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Gulf Islands Driftwood

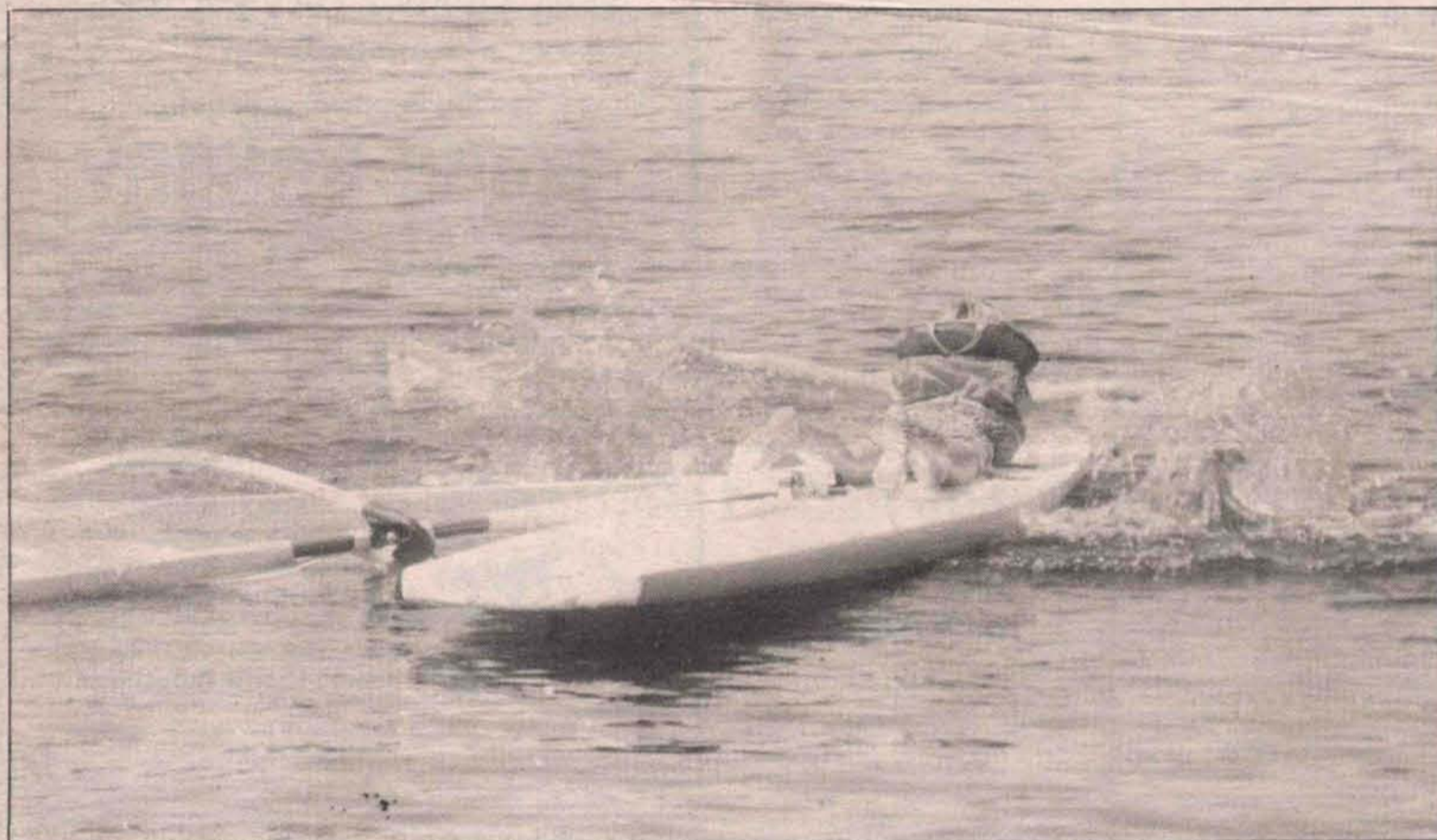
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TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR, NO. 32

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1986

40 cents



Catch a wave

Young windsurfer leaves shore of St. Mary Lake the old-fashioned way—under arm

power—en route to open water, where winds will hopefully be strong enough to let his sail do the

work. Advent of hot weather has brought throngs of people to local lakes and beaches.

Rezoning homework continuing

The Island Trust's August 23 meeting will give first reading to a bylaw that would amend the zoning of a Salt Spring property proposed as the site of an asphalt plant.

Public discussion of the bylaw, which requires four readings before being forwarded to the minister of municipal affairs for approval, will take place at the Trust's September 19 meeting.

The zoning amendment calls for a change to the community plan's I-4 classification to prohibit industrial uses deemed objectionable in residential areas. While aimed specifically at the proposed asphalt plant site—located about one mile from Ganges—the amendment would affect all I-4 zones on the island.

Island Trustee Pat Byrne said last week that all I-4 zones on Salt Spring are being investigated to see what effect the amendment might have. "We have our homework to do," he said, explaining that the Trust is proceeding "under the presumption that if an asphalt plant is undesirable on one I-4 site, it would be undesirable on the others."

The zoning amendment, he continued, is a response "to the broad public consensus that an asphalt plant is not suitable. If we amend the bylaw to prohibit that use, it would make sense to block all other objectional uses."

Owners of the asphalt plant have applied to the provincial environment ministry for an amended pollution control permit that would allow the operation to locate on Salt Spring. The ministry, which concerns itself with the technical aspects of such plants, has said it would delay processing the permit if notified that rezoning of the property was in progress.

First reading of the proposed bylaw amendment, Byrne said, would inform the ministry that the Trust is "making progress (on rezoning) as rapidly as possible."

Byrne added that the Trust must be careful to draw up an amendment that protects the

Turn to Page 3

Meeting in Victoria

Islanders, MLA to discuss plant

Hugh Curtis, MLA for Saanich-and-the-Islands, was scheduled to meet late yesterday with Salt Spring representatives for a discussion of the asphalt plant issue.

Local residents scheduled to attend the meeting were Island Trustees Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne, Capital Regional District (CRD) representative Hugh Borsman, and Gary Greico, who has been spearheading opposition to location of the plant on Salt Spring.

The meeting was by invitation only.

Meanwhile, MP Jim Manly (NDP, Cowichan-Malahat-the-Islands), has followed up his recent discussions with plant opponents by directing letters to Curtis, the provincial environment ministry and the federal

department of fisheries and oceans. Those letters reportedly state that island residents have specific and valid concerns about the asphalt plant, and that those concerns should be recognized.

In another development, Greico

said last week that the proposed asphalt plant site has been identified as a major slippage zone and that a building permit would be required before any structures could be constructed on the property.

Market talk irks visitor

By CATHERINE LANG

A visitor to Salt Spring is upset about hearing allegedly slanderous statements aimed at CRD director Hugh Borsman.

The woman, who said she preferred to remain anonymous, told *Driftwood* her visit to Salt Spring included a stop at the Saturday farmers' market, where she saw a newsletter suggesting that the market was going to

close.

Because she has always supported the market, the woman said, she wanted to know more—but, instead of receiving answers to her questions, she said she listened to what amounted to a personal attack on Borsman.

"They had some very disparaging remarks to say about the director," she said. "I don't want

Turn to Page 2

That long distance feeling...

Despite information to the contrary from the B.C. Telephone Company, *Gulf Islands Driftwood* continues to publish every week.

Many callers from outside the islands have reported difficulties contacting the *Driftwood* office during the past few months.

Callers dialling 537-9933 have often received a recorded message advising them that the number is no longer in service. In fact, the number is in service and operating.

Readers who encounter any problems while trying to contact this newspaper are urged to call the operator for assistance.

Market newsletter outlines opposition to bylaw

From Page 1
to tell you the words they used to describe this man."

While she prefers not to get involved in the issue, the woman said her first reaction was to wonder what the market has come to.

"I'm very upset because I think that kind of thing will close the market down," she said.

Susan Bradford, who published

the newsletter, told *Driftwood* that her main concern is not with Borsman but with the new parks bylaw and the perceived lack of public input before the regulations were put into place.

"I'm trying to attack the bylaw. It's certainly the bylaw that Hugh Borsman wants," said Bradford.

She said she doesn't believe the director intends to close the market, and that he has moderat-

ed his opinion since his opposition three years ago.

Aspects of the new bylaw that she objects to include vendors needing written permission to sell their wares and regulations on game-playing in parks. Bradford said she circulated a petition against the new bylaw and collected 700 signatures in five days.

"It's a minority that likes that particular bylaw," she said.

And she is suspicious about how the bylaw was approved without public meetings or press coverage.

In another issue raised in the newsletter, *Park News*, Bradford accuses Borsman of sending the RCMP to see a vendor at the market. She said the vendor told her that the RCMP claimed they had come at Borsman's request. But Borsman denies any in-

volvement in the RCMP investigations.

"Quite categorically, I have never asked the RCMP to check anything at Centennial Park," he said.

RCMP Sergeant Mitch Han said police visited the market on their own accord.

Bradford has since retracted her statement that Borsman sent police to the market.



Driftwood publisher Tony Richards receives award from Canadian Community Newspapers Association president Jean Baker-Pearce, publisher of the

Alliston (Ont.) *Herald*. Presentation took place during association's recent annual convention.

Newspaper receives prize from national association

Gulf Islands Driftwood publisher Tony Richards was presented with a national newspaper award during a convention in Calgary last week.

Driftwood received a prize in the category of best advertising idea for newspapers with a circulation between 4,000 and 12,499.

The award was made last week at the annual meeting of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association (CCNA). *Driftwood* took second place in the contest, which drew entries from 42 newspapers across Canada.

