

Gulf Islands Driftwood

537-2211

Serving the Beautiful Gulf Islands of Salt Spring, Mayne, Galiano, North & South Penders and Saturna

537-2613

TWENTY-THIRD YEAR, NO. 5

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1982

35¢ per copy



Driftwood photos by Alice Richards

Program draws large audience

A large audience enjoyed the program put on last Saturday afternoon at Central Hall by Expressive Arts System Exploration co-ordinators. Show

included puppetry, a skit, juggling and many edible goodies. At right, Michelle Madrone portrays wicked witch in a skit, and is trying to talk Simba out of his warm

fuzzies and poison the villagers with Aspirin. The warm fuzzies finally turn the wicked witch into a loving, happy member of the friendly community.



Reduce mill rates—Curtis

Significant expansion of the assessment base could mean windfall profits for municipalities at the expense of taxpayers, Finance Minister Hugh Curtis has warned.

He urged ratepayers to pressure local authorities to keep the mill rate in check.

"Where the assessment base has risen dramatically," said Curtis, "municipalities, school boards and

regional districts can control budgets and reduce mill rates so that taxes will not increase in proportion to assessment."

Figures released by the Capital Regional District reflecting the taxable school and hospital assessments for the Gulf Islands show an increase to \$48,212,891 from \$31,936,875 for Salt Spring Island. The Outer Islands assessments went to \$47,548,574

Turn to Page Three

Septic systems blamed

The water supplies at Miners Bay on Mayne Island are showing signs of contamination and residents of the area have been urged to boil water before using it.

A meeting of residents and health officials from the Capital Regional District was held recently and the problems were explained.

The water is being polluted by human or animal excrement. Tests have revealed a high level of coliform bacteria. The source of the pollution is not known but septic systems are suspect.

The Miners Bay area does not drain well and when heavy rains soak the area, the problem becomes worse. The sewage seeps too quickly through the soil and affects adversely the quality of water in shallow wells.

Deep wells in the area are not as affected.

The assistant health officer, Dr.

up total or partial immunity to the effects of the water but visitors could contact a mild form of dysentery from drinking unboiled water.

The residents were offered several alternatives to correct the solution. They could band together in a water district or install individual chlorination units on each well or continue to boil water for five minutes before using.

The wells are stained by micro-organisms which resist filtration by an activated charcoal filter.

To date no cases of hepatitis or typhoid have been reported.

Health officials fear the situation will worsen as more people move into the area. If the pollution of wells increases, officials may consider further measures including a recommendation of a freeze on development of

Higher costs force rate increase

Increased publishing costs during the past year are reflected this week in higher advertising and subscription rates. The newsstand price is also rising, from 25¢ to 35¢.

Printing rates, and production costs went up considerably in 1981, said *Driftwood* publisher Tony Richards this week.

He noted that the last rate increase for display and classified advertising went into effect almost a year ago. The company hopes to hold the line on further increases

Big jump in break-ins but 53 were solved

The number of break-ins reported on Pender, Mayne and Saturna Islands was up sharply in 1981 over the previous year.

Although there were 66 break-ins last year compared to 10 in 1980, the Pender Island RCMP detachment solved 53 of them. Corp. Harry Danyluk reports that

most of them were the work of four groups.

Offences contrary to provincial statutes were also up: 99 last year compared to 60 in 1980.

Total complaints numbered 977, up from 927 in 1980.

Following is a breakdown of the complaints received by the Pender RCMP.

	1981	1980
Assault	17	12
Robbery	0	1
Possession of Offensive Weapons	6	1
Break-ins	66	10
Theft of Motor Vehicles	3	5
Theft over \$200	22	14
Theft Under \$200	46	39
Possession of Stolen Property	3	0
Frauds	7	7
Other Criminal Code Offences (Disturb Peace, Trespassing, Wilful Damage)	69	50
Possession Restricted Drugs	18	20
Possession Cannabis (Marijuana)	12	14
Federal Statutes (Customs, Small vessels, etc.)	12	28
Provincial Statutes (Includes liquor seizures)	99	60
Traffic accidents	38	42



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Restricted movie coming?

There must be a restricted movie coming, a *Driftwood* reporter decided, and Island Cinema operator Dan Evanishen has found a novel way of advertising

the fact. Upon investigation, however, it was discovered that youthful pranksters had placed the highways sign on Central Hall roof Saturday night.

Campaign target \$6,000

At a recent meeting of the Gulf Islands unit of the British Columbia Heart Foundation plans for the 1982 heart fund campaign were initiated.

George McEwen agreed to act as campaign chairman this year, replacing Fred Tessman who has headed up the campaign for several years. Paul Polak will again act as treasurer and Dick Toynbee as secretary.

February is Heart Month across Canada and because of the widely scattered nature of the population of the Gulf Islands, the local campaign will again consist primarily of postal appeal.

*Support your
B.C. Heart Fund.
It helps hearts.*

although "In Memoriam" donations are also welcomed at any time during the year.

Polak reported that contributions from all sources received in 1981 totalled \$4,700.49. The target for the 1982 campaign has been set at \$6,000 so that heart research, public information and community services can continue undiminished by inflation.

THE ISLAND'S OWN Waterman Well Drilling Ltd.

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385-1383

Winner will go to Edmonton

The Salt Spring Island Rotary Club will be sponsoring an essay contest to encourage secondary students to examine Canada's energy resources.

The contest, open to all Grade 11 and 12 students at the Gulf Islands Secondary School with at least a C average, bears on the theme, *My Interest in Fossil Fuels*.

The winner wins a week in Edmonton for a first-hand look at such energy resources as oil, of the conventional, synthetic and heavy variety, natural gas as well as thermal coal.

The essay, up to 1,500 words maximum, will be judged on style, content and originality. Each student entering the contest must also present an oral presentation of the written essay.

Each speech will be delivered to the local Rotary Club and judgment, following the criteria of past speaking contests, will be rendered on each performance.

The winning student joins 34 other young people from every province, except Alberta, in Edmonton for the week of May 16 to 21. Billeting for the five nights in the city will be with a Rotarian family.

The Salt Spring Island Rotarians will supply the costs of return transportation as well as paying for meals. The student also receives \$50 pocket money while in the Alberta capital.

The program for the week includes briefings and study sessions on that province's energy resources. The students will tour a drilling rig, a thermal coal mine and a tar sands mine.

They will also visit various plants to study the production of petro-chemicals, gas by-products, synthetic oil as well as electrical power.

Deadline for entries is Tuesday, Feb. 23 and submissions should be mailed to Tim Stafford, Rotary Club, Box 513, Ganges, or hand delivered to Stafford at the office

of the Salt Spring Elementary School.

Stafford stresses that a Rotary connection is not necessary, all Grades 11 and 12 students qualify.

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To Be

Frank



by richards

I learned from a television news report at the week end that the government had sold off the Argus fleet for scrap metal. That is not surprising and goes to prove that the air force was not too far out when it deemed them outmoded. But the same report also told me that they had been purchased for millions of dollars in 1974. Which is, of course, nonsense. The Argus was a hybrid, Brit-design airframe with Yank engines, reborn Canadian by Canadair in the 50's. First to fly was airborne from Cartierville on September 30, 1957. And I know because I read it in Canadian Aviation. First to enter the service of the Royal Canadian Air Force, an old Canadian military unit, was in April, 1958 and the last to be delivered by Canadair was in July, 1960. They cost plenty, and they realized nothing at the end of it, but it must be borne in mind that there were less than 50 of these planes ever built and that in a service life of 23 years only two were lost. The Argus, for all its noise and bluster, was a magnificent tribute to Canadian aviation and the old planes are worthless only because they have flown consistently until they are exhausted and outmoded, after a full and rewarding life in the service of their country. The same news report then announced the death of the "Cockney comedian" Stanley Holloway. Holloway's main claim to fame was the series of Lancashire sketches, *Albert and the Lion*, *Sam's Musket* and the like. And Manchester is far removed from Bow Bells.

At the turn of the century a newspaperman in the South African war turned to fiction and sat down to write and dictate some 150 novels. Edgar-Wallace was one of the inventors of the thriller. He was a good reporter and a brilliant writer of escapist literature. Nobody could term him a philosopher. Yet one of his observations in the *Council of Justice* bears repetition today. "If you go on doing things often enough and persistently, saying with a loud voice, pro bono publico, people will take you at your own valuation and tolerate you." The Latin reads as "for the public good". It was not considered necessary to translate quotations at the beginning of the century, on the grounds that those who could read might be expected to have some familiarity with other languages, particularly those which had expired.

Harry Baines was out of hospital last week. And he came home to North Galiano to celebrate with Devina. It was their 54th wedding anniversary. And despite the passing of the years, Devina still keeps *Driftwood* posted on the activities of the North End. And who could know them better?

I like help. I enjoy the helping hand of my intellectual superiors. Like in the newspaper trade you use a lot of words and there's always someone who knows them better. Words are like important visitors. You kind of try to get close and let people see you with them. Then, even if they don't know the words, they know you're important because you do. That's the way it was. Last week I received a helping hand. The trade report explained that the list of words represented the words most commonly confused or misused in newspapers. The first to catch my illiterate eye was dilemma. And I was between the horns, because every dilemma I ever faced had two horns and two ems. I still don't know whether a one-emmed dilemma is a one-horned dilemma. But I can figure out why newspapers would have difficulty with words they couldn't spell. The nervous shock of finding my mentors with words of clay was still with me when I read that yet others have problems in distinguishing between allude and elude. I know what the writer was alluding to, but the spelling eludes me. It is disheartening, indeed, to be able to spell better than one's literary betters. I think I'd better not say anything more.

It takes me back to the days of long ago when I was in school. I was studying religion in one class, headed by an Oratorian priest. He is still living at the same rectory, older and whiter, but so am I. I was studying physics in another class. The necessary ingredients to penitence, intoned my preceptor, were three-fold and called for contrition, confession and satisfaction. There were three methods of heat transmission, declared Sparrow, the authority in physics, conduction, convection and radiation. Unfortunately, I was mesmerized by the rhythm of the words. In a quick oral test I quickly explained to my long-suffering scientist that the three methods of transmitting heat were contrition, confession and satisfaction. The only heat he could find in my response was hell-fire and he was too much of a Christian to suggest it.

It wasn't me. Someone was telling me the other day that a customer explained that last year he called for estimates for building a home on the mainland, in the Vancouver area. The price was in the 90's: \$90 a square foot or thereabouts. He had less dollars than square feet and he postponed his plans. The tale says that this month the builder came to him and proposed an amended bid of less than \$40 a square foot "to keep the crew busy until the tough times end." I'm not saying it's true. But it could be.

Why is the western sector the area of the Capital Region most likely to win? Because they include the me-Chosen People.



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Curtis urges reduction

From Page One
from \$30,342,660.

Using ministry of finance figures for other communities as a guide to adjusted mill rates, Gulf Islanders should see a reduction in the mill rate if the local authorities "accept the obligation to lower their mill rates to acceptable levels," as Curtis urged them to.

AT DIFFERENT LEVELS
Mill rates on the various islands last year were at different levels to pay for the various services each

island wanted. On Salt Spring, for instance, the rate stood at approximately 80 mills except for Ganges taxpayers who had an additional 7.432 mills added to pay for the sewer.

Outer Islands residents faced an average mill rate of approximately 76 mills. The rate fluctuated from a low on Saturna of about 74 mills to a high on South Galiano of slightly more than 77 mills.

