The army was as determined to get him as he was to give Dominion Bridge a fair deal.

A special legislature was enacted by Ottawa to permit him to enter the regular forces and to serve until 1963 to qualify for pension. With an act of parliament behind him, he was off to Korea like a shot.

When this war ended he remained a soldier until 1963.

NEW CALLING

Although retired, he had no need of long hours of unoccupation and promptly volunteered to put in a stint with the inland revenue branch as income tax auditor. His new career took him to 1975, when he retired to Salt Spring Island.

The couple still live on the island, on Epron Road.

They have five children, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

On Sunday they will enjoy open house at Cedar Beach Resort.

Both are now enjoying good health and looking back with contentment on the years since 1932.



Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Small are seen smiling their way through 50 years of marriage.

Driftwood photo by Frank Richards

Cares are set aside when Singers present concert

Contributed

BY ETHEL MAGNUS

Salt Spring Singers presented their diversified Christmas concert two weeks ago and a festive atmosphere set by seasonal decorations quickly inspired the audience to put cares aside and celebrate the coming holiday.

The melodic *Canon Alleluia* by Mozart beautifully illustrated the light, clear tone of the women's voices. Superb diction and sensitive expression was consistent throughout the concert.

African Noel charmed the audience with its rhythmic beat and bongo drum accompaniment, played by Muriel Leask.

Monotone Angel, assisted by Anna and Micaele Maddison and Elaine and Gwyneth Gardam as angels, whimsically tantalized the imagination of each listener!

DIVERSION

Ballet students of Sue Bowler's School of Dance lent a colourful diversion from choral singing with excerpts from the *Nutcracker Suite* by Tchaikovsky.

Nostalgic favorites, *The*

Christmas Song and *White Christmas* were presented in good taste. Joan Raeside, a member of the chorus, is to be commended for *Carol of the Waits*, her effective Christmas composition.

It was a pleasure to see a wide cross-section of the community in attendance, including people from extended care in their wheelchairs. The Salt Spring Singers is a community choir under the sensitive direction of Joy Johnsen. She was assisted by accompanists Marion Patterson and Angela Funk.

Hopefully, the Hallelujah Chorus from *The Messiah* will continue to be a part of the Singers' annual tradition which has once again enriched the Christmas season on this island.

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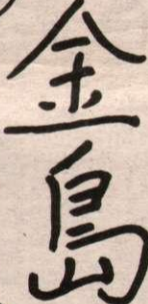
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Driftwood photos by Alice Richards

Arts Council stages open house

The Community Arts Council held an open house on Sunday in an effort to acquaint the public with their many services to the community. Involved in island activities of all kinds, the CAC supports a large number of art groups, most of whom had set up displays and demonstrations in Mahon Hall for the public to view. At top right are Muriel Hale, potter, and Nicolas Gaitt, jewellers' guild member. Demonstrating spinning is Donna Vanderwekken as Ilse Leader looks over her shoulder. Both are members of the Weavers Guild. Dawny Scarfe, a member of the Salt Spring Players, sits in front of the photo display arranged by that group.



Mothers feted by institute

Pender Islands Woman's Institute held the annual afternoon tea for mothers with babies born on Pender during 1982. This year 12 mother and babies attended.

Women's Institute member Martha Nance introduced the guests and presented the babies with a silver spoon, a tradition over many years with the Pender Institute.

At a brief meeting of the Institute prior to the guests' arrival the new executive for 1983 was elected.

Mrs. Baye Leroux will serve as president; Mrs. Mary Riply, secretary; Mrs. Ellen Corbett, vice-president; and Mrs. Margaret Stevenson, treasurer.

Winter Driving Warning

Snow Area Spot Checks

At this time of year and in areas subject to heavy snow conditions, you will see special signs requiring that **your vehicle have good winter-tread tires or carry chains** or, in some case, that **chains be mounted**. For your safety and that of other motorists, these signs are authorized by law.

During the next few weeks, random checks will be carried out by the RCMP in problem driving areas, more particularly the Hope-Princeton, the Squamish Highway to Whistler, the Fraser Canyon, but including other sections of road on Vancouver Island and the rest of the province subject to snow conditions. The operation will be in conjunction with the Attorney General's "CounterAttack" programme and other police traffic checks. **Drivers of vehicles not properly equipped may be turned back or charged.**

The Ministry of Transportation and Highways is doing its best to clear snow and maintain our roads in winter to make them safe. Before driving into snow areas, make sure you have good winter tires and are carrying chains to make your vehicle safe.