A series of nine ads for Ken Byron Excavating was selected by judges for "excellent copywriting." First place went to the Perth (Ont.) *Courier* and third

place to the 100 Mile House *Free Press*.

The Calgary convention drew more than 400 delegates from community newspapers across the country. Richards is a director on the board of the association, as well as vice-president of the B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association.

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Saturna 539-2381
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Marine Weather Forecasts 656-7515
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Hard times?

In what local RCMP say must be an example of hard times, a number of empty beer bottles were stolen from the Farmer's Institute after a dance held there last Saturday night.

Entrance to the building was gained through a rear, overhead sliding door after a padlock was forced open.

The theft involved 26 dozen empty bottles.

Jim Manly, M.P.
Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands
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		0410	9.1		0905	8.1
	TH	1135	1.9	MO	1355	6.0
		1920	10.6		2040	10.8
	8	0100	7.5	12	0345	3.9
		0510	8.8		1050	8.2
	FR	1210	2.5	TU	1440	7.4
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Local ship to be replaced by this fall

Driftwood photo by Susan Dicker

'Moorhen' on its way out

Coast Guard vessel to be retired

After 36 years of Coast Guard service — including over two on Salt Spring Island — the *Moorhen* is ready for retirement.

Frank Wilkins, the officer in charge of the Ganges Coast Guard station, said the deteriorating state of the vessel prompted a replacement. "In rough weather, cracks open up in the stern end," he said. "Its steel is fatigued."

Wilkins hopes that the *Moorhen* — named after a small water bird — will be succeeded here by a cold-water gull. Among three possible replacement ships is one named the *Skua*.

The Coast Guard's Kitsilano office has offered the Ganges station one of three new ships designed in the U.S. While all three are identical, Wilkins says he wants the *Skua* because it is in

keeping with the *Moorhen*.

No matter what its name, the new ship — valued at \$600,000 — will be 41 feet long (one foot longer than the *Moorhen*), be built of aluminum instead of steel, and be able to travel approximately 12 knots an hour faster than the older ship's 15-knot maximum.

"Now, it takes over an hour to get down into the States," says Wilkins. "With the new boat, we'll be looking at 40 minutes."

The replacement vessel will also feature more modern navigation equipment.

The Coast Guard's Ganges station, in operation for seven years, answers a number of calls ranging from mechanical failures to ships caught on the rocks.

For emergencies requiring immediate action, the Coast Guard uses a "fast response" rubber

zodiac boat, which travels at speeds up to 36 knots per hour. It carries oxygen and first aid equipment, but cannot be used on all occasions. At night, for example, a vessel such as the *Moorhen* must be used.

The Ganges Coast Guard hopes to receive its new ship in late October, at which time the *Moorhen* will be placed into storage in Victoria, and its condition re-evaluated.

Wilkins, who has been with the Coast Guard for 23 years and seen all seven years of service in Ganges, hopes an official "change of command" can be organized for the exchange of ships.

While Ganges may receive the *Osprey* or the *Mallard*, Wilkins says every indication points to a cold water gull replacing the small water bird.

Cowichan Bay fishing closure

Cowichan Bay was closed to all sports fishing as of August 1.

In announcing the closure, the federal department of fisheries and oceans noted that it takes effect within or to the west of a line between fishing boundary signs erected at Separation Point and Wilcuma Lodge.

The department added that the closure includes the tidal portions of the Cowichan and Koksilah rivers.

In effect until further notice, the closure is intended to help conserve chinook and coho salmon returning to the Cowichan and Koksilah rivers to spawn.

Phillip Swift all
 British Columbia Land Surveyor **537-5911**
 121 McPhillips Ave. Box 997, Ganges

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Plant site on agenda

From Page 1

public from objectionable uses while respecting the rights of property owners. "It's a fine balancing act," he said.

Meanwhile, Trust chairman Mike Humphries cautioned last week that even if the amendment is approved by the Trust, it must still win the backing of the municipal affairs minister. Judging from experience, he indicated, the minister's approval cannot be guaranteed.

Humphries was referring to the attempted downzoning of land adjoining St. Mary Lake a few years ago. The Trust approved the zoning amendment but the bylaw failed to gain the minister's signature.

The provincial government takes a dim view of downzonings initiated by anyone other than the property owner, Humphries indicated.

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Let's call it a draw

Time for more bylaw dialogue, less diatribe

A disturbing and bitter sense of ill will has entered the debate involving regional district director Hugh Borsman and island residents who denounce the new parks use bylaw. Until and unless that rancor subsides, there is no hope for a dialogue that might ease the sharp divisions that have surfaced.

Opponent of the parks bylaw certainly have every right to question the new policy, and the

procedures that brought it into being. However, no useful purpose is served by indulging in the style of personal attack we have seen in the past few weeks.

We refer to the letters written to the Capital Regional District (CRD), Dr. Borsman's reaction to those letters and the subsequent rebuttals published in this week's edition of *Driftwood*.

One example from the first category should suffice. Although it named no names, the letter to the CRD opposing the park bylaw went beyond straightforward criticism by arguing that "it might be considered also that the author of these 'laws' is showing severe signs of insecurity and paranoid behaviour and rather (than) inflict his personal illness on the community, he (should) admit he personally needs help and seek the assistance of someone who is trained in such matters."

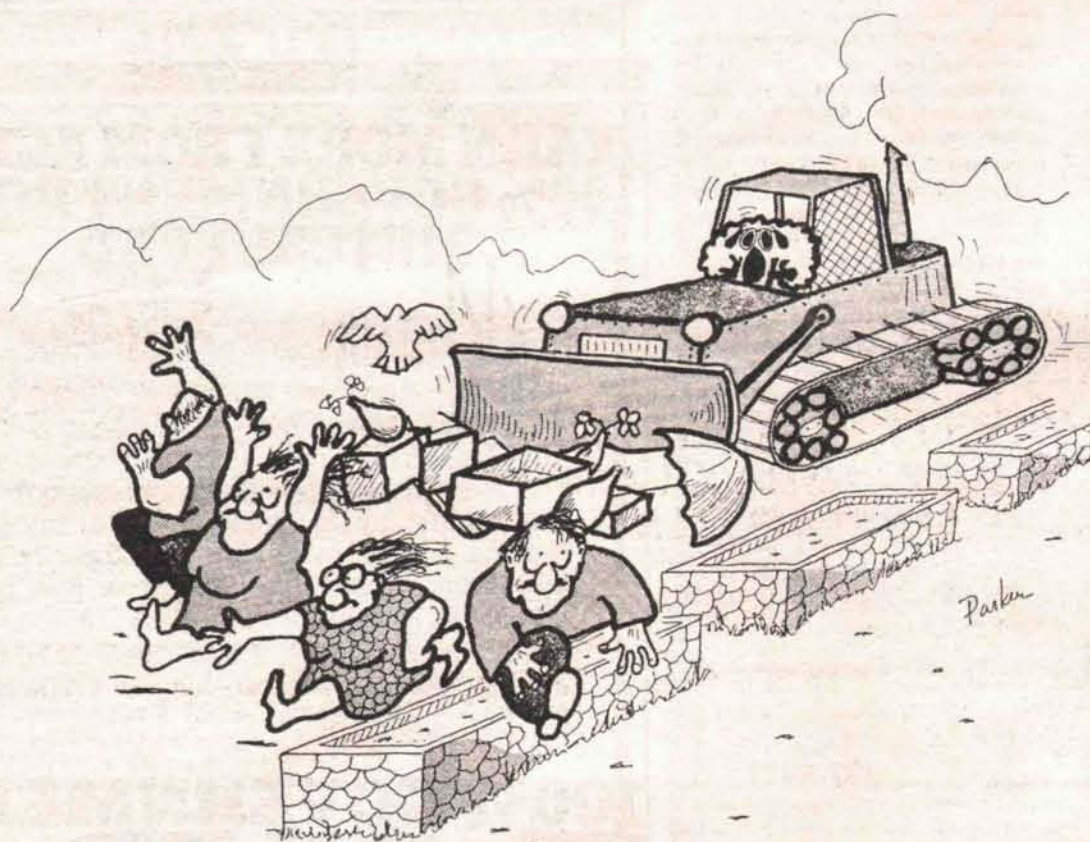
What useful purpose, we ask, is served by accusing anyone of being brain-addled and in need of professional—presumably psychiatric—help? What does that contribute to any debate, besides ill will?

It does not stop there, however. Rightly or wrongly, Dr. Borsman saw himself as the unnamed target of that and other letters opposing the bylaw. His reaction was to publicly chastize, by letter, the people he believed were dragging the debate down to the level of personal attack.

The public response, contained in this week's *Driftwood*, had to be expected. Letter-writers have, understandably, been quick to defend their right to criticize both the actions of their elected representative and the content of the bylaw in question. Further, they are correct that their right to do so should not be called into question.

However, what we now have is not the discussion of a bylaw but a series of charges and counter-charges questioning the personal motives and actions of elected representative and letter-writers. The well is being poisoned for the sake of a war that no one can win.

Can we please stop the diatribe now, call it a draw and get back to the business at hand? Further salvos should leave the name-calling and the interpretations of semantics alone, and confine themselves to the new bylaw itself; if we cannot do that, we will have far more dissension than we need, and far less discussion that this issue deserves.



LAMBO SOLVES THE PROBLEM OF THE PUBLIC MARKET ONCE AND FOR ALL.

And then there was the day a beaver ate my tree

Bill Vander Zalm's selection as leader of the Social Credit party immediately burned two words into my brain: *Watch out*.

It had nothing to do with any fear of ideological zeal the new premier might bring to his job. Far from it. I was worried about my lawn.

This is not as strange as it might appear. You see, domestic calamities have been my lot following most of the recent and major changes in the political climate.