The basic mill rate, set by the province for undeveloped areas, stands at a flat 10 mills. The Islands Trust charges another 1.5 mills and the CRD chips off 5.75 for Salt Spring and 4.217 for the Outer Islands. Added to the area rate is a 54.043 school mill rate. The various local services such as improvement districts, fire

districts, recreation boost the total. Each island taxpayer also contributes 4.011 mills to hospitals.

DOWN TO 67
If the mill rates are adjusted according to the increased assessments to avoid the windfall profits, Salt Spring taxpayers should see a mill rate of approximately 67 mills.

Outer Islanders should see a mill rate of approximately 62 mills.

The rate takes into consideration a 15% increase to cover inflation and reflects a level of service comparable to last year.

"Property owners should now direct their attention to the 1982 budgets and mill rate levels," said Curtis, "which are in the process of being set."

Workshops planned by EASE

Two workshops are being planned on Salt Spring Island this week by the Expressive Arts System Exploration (EASE) group.

Communication for the non-verbal, including bliss symbolics, signing for the deaf and signing for the non-verbal, will be discussed at Salt Spring Elementary School on Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm. Cost is \$20 per course.

Speaker will be Judi Bradley, teacher and interpreter for the deaf, who is working with special needs children at an elementary school in Vancouver. Bradley has founded many developmental programs for the handicapped in B.C.

Another workshop, running from Friday to Monday inclusive, will focus on the healing art, Reiki. Taught by Rick Bockner, the workshop will take place at the nurses' residence at Lady Minto Hospital from 6 pm to 10 pm each day.

Further information can be obtained from EASE workshop co-ordinator Macie Pring or Glynis Snow.

Annual Meeting

of the

Salt Spring Island Public Library Assoc.

will be held

Thursday, February 11, 1982

at 3:15 pm

in the Upper Hall of the
Ganges United Church,
Hereford Ave.

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Tony Richards, Editor



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1982

Stop!

The average driver is so busy jumping the lights that he never pauses to wonder what colour the green light is. Every driver knows the difference between red and green. Red means you stop and green means the sky's the limit!

But every driver doesn't. There are many people in this province who cannot distinguish between colours. There are many drivers who cannot be sure what colour a red light is. When they get close to the light it gets easier because the red is at the top and the green is underneath. But the fact remains that many drivers have to scrutinize the signal lights to ascertain whether it shows stop or go.

The Committee on Behalf of Colourblind Drivers originated on Galiano Island. This committee is striving to have government approval of changes in traffic lights and automobile stop lights to make them more instantly apparent to those suffering from the disability to recognize red or green.

That there are many drivers all over the province who will welcome this Galiano concern is probably indicated by the widespread concern for this illogicality in colour coding. If a change in colour or shape of signal and stop lights is destined to help a segment of the population, why should there be hesitation in making that change?

It seems that for once in our history we need a few more colourblind representatives in the federal and provincial Houses.

Then the Galiano committee might see a green light.

Planning the islands

Planning these Gulf Islands has been a long and heated battle. Each of the islands has its own community plan and each has adopted its own subdivision bylaw. Planning is an accomplished fact in the islands.

The new Land Use Act which will be given consideration in the B.C. legislature shortly is offered as a means of simplifying zoning changes and permit procedures. The information so far released on the bill suggests that it will remove the responsibility of planning from the community and transfer it to the minister.

The proposal whereby the minister may make changes in community planning without recourse to that community is an invitation to future ministries to play ducks and drakes with every community plan and every planned community in the province.

The preliminary outline of the new planning act suggests that, rather than opening up a new era of planning and permits, it will mark the end of community planning in the province.

The heat generated in the islands a decade or so ago over planning might well have been saved. It might, of course, be re-generated before the new bill is finished.

Little improvement

Despite the ever-increasing costs of educating young Canadians there is little improvement to be seen in the quality of education.

We've seen many costly changes implemented over the years, such as reduction of pupil-teacher ratios and the purchase of computers and other modern, expensive devices.

There have been changes, too, in the curriculum, all designed to improve our educational standards.

At one Canadian university a remedial mathematics class is given students who haven't completed high school math. But now a growing number of first-year students at York University have such a limited knowledge of the subject that they can't even handle the remedial program.

Nearly 20% of the first-year students taking math courses at Acadia University in Nova Scotia can't add fractions or solve basic problems in algebra.

What's it all mean? It means that we can expect more changes to the system to correct the problem. And that will likely push the cost of education higher still.



Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

Ducky weather, eh?



Bill Webster

No butts about it

Sunday, as with most other days of the week, allows me a day of rest and relaxation.

This past Sunday rated as such a day but even more so as I lounged about recovering from an unwarranted physical attack on my body. I sat in an easy chair while Tullulah Twinkle pampered my pain.

We had gone, she and I, to visit Lady Catherine at her country estate, Rolling Meadows. The Lady had not, however, warned us about the guard.

Tullulah recently came into ownership of a vintage Vauxhall. It's a great looking vehicle. Chrome gleams in the sunshine and the glossy black exterior compliments the leather upholstery. But it doesn't run.

Tullulah has it towed to various locations in Ganges to allow people the opportunity to admire it. She cleans it constantly.

Which is why we had gone to Rolling Meadows. We were to pick up some goat's milk car polish. Lady Catherine fills her leisure hours with the hobby of producing a renowned car wax from the milk of her goat herd. She also has sheep. And a ram named R.J.

GREETED BY R.J.

We, Tullulah and I, approached Rolling Meadows and were greeted by R.J. standing just inside the wrought iron gate.

Tullulah went to open the gate but the ram had other ideas. She attempted to lead him away. He began to butt her.

I, heroically, leaped from the old Plymouth and dashed to the rescue.

R.J. and I got along fine for a few moments. I tickled his ear and he nuzzled against my leg.

When he turned to walk away, I turned to attend to the gate which was partially open.

Even a city boy should know enough not to relax around a ram, but I did, although not quite to the extent to which I relaxed on Sunday.

There I was sitting in the easy chair watching the activity in Ganges Harbour. Ducks dotted the water as they dived for food. They swam about creating miniature imitations of the wash from the fishing boats which plied to and from the wharf.

SEAGULLS SOARING

A flawless formation of seagulls swooped and soared above the water. The birds planed out over the harbour, found an updraught and swung inland above the trees in an endless spiral.

A seaplane snarled echoes up the harbour and the gulls scattered like torn paper thrown to the breeze. When the seaplane had roared away, the gulls returned to their flying pattern play.

The seagulls swarm in their flight for hours and I thought of some people who act very much like those seagulls. They indulge in pastimes which become monotonous to all but those engaged.

Louis Bolivar-Finchley had talked to me about this column. He wanted to know what the subject would be for this week.

I would daringly point out some of the inaccuracies of the claims of certain groups operating on the fringe of Salt Spring society, said I.

Louis wanted to know exactly what I would write.

"I really can't say," said I, "until I find out what comes out of the typewriter."

GENERAL IDEA?

He backed off a bit and asked for a general idea of the content.

Betta Hedron, I told Louis, had the Zucchini Abolishment Council at the propaganda mill again and I was going to bring out some facts which ZAC had conveniently ignored. "Boring," was Louis' comment.

"Who cares about that issue now?" he asked. "Write something entertaining."

"What," I intoned indignantly, "do you suppose my columns are each week?"

"I'm not sure," he said, "but you don't look like the picture."

Tullulah had brought me a cup of coffee and as I had paused in my reverie to talk to her I had taken my eyes away from the seagulls. When she busied herself with something else, the seagulls had gone.

Even a city boy should know enough not to take his eyes off nature's creatures.

ABOUT TO CHARGE

Which of course I had. When I looked to see, R.J. was rearing to charge.

I faced him and tried to dodge the charger as a toreador would dodge a bull. The ram, however, caught me on the chest and I was spun sideways while trying to run for the gate.

R.J. had patrolled the area in front of the gate for most of the morning and as Rolling Meadows is not in the Ganges sewer area, he had not bothered with the niceties of using the loo.

I'm not sure which was more embarrassing: being butted by the ram or sliding on the sheep dew through the gate and past a startled Tullulah.

Letters to the Editor

Abused children could grow up with psychosis that will lead to violence

Sir,
I feel that the shock and horror expressed by the public, and fanned by the media, towards the events surrounding the Clifford Olson case, has abated somewhat by this time.

Now we can have a chance to get a grip on our emotions and take a look at how, as people who do not want to see this sort of thing occur again, we the public can do something to help lessen the risk that another mass murderer is not growing up right in our own community.

So I ask you all, are you aware of a child in your neighbourhood, family, a friend's home, or even an isolated instance on the street, who is or has been beaten, battered, molested, abused mentally or emotionally, or even tortured? Because this child who is being physically, emotionally and/or mentally abused could grow up with the psychosis, the hatred, the suppressed outrage that can lead, often, to the perpetration of the same sort of violence on their own, or others' children. It is a vicious circle that must be broken now!

Just recently I came across some statistics (facts that governments use to prove their points, but ignore when it comes to identifying the source of any problems) that show that 100% of the inmates of San Quentin penitentiary who were serving time for violent crimes were, themselves, battered and/or abused children. This is not an isolated incidence.

So if you know of a child in this

situation and are doing nothing because you (1) don't want to get involved (2) it's not your child so you can't interfere (3) don't know what to do, then you must accept a lot of the responsibility and, thereby, the blame of whatever anti-social responses this child exhibits as he or she gets older.

The Clifford Olson case is a classic example of how often a person can come in contact with our supposed justice system and be repeatedly released, uncured, unhelped, and most of all, unwatched, to inflict more and more suffering on the innocent public.

It is time we, the people of this country, took responsibility for the problems in our society, and the best way to do that is to help the children find a more positive, constructive environment to grow up in. An environment that

reaches out with love and support and aid, instead of the coldness and indifference that the children find today.

It has been noted by medical staff that if the number of children who suffer abuse and neglect, instead suffered from a disease such as measles, then there would be an epidemic alert and a public outcry across the nation to do something about it.

I say it is a disease, and an epidemic! There are agencies being set up, and there is some recognition occurring, but how long will it take for us to realize that in the final analysis we all pay dearly for child abuse/neglect!

Help a child today and gain a friend for the future.

WM. D. CLEGG,
R.R.1 Mayne Island.
January, 1982.

Tennis court relocation costly

Sir,

Re: Planner Will Study Parking Problem (*Driftwood*, January 27).

Mr. Althouse's suggestion that the Rainbow Road tennis court be removed and rebuilt elsewhere in order to provide a handy parking lot for school employees is, considering the cost of building tennis courts, about as costly a plan as could be conceived.

Hopefully, Mr. Aust's declaration of a "hard-nosed" attitude means he will oppose such

foolishness and lead the board to opt for cost avoidance, even if someone has to walk a few strenuous meters — perhaps to the unused play area converted to a gravelled lot — or (forgive us) to a parking spot on the street.

There is a relationship among tennis courts, parking lots, and taxes, which evidently needs some explanation to Mr. Althouse.

NANCY POOLE,
R.R.1 Ganges.
January, 1982.



Tony Richards

LAST WEEK I DISCOVERED there's more entertainment value in a comfortable seat on a street-side lounge in the Hotel Georgia than you'll find in any modern-day movie.

The time is 11 o'clock and if the traffic from all three ferries was to arrive in Ganges at the same time, it wouldn't come close to matching the traffic volume here.

Nor would you find the same volume of pedestrian traffic, which consists largely of working women ambling from one end of the block to the other, accosting every single male who happens by.