Be on the lookout for snow clearing and sanding equipment sometimes operating in conditions of limited visibility. **Their flashing amber lights are warning you to use extreme caution and slow down.** Make sure also that you observe special signing and directions of flagpersons if you should encounter them, **and please drive carefully.**

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Driftwood photo by Eleanor Harrison

Auxiliary serves dinner to 60

More than 60 Pender Island residents were guests last week at the annual Golden Glow Dinner staged by Ladies' Auxiliary to the Legion. Entertainment was provided by the school band, led by Judy Neil, Dick

and Margaret Tallman and Bob Allison, and the Desolation Barber Shop Quartet. Dinner music was played by organist Thelma Lambeth, who had her organ moved from her home for the occasion.

Libby Leicht was in charge of the affair.

Star, Mehalick 'dazzling' at Folk Society concert

Contributed

One word simply describes the new Salt Spring Folk Society's second offering to Island folk music enthusiasts - success!

Friday evening at St. George's, Orrin Star and Gary Mehalick, Flying Fish recording artists, were as dazzling as their publicity promised as they wove their way through two hours of folk, fiddle, bluegrass, swing and even Beatles tunes for a capacity crowd.

Their music was filled with good humour and expert hot licks that left their audience gasping for more.

There were many high points in their performance but one in particular to be remembered was their introduction to the audience of

a new little friend of theirs who was born and raised on Salt Spring, little Mandolin Warbey.

Gary played the mandolin made by island craftsman Terry Warbey, their host, while Orrin played his mandolin made by one of Terry's fellow craftsmen from the U.S. midwest. Together they played a fiddle tune called *Kitchen Girl* which charmed us all.

The next event planned by the society is a benefit coffee house January 7 at St. George's, proceeds to go to the society to help fund future projects.

Performers for that evening will be drawn from among the many diversified island musicians, both professional and amateur.

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Golden-Age news

BY BILL HARPER

The O.A.P.O. Branch 32 held their Christmas Dinner December 8 at Central Hall with a good attendance. It was supervised by Joan Hayward and her helpers.

Following the dinner we had a dance which was ably handled by Edie Gear and committee. Connie Ramsey supplied the record player, others helped with the decorations.

The musical parcel game was won by Vicki Griffin and Grace Garner. The first spot dance was won by Mr. and Mrs. Dodds, the second one by Mr. and Mrs. Brigden. A cushion made and donated by Reg. Griffin was raffled and won by Lucy Moore. The door prize was won by Vicki Griffin.

Walt and Grace Young have just returned from a trip to Regina where they visited with Grace's brother who is in hospital. They also visited with her sister in Calgary.

Ann Jameski and Jack Dumas have been ill. We wish them a speedy recovery and Ruby Johnston as well.

The Recreation Club will be closed for the holidays, from 4 pm December 17 to 1 pm January 3.

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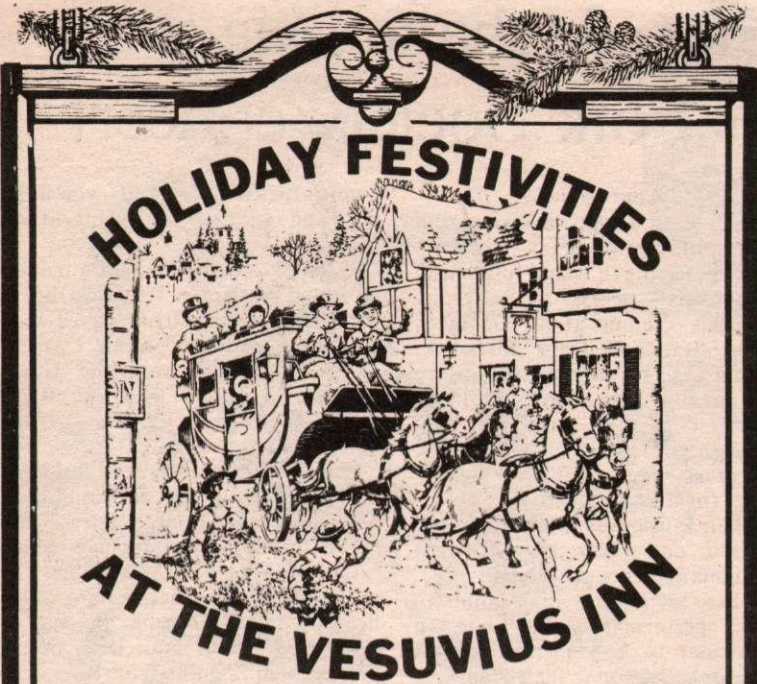
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BAR WILL BE OPEN 3-6 PM.