Take Brian Mulroney's election as prime minister of Canada. The morning after, I awoke to find that a beaver had dropped our

prized willow tree into the nearby lake. The symbolism of that act dogs my assessment of Mulroney to this day.

Before that, we had Pierre Trudeau's reincarnation as national leader. That same evening, playing in a pickup hockey game, I was struck on the jaw line by a rising puck fired from 15 feet away. Little wonder that I came to perceive Trudeau as a pain in the neck.

There have been other odd happenings: a severe bout of the flu struck me within minutes of Clark's ascension to the prime minister's chair, a swarm of flying ants invaded my house

**my
word**

by
Duncan MacDonnell

within days of the most recent provincial election, and I once suffered an uncharacteristic run of bad luck in a poker game held on the same day as a Tory leadership convention.

So, I spent all of last week in a mental state of seige, waiting for a sign of things to come.

Naturally enough, there were a few odd incidents. One of my dogs, for instance, swiped a salmon that was being barbecued by a neighbour (trouble brewing in the fishing industry?); another deposited a half-chewed shoe on the front lawn (the boots Bill will have to fill?); and one of my truck tires suffered its first-ever flat (the engine of the economy headed for a stall?).

I'm pulling your leg, of course. While all of the above events did transpire, and in the contexts described, it was only hindsight that gives them significance, or at least any semblance of a connection between real events and

perceived warnings from across the void.

The point, in a roundabout way, is that too much is being made of the symbolic Bill Vander Zalm. While he is preceded by a reputation that indicates a sense of the style of government we might see, we should not read into his record the definitive signs of all things to come.

We are free to ponder and prognosticate all we wish, but the validity of projections is limited. Only time will tell if there really was a connection between Vander Zalm and my flat tire — but for now, I'm willing to give him the benefit of the doubt.

Masterly

Sir,
Hearty thanks to barrister Gordon Sloan (*Scorn*, July 30) for his masterly assessment of the new parks bylaw.

Gordon Sloan is an expert on law — unlike most of our legislators, who tend to be used-car salesman or, if they are expert in anything, it is social work or obstetrics; but far removed from law and law-making. This is why Sloan's assessment is valuable.

Our regional director accuses us of having failed to read the bylaw. Ha! I can assure him that many of us have studied it, ad nauseam!

The entire philosophy is wrong. No legislative aim can possibly be so nebulous that a law needs to be drafted in terms like "... without prior written permission."

Any act is either legal, or it is not. The idea of running to a bureaucrat (clerk) to ask permission to do something which without this permission would be an offence, is anathema to the Mother of Parliaments, and should be so to the CRD. But stay! Remember, power is the name of their game.

Sloan is right; the same bylaw may well exist in Detroit, Des Moines or Danville, (Illinois), but this doesn't mean we need it on Salt Spring Island. Moreover, if any part of this idiotic document is not to be enforced (as Borsman suggests) we may well ask why the hell³²⁻²² are needlessly paying a covey of CRD clerks to draft a bylaw which is not to be enforced.

There is an old adage that the way to get rid of a bad law is to enforce it to the hilt. I suggest that everyone who detects an "offence" under this bylaw should "lay an information," in writing, with the RCMP. In short order, the RCMP will persuade the CRD to cancel the bylaw.

If, that is, the new premier does not very sensibly chuck out the CRD first.

COLIN NICHOLSON,
Ganges.

Disappointed

Sir,
After hearing Gordon Sloan on the CBC two weeks ago, I was not surprised at his letter to *Driftwood* of July 30. I was disappointed nonetheless.

Gordon is a lawyer, and certainly *Driftwood* readers know this. His broadside at the new park use bylaw would therefore be taken as a statement of legal fact; nowhere did he make clear that this was just his opinion of interpretation. How much experience does Mr. Sloan have in the very specialized area of municipal law? How many municipal laws has he prepared?

The prototype of the Salt Spring parks use bylaw, as far as I can determine, was prepared, or at least reviewed, by the municipal law specialist at a large and respected Victoria law firm. When the parks and recreation commission finished revising the prototype in May of this year, the suggested draft went to the CRD for review by its lawyers Harmon and Wilson Co. They returned the approved draft in June. It wouldn't have occurred to any of us that we should have another—this time local—consultation.

The fact is, of course, that Gordon doesn't want the rec commission to have any authority or control, so his legal opinions are being used to justify his point of view. The commission members are in no position to argue points of law; they assumed that the bylaw gave them the very reasonable authority they needed to responsibly care for public property and protect the public

(see section 2-9) without any unreasonable restrictions.

Mr. Sloan has joined some others in concentrating on section 2-9 and concluding "No person shall play at any game whatsoever in or on any portion of the park." Is it likely that the commission, with an accumulated service to the community of some 30 years, and a fine record of providing and maintaining recreational facilities, would be likely to suggest that park use be restricted as suggested? This conclusion is too asinine to be contemplated. So, despite the very foolish interpretation of the bylaw's provisions by some persons, deliberately provocative in most cases, the commission will wait and see if there are any valid complaints concerning the bylaw and, if so, remedy them in short order. In the meantime "games" will proceed as always in Salt Spring parks.

HUGH BORSMAN,
Ganges.

P.S. For those who complained there was no warning of the bylaw, a prominent notice was placed in the *Driftwood* of June 25, giving a brief outline of the provisions of the bylaw and announcing that the bylaw could be viewed at the CRD or at the building inspection office at Salt Spring where it would be displayed.

Protest

Sir,
I wish to protest what I believe to be an authoritarian and totally inappropriate new parks bylaw for Salt Spring Island.

I question the wording itself, the process whereby it was brought in, and even its intent.

The wording is such that explicit permission is required from an appointed parks and recreation commission for almost any kind of activity, from playing games — any games — to vending at the farmers' market. Though we are assured by the regional director that its provisions will be applied only in selected cases, what kind of assurance is that? A law that must be applied selectively is open to all kinds of abuse. Bad law, surely.

As to process, who in this community had the opportunity to see this bylaw before it became law? Where was the public hearing? It was apparently prepared by the parks and

letters

recreation commission with, to their shame, no dissenting voice. However, we are assured that there will be ample time to discuss it in detail now that it has passed. Bit late, isn't it? Peculiar sense of justice prevailing here.

As to the intent, one can only hope that it is not to unduly restrict that vital and important element in our community, the farmers' market. In other communities a market is valued by the business establishment as a valuable commercial adjunct to their activities. I would like to see a growth in spirit locally to match that attitude.

What is certain is that this bylaw is causing dismay among a large part of our community. It will bring more of that disharmony which name-calling and arbitrary behaviour cause.

DAVID WILLIAMS,
Ganges.

Shame

Sir,
Dear me, let me hang my head in shame. As a member of the disagreeable rabble I would like to apologize to the 5,000 who have been defamed. In the future, I will be good — be docile and snooze. No matter what I see, smell or hear.

The stench of underhandedness, the crunching step of the bully, the flashing of the light of authority: these need not cause me to stir. I will lie in the green pastures provided through wise direction of Hugh Borsman, M.D. I think I have been straightened out and reassured by greatness. Ahhh!

LEROY JENSEN,
Vesuvius Bay.

Interim?

Sir,
Regional director Hugh Borsman, in his Director's Report (*Driftwood*, July 20), criticizes the Water Preservation Society for not supporting the "interim" regulations from St. Mary Lake (five mph speed limit and a water skiing corridor) as proposed by Rick Rockliffe.

The Rockliffe proposal, in fact, works against the reinstatement of the EMO because, although labeled as an "interim" measure, the proposal would require the same lengthy approval process as

an EMO status. To be legal, a law regulating boating speed and area restrictions would have to be passed under the Canada Shipping Act.

The estimated time to institute this "interim" measure would be one to three years. So the question naturally arises, why not put all the community efforts into the reinstatement of the EMO on St. Mary Lake which would fully address all the safety problems — unless, of course, the motivation for those proposing this interim measure is to delay or otherwise undermine efforts to reinstate the EMO?

Director Borsman also said that at the July 3 public information meeting there were no suggestions to address safety concerns other than Mr. Rockliffe's "interim" proposal. However, the overwhelming majority of those attending the meeting supported the EMO status for St. Mary Lake, which has been instituted in 80

other B.C. lakes solely for safety concerns.

TOM GOSSETT,
President,
Water Preservation Society.

No surprise

Sir,
In his letter, *Reputation*, in last week's *Driftwood*, Dr. Borsman deplores the fact that "more letters arrive from Salt Spring than from all the other 14 regional districts combined." Knowing the penchant that Salt Springers have for letter writing, this should come as no surprise.

That there are so many active and fertile minds ready to take up the pen in defence of their rights and liberties should not be seen as cause for concern, but rather as cause for celebration.

If this is our reputation with the CRD and the "outside" world, then it is one of which Salt Springers may be justifiably proud. After all, we are the salt of the earth.
R.C. TAYLOR,
Ganges.

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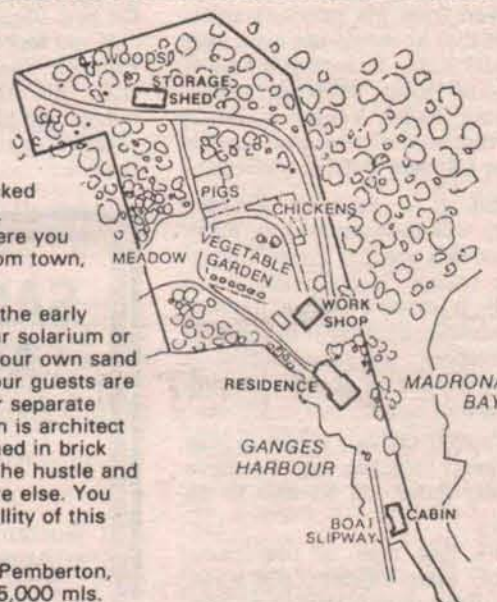
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Socred convention offered everything

VICTORIA — It was without a doubt the most dramatic political convention I gave ever covered.