So you sit there sipping gin and tonic at the rather alarming price of \$3.10 a shot, while at the next table a few dejected Buffalo Sabres have come in for a drink after their loss to the Canucks.

The Hotel Georgia, it was reported a couple of weeks back, had been sold for \$30-odd million. Nelson Skalbania bought it 18 months ago for about half that.

Apart from the fact that my room had the faint odour of a urinal about it, a good-sized breakfast cost in the neighbourhood of six bucks and drinks were mighty expensive, it's not a bad place.

What intrigued me most were the sand-filled ashtrays outside the elevator doors. At least once a day someone went around stamping the hotel logo in the surface of the sand.

WHILE IN VANCOUVER I heard some favourable comments about the local basketball team, the Scorpions.

Summerland Review publisher Dave Gamble offered to send along a photograph of the team in action next time they visit the Okanagan town.

WHAT WAS Jack Hughes fishing for the other day?

It seems a gust of wind took some money from the local water taxi operator and deposited it in the chuck. After several unsuccessful attempts to retrieve it with a pike pole, Jack paddled a small boat out to rescue the soggy bill.

It was a lot of work for \$2.
AS EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS change, so do the facilities used by the educators.

And nearly every change that people want to see adds further to the high cost of school construction.

Take the plans for the new school in the Fulford area. The parents have prepared a list of ideas they would like to see utilized in building the school.

Hot and cold water facilities in every classroom is one. If there's a plumber among the parents, he's obviously not concerned about costs. Otherwise he might have pointed out how much could be saved by confining the plumbing to kitchens and washrooms.

An exterior door for every classroom is a nice concept. But is it worth it when it means constructing a covered, hard-surface access to each one?

A sprung, hardwood floor in the gymnasium sounds pretty fancy. But what on earth will they do with it? Have dancing lessons?

And finally, when I went to school (pardon the expression), we never had photocopiers, let alone vented rooms in which to use them.

Most of the recommendations by the parents are reasonable. Those I've mentioned, however, really ought to be scrapped.

Tax-using agencies will get windfall of about 30%

Sir,

Open letter to Hugh Curtis, MLA, Victoria, B.C.

Sir,

Like many others (including you, I understand), I am appealing my current property assessment on the basis of certain alleged inaccuracies. However, it is clear that you, as my MLA, and especially you as Finance Minister, have permitted the Assessment Authority to bear the brunt of what now seems to be clear and present irresponsibility on the part of the B.C. government.

Budgets and mill rates have been known (if not in final form, certainly in close estimate), by you for months, but *no* public action has been taken to assure that the tax-using agencies would reduce expenditures, maintaining budgets at reasonable levels, and reducing mill rates to compensate for increased assessments.

From Salt Spring Island, the various tax-using agencies may expect a windfall of some 30%. Where has been your action to contain this excessive increase?

The Education Ministry by removing local responsibility for school taxes (in a misguided belief that money means equality) has already generated both moral and economic disasters simultaneously. Do you now propose to do the same by omitting any actions on behalf of your constituents to limit the rise of tax collections to levels far above those essential for the conduct of government?

My wounds at the blow of the Assessor will start to heal when I, and perhaps many, many others, have the opportunity to vote against each elected official who has been a part of the irresponsibility your leadership has illustrated.

The budget of every tax-using organization on Salt Spring Island has suddenly gained my intense interest. I will appreciate receiving from your office a full list of such organizations, and their mailing addresses.

JACK R. POOLE,
R.R. 1, Mobrae East,
Ganges.
January 30, 1982.

New book tells of pioneers

Sir,

I have completed a manuscript which is now in the good hands of the printers telling the tale of the early pioneers of Gabriola Island. As goes the story on all these Gulf Islands, it is a fascinating and wonderful story and many of our early settlers had and continue to have family connections on other islands.

The Silva family lived on Mayne for some time and then on Lulu Island. The Deggen family, famous pioneers, are connected with Salt Spring and the Chappel family also connected with Salt Spring.

Those were the days when wolves roamed and endangered the sheep, the work was never-ending with land to be cleared, excellent farming and the canoes, boats and later the ferries to ply their wares to town.

The intrigue surrounding the infamous Brother XII touches our Island and his story is well documented in the book.

If you would like to reserve a first edition copy of this book, please feel free to do so by forwarding your name and address to: Mr. T. White, Taylor Bay, Gabriola Island, B.C. V0R 1X0.

The cost is \$10 per book and your support will be valued.

Yours sincerely and best wishes to my fellow islanders.

JUNE LEWIS-HARRISON,
Gabriola Island, B.C.
January 26, 1982.

Killer curve

Sir,

The curve at the intersection of Lower Ganges and Booth Canal Roads is a killer. This curve tightly hugs a bluff and obstructs vision. So does the hill of the Booth Canal Road lateral. The approaches to the curve invite motorists to accelerate their way to the hospital, if it would not get them to the chapel before their time.

All it would take is to cut the road through this bluff, thereby increasing visibility, decreasing curvature and easing the steepness of the Booth Canal approach.

Anyone can help to save a life, perhaps his, hers, "its" own, by writing a letter to the Minister of Highways.

TOM VARZELIOTIS,
Booth Canal Road,
Ganges.
January 24, 1982.

Alternative suggested for assessment method

Sir,

As I wrote in a previous letter the present method of assessment developed by an out-of-touch Social Credit government has got to go. Here is an idea, not mine, but worth airing.

Since it all started in 1978, take that year as the base assessment. To it add each year an increase equal to the cost of living or inflation rate, to find today's figures. If you bought since 1978 then the price you paid would be your base rate — if you built then an assessed value using current construction costs (before the computer age assessors used to be able to do that. Perhaps they could relearn the skill).

In this way if some rich oil baron, government hourly worker, or offshore millionaire bought the

retirement home, then that price would be his assessment base — yours and your neighbours' taxes would not be boosted by 100% — it's certainly fair, fairer than at present and fairer than FAIR auto insurance. Have you received the latest effort of the Social Credit government to empty your pockets, called FAIR insurance?

Mr. Curtis, I challenge you to make changes as above, or present them to the legislature — that is if you really are our MLA and concerned about your people in Saanich and the Islands.

IAN WATERLOW,
Ganges.
January, 1982.

More letters Page Six

More Letters to the Editor

Provision discriminates

Sir,
The Liberal budget of last November contains a provision which, so far, seems to have escaped comment: yet it is a typically cheap trick to collect a few dollars in extra tax from those who can least afford it — the aged and impoverished. In my case it is going to cost around \$300 per annum in extra tax.
This provision concerns the deduction of \$1,000 known as Pension Income Deduction, which is allowed to persons over 65. If, from 1982 onwards, a taxpayer claims this deduction and in the same year deposits funds in an RRSP, whether his own or his spouse's, then the Pension Income Deduction will be disallowed. The deposit of a single red cent in an RRSP disqualifies the claim of the entire \$1,000 deduction.

Since only persons over 65, or in some cases their widows, can qualify for the Pension Income Deduction, the new provision clearly discriminates against the aged: and should be eliminated at once.
I ask you to use your influence to have this matter corrected as soon as possible.

COLIN NICHOLSON,
Box 1087, Ganges.
January 27, 1982.

We remind readers that we reserve the right to edit letters for brevity, legality and taste. Letters to the editor must be signed, and should be addressed to The Editor, Gulf Islands Driftwood, Box 250, Ganges.

Cold hall means low attendance

Sir,
On January 29 a meeting was called at the Fulford Hall to discuss the latest raise in property taxes. Several of us huddled together in one car, knowing the parking facilities at the hall.
As it turned out, this was not necessary. The attendance of the meeting was very light considering the topic, seeming to be foremost on everybody's mind everywhere. Entering the hall you knew why. You suddenly recalled a similar occasion a couple of years ago under similar conditions, when you had promised yourself never to return.
The man in charge of arrangements assured us that the heating was on; but he did admit it was warmer outside.
Mrs. Valcourt, bless her, circulated the petition early. I got my name on it. What further happened at this meeting, I don't know. I left together with a few others, trying to find words to express my feelings about the Fulford Hall as a meeting place.

HEDVIG ANDERSEN,
Beaver Point Road.
January 31, 1982.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Outfall could end up in San Juan Islands

BY YVETTE VALCOURT
Regional Director
Some members of staff of the Capital Regional District are still considering reducing the costs of the Ganges sewer by such tactics as:

1. Reducing the architectural qualities of the treatment plant, even though it would be visible downtown.
 2. Changing from concrete to steel tanks, reducing the capital costs but this would cause an increase in the maintenance costs, and a decrease in the life expectancy of these tanks.
 3. Applying to the Pollution Control Branch to reduce the treatment process, lower the standards, and could go as far as eliminating treatment altogether.
- Please be aware that to date, no studies have been done at the new point of the outfall, where there is a clockwise eddy, and this eddy is even predominant at the high tide changes. The CRD engineering plan was to monitor the discharge after the system would be all built, then if it proved to be unsatisfactory, to meet the standards, they would then extend the outfall pipe.

DON'T KNOW HOW FAR
They themselves do not know how far and at what additional costs. We could end up in the San Juans? Ha! Ha! Ridiculous, yes, just as ridiculous as this whole sewer fiasco has been!
There have already been numerous problems with the outfall pipe, the original designs to

place the pipe as engineered and approved by the experts (?) the problems with the pipe settling unevenly, due to the many feet of silt, resulting in an unstable bottom of the harbour, etc.

The cost overruns are not caused in any way by the previous fire on the barge, as reported in *Driftwood* last week, because once the material leaves the dock in Victoria, and is loaded aboard the barge belonging to the contractor, it is no longer the CRD who is responsible for these costs, but the contractor, and contractors have insurance to cover these losses. The delay, as mentioned, was minimal and the costs had already been established.
Now for some reason or reasons unknown, the final cost of this project is mentioned as \$4.7 million, and not the 4.1 as in the supplementary letters patent, already a cushion of \$600,000 overrun, unwarranted, and a false end price.
It's time to stop this insanity and attend to our current needs, such as the school and hospital.

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Skills exchange for seniors

To answer an expressed need among Salt Spring Island seniors, the Community Society will endeavour to launch a skills exchange program.
The kick-off for the project comes at a public meeting Thursday, Feb. 4 at 10 am in the Community Centre on Ganges Hill. Guest will be Joe Zakreski of New Horizons.

Skills exchange, basically, is neighbour helping neighbour.
For instance, someone may understand income tax forms but not be able to fix a cupboard. Another person may be good at sewing but not be able to do heavy work in the garden. A third person can handle carpentry but be at a loss with a needle. Someone else may enjoy digging in a garden but not know taxes until they bite.
Skills exchange would co-ordinate the efforts to allow each person to apply skills to the job needed and have his need taken care of in return.
Payment for the jobs done would be in the form of credits toward having others perform a task in exchange. The central organization would keep track of who did what and who can do what.
Ideally, what people take out of the scheme is in proportion to what they have put into it. All skills would be considered of equal value and the credits would accrue according to the time spent on a task.
Any costs involved in the task would be paid by the person for whom the work is done.
The co-ordinator of a similar

scheme in the Fernwood district of Victoria stresses the point that the exchange proves to be most rewarding. People get to know others and neighbours help each other. The program promotes an atmosphere of friendship and co-operation within the community.
Lou Rumsey, seniors worker with the Community Society, said of the philosophy behind efforts to set up the scheme here, "We see skills exchange as the first stepping stone leading to good neighbour-hood kinds of feelings we expect to have."