We return to regular hours
Monday, January 3, 1983.



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Poster contest winners

Grey Cup poster winners received their cheques last week. Kelly Mullen, front left, won first prize and Ellen Box, front right, took the second prize. Third prize winner

Bob Leader was ill at the time photo was taken. Rotarians present are Gerry Coers, left, and Don Harrison. At right is Caroline Hamilton, art teacher at Gulf

Islands Secondary School. Salt Spring Rotary Club chose the winning posters from over 40 entries.

Bastion Theatre plays at Pender

The Bastion Theatre production of *The Snow Queen*, sponsored by the Arts for B.C. Schools Committee, was performed in the gym of the Pender School on December 6.

Following is a review of *The Snow Queen* by Catrin Roach, a Grade 6 pupil

Today is December 6, 1982, the day the Bastion Theatre performed

Snow Queen.

The play was adapted from the story, *The Snow Queen*, written by Hans Christian Anderson. There were four people playing about 10 different characters in the play.

The four actors' names were Marcy Goldberg, who starred as a goblin, robber, snow princess and the Snow Queen; Michael Keller, who starred as the reindeer, flower,

goblin, prince and the robber; David Savoy, who played the witch, crow and Kay; and Marianne Copithorne, who acted Gerde. Kevin McNulty did the sound effects and they were quite good.

The play was about two children who were really good friends. A goblin made a magic mirror and then another goblin broke the mirror.

Just after the mirror was broken Gerde and Kay came walking by. Then the goblins saw them, the goblin that broke the mirror froze Kay and Gerde. Then the goblin put a grain of glass in Kay's eye and put a sliver of glass in his heart.

Later the snow princess took Kay to the Snow Queen. Gerde was searching all over the place for Kay. And of course Gerde eventually found him and freed him from the spell.

I think the play was very good and everyone that went enjoyed it.

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They weren't in dark long

The trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board were in the dark, literally, at their meeting last week.

As they talked of things educational, the power failed and the lights went out.

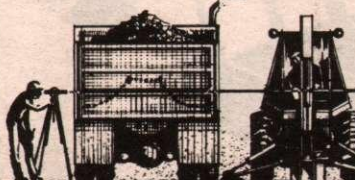
Galiano trustee Michael Hoebel said of the gloom in the room, "All you have to do is snap your fingers..." and as he did, the lights came back on.

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Trust council covers variety of subjects

A variety of issues were discussed by the Islands Trust council in Victoria last week.

A letter from the minister of municipal affairs explained that the minister and the Cabinet are aware of the Trust views on the Gambier Island mining proposal for mining on the island.

The letter also explained that the mining act supersedes land use regulations.

Moratorium on oil drilling in the Strait of Georgia is still in force, the council was informed, and it will continue indefinitely, from Alert Bay south. It is, however, proposed to search for oil in Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Islands waters. Exploration is expected to peak about the year 2000.

TEXADA DUMP

Trustees were indignant and worried over the proposal to use Texada Island as a garbage dump. Trustees were told by the new chairman, Mike Humphries, that the company sponsoring the dumping of garbage is Genstar and that a million dollars will be spent on studying the proposal to use Vancouver city garbage to fill in the old limestone quarries.

On the urging of John Rich, the council decided to take no immediate action in response to some move by Texada Islanders to become part of the Islands Trust. More information is needed, he said.

He explained, in reply to a question from Bev Unger, that when the Trust was formed Texada was considered too industrialized to be part of the Trust concept and was, accordingly, excluded.

Trustees expressed concern that if the Texada plan were taken up the islands could all be eyed as potential garbage dumps for mainland residents.

Harlene Holm agreed with the

former chairman.

"Await a cogent argument," she urged, "and avoid the gut reaction!"

A committee will look into the Texada problem and report back to the council meeting in March.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation committee had met with the B.C. Ferry Corporation and was recommending that each island name a representative to the committee to relieve local trustees of the link with ferries. The trustees from the Gulf Islands had been working closely with the corporation, but members felt that this function was straining their routine duties of island administration. Ferry disputes among islands challenges the inter-island harmony sought by the Trust, it was felt.