It had all the ingredients — excitement, suspense, elation, tears, bitterness, broken deals, double-crosses and, in the end, the election of Bill Vander Zalm as premier.

Anything could happen now. Not only is the province more polarized than ever before, with Vander Zalm heading the Socreds, but the party is in certain disarray.

Vander Zalm was not elected by one faction of the Social Credit Party. All along, he has been the favourite of welfare-bum bashers. He was also backed by pro-lifers and by those who saw him as the only candidate able to win the next election. And then, of course, there were the last-minute opportunists.

The one thing every Socred in B.C. is now afraid of is Vander Zalm's capacity for outrageousness. They are petrified that he'll shoot himself in the foot.

They have good reason to be worried. His goofs are legion: he called his former colleagues gutless when they refused to advance his land-use bill to the floor of the legislature; he said the government had ways of dealing with people who refuse to pick up a shovel and work; he called Rene Levesque a frog and said that Quebec secession would at least get French off cornflakes boxes.

The most fatal mistake he can make now is to go on a purge and settle old scores. But even if he is conciliatory towards the caucus that once shut him out, he may have problems.

There could be some resignations from the old guard. Finance Minister Hugh Curtis has been unmistakably cool towards the new premier. He said it was now time for Vander Zalm to show some substance, rather than rhetoric.

Although Human Resources Minister Jim Nielsen has backtracked from his previous statement that he would not work with Vander Zalm, he may still pack it in. The most likely to refuse serving, under Vander Zalm is International Trade and Investment Minister Patrick McGeer.

Still, it is doubtful that the party will disintegrate, as many opponents predict. Every leadership change is traumatic for a party. It leaves a party at its most vulnerable, because it exposes all differences and shows that a party is made up of many varying factions.

It's up to the new leader to fuse the parts together, and I believe Vander Zalm will be able to do that.

The first sign of that came shortly after Vander Zalm's victory. Even though there's no love lost between Premier Bennett and his successor, Bennett put aside differences.

"I know he can lead this party. I know he can run a government. I know he can lead and be part of a team," Bennett said.

And to ward off any defections, Bennett said: "There are no Graham Leas in this party."

What can British Columbia expect from its new populist premier? Certainly a new style of

capital comment

by
Hubert Beyer

government. It will be a more open government, one without the bunker mentality that marked the Bill Bennett administration in the past few years.

The Vander Zalm government will also be more colorful. The new premier will try hard not to put his foot in his mouth, but he will not always succeed. A colleague of mine said that God must be a journalist to give us this new premier to work on.

There will be other changes. Whereas Bennett's wife Audrey was always in the background, Vander Zalm's wife Lillian will assume a high profile.

Changes of substance may include privatization of liquor stores and the introduction of casino gambling.

'The Vander Zalm government will be more colourful.'

But we'll probably have to wait for a while before any real change is evident. So far, the only mandate Vander Zalm has is from 801 Socreds. He will have to seek an electoral mandate before making any drastic moves.

Chances that he'll call a general election this fall are slim. He said himself that he doesn't want to "pull a John Turner," and there's no money. The party blew a bundle on the leadership race.

That means he will run in a byelection. Last week, he said he would run in South Peace River, the seat vacated by Don Phillips.

If you feel a little uneasy about Premier Vander Zalm, join the club. But the man should be judged on his future actions as premier, not those of another time.

Urgent

Sir,
Regarding the proposed introduction of an asphalt plant to Salt Spring: I should think it is an urgent problem for all the Gulf Islands, not just Salt Spring. Once introduced, it will be difficult to eliminate, and there is no need for heavy industry on any of the Islands. These islands should be kept as parkland, with their farms and gardens, their retired residents, arts and crafts, both land and water sports, and tourism.
CLARE W. FARRELL,
Ganges.

Natural

Sir,
I want it to be noted that my letter to Howard Sturrock was quoted completely out of context by C.H. Borsman in last week's *Driftwood*.

Raising the ire of citizens is perfectly natural considering some question regarding the democratic process that established the new bylaw. Most citizens knew nothing of it.

The director's actions cause me to question greatly his respect for the people he represents. I know this majority is intelligent and wants to be informed ... when they are informed.

At no time in my letter to Howard Sturrock did I personally criticize a particular person. I criticized the bylaw and the atmosphere and attitude in which it was formed. Our director has appeared to take my criticism personally. It is too bad that in his defense to such criticism he has to point a finger at selected individuals and call them "abusive".

Friends and supporters of Margaret Korrison will greatly question the director's integrity. It is only natural in a healthy democratic society that there is room for disagreement, question and an open environment for creative alternatives. I'm surprised that our director hasn't taken more responsibility for the political atmosphere he has created and nurtured here on Salt Spring.
MARGARET KORRISON,
Vesuvius Bay.

Angry

Sir,
This letter is being written from the standpoint of an abusive person and not from the

more letters

standpoint of a resident of Salt Spring Island. It is directed towards the resident of Salt Spring who is also the regional director.

Who the hell do you think you are? You are an elected representative of the people of Salt Spring Island. You cannot address your constituency through the media without reflecting upon your office and the people who elected you to it.

The writers of the letters you referred to are angry citizens whose anger is reflected in their rhetoric. You apparently haven't the wit to recognize this fact. They are entitled to their anger as they are entitled to their opinions. I seriously doubt whether your mandate includes denigrating your constituents for their bad grammar or their zeal.

The fact that the CRD receives more letters from Salt Spring than

from all the other 14 municipalities and regional districts combined indicates how intimately involved the residents of Salt Spring are in the democratic process which shapes their lives. It also indicates how often they feel slighted by this process.

We on Salt Spring live in a unique and fragile area. Those of us who recognize this fight hard to preserve it while moving Salt Spring through the twists and turns of progress in the 20th century. Because we have elected you to serve our interests through the remainder of your term, the only power we have left is through the letters and petitions we write. You would do well to listen to these rather than berate the writers publicly through the pages of this newspaper.

MICHAEL ARMSTRONG,
Ganges.

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Enough

Sir,
I am not in the habit of writing letters to the editor, abusive or otherwise. But in last week's *Driftwood*, Hugh Borsman attacked some people who wrote letters to the CRD questioning the new parks bylaw. This is only the last in a long string of personal attacks on people who have had the temerity to disagree with Mr. Borsman, and I for one have had enough.

Unlike the noise bylaw, only the headings of this bylaw were published in *Driftwood*, and the first time we saw the whole things was on tables at the farmers' market. It was incomprehensibly comprehensive; it seemed to outlaw everything that the parks were for. Now, there may be good reasons for its provisions — liability insurance, for instance — but the public had been told nothing. Naturally people were worried; some signed a petition, and others wrote to the CRD.

As our elected representative, it is Borsman's job to represent the CRD deliberations to us, and to represent our views to the CRD. It is not his job to dismiss a petition of 600 signatures as meaning nothing; it is his job to address those people's concerns. Nor is it his job to label a quiet-spoken, well-respected woman like Margaret Korrison an "abusive person," part of a "disagreeable, quarrelsome rabble," just for asking the CRD who will enforce a \$300 fine for playing in the park.

When people feel that their opinions have been disregarded, or their rights infringed upon, they naturally feel anxious. They may even feel bitter, defensive or abusive. They are powerless. Like me, they can only write letters.

But as an elected official, Borsman has no such excuse for the ill-considered, ungracious, even vicious attacks he has made on his perceived enemies in the *Driftwood*, on this park issue, on

the EMO issue, on other issues in the past. His confrontational style can only bring out the worst in those who disagree with him. Only those who "don't mind notoriety" will dare speak out. Those who have no stomach for public name-calling will let their distaste ferment until they have an opportunity to vent it at the ballot box.

I call on Hugh Borsman to re-examine his campaign promises of harmony, and to strive to work with his constituents instead of constantly fighting them. He need not be so defensive; he is in a position of power and can afford to be polite. People are not out to get him — they are just out to get what they want, what is their due, what they honestly believe is right, just like he is; and he is not serving his office well by taking it all so personally.

ANNE LYON,
Ganges.

Discerning

Sir,
Your column, *Entertainment is the fuel driving modern day economy*, seems to me, most discerning since:

I remember well the arenas of old
Where men were forced to maim.

The scent of blood drove huge crowds wild
And the kill was the height of the game.

Seeing blades fly and sticks crunching bone
Enhanced the vicarious thrill.

Wild screams of pleasure, violence did measure.

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Reincarnate Nero, the "Fiddler" of Rome,

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Check Vander Zalm's record

New premier no threat to the province's future

By FRANK RICHARDS

It would be a sign of political immaturity to express any concern but congratulatory to the new leader of the Social Credit party in this province and the new premier of British Columbia, Bill Vander Zalm.

A man of considerable administrative experience, the new premier has been nursed through municipal affairs into the provincial scene. Outspoken, often too much so, Vander Zalm has shown himself innovative and never hidebound. His adventures in office have seen proposals for change in every portfolio he has held. The naming of the maverick Surrey market gardener to the leadership of the province promises excitement at every level of provincial affairs.

While the critics, of which every political party is well-provided, are eager to make risky forecasts of the future path of this province, we may be very sure that life in British Columbia will not be humdrum during the oncoming years.

A very brief glance back over the record does not reveal the new premier as a threat to the future. It recalls the manner in which he has undertaken any of the ministerial portfolios he has held. He moved into any office given him and then examined the issues. His answer to the problems of his office was always startling and often controversial, but in every instance he proved himself his own man. He was ever eager to correct the mistakes he perceived and prepared to make sweeping changes without cringing from sharp and critical voices.