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SALT SPRING ISLAND TRUST COMMITTEE
Notice of Meeting
There will be a meeting of the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee to consider various items of business concerning Salt Spring Island at the conclusion of the Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 16, 1982.
M. LEE,
Administrative Officer.
5-2

ISLANDS TRUST
SALT SPRING ISLAND TRUST COMMITTEE
Notice of Public Hearing
NOTICE is hereby given that all persons who deem their interest in property affected by the following proposed By-law will be afforded an opportunity to be heard on the matters contained therein at a Public Hearing to be held in the UNITED CHURCH HALL, GANGES, B.C. on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1982, commencing at 1:30 P.M.
Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 73, being Amendment By-law No. 11, 1981, is a By-law to amend By-law No. 14 cited as "Zoning By-law No. 2, Salt Spring Island, 1978", as follows:
By changing the zoning classification of Part of Lot 7 and Lot 8, Section 10, Range 1 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 6199, as shown by the shaded area on Plan No. 1, which forms part of the By-law, from the Commercial 4-L Zone to the Watershed 1 (W-1) Zone.
The property is located on North End Road at St. Mary Lake.
A copy of the proposed By-law may be reviewed at the offices of the Capital Regional District, Building Inspection Department, in the Provincial Government Building, Ganges, B.C. during normal working hours of 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday inclusive. The proposed By-law may also be reviewed at the Islands Trust Office, 848 Courtney Street, Victoria, B.C., during normal working hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday inclusive.
M. LEE,
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Cancer research in Canada

Budget exceeds \$20 million annually

Last of three parts BY BILL WEBSTER

Research adds slowly to the store of knowledge about cancer, but the search takes time and costs money.

While direct results are difficult to gauge at any moment in any research, some studies into cancer, particularly cancer-causing agents, produce doubtful benefits to the search for cause and cure.

A study conducted several years ago proved conclusively that eating steak caused cancer while yet another study purportedly found a direct link between cancer and sex.

The Ames test has proven the existence of many carcinogens and mutagens in a variety of substances such as various foods, chemicals and even air but with scant significance in actual cancer cases.

Carcinogens are substances which may cause cancer while mutagens are capable of producing changes in the genetic material.

Dr. David Boyes, participating in the recent cancer forum on Salt Spring Island, commented on the Ames test.

RELEVANCE UNPROVEN

"The relevance of the mutagenicity found by the Ames test is unproven," he said. "There has been no correlation shown between the discovery of mutagenicity in a compound and the compound causing cancer in

man or animals."

Dr. Boyes pointed out that many projects had attempted to prove the relevance of the Ames test but had, so far, failed.

The results of the Ames test did prompt one question:

"What effect will all the mutagens and carcinogens in the environment have on the incidence and mortality from cancer when in the future, presumably, even more chemicals will be introduced?"

"The answer to the question," said Dr. Boyes, "is really not known and because the population has been exposed to these possible carcinogens for a long period of time some effect should now be apparent."

NO INCREASE

To emphasize the statement, he noted, "Over the past 30 years, when good data has been kept in this province, there has been no increase in incidence or mortality from cancer."

"It is therefore unlikely that there will be an explosion of incidence or mortality from cancer in our society," he concluded.

Some cancers strike women more than men while others are more prevalent in men. Studies of the cancer in men have shown that those most easily identifiable are most common.

The leading cancer in women

affects both the breast, 27% of new cases each year, and the uterus, 13% of new cases.

Both sexes are afflicted by cancer in the colon and rectum, approximately 15% of diagnosed cases each year regardless of gender.

Men seem most prone to lung cancer at the rate of about 22 of each 100 cases each year.

NO HAVEN

People in the Gulf Islands have no haven from cancer. Dr. Ernie Jarman, a Salt Spring family doctor, told the cancer forum of the incidence of cancer he has seen in the islands.

"In general," he said, "I'd say, looking at the stats, we have less than the national average in breast cancer but we're right up there with colon and lung cancer."

While the cause of the disease eludes detection, some express concern about being prone to cancer because members of the family have contracted it. The question of heredity came before the panel of doctors at the cancer forum.

Dr. Robert Hosie, a surgeon, answered by saying that, overall, there doesn't seem to be a family tendency towards cancer.

"We see an increase in incidence of cancer in a family," he said, "but nothing on the magnitude of certainty that heredity is a cause."

BECOMES CONFUSING

Talk of cancer statistics becomes confusing in that the number of cases may seem to be on the increase, but the population is also rising.

Taken as a percentage of the population, the incidence of cancer remains about the same.

Nevertheless, 20% of all deaths are the result of cancer. And the aspect of dying from the disease is being studied. A pilot project known as Hospice, has been set up in Victoria to offer understanding and support not only to the person dying of terminal illness, but also the family involved.

Dr. Michael Downing, as medical director of Hospice, spoke to the cancer forum. He said the philosophy of Hospice is to shift the emphasis from the specific treatments of the terminal diseases to the care of the symptoms.

Hospice, he said, treats the physical, emotional, spiritual and terminal stages of dying.

NOT FOR EUTHANASIA

He emphasized that Hospice does not exist as a centre for euthanasia. He outlined what he saw as two forms, passive and active, of mercy killing.

The active form involves doing something directly to speed someone's death while the passive

form meant not doing something which might have prolonged life.

"Hospice is opposed to both forms," he said. "We have the care of the dying but not in the sense of euthanasia."

"We provide for the quality of life and relief of symptoms so that the person can enjoy the remaining time of life."

Research continues into the cause, cure, treatment and finality of cancer. In Canada, the research budget exceeds \$20 million annually.

Not long ago, the threat of polio was sufficient to close schools. In the last century, smallpox struck as much fear in people as cancer does today. The list of diseases conquered by man grows and eventually cancer will be added to that list.

For now, early detection and diagnosis most often leads to successful treatment. But doing something about what could be symptoms of the disease depends upon how the individual copes with the fear of cancer.

Music needs no land tax in region

Capital Regional Board approved a grant last week to relieve the Victoria Conservatory of Music of the regional portion of its land tax.

The city of Victoria has already relieved the Conservatory of the city tax liability, explained Chairman Norma Sealey.

The Conservatory is located on Academy Close. It was formerly housed in Craigdarroch Castle, where it paid no taxes.

The grant was warmly supported.

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Scorpions get high rating

The Gulf Islands Scorpions have developed sting and are gaining recognition.

The local high school basketball team received honourable mention in the latest poll of 'A' teams in the province. The high rating gives the young hoopsters an opportunity, with continued impressive play, to crack the list of top 10 senior high school teams.

The showing resulted from standings gained at two recent basketball tournaments. The Scorpions placed third in a Pitt Meadows tourney and fifth in another.

Two players, Kevin Kline and Glen Sollitt, were chosen to the all-star teams in both events while a

third, Larry Spence, made the Pitt Meadows best list.

Team coach and school physical education instructor Larry Roy credits the team's performance to the fact they have been playing together for about three years.

The Gulf Islands Secondary School team plays in the mid-island high school league which Roy admits is a soft league.

In a recent game against Chemainus, the Scorpions ran up more than 100 points. They had given Brentwood a 20-point handicap in two recent games but came up short by one in the first encounter and lost by 17 in the second.

Roy wants to schedule a series of

games against the stronger teams in the nine-school Victoria league. Dunsmuir of that league ranks eighth in B.C.

"We're going to challenge some Vic teams," said Roy, "just to find out how good this team is."

There are two games on the high school court this week. The Scorpions host Brentwood at 4:30 pm Thursday and Shawnigan at 7 pm on Friday.

"People think we're of provincial calibre," said Roy, and issued an invitation to spectators, both students and residents, to check out just what brand of ball the Scorpions play.



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DOWN THE GUTTER

Men bowlers hot last week

BY KEN COLLINS

The men bowlers were hot this past week. We had five triples of 800 or better.

Leading the way was a Golden-Ager, Cy Beech, with 861, followed by Terry Jenkins with 843. He also very nearly had himself a 400 single, coming in with a big 394. Then we had Denis Corcoran with 810-827 (344), and then this writer with 838.

Other good scores came from Mick Jones, 702; Jean Jenkins, 710; Carol Kaye, 702; and Frank Keoppel, 727. We had one other 300 game from Doug Box with 346.

The bowlers of the week were Jean Jenkins and Cy Beech.

Once again I would like to remind you to be sure and enter your name for the Export "A" roll-offs.

We will be holding another

doubles competition in approximately two weeks' time. If you want to get in on it, leave your name at the bowling alley desk. All the prizes will be based on the handicap system so everybody has a chance to win, no matter whatever your average is.

Tip of the Week

Always make sure that your toe is pointing at the pin you are aiming for.

Y.B.C. NEWS

High scorers for Saturday were: Jets: Jennifer Neilson, 102; Eric Taylor, 84.

Pee Wees: Tracy Cunningham, 137; Anna Maddison, 112; Jeffrey Neilson, 126; Brett Marshall, 116; Daniel Hatch, 97.

Bantams: Jodie Harrison, 198; Lisa Jorgensen, 169; Kimberley West, 161; Chris Dafoe, 157; Lance Davis, 119; Ryan Davies, 116.

Juniors: Kim Jorgensen, 201; Shannon Taylor, 185; Danica West, 184; David Cates, 182; Michael Howell, 171; Ross Hughes, 164.

Juniors high scorers for Saturday, Jan. 23 were: Kim Jorgensen, 193; Debbie Topping and Mary Sinclair, 183; Shannon

Taylor, 182; Justin Williams, 165; David Jaquest, 147; Ross Hughes, 132.

Seniors high scorers Wednesday, Jan. 27 were: Steve Marleau, 279; Paul Trenholm, 258; Danny Fraser, 232; Steve Martens, 228; Denise Harrison, 193; Tracy Pring, 179; Carol Cunningham, 171.

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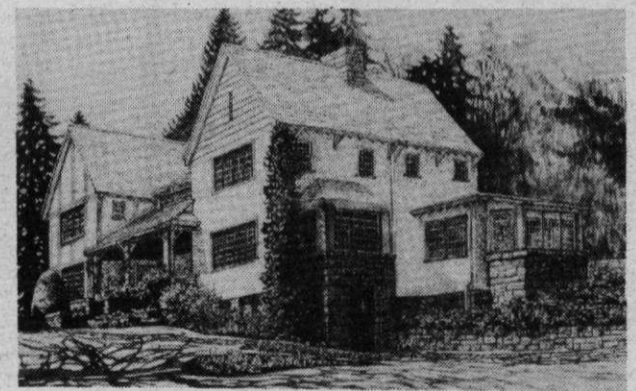
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Cultural history of women is examined in *The Dinner Party*

Contributed by
SUSAN UNDERWOOD

On Sunday at 7:30 pm in Mahon Hall the Women's Place will present *The Dinner Party*, an important film to those interested in the cultural history of women and the process of artistic creation.

The film documents the growth of artist Judy Chicago's original conception of a work of art which would act, as she describes it, as "a sort of Genesis starting with early Mother Goddess figures and working through the change from matriarchy to patriarchy — then on through the centuries, trying to make a link-up between women and their efforts, aspirations and situations."

Chicago uses the metaphor of a dinner party to pay homage both to individual women of the past and to traditional outlets of women's artistic talents. "Women's work," such as needlework and china-painting, had been ignored, she felt, as valid art forms.

CONTRIBUTIONS OMITTED
In the same spirit, the

contributions of women had been omitted from the history books chronicling the social, political and cultural development of western civilization.