The forestry committee has lost its members in the election shuffles, said the chairman, but it will be reformed.

Logging on Crown property and in watershed areas is a matter of concern, the council was warned. The committee is also watching the sale of wood lots and the possibility of large sales of Crown land. All these measures, it was felt, affect the islands pattern.

WATERSHEDS

Bev Unger reported that the concern for protection of watersheds has already been met in some degree on Salt Spring Island.

The council established a new committee to consider the overall aspect of watershed and wetland protection.

Concern for high density commercial developments was expressed. Staff reports on islands bylaws have already been initiated and the council will continue that interest.

Gordon Wallace pointed out that a zoning which permits high density over a wide area should be closely

examined on all the islands. He urged an overall pattern of regulation to avoid the necessity of covering the same ground on each island.

Trustees from Salt Spring Island reported that they have a problem of high-density zoning and are planning to examine and tighten the bylaws.

COMMERCIAL USE

The council also reviewed measures which have been proposed by area assessors on some islands whereby residential properties used for home occupations with a commercial aspect might be assessed at commercial rates.

Commercial taxation would require that a property paid taxes on

24.5% of assessed value as against the 12% on residential property and then the commercial property is more heavily burdened with school taxes. Some trustees found confusion between the provincial business licence and the local commercial zoning and the area commercial tax category. It was explained that the three functions

are unrelated. The council will meet again in March.



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Another craft sale

Gearing up for yet another craft sale at Salt Spring Island are Sheri Hickman, left, and Janet Reid. Hickman's handmade dolls and Reid's batiked, stuffed animals will be among the goods for sale at Salt

Spring Fibres' third annual Christmas Market at Central Hall. Over 60 Gulf Islands artisans will be represented at the sale, which runs from Thursday till Sunday.

Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Donations sought for islanders in need

Efforts are being directed at ensuring that Christmas is enjoyable for those on Salt Spring Island who would otherwise not be able to enjoy the day.

The Ganges United Church and the Community Centre are seeking donations of food and new toys to be distributed to residents with special needs.

The United Church effort is a focal point for the other churches on the island.

"We are sincerely concerned that anyone in need will be able to receive assistance," says Al Skinner, pastor at the United Church.

Families who need assistance can drop into the Community Centre on Ganges Hill any morning up to December 22 to pick up food or toys. The offer also extends to those who may be alone over the holiday.

Those residents who wish to contribute or who would be willing to host others for Christmas can reach the United Church at 537-5812 or the Community Centre at 537-9212.

Offers of assistance for

individuals and families have come in but Skinner noted, "We believe there are other folk who are in need who may be reluctant to come forward and ask for much needed help."



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NON-FICTION

High Drama by Hamish Mac- Innes, *Warp / Weft / Sett* by June Beveridge, *Running in the Family* by Michael Ondaatje, *Puffin Cove* by Neil Carey, *For Services Rendered* by John Sawatsky, *The Right Place at the Right Time* by Robert MacNeil, *The Third World War - Untold Story* by Gen. Sir John Hackett, *Jolie Brise* by Robin Bryer, *Stone Masonry* by K. Kern et al, *Without a Trace* by John Harris, *New Oxford Book of Canadian Verse (English)*, ed. Margaret At- wood, *Treasures of World Art* by Nicholas Fry, *And the Walls Came Tumbling Down* by Jack Fishman, *The Hill of Kronos* by Peter Levi, *One Man's Medicine* by Morris Gibson, *The Changing Anatomy of Britain* by Anthony Sampson.



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MOUAT'S

No Grade 10 at Mayne School, report recommends

Outer Islands students in Grades 8 and 9 will be attending the school on Mayne Island in September but students in the higher grades will travel to Salt Spring Island.

Mike Marshall, superintendent of schools for the Gulf Islands, had been checking the possibility of a Grade 10 on Mayne Island and last Wednesday handed a report and recommendations on the proposal to the school board.

The study, said Marshall, was a "difficult thing because it reaches right into our system and into the high school."

The recommendations:

"That all Outer Island Grade 8 and 9 students attend Mayne Elementary-Middle School commencing September 1983."

"That all Grade 10, 11 and 12 students continue to attend Gulf Islands Secondary School."

SERIES OF MEETINGS

Marshall held a series of meetings on each of the Outer Islands during the past six weeks. He talked with at least 80 parents and 60 students of Grades 6 to 10 in that time.