The interesting conundrum is, of course, to what extent this pattern of taking up every challenge, fearlessly and happily, will blend with the added responsibilities of leadership. And coincidental with these concerns comes the query as to the manner in which the new premier might soften his somewhat abrasive approach to life out of deference to the new management portfolio he has so cheerfully accepted. There is a broad and eager curiosity to see how comfortably Vander Zalm can

adopt the Bennett mantle and to what extent he will have it altered to fit.

There are those within his own party and beyond who have been quick to criticize the choice of the Social Credit party. They are premature in their judgements and are being fair to nobody: not the party's choice; not themselves; not to the people of the province.

Let us bear in mind that for all the bitterness of his critics, the new premier in his earlier roles has never been shy or retiring. He has always been approachable and he

'Outspoken, often too much so, Vander Zalm has shown himself innovative and never hidebound.'

has invited opinions, reactions and the explosive indignation of his fellow administrators and his fellow citizens.

Many islanders remember the premier as the author of the death sentence on the Islands Trust when he held the municipal affairs portfolio. But that was another day and another dispute. Like so many disputes in political affairs, it built up to its own crescendo and faded into silence.

The province is not in a happy state. The past recession has set British Columbians back into an unsettled present and an unknown

future. The economy is dismal and a continuous warfare between left and right has sickened many British Columbians.

We are destined to see changes. No province with Bill Vander Zalm at the helm could fail to change. Critics within his own party have expressed alarm at his ebullience in leadership. Those outside his own party have looked fearfully at his possible approach to the seething labour situation.

Let's give him a chance.

On the credit side of the new provincial ledger we find new ideas, new approaches and, perhaps, even a more public administration with the legislature taking part in the process as never before.

On the debit side, some British Columbians fear that the new, aggressive leader will continue the provincial pattern of confrontation and labour unrest. The party elected a leader to take the province out of its doldrums and bring it back into prosperity. If the province as an electoral unit finds the Vander Zalm policies distasteful, then he will clearly not

lead the Social Credit government to victory. If the new Vander Zalm administration adopts a policy in any area that is contrary to popular desires, then the answer

will be heard at the polls. He knows that, his party knows it and we know it. What's the hassle?

Let's wait and see. Indeed, what else can we do?

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Red tide levels show signs of easing

Red tide conditions are gradually subsiding in B.C.'s coastal waters, but federal fisheries officials say it will still be at least a week before any areas are reopened to bivalve shellfish harvesting.

Wayne Holmes said last week from the department's fisheries inspection station in Victoria that test results are showing a decline in the toxin count that determines red tide conditions and, if the trend continues, one or two areas may be opened within 10 days.

Red tide — technically referred to as paralytic shellfish poisoning — is a toxic state caused by the bloom of a single-celled phyto-

Some areas could soon be reopened

plankton organism. A toxin level above 80 micrograms per 100 grams of meat is considered unsafe.

One month ago, levels climbed high enough to prompt closure of the entire B.C. coast to shellfish harvesting. It was the first time a blanket closure had been issued since 1980.

The ban applies to all recreational and commercial harvesting of mussels, clams, oysters and scallops. It does not affect crusta-

ceans such as crabs, shrimps and prawns.

As an example of the declines now being found in toxin counts, Holmes pointed to test results from Okeover Inlet, north of Powell River. A month ago, samples showed 14,000 micrograms of toxin per 100 grams of meat; two weeks ago, the count was down to 7,900 and last week it registered 3,400.

"That's the most dramatic decline," he said, "but it's starting to look a little better (everywhere). It appears to be coming down faster than theory would have it."

Unfortunately, Holmes said, last week's test results were confined to oysters only and the samples were taken in areas heavy with oyster leases. He will wait for counts from other bivalves, particularly mussels and clams, before speculating on the apparent improvement in conditions.

However, he said declining toxin levels could soon mean a re-opening of oyster harvesting activity in "certain leases" between Ladysmith Harbour and Salt Spring, including those on Thetis and Kuper islands.

Holmes also expects that continued declines would mean a complete re-opening of harvesting activity between Comox and Salt Spring Island within the next week or so. Those areas would be the first to re-open since the complete ban was issued.

The Victoria inspection office is continuing its sampling program, he added, and will have more results to study by today (Wednesday) or Thursday.

Meanwhile, anyone suspected of contracting shellfish poisoning is advised to seek immediate medical attention. Symptoms include numbness and tingling of the lips, tongue, face and extremities, followed by nausea and vomiting. The potential result is fatal respiratory paralysis.

District solid waste plan to include Gulf Islands

Preparation of a solid waste management plan is being studied by the Capital Regional District (CRD).

At its July 23 meeting, the board approved initiation of a \$277,000 plan spread over two years. The cost averages \$9,000 a year spread over 30 years.

Regional director Mike Williams summarized the plan, which was prepared in accordance with provincial legislation and is to consider all components of solid waste disposal in the regional district, including Salt Spring and the Outer Islands.

In respect to the islands, the plan will consider the amount of solid waste generated, examine an integrated approach to disposal and ascertain that the right to use a landfill site — where such might be chosen — shall be obtained at the outset.

The plan will also consider the reduction of gross volume in order to maximize use of facilities, and will take a new look at the method of funding.

The proposal carries various prohibitions before the plan is prepared. Ocean disposal will not be considered, and neither will baling and shredding before landfilling. Incineration, with energy recovery, is also out.

The disposal plan will also consider composting and will include a study of the potential market for compost. A series of open-house meetings will invite the public to contribute to the long-term plan when the outline is prepared.

Connection limit to span 10 years

A small property in Ganges may be connected to the sewer system, at any time over the next 10 years, at the same \$300 rate now charged to property owners who hook up promptly.

The Capital Regional District (CRD) made that decision at its July 23 meeting when told that Gordon Cudmore's Lower Ganges Road property is too small to accommodate a dwelling, and that the property has no connection to the sewer system.

Cudmore has told the CRD that he should be entitled to the same connection fee as now applies, if and when it becomes feasible to build on the land.

The CRD agreed, giving Cudmore 10 years to do so.

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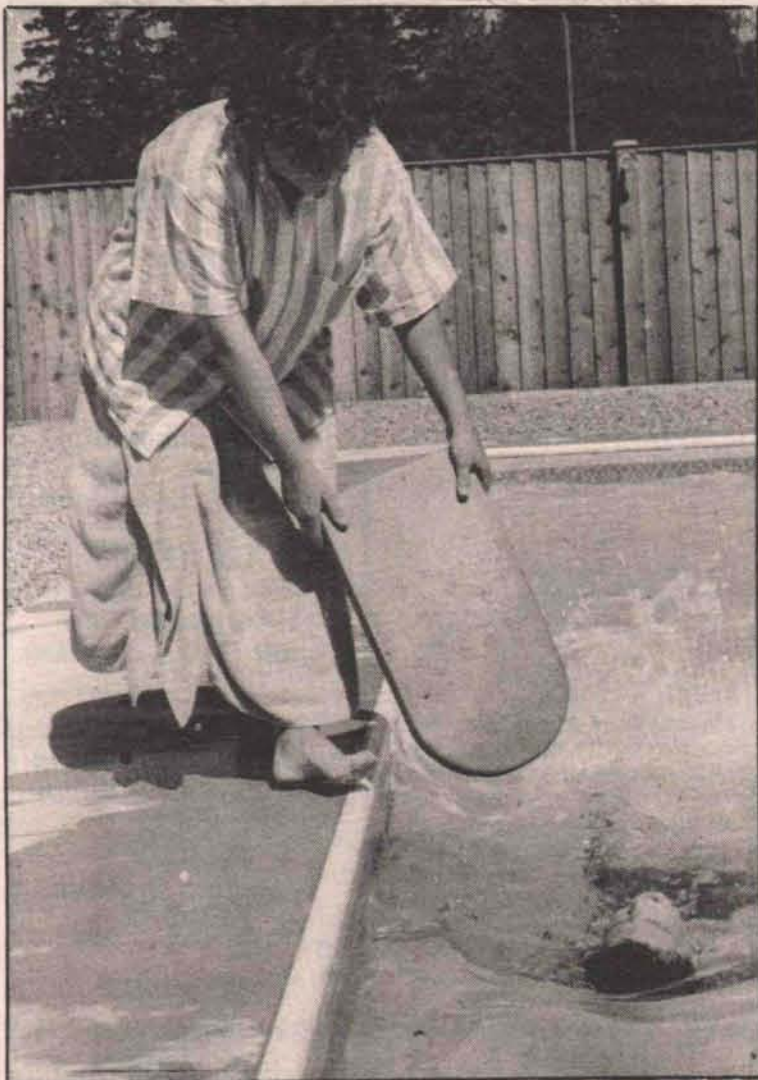
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Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

Getting it right

Instructor Megan Bryn-Jones teaches swimming strokes to Kemal Morris at public lessons held in private pool near bowling

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Representatives can't meet request by skateboarders

A request by seven Salt Spring Island youths for an area designated for skateboarding activities has reached a stalemate, parks and recreation commission members acknowledged last Monday.

"Everyone would have liked to do something for those kids," said Capital Regional Director (CRD) Hugh Borsman, "but I don't see how we can touch it."

Because of high liability costs in the event of an injury, both the commission and the school board

are hesitant to take on responsibility for a skateboarding area. Those concerns left the school board reluctant to allow skateboarders use of the old tennis courts.

Borsman told the rec commission's July 21 meeting that he would approach the CRD for the possible provision of a skateboarding area. However, he said the move would "probably ... be too late for this summer."

Opponents of park use bylaw take case to rec commission

Delegates representing Salt Spring Island's farmers' market and mid-week vendors at Centennial Park oppose "rules and regulations" being imposed on the market.