To portray "the longings and yearnings and aspirations of women", Chicago and her corps of apprentices, technicians, researchers and craftspeople constructed a large, triangular dinner table set on a porcelain tiled floor. The table is set with 39 place settings, each setting a symbolic image of an individual woman, one of the 39 invited "guests" to the dinner party.

By her spiritual presence, each woman represents some aspect of women's identity and experience. At her feet, upon "Heritage Floor", are the names of 999 women, chosen to represent the "roots" from which the ideas or dreams of each of the 39 guests grew.

INCORPORATE TRADITIONS
The techniques involved in creating *The Dinner Party* incorporate the traditions of needlework, ceramics and china-

painting. The runner upon which each plate sits is embellished by the needlework style appropriate to the time period in which the woman represented by the plate lived, and the plates themselves are the result of a blending of traditional ceramic methods and modern innovations.

The necessity of acquiring these new techniques as well as old skills is no doubt what precipitated the growth of the project from one woman's dream to a way of life for many. The work took five years and countless workers to complete and this aspect of *The Dinner Party* is as fascinating and inspiring to consider as any.

SUGGESTS COMMON BOND
The idea of a dinner party conjures up, no doubt, images of good food, friends and talk. *The Dinner Party* suggests to us the common bond which the women represented would share if they could indeed all be together at one time and place, speaking to each other of their struggles and strengths as women throughout history.

At the end of the film the audience is invited to partake in a dinner party of sorts, by joining together over coffee, tea and dessert to share responses to the film. The refreshments provided will be included in the price of admission, \$3 per person, or \$2 per person if a dessert is brought to share.

Healthy back program's aim

The Salty Sweat'rs, in cooperation with the Victoria YMCA-YWCA, has announced the beginning of a new program entitled *The Y's Way to a Healthy Back*, designed for people who suffer from low back discomfort.

Valerie Wanless, a Salty Sweat'rs instructor, has just received her certification as a trained instructor in this program.

The six-week program will begin on February 15 and will meet twice weekly (Monday and Friday) at Central Hall at 9 am.

A Salty Sweat'rs spokesman said studies show that about 80%

of back discomfort is attributed to a combination of muscle weakness, stress and tension.

"Many people who have taken the exercise program in YMCA's around the country have reported that it really works."

The program is also geared for people who are regular exercisers, yet suffer back discomfort. Long distance runners have also been helped.

The program is limited to 10 participants and registration will take place on February 5, 8, 9 and 10 at 9 am at Mahon Hall. Fee is \$40.



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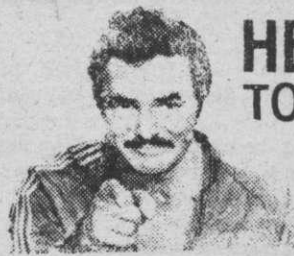
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Your soil either makes you or breaks you

At this time of year I always want to talk about soil, for without any doubt, your soil either makes you or breaks you. Sure, plants can get along on so-so soil, but the results will be so-so as well.

Good soil simply means good harvests: 90% of your success depends on your soil. In the simplest terms good soil consists of 45% minerals, five per cent organic material, 25% water and 25% air. And it is the organic content which holds the air and the water.

Rough aggregate contributes to the air holding capacity of the soil to some extent by providing air pockets. But rough organic material is much better at this.

So if we discount the air and the water in looking at a shovelful of soil, and just concentrate on the solid stuff, 10% of this should be organic material. And organic material is any stuff which once was part of a living thing. This is the cradle of life, the life of the green things and ours.

IT CAN BE FIXED

So, what to do if your soil is 60% clay, 40% rocks and 100% water? Or 60% gravel, 40% moss, no water and 100% air? Do not despair, this

Farming and Gardening

BY PETER WEIS
Foxglove Nursery Consultant

can be fixed.

Loads of manure, leaves, rotten wood, cardboard and paper (shred these with a lawnmower), seaweed, sawdust (cedar is out), compost, wood and bark chips (again no cedar), wood ashes, fish heads and chicken feathers, lawn clippings and left-overs, spoiled hay and straw, wool pants and linen sheets (no plastics), in short, anything which was once part of a living thing. And if you can in this fashion raise your organic content even to seven per cent, you have it made.

A friend of mine has. Mathew has in seven years raised his organic content to seven per cent. Right now he and his family are eating the prettiest, healthiest and greenest kale which I have ever seen. It is so thick and healthy that it just radiates goodness.

DESPITE SNOW, RAIN

They also have fresh turnips, leeks, beets and parsley. Further carrots, although wormy, and lettuce in a cold frame. And all this in an unprotected area, and despite all the snow and rain we have had.

This is the value of good soil, and good organic content which, when the going gets rough, sustains the green things through the hard times. Other hardy greens could be added to the crops Mathew is growing, such as chard, broccoli and Jerusalem artichoke.

So if you have fresh manure or can get it, spread it on your garden now. If it has a month or two to cool off and deteriorate, it will be just right to turn in for spring planting. Or compost it and add it at planting time.

Otherwise, choose a nice spot for your future garden, do all the above and grow clover and buckwheat as soil conditioner and "green" manure.

TURN UNDER

Turn these under every year and repeat. In a few years you will have a garden which will produce crops as lovely as Mathew's.

And while we are on the subject of fertilizers, this is a good time to

give our rhododendrons, azaleas and camelias a shot in the arm. All evergreen, profuse blooming shrubs will be helped greatly by fertilizing with phosphorus and potash, phosphorus for blooming and potash to increase strength and cold-resistance.

Use bone meal and wood ashes for this or chicken manure. Go easy on nitrogen, though, as this will encourage tender green growth. Nitrogen is best applied

later, after the blooming period, when it is warmer and these shrubs are into their green growth cycle. Fruiting trees would benefit from the same program, especially wood ashes to strengthen cold-resistance in case we have another cold spring.

And plan to improve your soil in the orchard with clover and buckwheat to increase the organic content, to provide the same healthy base as for Mathew's kale.

Diverse topics covered by institute programs last year

BY ELEANOR HARRISON

Thirty people attended the annual meeting of the Pender Farmers' Institute on January 26 at the Legion.

President Joyce Jones reported that the institute sponsored 12 programs during the spring and fall of 1981. Topics covered were diverse: talks on nutrition, health, gardening, a TV satellite dish for the island, bee-keeping, stress in country living, soil, various slide shows, a field trip to Arthur Fulawka's greenhouses on South Pender and a dinner meeting with the Mayne Island group at the Agricultural Hall.

With the Women's Institute the Farmers' Institute again sponsored the Fall Fair and thanks were given to members Peter and Elizabeth Campbell for their leadership and expert organization which resulted in the largest and best fair to date.

DONATED TROPHY

The Farmers' Institute donated a trophy this year to support and generate interest among young people, to be awarded yearly.

The monthly veterinary visits to Pender, sponsored by the Institute, treated 31 dogs and 21 cats and

made 12 farm visits. Jean Lines and Winnie Steeves are the coordinators.

The children's picnic, held at the Library Centre for the first time, was a happy and successful family afternoon, organized by member Martha Nance.

One of the most important contributions by the Farmers' Institute to island life is the Farmers' Market, under the chairmanship of Frank Jones. Although the weather was uncooperative to start with, a successful year ensued.

A Christmas party was held in December in which two long-time institute members were honoured. They were Ashton Ross-Smith and Nep Grimmer.

A fund was started to help future Pender students pursue higher educational studies in fields relating to agriculture.

OPPOSED ACT

In March the institute wrote to MLA Hugh Curtis opposing the new Business Licence Act. Mrs. Jones noted that no licences will be required for farm gate stands in 1982.

In December a letter was sent to the B.C. Agricultural Land

Commission voicing strong disapproval of the commission allowing subdivision of a property zoned ALR on South Pender.

Chairman of the program committee was Jeri Bass. Attendance at the 1981 meetings has ranged from 35 to over 100.

In December the institute sponsored a chainsaw workshop for three weekends. Given by Chris Miles, it was well attended.

The following members were elected as directors for 1982: Jeri Bass, Len Henshaw, Ashton Ross-Smith, Joyce Jones, Jim Dunn, Wilf Craven, Helena Turner and Irving Thompson.

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SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Annual General Meeting

to be held
Tuesday, February 23, 1982, at 8 p.m.
in the Fire Hall, Ganges.

AGENDA: Minutes
Financial Report
Chairman's Report
Fire Chief's Report
Report of Volunteer Firemen
Election of Trustees
(two for a term of three years)
Appointment of Auditor
Any other business

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Mediaeval society fights for Ganges scouts

An English mercenary is fighting to the death and his opponent is a German executioner. And keeping score of the armed combat is a mediaeval Japanese fighter.

They were there, dressed the part and fighting with sword and fury in Ganges on Saturday. Where else could you find such a combination beyond the membership of the Society for Creative Anachronism?

That's right! The Society for Creative Anachronism!

The society fights out the battles of the middle ages in full dress uniform and with a crashing,

battering, bone-shattering realism.

They bring back the middle ages and fight them out again in the name of long-dead warriors.

On Saturday night the society brought together a Victoria representative, Mark Shier and two Salt Spring Island members, Larry Harris and Mary Chuddy. Mary Chuddy acted as referee. The record shows that the Salt Spring Island combatant was killed more frequently than is usually the privilege of any man.

HANSEATIC LEAGUE

Mark Shier adopted the role of Mark der Gaukler, an Englishman serving in the ranks of the

Hanseatic League, a group of German merchants engaged in commerce in the 13th century. In his persona he came from England. The term, persona refers to the role adopted by the member of the society during the playing out of the scene.

Battling tooth and nail with der Gaukler was Grimley the Executioner. He also fights as Karl der Scharfriechter.

The middle ages saw many armies of mercenaries and each was provided with its own disciplinarian explained Larry, the executioner in normal life. The band of paid warriors would have its own executioner to punish those who stepped out of a broad and wavy line. Grimley was one of those despatchers.

Mary Chuddy, referee, is also Shinobi Karim, mediaeval Japanese fighter. On Saturday night she didn't fight. She saw fair play between two occidentals.

What is creative anachronism? **CALIFORNIA**

It is an activity that was born in California and has expanded over the continent. It is a reliving of the mediaeval period by modern-generation actors. The members of the society play out the roles of antiquity as they translate them. They study the 13th and 14th centuries and then adopt the dress style and the weaponry of the era to play out again the single-combat fights as well as tournaments and wars of the age of chivalry.

On Saturday the warriors came to the gymnasium of the Gulf Islands Secondary School to act out a fight for the benefit of the Scouts. The Scouts came to watch as did Cubs, parents, families and friends. The Scouts and Cubs were full of questions. Most friends and families watched happily and one

very young lady howled.

Each warrior wears a protective armour to minimize danger of injury. The armour is metallic or plastic. Swords are wood or light metal and the warrior carries a shield.