Discussions with principals and teachers of Outer Islands schools and GISS were also held.

Marshall said he wanted to gain a broad sampling of opinion concerning a Grade 10 at Mayne School and he found five main points recurred in most of the conversations.

A main concern of many of those with whom Marshall spoke revolved around an effective water transportation network.

"All groups expressed a strong

view regarding the safety and scheduling considerations of inter-island student travel," Marshall noted in his report.

He suggested the formation of an Outer Island transportation committee to look into the matter. **NEEDS BEING SATISFIED**

Jeannine Dodds, Mayne Island trustee, said she agreed with the idea of studying the Outer Island water transportation needs but stressed that the service now being used satisfied the current needs of moving students between islands.

Pender Island trustee John Zacharias said he also wanted to stress that the board considered the current service to be safe.

The committee as suggested by Marshall would be composed of a representative of each of the parent advisory committees on the four Outer Islands, the principal of the Mayne Island School, the chairman of the school board's transportation committee as well as Marshall.

The committee would function "for the purpose of designing and recommending a transportation network that would be safe, reasonably scheduled to foster educational, personal and social goals," noted Marshall's recommendation.

Several people also suggested efforts be directed towards talking with B.C. Ferries to have the ferries supplement the water taxi services.

The concern of parents and students against having Grade 10 on Mayne Island was that the students would be attending GISS for only two years. The students would have

a year, Grade 11 to adjust to the secondary school and would have to leave the following year, Grade 12.

LITTLE TIME TO ADJUST

"Most were of the opinion there would be little time to make the important educational, social and personal adjustments," said Marshall.

The consensus favoured the grouping of Grades 10, 11 and 12, said Marshall.

"It is also important to note that this grouping is most consistent with ministry of education guidelines that encourage senior students to select courses in clusters to provide some depth of knowledge in specific areas," he said in the report.

To that end, the parents also expressed concern that the courses offered in the secondary grades at the Mayne School "be comparable to those offered at Gulf Islands Secondary or other high schools in B.C. There was a clear desire on their part for quality curricular and extra-curricular experiences," noted the report.

The parents preferred to see their children "pass through a middle school experience, rather than proceed directly from elementary to secondary school."

The grouping of Grades 8 and 9 at the Mayne School for the Outer Islands students would give them the opportunity to adjust to high school.

"Many parents and younger students," Marshall said in the report, "were very apprehensive about moving from small elementary schools directly to Gulf

Islands Secondary School and other larger off-island high schools.

"The middle school was viewed as a means of providing educational, social and personal experiences most appropriate for young adolescents."

ADDITIONS PLANNED

Consistent with the concern of adjustments for the young pupils were the facilities at the Mayne School. Further additions to the school are in the planning stage.

"All groups were generally appreciative of the planned facility

renovations and additions to the Mayne School," noted the report.

By September, said Marshall, there will be 20 students in Grade 8 and 25 in Grade 9 at the Mayne School. The combined total is sufficient, according to ministry of education guidelines, to go ahead with the planned expansion of the Mayne School, he said.

Marshall was instructed by the trustees to continue the talks with the parent advisory committees at Outer Islands schools and report back to the board by the second meeting in January.

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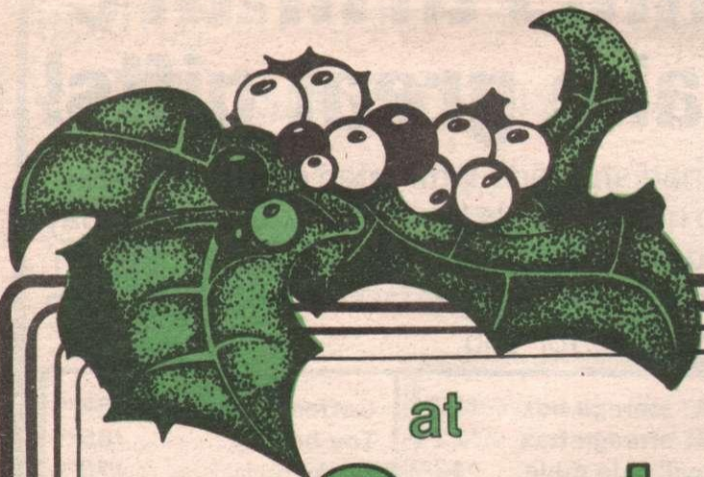
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