"The market and parks seem to run well by themselves," Stephen Ball told a recent parks and recreation commission meeting.

The opposition arose in response to a recent bylaw, passed by the Capital Regional District (CRD), which gave the commission administrative control over Salt Spring Island parks.

Although the bylaw makes the farmers' market a legal entity for the first time, and the commission has said no changes will be made to it within the next year, several members of the public remain suspicious.

David Williams said he believes there is "mischief afoot" to "curtail the market."

Under the new bylaw, mid-week vendors are required to obtain written permission from the commission before selling their goods in the park. In the future, the commission intends to charge vendors a fee and direct those funds towards upkeep of the park.

The system gives the commission the power to select which vendors will operate in the park, but it says it has not yet determined what guidelines it will follow.

Darryl Lee, who is involved in the market's large produce-selling stall, said he feels Ganges merchants are having their views "pushed through."

He continued: "Obviously we're all struggling for a livelihood. We're not in the position to operate five to seven days a week, and it's basically a summer's market."

Market vendors, Lee said, represent people "trying to get by without government assistance."

He noted the drawing power of the market and, responding to rumours the commission may limit types of goods sold at the market, said a produce-only market would not have the same

effect.

"We feel we have some valid points which just seem to be run over," he told the commission.

Commission member Phil Hume stressed that the commission "has never been against the market." Proposed changes to the market's location, which would disallow vehicles in its present location and see vendors

extend around the corner into the Gasoline Alley parking lot, are intended for market enhancement, he explained.

Hume suggested the delegation wait six months to a year and approach the commission again if it finds the new bylaw has negatively affected park use and market functions.

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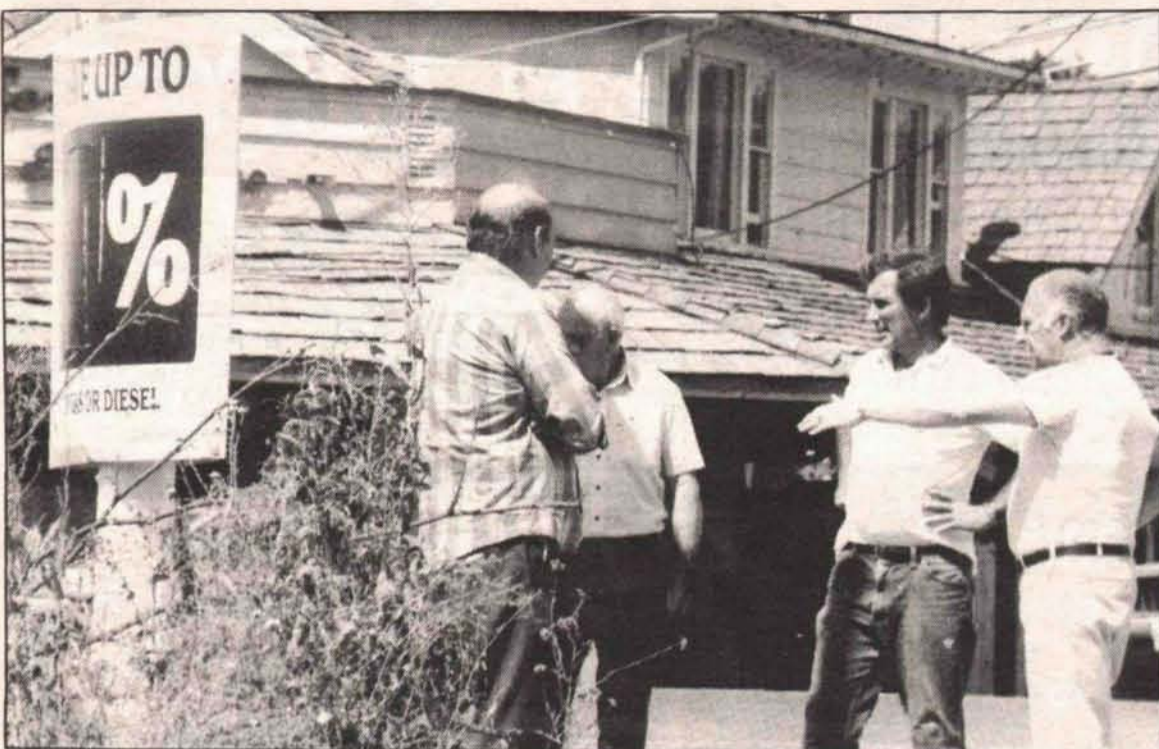
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Driftwood photo by Susan Dicker

Bob (left) and Bill McBay discuss traffic with Phil Hume and Hugh Borsman.

Rec commission considers requesting Expo facilities

Reports of periodic failures of the septic tank in Centennial Park have led the recreation commission to consider the cost of connecting it to the sewer system.

"We know we have to connect up some day," said Capital Regional District (CRD) director Hugh Borsman, who has heard reports of sewage coming to the park's surface.

The only deterrent, Borsman said, is the possibility of moving the washrooms to the park's other side, where the children's playground will be built.

However, because Gasoline Alley contains several washrooms at that end of Centennial Park, the move may not be necessary, Borsman said.

It was suggested that the commission write to Expo 86 organizers and request the acquisition of toilets from the Expo site once the fair is over.

The commission hopes to have new toilets in place in the park by next summer.

The Centennial Park committee continues to look into methods of raising funds for park renovations, and hopes to begin work on the park front by late October.

According to Capital Regional District (CRD) director Hugh Borsman, a small amount of money remains in the park fund and most bills have been paid. Fund-raising must produce \$12,500 to match a \$12,500 Lotteries Fund grant for park works.

"We can probably get going on the other half of the park by the end of October," Borsman said.

He noted that tree planting in the park's front should take place before the cold weather hits.

Gasoline Alley owner Bill McBay has placed a series of concrete partitions at the side of his building in an effort to contain traffic congestion.

The partitions are intended to guide traffic exiting the Gulf station's inside bay through to the road, avoiding vehicles entering the Gasoline Alley parking lot.

Cars leaving the bay were driving in a large curve to give vehicles in the outside bay room

to exit. By doing so, however, they were driving into the path of incoming traffic.

"It was only a matter of time before we piled them up on top of one another," said Capital Regional District (CRD) director Hugh Borsman.

Borsman and parks and recreation commission member Phil Hume met with McBay Thursday to discuss traffic problems in the joint Gasoline Alley and Centennial Park areas.

The parks and recreation commission intends to trim a large tree in the parking lot's corner and take out a portion of the fence in order to open up the entrance by 12 feet.

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'Regressive moral disease'

Amnesty International spotlights humanity's misdeeds

By ANDREW GIBSON

Some creatures would rather work in the dark. Turn over a log and they scatter. Shine a lamp into an old blackness and furry, red-eyed things rustle away in alarm.

So do some human creatures — the ones who, interrupted at their torture work by Amnesty International's candle, have in countless cases left their victims scarred physically or psychologically but alive and able to witness for those who didn't make it.

It is a horrifying fact that torture — which many of us, when we were children, were taught was a barbaric medieval memory — has had a terrible resurgence and is often routinely used as state policy.

These states do not even have Torquemada's rationale, that from such cruelties would come salvation. Today's governing sadists are not so naive: they know they are smothering dissent with terror.

Desaparecidos whose mutilated bodies are later found in ditches, muffled screams from some guard-patrolled detention centre, unmarked cars cruising the midnight streets for their prey — these are designed to create a citizenry that asks no questions and makes no complaints, but hurries with downcast eyes past the soldiers.

Amnesty International (AI) has been fighting all of this for 25 years now, ever since the day that Peter Benenson, a London attorney who was disturbed about some state-ordered punishment of a dissident, had the idea that a searchlight should be focused on what was happening in the courtrooms and prisons of too many countries.

Since then, AI has become one of the world's most respected organizations. Its politically-neutral reports, carefully researched and devoid of sensationalism, can be devastating.

In few nations are laws so just, the enforcement so disciplined and the leaders of such a calibre that they have never been cited by AI. Even Canada has merited attention — for prison actions in Quebec.

Rich nations, poor nations, old, young, community, capitalist — they can all be infected by this regressive moral disease. A recent edition of *The Candle* documented the cases of prisoners in Honduras, Sudan, South Africa, the Philippines, Tunisia, USSR, Libya, Turkey, Algeria, Somalia, El Salvador, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Peru, Paraguay and Guatemala. Nearly half of the world's countries have prisoners of conscience; in over 50, prisoners can be held without charge for months or years, and in one of every three, torture is state policy.

Faced with such horrors, AI has opted not for hand-wringing but for hand-writing. The cases of more than 30,000 prisoners have been taken up by 3,600 groups in 45 countries. Of these, many thousands owe their lives and thousands of



others their physical and mental health to having been remembered, when alone and apparently forgotten in some dark cell, by this far-away organization.

AI's nerve centre is in London, where a permanent staff of 200 plus many part-time specialists and volunteers cover the world with a highly efficient, computer-age operation. To the research department teams come reports in the world's hundreds of languages, to be translated and evaluated.

Sometimes, urgent action is needed. So efficiently does AI work that sometimes the carefully researched protests are on the desks of an offending country's officials within two hours. More usually, reports are prepared and regularly sent to the national sections — such as the Canadian one in Ottawa — complete with case details, the correct titles and addresses of responsible officials and a recommendation to send

letters, telegrams or telexes (always courteously worded) to them.

From the national offices, copies are sent to groups like the one on Salt Spring Island and thence to AI's foot soldiers — the people who write the protests that disconcert the tyrants.