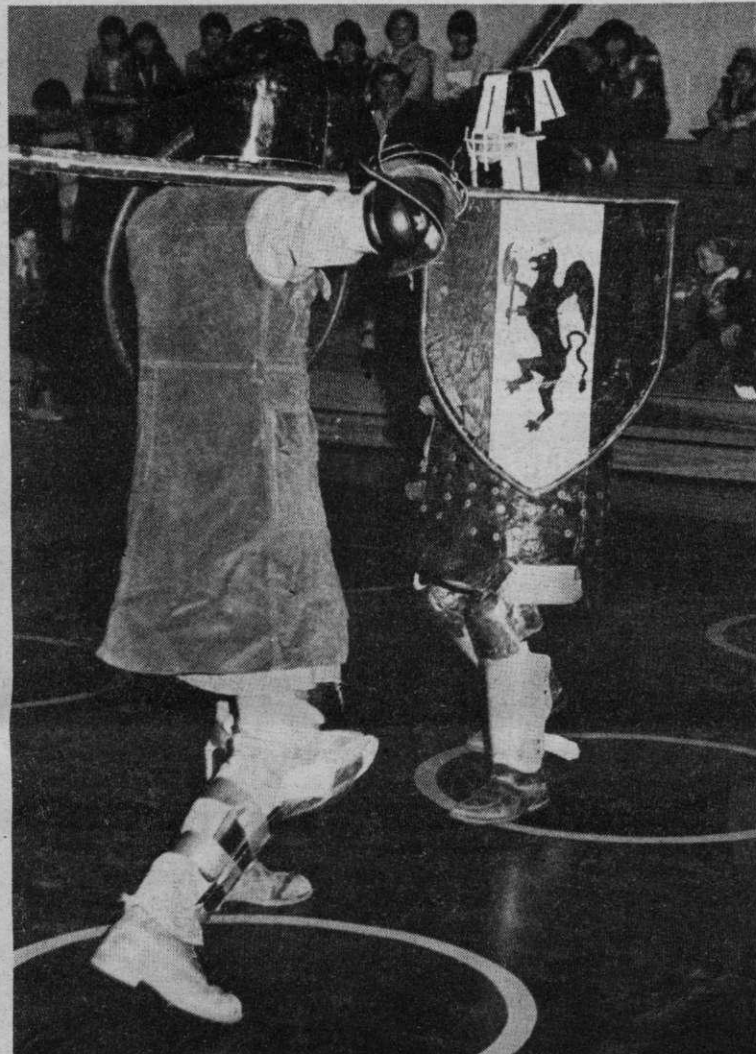
A blow to the body or head by the opponent may be considered a fatal blow. A blow to the arms or legs, if the referee accepts it as being of sufficient force, is estimated a lost limb. If to the legs, the combatant must fight from a kneeling position. If the blow is to the right hand, he must switch arms and fight with his left hand. **PACE IS FIERCE**

The pace is so fierce that if the soldier is not declared a winner, the man might well be dead from exhaustion before a decision can be reached.

The combatants fight on special padded mats.

Those who missed Saturday's

display may well have the opportunity of catching up. The society hopes to bring whole brigades of fighters to the island in April. They will fight it out on a grand scale on the Hamilton-Horne property at Fulford. Although the battle has not been confirmed, members hope to see it here in the next three months.



Driftwood photo by Frank Richards

Mark der Gaukler, left, is fighting to Scouts and others at attacking Karl der Scharfriechter as they demonstrate mediaeval Gulf Islands Secondary School on Saturday.

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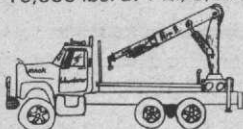
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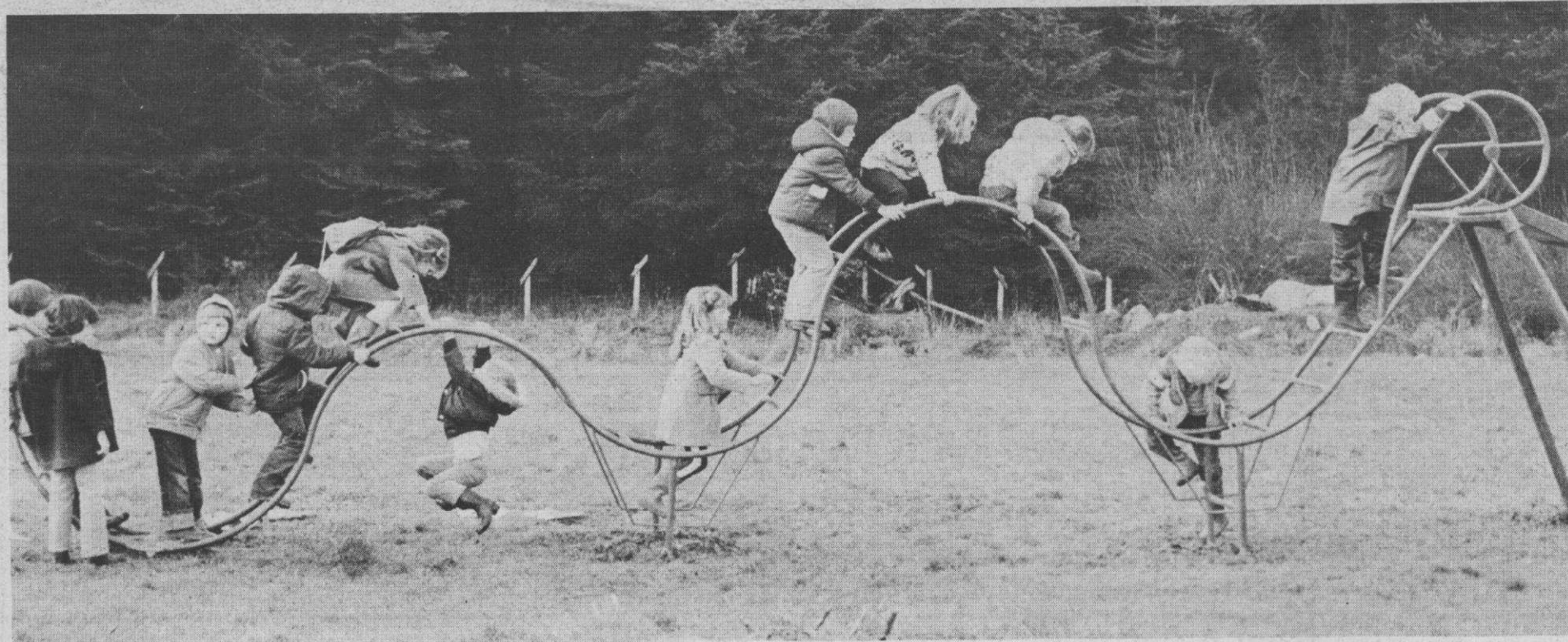
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Driftwood photo by Alice Richards

For new school

Recommendations prepared by parents

The Fulford Parent Advisory Group has presented its recommendations for the new school on Salt Spring Island.

Grant Wicklam, representing the parents, gave the list of ideas to Dave Brockington of Collins and Brockington, the architectural firm which has been engaged to plan the school.

Brockington had indicated a willingness to listen to recommendations concerning the layout of the school so that it could be used not only for educating children but also for use by the community.

The parents decided that they wanted each classroom to have two blackboards with the remaining wall space capable of use as tackboard. The floors should be resilient and carpeted in rooms used by primary grades.

Each classroom should have a cloak room as well as hot and cold water facilities. The windows should be designed to permit an effective blackout to be used.

The classrooms for intermediate grades should be slightly larger than for lower grades but the primary and kindergarten rooms should have sufficient storage space available.

SPRUNG HARDWOOD FLOOR

The recommendation for the gymnasium was to have a sprung hardwood floor installed.

The school should be illuminated by natural or incandescent lighting wherever possible.

The parents concluded that cross ventilation utilizing windows and doors was preferable to forced air ventilation. The room to be used for the copier machine should have its own vent system.

In keeping with the architect's idea of variety of use the parent group would like a kitchen area included for both school and

community use.

Each classroom should have individual exterior access door with a cover and a hard surface entry. A garden area should be located near each classroom and the play area should be grassed.

WOOD EXTERIOR

The parents visualize a wood exterior on the school finished in natural and subdued colours.

The predominantly natural setting of the area should be maintained and the trees kept wherever possible. The park setting should include a ravine area, cleaned of brush and organized into an adventure playground.

The parents advised that the classrooms should be designed with flexibility of use in mind and urged the architect to take advantage of local builders and craftsmen where possible.

When the working sketches come back from the architect, the parents plan to put them on public display in Fulford along with a list of their recommendations.

Ideas on what should or should not be in the school are welcome, said school trustee Charles Hingston. David Eyles is chairman of the Fulford parents group.

Ups and downs

There's room enough for everyone on the new slide which is part of additional equipment provided for the Fernwood School playground. It's a long journey from start to finish and these youngsters attempted it over and over and over....

Death of George Wells

George Wells devoted the last years of his life to the Salt Spring Island Public Library. On January 26 he died in the Royal Jubilee Hospital, in Victoria at the age of 80.

Resident of Vesuvius Bay for many years, he took an active part in two island organizations, the library, of which he was secretary at the time of his death and had held other offices, and the Admiral Masonic Lodge, of which he was secretary for 11 years.

Masonic funeral was held in St. George's Anglican Church, Ganges, on Monday, Feb. 1, with Rev. John Bailey officiating.

Interment was in Ganges Cemetery and arrangements were by Haywards, Thompson and Irving, Victoria and Goodman's Funeral Home, Ganges.

George Wells was predeceased by his wife, Florence Lesley in 1969.

Islanders benefit from B.C. lottery fund grants

Gulf Islanders benefited from the largesse of the provincial lottery fund last year.

Evan Wolfe, provincial secretary and minister of government services, announced details of \$6.5 million in grants distributed over the past six months.

The Silver Maynes, a senior citizens group on Mayne Island, received \$442 for equipment.

The Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association received \$4,000 for construction.

Several Gulf Island boy scouts

were part of an international rally for which the Boy Scouts of Canada received \$49,158.

Part of the grants available include money to offset the costs of travel by various groups in sports, recreation and culture. No group from the Gulf Islands received money for travel.

The total grant figure includes \$1.25 million to the Heritage Conservation Branch for distribution on recommendation of the B.C. Heritage Trust. Another \$2.7 million went to the Health Care Research Foundation.

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Hughes named first star in all of three games

BY STANLEY STARSTRUCK

So many times in the past, readers of this column have followed as the trials and tribulations of the Slugs have unfolded on these pages.

Indeed, nary a week passes without a host of vivid descriptions of many a foible, misadventure, or bizarre idiosyncrasy revealed by one or more of the strange characters that make up the Slugs.

During the course of the past two seasons not a single player has avoided the perverted wit of the demented individual who holds this pen in hand. And many a Slug has taken to heart what was passed off as humour.

This past weekend was no different. The Slugs went off to Courtenay to perform in an extremely well run tournament sponsored by Sound Lab. And there was the inevitable dosage of bickering, partying, debauchery, goof-ups and usual tournament excesses that seem to follow the Slugs wherever they go.

MULTITUDE OF HORRORS

I'm sure that one could spend the better (some say worse) part of this column listing the multitude of horrors that befell us all, but this would be a complete disservice to the tremendous performance put on by our beloved backstop, the one, the only, Mark "Farm Boy"



The Slug trail

Hughes.

It isn't enough to say that his play was outstanding, because superlatives alone don't convey the message. Mark, by himself, was without question the story of the tournament. Not only did he hold us in the games, but time after time his outstanding plays inspired us to try again where we had failed so many times before.

A look at the statistics tells the story: outshot 141 to 46 in three games, 26 power plays against including five that left us two men short. And yet, thanks to Mark's efforts, we came within two minutes of the "B" side final before an unfortunate goal let us down.

NAMED FIRST STAR

For his efforts Mark was named

first star in all three games, was selected to the first team all-stars and took time to also win decisively the showdown competition by allowing one goal in 15 attempts. To put this into perspective the second-place goalie let in five in the same number of attempts.

I know in the process of presenting his feats on paper, we run the risk of creating a monster; but quite simply Mark deserves it. Without doubt it was the finest performance by a Slug player in the history of the club.

As for the rest of us, we certainly progressed as the tournament went on and with a few breaks we might have even made the finals.

A REAL SHOCK

The opening game was a real shock as the Gold River Social Club came roaring out and all but annihilated us in the first period. From that point on though, under the firm guiding hand of coach Paul Sinclair, we quickly settled down and actually played some good hockey.

A well deserved win over Courtenay Blues in shoot-out overtime left us just one game from the finals. And a fine, come-from-behind effort against Campbell River Sound Lab fell just short as we simply missed too many opportunities.

So that's it. I've done my time as a serious sports writer. I've actually gone through a whole column without once libelling anyone.

I didn't once mention Terry Stringer's television excesses; or Pat Gaines' movie-making

experiment; or even the multitude of sins by certain players who will remain anonymous for the moment.

HE'S NOT IMMUNE

Even Farm Boy won't remain immune; his star is rising now but...I'll be waiting. Onward to next week when we come up against our old friends, the Mill Bay Saints.

And don't forget the Save the Slugs Fund in conjunction with the Slug Benevolent Society will be holding the first annual St. Valentine's Slugfest Saturday, Feb. 13 at Fulford Hall. All sorts of good times, music from Kenny Brown and the Pervaders, snacks, and of course liquid refreshments.

Come out and see your favourite Slug in action. We even plan to have Farm Boy there if we can fit his head through the door.

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Veterinarian visits

BY TERESA HANSON and
KERRY WATTERS
Grade 7, Pender School

On Wednesday, Jan. 20 veterinarian Dr. Basterfield from Colwood came to discuss animals and animal care with Pender Island students.

He talked about dangers to domestic animals like slug repellent, anti-freeze, toilet cleansers and riding bikes taking your dog for a walk. He also talked about routine holiday care.

After a short question period Dr. Basterfield then told us how to

take care of our animals. Then he demonstrated how to examine a dog using his own dog. Dr. Basterfield comes to Pender Island one Wednesday a month.

Everybody enjoyed his visit very much and we hope he will come back soon.

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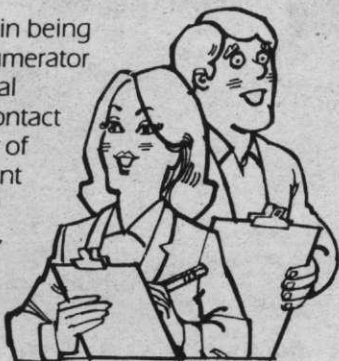
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Province of British Columbia
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Due to repairs at Otter Bay, the dock will be closed from 9:00 am both days.

During the closure, the following limited schedules will be in effect.

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7:15 am Otter Bay to Tsawwassen
(No morning sailing from Tsawwassen to Otter Bay).

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5:35 am Swartz Bay to Otter Bay
7:35 am Otter Bay to Swartz Bay
8:45 am Otter Bay to Swartz Bay

It is expected that repairs will be completed Thursday afternoon for resumption of normal service commencing with the following sailings:

5:15 pm Otter Bay to Tsawwassen
6:15 pm Swartz Bay to Otter Bay
6:55 pm Otter Bay to Swartz Bay

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Recreation for pensioners dream come t



Jim Gilson, vice-president of the club, is seen with Dave McRoberts. Both men organize the bingo games held Wednesday afternoons.



Dorothy Sloan scores for her team in a game of 501.

Photostory
by Alice Rich

After almost two years of Age Recreation Club at Salt now in full operation. Open t years of age with purchase of the club is located in the bas Hall. It was completed with government grant which also purchase of equipment such as pool table, lawn bowling equipment, card tables and d


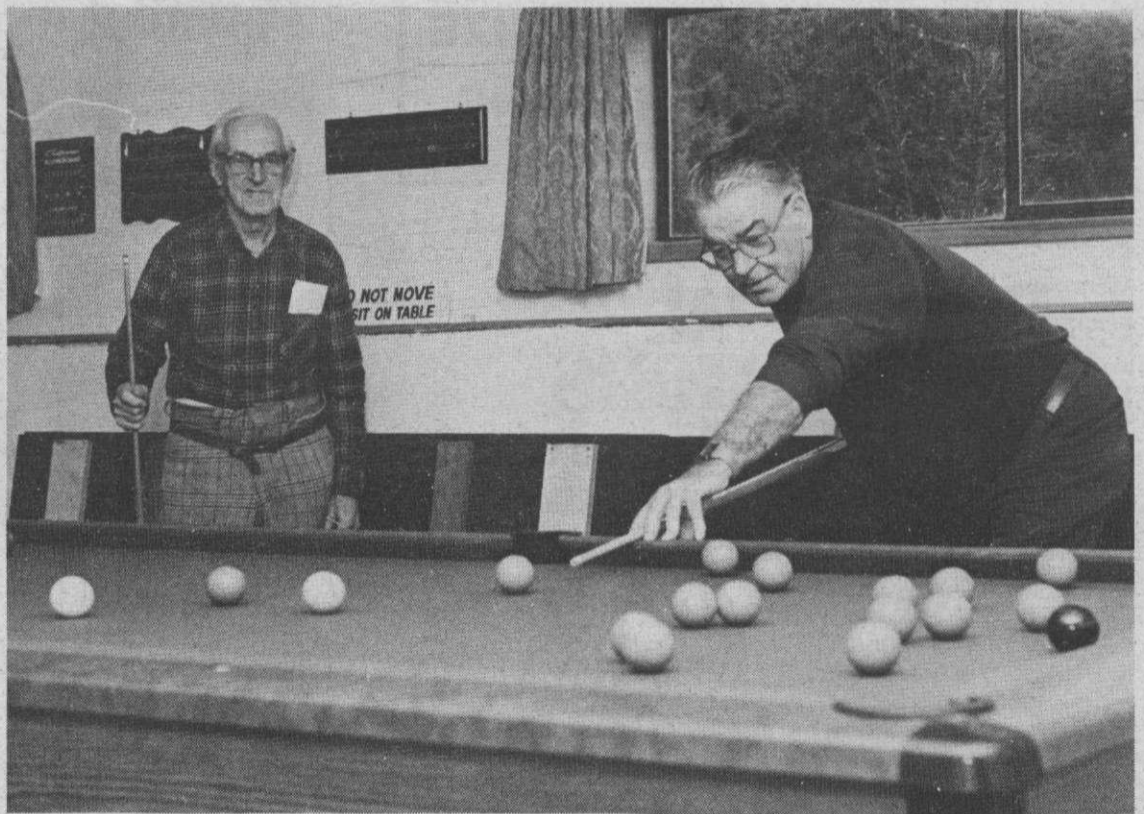
President of the club, Bill H dream he had had since com where he found little for the of the way of recreation.

The club is open from 1 p weekday as well as Monday ev to 9 pm. Mondays and Thursd carpet bowling members, We bingo and Tuesday, Frida evenings are left open for any snooker. Harper urges pension a friend and have fun.

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President Bill Harper shoots for the side pocket as Norman Youds observes.

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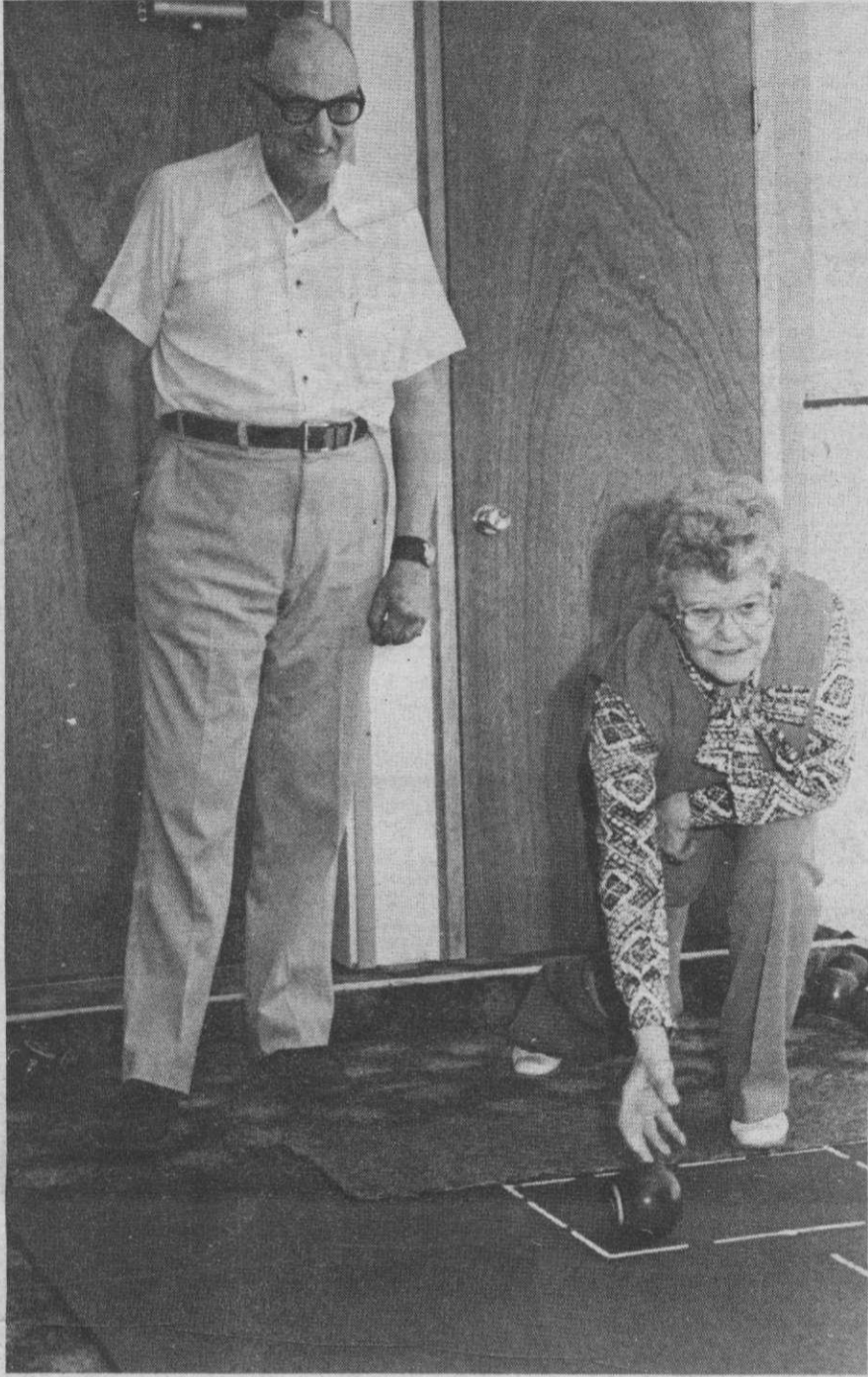
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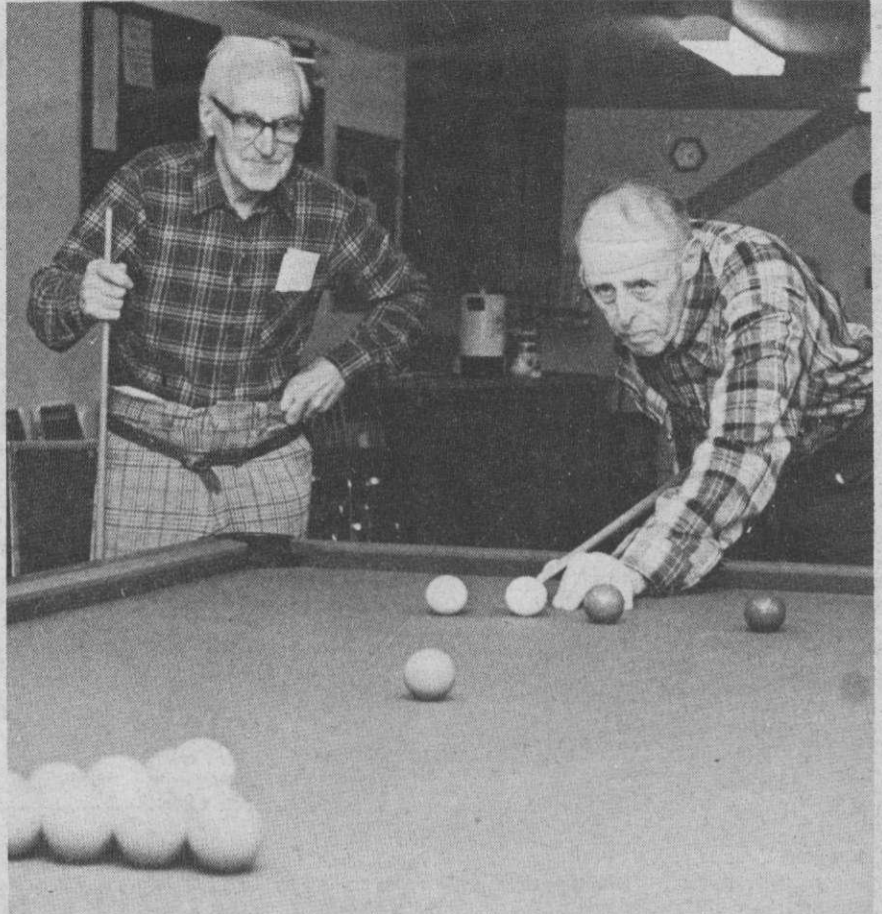
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Visiting from Mayne Island are Roy and Sophie Betts who came to challenge the Salt Spring Island carpetbowlers to a game.