In addition, groups may "adopt" prisoners of conscience; in such cases, the prisoners themselves and their families may be contacted. One can imagine the encouragement to these victims, the dismay of their abusers when they know the world is watching, and the joy of the adopters when they know that their efforts have saved yet another victim from the Juggernaut.

But the lives saved and the agonies prevented aren't the sum of AI's work. Among the victims are most of the torturers themselves, poor and uneducated

in a harsh society. They have opted for whatever security and status they can get by following orders and brutalizing themselves.

Their countries are victims, too. What is Argentina, now liberated from her junta, to do with her torturers; and what, if humanity ever returns to them, will El Salvador and Guatemala do with theirs? The whip-wielders in South Africa, the doctors who prostitute themselves by presiding over phony psychiatric wards — such humans disgrace themselves and burden the nations that employ them.

Amnesty International seeks to redeem all of these victims, torturers and tortured alike, by putting an end to such abuses. If you would like to assist with this great work, phone 537-4357 for information.

— Andrew Gibson is a Salt Spring resident and frequent contributor to *Driftwood*.

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August meeting to discuss development permit zone

Designation of Ganges as a development permit area, regulatory guidelines for woodland areas and the creation of a new zoning classification will be the subject of public hearings to be held by the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee on August 23.

The hearings will open at 3 pm on August 23 at the Harbour House Hotel and discuss the following proposed bylaws:

• Bylaw 158, designating Ganges as a development permit area, was prompted by recent changes to the Municipal Act, contained in Bill 62.

The revised Act requires that certain criteria must be met before development permit areas can be designated. The local government agency applying the designation must also specify the guidelines that will be in force, and offer justification for the move.

Bylaw 158, then, will "provide the rationale for such a designation and provide guidelines for the form and character of development in Ganges."

Island Trustee Pat Byrne said that the guidelines to be applied are contained in recommendations made to the Trust Committee by its Advisory Design Panel.

• Bylaw 160, an amendment to the official community plan, would provide "additional policies in upland and forest areas relating to preservation of watershed areas and environmentally sensitive areas, the provision of hiking trails and viewpoints, the clustering of residential development and the maintenance of productive forest land."

The proposed amendment grew from concerns expressed earlier this year over development scenarios for 4,800 acres of timbered land placed on the market by MacMillan-Blodel.

At that time, the Trust voiced objections to scattered development of large blocks of upland and forest lands, saying it would prefer concentrating development rights in a cluster and leaving the remaining lands in their existing form.

Bylaw 160, Byrne said, "sets forth a policy statement and general criteria for what we want to see in any development of property that was formerly a tree farm."

• The final bylaw to be discussed

at the public hearing is one to regulate a marina development proposed for Fulford Harbour.

Bylaw 161 would create a new zoning classification allowing for uses like marinas, fuelling stations, retail stores, boat rentals and marine repairs; set forth regulations on building height locations and property setbacks;

and reclassify a water zone.

Byrne said the bylaw would ensure that the proposed marina would remain at the relatively modest scale envisioned by its developers. The Trust, he said, is looking ahead to what might happen if another party were to acquire the site and build up the development.

Board rejects plea

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has declined to go along with a plea to rid local waters of nuclear-powered vessels and nuclear arms.

At its July 23 meeting, the CRD was petitioned by the Greater Victoria Disarmament Group to send Prime Minister Brian Mulroney a call to support the international *Disarm the Seas* campaign. The group has made the same request to the municipalities of Victoria, Esquimalt, Saanich and Oak Bay.

The CRD was told about naval missile, and the fact that arms control talks to not include such pons such as the Tomahawk missile, and that fact that arms control talks do not exclude such sea-launched missiles.

Esquimalt's Ken Hill warned that too strong a stand on the issue could lead to the loss of the Royal Canadian Navy from Greater Victoria.

No action was taken by the board.

Group slates forest tour

Gulf Islands residents are being offered a chance to tour a forest operation nurtured by one man over the span of almost half a century.

The forested land, covering several hundred acres, is located near Nanaimo and owned by Merv Wilkinson, who brought an agricultural degree and several courses in forestry with him when he purchased the property almost 50 years ago.

The Gulf Islands' Woodlands Association has arranged a tour of Wilkinson's land — for both members and non-members — on August 18.

From the beginning, the association says, Wilkinson harvested his timber selectively, clearing out some small areas to form open, sunlit glades for his sheep.

The August 18 tour from Salt Spring will leave on the 9 am ferry from Vesuvius. Those taking part are advised to bring a bag lunch and a \$2 fee.

Further information is available from Beth Hill at 537-2655.

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Hiroshima and Nagasaki: why we must remember.

The truth about the A-bombing of those two cities in 1945, it now appears,* is very different from what we have been led to believe.

President Truman ordered the dropping of America's only uranium bomb on Hiroshima and her only plutonium bomb on Nagasaki, not to end the war with Japan, whose surrender he knew was imminent, but for quite different purposes. Briefly, these were:

- to give the U.S. a commanding lead in the resumed Cold War against its then ally, the Soviet Union, by demonstrating the frightful power of the new weapon of which the U.S. had the monopoly;
- to prevent the Soviet Army, poised to invade Japan via Manchuria on Aug. 15th, from reaching Tokyo before U.S. forces which were not due to start until November;
- to avoid Japanese surrender before the awesome effects of the Bomb could be shown by actual use on a live target;
- to learn how the plutonium bomb compared in destructiveness with the earlier uranium version. Nagasaki was destroyed to provide this information.

Of these objectives, the last three were splendidly achieved. Hiroshima was obliterated on Aug. 6th, Nagasaki Aug. 9th, Japan surrendered to the U.S., and the plutonium bomb proved nearly twice as powerful.

The attempt to frighten the Soviets into submission was less successful. The outcome is with us today: a competition in nuclear weaponry that surrounds us all with 50,000 nuclear warheads, 1.5 million "Hiroshimas", plus several hundred potential "Chernobyls" in the form of nuclear reactors.

We have reason to remember what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki 41 years ago, and why. Those two crimes against humanity, committed in a futile struggle for world supremacy but excused by lies about saving lives, teach lessons that we, and our children's children, cannot afford to forget.

S.S.I. Nuclear Disarmament Group
August 1986.

* For the full details see "New Evidence on Truman's Decision", *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Aug. 1985, pp. 50-56, and Truman's private papers in the Truman Library, Independence, Missouri.

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Pressures showed Trust has fragile support system

By ANNE WILLIAMS
Fourth In A Series

In November, 1981, the Social Credit government's then minister of municipal affairs, Bill Vander Zalm, informed the Islands Trust that it would not be significantly affected by his proposed new Land Use Act (Bill 9).

If passed, the bill would have extinguished the Trust's right to prepare and adopt a regional plan, handing that task over, instead, to a committee of public servants not accountable to the people of the Trust area.

The following year, the Trust was informed that its powers would be reduced under a revised form of Bill 9, that it would be treated as a regional district. The

'Land speculators continued to cast greedy glances at the islands.'

bill's revisions proposed to reorganize land-use planning, to centralize power in the minister's hands and, in one short sentence, it abolished the Trust.

Vander Zalm's decision to repeal the Trust Act was made without consultation, discussion or notice to either the Trust or the public; it was a simple and simple-minded hack job. The minister said his bill would provide "one-stop shopping" for citizens and construction firms seeking building permits. If islanders wanted to be self-governing, he said, they should petition the government to be granted the status of a municipality.

The Islands Trust was created at a time when there was substantial development pressure on the Gulf Islands, Vander Zalm said. What he neglected to mention was that development pressures had risen steadily ever since. Land speculators continued to cast greedy glances at the islands, especially since ferry service had improved and land values were rising.

Incensed islanders mounted the first of three rallies in four days on the steps of the legislature, while the Opposition carried

on a spirited filibuster within. Vander Zalm's explanation to protesters that the Trust had to go if the province was to afford health and welfare benefits and other social programs was greeted with *nonsense* and *Ah, you're a nut*. The beleaguered minister protested that although he didn't foresee much development in the Gulf Islands occurring right away, "British Columbia wants some development to put bread on the table."

In the House, the Opposition charged that Finance Minister Hugh Curtis had used his political influence on more than one occasion to advise developers on how to circumvent planning decisions by the Islands Trust. New Democrat MLA Charles Barber said the real purpose of abolishing the Trust was to expedite a number of subdivision applications in the Gulf Islands that had the support of the Socred cabinet by were opposed by the Trust. Asked why Curtis (member for Saanich-and-the-Islands) appeared so angry about the issues he raised, Barber replied: "The destruction of the Islands Trust is very likely to lead to the loss of his own seat in the next provincial election."

Coquitlam Mayor Jim Tonn, president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, said Vander Zalm could "go straight to hell" with his bill, which Tonn said would abolish regional planning and cost municipalities millions in servicing fees and other expenses.

The vehemence of protest aroused by the bill may have played some part in causing

Premier Bill Bennett to reorganize his cabinet, moving Vander Zalm to education and Jack Heinrich to municipal affairs. Despite Vander Zalm calling his fellow cabinet ministers "gutless" for failing to push through his legislation, the bill died on the order paper when the House adjourned.