Wally Edwards breaks during a game of snooker as Norman Youds looks on.

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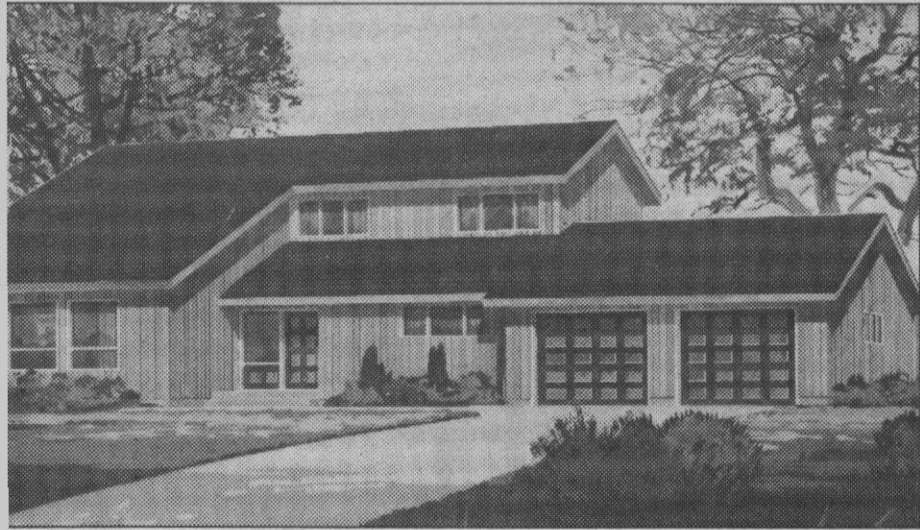


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Saturna Scene

BY PRISCILLA JANSZEN

On February 13 at 1:00 pm in the community hall the Saturna Island Trust Committee will discuss bylaw number 8. The public is welcome. Several changes have been made, some in zoning.

On February 14 at 2:15 pm at Saint Christopher's, a church service will be held. There have been two postponements already, surely this one will succeed!

The Saturna Woman's Club is looking for "white elephants" (not wild geese), for their Easter bake sale. They will even pick them up! Telephone Lil Cunningham 2962, Joan Robertson 5405 or Evelyn Steeves 2433. What a chance for the Campbells to sort some things out!

On February 13 the Lions will sponsor a Valentine's Day dance. Everyone is welcome.

The Burns night dinner, sponsored by the Lions, was fabulous! About 70 people attended the dinner — excellent traditional fare and the haggis was properly piped in. Tribute was paid to Robbie and his songs were well sung.

In the midst of all the tradition a special toast was offered to Bob and Taime Hindmarch as being special people who contribute much to the Saturna Community. Burns night was well done up!

Bridge Winners

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners January 18 were:

First, Norman and Gordon Best; second, Dr. and Mrs. Hyslop; third, Robin Copeland and Norm McConnell; fourth, Audrey Allan and Helen Shandro; fifth, Gordon Hutton and Fred Struve.

Winners in the Tuesday evening individual game: first, Fred Struve; second, Norm McConnell; third, Irene Hawksworth; and tied for fourth, Shirley Love and Fred Melhuish.

Winners on January 25 were: first, Dr. and Mrs. Hyslop; second, Shirley Love and Phyllis Henderson; third, Joe and Madeline Frantz; and tied for fourth, Audrey Allan and Helen Shandro, Bess Stafford and Lois Popkin-Clurman.

On Tuesday evening the winners were: first, George Ferguson and Fred Melhuish; second, Shirley Love and Fred Struve; third, Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Hutton; fourth, Terry Devine and Bob Scott.

Peanut Butter Jamwich

On January 25 there was a parent-teachers' meeting. We have \$1,400 altogether. E. Bray, school trustee, reported on school board business.

We heard a lot about the qualifications the new district supervisor will have to fulfill. We discussed budget cuts, grading for physical education and the 40% increase in administrative costs. The new board and teachers seem to be dealing with each other in a less antagonistic manner.

It was a good meeting. We agreed we would like to discuss the district philosophy and consider one for ourselves.

On February 8 the children go to Pender to see *The Barber of*

Seville. They will leave on the noon ferry and be back at 4:30. The cost is \$2.50 for kids and \$3.50 for parents. The opera guild of Vancouver puts on a performance for the outer island students every year and it is marvelous. Just to hear from eight feet away someone belting out opera is an experience!

Laurie Bouch sent a letter to Bob and Taimi telling them about Danny's progress in White Rock. He misses Saturna school and very much enjoys his new one. Laurie expressed how happy she was that Danny had got such a good start with Taimi. Dynamo Danny is reading lots of books and writing "reports" and his own books. He and Laurie hope to visit soon.

Tracy Pillsbury donated a beautiful book to the school library, *A Boy of Tache*. Thank you, Tracy.

It was snowing hard on Monday, Feb. 7

A diary records events of each day for later recall and remembrance.

The following excerpts come from a diary kept by a girl living on Salt Spring Island. The year was 1916 and the month was February. The girl was Beryl Weatherell, who now lives in Ladysmith.

7 Monday: Snowed hard. Four feet of snow. Mother and I came home on *Queen City*. (A notation in the margin notes that the ship later burned to the waterline but on this particular trip the passengers huddled around the funnel to keep warm).

Dad and Uncle Geoff had been clearing snow off roofs at Our Place. Dad met us and rowed us home — had lunch and went back. Mother and I got things straight.

Later Dad and Uncle G came home, they were clearing snow off Uncle Geoff's barn till 11 o'clock at night.

Nothing but deep, undisturbed snow everywhere.

8 Tuesday: Clear morning but it snowed hard rest of day — a snow which in the middle of night turned to rain — so — slush. Mother and I stayed in the house all day but Dad and Uncle Geoff went by boat to "Our Place" where they fed the sheep and cleared the snow off the roof of "Our House."

Dad and Uncle Geoff cleared

snow off the barn roof and the veranda roof — the latter was only just cleared in time or it would have fallen in. They were up to 11 o'clock clearing roofs.

I wrote to Aunt Ella, Grannie and Sunny Jim last night. Had a bad night, thought the wretched roof was coming down it creaked so much.

9 Wednesday: Rained — mild. all stayed home except Dad, who went by boat to Our Place to feed the sheep. My photos came! Two men helped Uncle Geoff clear snow off barn and house roofs. Ward's barn has gone flat.

(A doodle drawing in the margins of the page shows a girl waist-deep in snow. Another drawing shows two people clearing a roof of snow while a third person stands on the ground watching. In the lower left corner a character echoes winter's timeless complaint, "Too much snow!")



Foster family tribute

Wednesday of next week, February 11, will be Foster Family Day in the Capital Regional District.

Naming the day at last Wednesday's Capital Regional Board meeting, directors supported a resolution, paying tribute to the accomplishments of foster families in the region.

The day is to be observed in order that citizens of the region

may become aware of the good work being done by foster families and their contribution to the welfare of children.

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KICK-OFF

Weather hasn't dampened players' enthusiasm

BY MALCOLM LEGG

The winter weather has hampered soccer action over recent weeks but has not dampened our players' enthusiasm to get started in cup play.

This weekend should see all our teams returning to action, some in cup play, others still in league action. At the intra-island divisions both levels will compete for their respective trophies under a format where winners meet winners and losers meet losers.

This format will be followed until March 11 when winners are declared based on point structure (five points for win, three for tie, two for loss with goal, one point for loss no goal).

On the weekend our off-island teams will return to action. For the United and the Kicks it will be an important weekend as they play in the first round in the Sun Cup (provincial championships). Both teams have good draws and could do well. The other teams, Strikers, Wranglers, Sting and Sockeyes, all return to league action.

DISTRICT CUP PLAY

On February 20-21 the District Cup play will begin for the Wranglers and Sting while the other three boys youth teams start February 27-28. The Sockeyes will complete their full league schedule.

March 13 and 14 will feature the first annual Intra-island Tourney broken into two sections for senior and junior teams. Both sections will play a round-robin series of games with the trophy presentations made at 3 pm on Sunday, Mar. 14. All players participating will receive a tournament badge and concession facilities will be available.

April 3 and 4 will see the District Cup finals at Gordon Head and we will keep our fingers crossed that

some of our teams will be there.

The following weekend, April 10 and 11, will feature our sixth annual Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association Soccer Tournament at Portlock Park. The two-day event will feature all our off-island teams in a challenge match against the opponent of their choice for trophies.

The tourney also features four

exhibition matches: intra-island Junior Selects versus the Mothers; intra-island Senior Selects versus the Fathers; the Salt Spring Kicks versus the Executives; and the Orange Old-Timers versus the Canadians Old-Timers. The tourney should feature some great soccer and lots of fun.

BANQUET

April 23 will see us hold our

banquet at the high school but details of this will come later.

We are still trying to finalize the fund-raising program, the Kick-A-Thon. The close-off date for getting money in is this week as the credit lists will be out this week. By next week the order for items requested will be placed, so do not delay — get your funds in.

Marks from the referees' course will be out as soon as they are received from the British Columbia Youth Soccer Association. Delay is due to their Christmas break.

That should give everyone a good picture of what is upcoming. Now if the weather will co-operate and the fields dry our teams can go for their first wins of the new year.

Graduates sought

The search is on for graduates from Kwantlen College's fine and applied arts program of the past 10 years.

Jim Adams, art instructor at the college, wants to hear from program alumni to determine what they are or have been working at.

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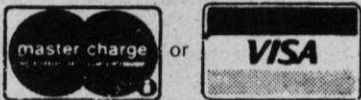
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