The furor over the failed bill brought to islanders' attention, once again, the Trust's precarious life-support system. It was noted that development-related applications had increased 70 per cent

between 1978 and 1981, while the population of the islands had risen by 34 per cent between 1976 and 1981. Islanders knew they would not possibly find as much representation on regional boards as they were accustomed to

having with the Trust — of the total of 255 votes of the 105 directors in the seven regional districts containing the islands, only 10 votes rested with the eight island representatives.
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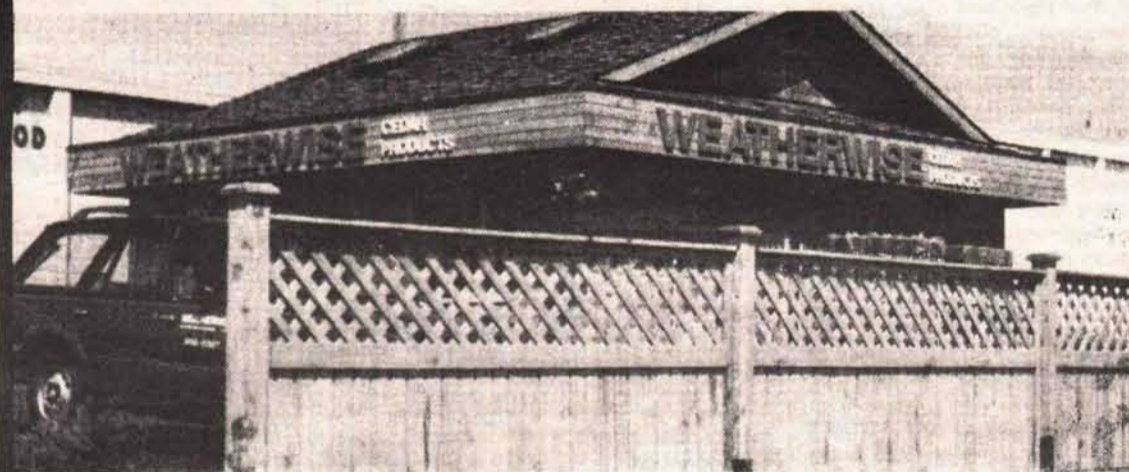
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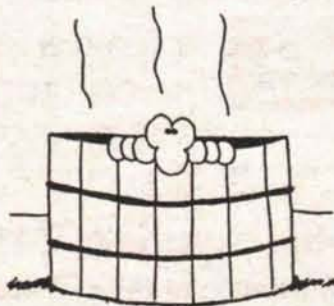
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Ultralight takes off from waters of St. Mary Lake

Driftwood photos by Susan Dicker

Ultralight flight

'Like entering another dimension'

By **SUSAN DICKER**

Flying in an ultralight and flying in a plane are as different as riding in a Toyota Corona and a Yamaha 1100.

In the ultralight you've got more noise, a helmet and the windy exhilaration of riding in the open air.

And, according to Salt Spring Islander Louis Renaud, an ultralight flight puts a motorcycle ride into another dimension.

The thrill and the challenge of ultralight flying recently prompted Renaud to bring a craft to the island and offer familiarization flights to interested people.

"I've been motorcycling for 14 years," Renaud says. "This (ultralighting) is the third dimension: on a motorcycle you stay on the same plane. There's no gravel when you come around the corner in an ultralight; no Volkswagen driving on the wrong side of the road."

Since Renaud brought his \$15,000 machine to Salt Spring a few weeks ago, he has been inundated with enthusiastic people ready to pay \$25 for a 20 minute flight. Working off St. Mary Lake, Renaud intends to offer rides to resort guests, campers and islanders. When he first took his ultralight to the Shady Willows Resort and Campsite, he said, people swarmed to the craft "just like flies."

One girl at the campsite proved a little reluctant about a flight experience, but said she wanted to do something daring. "When we got back," Renaud says, "she was so enthusiastic, she wanted to do it again."

Not everyone is as keen about Renaud's enterprise as his passengers, however, and Renaud remains conscious of the noise his ultralight creates. By coasting over several areas and by aiming for routes above non-populated areas of land, he hopes to deflect the complaints already directed at him.

"The ultralight industry is waiting for Japan to come up with a four stroke engine that's quiet," he says. Renaud avoids flying over both the Ganges and Booth Bay areas.

Renaud's business is co-owned by his wife, Lyn Richardson. Gordon Singbeil is also involved, on an employee basis.

In September, Renaud intends



Louis Renaud

to begin Gulf Island Aviation School. In his \$25 familiarization flights, he explains some of the basics of flying and lets the passenger take over the controls, should he or she want to do so.

Ultralighting is a comparatively new sport which has, in the past, gained some notoriety as a dangerous one. This characterization stems from the United States, where ultralight pilots are not required to have a license, Renaud says.

"They just learn what's what and then fly them," Renaud says. In Canada, six hours of flying is required to obtain a private license, and 20 hours for a commercial license. Maintenance

instruction is included in the ground school.

Renaud spends 20 minutes each morning, looking over every component of his craft: "The beauty is you can check everything — everything is exposed."

He says a good pilot is always on the lookout for a place to land, should he be faced with engine failure. His craft is unique in its incorporation of \$3,000 floats: most ultralights have wheels. With the floats — air-inflated rather than fiberglass — withstand more "abuse" — he can land the ultralight in both fields and on water.

Renaud remains as zealous towards the sport as his passengers. "When you come down," he says, "You're still high."

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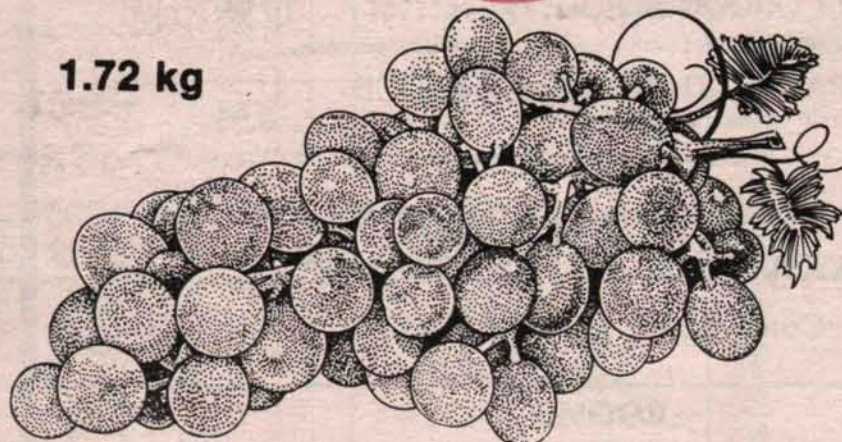
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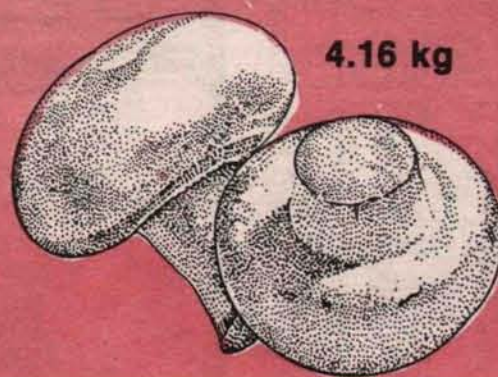
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Variety of styles, approaches exhibited at festival stage show

By GARY CHERNEFF

If you believe in reincarnation, you might be persuaded that April Curtis is from another time. *Life upon the Wicked Stage* is an historical revue of some of the fine moments of musical comedy, salted and peppered with serious dramatic interludes and frivolous silly stuff often provided by sidekick Bryan Smith. The production was staged at the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts last Friday and Saturday evening.

The three-act performance started with the Vancouver Suite, a piano composition by Brian Smith, and moved at a vigorous pace halted only by two short intermissions.

'The sense of cabaret in the second and third acts lent intimacy to the performances.'

Act I incorporates a variety of styles and approaches to stage performance which serve to highlight Ms. Curtis' breadth of experience and versatility in dramatic interpretation. In Alma's monologue from Tennessee Williams' play *Summer and Smoke*, Curtis skilfully manoeuvres the audience from the uptempo song *A Little Brains, a Little Talent* to involved drama, losing none of the spectators' attention.

Rapid and complete changes of mood are handled with great dexterity. The poignant song *Aldonza (The Whore)* from *Man from La Mancha* was a favorite and led into the first break with characteristic Spanish romantic intensity.

Act II opened with blonde Ms. Curtis transformed into a brunette fraulein, singing rich personal songs of the Berlin of the 1920s. *Cabaret* and *Mack the Knife* are two of the best known but *Surbaya Johnny*, a song of unrequited love, and *Pirate Jenny* — a song fantasizing bitter revenge — both

art seen

by Brecht and Weill, were deeply emotional and expressive. Bryan Smith added his lovely composition, *Kay's Waltz*, to great appreciation from the audience.

Act III saw more of the same sensitive flavour, this time from Jacques Brel (*Sons of, and If we Only Have Love*) and Parkes and Charles (*We'll Meet Again*.) The sense of cabaret in the second and third acts lent intimacy to the performance, and Bryan Smith's presence lent some authenticity to the vintage of many of the songs. He appeared as a real show trooper in the most spontaneous way. It was a most enjoyable show and as and as the credits indicate, many islanders made contributions to its success. I was particularly impressed by the poster photograph — but who done it, please?

Over the length of the festival many people have had an opportunity to view some of the work of Salt Spring's fine artists. The foyer, transformed into a gallery, has been the home of work by LeRoy Jensen, Diana Dean, Adrien Town and Michael Aronoff, to name just a few.

It is commendable that such a diversity of style and artistic temperament can be hung in relative harmony. The watercolor by Joan Angus shows great depth and subtle movement within the formal structure. Diana Thompson's pastel drawing reveals a passion for sensuous indulgence in warm, succulent

colour. Linda Laushway's photo-etching also delighted one's memory with the exotic vibration of its hues.

All the artists who exhibited made their works available free of charge, with no guarantees of remuneration as were extended to performers. Their contribution, I am sure, is much appreciated by the festival and the community as a whole.

By the time this paper is published the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts will over for this year. It has been invigorating to have such exciting and talented artists offer their work to the public. Artists of

'Artists of every persuasion permeate the fabric of this community.'

every persuasion permeate the fabric of this community and are contributing to its personality in a fundamental way.

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